

Coldest Cities in the U.S.

Baby it's cold outside, but it could be a lot worse. The Daily Beast finds the 25 cities that will be turning the heat on full blast this winter—the coldest cities in America. There's a cold spell sweeping through the southern states bringing an early freeze that doesn't bode well for the rest of the winter. The wind chill level in Asheville, North Carolina on Wednesday the last week in December was 1 degree, while farmers in Florida have had to irrigate their crops with warm water to avoid damage, with some forsaking sleep to keep an eye on the near-freezing temperatures. Global warming-and-cooling concerns aside, the southern states are not typically hotbeds of frostbite. For that, we turn to the Northeast and Midwest plain states. To find out which cities are America's coldest during the winter months, *The Daily Beast* looked at the top 75 most populous cities in the 15 historically coldest states. For these 75 cities we analyzed temperature readings from the National Climatic Data Center, retrieved via the Farmer's Almanac. The coldest cities were determined by weighting the average temperature from December 2009 to March 2010 at two-thirds, and giving one-third to the cities with the coldest single days during the winter. Consider it an extra credit, so to speak, for cities where residents have had to suffer through the coldest of the cold. And southern states, count your blessings—as this too should pass. For the rest of us, winter is just rearing its head, so bundle up.

#1 Fairbanks, Alaska
Average winter temperature 2009: -.6 degrees
Coldest day: -41.1 degrees, January 12
Warmest day: 48.2 degrees, March 29
Days with snow: 38%



#2, Grand Forks, North Dakota
Average winter temperature 2009: 14.8 degrees
Coldest day: -32.8 degrees, January 2
Warmest day: 66.2 degrees, March 30
Days with snow: 47%

#3, Bismarck, North Dakota
 #4, Fargo, North Dakota
 #5, Watertown, South Dakota
 #6, Aberdeen, South Dakota
 #7, Laramie, Wyoming
 #8, Sioux Falls, South Dakota



#9, Duluth, Minnesota
 #10, Butte-Silver Bow, Montana
 #11, Rochester, Minnesota
 #12, Sioux City, Iowa
 #13, Bozeman, Montana
 #14, Wasilla, Alaska



#15, Newport, Vermont
Average winter temperature 2009: 25 degrees
Coldest day: -19.5 degrees, January 10
Warmest day: 55.4 degrees, March 19