

MONTHLY CLIMATE SUMMARY, January, 2002

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	57	-14	26	10	20	3	11.5	0	53.5	0	0
2	56	-16	26	10	19	8	13.5	0	51.5	0	0
3	58	-17	25	9	29	8	18.5	0	46.5	0	0
4	55	-22	25	9	27	8	17.5	0	47.5	0	0
5	56	-24	25	8	37	15	26	0	39	0	0
6	49	-19	24	8	35	25	30	0	35	0.04	0.5
7	49	-20	24	8	32	10	21	0	44	0	0
8	56	-19	23	8	26	10	18	0	47	0	0
9	53	-14	24	8	40	18	29	0	36	0	0
10	56	-25	25	9	53	33	43	0	22	0	0
11	55	-22	26	11	43	32	37.5	0	27.5	T	0
12	56	-19	26	11	43	27	35	0	30	0.12	0
13	55	-17	26	11	42	23	32.5	0	32.5	T	0
14	57	-18	27	11	41	24	32.5	0	32.5	0.15	0
15	54	-21	26	10	36	28	32	0	33	T	T
16	53	-21	26	10	31	25	28	0	37	0	T
17	56	-18	27	10	31	8	19.5	0	45.5	0.15	2.8
18	54	-25	27	11	31	7	19	0	46	0.03	T
19	57	-22	28	12	16	7	11.5	0	53.5	0	0
20	49	-27	29	13	29	12	20.5	0	44.5	T	0
21	59	-22	30	14	33	20	26.5	0	38.5	0.01	0.5
22	55	-27	31	15	35	24	29.5	0	35.5	0	0
23	57	-22	31	14	47	24	35.5	0	29.5	0	T
24	63	-22	30	13	44	31	37.5	0	27.5	0	0
25	62	-25	29	13	38	25	31.5	0	33.5	0	0
26	59	-23	29	13	48	25	36.5	0	28.5	0	0
27	60	-16	29	13	52	29	40.5	0	24.5	0	0
28	*56	-22	29	13	56	29	42.5	0	22.5	0	0
29	55	-17	30	14	52	28	40	0	25	0	0
30	50	-22	30	14	31	27	29	0	36	T	T
31	52	-16	30	14	29	27	28	0	37	0.39	8

*new record high

Temperature

1896-1995 AVG. HI: 27.1(F)
 1896-1995 AVG. LOW: 11.2(F)
 1896-1995 AVG. TEMP: 19.3(F)
 January 2002 AVG. HI: 36.3(F)
 January 2002 AVG. LO: 20.0(F)
 January 2002 AVG. TEMP: 28.2(F)

Precipitation

January TOTAL: 0.74in
 January AVG: 1.43in.
 SNOW: 11.8in.
 AVG SNOW: 9.1in
 YEAR TO DATE: 0.74in.
 YEAR TO DATE AVG: 1.43 in

Degree Days

COOLING: 1/02: 0.0
 1/02-Now: 832.4
 HEATING: 1/02: 1142.0
 7/01-Now: 3343.0

Discussion

As December closed out, winter had finally arrived bringing us our first substantial cold period. As we moved into the beginning of January, the cold temperatures didn't last long. Temperatures gradually increased during the month as we came just shy of reaching a record on the 10th with a high of 53°F. Temperatures gradually decreased until we recorded our lowest average temperature of the month (11.5°) on the 19th. Until this point, the only substantial precipitation received had been on the 17th with 2.8" of snow recorded. Previous to this, the last snowfall greater in magnitude was over a year prior with 4.4" on December 30th of 2002! Temperatures once again rebounded after the short stint of below normal readings. The warmer air was ushered in with 15-25mph southerly winds on the 22nd. On this date we also saw a brief early evening thunderstorm as well as small hail! The month wouldn't be complete without a new record high and a snowstorm. We saw the former recorded on the 28th of the month with a new record high of 56°F. Temperatures fell quickly the afternoon of the 29th and we managed to squeak in the snowstorm with 8" of snow being recorded on the final day of the month. During the snowstorm, we recorded thunder for the second time in the month!

Overall, the snowstorm brought us over the average snowfall for January with a total of 11.8". As for total liquid precipitation, we recorded 0.74" for the month, which was about half of the normal January precipitation. For the third straight month, we saw temperatures well above normal. With an average temperature of 28.2°F, this January ranked as the 8th warmest on record dating back to 1895. The total winter season is shaping up to be one of the warmest on record. With a snowstorm, two occurrences of thunders, and a record high, January definitely turned out to be an interesting month. With the increased snow pack, hopefully temperatures can stay down enough to see another snow even or two before the end of the winter season.

Soren Hall, Weather Director/Cooperative Observer, NIU

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

The Climate Summary is supported by the Department of Geography, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the Department of Operations