Winter 2025-2026 Verification

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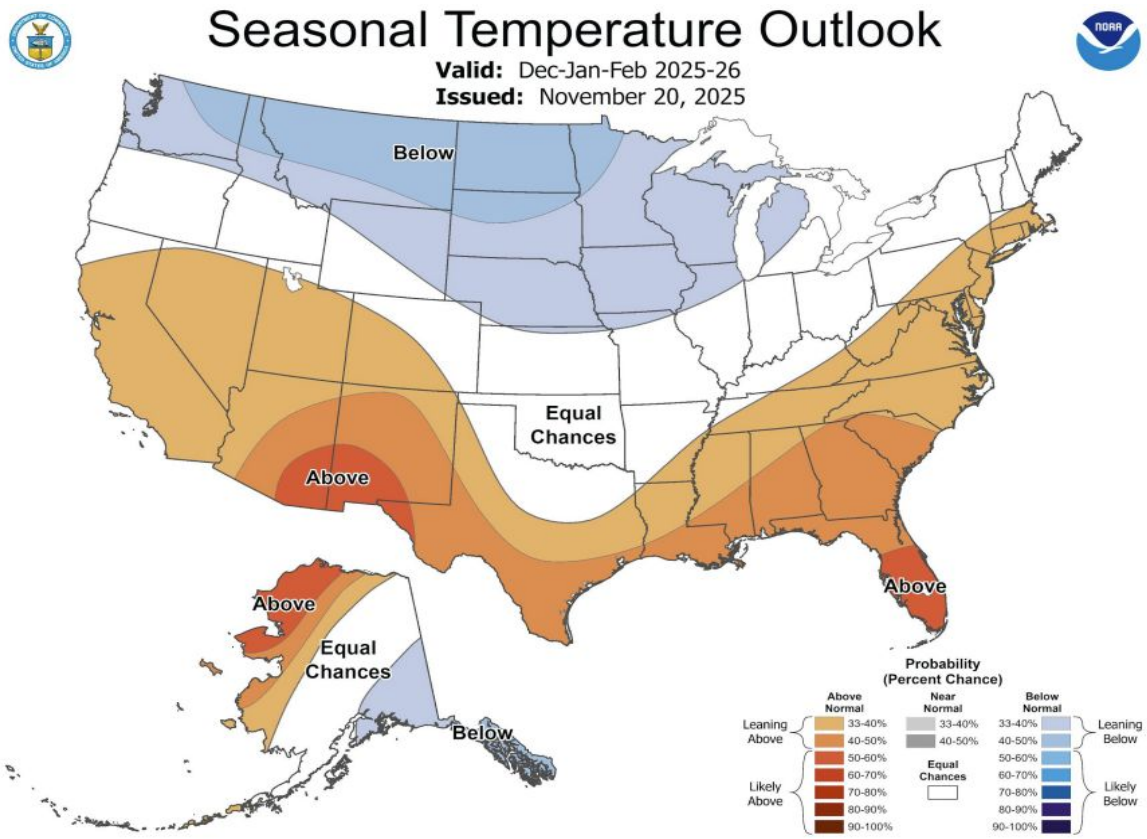
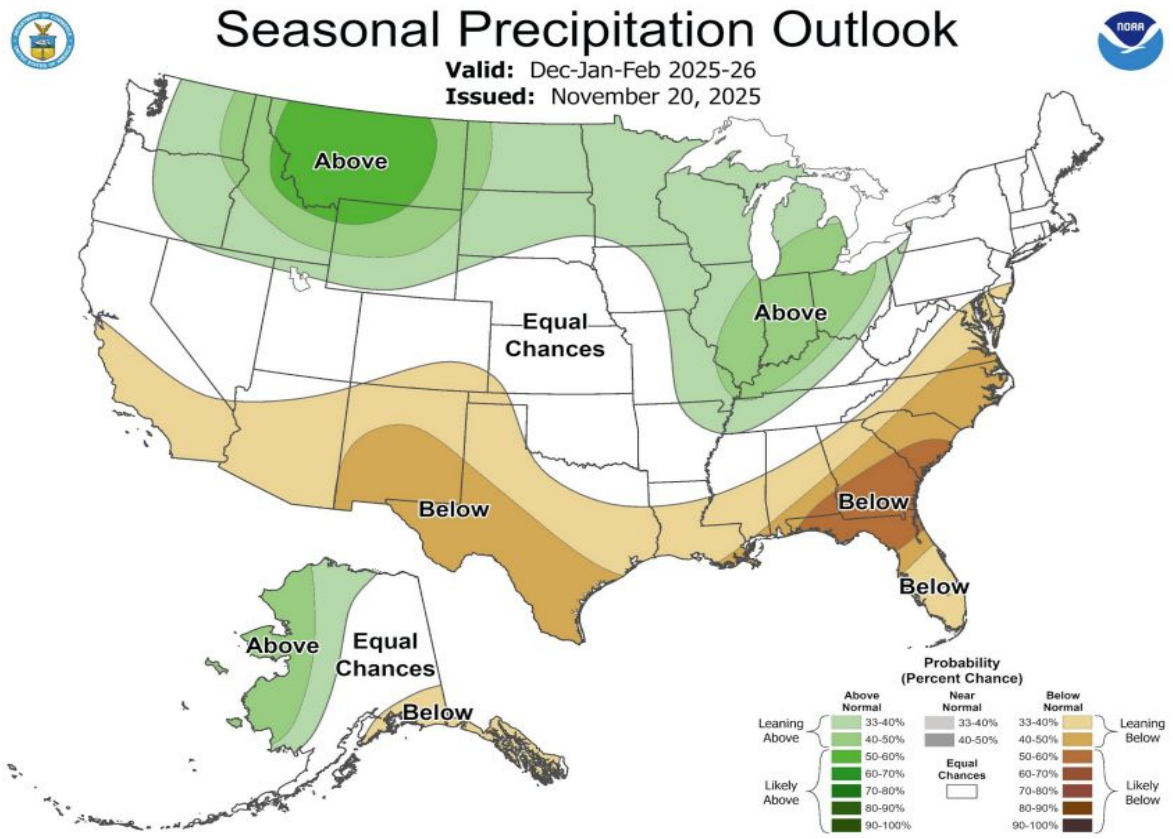
National Weather Service

