State of Israel
Ministry of Transport
Israel Meteorological Service

01 September 2026

Monthly Weather Summary August 2026

General

August was warmer than average and included two exceptional rainfall events. The first, in mid-month, was unprecedented for August, with about 30 mm recorded in the Jerusalem area. The second, at the end of the month, brought rain to northern and central Israel. Although not exceptional nationally, it was exceptional locally, with unusual totals of 8 mm in Tel Aviv and 5 mm in Samaria. In addition, two rainfall events during the summer months, one of them with double-digit totals, are rare.

August continued the trend of above-normal temperatures that began in mid-July, following a relatively comfortable first part of the summer. The month featured spells of warmer-than-usual weather, although without extreme heatwaves, interspersed with short periods of near-average temperatures. Temperatures were even below average at the end of the month.

Nationally, August was 1.2°C warmer than average and ranked sixth warmest in the historical record. Temperatures were similar to those of August in the preceding five years. Summer 2026 (June–August) was warmer than average, although only moderately so, as its first part had been less hot.

Temperatures During the Month

Daytime temperatures in August were 1–1.5°C above the 1991–2020 average on the Coastal Plain, in northern Israel and in the Arava, and 1.5–2°C above average in the central mountains and the Negev. Night-time temperatures were 0.5–1°C above average on the Coastal Plain and in northern Israel, and 1–1.5°C above average in southern Israel and the central mountains (Table 1).

Figures 1 and 2 show daily temperatures at selected stations and illustrate the following periods during August.

1–5 August – Warmer than usual

Following the heatwave at the end of July, temperatures remained markedly above average during the first few days of August, with departures of 4–6°C. The mountains recorded 34–36°C, the northern Negev and northern valleys 38–39°C, and the Jordan Valley and Arava 42–44°C. The Coastal Plain also warmed, reaching 34–35°C.

6–8 August – Temperatures near average

On 6 August, temperatures fell by about 4–5°C in the mountains and inland areas, remaining at similar levels over the following two days. Temperatures there were close to average. On the Coastal Plain they remained above average, although heat stress eased (Figure 3).

9–13 August – Temperatures above average

Temperatures rose again on 9 August and remained similar to those of the warm spell at the beginning of the month through 13 August.

14–19 August – Temperatures near average

The passage of the mid-month rain-bearing system brought cooling, with temperatures close to average in the mountains and inland areas through 19 August. The Coastal Plain also cooled, although temperatures remained above average.

20–28 August – A prolonged hot spell

For more than a week, temperatures in the mountains and inland areas were 2–5°C above average. The Coastal Plain was also warmer than usual, although temperatures on the nights of 24–26 August were close to or slightly below average. Drier-than-usual air in this region allowed more effective radiative cooling.

29–31 August – Cooling and temperatures slightly below average

The passage of the low-pressure system that brought light rain to the region caused a marked drop in temperatures, with below-normal values in the mountains. Minimum temperatures reached 18–19°C in the central mountains and 17–18°C in the northern mountains. In eastern Israel, stronger westerly winds on 29 August produced high maximum temperatures as air warmed during its rapid descent from the mountains. In western Israel, strong onshore winds kept minimum temperatures above average.

Rainfall Events in August and Their Exceptional Nature

15–16 August

On 15 August, rain fell from midday into the afternoon over three areas: the Golan Heights, Jerusalem–Maale Adumim, and Gush Etzion–Hebron Hills. Jerusalem–St. Anne station, in the eastern part of the Old City, recorded 30 mm, while Maale Adumim recorded 26 mm, of which 21 mm fell within one hour, causing flooding in low-lying areas in the east of the city. By contrast, stations in western Jerusalem recorded only a few millimetres, if any. In the southern area, Karmei Tzur near Halhul recorded 20 mm; Rosh Zurim in Gush Etzion recorded 18 mm, Alon Shvut 12 mm, and other stations in the area a few millimetres. Several millimetres fell near Katzrin in the Golan Heights, and a small tornado vortex was documented farther northeast.

