

The 2017-2018 Winter Season: Just How Cold?

By Hailey Saylor



People in the Midwestern United States are typically used to cold winters — Especially in the northern regions, like Ohio, Wisconsin, Indiana, and Michigan. Occasionally, we get lucky and only see a little snowfall. But the forecast for this year's winter looks like the polar opposite.

If the mild temperatures this October had you thinking we would have a similarly cool winter, think again. Meteorologists predict that the upcoming winter will hit parts of U.S. hard. The Midwest is projected to see an extra snowfall above average this season. The Plains might experience bone-chilling subzero temps reaching negative 30 degrees Fahrenheit. NYC and Boston could see more than 6-inches of snowfall this year that wasn't there last year. The *Farmer's Almanac* saw similar prediction in the New England area.

Citizens around the Great Lakes should also expect frigid temperatures in the upcoming months. Long-range forecaster Paul Pastelok says those regions are also going to see subzero conditions. He also states that the Dakotas won't see much snowfall this year, but the Rockies definitely will. These colder readings in the West are supposedly due to something called a La Niña, a phenomenon that occurs in the ocean and atmosphere associated with bringing Arctic temperatures to the Pacific.

If you were hoping for a winter season more like the warmer South, you're out of luck this year. Might as well bundle up and prepare yourself with a new shovel while the outside conditions are bearable!