NOAA Outlooks (Nov 20, 2025)

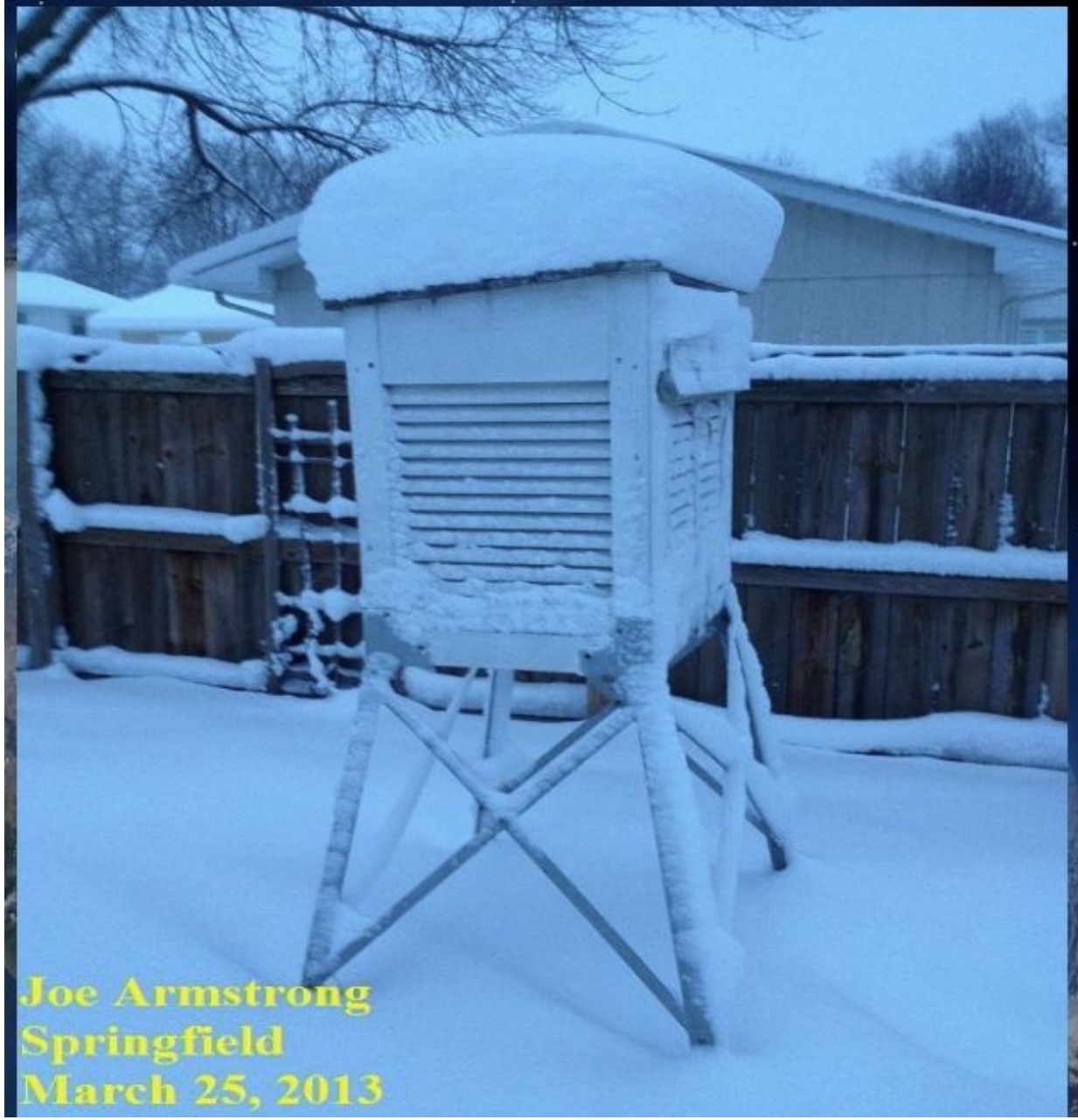


Equal chances for above/below normal temperatures across central Illinois



Above normal precipitation trend across central Illinois

Expectations



Near to slightly below normal temperatures

Coldest periods potentially from late November through mid-December…then again in February

