

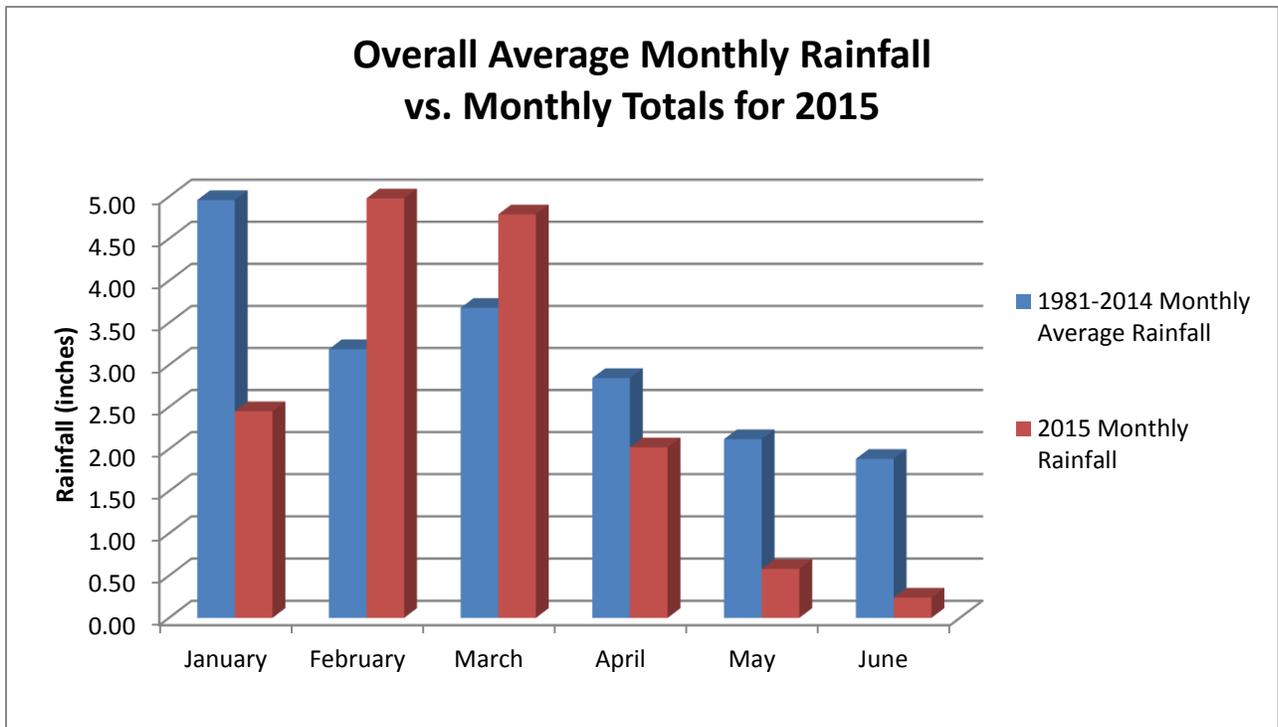
2015 Six-Month Rainfall Analysis

Historical Rainfall Comparison

In the first six months of 2015, the total rainfall was noticeably lower than the historical average. The historical average total rainfall from January to June (1981 to 2014) is 18.67 inches, while the 2015 January to June total is 15.06 inches. Even though this six month total is below the historical average, both the February and March 2015 rainfalls were higher than the historical averages for their respective months. It should be noted that June's rainfall was the lowest observed since the record low of 0.13 inches was set in 1987.

