

Central Indiana

March 2024 Preliminary Climate Summary

10th Mildest March on record at Indianapolis

44th Driest March on record at Indianapolis

2nd Least Snowiest March on record at Indianapolis (Tied)

Temperatures

Site	March 2024 Avg Temp	March 2024 Dep from Nml	Highest Temperature	Lowest Temperature
Indianapolis Int'l Airport	48.2	+5.8	77 on 4 th	26 on 19 th
Lafayette	46.7	+6.7	75 on 4 th , 13 th	24 on 21 st , 28 th
Muncie	47.0	+5.3	75 on 4 th , 30 th	22 on 21 st
Terre Haute	49.1	+6.3	77 on 4 th , 30 th	25 on 11 th
Bloomington	49.2	+5.9	78 on 4 th	23 on 11 th
Shelbyville	M	M	79 on 30th	24 on 21 st
Eagle Creek Airpark	49.2	+6.6	78 on 4 th	27 on 11 th

Indianapolis' average daily temperatures were above normal on 19 days and below normal on 12 days. February 2024's unseasonably mild trend was continued, while it was the mildest March since 2016.

Precipitation

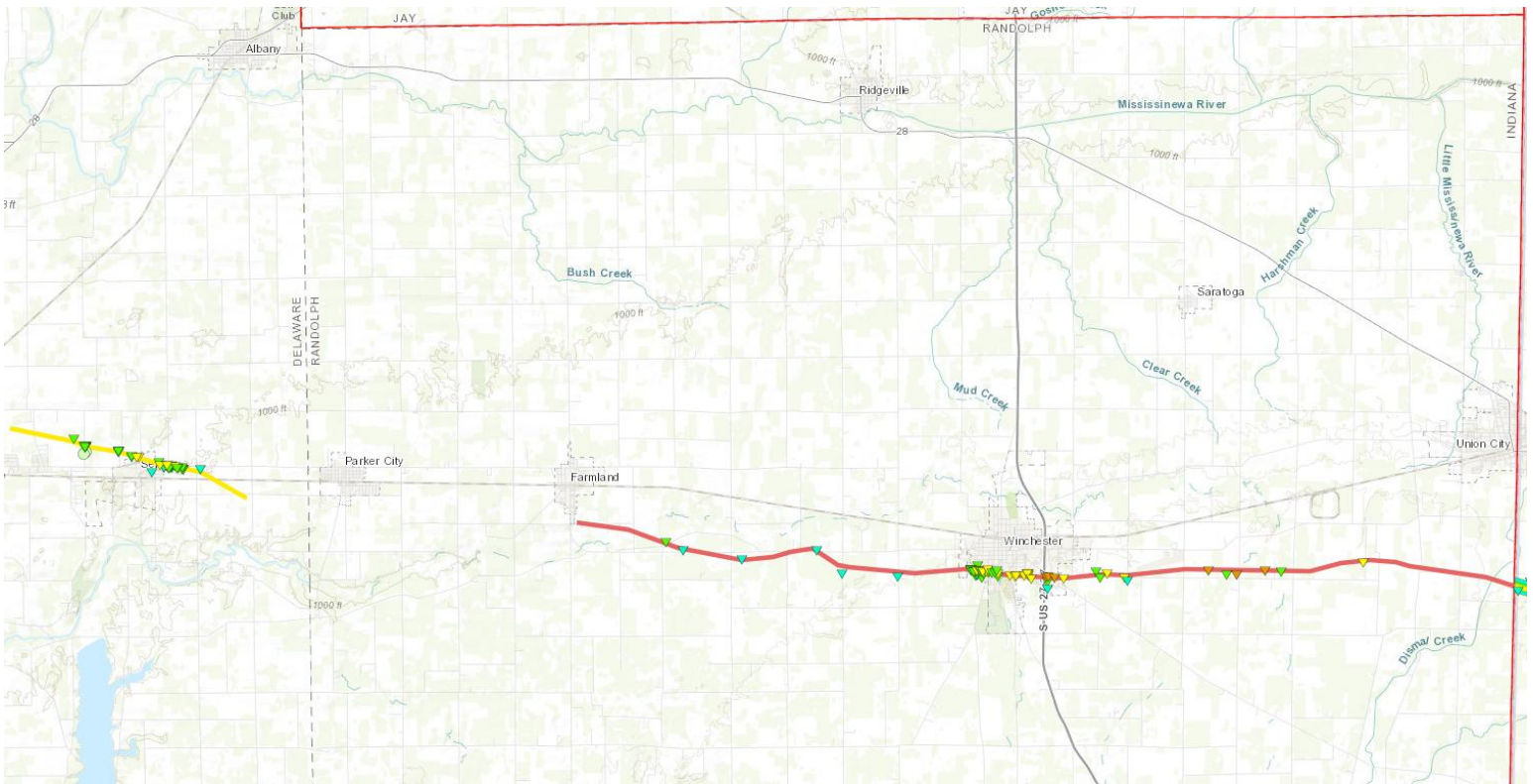
Site	March 2024 Precipitation	March 2024 Dep from Nml	Wettest Day	Longest Dry Stretch
Indianapolis Intl	2.47	-1.22	1.22 on 9 th	3 days, 10 th -12 th & 19 th -21 st
Lafayette	2.95	+0.22	0.61 on 8 th , 14 th	5 days, 17 th -21 st
Muncie	2.41	-0.67	0.89 on 14 th	4 days, 10 th -14 th
Terre Haute	2.68	-0.24	1.61 on 14 th	3 days, 2 nd -4 th , 10 th -12 th , 15 th -17 th , 27 th -29 th
Bloomington	2.70	-1.12	0.91 on 14 th	3 days, 2 nd -4 th , 10 th -12 th , 19 th -21 st , 27 th -29 th
Shelbyville	3.30INC	M	1.08 on 5 th	4 days, 10 th -13 th
Eagle Creek Arpk	1.77	-1.51	0.52 on 8 th	4 days, 10 th -13 th