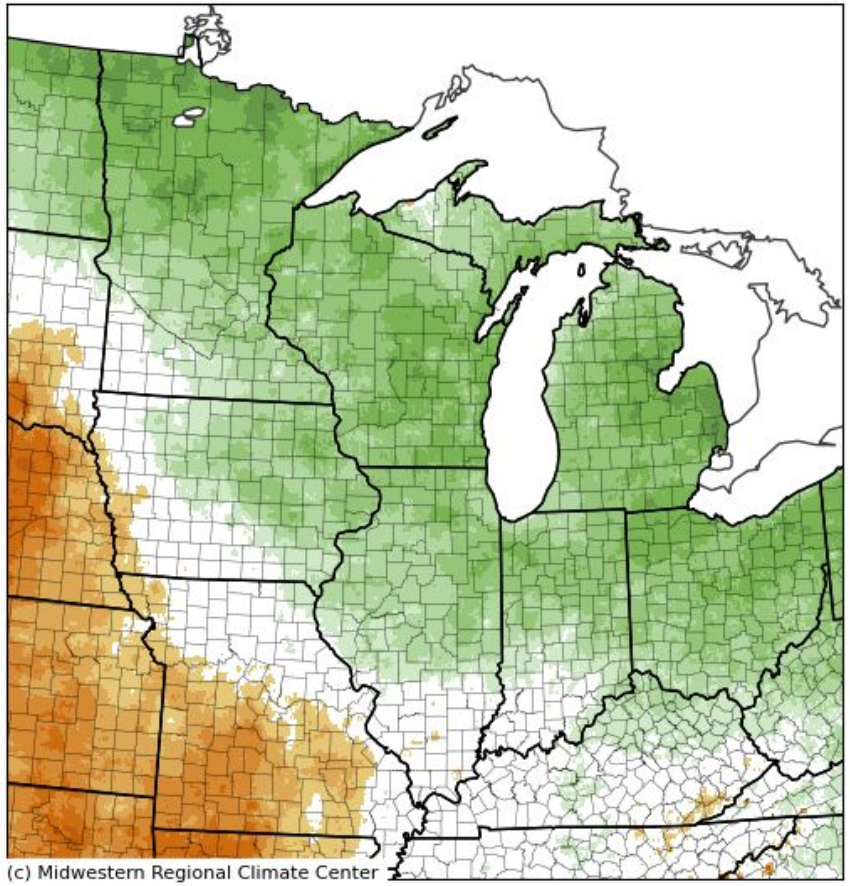
Slightly above normal precipitation

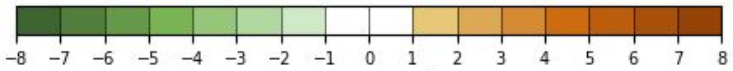
More snow than last year!

