



## IOWA MONTHLY WEATHER SUMMARY – AUGUST 2015

General Summary. August temperatures averaged 69.2° or 2.3° below normal while precipitation totaled 5.41 inches or 1.21 inches above normal. This ranks as the 27<sup>th</sup> coolest and 21<sup>st</sup> wettest August among 143 years of records.

Temperatures. Summer heat was infrequent during August with daily low temperatures in the forties occurring on more days during the month (nine) than daytime highs in the nineties (seven days). Donnellson reported the month's highest temperature with a 94° reading on the 2<sup>nd</sup> while Sheldon and Spencer recorded the lowest temperatures with 40° readings on the morning of the 25<sup>th</sup>. Below normal temperatures prevailed for 13 consecutive days from the 18<sup>th</sup> through the 30<sup>th</sup> with five days during this period bringing daytime highs that were only in the sixties. "Highs" of only 61° occurred at Anamosa and Northwood on the 19<sup>th</sup> and also at New Hampton and Osage on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

Cooling Degree Day Totals. Home air conditioning requirements, as estimated by cooling degree day totals, averaged 21% less than last August and 24% less than normal. Cooling degree day totals so far this season are running 2% less than last year at this time and 16% less than normal.

Precipitation. Mostly dry weather prevailed for the first one-half of the month with a statewide average of 1.30 inches of rain (normal for the period of 2.22 inches). However, locally heavy rains of four inches or more occurred on the night of the 8<sup>th</sup> in parts of central Iowa and the southwest corner of the state where Sidney received 5.75 inches. Much heavier rains fell during the second one-half of the month with a statewide average of 4.10 inches, or more than double the normal for the period of 1.98 inches. The bulk of the rain during this late month period arrived on the 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>. The first of these two events brought torrential rain to a wide area of northwest Iowa with 8.33 inches falling at Cherokee. Heaviest rains with the second event fell across central Iowa with the largest official total of 6.59 inches at Steamboat Rock while unofficial totals of nearly ten inches were reported over parts of southeast Webster County and southern Hamilton County. However, the month's heavy rain events were largely confined to central Iowa and the western one-third of the state. Most of eastern Iowa saw below normal rainfall for the month. August rain totals varied from only 1.14 inches at Keosauqua to 13.02 inches at Randolph.

Summer Summary. Temperatures during the three summer months averaged 70.3° or 1.3° below normal while precipitation totaled 17.62 inches or 3.91 inches above normal. This ranks as the 29<sup>th</sup> coolest and 7<sup>th</sup> wettest summer among 143 years of records. However, a cooler and wetter summer was recorded just last year when Iowa recorded its fifth coolest July and third wettest June.

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# August 2015

## WEATHER BY DISTRICTS

DISTRICT	TEMPERATURE (F)		COOLING DEGREE DAYS				PRECIPITATION (inches)			
	August 2015		August 2015		Since Jan., 1, 2015		August 2015		Since Jan.1, 2015	
	Average	Departure*	Average	Departure*	Average	Departure*	Average	Departure*	Average	Departure*
Northwest	68.2	-2.1	150	-35	550	-82	7.56	+3.78	23.56	+1.07
North Central	67.7	-1.9	133	-34	489	-84	5.76	+1.65	27.52	+1.88
Northeast	68.0	-2.2	134	-47	483	-111	3.45	-1.18	23.13	-3.44
West Central	69.0	-2.6	163	-55	583	-143	7.04	+3.15	30.44	+5.75
Central	68.7	-2.7	154	-59	570	-131	6.77	+2.31	31.12	+4.17
East Central	69.6	-2.2	168	-56	627	-113	3.90	-0.60	27.23	+0.93
Southwest	70.6	-2.5	198	-63	716	-126	7.17	+3.36	32.79	+6.35
South Central	70.4	-2.6	194	-62	707	-84	3.57	-0.72	31.97	+4.57
Southeast	71.3	-2.4	212	-65	769	-121	2.60	-1.66	29.04	+1.63
STATE	69.2	-2.3	165	-52	602	-111	5.41	+1.21	28.40	+2.50

\* 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  
**COUNTY PRECIPITATION ESTIMATES, AUGUST 2015 (inches)**

