

## MONTHLY CLIMATE SUMMARY, December, 2001 NIU WEATHER SERVICE, DEKALB, IL

Day	Record HI	Record LO	Average HI	Average LO	Obs. HI	Obs. LO	Obs. Avg.	CDD	HDD	Precip. (in)	Snowfall (in)
1	63	4	37	23	43	33	38	0	27	0.02	0
2	64	-5	37	23	39	28	33.5	0	31.5	0	0
3	66	-14	37	22	51	29	40	0	25	0	0
4	60	-4	37	22	53	36	44.5	0	20.5	0	0
5	62	-4	37	22	62	51	56.5	0	8.5	0.02	0
6	65	-7	36	22	65	33	49	0	16	0.05	0
7	66	-9	36	21	50	32	41	0	24	0	0
8	63	-8	35	21	46	33	39.5	0	25.5	0	0
9	59	-18	35	20	45	20	32.5	0	32.5	0	0
10	56	-18	35	20	40	21	30.5	0	34.5	0	0
11	60	-15	34	19	48	25	36.5	0	28.5	0	0
12	55	-10	35	20	44	25	34.5	0	30.5	0.01	0
13	60	-19	34	20	48	38	43	0	22	0.53	0
14	58	-12	34	20	41	28	34.5	0	30.5	T	0
15	59	-14	33	19	36	30	33	0	32	0	0
16	58	-17	33	19	39	32	35.5	0	29.5	0.03	0
17	57	-13	32	19	44	39	41.5	0	23.5	0.05	0
18	56	-12	32	18	44	28	36	0	29	0	0
19	53	-17	32	18	47	29	38	0	27	0.04	0.2
20	57	-19	32	18	36	23	29.5	0	35.5	0.01	0.5
21	57	-18	33	18	39	23	31	0	34	0	0
22	55	-12	32	17	39	23	31	0	34	0	0
23	58	-17	31	16	46	21	33.5	0	31.5	0.16	0
24	55	-22	30	16	26	15	20.5	0	44.5	0.02	0.8
25	60	-13	30	15	18	9	13.5	0	51.5	0.01	0.3
26	56	-22	30	14	18	6	12	0	53	0.01	0.3
27	55	-20	30	15	20	7	13.5	0	51.5	0.01	0.3
28	64	-24	31	16	26	17	21.5	0	43.5	0.01	0.1
29	63	-12	31	15	23	9	16	0	49	T	0.1
30	59	-13	31	15	16	2	9	0	56	0	0
31	51	-14	30	15	17	2	9.5	0	55.5	T	0.1

### Temperature

1896-1995 AVG. HI: 33.3(F)  
 1896-1995 AVG. LOW: 18.6(F)  
 1896-1995 AVG. TEMP: 24.6(F)  
 December 2001 AVG. HI: 39(F)  
 December 2001 AVG. LO: 24.1(F)  
 December 2001 AVG. TEMP: 31.5(F)

### Precipitation

December TOTAL: 0.98in  
 December AVG: 2.22in.  
 SNOW: 2.7in.  
 AVG SNOW: 8.7in  
 YEAR TO DATE: 34.57in.  
 YEAR TO DATE AVG: 36.74 in

### Degree Days

COOLING: 11/01: 0.0  
 1/01-Now: 832.4  
 HEATING: 11/01: 1037.0  
 7/01-Now: 2201.0

### Discussion

After a long wait we finally received our first snowfall of the season on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December. While it wasn't a significant accumulation, it did mark the start of the Winter season for us. Overall, we managed a total of only 2.7" of snowfall for the month, which is well under the average of 8.7". For precipitation as a whole, we ranked in the lower third of Decembers with only 0.98" of total precipitation for the month. As far as temperatures are concerned, we had our second straight month of well above average temperatures. Two record highs were broken early in the month with readings of 62° and 65° on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> respectively. Temperature remained above normal until the last third of the month. These colder temperatures at the end of the month helped to moderate the monthly temperatures somewhat. Overall, December tied for the 12<sup>th</sup> warmest on record.

Looking back at the year as a whole, it was a series of ups and downs. Earlier in the year, we experienced the 9<sup>th</sup> driest July and the 27<sup>th</sup> driest August only to be followed by the 9<sup>th</sup> wettest September. As mentioned earlier, we finished out the year dry once again with one of the warmest combined November-Decembers. We'll just have to wait and see what the next year has in store for us.

Soren Hall, Weather Director/Cooperative Observer, NIU

Forecast Information (updated once daily at approx. 7:30 am): (815) 753-1623

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