On 16 August, rain was concentrated in the Jordan Valley, eastern Samaria and the Judean Desert, with 12 mm recorded at Gitit and 10 mm at Bekaot. Farther east, at Roi, an unofficial instrument operated by Jordan Valley R&D measured 28 mm, consistent with the strong radar echoes from that area. Rain then spread gradually southwards from eastern Samaria into the Judean Desert, with about 8 mm recorded at Nabi Musa. Rain farther south also produced light flow in Nahal Kedem near Ein Gedi.

This rainfall event was highly exceptional. Rain during July and August is not rare in western and northern Israel, but the totals in and east of Jerusalem were unprecedented. No comparable totals had previously been recorded there during the core summer months, or in September, since measurements began. Further details on the event are provided in a separate review.

29–31 August

From the evening of 29 August to the morning of 30 August, mainly light, local rain fell in northern and central Israel, with totals of about 2–4 mm at the wettest locations. Rain clouds moved into the Netanya–Hadera area during the late afternoon and evening and subsequently reached Samaria. Overnight on 30–31 August, rain fell on the central Coastal Plain, mainly around Tel Aviv. Another band of rain crossed the area on the morning of 31 August, also bringing drizzle to the Lowlands and western Jerusalem Mountains. Totals were relatively substantial for summer, reaching 8 mm in Tel Aviv and 5 mm in Samaria.

The event as a whole was not exceptional for the summer months, but the rainfall totals in Tel Aviv and Samaria were unusual for this period. In addition, two rainfall events during the

summer months, one of them with double-digit totals, are rare. Further details on the event are provided in a separate review.

Table 1: Temperatures in August 2026 (°C) compared with the average

Area	Station	August 2026		Difference from 1991–2020 average	
		Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum
Coastal plain and the Judean Foothills	Haifa Technion	30.5	23.8	1.3	0.4
	En HaHoresh	32.6	21.3	1.1	0.2
	Bet Dagan	33.8	24.2	1.8	1.2
	Negba	33.6	23.1	1.7	1.0
Northern Mountains	Elon	32.9	22.2	1.6	0.5
	Merom Golan Picman	31.6	17.9	1.6	0.9
	Avne Eitan	35.0	20.3	1.6	0.0
	Zefat Har Kenaan	31.4	21.5	1.6	1.9
	Deir Hanna	33.6	24.1	1.6	0.9
	Tavor	36.2	23.0	1.8	0.5
Northern Valleys	Afula, Nir HaEmek	36.0	22.9	1.4	1.0
	Dafna	37.1	22.3	1.8	0.2
	Zemah	39.1	24.6	1.1	0.5
	Eden Farm	39.3	24.9	1.4	0.4
Central Mountains	Qarne Shomron	32.7	22.0	1.5	0.7
	Jerusalem	32.8	22.4	2.5	2.2
	Beit Jamal	34.3	23.0	0.9	1.3
	Rosh Zurim	30.4	20.0	2.0	1.7
Negev	Besor	33.5	22.4	1.3	0.8
	Arad	35.6	20.8	2.1	1.5
	Beer Sheva	36.6	22.6	2.0	1.1
	Sede Boqer	34.8	20.5	1.6	1.0
The Arava	Sedom	41.9	32.0	1.5	1.1
	Hazeva	40.9	27.5	1.1	0.8
	Yotvata	40.3	25.8	1.4	0.9
	Eilat	41.7	28.8	1.2	1.2

Table 2: Extreme temperatures in August 2026 (°C) compared with the past

August 2026

Station	Extreme maximum (°C)	Date	Extreme minimum (°C)	Date
Bet Dagan	35.8	12/8/26	20.8	25/8/26
Negba	37.2	12/8/26	19.7	25/8/26
Zefat Har Kenaan	34.5	21/8/26	17.2	30/8/26
Jerusalem*	36.1	1/8/26	19.0	18/8/26
Beer Sheva**	39.8	1/8/26	18.2	25/8/26
Eilat	44.5	2/8/26	25.5	31/8/26

Extreme Values Since Measurements Began

Station	Extreme maximum (°C)	Date	Extreme minimum (°C)	Date	Station operating years
Bet Dagan	38.6	1/8/2012	14.6	18/8/1969	1962–2026
Negba	39.5	5/8/2021	14.0	18/8/1969	1950–2026
Zefat Har Kenaan	40.6	20/8/2010	13.0	22/8/1949	1939–2026
Jerusalem*	44.4	28/8/1881 / 30/8/1881	14.0	3/8/1926	1867–2026
Beer Sheva**	43.8	6/8/2010	12.0	31/8/1934	1922–2026
Eilat	48.0	1/8/2002	19.4	22/8/1976	1949–2026

