

Decorah Weather - March 2025 Summary

by Richard Bernatz

Weather data available online at <http://faculty.luther.edu/~bernatzr/DecWx/>

1. MARCH 2025 TEMPERATURES

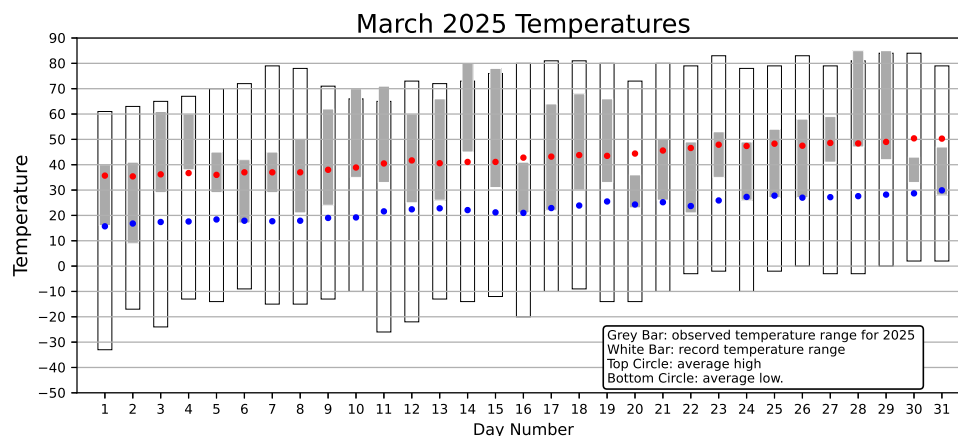


Figure 1: **Grey Bar:** Observed temperature range for 2025, **White Bar:** Record temperature range, **Red Circle:** average high, **Blue Circle:** average low.

Temperature (° F)	March 2025	Historical	Deviation
Average High	57.4	43.0	+14.4
Average Low	28.7	23.0	+5.7
Daily Average	43.0	33.0	+10.0

Table 1: March 2025 average temperatures compared to March averages.

• MARCH 2025

- Record temperatures : Six record high temperatures (old records and year in parentheses) are 70° F on the 10th (66° F in 2021), 71° F on the 11th (ties with 2024), 80° F on the 14th (73° F in 2012), 78° F on the 15th (76° F in 2012), 85° F on the 28th (81 1910), 85° F on the 29th (84° F in 1986).
- Average temperature : 43.0° F (10.0° F warmer than average)
- Warmest temperature : 85° F on the 28th and 29th
- Coldest temperature : 9° F on the 2nd
- Heating degree-days (65° F basis) : 682.5, 308.5 degree-days less than the historical average of 991.0

• ALL MARCHES SINCE 1893 (133 years)

- Compared with March 2025, 2 Marches were warmer and 130 Marches were cooler.
- Warmest average : 51.0° F in 2012
- Coldest average : 20.3° F in 1899
- Warmest temperature : 85° F on the 28th and 29th of 2025
- Coldest temperature : -33° F on the 1st of 1962

2. MARCH 2025 PRECIPITATION

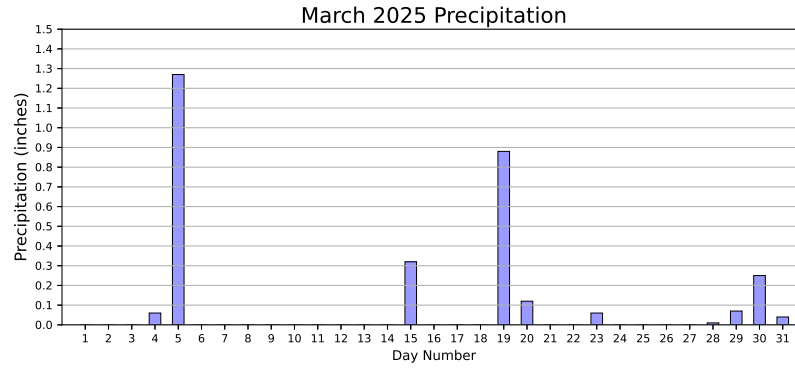


Figure 2: March precipitation for Decorah.

