



# **The North American Monsoon System: Recent Evolution and Current Status**

**Update prepared by  
Climate Prediction Center / NCEP  
25 August 2008**



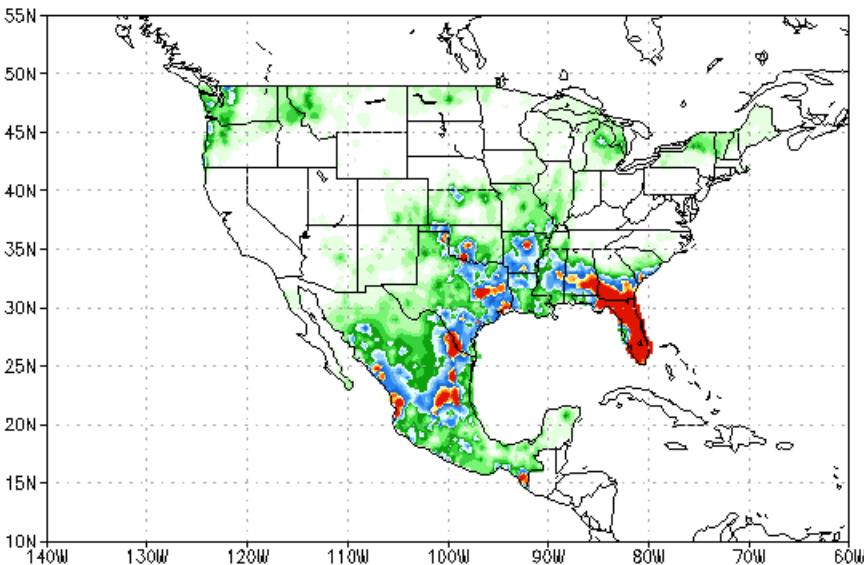
# Outline

- **Recent Evolution and Current Conditions**
- **Summary**
- **Climatology**



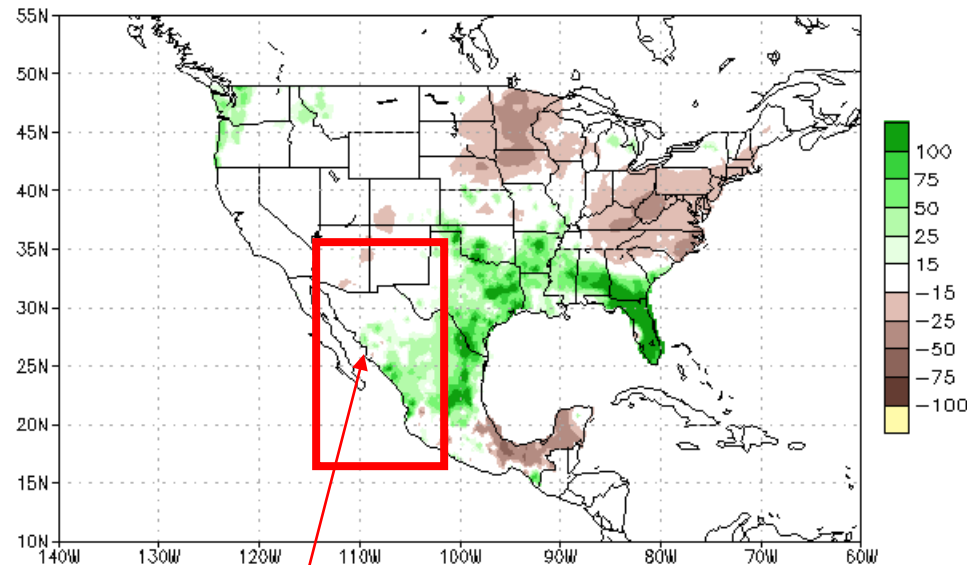
# Rainfall Patterns: Last 7 Days

7-day accumulation ending 20080824



Data Source: CPC Gridded Precipitation Analysis

7-day accumulation anomalies ending 20080824



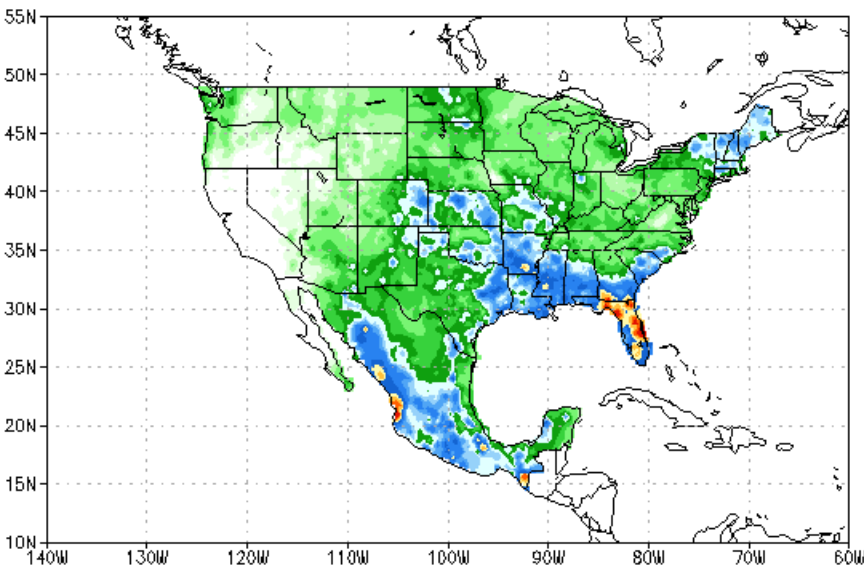