** Jerusalem: Center 1950–2026, Talbiya 1948–1949, Palace Hotel 1935–1947, American Colony 1927–1935, Mount of Olives 1918–1926, German Colony 1895–1915, English Hospital on Hanevi'im St. 1898–1913, English Hospital in the Old City 1867–1915.*

*** Beer Sheva University 2026, Beer Sheva Negev Institute 1957–2026, Beer Sheva 1922–1957.*

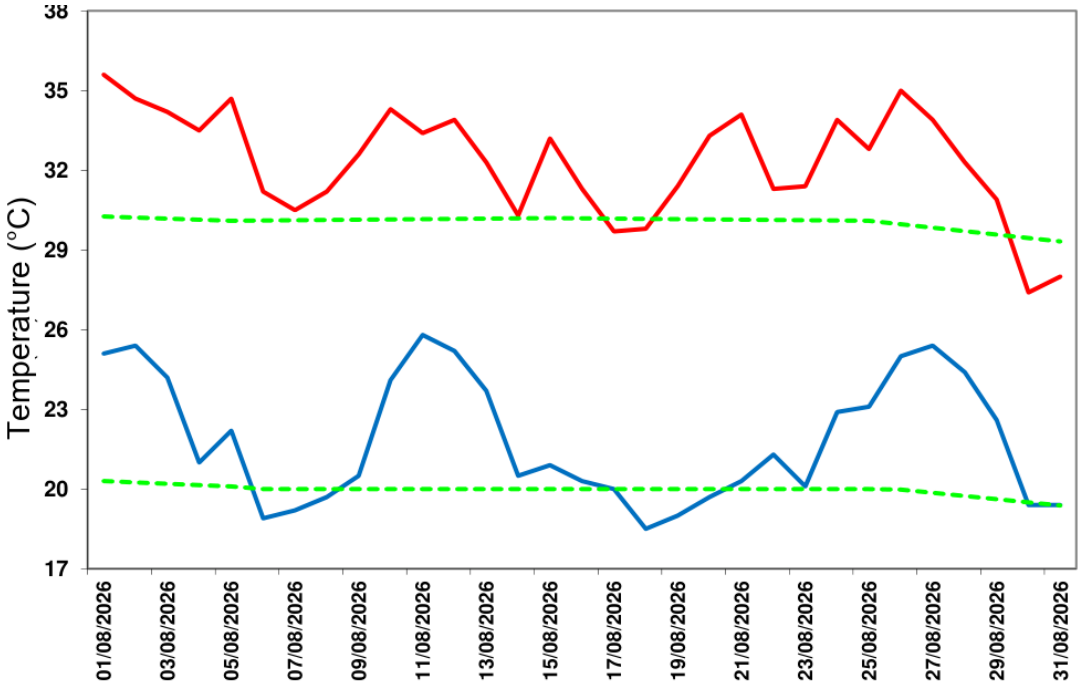


Figure 1: Daily minimum and maximum temperatures in Jerusalem in August 2026 compared with the multi-year average

