

Waterloo Climate



1895-2024

Compiled by: Craig Cogil – Updated 1/29/2025

Temperature

| Highest Daily Maximum: | 112 | July 13 and 14, 1936 |
|--------------------------|------|------------------------------------|
| Lowest Daily Maximum: | -16 | February 2, 1996 |
| Highest Daily Minimum: | 80 | August 16, 1988 and July 31, 1917 |
| Lowest Daily Minimum: | -34 | January 16, 2009 and March 1, 1962 |
| Highest Daily Average: | 93 | July 13, 1936 |
| Lowest Daily Average: | -23 | February 2, 1996 |
| Highest Monthly Average: | 82.4 | July 1936 |
| Lowest Monthly Average: | -0.1 | January 1977 |
| Highest Winter Average: | 31.0 | 2023-24 |
| Lowest Winter Average: | 9.0 | 1977-78 |
| Highest Spring Average: | 55.6 | 2012 |
| Lowest Spring Average: | 42.0 | 1960 |
| Highest Summer Average: | 76.7 | 1936 |
| Lowest Summer Average: | 66.3 | 1915 |
| Highest Autumn Average: | 56.9 | 1931 |
| Lowest Autumn Average: | 43.6 | 1976 |
| Highest Yearly: | 53.1 | 1931 |
| Lowest Yearly: | 43.0 | 1917 |

Most Consecutive Days of Max at 100 degrees or Higher: 13 July 5 – 17, 1936

Most Consecutive Days of Max at 90 degrees or Higher: 21 June 28 – July 18, 1936

Most Consecutive Days of Max at 32 degrees or Lower: 52 Dec. 30, 1978 – Feb. 19, 1979

Most Consecutive Days of Max at 0 degrees or Lower: 8 January 4–11, 1912

Most Consecutive Days of Min at 70 degrees or Higher: 12 July 26 – August 6, 1955*

Most Consecutive Days of Min at 32 degrees or Higher: 186 May 4 – November 5, 1940*

Most Consecutive Days of Min at 32 degrees or Lower: 142 Nov. 7, 2000 – March 28, 2001

Most Consecutive Days of Min at 0 degrees or Lower: 23 Dec. 28, 1976 - Jan. 19, 1977

Temperature Normals 1991-2020

Yearly Average: 49.0

Winter Average: 22.9

Spring Average: 49.2

Summer Average: 72.6

Autumn Average: 51.2

Precipitation

Wettest Day: 6.00" September 8, 1941

Wettest Month: 13.35" September 2018

Driest Month: Trace November 1954

Wettest Winter: 7.69" 2015-16

Driest Winter: 0.96" 1955-56

Wettest Spring: 20.50" 2013

Driest Spring: 2.05" 1934

Wettest Summer: 31.02" 1993

Driest Summer: 4.76" 2012

Wettest Autumn: 21.44" 2018

Driest Autumn: 2.41" 1999

Wettest Year: 54.15" 2018

Driest Year: 17.35" 1910

Highest 7-day total: 9.60" July 15 – 21, 1968

Highest 30-day total: 19.93" July 10 – August 8, 1968

Highest 90-day total: 30.90" June 1 – August 29, 1993

Consecutive Days of No Measured Rain: 58 September 20 – November 16, 1952

Consecutive Days of a Trace or more: 16 April 11 – 26, 1992

Consecutive Days of 0.01 or more: 10 September 27 – October 6, 1914*

Consecutive Days of 0.10 or more: 8 September 16 – 23, 1931

Consecutive Days of 0.50 or more: 5 August 18 - 22, 2007

Consecutive Days of 1.00 or more: 3 September 1 – 3, 2018*

Precipitation Normals 1991-2020

Yearly Average: 36.29"

Winter Average: 3.68"

Spring Average: 10.63"

Summer Average: 14.23"

Autumn Average: 7.75"

