



Des Moines Climate



1878-2023: October

Compiled by: Craig Cogil – Updated 2/11/2024

Temperature

Highest Daily Maximum:	95	October 5, 1963
Lowest Daily Maximum:	23	October 29, 1925
Highest Daily Minimum:	73	October 1, 1971 and October 3, 2005
Lowest Daily Minimum:	7	October 28, 1925
Highest Daily Average:	81	October 1, 1971 and October 3, 2005
Lowest Daily Average:	16	October 28, 1925

Top Ten Warmest

1.	64.5	1963
2.	62.4	1947
3.	61.6	1938
4.	60.6	1956
5.	60.5	1900
	60.5	1971
7.	60.4	1879
8.	60.3	1920
9.	59.9	1950
10.	59.7	2016

Top Ten Coldest

1.	41.6	1925
2.	44.7	1917
3.	47.3	2002
4.	47.7	2009
5.	47.9	1972
	47.9	1988
7.	48.2	1895
	48.2	1987
9.	48.3	2019
10.	48.5	1976

Number of Years with Max of 90 degrees or Higher:	12	(8% of the years)
Number of Years with Max of 80 degrees or Higher:	115	(79% of the years)
Number of Years with Max of 70 degrees or Higher:	146	(100% of the years)
Number of Years with Min 32 degrees or below:	134	(92% of the years)
Number of Years with Min 20 degrees or below:	16	(11% of the years)
Number of Years with Min 10 degrees or below:	1	(0.7% of the years)

Precipitation

Wettest Day:	3.67"	October 7, 1884
Highest 3-day total:	4.08"	1 - 3, 2019
Highest 7-day total:	4.87"	1 - 7, 2019
Highest 14 - day total:	6.13"	18 - 31, 1947

Top Ten Wettest

1.	7.41	2019
2.	7.29	1941
3.	6.86	1947
4.	6.56	2009
5.	6.45	1881
6.	6.30	2021
7.	6.28	1984
8.	5.94	1882
9.	5.54	1983
10.	5.49	2007

Top Ten Driest

1.	0.03	1952
2.	0.07	1958
3.	0.13	1953
4.	0.15	1945
5.	0.22	1893
6.	0.29	1895
	0.29	1964
	0.29	1966
9.	0.36	1999
10.	0.43	1915

Average Number of Days with at least 0.01" of precipitation:	8
Average Number of Days with at least 0.10" of precipitation:	5
Average Number of Days with at least 0.50" of precipitation:	2

Number of Years with at least one day where 0.50" of Precipitation fell:	110	(75% of the years)
Number of Years with at least one day where 1.00" of Precipitation fell:	70	(48% of the years)
Number of Years with at least one day where 2.00" of Precipitation fell:	13	(9% of the years)

Snowfall

Snowiest Day: 7.4" October 27, 1980

Highest 3-day total: 7.4" 25 - 27, 1980

Most Snow on Ground: 6" October 26, 1997

Top Ten Snowiest

1. 7.4" 1980
2. 6.8" 1997
3. 4.8" 1925
4. 3.1" 2020
5. 2.5" 1923
6. 2.4" 1967
7. 2.2" 2019
8. 2.0" 1888
9. 1.8" 1995
10. 1.7" 1898

Top Ten Least Snowiest

1. 0.0" 82 years have seen no snow, most recently in 2022.

Monthly Normals (1991-2020)

Average Maximum Temperature 63.4

Average Minimum Temperature 42.9

Average Daily Temperature 53.2

Average Precipitation 2.78"

Average Snowfall 0.5"

If you have any questions or comments, please send them to craig.cogil@noaa.gov.

Temperature and precipitation records for Des Moines began in August of 1878. Snowfall records didn't begin until December 1884.