



Des Moines Climate



1879-2020: March

Compiled by: Craig Cogil – Updated 7/3/2020

Temperature

Highest Daily Maximum:	91	March 29, 1986
Lowest Daily Maximum:	2	March 10, 1948 and March 2, 2014
Highest Daily Minimum:	65	March 19, 1921
Lowest Daily Minimum:	-22	March 1, 1962
Highest Daily Average:	74	March 26, 1991 and March 29, 1895
Lowest Daily Average:	-8	March 1, 1962

Top Ten Warmest

1.	55.7	2012
2.	51.5	1910
3.	47.9	1946
4.	46.7	2016
5.	46.4	1945
6.	45.7	1938
7.	45.6	1973
8.	45.2	2007
9.	45.1	2000
10.	45.0	1918

Top Ten Coldest

1.	21.4	1960
2.	22.7	1965
3.	26.2	1912
4.	27.8	1899
5.	28.2	1969
6.	28.5	1951
7.	28.6	1906
8.	28.8	1891
9.	29.3	1881
10.	29.6	1975

Number of Years with Max of 90 degrees or Higher:	1	(0.7% of the years)
Number of Years with Max of 80 degrees or Higher:	27	(19% of the years)
Number of Years with Max of 70 degrees or Higher:	99	(70% of the years)
Number of Years with Max of 60 degrees or Higher:	134	(94% of the years)

All March's have had at least 1 day with a max of 50 degrees or higher. Fewest was 1 in 1965.

Number of Years with Min 20 degrees or below:	136	(96% of the years)
Number of Years with Min 10 degrees or below:	90	(63% of the years)
Number of Years with Min 0 degrees or below:	28	(20% of the years)
Number of Years with Min -10 degrees or below:	5	(4% of the years)

All March's have had at least 1 day with a min of 32 degrees or below. Fewest was 4 in 1973.

Precipitation

Wettest Day:	2.44"	March 15, 1919
Highest 3-day total:	3.14"	14 - 16, 1919
Highest 7-day total:	4.22"	7 - 13, 1990
Highest 14 - day total:	5.19"	2 - 15, 1990

Top Ten Wettest

1.	5.82	1990
2.	5.37	1961
3.	5.13	1945
4.	4.73	2009
5.	4.63	1946
6.	4.34	1923
7.	4.23	1979
8.	4.15	1973
9.	4.07	1998
10.	4.06	2006

Top Ten Driest

1.	0.04	1885
2.	0.11	1889
3.	0.17	1994
4.	0.29	1918
5.	0.33	1910
6.	0.35	2000
7.	0.37	1989
8.	0.39	1981
9.	0.41	1971
10.	0.49	2015

Average Number of Days with at least 0.01" of precipitation:	9
Average Number of Days with at least 0.10" of precipitation:	5
Average Number of Days with at least 0.50" of precipitation:	1

Number of Years with at least one day where 0.50" of Precipitation fell:	95	(67% of the years)
Number of Years with at least one day where 1.00" of Precipitation fell:	37	(26% of the years)
Number of Years with at least one day where 2.00" of Precipitation fell:	2	(1% of the years)

Snowfall

Snowiest Day: 12.0" March 8, 1999 and March 15, 2004

Highest 3-day total: 13.3" 14 - 16, 2004

Most Snow on Ground: 18" March 9 and 11, 1960

Top Ten Snowiest

1. 28.0" 1912
2. 25.3" 1923
3. 18.8" 1948
4. 17.5" 1891
5. 17.3" 1965
6. 16.7" 1951
7. 16.6" 1901
8. 16.4" 1961
9. 16.3" 1886
10. 15.8" 1960

Top Ten Least Snowiest

1. 0.0" 1910
2. Trace 1889
- Trace 1908
- Trace 1936
- Trace 1938
- Trace 1968
- Trace 1973
- Trace 1981
- Trace 1997
- Trace 2015

Monthly Normals

Average Maximum Temperature 49.0

Average Minimum Temperature 29.7

Average Daily Temperature 39.3

Average Precipitation 2.30"

Average Snowfall 5.2"

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.