

IOWA WEATHER SUMMARY – JUNE 2006

General Summary. Temperatures averaged 70.2° or 0.4° above normal while precipitation totaled 2.57 inches or 2.07 inches less than normal. This ranks as the 55th warmest and 10th driest June among 134 years of state records.

Temperatures. Hot weather was the rule for the first nine days of the month. The temperature soared to 101° at Little Sioux and Onawa on the 9th. However, much cooler air was already beginning to move into the state with Postville recording a high of only 65° on the same date. Very cool weather prevailed from the 10th through the 13th. Northwood recorded an afternoon high of only 51° on the 10th while Cresco and Estherville reported morning lows of 40° on the 12th. Warmer weather returned at mid-month with temperatures reaching 94° at Ankeny, Dubuque Lock & Dam 11 and Glenwood on the 16th, Little Sioux and Onawa on the 20th and Keokuk and Keosauqua on the 21st. Mild weather was the rule for most of the final nine days of the month although Glenwood reached 95° on the 29th.

Cooling Degree Days. Home air conditioning requirements, as estimated by cooling degree day totals, averaged 2% greater than normal but 24% less than last June. Cooling degree day totals so far this year are running 7% more than normal and 3% less than last year at this time.

Precipitation. June rainfall was below normal over most of Iowa with driest conditions centered upon west central portions of the state and the wettest weather in the northeast. Several western Iowa locations set records for the driest June ever including:

City	June 2006 Total	Old June Record	Years of Records
Perry	0.30 inches	0.63 in 1911	107
Ida Grove	0.43	1.30 in 1887	76
Mapleton	0.50	1.00 in 1985	69
Ankeny	0.81	1.17 in 1963	56
Holstein	0.90	1.37 in 1987	56

On the other end of the spectrum a few locations managed to exceed the normal June precipitation including Lansing and Fulton (Jackson Co.) with 5.94 inches and Decorah with 5.56 inches. This was Iowa's driest June since 1992. Combined with a dry May, the May-June 2006 precipitation of 5.08 inches was 3.79 inches below normal and the sixth driest May-June period among 134 years of records (the drier periods were 1988, 1992, 1887, 1934 and 1894).

Severe Weather. June was an unusually quiet month for severe weather in Iowa. Only four tornadoes were reported during the month (all in southeast Iowa on the 6th). May and June typically account for over half of Iowa's tornadoes. However, this year's preliminary tornado total is only four for this two month period as none had been reported in May. This is the lowest total for these two months since 1961 when tornado reporting was far less complete than today.

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