Data Source: CPC Gridded Precipitation Analysis  
Climatology (1979–1995)

**Above-normal rainfall was observed over central and northern Mexico during the past week, while southwest U.S. received slightly below-normal precipitation.**



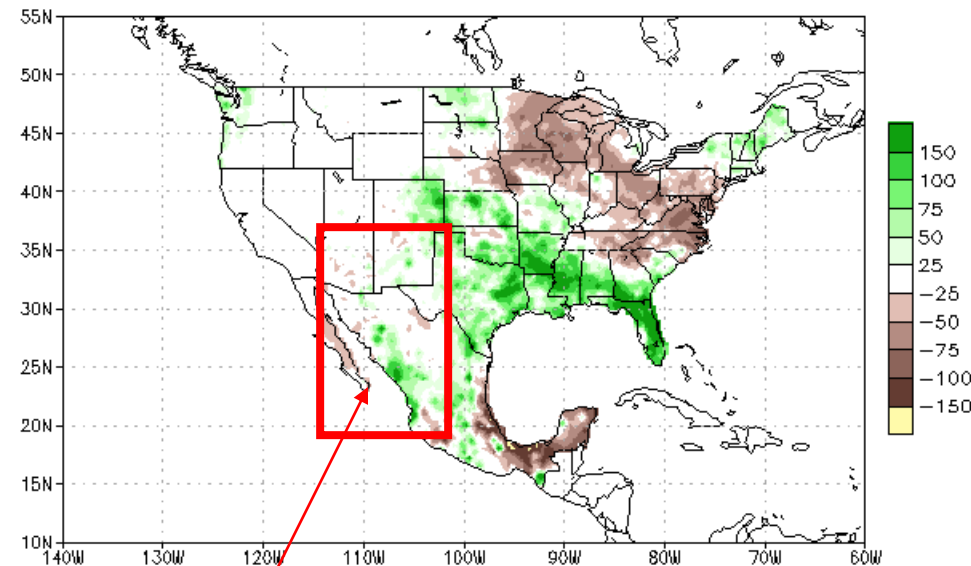
# Rainfall Patterns: Last 30 Days

30-day accumulation ending 20080824



Data Source: CPC Gridded Precipitation Analysis

30-day accumulation anomalies ending 20080824

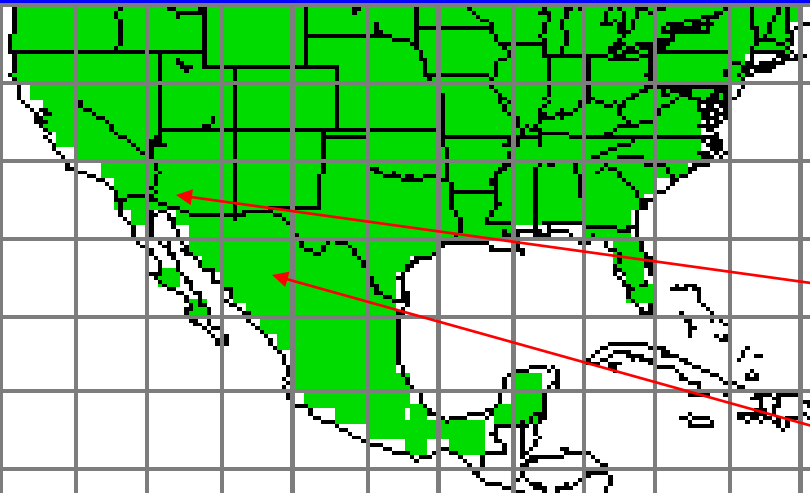


Data Source: CPC Gridded Precipitation Analysis  
Climatology (1979–1995)