Snowfall

Snowiest Day: 14.0" November 30, 1934

Snowiest Month: 33.9" December 2000

Snowiest Season: 60.0" 2018-2019

Least Snow in a Season: 11.6" 1967-1968

Snowiest Calendar Year: 64.7" 2019

Least Snow Calendar Year: 6.5" 1922

Highest 7-day total: 17.5" November 30 – December 6, 1934

Highest 30-day total: 40.4" January 22, 2019 – February 20, 2019

Highest 90-day total: 54.0" December 10, 2018 – March 9, 2019

Most Snow on Ground: 25" February 20, 1936*

Consecutive Days of No Measured Snow: 286 February 24 – December 6, 1914

Consecutive Days of a Trace or More: 14 December 18 – 31, 1968

Consecutive Days of 1.0" or More: 4 November 30 – December 3, 2005*

Consecutive Days with 1" Snowdepth: 113 November 20, 1985 to March 12, 1986

Earliest Initial Occurrence of Trace: September 26, 1942

Earliest Initial Occurrence of 0.1": October 10, 1932

Earliest Initial Occurrence of 1": October 18, 1991

Latest Initial Occurrence of Trace: December 6, 1948

Latest Initial Occurrence of 0.1": December 20, 2004

Latest Initial Occurrence of 1": February 10, 1944

Earliest Final Occurrence of a Trace: March 4, 2012

Earliest Final Occurrence of 0.1": February 18, 1908

Earliest Final Occurrence of 1": January 4, 1922

Latest Final Occurrence of a Trace: May 29, 1947

Latest Final Occurrence of 0.1": May 29, 1947

Latest Final Occurrence of 1": May 29, 1947

Snowfall Normals 1991-2020

Yearly Average: 39.1"

January Average: 10.1"

February Average: 9.3"

March Average: 4.6"

April Average: 1.7"

May Average: 0.1"

June to Sep Average: None

October Average: 0.3"

November Average: 3.1"

December Average: 9.9"

Frost/Freeze

Earliest Initial Occurrence of 36 degrees: August 20, 1950

Latest Initial Occurrence of 36 degrees: October 25, 1914

Earliest Final Occurrence of 36 degrees: April 15, 1985

Latest Final Occurrence of 36 degrees: June 4, 1945

Earliest Initial Occurrence of 32 degrees: September 11, 1917

Latest Initial Occurrence of 32 degrees: November 6, 1940

Earliest Final Occurrence of 32 degrees: April 7, 1955

Latest Final Occurrence of 32 degrees: May 31, 1897

Earliest Initial Occurrence of 28 degrees: September 18, 1929

Latest Initial Occurrence of 28 degrees: November 8, 1947

Earliest Final Occurrence of 28 degrees: March 24, 1998

Latest Final Occurrence of 28 degrees: May 14, 1895

Brief Metadata:

Waterloo observations began on January 21, 1895 at 617 Mulberry Street near downtown Waterloo. The observations continued at this site until April 24, 1911 and then the observations moved to 302 High Street and were recorded there from April 25, 1911 to June 1, 1914. On June 2, 1914 the location for observations moved to 717 Fairview Street and remained there for over 35 years until February 28, 1950 when the observations were suspended at this location. Meanwhile, observations began at the Waterloo airport on January 29, 1948 where they have remained until present.

M. L. Newton made observations from the beginning until December 31, 1910. On January 1, 1911 Ralph Slippy took over the observations and continued until the suspension of observations in February of 1950. At the Waterloo airport, the observations from January 29, 1948 to October 17, 1955 were taken by individuals of the Waterloo Municipal Airport. The Weather Bureau and the National Weather Service has been responsible for the observations from October 18, 1955 to

^{*-} Indicates the event is tied with a previous day(s), month(s) or year(s).

present. However, snowfall observations from the mid 1990's until present have been handled by a variety of snow observers in the Waterloo/Cedar Falls area.

The Waterloo climate data is a compilation of the data from the Waterloo Cooperative Observers from January 1895 to February 1950 and then from Waterloo Municipal Airport from March 1950 to present.

If you have any questions or comments, please send them to jim.w.lee@noaa.gov.