

**MONTHLY CLIMATE SUMMARY MAY 2000**  
**NIU WEATHER SERVICE, DE KALB, IL.**

Day	Record Hi (F)	Record Lo (F)	Average Hi [1896-1995] (F)	Average Lo [1896-1995] (F)	Observed HI (F)	Observed LO (F)	Observed Avg. Daily (F)	CDD	HDD	Precip. (inches)
1	89	27	65	42	74	41	57.5		7.5	0.02
2	90	27	66	42	69	46	57.5		7.5	Trace
3	89	28	67	43	73	47	60		5	0
4	90	26	67	43	78	53	65.5	0.5		0
5	92	27	68	43	82	58	70	5		0
6	94	28	68	44	85	60	72.5	7.5		0
7	89	24	69	44	85	62	73.5	8.5		Trace
8	89	28	70	45	80	66	73	8		0.05
9	95	25	70	45	84	62	73	8		0.48
10	90	25	70	45	63	45	54		1	0.83
11	90	24	71	46	63	46	54.5		0.5	0
12	89	29	70	47	73	57	65			0.48
13	88	29	70	47	81	46	63.5		1.5	Trace
14	90	28	71	48	53	38	45.5		19.5	0
15	89	31	72	48	63	40	51.5		13.5	0
16	91	29	73	49	72	43	57.5		7.5	0.09
17	92	33	74	49	71	53	62		3	0.11
18	94	31	74	50	68	57	62.5		2.5	0.02
19	95	30	74	50	63	44	53.5		11.5	0.3
20	95	32	75	51	48	44	46		19	Trace
21	94	31	75	51	64	46	55		10	0
22	92	35	75	51	69	47	58		7	0.27
23	93	30	75	51	82	55	68.5	3.5		0.07
24	94	33	74	51	81	58	69.5	4.5		0
25	92	28	74	51	80	51	65.5	0.5		0
26	97	31	74	51	76	53	64.5		0.5	0
27	97	30	75	52	69	54	61.5		3.5	0.26
28	95	33	76	53	66	55	60.5		4.5	0.12
29	92	31	76	54	58	50	54		11	0.14
30	94	35	76	54	71	51	61		4	0
31	107	35	77	54	83	60	71.5	6.5		0.14

<u>TEMP</u>	<u>PRECIPITATION</u>	<u>DEGREE DAYS</u>
1896-1995 HI: 71.7 (F)	MAY TOTAL: 3.38 inches	COOLING: 52.5 1/00- Now: 52.51
1896-1995 LO: 47.9 (F)	MAY AVG.: 3.81 inches	HEATING: 140 7/99 - Now: 6125.5
1896-1995 MCNTH: 59.8 (F)	SNOW: 0.0	
MAY 2000 AVG. HI: 71.8 (F)	YEAR TO DATE : 11.33 inches	
MAY 2000 AVG. LO: 51.2 (F)	YEAR TO DATE AVG.: 12.34 inches	
MAY 2000 AVG.: 61.5 (F)		

May is a month of change. On the first hand, May 15<sup>th</sup> marked the change of Weather Directors at NIU as we bid Jim Krzak farewell and wish him luck in the post-collegiate world. Secondly, May marks a change in the weather. As old Sol travels higher in the sky, the days get longer and the nights get shorter. The tropical warmth that had been hoarded in the southern latitudes all of winter is finally making its way northward. However, the coldness does not give up its grip so easily. As the temperature chart shows, the beginning of the month boasted warm temperatures where the daily lows were almost as high as the 1896-1995 average highs. Then, the roller coaster ride started as we oscillated downward with the high on the 20<sup>th</sup> lower than the average low. A brief warm-up period occurred before the next cold snap hit. Finally, the month ended on a literal high note as temperature began to rise to spring-time normals. All in all, the month of May turned out to be 1.7 degrees warmer than the 1896-1995 average for the month. As far as rain is concerned, there was a bit of a scare in the beginning of the month as precipitation levels remained low. However, an off-shoot of the battle between warm and cold air masses are showers and thunderstorms. The last week of May produced numerous storms that bolstered our precipitation to just shy of the average mark. As for June, only time will tell. There has been talk that this summer will be dry and hot. The low precip. at the beginning of May could have pointed in that direction, but now, the story could be different. I look forward to the outcome...

Jason Starke, Senior Weather Director NIU  
Weather Office: (815) 753-0578