

Central Indiana

November 2015

Climate Summary

8th Warmest on record at Indianapolis

Tied for the 67th Driest on record at Indianapolis

Temperatures

High pressure and southerly winds produced one of the warmest starts to a November over central Indiana in recent memory. Highs rose into the middle and upper 70s during the first few days of the month, resulting in the 5th warmest first five days of November on record and the warmest since November 2003. The 76 degree high on November 4 and 5 were the warmest days in November in Indianapolis since November 4, 2003 when the high temperature reached 78.

The passage of a cold front late on the 5th prompted a return to more seasonable but still largely warmer than normal temperatures through the middle of the month as highs were largely in the 50s and lower 60s. The passage of a strong low pressure through the Ohio Valley on the 18th brought in progressively cold weather as highs fell into the 40s. An upper level system tracking through the lower Great Lakes on the 21st brought the first accumulating snow to parts of central Indiana. The snow had a big impact on temperatures on the 22nd, as morning lows started out in the single digits and teens under clear skies, followed by the coldest daytime high of the month ranging from the mid and upper 20s north to middle 30s south. Most areas along and north of Interstate 70 remained below freezing on the 22nd.

Temperatures recovered through the 27th, with central Indiana enjoying the warmest Thanksgiving Day since 2012 as highs rose into the 60s. A colder airmass once again returned to the region in wake of a cold frontal passage late on the 27th. Under cloudy skies, highs remained in the upper 30s to middle 40s for the last few days of the month.

Overall, average temperatures were generally 3 to 6 degrees above normal for November in central Indiana. After the chilly November experienced in 2014, average temperatures were 10 to 12 degrees warmer this November. For Indianapolis, November 2015 was the 8th warmest on record and the warmest since November 2011.

Site	November 2015 Avg Temp	November 2015 Difference from Normal	Highest Temperature	Lowest Temperature
Indianapolis	48.0	+4.4	76 on 4 and 5	16 on 22
Lafayette	45.2	+2.4	75 on 4	8 on 22
Muncie	47.8	+5.2	76 on 5	17 on 22
Terre Haute	47.3	+4.0	75 on 2	17 on 22
Bloomington	48.0	+4.2	77 on 4	19 on 22
Shelbyville	49.0	+5.3	78 on 4	21 on 22
Indy – Eagle Crk.	47.5	+3.5	76 on 4	16 on 22

At Indianapolis, there were 21 days with above normal average temperatures, 8 days with below normal average temperatures and 1 day with normal average temperatures.

November 2015 was the 8th warmest in the Indianapolis area since 1871.

Precipitation

November monthly rainfall and melted precipitation measured from near 1.5 inches in northeast Indiana to over 6 inches in south central Indiana. Much of the state received below normal to normal precipitation during November. Only portions of extreme western and southern Indiana saw above normal monthly totals.

Snowfall during November was confined to northern and central portions of Indiana. In central Indiana, monthly snowfall totals ranged 2 to 5 inches in areas west and north of Indianapolis with nearly 10 inches in extreme northern Indiana. Around an inch or less fell in the remainder of central Indiana. All of November's snowfall occurred from late on the 21st through the 22nd.

The most extensive rainfall during November fell in a four-day period from late on the 25th through early on the 29th. Rainfall of one-half inch in northern Indiana to more than 2 inches in west central Indiana helped relieve dry conditions in much of the state.

Abnormally dry to moderate drought conditions decreased from nearly 90% coverage in the state to less than 30% during the month. Stream flow was at or above seasonal levels at the end of November.

Site	November 2015 Precipitation	November 2015 Difference from Normal	Wettest Day	Longest Dry Stretch
Indianapolis	2.86	-0.84	1.13 on 27	4 days 22-25
Lafayette	2.76	-0.21	1.08 on 27	4 days 1-4
Muncie	2.57	-0.88	0.76 on 27	4 days 1-4, 13-16 and 23-26
Terre Haute	4.73	+0.89	1.65 on 27	4 days 1-4 and 7-10
Bloomington	4.10	+0.16	1.29 on 27	4 days 12-15 and 22-25
Shelbyville	3.01	-0.72	0.53 on 9	4 days 1-4 and 22-25
Indy – Eagle Crk.	2.99	-0.71	1.18 on 27	5 days 22-26

November 2015 was tied for the 67th driest in the Indianapolis area since weather records began in 1871.

Severe Weather

No severe weather occurred across central Indiana during the month of November. A broken line of showers with a few thunderstorms ahead of a strong cold front produced stronger wind gusts up to 45 to 50 mph in spots early on the morning of the 12th.

For information on severe weather in other areas during November, visit the Storm Prediction Center “Severe Weather Event Summaries” website at <http://www.spc.noaa.gov/climo/online/>.

Miscellaneous

The maximum wind gust at Indianapolis International Airport was 50 mph out of the west-southwest on the morning of the 12th as strong winds impacted the region in the wake of the passage of a strong cold front. Fog or haze was reported at Indianapolis on 15 days during the month. Dense fog was reported on the 10th. Thunder occurred at Indianapolis on the 11th.

December 2015 Outlook

The official outlook for December 2015 from the Climate Prediction Center indicates a much greater chance of above normal temperatures for central Indiana. At Indianapolis, the average temperature is 31.6°. The outlook indicates an equal chance of above, below or near normal precipitation for central Indiana. The average precipitation for December at Indianapolis is 3.17", with 6.9" of snowfall.

Data prepared by the Indianapolis Forecast Office.