December 2025

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals

December 01, 2025 to December 31, 2025



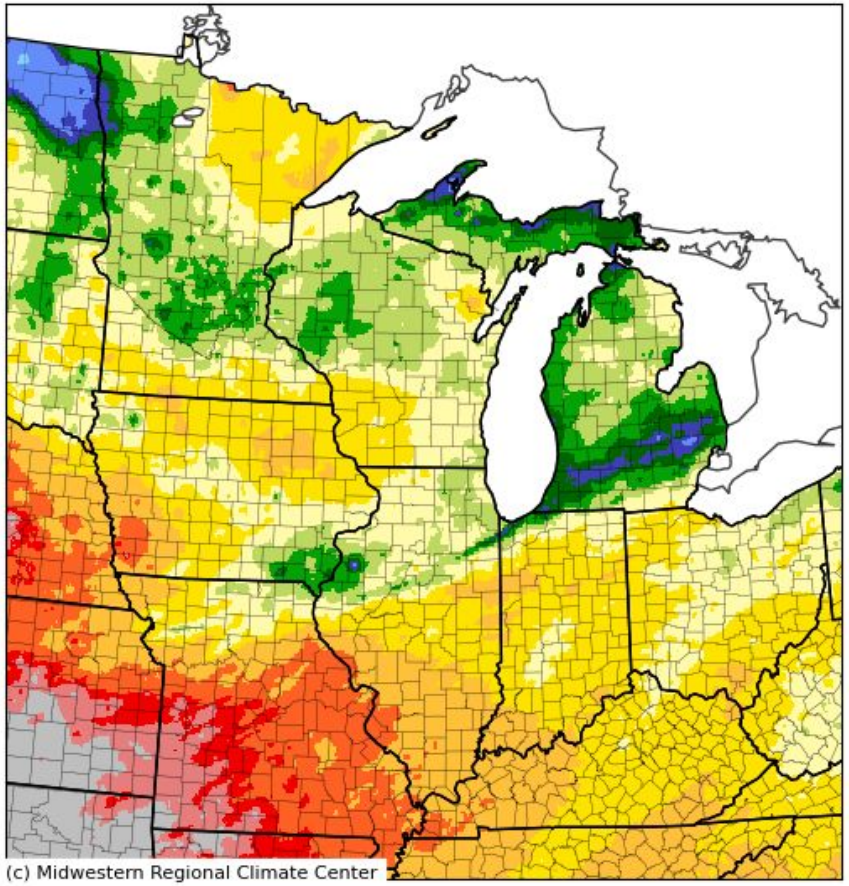


Source: PRISM Weather Data

Generated on: Tue Feb 10, 2026 15:59:11 EST

Accumulated Precipitation: Percent of 1991-2020 Normals

December 01, 2025 to December 31, 2025



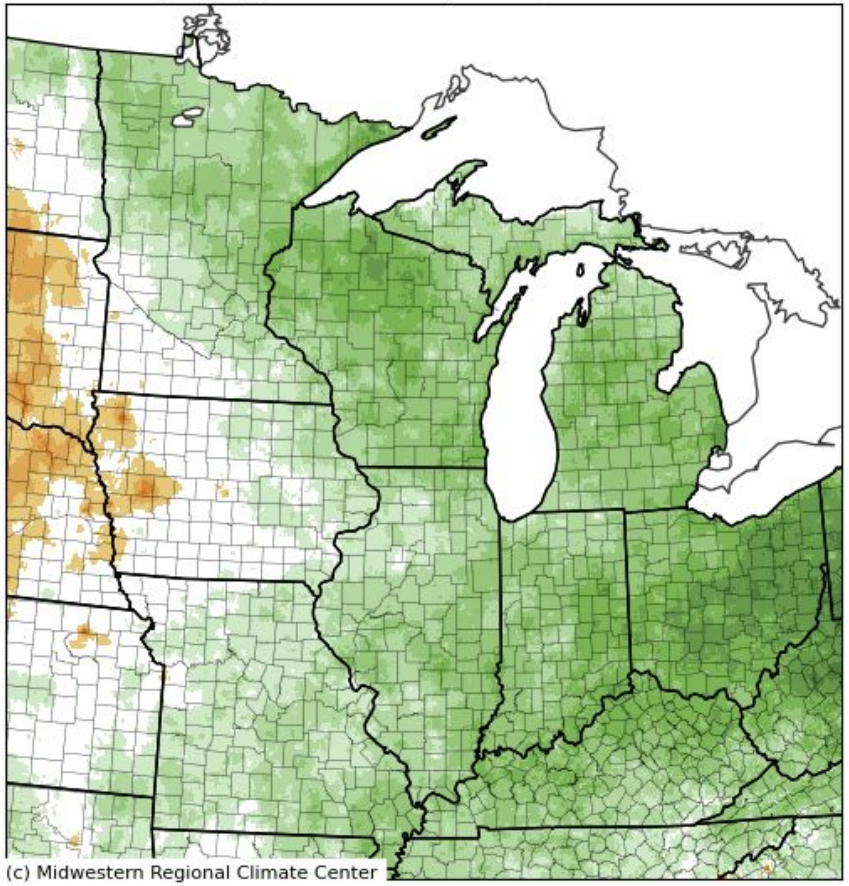
Source: PRISM Weather Data and NCEI Normals: 1991-2020

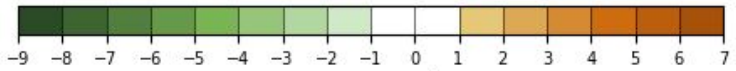
Generated on: Tue Feb 10, 2026 15:59:33 EST

January 2026

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals

January 01, 2026 to January 31, 2026





Source: PRISM Weather Data

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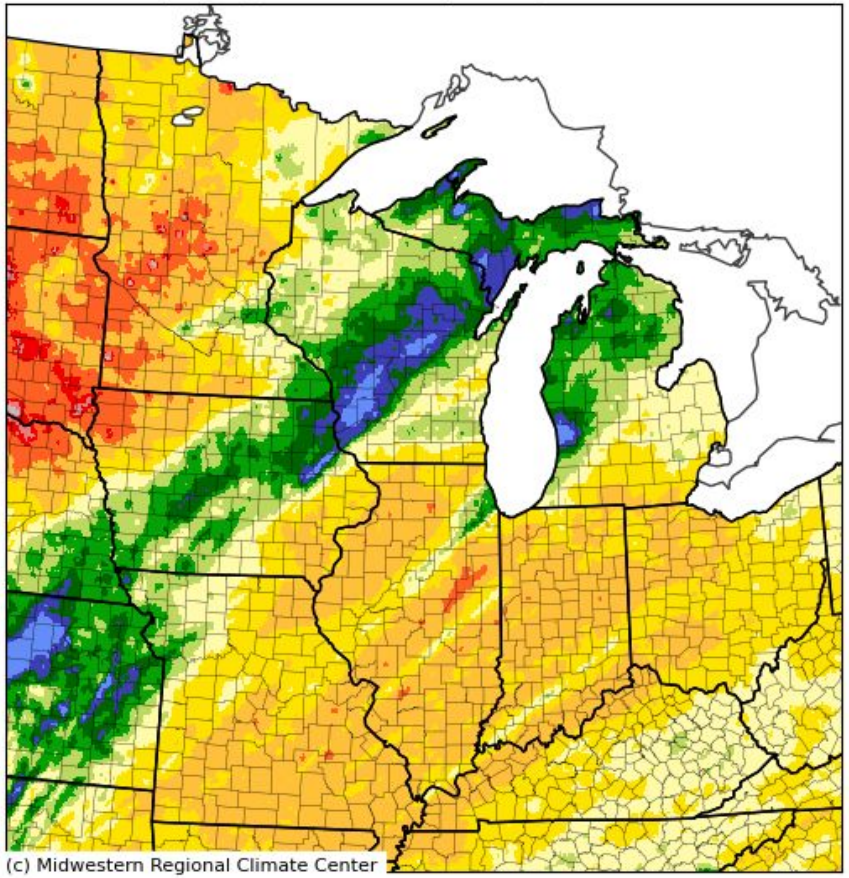
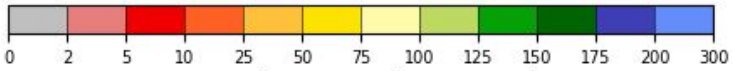
Accumulated Precipitation: Percent of 1991-2020 Normals

