

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE PORTSMOUTH AREA, NEW HAMPSHIRE

LOCATION: Portsmouth is located in extreme eastern New Hampshire, hard against both the state border with Maine and the Atlantic Ocean. The city is situated on the estuary of the Piscataqua River, where islands and capes combine to produce a well-protected natural harbor. Elevations are everywhere close to sea level. Settled in 1630, Portsmouth is one of the oldest English settlements in the United States.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:24	10:30	11:54	13:23	14:39	15:19	15:02	13:58	12:33	11:05	9:47	9:05
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:59	5:57	6:34	7:13	8:05	9:02	9:27	8:36	7:17	6:03	4:22	4:26
AREA OF BLUE SKY	43%	45%	44%	42%	41%	44%	46%	48%	48%	46%	39%	41%
LOW FOR MONTH	-3°	0°	9°	25°	34°	44°	51°	48°	37°	26°	18°	3°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	17°	19°	27°	37°	47°	56°	62°	60°	52°	42°	34°	22°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	32°	34°	42°	54°	65°	74°	80°	78°	70°	60°	49°	36°
HIGH FOR MONTH	49°	50°	60°	74°	86°	92°	94°	92°	87°	77°	67°	53°
FROSTY MORNINGS	93%	92%	73%	24%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%	47%	88%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	5%	8%	5%	2%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	55%	54%	53%	53%	55%	57%	57%	59%	58%	57%	60%	59%
NEARBY WATERS	39°	38°	38°	41°	48°	55°	60°	64°	59°	55°	50°	44°
DRY DAYS	65%	66%	64%	61%	63%	65%	68%	68%	71%	71%	62%	62%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	79%	80%	79%	77%	78%	79%	80%	82%	82%	82%	75%	78%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.58	0.59	0.57	0.62	0.57	0.54	0.54	0.45	0.57	0.58	0.80	0.65
LIKELY SNOWFALL	17.7"	16.1"	11.5"	2.7"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.1"	3.3"	14.9"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	25%	24%	18%	6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	6%	24%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	0%	0%	1%	3%	7%	13%	18%	12%	6%	2%	1%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	11%	13%	13%	15%	18%	21%	23%	23%	22%	20%	16%	13%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 56% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 45% in November, to a high of 63% in July. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to -4° on some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 96° on some sunny and windless summer afternoon. Sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be pretty much the same as actual ones. The area has the standard mid-latitude four-season year, with long cold winters and short warm summers. Precipitation is remarkably evenly distributed throughout the year. The ground is generally snow-covered from December through early April. During this winter season, two out of five afternoons fail to warm to above freezing. Summers are warm, rather than hot. In typical New England fashion, the weather is changeable throughout the year.