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Indiana State Climate Office

Monthly Weather Report

Feb 5, 2008



<http://www.iclimete.org>

January 2008 Climate Summary

Summary

January was a mix bag of conditions, with an oscillatory pattern developing. We experienced phases of cool, moist conditions followed by a day of warm and dry weather. This pattern persisted through the entire month. However, the periods of warmth we did experience were rather extreme and completely offset the colder weather we experienced. The statewide average temperature for January 2008 is 27.1°F, which is 1.1°F above normal. Precipitation was rampant once again, just like December 2007. On average the state received approximately 3.43 inches, which is 141% of the normal of 2.44 inches. All Indiana regions accumulated at least 2.93 inches of precipitation. The north was the wettest. Northwestern and north central counties received more than 4.5 inches of precipitation, which is more than 2.5 inches above normal.

Overall January 2008 was warm and wet. These conditions were expected as a result of the current strong La Niña in the Pacific Ocean. Serving as a preview for the month, this warm and wet trend should continue throughout February.

January 1st – 9th

It was a cool and snowy start to 2008 as the final disturbance of 2007 left behind excess moisture followed by a dip in temperatures. Portions of St. Joseph and Elkhart counties received as much as seven inches of snow on New Year's Day and scattered snow showers stretched southward to Indianapolis. Southern Indiana was slightly warmer resulting in light rain showers instead. Temperatures on the 1st were well below normal across much of the south, dropping as low as the high-20's. Snow and temperatures continued to fall on the 2nd. The entire state saw temperatures at least 10°F below normal as highs rarely passed 20°F. A dusting of snow occurred over southern counties but accumulations rose to the north. St. Joseph and Elkhart counties received an additional three inches of snow. Snow fall dwindled on the 3rd, resulting in only flurries across all of Indiana. Temperatures rose slightly, a sign of things to come. A region of high pressure slowly vacated the Rocky Mountains and finally brought warmer conditions to the Midwest on the 4th. Indiana temperatures approached normal and it was the first dry day of the year. Temperatures would continue to warm over the coming days. On the 5th highs reached the low- to mid-50's. Some rogue moisture brought scattered showers as well. The warm temperatures and showers stretched through the 6th and got a boost on the 7th as the first major disturbance entered the region. The entire state sat in the warm

sector of the advancing synoptic low pressure system, sending temperatures statewide into the low- to mid-60's. All of Indiana was at least 27°F above normal with some northern counties rising as much as 35°F warmer than usual. The moisture associated with the system blanketed the state but the heaviest stayed in the north. Northwestern counties such as Porter, Jasper, Starke, and Pulaski received more than 3.5 inches of rain from the 7th through the 9th. Every area of Indiana accumulated more than an inch of precipitation during this period. Temperatures remained warm but did drop slightly on the 9th as slightly cooler air rushed in behind the system. Temperatures were now mostly in the mid-40's, only 10°F above normal.

January 10th – 15th

The cooling pattern didn't last as another synoptic low pressure system approached from the south. The leading warm front brought high temperatures into the low 50's. Some very light rain showers were scattered across southern counties on the afternoon of the 10th. Slightly heavier rains from the advancing disturbance entered early on the 11th and spread across all of Indiana. Temperatures dropped back to the low 40's as the cold front swept through the state. Another area of high pressure built into the Tennessee and Ohio valleys behind disturbance number two. This brought a slight increase in temperatures on the 12th. Once again the warm and dry conditions didn't last. Temperatures began to decrease on the 13th, and continued to do so on the 14th, as another cold front passed. This was a relatively weak system and brought a few scattered snow showers across the state on the 13th, 14th, and 15th resulting in small accumulations.

January 16th – 23rd

High pressure returned to the Tennessee Valley on the 16th and the effects could be felt in Indiana. Temperatures rose back to normal and the state remained dry. These conditions would not last. The third system of January 2008 brought more snow on the 17th, 18th, and 19th. The heaviest snow fell in the south this time and Washington County and the surrounding area received more than 1.5 inches. After this cold front passed there was a steep drop off in temperature across Indiana. Highs were only in the mid-teens on the 19th and 20th. Temperatures were on the rebound on the 21st as high pressure again settled over the Ohio Valley. Highs reached the mid-30's for most of the state. Some northern counties were hit with scattered lake effect snow showers as well on the 21st. Temperatures began to recede on the 22nd in advance of another cold front, the fourth of the month. The entire state received at least ¼ inch of snow. Some local totals in Lake and Porter counties reached 2.5 inches. Light snow showers continued across the north on the 23rd. However daily totals were below one inch. High temperatures fell back to around 20°F, which is approximately 10°F below normal.