January 01, 2026 to January 31, 2026





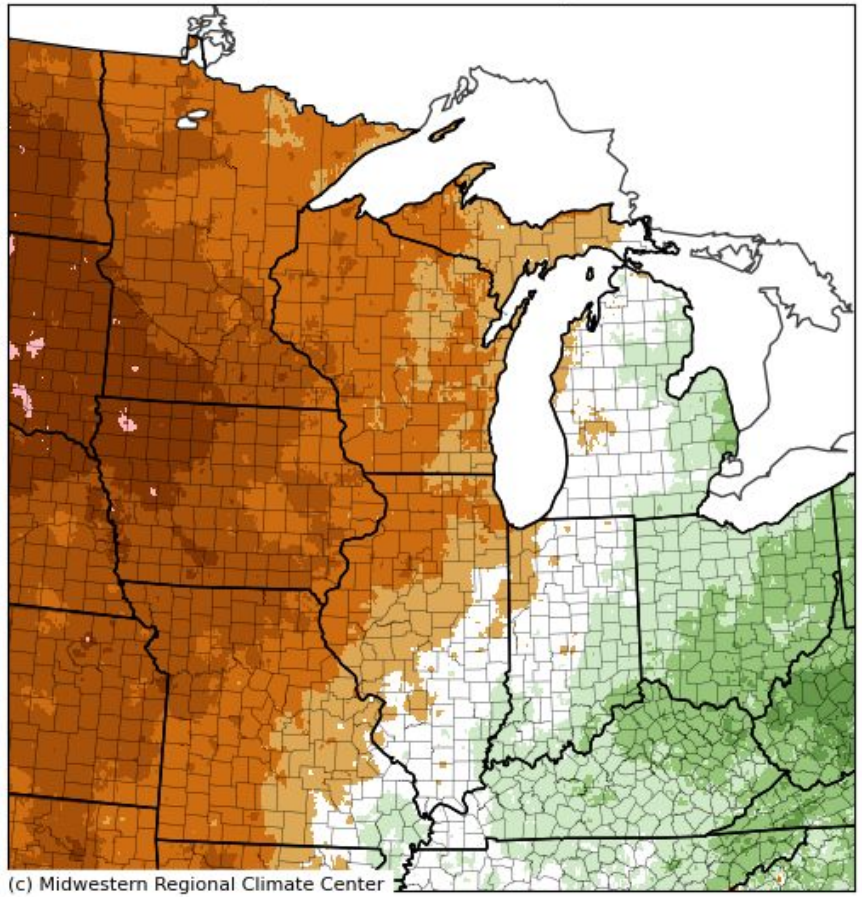
Source: PRISM Weather Data and NCEI Normals: 1991-2020

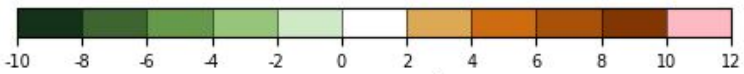
Generated on: Tue Feb 10, 2026 16:01:19 EST

