IOWA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & LAND STEWARDSHIP

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Secretary of Agriculture

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IOWA MONTHLY WEATHER SUMMARY – JANUARY 2023

General Summary: Temperatures averaged 24.3 degrees or 4.8 degrees above normal tying 1983 as the 26th warmest January in 151 years of statewide records. Precipitation averaged 1.82 inches or 0.85 inch above normal, ranking as the 12th wettest. January 2012 was warmer, while 1996 was wetter.

Temperatures: Temperatures in January were unseasonably warm across the state. Eastern Iowa reported the warmest conditions where positive departures of up to eight degrees were observed in the monthly averages. Stations in northwestern Iowa reported near-average temperatures where snowpack was deepest.

January's statewide average maximum temperature was 31.3 degrees, 3.2 degrees above normal, while the average minimum temperature was 17.2 degrees, 6.3 degrees above normal. Donnellson (Lee County) reported the month's high temperature of 64 degrees on the 17th, 32 degrees above normal. Elkader (Clayton County) and Stanley (Fayette County) reported the month's low temperature of -25 degrees on the 30th, on average 31 degrees below normal.

Heating Degree Day Totals: Home heating requirements, as estimated by heating degree day totals, are running 3% less than last January and 11% less than normal. Thus far this heating season, heating degree day totals are running 3% more than last year at this time and 4% less than normal.

Precipitation: All of Iowa's reporting stations observed near to above-average precipitation in January; more than half of the stations observed more than an inch of above-normal precipitation. Above-average snowfall also blanketed much of northern Iowa with an average snowfall of 9.5 inches, 1.2 inches above average. Portions of northwest Iowa measured up to 20 inches of above-average snowfall. Monthly precipitation (melted snow and sleet plus rain) totals ranged from 0.75 inch at a Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow (CoCoRaHS) gauge near Bedford (Taylor County) to 3.47 inches in Muscatine (Muscatine County).

US Drought Monitor: The Drought Monitor depiction showed limited improvement across Iowa through January. Soil profiles remain frozen with a frost depth between six to 13 inches, with snowpack helping insulate the soil profile and preventing a deeper freeze. January's above-average precipitation did not infiltrate any farther than the top inch or two in most areas. However, as the snow melts in late winter and early spring, this moisture will help reduce longer-term deficits; a gentle thaw and refreeze cycle will help with drought recovery. Drought conditions have improved across south-central, east-central and northeast Iowa. Over the past month the area in Moderate Drought (D1), has dropped from 37 percent of the state to about 24 percent. Portions of the state with no drought or Abnormal Dryness (D0) increased from 10 percent to 17 percent.

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January 2023

WEATHER BY DISTRICTS

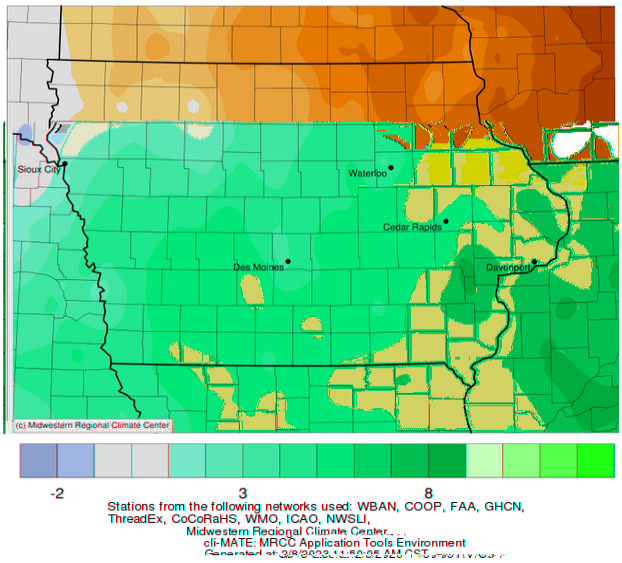
DISTRICT	TEMPERATURE (F)		HEATING DEGREE DAYS				PRECIPITATION (inches)				
	January 2023		January 2023		Since Jul., 1, 2022		January 2023		Since Nov.1, 2022		SNOWFALL Jan 2023
	Average	Departure*	Average	Departure*	Average	Departure*	Average	Departure*	Average	Departure*	Average
Northwest	18.8	2.0	1432	-64	4455	+27	1.96	+1.25	5.24	+2.13	15.5
North Central	20.6	4.5	1376	-140	4398	-45	2.05	+1.16	4.71	+0.90	13.0
Northeast	23.3	6.2	1293	-193	4223	-130	1.87	+0.73	6.33	+1.61	11.8
West Central	23.7	4.1	1280	-127	4074	-28	1.65	+0.88	4.06	+0.64	10.1
Central	24.0	4.6	1271	-144	4016	-60	1.81	+0.89	5.70	+1.57	9.3
East Central	26.8	6.5	1184	-201	3807	-154	1.94	+0.73	6.66	+1.57	6.4
Southwest	27.7	5.1	1156	-159	3751	-37	1.55	+0.72	3.99	+0.17	1.7
South Central	27.5	4.9	1162	-152	3713	-44	1.58	+0.60	6.98	+2.56	4.3
Southeast	28.9	6.0	1119	-186	3585	-101	1.87	+0.55	6.32	+1.10	5.0
STATE	24.3	4.8	1246	-161	3980	-84	1.82	+0.85	5.54	+1.38	9.5

* Departures are computed from 1991-2020 normals.

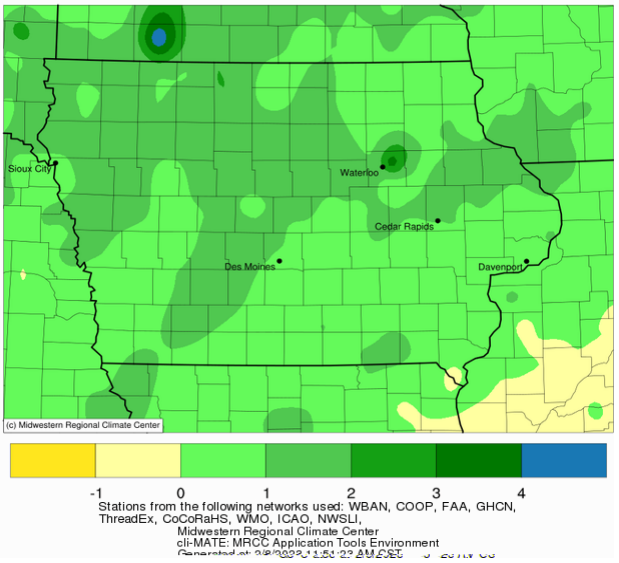
The weather data in this report are based upon information collected by the U. S. Dept. of Commerce, NOAA National Weather Service.

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals

January 01, 2023 to January 31, 2023



January 01, 2023 to January 31, 2023



Accumulated Snowfall (in)

January 01, 2023 to January 31, 2023