



Des Moines Climate



1878-2019: October

Compiled by: Craig Cogil – Updated 12/21/2019

Temperature

| | | |
|------------------------|----|-------------------------------------|
| Highest Daily Maximum: | 95 | October 5, 1963 |
| Lowest Daily Maximum: | 23 | October 29, 1925 |
| Highest Daily Minimum: | 73 | October 1, 1971 and October 3, 2005 |
| Lowest Daily Minimum: | 7 | October 28, 1925 |
| Highest Daily Average: | 81 | October 1, 1971 and October 3, 2005 |
| Lowest Daily Average: | 16 | October 28, 1925 |

Top Ten Warmest

| | | |
|-----|------|------|
| 1. | 64.5 | 1963 |
| 2. | 62.4 | 1947 |
| 3. | 61.6 | 1938 |
| 4. | 60.6 | 1956 |
| 5. | 60.5 | 1900 |
| | 60.5 | 1971 |
| 7. | 60.4 | 1879 |
| 8. | 60.3 | 1920 |
| 9. | 59.9 | 1950 |
| 10. | 59.7 | 2016 |

Top Ten Coldest

| | | |
|-----|------|------|
| 1. | 41.6 | 1925 |
| 2. | 44.7 | 1917 |
| 3. | 47.3 | 2002 |
| 4. | 47.7 | 2009 |
| 5. | 47.9 | 1972 |
| | 47.9 | 1988 |
| 7. | 48.2 | 1895 |
| | 48.2 | 1987 |
| 9. | 48.3 | 2019 |
| 10. | 48.5 | 1976 |

| | | |
|---|-----|---------------------|
| Number of Years with Max of 90 degrees or Higher: | 11 | (8% of the years) |
| Number of Years with Max of 80 degrees or Higher: | 112 | (79% of the years) |
| Number of Years with Max of 70 degrees or Higher: | 142 | (100% of the years) |
| Number of Years with Min 32 degrees or below: | 131 | (92% of the years) |
| Number of Years with Min 20 degrees or below: | 16 | (11% of the years) |
| Number of Years with Min 10 degrees or below: | 1 | (0.7% of the years) |

Precipitation

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------|-----------------|
| Wettest Day: | 3.67" | October 7, 1884 |
| Highest 3-day total: | 4.08" | 1 - 3, 2019 |
| Highest 7-day total: | 4.87" | 1 - 7, 2019 |
| Highest 14 - day total: | 6.13" | 18 - 31, 1947 |

Top Ten Wettest

| | | |
|-----|------|------|
| 1. | 7.41 | 2019 |
| 2. | 7.29 | 1941 |
| 3. | 6.86 | 1947 |
| 4. | 6.56 | 2009 |
| 5. | 6.45 | 1881 |
| 6. | 6.28 | 1984 |
| 7. | 5.94 | 1882 |
| 8. | 5.54 | 1983 |
| 9. | 5.49 | 2007 |
| 10. | 5.33 | 1884 |

Top Ten Driest

| | | |
|-----|------|------|
| 1. | 0.03 | 1952 |
| 2. | 0.07 | 1958 |
| 3. | 0.13 | 1953 |
| 4. | 0.15 | 1945 |
| 5. | 0.22 | 1893 |
| 6. | 0.29 | 1895 |
| | 0.29 | 1964 |
| | 0.29 | 1966 |
| 9. | 0.36 | 1999 |
| 10. | 0.43 | 1915 |

| | |
|--|---|
| Average Number of Days with at least 0.01" of precipitation: | 8 |
| Average Number of Days with at least 0.10" of precipitation: | 5 |
| Average Number of Days with at least 0.50" of precipitation: | 2 |

| | | |
|--|-----|--------------------|
| Number of Years with at least one day where 0.50" of Precipitation fell: | 106 | (75% of the years) |
| Number of Years with at least one day where 1.00" of Precipitation fell: | 67 | (47% of the years) |
| Number of Years with at least one day where 2.00" of Precipitation fell: | 11 | (8% of the years) |

Snowfall

Snowiest Day: 7.4" October 27, 1980

Highest 3-day total: 7.4" 25 - 27, 1980

Most Snow on Ground: 6" October 26, 1997

Top Ten Snowiest

1. 7.4" 1980
2. 6.8" 1997
3. 4.8" 1925
4. 2.5" 1923
5. 2.4" 1967
6. 2.2" 2019
7. 2.0" 1888
8. 1.8" 1995
9. 1.7" 1898
10. 1.4" 1962

Top Ten Least Snowiest

1. 0.0" 80 years have seen no snow, most recently in 2016.

Monthly Normals

Average Maximum Temperature 63.1

Average Minimum Temperature 43.0

Average Daily Temperature 53.1

Average Precipitation 2.64"

Average Snowfall 0.4"

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.