February 2026

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals

February 01, 2026 to February 28, 2026



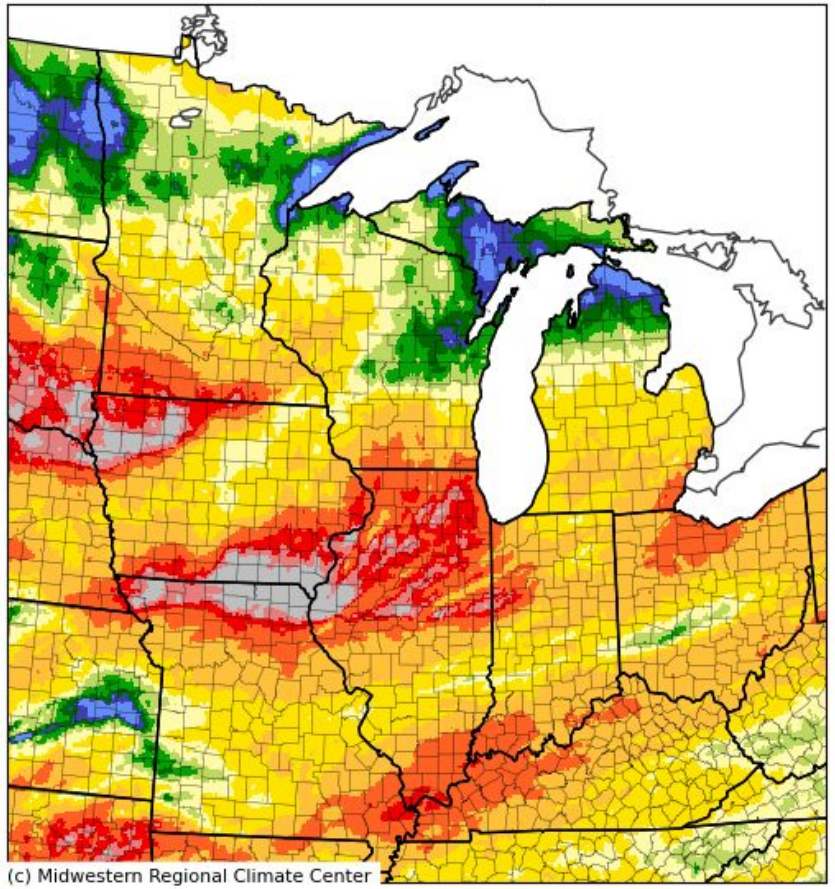


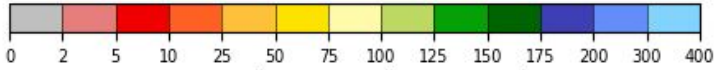
Source: PRISM Weather Data

Generated on: Sun Mar 01, 2026 20:58:55 EST

Accumulated Precipitation: Percent of 1991-2020 Normals

February 01, 2026 to February 28, 2026

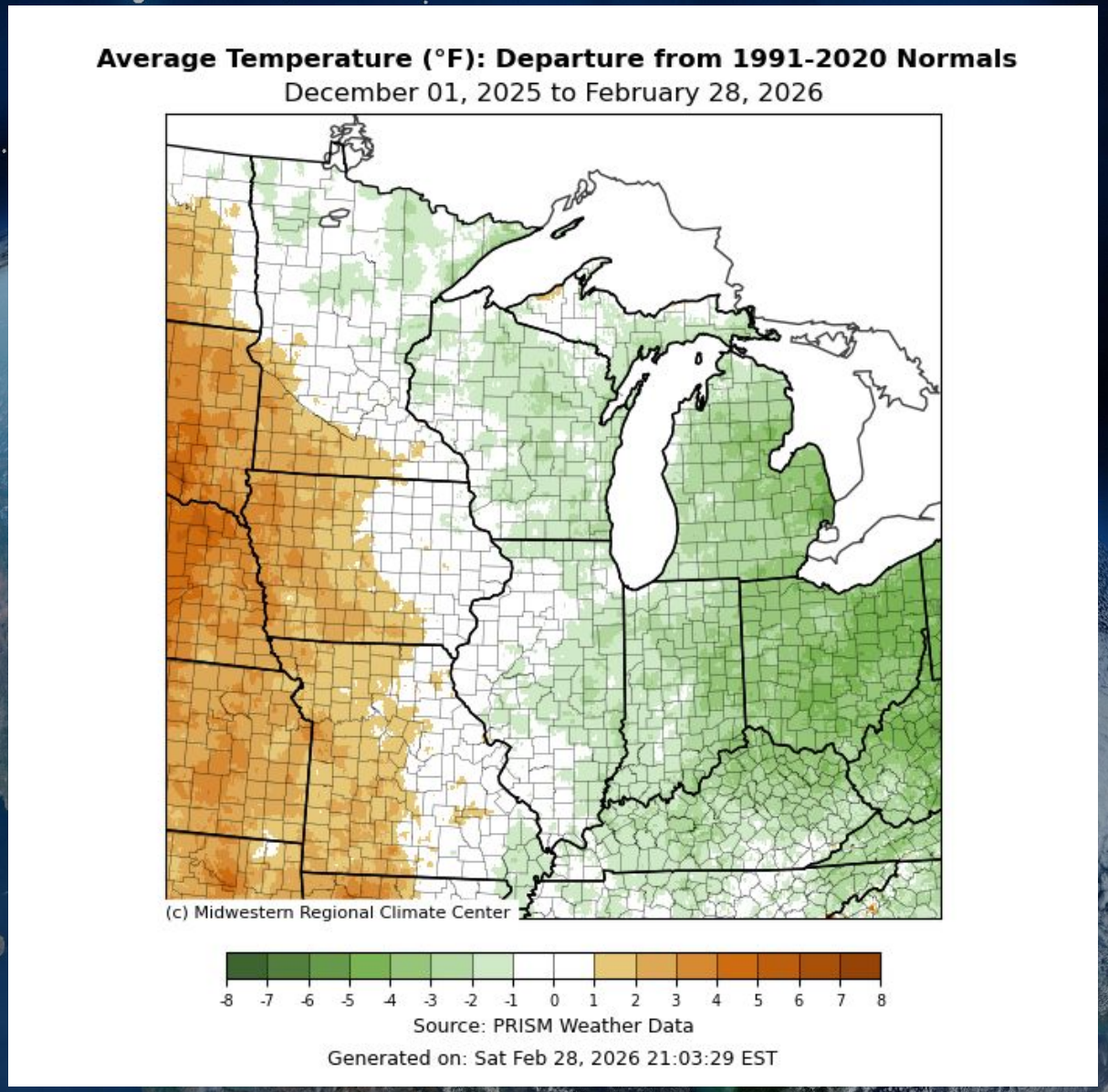




Source: PRISM Weather Data and NCEI Normals: 1991-2020

