



Des Moines Climate



1879-2020: January

Compiled by: Craig Cogil – Updated 3/24/2020

Temperature

Highest Daily Maximum:	67	January 8, 2003
Lowest Daily Maximum:	-14	January 12, 1912
Highest Daily Minimum:	50	January 25, 1944
Lowest Daily Minimum:	-30	January 5, 1884
Highest Daily Average:	56	January 25, 1944
Lowest Daily Average:	-21	January 12, 1912

Top Ten Warmest

1.	36.3	1880
2.	35.6	2006
3.	34.2	1933
4.	32.4	1989
5.	31.7	1990
6.	31.0	1944
	31.0	2002
8.	30.8	1939
9.	30.7	1992
10.	30.5	2012

Top Ten Coldest

1.	6.1	1912
2.	7.1	1888
3.	7.5	1979
4.	8.5	1963
5.	8.8	1883
6.	9.0	1940
7.	9.6	1982
8.	10.0	1977
9.	10.2	1893
10.	10.7	1885

Number of Years with Max of 60 degrees or Higher: 18 (13% of the years)

Number of Years with Max of 50 degrees or Higher: 93 (65% of the years)

Number of Years with Max of 40 degrees or Higher: 135 (95% of the years)

All January's have had at least 1 day with a high above freezing. 1940 had the fewest with 1.

Number of Years with Min of 10 degrees or Lower:	140	(99% of the years)
Number of Years with Min of 0 degrees or Lower:	129	(91% of the years)
Number of Years with Min of -10 degrees or Lower:	80	(56% of the years)
Number of Years with Min of -20 degrees or Lower:	25	(18% of the years)

Precipitation

Wettest Day:	2.13"	January 12, 1960
Highest 3-day total:	3.03"	10 - 12, 1960
Highest 7-day total:	4.11"	11 - 17, 1960
Highest 14 - day total:	4.31"	11 - 24, 1960

Top Ten Wettest

1.	4.38	1960
2.	3.47	1886
3.	3.12	1949
4.	2.86	1996
5.	2.70	1929
6.	2.66	1916
7.	2.63	1982
8.	2.62	1890
9.	2.51	1941
10.	2.31	1946

Top Ten Driest

1.	0.07	1954
2.	0.08	1919
3.	0.11	1928
4.	0.12	1986
5.	0.18	1948
6.	0.20	1900
	0.20	1903
8.	0.23	1925
	0.23	1976
10.	0.24	1927

Average Number of Days with at least 0.01" of precipitation:	8
Average Number of Days with at least 0.10" of precipitation:	3
Average Number of Days with at least 0.50" of precipitation:	0

Number of Years with at least one day where 0.50" of Precipitation fell:	45	(32% of the years)
Number of Years with at least one day where 1.00" of Precipitation fell:	11	(8% of the years)
Number of Years with at least one day where 2.00" of Precipitation fell:	1	(0.7% of the years)

Snowfall

Snowiest Day: 19.8" January 1, 1942

Highest 3-day total: 19.8" 1 -3, 1942

Most Snow on Ground: 22" January 1, 1942

Top Ten Snowiest

1. 37.0" 1886
2. 23.4" 1996
3. 21.4" 1929
4. 21.1" 1936
5. 19.8" 1942
6. 18.8" 1947
7. 18.7" 2019
8. 18.5" 1982
9. 18.1" 1906
- 18.1" 1949

Top Ten Least Snowiest

1. Trace 1928
2. 0.1" 1989
3. 0.4" 1935
- 0.4" 1954
5. 0.6" 1900
6. 1.2" 1889
- 1.2" 1988
8. 1.3" 1986
- 1.3" 2006
10. 1.4" 1903 and 1944

Monthly Normals (1981-2010)

Average Maximum Temperature 31.0

Average Minimum Temperature 14.3

Average Daily Temperature 22.6

Average Precipitation 1.00"

Average Snowfall 8.5"

If you have any questions or comments, please send them to craig.cogil@noaa.gov.

Temperature and precipitation records for Des Moines began in August of 1878. Snowfall records didn't begin until December 1884.