### Historical Climatology: North Central Wisconsin







Wisconsin Climatic Division 2 Northwest

Included counties: Ashland, Iron, Vilas, Price, Oneida, Taylor, Lincoln, Clark, Marathon

### Geography

Wisconsin Climatic Division 2 is bordered by the Upper Peninsula of Michigan to the north and extends into the central portion of the state to include Rhinelander and Woodruff. The terrain is covered by forests and gentle hills.

#### **Overview**

The northern sections of Wisconsin Climatic Division 2 include the western reach of the Lake Superior "snowbelt" which extends northeastward along the center ridge of Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula. This ridge has a strong influence on the development of the heavy snow squalls observed during the winter months. The lake effect also increases cloudiness during the fall and winter and modifies temperatures, keeping them cooler during the late spring and early summer, and warmer during the late fall and early winter. Farther inland, this division experiences a largely continental climate, driven by the movement of high and low pressure systems across the continent. As a result, day-to-day temperature variations are larger in the southern sections farther away from the Great Lakes.

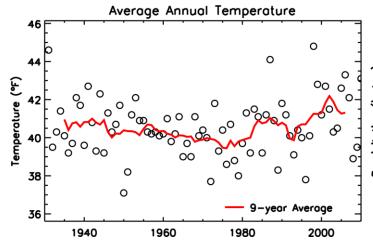
Mean Annual Temperature, 1981-2010	41.0°F	5.0°C
Mean Annual Total Precipitation, 1981-2010	32.3 in	82.0 cm

# Changes in Mean Temperature (°F) from 1951-1980 to 1981-2010

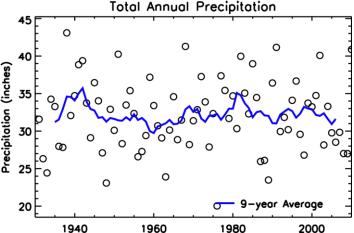
Annual	1.0
Winter, December-February	2.5
Spring, March-May	1.1
Summer, June-August	0.3
Fall, September-November	0.0

# Change in Mean Total Precipitation (%) from 1951-1980 to 1981-2010

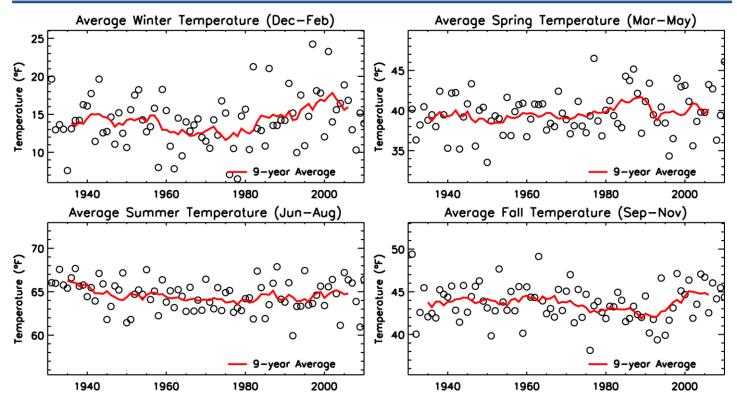
Annual	1.3
Winter, December-February	5.2
Spring, March-May	-2.1
Summer, June-August	-7.7
Fall, September-November	16.7



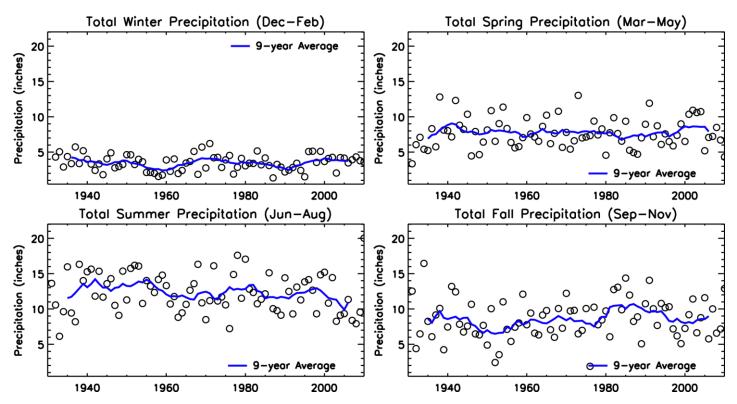
Mean annual temperatures from 1931 to 2011. An open circle represents the average temperature of a single year. The solid line represents the 9-year running mean.



Annual precipitation totals from 1931 to 2011. An open circle represents the total precipitation for a single year. The solid line represents the 9-year running mean.



Mean seasonal temperatures from 1931 to 2011. An open circle represents the average seasonal temperature of a single year. The solid line is the 9-year running mean. Winter values include data from the December of the previous year.



Total seasonal precipitation from 1931 to 2011. An open circle represents the total seasonal precipitation for a single year. The solid line represents the 9-year running mean of the total seasonal precipitation. Winter values include data from the December of the previous year.