Generated on: Sun Mar 01, 2026 21:00:50 EST

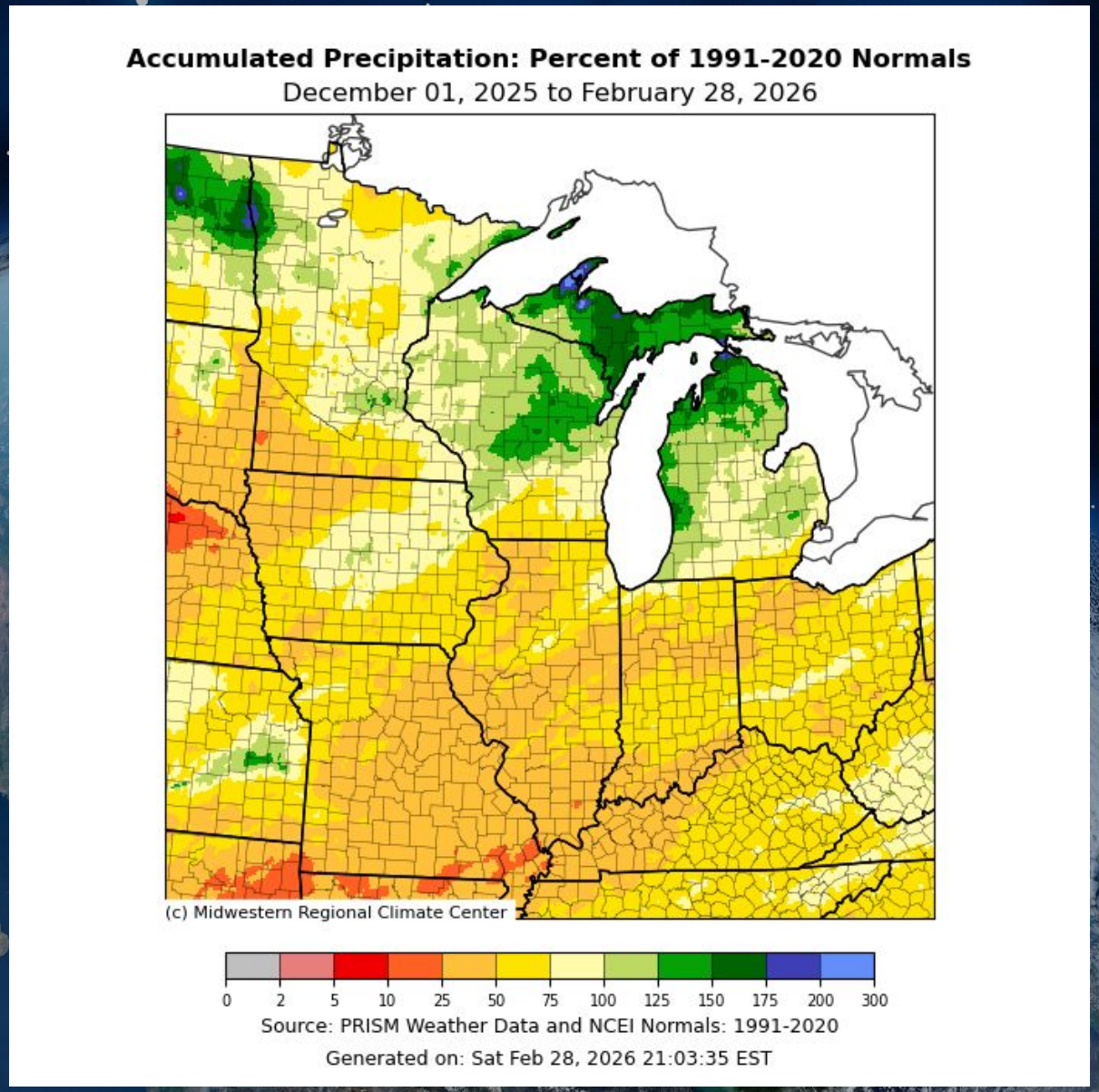
Dec 2025- Feb 2026 Temperature



Slightly below normal temperatures (0-2 degrees below)

After a cold December and January, February pulled the average back up

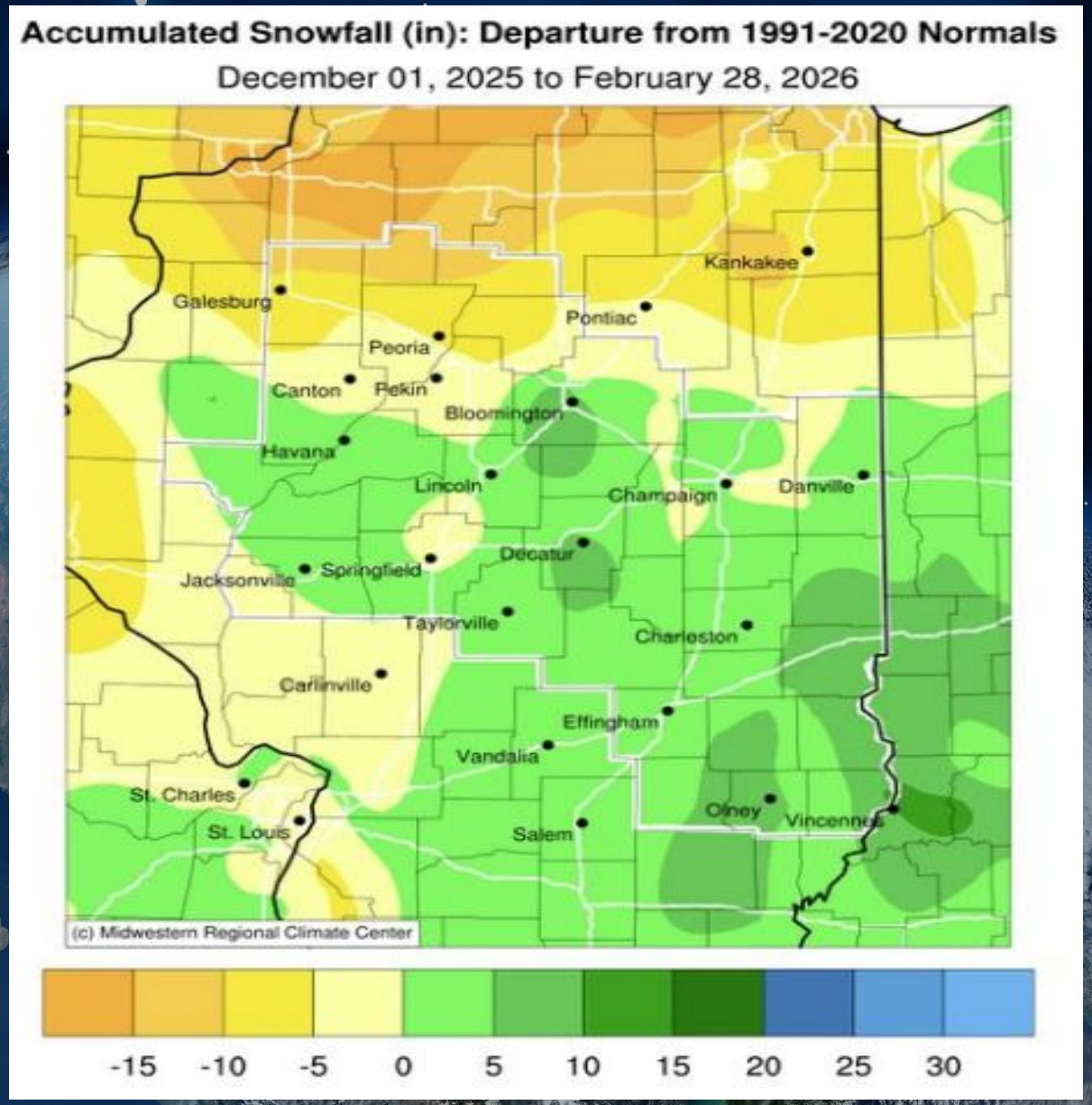
Dec 2025- Feb 2026 Precipitation



Well below normal precipitation (3-5 inches below)

7th driest winter on record for Lincoln and Springfield!