Indianapolis continued the below normal precipitation trend from February 2024, while ending an 8-year streak of wetter than normal Marches. Indianapolis' trace of snowfall tied 19 other Marches for 2nd-least snowiest on record.

Severe Weather

Thunderstorms during a briefly active mid-month started with a single report of large hail on the 13th in Vigo County. The 14th's widespread thunderstorms then brought numerous reports of large hail across ten, mainly northern counties, including **2.85"** and **2.25" hail** in Howard and Clinton Counties, respectively; and two tornadoes east of Muncie - an **EF2** in Delaware County that tracked from Selma towards Parker City, and an **EF3** that started in Randolph County, tracking from near Farmland, through Winchester where 38 people were injured, before continuing into Ohio for a total track length of 41 miles. The 14th also saw several reports of severe straight line winds, especially in Knox County.

Also noteworthy were the 5th's evening storms that brought locally torrential downpours and flash flooding to parts of Daviess and Greene Counties.



March 14, 2024 tornado tracks - Delaware County EF2 in yellow, Randolph County EF3 in red

Image courtesy of the Damage Assessment Toolkit <<https://apps.dat.noaa.gov/stormdamage/damageviewer>>

*For info on severe weather in other areas during March, visit the Storm Prediction Center
"Severe Weather Event Summaries" website at spc.noaa.gov/climo/online*

Miscellaneous – Winds, Fog, Thunder & More

Strongest wind gusts at central Indiana's 1st-order airports were mainly 46-49 mph, although Shelbyville recorded a **58 mph** gust on the **14th**. The **26th** was the overall windiest day with observed gusts to 45-48 mph, while the **19th** saw several peak gusts of 45 mph. Also noteworthy were Lafayette's 47 mph gust on the **16th** and Terre Haute's 49 mph gust on the **25th**.

Fog frequency was 12 days at most airports and as much as 14 days at Muncie; all locations reported fog on the **2nd**, **5-6th**, **8th**, **9th**, and **14th**, with fog also prevalent on the **1st**, **3-4th**, **7th**, **15th**, **26th**, and **31st**. Dense fog was isolated, occurring only on the **6th** at Indianapolis, Bloomington and Muncie, and also Bloomington on the **2nd-3rd** and Muncie on the **14th**.

Thunder occurred on 4-5 days at most locations, being reported at all sites on the **5th** and **14th** and most on the **30th** and **31st**.

April 2024 Outlook

The official outlook for April 2024 from the Climate Prediction Center indicates slightly greater chances of above normal temperatures across central Indiana. The normal April temperature at Indianapolis is **53.6** degrees.

The outlook also indicates equal chances of above, below, or near normal precipitation for the region. The normal April precipitation at Indianapolis is **4.34"** with **0.2"** of snowfall.

Data prepared by the Indianapolis Weather Forecast Office's State Climate Team

Questions should be referred to nws.indianapolis@noaa.gov