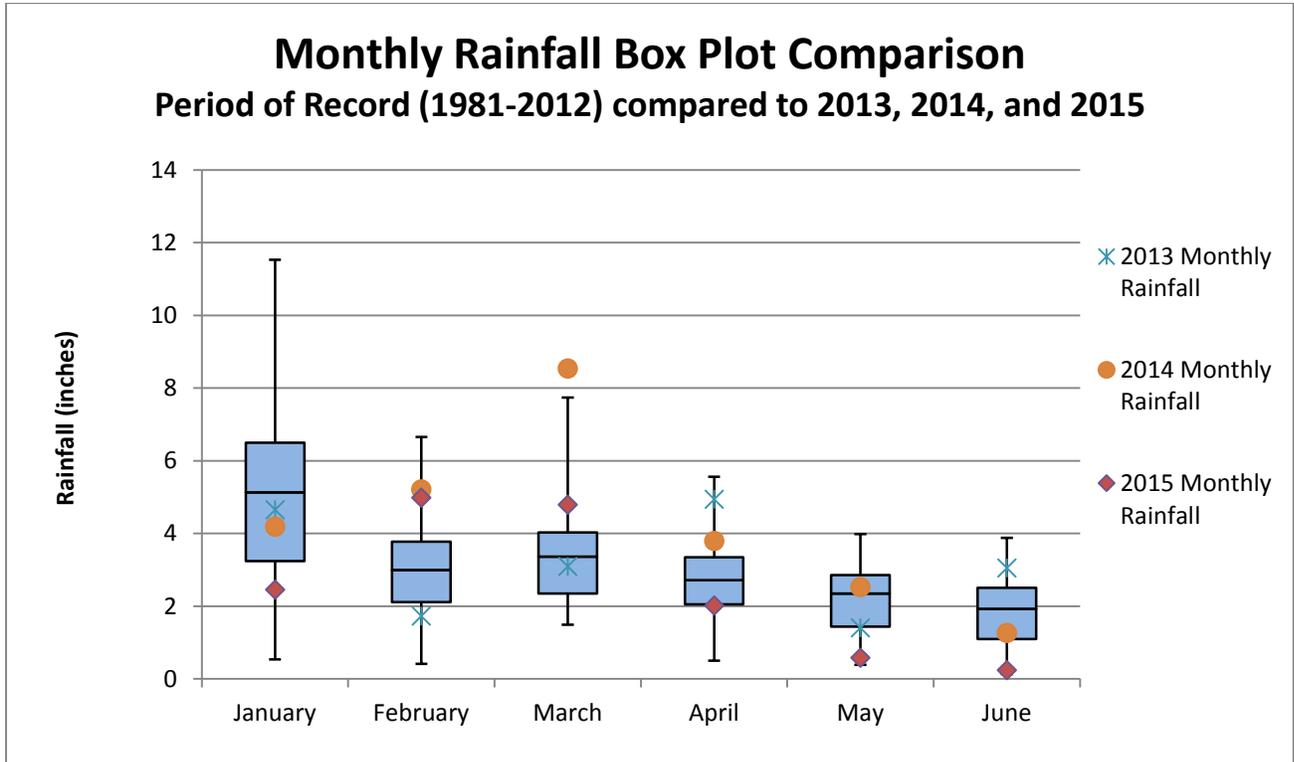
Monthly Averages

Below is a chart showing the historical average monthly rainfall (blue) and the 2015 monthly total (red).



*Gauge location: near I-405 and SR 520 interchange, Bellevue, WA

Similarly, below is a box plot¹ comparing the monthly rainfall statistics for the entire period of record to the monthly totals for 2013, 2014, and 2015. The historical monthly statistics are represented by the blue boxes, with 2013 monthly totals represented by the blue asterisk, 2014 monthly totals represented by the orange circle, and 2015 monthly totals represented by the red diamond.



*Gauge location: near I-405 and SR 520 interchange, Bellevue, WA.

In these charts, one can see that for the first six months of 2015, the overall rainfall was lower than the historical average, but much of this decrease is a result of the monthly totals from May and June. In the months of February and March, rainfall was higher than average. In the months of January, April, May, and June, rainfall was lower than average. Furthermore, the monthly rainfall for June was the lowest observed on record since 1987. As shown in the above box plot, none of the first six months of 2015 observed rainfalls within the expected range. As detailed below, the January through June data for 2015 does not closely mirror that of 2013 or 2014.

		Monthly Rainfall (inches)					
		January	February	March	April	May	June
2013		4.65	1.73	3.09	4.94	1.40	3.05
2014		4.19	5.21	8.54	3.79	2.52	1.26
2015		2.45	4.98	4.79	2.02	0.58	0.24

¹ A box plot is a graphical depiction of a statistical summary of a dataset. The upper-most and lower-most boundaries of the box represent the upper and lower quartiles (75th and 25th percentiles), respectively. The line in the center of the box represents the median data point (50th percentile). The upper and lower points, connected to the box by vertical lines, represent the highest and lowest observed data points.

Number of Rain Days

The box plot¹ graphs below show statistics for the number of rain days, with 2013 represented by the orange circle, 2014 represented by the orange diamond, and 2015 represented by the red diamond. For these graphs, the period of record begins in 1990 when the gauge was moved to its present location.

These graphs demonstrate that the past three years of rainfall have generally been inconsistent with the expected range for the period of record. Specifically during the first six months of 2015, the number of rain days have been below average, with exception to the month of February.