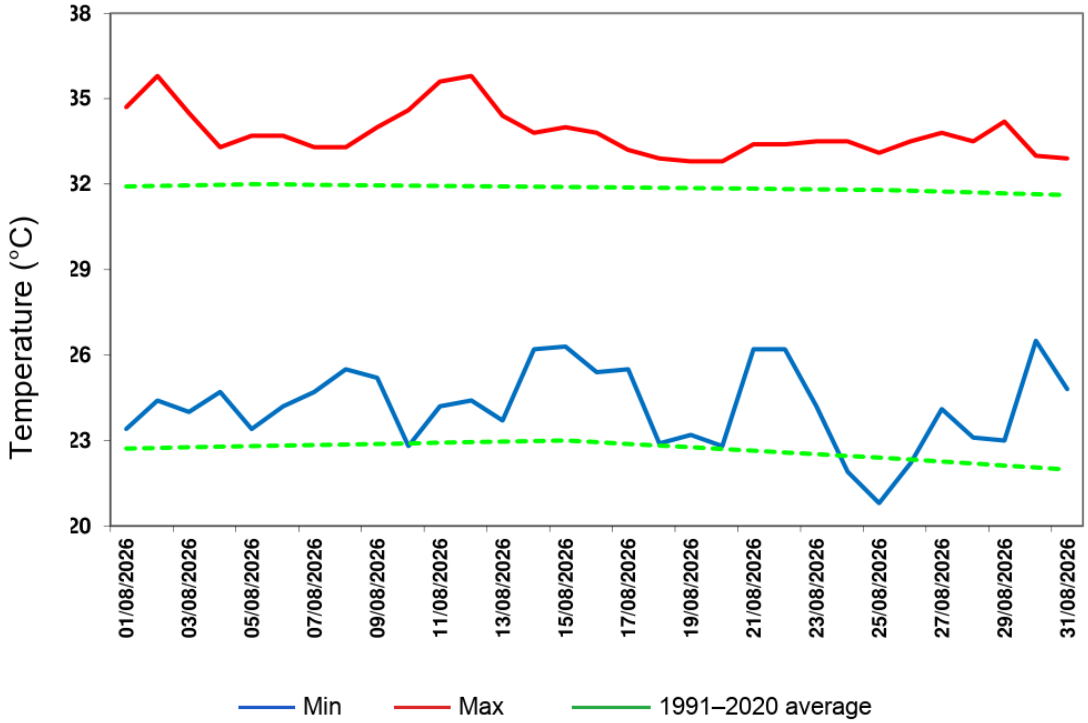


Figure 2: Daily minimum and maximum temperatures at Bet Dagan in August 2026 compared with the multi-year average

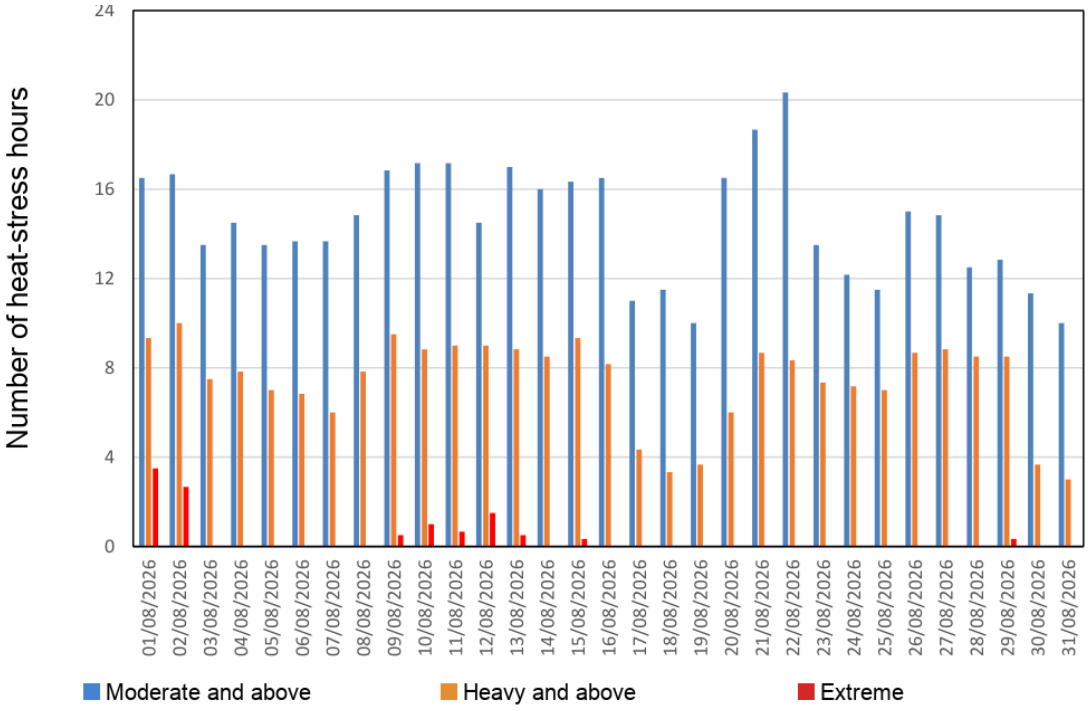


Figure 3: Number of hours per day of moderate heat stress and above at Bet Dagan in August 2026