- MARCH 2025
 - Total precipitation for March 2025 : 3.08 inches, 1.16 inches more than the average amount of 1.91 inches
 - 10 days with measurable precipitation (average is 7 days)
 - Greatest 24-hour precipitation total of 1.27 inches on the 5th
 - Measurable snowfall 3.5 inches, 4.1 inches less than the average of 7.6 inches
 - Three days with measurable snowfall (average is between three and four days)
- ALL MARCHES SINCE 1893 (133 years)
 - Compared with March 2025, 13 Marches were wetter and 119 Marches were drier.
 - Wettest March : 4.74 inches in 1913
 - Driest March : 0.05 inches in 1910
 - Snowiest March : 29 inches in 1959

3. TWELVE-MONTH SUMMARY

Month	Year	Ave Temp (°F)	Deviation (°F)	Rank† (#/Total)	Precip (inches)	Deviation (inches)	Rank‡ (#/Total)
April	2024	50.5	+3.1	26/131	3.97	+0.85	31/131
May	2024	62.7	+3.8	20/129	9.11	+4.85	6/129
June	2024	71.9	+3.6	18/130	7.38	+2.60	22/130
July	2024	73.8	+1.2	45/130	3.13	-0.94	79/131
August	2024	73.8	+3.4	16/132	1.87	-2.16	108/132
September	2024	67.5	+5.2	9/131	0.39	-3.29	130/131
October	2024	57.3	+6.9	4/131	1.61	-0.71	89/131
November	2024	40.4	+4.1	15/132	3.70	+1.85	12/132
December	2024	26.7	+5.6	24/132	1.62	+0.41	36/132
January	2025	19.3	+2.9	44/132	0.06	-0.96	132/132
February	2025	19.7	-0.5	67/132	0.30	-0.65	114/131
March	2025	43.0	+10.0	3/133	3.08	+1.16	14/133

Table 2: A summary of the last twelve months. †- The smaller the number (#), the warmer the month. ‡- The smaller the number (#), the wetter the month. Boxed entries are within the historical top or bottom ten.

- Eleven of the past 12 months were warmer than average.
- Six of the last 12 months were wetter than average.
- Precipitation deviations. last 3 months: -0.46 inches; last 6 months: 1.11; last 9 months: -5.29 inches; last 12 months: 3.02

4. MARCH NARRATIVE SUMMARY

March 2025 in Decorah was undeniably warm on a relative basis, shaking off the last vestiges of winter with a number of very warm days. The average temperature soared to 43.0°F, a full 10.0°F warmer than the historical average. This unseasonable warmth propelled March 2025 into the record books as the third warmest March observed in Decorah since 1893. Additionally, six days achieved record-setting warmth. Mid-month saw one warm surge, with temperatures reaching 80°F and 78°F on the 14th and 15th respectively. However, the true “heatwave” arrived towards the end of March, with both the 28th and 29th reaching 85°F, setting new all-time March high-temperature records.

Despite this dramatic warmth, the month did offer a brief reminder of winter’s lingering presence, with the temperature dipping to a chilly 9°F on the 2nd. However, the persistent warmth significantly reduced the need for heating, with heating degree-days falling well below the historical average.

March also brought a welcome dose of moisture to Decorah. The total precipitation reached 3.08 inches, exceeding the average by 1.16 inches. This made March 2025 one of the wetter Marches on record, with ten days experiencing measurable precipitation, surpassing the typical seven days. The most significant rainfall occurred on the 5th, with a substantial 1.27 inches falling within 24 hours. Snowfall was less prominent, totaling only 3.5 inches, 4.1 inches below the average.

Looking back over the past twelve months, the overarching theme remains one of warmth. Eleven out of the last twelve months have registered above-average temperatures, highlighting a sustained period of warmer conditions. Precipitation has been more variable, with six of the last twelve months experiencing above-average rainfall. Examining shorter periods reveals a fluctuating pattern: the last three months have been slightly drier than average, while the preceding six months were wetter. This twelve-month snapshot underscores a period of relative warmth coupled with a somewhat erratic precipitation pattern in Decorah.