

# MONTHLY CLIMATE SUMMARY, MARCH, 2010

## NIU WEATHER SERVICE, DEKALB, IL

Day	Record HI	Record LO	Average		Obs. HI	Obs. LO	Obs. Avg.	CDD	HDD	GDD	Precip. (in)	Snowfall (in)
			HI	Average LO								
1	65	-13	39	23	37	30	33.5	0	31.5	0	T	T
2	66	-9	40	22	36	22	29	0	36	0	0.00	0.0
3	72	-5	40	23	34	21	27.5	0	37.5	0	0.00	0.0
4	70	-3	39	24	36	21	28.5	0	36.5	0	0.00	0.0
5	71	-7	41	24	42	23	32.5	0	32.5	0	0.00	0.0
6	69	-7	42	25	41	21	31	0	34	0	0.00	0.0
7	70	-7	41	25	43	23	33	0	32	0	0.00	0.0
8	77	-13	42	23	36	33	34.5	0	30.5	0	0.20	0.0
9	73	-3	42	24	40	32	36	0	29	0	0.00	0.0
10	69	-2	42	22	51	34	42.5	0	22.5	0	0.19	0.0
11	69	-3	43	25	60	43	51.5	0	13.5	1.5	0.03	0.0
12	72	-6	44	27	58	36	47	0	18	0	0.51	0.0
13	77	5	44	27	49	35	42	0	23	0	0.28	0.0
14	71	5	46	29	43	38	40.5	0	24.5	0	0.04	0.0
15	74	9	46	28	51	39	45	0	20	0	0.00	0.0
16	77	-1	45	27	49	36	42.5	0	22.5	0	0.00	0.0
17	71	-2	44	27	60	32	46	0	19	0	0.00	0.0
18	79	-1	45	27	63	31	47	0	18	0	0.00	0.0
19	78	-8	45	29	60	36	48	0	17	0	0.00	0.0
20	77	2	47	29	61	30	45.5	0	19.5	0	0.05	0.5
21	77	4	47	29	32	28	30	0	35	0	0.34	2.0
22	78	1	48	28	45	32	38.5	0	26.5	0	0.00	0.0
23	80	0	50	28	53	29	41	0	24	0	0.00	0.0
24	84	3	49	29	61	28	44.5	0	20.5	0	0.00	0.0
25	81	3	49	29	54	39	46.5	0	18.5	0	0.05	0.0
26	80	7	50	32	45	22	33.5	0	31.5	0	0.00	0.0
27	82	9	51	32	44	22	33	0	32	0	0.00	0.0
28	82	8	53	34	51	32	41.5	0	23.5	0	0.00	0.0
29	84	12	52	35	56	29	42.5	0	22.5	0	0.00	0.0
30	84	5	52	33	53	30	41.5	0	23.5	0	0.00	0.0
31	81	7	55	34	65	33	49	0	16	0	0.00	0.0

### Temperature

1971-2000 AVG. HI: 45.5(F)  
 1971-2000 AVG. LOW: 27.4(F)  
 1971-2000 AVG. TEMP: 36.7(F)  
 March 2010 AVG. HI: 48.7(F)  
 March 2010 AVG. LO: 30.3(F)  
 March 2010 AVG. TEMP: 39.5(F)

### Precipitation

March liquid equivalent TOTAL: 1.69 in.  
 March liquid equivalent AVG: 2.44 in.  
 March SNOW: 2.5 in.  
 March AVG SNOW: 4.8 in.  
 liquid equivalent YEAR TO DATE: 3.76 in.  
 liquid equivalent YEAR TO DATE AVG: 5.14 in.  
 2009-10 Seasonal SNOW TO DATE: 42.9 in.  
 2009-10 Seasonal SNOW AVG: 33.9 in.

### Degree Days

COOLING: 3/10: 0  
 1/10-Now: 0  
 HEATING: 3/10: 790.5  
 7/09-Now: 6087.5  
 GROWING: 3/10: 1.5  
 1/10-Now: 1.5

### Discussion

March 2010 temperatures were appreciably above 30-year (1971-2000) historical averages. The monthly average temperature was 2.8 degrees above the historical average, and the monthly average high and low temperatures were, respectively, 3.2 and 2.9 degrees above historical averages. In fact, the monthly average temperature of 39.5 degrees ties with that recorded in March 1987 as the tenth warmest since 1966. Also, on the 10<sup>th</sup>, the first high temperature of 50 degrees or higher of the year (and since early December) occurred, and, on the 11<sup>th</sup>, the first high temperature of 60 degrees or higher of the year (and since November) occurred.