January 24th – 31st

Another cold front approached the region early on the 24th and brought a batch of cold Canadian air with it. Temperatures fell into the teens once again. The majority of precipitation, in the form of snow, stayed to the north resulting in a small blanket of new

snow. After the fourth front high pressure moved over the state and temperatures warmed slightly with highs climbing to a balmy 25°F. The next front that approached only skimmed northern Indiana but did produce some snowfall totals of close to two inches. Behind the latest disturbance came another short burst of warming as high temperatures made their way back into the upper-30's. The rise continued as highs approached 50°F on the 28th and 55°F on the 29th. Later on the 29th the fifth disturbance of January would bring scattered rain and snow showers to the entire state. The rain and snow showers would linger on the 30th as the cold front passed, dropping temperatures as well. January 2008 ended the same way as it began: cold and snowy. With temperatures hovering around freezing on the 31st, any remaining moisture fell as snow. Accumulations were minimal however.

January Summary

Temperature

Region	Temperature	Normal	Deviation
Northwest	24.6	23.0	1.6
North Central	25.0	23.2	1.8
Northeast	25.9	23.1	2.8
West Central	26.5	25.1	1.4
Central	26.7	25.3	1.4
East Central	26.6	24.7	1.9
Southwest	30.2	29.9	0.3
South Central	29.5	29.9	-0.4
South East	29.2	29.1	0.1
State	27.1	26.0	1.1

Precipitation

Region	Precipitation	Normal	Deviation	Percent of Normal
Northwest	4.69	1.88	2.81	250
North Central	4.65	2.05	2.60	227
Northeast	3.55	1.98	1.56	179
West Central	2.49	2.28	0.20	109
Central	3.02	2.34	0.67	129
East Central	2.93	2.29	0.64	128
Southwest	2.97	3.00	-0.03	99
South Central	3.60	3.10	0.50	116
South East	2.99	3.00	-0.01	100
State	3.43	2.44	0.99	141

Winter-To-Date

(December 2007 & January 2008)

Temperature

Region	Temperature	Normal	Deviation
Northwest	26.6	25.8	0.9
North Central	27.0	25.9	1.1
Northeast	27.4	25.9	1.6
West Central	29.0	27.8	1.2
Central	29.4	28.0	1.4
East Central	29.1	27.4	1.6
Southwest	33.4	32.2	1.2
South Central	32.8	32.2	0.6
South East	32.3	31.6	0.8
State	29.7	28.6	1.2

Precipitation

Region	Precipitation	Normal	Deviation	Percent of Normal
Northwest	8.81	4.53	4.28	194
North Central	9.09	4.84	4.25	188
Northeast	7.88	4.67	3.21	169
West Central	6.98	5.25	1.73	133
Central	8.23	5.33	2.90	154
East Central	7.59	5.16	2.43	147
Southwest	9.13	6.53	2.60	140
South Central	9.80	6.66	3.14	147
South East	8.46	6.41	2.05	132
State	8.48	5.49	2.99	154

Annual-to-Date

(same as month)

