

April 2, 2014

It was the coldest March in 54 years up until last week. Not sure where the month finished out, but we did hit 68 degrees on Monday followed by 10s-20s windchills the following Tuesday morning.

Coldest December-March Period in Chicago History

CHICAGO:

THE IMPRESSIVE COLD THIS PAST WINTER CONTINUED DURING MARCH...WITH A MONTHLY AVERAGE TEMPERATURE OF ONLY 31.7 DEGREES FOR THE MONTH. THIS RANKS AS THE 19TH COLDEST MARCH ON RECORD IN CHICAGO. HOWEVER...OF EVEN MORE INTEREST IS THE FACT THAT WITH THE ABNORMALLY COLD MARCH ACROSS THE AREA...THIS MADE THE AVERAGE TEMPERATURE FOR THE DECEMBER THROUGH MARCH PERIOD IN CHICAGO 22.0 DEGREES...WHICH IS THE COLDEST SUCH PERIOD ON RECORD FOR CHICAGO DATING BACK TO 1872!

HERE IS A LIST OF THIS YEARS DECEMBER THROUGH MARCH AVERAGE TEMPERATURE RELATED TO THE OTHER COLDEST SUCH PERIODS ON RECORD IN CHICAGO:

| RANK | AVERAGE DEC-MAR TEMP | YEAR |
|------|-------------------------|---------|
| 1. | 22.0 | 2013-14 |
| 2. | 22.3 | 1903-04 |
| 3. | 22.5 | 1977-78 |
| | 22.5 | 1892-93 |
| 5. | 22.7 | 1978-79 |

http://www.crh.noaa.gov/news/display_cmsstory.php?wfo=lot&storyid=101458&source=0