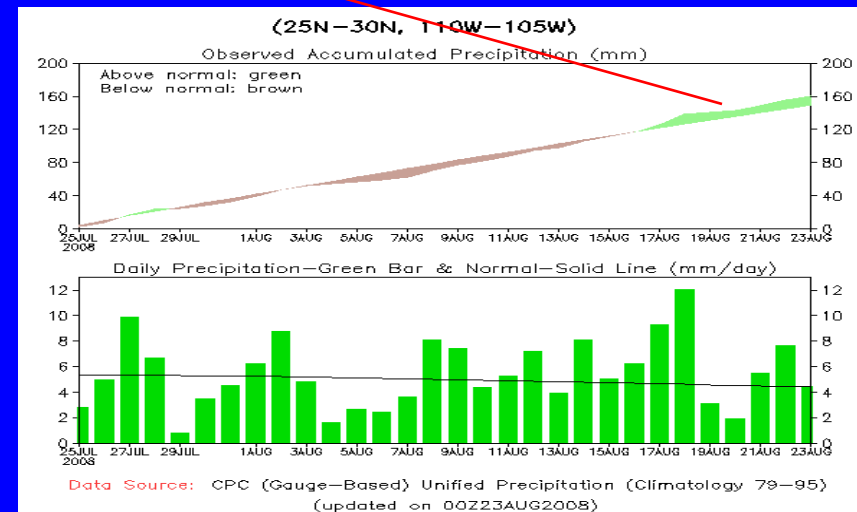
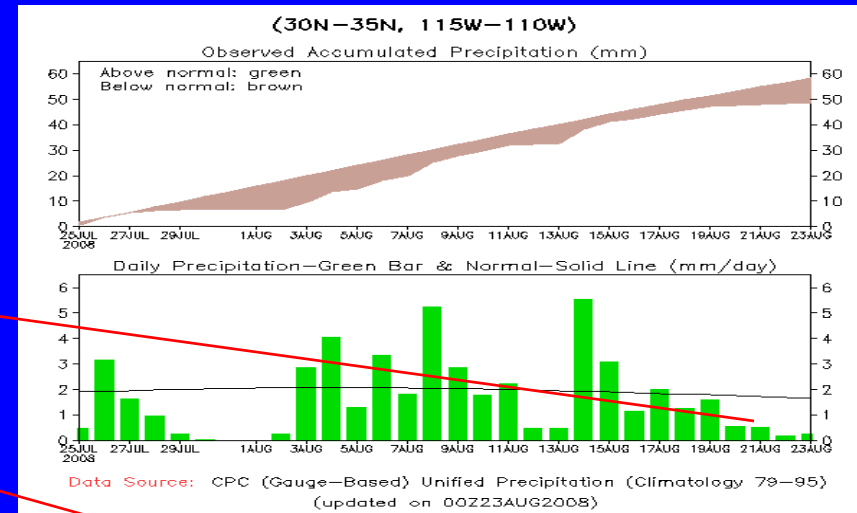
During the past 30 days, below –normal precipitation has been observed over southwest U.S. while above-normal precipitation was seen for most areas of northern and central Mexico.



