

## IOWA MONTHLY WEATHER SUMMARY – JANUARY 2022

General Summary: Temperatures averaged 14.7 degrees or 4.8 degrees below normal, ranking as the 38<sup>th</sup> coldest January in 150 years of statewide records. Precipitation averaged 0.68 inch or 0.29 inch below normal, tying 1983 and 1985 as the 44<sup>th</sup> driest. A colder January occurred in 2014, while a drier one occurred in 2016.

Temperatures: Negative temperature departures were observed across a majority of Iowa through January with averages of up to eight degrees below normal in northeastern Iowa. A lack of snowpack in northwestern Iowa allowed for relatively warmer temperatures, with near-normal readings observed along the Iowa-Nebraska border.

January's statewide average maximum temperature was 26.2 degrees, 1.9 degrees below normal, while the average minimum temperature was 3.3 degrees, 7.6 degrees below normal. Sioux City Airport (Woodbury County) reported the month's high temperature of 62 degrees on the 18<sup>th</sup>, 33 degrees above normal. Elkader 6 SSW (Clayton County) reported the month's low temperature of -30 degrees on the 26<sup>th</sup>, 35 degrees below normal.

Heating Degree Day Totals: Home heating requirements, as estimated by heating degree day totals, are running 22% more than last January and 12% more than normal. Thus far this heating season, heating degree day totals are running 3% less than last year at this time and 8% less than normal.

Precipitation: Much of Iowa's eastern quarter experienced precipitation deficits between 0.50 inch to 1.00 inch through January. Many stations in the central portion of Iowa, especially south-central Iowa, observed above-average totals of around 0.50 inch. Overall, a majority of Iowa's reporting stations were near to slightly below normal for the month.

The new year started with the first winter system to impact Iowa on the 1<sup>st</sup>. Most of Iowa's southern half reported measurable snowfall through the afternoon and evening hours. Accumulations were highest in southeastern Iowa with a general range of six to eight inches; a Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow (CoCoRaHS) observer in Bloomfield (Davis County) measured 7.5 inches with totals tapering off to two to four inches along much of the I-80 corridor.

The most substantial snowstorm of the month occurred over the 14<sup>th</sup> and the 15<sup>th</sup> with totals over six inches for much of the central two-thirds of Iowa. A large swath within this region experienced heavier totals in the eight to 12-inch range; multiple stations in Kossuth, Polk and Story counties measured 10 inches or more with Des Moines International Airport observing 14.3 inches of snow. The eastern and western quarters of the state received totals in the range of two to six inches; the statewide average snowfall was 5.7 inches, a majority of the snowfall for the entire month.

The final event of the month occurred over northeastern Iowa over the afternoon hours of the 22<sup>nd</sup> into the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Event totals were generally in the two to four-inch range with Elkader (Clayton County) and

Fayette (Fayette County) measuring the highest totals at 4.5 inches. Accumulations quickly tapered off towards the southwest with stations from Spencer (Clay County) through Waterloo and Cedar Rapids (Black Hawk County) measuring an inch or less.

Monthly precipitation (melted snow and sleet plus rain) totals ranged from 0.05 inch in Sioux City to 1.76 inches in Sigourney (Keokuk County). Above-average snowfall also blanketed much of Iowa with the preliminary average snowfall of 8.5 inches, 0.8 inch above average. January 2022 ties 1949 as the 13<sup>th</sup> snowiest on record. Des Moines International Airport (Polk County) reported the highest monthly snow total of 18.7 inches.

US Drought Monitor: Abnormally dry (D0) and drought conditions remained generally status quo through January with 49% D0-D1 (Moderate Drought) coverage at the start of the month. Northwest Iowa continued to see a lack of snowfall, which allowed for warmer temperatures compared to the rest of the state. With longer-term dryness continuing, a small swath of D1 was introduced during the second week of January. Abnormally dry conditions also slightly expanded across eastern Iowa towards the end of the month. As of the first week of February, D0 covered 41% of the state with nearly 14% of D1 coverage.