Dec 2025- Feb 2026 Snowfall

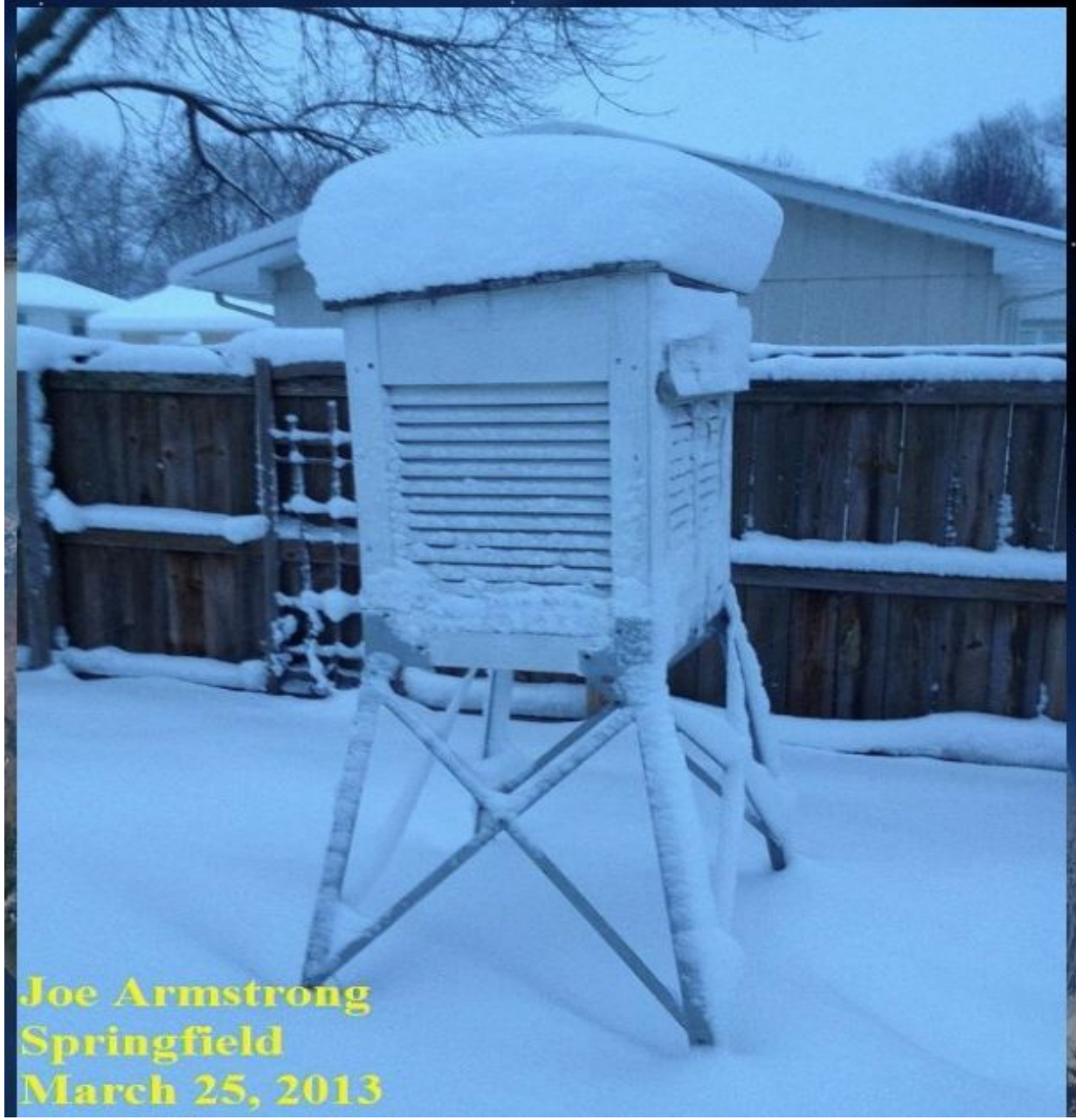


Above normal across much of central Illinois

Below normal along and north of a Peoria to Hoopeston line

After getting off to a snowy start in December and January, February featured very little snow

Expectations



- ✓ Near to slightly below normal temperatures
- ✓ Coldest periods potentially from late November through mid-December…then again in February
- ✗ Slightly above normal precipitation
- ✓ More snow than last year!

Winter 2025-2026 Thoughts

Typical La Nina conditions prevailed: persistent northwesterly flow

Two major pushes of Arctic air:

1. Early December (modified due to coldest air on other side of globe and lack of upstream snow cover)
2. Mid/Late January (direct link to non-modified polar air)

Shorter-term oscillations performed well with 2-4 week temperature trends (Arctic Oscillation (AO), North Atlantic Oscillation (NAO), Eastern Pacific Oscillation (EPO)

Oscillations were not as useful for long-term precipitation forecasts

Spring 2026 Outlook