For this March, the total liquid-equivalent precipitation of 1.69 in. was 0.75 in. below the historical average. This month marks the third in a row for which liquid-equivalent precipitation was below the historical average. However, since the preceding years of 2008 and 2009 were record or near-record wet, this anomaly is not of concern with respect to soil moisture conditions, which, according to the 27 March NOAA Climate Prediction Center Crop Moisture Report, are "favorably moist." With respect to total monthly snowfall this month, all measurable snowfall was recorded on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, totalling 2.5 in. This monthly total ties with March 1969 and 1979 as the tenth least since 1966.

Ian Chang, Trevor Edmonson, Sara Schultz, Laura Schutte, and Sanghoon Kim--Cooperative Observers

Daniel Brouillette and Alecia Osborne--Co-Weather Directors

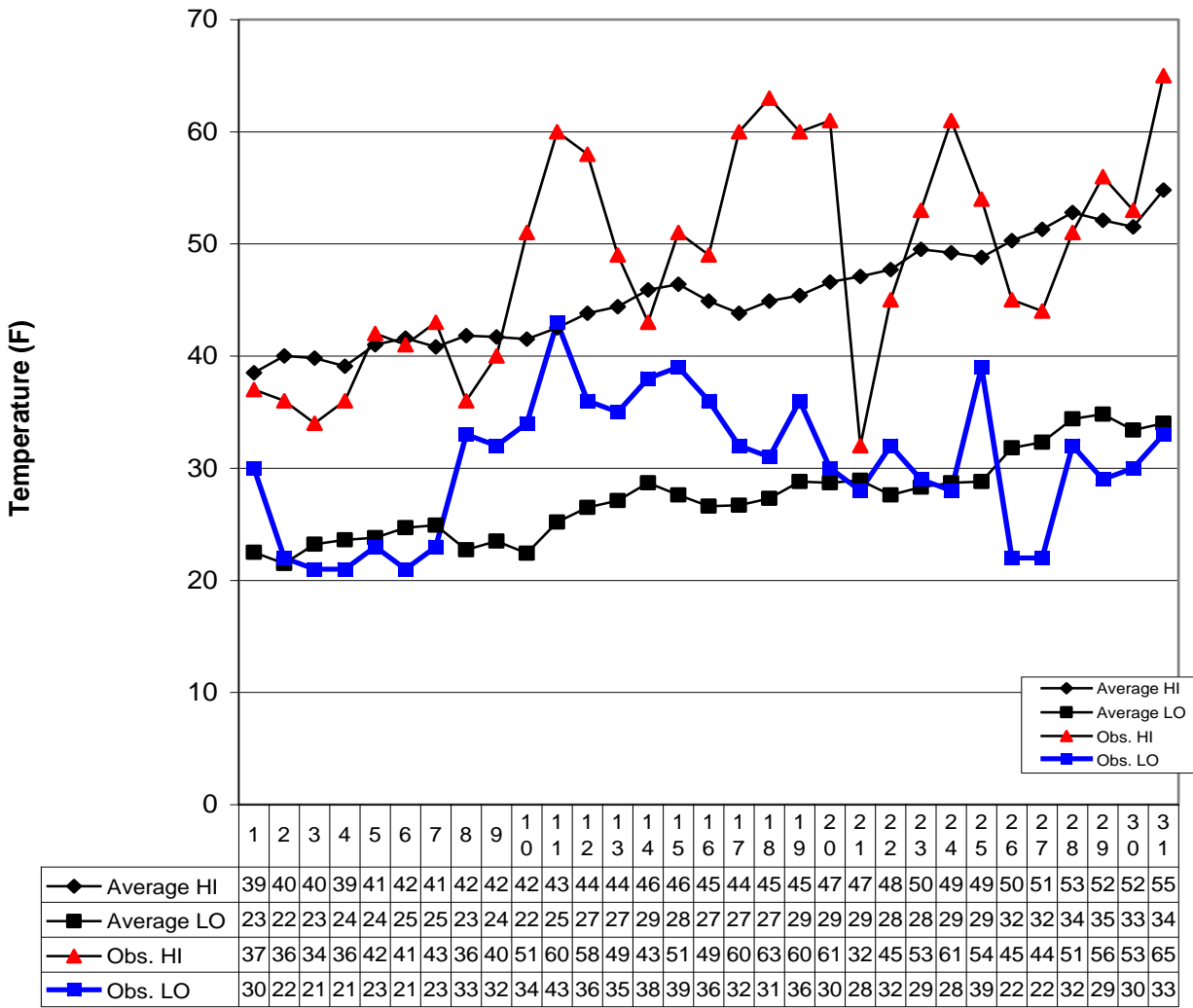
This summary was prepared by Daniel Brouillette, 1 April 2010

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

Website: <http://climate.niu.edu/>

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

**March 2010 Daily Highs and Lows with 1971-2000 Average Highs and Lows**  
 Prepared by Daniel Brouillette, NIU Co-Weather Dir.



**Day**