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# January 2022

## WEATHER BY DISTRICTS

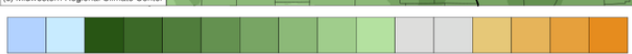
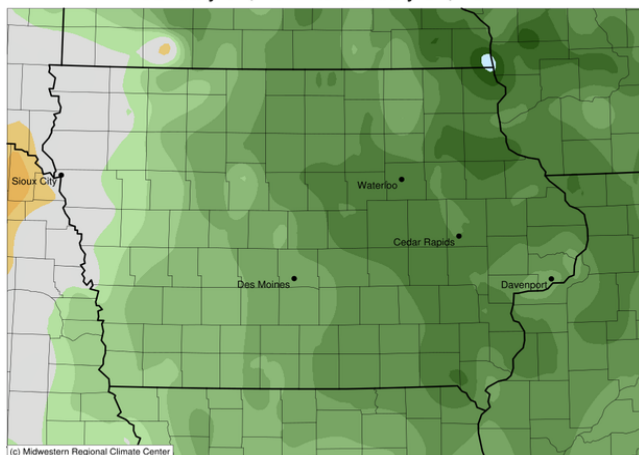
DISTRICT	TEMPERATURE (F)		HEATING DEGREE DAYS				PRECIPITATION (inches)				SNOWFALL Jan 2022
	January 2022		January 2022		Since Jul., 1, 2021		January 2022		Since Nov.1, 2021		
	Average	Departure*	Average	Departure*	Average	Departure*	Average	Departure*	Average	Departure*	Average
Northwest	15.0	-1.8	1550	+54	4005	-423	0.50	-0.21	1.70	-1.41	4.9
North Central	10.4	-5.7	1693	+178	4164	-279	0.70	-0.19	2.79	-1.02	10.9
Northeast	10.3	-6.8	1696	+210	4107	-246	0.67	-0.47	3.19	-1.53	8.0
West Central	17.4	-2.2	1476	+69	3654	-448	0.51	-0.26	1.57	-1.85	4.5
Central	13.8	-5.6	1587	+173	3760	-316	0.74	-0.18	2.88	-1.25	10.7
East Central	13.7	-6.6	1590	+205	3724	-237	0.58	-0.63	2.69	-2.40	9.1
Southwest	19.6	-3.0	1407	+92	3379	-409	0.60	-0.23	2.05	-1.77	5.8
South Central	17.6	-5.0	1469	+155	3439	-318	1.07	+0.09	3.30	-1.12	9.9
Southeast	16.4	-6.5	1507	+202	3437	-249	0.88	-0.44	2.49	-2.73	9.7
STATE	14.7	-4.8	1574	+167	3761	-303	0.68	-0.29	2.50	-1.66	8.5

\* 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

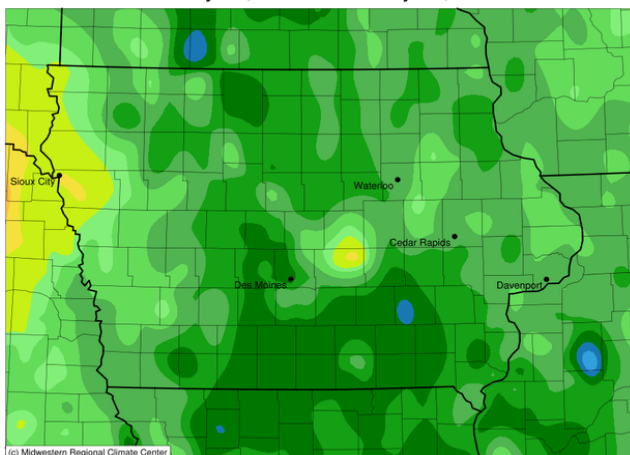
January 01, 2022 to January 31, 2022



Stations from the following networks used: WBAN, COOP, FAA, GHCN, ThreadEx, CoCoRaHS, WMO, ICAO, NWSLI, Midwest Regional Climate Center  
cli-MATE: MRCC Application Tools Environment  
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### Accumulated Precipitation (in)

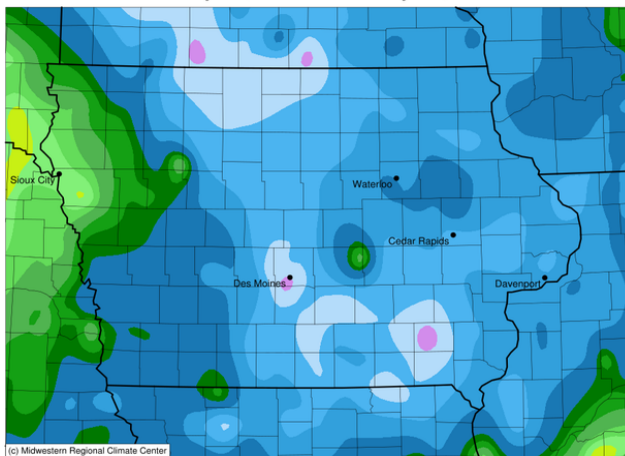
January 01, 2022 to January 31, 2022



Stations from the following networks used: WBAN, COOP, FAA, GHCN, ThreadEx, CoCoRaHS, WMO, ICAO, NWSLI, Midwest Regional Climate Center  
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### Accumulated Snowfall (in)

January 01, 2022 to January 31, 2022



Stations from the following networks used: WBAN, COOP, FAA, GHCN, ThreadEx, CoCoRaHS, WMO, ICAO, NWSLI, Midwest Regional Climate Center  
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