August 2026 Compared with the Past

August 2026 was warmer than normal and ranked sixth in the national measurement series beginning in 1950. It was similar to August in recent years: slightly cooler than August 2025, 2023 and 2021, and slightly warmer than August 2024 (Figure 4). The warmest August was in 2010, followed by 2015. Unlike most of those Augusts, the month contained no extreme heatwave. Its high mean temperature resulted from many warmer-than-average days and relatively few days close to average.

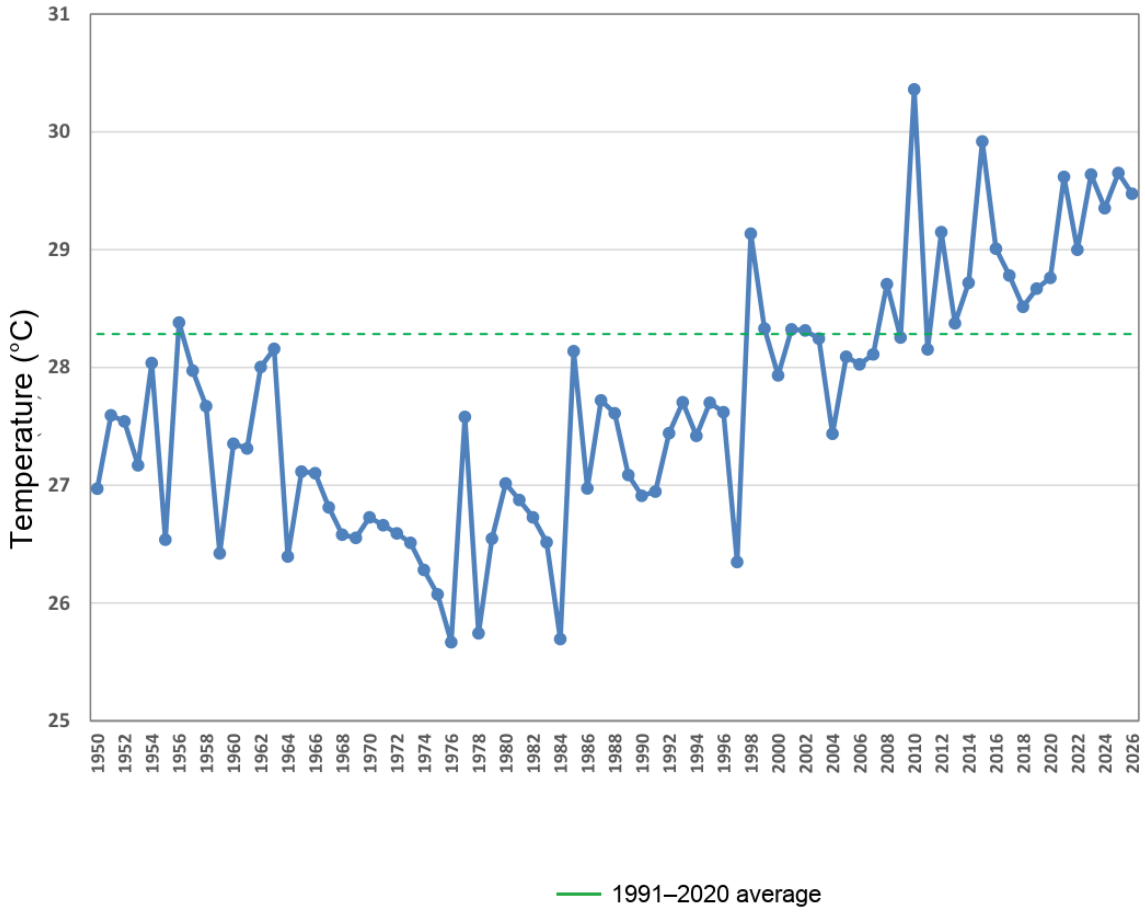


Figure 4: Mean daily temperature in Israel in August, 1950 to 2026*

** To represent Israel as a whole, 24 stations throughout the country with homogeneous data since 1950 were selected.*

Summer 2026 Compared with the Past

Summer 2026 was warmer than average, although only moderately so. August was above average, July was slightly above average, and June was below average, giving a summer anomaly of about +0.5°C. It ranked tenth warmest in the historical record. Summer 2024, the warmest on record, was substantially warmer, while the summers of 2025 and 2023 were also warmer (Figure 5).

