Decorah Weather - October 2025 Summary

by Richard Bernatz

Weather data available online at http://faculty.luther.edu/ $\sim\!$ bernatzr/DecWx/

1. October 2025 Temperatures

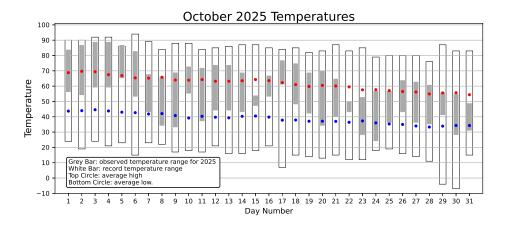


Figure 1: **Grey Bar**: Observed temperature range for 2025, **White Bar**: Record temperature range, **Average temperature range**: Red circle for average high, blue circle for average low.

Temperature ($^{\circ}F$)	October 2025	Historical	Deviation
Average High	68.6	62.0	+6.6
Average Low	43.5	38.8	+4.7
Daily Average	56.0	50.4	+5.6

Table 1: October 2025 Temperatures compared with October History.

• October 2025

- Average temperature : 56.0°F (5.6°F warmer than average)
- Record Temperatures: Maximum of 87°F on October 5th (previous of 86°F in 2005 and 1963) and a maximum minimum of 65°F on the 5th (previous record was 63°F in 1900, 1969, and 2016)
- Warmest temperature : 89°F on the 3rd and 4th.
- Coldest temperature : 24°F on the 24th.
- Heating degree days: 324.0 (132.7 less than average).
- All Octobers since 1893 (132 years, data for 1926 are missing)
 - Compared with October 2025, 8 were warmer and 123 were cooler
 - Warmest average: 60.2°F in 1963Coldest average: 37.8°F in 1925
 - Warmest temperature: 94°F on the 6th of 1963
 Coldest temperature: -7°F on the 30th of 1925

2. October 2025 Precipitation

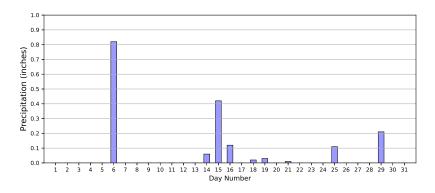


Figure 2: October precipitation for Decorah.

• October 2025

- Total precipitation for October 2025: 1.80 inches (average is 2.31)
- Precipitation deficit of 0.51 inches
- Maximum 24-hour total: 0.82 inches on the 6th.
- Nine days with measurable precipitation. The average for October is between 7 and 8 days.
- All Octobers since 1893 (132 years, data for 1898 are missing)
 - Compared with October 2025, 77 Octobers were wetter and 54 were drier
 - Wettest October: 5.92 inches in 2017Driest October: 0.00 inches in 1895

3. Twelve-Month Summary

		Ave Temp	Deviation	Rank†	Precip	Deviation	Rank‡
Month	Year	(°F)	(°F)	(#/Total)	(inches)	(inches)	(#/Total)
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
April	2025	49.3	+2.0	26/132	5.90	+2.76	12/132
May	2025	59.7	+0.7	55/130	2.46	-1.79	107/130
June	2025	72.9	+4.6	8/131	6.26	+1.47	34/131
July	2025	75.2	+2.6	26/131	5.21	+1.13	35/132
August	2025	71.4	+1.0	41/133	13.61	+9.50	2/133
September	2025	67.1	+4.8	10/132	2.27	-1.39	86/132
October	2025	56.0	+5.6	9/132	2.31	-0.51	78/131

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 last 12 months were warmer than average.
- October 2025 is the fourth month of the last twelve with an average temperature ranking in top ten warmest.
- October 2025 is one of five months, over the last twelve months, with below average precipitation.
- Precipitation deviations (in inches). last three months: +7.58, last six months: +8.39, last nine months: +11.66, last twelve months: +12.98

4. October Narrative Summary

October 2025 in Decorah will be go into the record books as a month that extended the persistent pattern of above-average temperatures observed over the past year. Overall, the weather was mild and relatively dry, with the average temperature of 56.0°F, a significant 5.6°F above the historical average, making it the 9th warmest October since 1893. The month's temperatures were consistently high, with both the average high and average low notably elevated. The average daytime high of 68.6°F soared 6.6°F past its historical mark, while even the overnight average low of 43.5°F was 4.7°F warmer than usual.

The early part of the month brought exceptionally warm days, culminating in the highest temperature of 89°F recorded on both the 3rd and 4th. Furthermore, October 5th shattered two daily records, with a maximum temperature of 87°F and a record-high minimum temperature of 65°F. This lack of sustained cold is clearly reflected in the need for heating, as the month accrued 132.7 fewer Heating Degree Days than average. On the other end of the spectrum, the month's coldest temperature dipped to 24°F on the 24th. Looking at the long-term trend, October 2025 continues a significant warming pattern; it is the fourth month in the last twelve to rank in the top ten warmest for its respective period, reinforcing a long-term, year-round shift toward warmer conditions.

In terms of moisture, the month was drier than average, recording a total of 1.80 inches of precipitation, creating a deficit of 0.51 inches against the typical 2.31 inches. This positions October 2025 as the 54th driest in the historical record. Despite the overall low total, precipitation was slightly more frequent, with nine days recording measurable rainfall—a touch above the seven to eight day average—indicating a pattern of lighter, less intense rain events. The heaviest single downpour occurred on the 6th, which accounted for 0.82 inches of the monthly total. While October itself was dry, it represents one of only five drier the average months in the last twelve, a period that is still carrying a significant precipitation surplus of nearly 13 inches, largely due to an historic rainfall event in August 2025.