

# The Pennsylvania Observer

January 31, 2014



## January 2014 - Pennsylvania Weather Recap

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Overall January was a cold month throughout Pennsylvania, with a few mild days mixed in. The average temperature was between 4 and 8 degrees below the 1981-2010 mean for January, with the larger departures over western Pennsylvania. While there were a few warm-ups at times, there were also some arctic air outbreaks. Several snow events took place in the region with some being minor and a couple being more significant.

On January 2nd-3rd, a low pressure system moved northeast from Kentucky to off the coast of New England. The storm brought snow to all of the region, with the heavier amounts over eastern areas. Amounts up to 7.5" were recorded in Luzerne, Pike, and Wayne counties.

On the 5th-6th, an area of low pressure moved from Arkansas to the St. Lawrence River Valley bringing rain and flooding the region with mild air. Most of the state reached into the 40's with eastern areas reaching the 50's. The warm air did not last long as a powerful cold front swept through on the 6th, causing temperatures to plummet. The 6th featured a large difference between the maximum and minimum temperature also known as the diurnal range. Scranton, PA had a diurnal range of 48 degrees, which is the 2nd highest ever recorded.

On January 7th, low temperatures fell below zero in the central and western parts of the state with single digits in eastern PA. Several areas throughout the Commonwealth set low temperature records. Highs on the 7th struggled into the single digits over northwest areas and teens throughout the rest of the region. On the 8th, lows were in the single digits and highs were in the 20's throughout the region.

A warm front associated with a low pressure system over the western Great Lakes moved through on January 11th. Temperatures again soared into the 50's throughout the Commonwealth. By the 12th, a cold front moved through, but temperatures remained mild compared to average. On the 14th, the state experienced rainfall amounts between 0.25" and 0.50" courtesy of a low pressure area that moved northeast from western North Carolina. With the passage of another cold front on the 15th, temperatures returned to near average for the 16th through 18th.

On the 21st-22nd, a storm moved from Virginia into the New Jersey coastal waters giving Southeast areas a significant snowfall. Up to 14.8" of snow fell in Delaware County with 14.0" being tallied in Philadelphia County. Low temperatures dropped below zero in northern and western parts of the state on the 22nd, with southeastern areas dropping into the single digits. High temperatures struggled into the teens throughout the region.

Temperatures remained rather chilly through much of the remainder of the month, with some scattered snow showers at times. January will definitely be remembered for the frigid temperatures

experienced at the beginning and end of the month and for heavy snow around Philadelphia which measured its second snowiest January of record.

Here are the weather extremes across Pennsylvania (**observations taken at 8AM EDT**) during January 2014 from the NWS Cooperative & ASOS Networks of which our office receives routine observations. The extremes occurred in the 24-hour period prior to the date listed.

Parameter	Location	Value	Date (8 AM EDT)	County
Highest Temperature	Uniontown 1 Mi. NE	<b>66°F</b>	January 12 <sup>th</sup>	Fayette
Lowest Temperature	Oswayo 1 Mi. ENE	<b>-23°F</b>	January 29 <sup>th</sup>	Potter
Greatest Cumulative Liquid Precipitation	Stroudsburg	<b>4.84"</b>	January 1 <sup>st</sup> -January 31 <sup>st</sup>	York
Least Cumulative Liquid Precipitation	Rainsburg 9.0 Mi. SSE	<b>0.73"</b>	January 1 <sup>st</sup> -January 31 <sup>st</sup>	Bedford
Greatest Cumulative Snowfall	Laurel Summit	<b>42.3"</b>	January 1 <sup>st</sup> -January 31 <sup>st</sup>	Somerset

### **Links to Pennsylvania Weather Stories during January, 2014**

**Salt supply dwindling for some cities**

<http://www.wtae.com/news/local/pittsburghs-salt-supply-dwindling/-/9681086/24119944//13qrssjz/-/index.html?absolute=true>

**Creek goes over its banks with ice jams**

[http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2014/01/flood\\_warning\\_issued\\_for\\_the\\_s.html](http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2014/01/flood_warning_issued_for_the_s.html)

**Record power usage set (winter)**

[http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2014/01/winter\\_peak\\_electric\\_use\\_set\\_t.html](http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2014/01/winter_peak_electric_use_set_t.html)

**Baby Born on Sled in Philadelphia**

<http://www.weather.com/news/philadelphia-baby-born-sled-winter-storm-janus-20140123>