# Recent Evolution: Rainfall

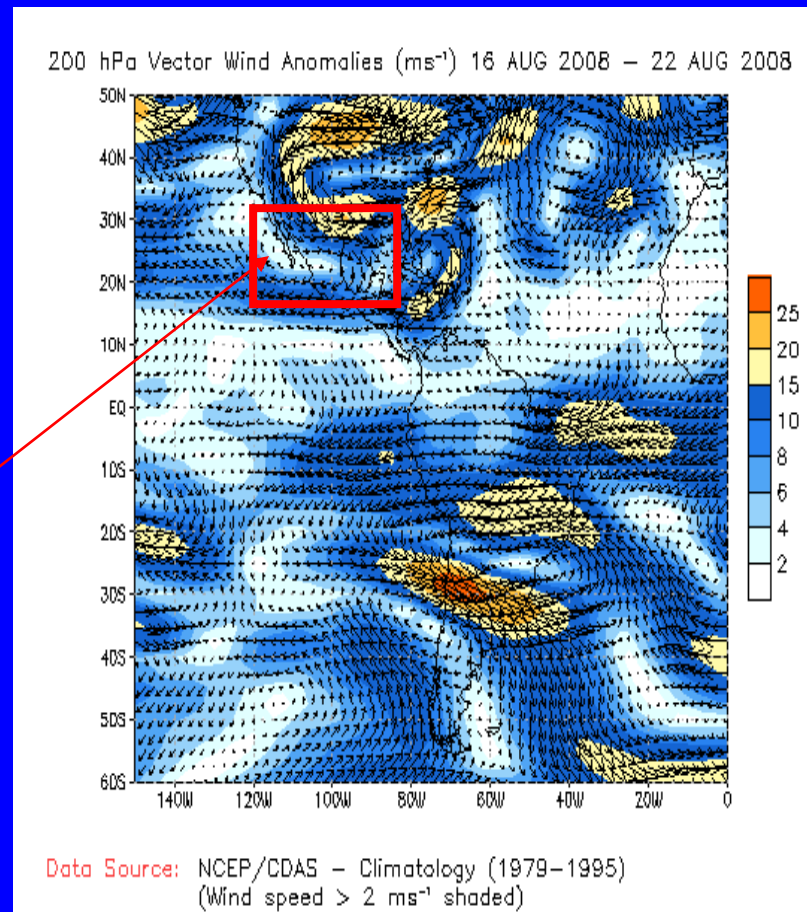
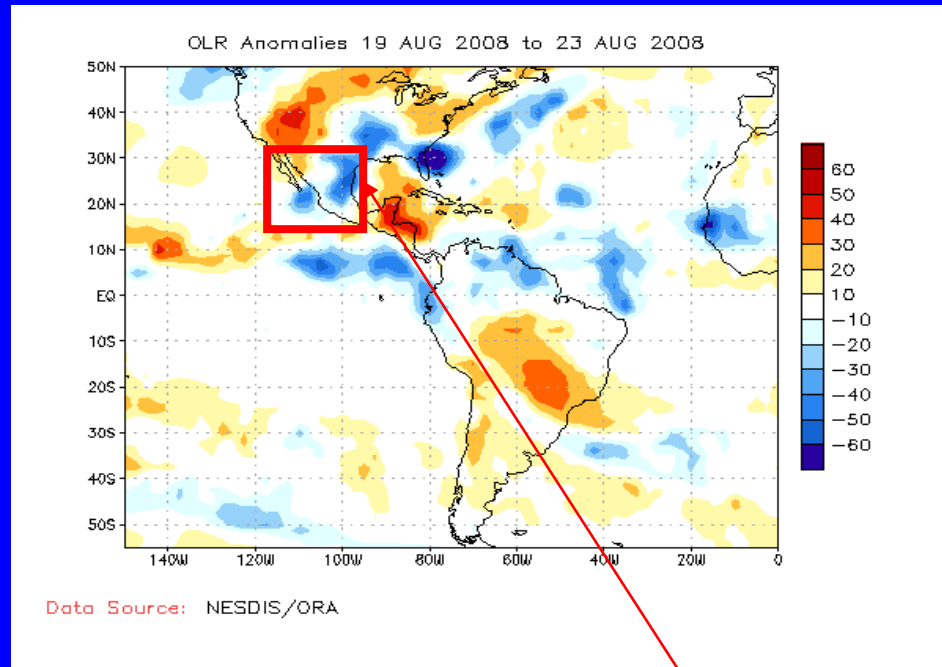


Below-normal precipitation in southwest US and above-normal precipitation in northwest Mexico during the past week





# Atmospheric Circulation & OLR Last 7 days



- During the past week, negative OLR anomalies were seen over northern and central Mexico, where the upper-level monsoon anti-cyclone is located.
- Consistent with above-normal rainfall during the past week in this region.



