

The Pennsylvania Observer

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January 2008 - Pennsylvania Weather Recap

January began with a weak disturbance bringing snow flurries to most of the state and temperatures above seasonal average in nearly all locations. After this weak event, conditions were generally dry and cold with a few lake effect snow showers in the western regions. The first weekend in January was welcomed with rain showers and temperatures well above normal in the 40s and 50s.

The second week in January felt more like a mild summer day with temperatures flirting with the 70°F degree mark to start the week. On Tuesday, January 8th State College reported a record high temperature of 68°F and Pittsburgh was a notch above that at 69°F. The statewide highs were consistently in the 60's on this abnormal winter day. The next system brought a bout of rain showers that cooled temperatures off to the upper 40's and lower 50's by the week's end.

Temperatures returned to the 30's the third week of January and the occasional snow flurry or rain shower came and went through the week. The weather turned cold and dry beginning January 20th. A trace of snow flurries and very little rain was all the moisture felt during this week with dew point temperatures reaching below zero on several occasions.

Relief was felt the final week of this month with temperatures rebounding to seasonal and above seasonal levels. The evening hours of January 28th brought freezing rain to regions in Pennsylvania. Rainfall totals ranged from .02 inches in Philadelphia to 0.16 inches in Pittsburgh and Scranton once the system exited the state.

On January 30th, a frontal passage brought strong winds to the state causing gusts near 50mph in numerous locations. University Park airport reported 50mph gusts and Philadelphia reported 51mph gusts. Even more impressive was at Walker Building on the Penn State campus where a gust of 69mph was reported at 7:40am Wednesday morning. The month ended with temperatures near seasonal average and mostly sunny skies.

Here are the weather extremes across Pennsylvania (**observations taken at 8AM EDT**) during November 2007 from the NWS Cooperative & ASOS Networks. The extremes occurred in the 24-hour period prior to the date listed.

Parameter	Location	Value	Date (8 AM EDT)	County
Highest Temperature	Connellsville	72°F	January 9 th	Fayette
Lowest Temperature	Kane	-5°F	January 4 th	McKean
Greatest Cumulative Liquid Precipitation	Laughlintown	3.42"	-	Westmoreland
Greatest Cumulative Snowfall	Chalkhill	9.2"	-	Fayette