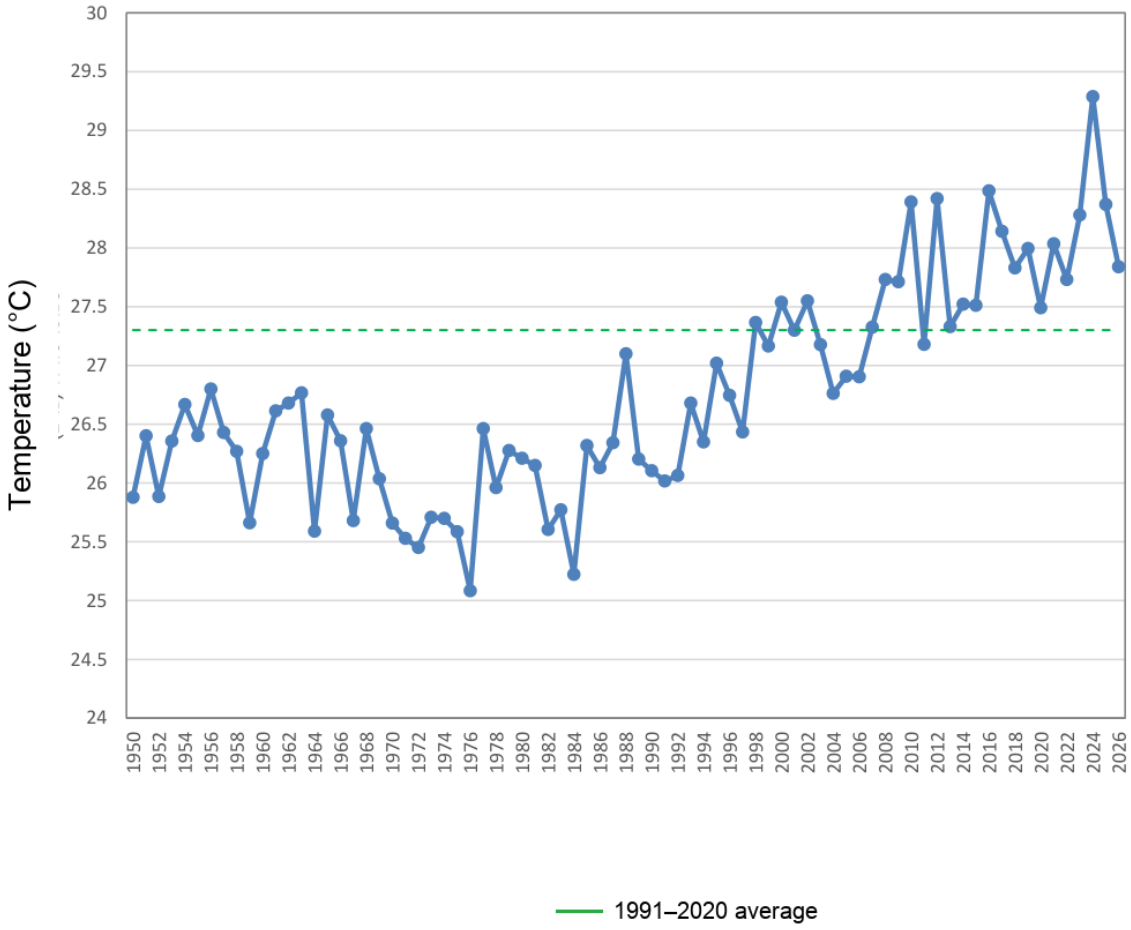


Figure 5: Mean daily temperature in Israel in summer (June to August), 1950 to 2026*

** To represent Israel as a whole, 24 stations throughout the country with homogeneous data since 1950 were selected.*