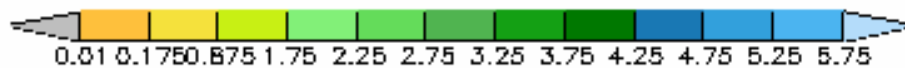
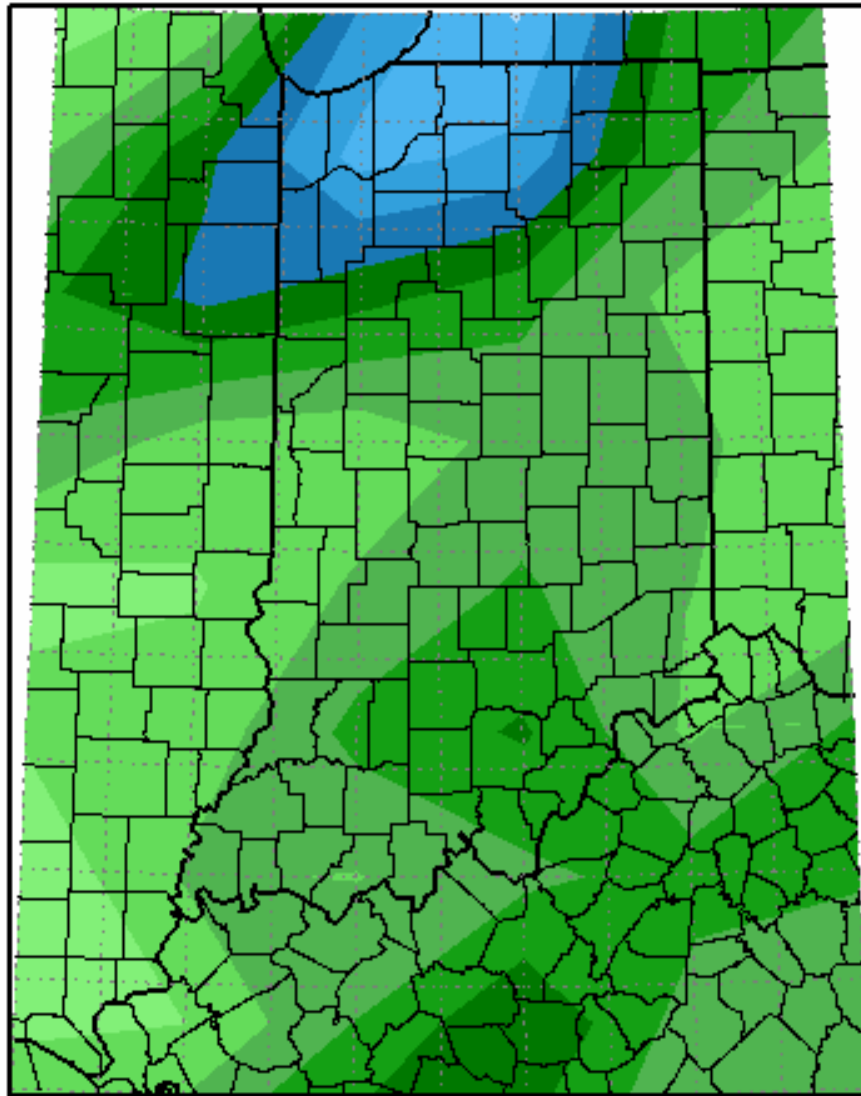
Temperature

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Precipitation

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Southwest	2.97	3.00	-0.03	99
South Central	3.60	3.10	0.50	116
South East	2.99	3.00	-0.01	100
State	3.43	2.44	0.99	141

