



## IOWA PRELIMINARY MONTHLY WEATHER SUMMARY – JUNE 2016

**General Summary.** Iowa temperatures averaged 73.2° or 3.5° above normal while precipitation totaled 3.69 inches or 1.33 inches less than normal. This ranks as the 14<sup>th</sup> warmest and 45<sup>th</sup> driest June among 144 years of record. A warmer June was last recorded in 1991 and a drier one in 2012.

**Temperatures.** Warmer than normal weather was the rule through most of June. While the daily statewide average temperature was slightly below normal on 8 days during the month there was not a single day when every Iowa major reporting station was cooler than normal. The warmth was most firmly established during the middle of the month with above normal temperatures throughout Iowa every day from the 9<sup>th</sup> through the 20<sup>th</sup>. Little Sioux was the hot spot with a 100° maximum on the 11<sup>th</sup>. This was Iowa's first triple-digit reading since September 10, 2013. This ended the second longest streak without 100° temperatures in Iowa at 1,004 consecutive days (record longest is 1,438 consecutive days from August 3, 1991 through July 9, 1995). The relative lack of 100 degree temperatures in recent years is tied to frequent wetter than normal summers in Iowa. The heat was most pronounced in southwestern Iowa where Little Sioux and Lamoni each recorded 17 days with maximum temperatures of 90° or higher. On the other extreme Allison, Anamosa, Dubuque, Fayette and Osage reached or exceeded 90 only once. Belle Plaine, Elkader and Grinnell recorded the month's lowest temperature with 43° readings on the morning of the 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Cooling Degree Days.** Home air conditioning requirements, as estimated by cooling degree day totals, averaged 58% greater than last June and 47% more than normal. Thus far this air conditioning season cooling degree day totals are running 54% greater than last year at this time and 37% greater than normal.

**Precipitation.** June rain amounts were highly variable across Iowa. Rainfall was much more frequent and came in greater amounts over about the northeast one-third of the state where monthly totals were as much as twice the June normal. Cedar Falls reported the most rain with 11.22 inches while Salem in Henry County recorded only 0.25 inches. At Donnellson in Lee County their June rain total of 0.53 inches is second only to 1991's 0.45 inch total among 75 years of records. At month's end a large portion of south central and southeast Iowa was classified in 'moderate drought' by the U. S. Drought Monitor with an 'abnormally dry' designation for much of west central, central and southwest Iowa.

**Severe Weather.** As has been the case all year, severe weather was not as frequent or as widespread as typical across Iowa in June. The most widespread event generated severe storm reports, mostly high winds, from 15 central and northern Iowa counties on the evening of the 14<sup>th</sup>. However, the most damaging storms hit northwestern Iowa where a combination of hail and high winds resulted in considerable crop damage on the evening of the 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Outlook.** Historical Iowa data indicates a great deal of persistence in Iowa's early summer temperatures. Among the 25 warmest Junes of record, 20 were followed by above normal temperatures in July as well. However, this trend weakens considerably later in the summer with unusually warm Junes followed by hotter than normal Augusts barely half of the time (13 of 25 cases). Meanwhile, unusually warm Junes have been followed by drier than normal Julys in 16 of 25 years and drier than normal Augusts 15 of 25 years. The latest National Weather Service forecast (as of noon July 1) favors a return to hotter weather about July 5, however precipitation prospects look somewhat favorable for the second week of July. The good news is that nearly all of Iowa entered 2016 with abundant subsoil moisture reserves while aquifers and lakes remain in good condition.

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# June 2016

## WEATHER BY DISTRICTS

DISTRICT	TEMPERATURE (F)		COOLING DEGREE DAYS				PRECIPITATION (inches)			
	June 2016 Average	Departure*	June 2016 Average	Departure*	Since Jan., 1, 2016 Average	Departure*	June 2016 Average	Departure*	Since Jan.1, 2016 Average	Departure*
Northwest	72.6	+3.8	240	+85	286	+85	3.24	-1.49	17.13	+2.27
North Central	70.9	+2.6	181	+39	222	+42	5.53	+0.34	16.67	-0.22
Northeast	70.4	+1.9	186	+42	242	+61	7.02	+1.92	18.06	+0.78
West Central	74.3	+4.4	281	+106	323	+94	1.84	-3.07	15.13	-1.41
Central	73.3	+3.7	258	+89	311	+92	3.60	-1.76	13.89	-3.91
East Central	72.9	+2.7	253	+71	324	+85	5.94	+0.99	15.87	-1.59
Southwest	75.5	+4.5	307	+108	363	+100	2.02	-3.11	16.92	-0.97
South Central	74.4	+4.2	291	+111	339	+106	1.81	-3.13	12.55	-5.58
Southeast	74.6	+3.1	288	+76	360	+76	1.76	-3.06	11.79	-6.91
STATE	73.2	+3.5	252	+80	305	+82	3.69	-1.33	15.38	-1.83

\* Departures are computed from 1981-2010 normals.

Monthly estimates are preliminary and are likely to change.

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

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### PRELIMINARY COUNTY PRECIPITATION ESTIMATES, JUNE 2016 (inches)

