



IOWA MONTHLY WEATHER SUMMARY 6 JULY 2013

General Summary. Iowa temperatures averaged 72.4° or 1.2° below normal while precipitation totaled 1.76 inches or 2.74 inches less than normal. This ranks as the 30th coolest and 8th driest July among 141 years of state records.

Temperatures. The month began with four days of below normal temperatures with Atlantic and Chariton recording morning lows of 48° on the 1st. This was followed by five days of above normal readings topped off by 95° maximums on the 8th at Clarion, Hampton and Pocahontas. The remainder of the month was evenly divided between one long warm spell (14th-22nd) and an equally long cool spell (23rd-31st). The month's highest temperature was a 98° reading at Keokuk on the 19th while heat indices (the estimated feel of the air by combining temperature and humidity) maxed out at 102° at Monticello on the 17th and Des Moines, Iowa City and Knoxville on the 19th. The last nine days of the month all averaged cooler than usual with particularly cool weather from the 27th to the 29th. Battle Creek in Ida County reported a morning low of 39° on the 27th while Cresco saw an afternoon high of only 58° the same day. Battle Creek's low represented the first occurrence of sub-40° weather in July in Iowa since July 7, 1984. Daily record low temperatures were set over most of Iowa on the 28th and over portions of the state on the 27th and 29th.

Cooling Degree Day Totals. Home air conditioning requirements, as estimated by cooling degree day totals, averaged 45% less than last July and 8% less than normal. Degree day totals so far this cooling season are running 41% less than last year at this time and 3% less than normal.

Precipitation. The big weather story of the month was precipitation, or the lack of it. The first one-half year of the year was the record wettest for the period but July turned very dry. There were a few small areas in north central and south central Iowa receiving above normal rainfall but most of the southwest one-half of the state was very dry. Rain totals for the month varied from 0.13 inches at Atlantic to 6.72 inches at Lake Mills. Record low July precipitation totals were recorded at:

City	July 2013	Old July Record	Period of Record
Carroll	0.18 inches	0.23 inches in 1947	127 years
Sac City	0.20 inches	0.35 inches in 1901	137 years
Red Oak	0.42 inches	0.46 inches in 1959	102 years

Atlantic's total was the second lowest for July at that location with just a trace recorded in 2012.

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July 2013

WEATHER BY DISTRICTS

DISTRICT	TEMPERATURE (F)		COOLING DEGREE DAYS				PRECIPITATION (inches)			
	July 2013		July 2013		Since Jan., 1, 2013		July 2013		Since Jan.1, 2013	
	Average	Departure*	Average	Departure*	Average	Departure*	Average	Departure*	Average	Departure*
Northwest	72.6	-0.1	261	+15	461	+14	1.04	-2.81	21.23	+2.52
North Central	72.1	-0.1	245	+19	429	+23	2.89	-1.75	30.36	+8.83
Northeast	71.5	-0.7	226	-6	415	+2	2.41	-2.26	31.91	+9.97
West Central	72.2	-1.7	249	-30	463	-45	0.63	-3.63	20.99	+0.20
Central	72.4	-1.1	250	-19	480	-8	1.69	-3.01	28.69	+6.20
East Central	72.2	-1.6	241	-36	501	-15	2.26	-2.10	30.04	+8.23
Southwest	73.4	-1.8	277	-41	537	-44	0.79	-3.95	20.89	-1.74
South Central	72.7	-1.9	256	-46	500	-35	2.15	-2.83	26.26	+3.15
Southeast	73.4	-2.2	275	-54	568	-45	2.13	-2.34	29.57	+6.41
STATE	72.4	-1.2	252	-21	480	-16	1.76	-2.74	26.63	+4.93

* Departures are computed from 1981-2010 normals.

The weather data in this report are based upon information collected by the U. S. Dept. of Commerce, NOAA National Weather Service.

State Climatologist, Iowa Dept. of Agriculture & Land Stewardship
JULY 2013 COUNTY AVERAGE PRECIPITATION (inches)