**Total Precipitation in Inches
January 1, 2008 to January 31, 2008**

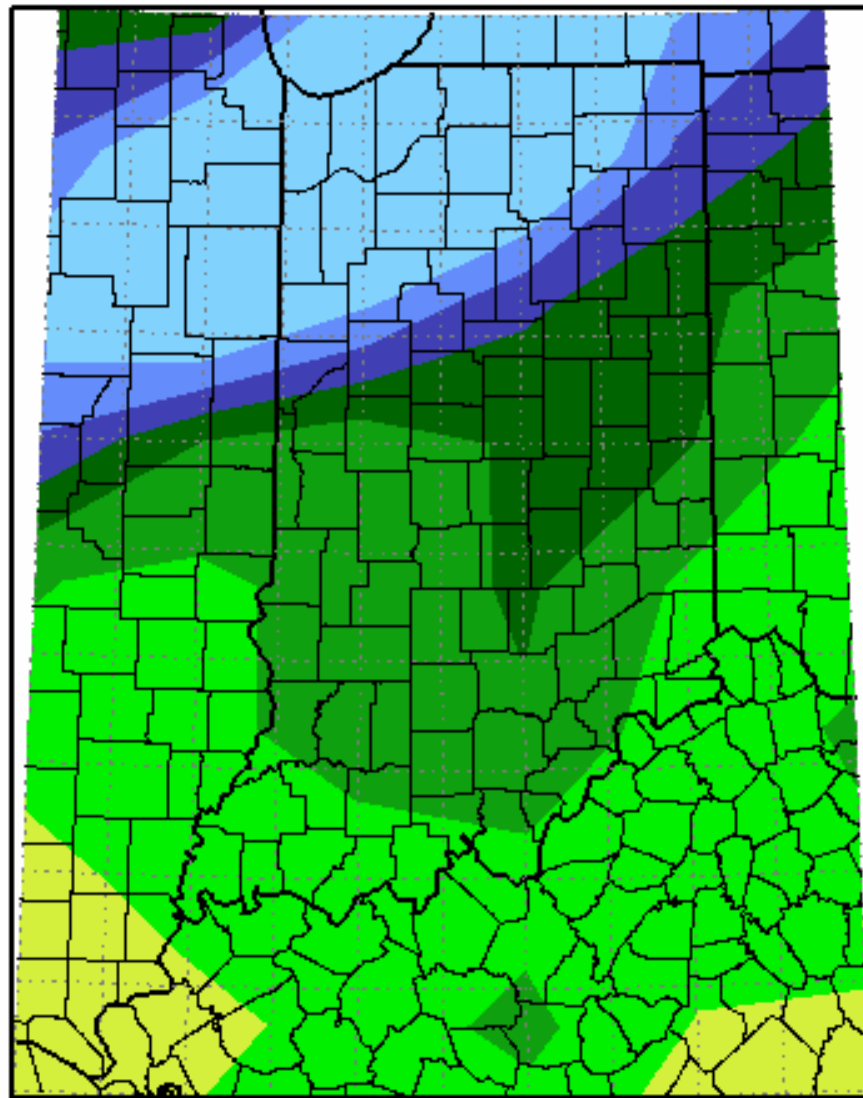


Midwestern Regional Climate Center

Illinois State Water Survey

Champaign, Illinois

**Total Precipitation Percent of Mean
January 1, 2008 to January 31, 2008**

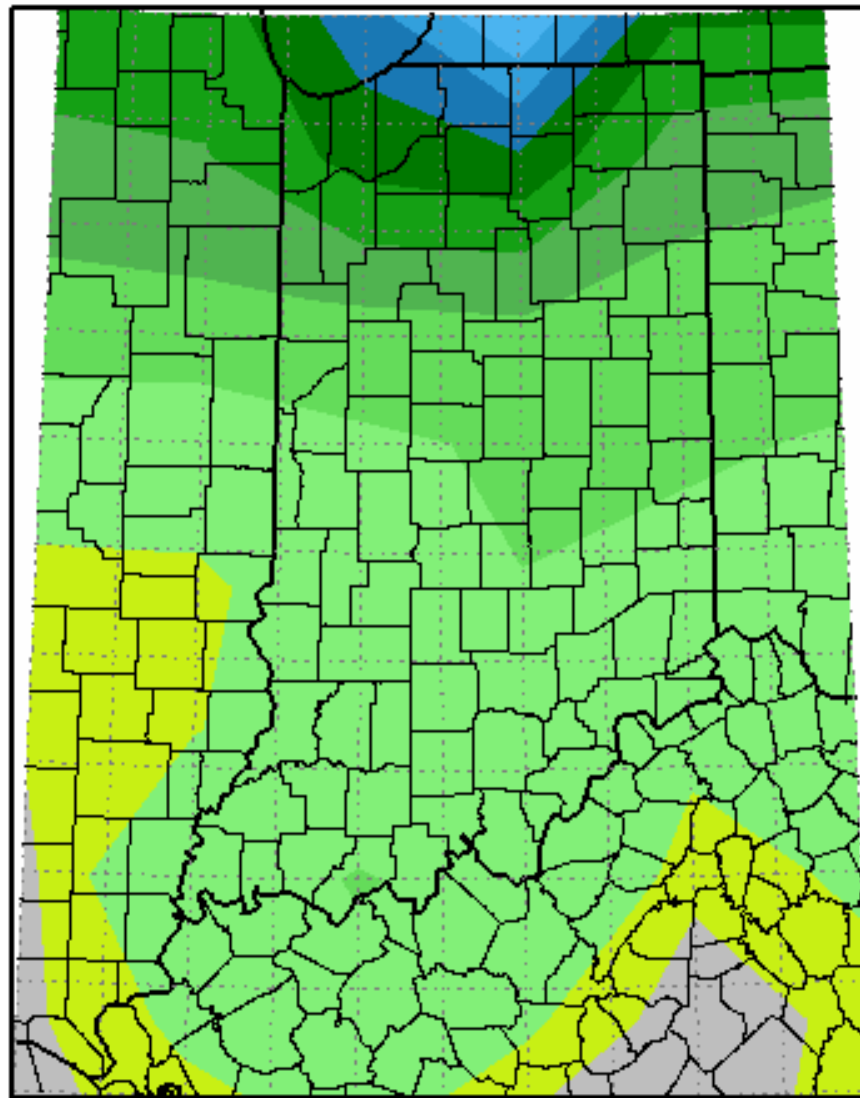


Midwestern Regional Climate Center

Illinois State Water Survey

Champaign, Illinois

Total Snowfall in Inches
January 1, 2008 to January 31, 2008

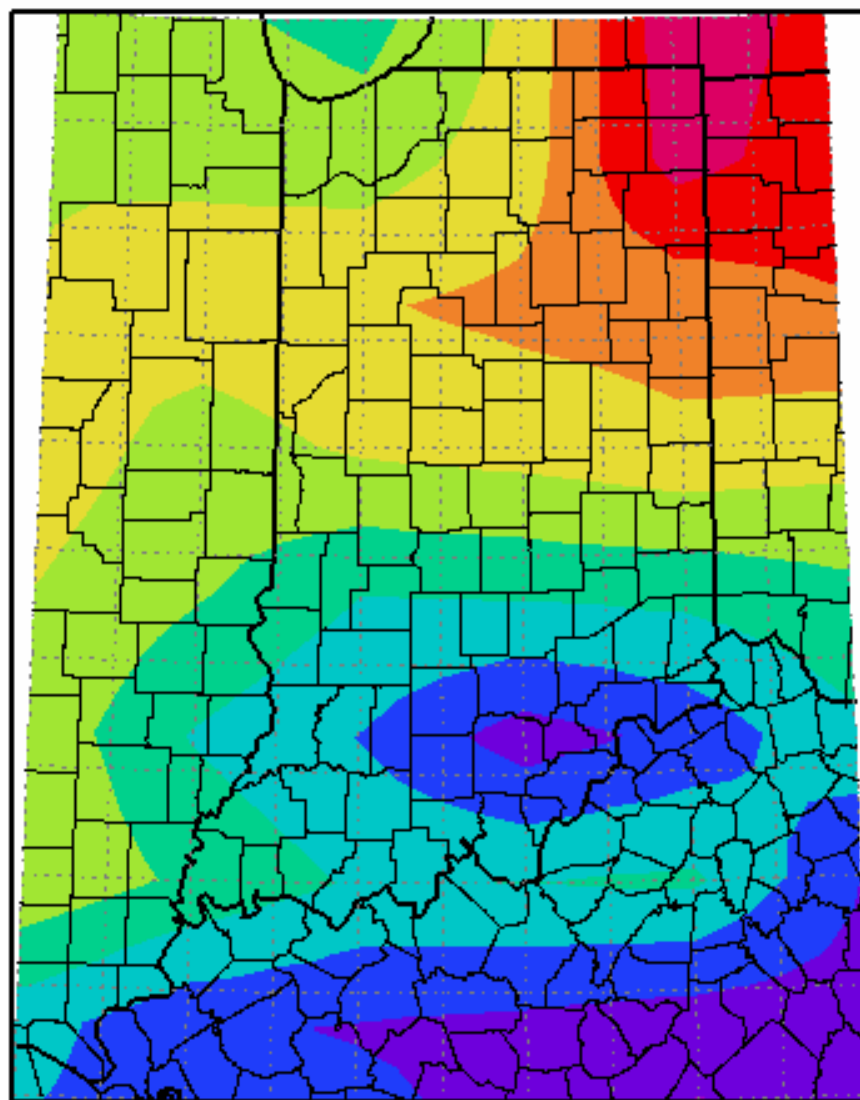


Midwestern Regional Climate Center

Illinois State Water Survey

Champaign, Illinois

Average Temperature Departure from Mean in Degrees F
January 1, 2008 to January 31, 2008



Midwestern Regional Climate Center

Illinois State Water Survey

Champaign, Illinois

Drought Summary from the U.S. Drought Monitor

Below is a drought summary for the state of Indiana from the U.S. drought monitor. Areas in white are not experiencing any drought. Yellow areas are abnormally dry, but not entirely considered a drought. Drought begins when the moisture levels become more severe, with beige, orange, red, and brown indicating increasing levels of drought (moderate, severe, extreme, and exceptional, respectively). The table below indicates how much of the state is not under drought conditions, and also how much of the state is under drought conditions from its respective column upwards.

For example, January 1st has 0.00% of Indiana under no drought, and 0.00% of Indiana under at *least* D0 through D4 drought status. This is followed by 0.00% as D1 through D4 status. To obtain the amount that is D0 status, simply subtract the D1-D4 column from the D0-D4 column, thus giving you the percentage of area with abnormally dry conditions. Please note, however, that these areas are not exact, and much of this drought map has been created from reports throughout the state and estimation, so use this information as a general view rather than for specifics.

D0 Abnormally Dry	D1 Drought - Moderate	D2 Drought - Severe	D3 Drought - Extreme	D4 Drought - Exceptional		
D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4	None	Week
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	01/01/08
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	01/08/08
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	01/15/08
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	01/22/08
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	01/29/08

January 1st Drought Summary



January 8th Drought Summary



January 15th Drought Summary



January 22nd Drought Summary



January 29th Drought Summary