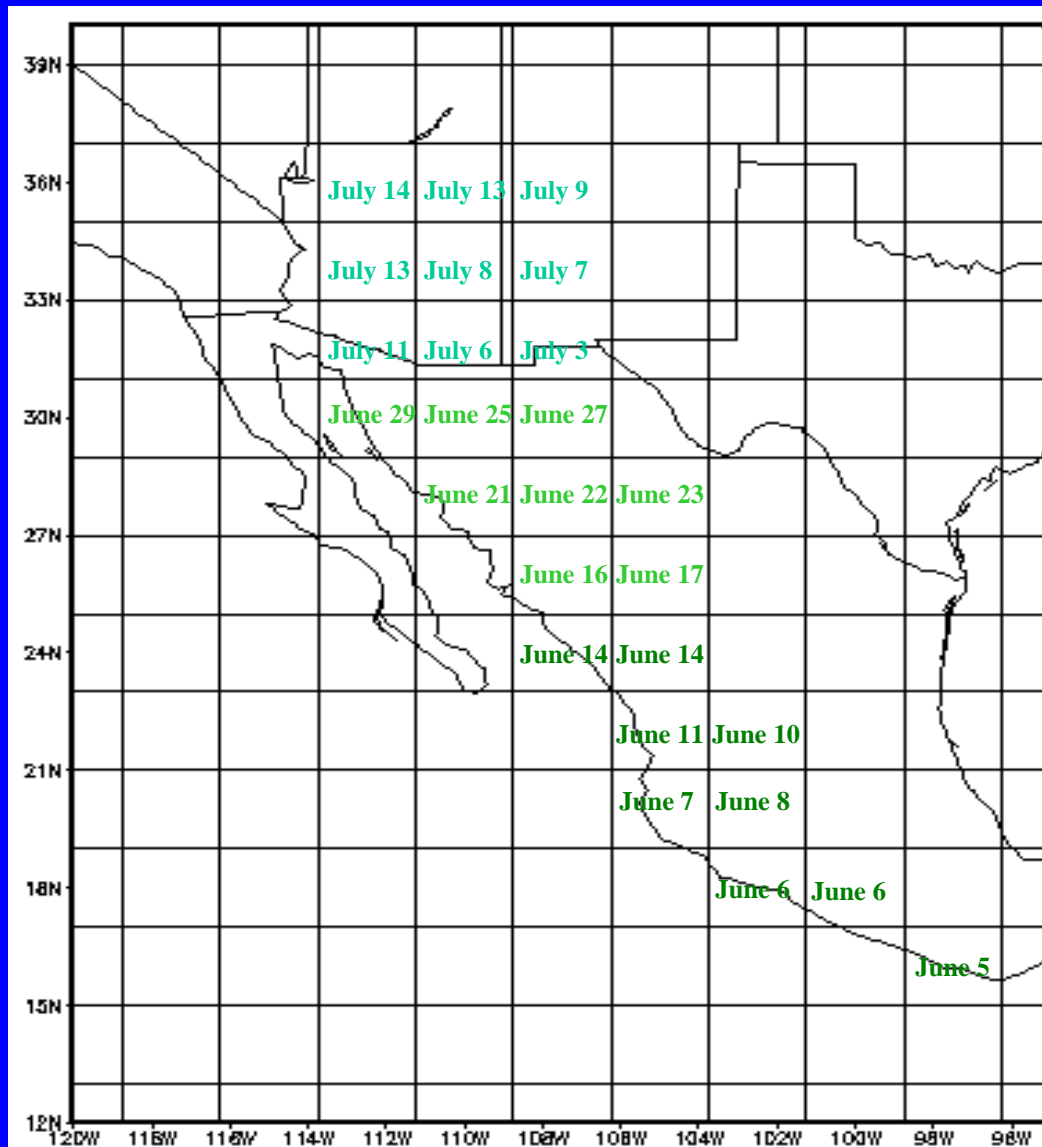
# Summary

- **Above-normal rainfall was observed over central and northern Mexico during the past week, while southwest U.S. received slightly below-normal precipitation.**



# Climatology

## MONSOON ONSET



Higgins, R. W., Y. Chen and A. V. Douglas, 1999:  
Interannual Variability of the North American Warm  
Season Precipitation Regime. *J. Clim.*, 17, 653-680





# Precipitation Climatology

Pentad mean Precip. (mm/day): 1–5 Jan

