

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE BISMARCK AREA, NORTH DAKOTA

LOCATION: Bismarck, the capital of North Dakota, is located in the south-central part of that state. The city is situated on the east bank of the Missouri River, with its sister city of Mandan across the river on the west bank. Elevations are some 1,700 feet above sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:01	10:17	11:53	13:34	15:01	15:48	15:28	14:14	12:37	10:57	9:27	8:38
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:45	5:47	6:48	7:54	9:01	9:57	11:19	9:59	8:01	6:20	4:24	4:05
AREA OF BLUE SKY	41%	41%	39%	41%	42%	45%	57%	56%	52%	47%	39%	39%
LOW FOR MONTH	-28°	-22°	-10°	14°	27°	39°	45°	41°	28°	17°	0°	-20°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	-2°	2°	15°	32°	42°	52°	57°	55°	45°	33°	18°	5°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	19°	23°	36°	55°	67°	76°	83°	82°	71°	58°	39°	26°
HIGH FOR MONTH	43°	48°	61°	78°	87°	92°	98°	98°	92°	81°	63°	49°
FROSTY MORNINGS	100%	100%	93%	59%	13%	0%	0%	0%	10%	51%	94%	100%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	10%	26%	27%	6%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	67%	67%	59%	45%	43%	47%	42%	40%	43%	46%	60%	68%
DRY DAYS	76%	75%	76%	73%	68%	61%	71%	73%	76%	81%	80%	76%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	96%	96%	94%	88%	84%	81%	84%	88%	90%	93%	95%	96%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.07	0.08	0.14	0.25	0.36	0.54	0.35	0.29	0.22	0.15	0.10	0.09
LIKELY SNOWFALL	6.5"	6.0"	7.9"	3.4"	0.8"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.2"	1.5"	5.5"	6.5"
SNOWY DAYS	24%	25%	22%	9%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	18%	24%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	0%	0%	3%	13%	29%	30%	25%	9%	2%	0%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	4%	5%	4%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	5%	4%

COMMENTS: Since the area lies virtually in the center of the North American continent, it is about as far away from the moderating influence of an ocean as you can get. Consequently, the range of temperatures from day to night and from winter to summer is considerable. You can expect to see temperatures more than thirty below zero in a typical winter, and temperatures well over a hundred in a typical summer. The sun shines on some 60% of the year's daylight hours, ranging from a low of 46% in November to a high of 73% in July. Precipitation is light this far from any major source of moisture, with almost all of it coming during the warmer months--and much of that from thundershowers. Expect summer afternoons to be sunny, moderately low in humidity, and hot. Summer nights are cool. Winter afternoons will be moderately sunny, humid, and very cold. Two out of three winter afternoons will not warm above freezing. Winter nights are frigid, with almost half of them dropping below zero. Snowfalls are light, and the sun quickly evaporates what the winds do not blow into sheltered areas.