

Decorah Weather - February 2009 Summary

by Richard Bernatz

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

1. FEBRUARY 2009 TEMPERATURES

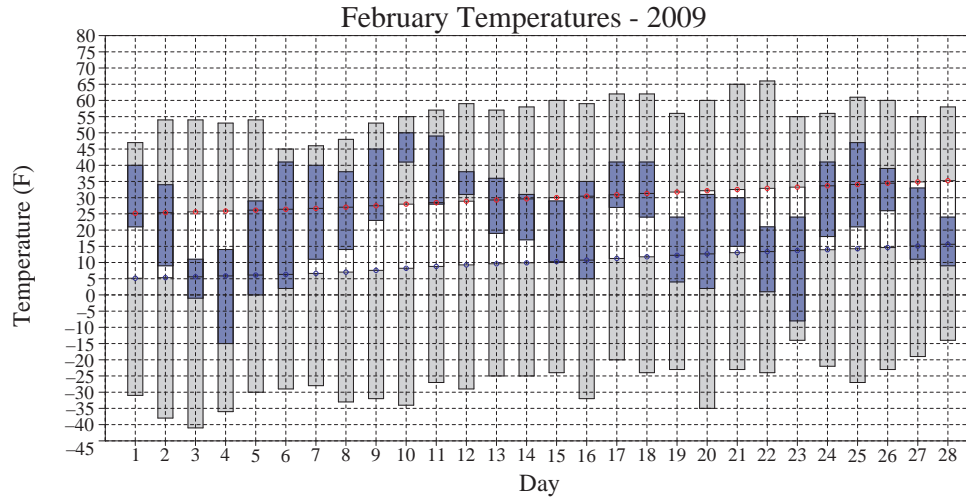


Figure 1: **Blue Bar:** Observed temperature range for 2009, **Grey Bar:** Record temperature range, **White Bar:** Average temperature range, red circle for average high, blue circle for average low.

Temperature (° F)	February 2009	Historical	Deviation
Average High	34.1	29.8	4.3
Average Low	13.0	10.0	3.0
Daily Average	23.6	19.9	3.7

Table 1: February 2009 average temperatures compared to February averages.

- FEBRUARY 2009
 - Record Temperatures : maximum minimum of 41° F on the 10th, old record 34° F in 1976
 - Average temperature : 23.6 ° F (3.7° F warmer than average)
 - Warmest temperature : 50° F on the 10th
 - Coldest temperature : -15° F on the 4th
 - Heating degree days: 1159, 102.2 less than average
- ALL FEBRUARIES SINCE 1894 (114 years : 1909 and 1911 missing data)
 - Compared with February 2009, 29 Februaries were warmer and 84 Februaries were colder
 - Warmest average : 33.4° F in 1954
 - Coldest average : 3.8° F in 1936
 - Warmest temperature : 66° F on the 22nd of 1930
 - Coldest temperature : -41° F on the 3rd of 1996

2. FEBRUARY 2009 PRECIPITATION

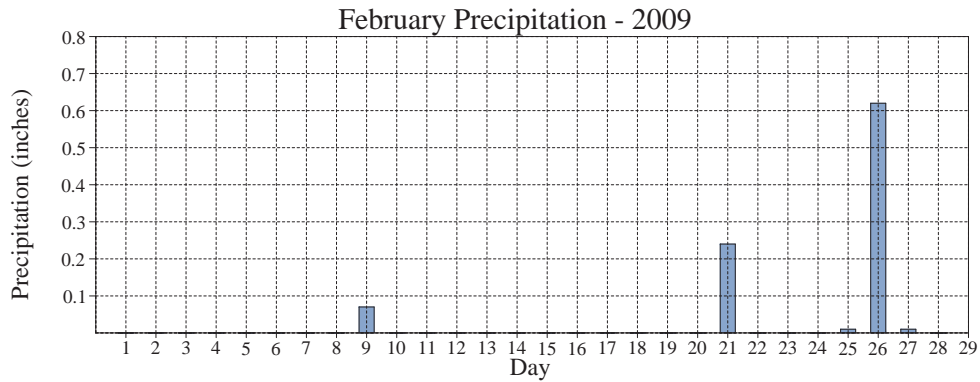


Figure 2: February precipitation for Decorah.

- FEBRUARY 2009
 - Total precipitation for February 2009 : 0.95 inches, 0.01 inches more than the average amount of 0.94 inches
 - Five days with measurable precipitation, the average is five days
 - Greatest 24-hour total: 0.62 inches on the 26th
 - Two days with measurable snowfall totaling 5 inches, 2 inches less than the average amount of 7 inches
- ALL FEBRUARIES SINCE 1894 (115 years - no data for 1896)
 - Compared with February 2009, 45 Februaries were wetter, one was the same, and 68 were drier
 - Wettest February : 3.96 inches in 1915
 - Driest February : 0.00 inches in 1987
 - 27 Februaries had more snow, 3 had the same, and 28 had less snow
 - Snowiest February : 27 inches in 1962 (snow records begin in 1951)

3. WINTER SUMMARY : NOVEMBER 2008 - FEBRUARY 2009

- The warm and low-snow February dropped this winter from 5th to 8th on the severity rankings (going back to 1951)
- Total snowfall is 50 inches, 21 inches more than the average of 29 inches. 1977-78 had the most for this same period: 58 inches
- 65 of 120 days with a high temperature less than 32° F, 11 more than average. 1977-78 and 1985-86 have the most, 83 days.
- 33 of 120 days with a low temperature below zero, 11 more than average. 1977-78 had the most, 47 days.

4. TWELVE-MONTH SUMMARY

- Ten of the last twelve months have been cooler than average.
- Seven of the past 12 months have been drier than average.
- The April and June 2008 precipitation excesses result in a 9.49 inch precipitation excess over the last 12 months.