

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE ROCHESTER AREA, NEW YORK

LOCATION: Rochester is located on the shores of Lake Ontario in northwestern New York. The city is situated on the Genessee River, a few miles upstream from its mouth on the lake. Elevations are close to 500 feet above sea level downtown, but the lake is some 250 feet lower.

| | 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 | 15:20 | 15:03 | 13:58 | 12:33 | 11:05 | 9:47 | 9:04 |
| HOURS OF SUNSHINE | 3:10 | 4:16 | 5:21 | 7:12 | 8:45 | 10:10 | 10:25 | 9:11 | 7:28 | 5:26 | 3:02 | 2:31 |
| AREA OF BLUE SKY | 24% | 27% | 34% | 39% | 41% | 48% | 48% | 46% | 40% | 35% | 19% | 14% |
| LOW FOR MONTH | -2° | -2° | 6° | 22° | 32° | 42° | 49° | 46° | 37° | 28° | 18° | 3° |
| SUNRISE TEMPERATURE | 18° | 17° | 25° | 36° | 47° | 56° | 61° | 60° | 53° | 43° | 33° | 23° |
| AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE | 32° | 32° | 40° | 54° | 66° | 76° | 81° | 79° | 72° | 60° | 46° | 35° |
| HIGH FOR MONTH | 53° | 53° | 68° | 79° | 86° | 91° | 93° | 91° | 88° | 80° | 69° | 57° |
| FROSTY MORNINGS | 91% | 92% | 76% | 34% | 3% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 11% | 50% | 81% |
| AFTERNOONS OVER 90° | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 4% | 11% | 6% | 3% | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| AFTERNOON HUMIDITY | 70% | 68% | 63% | 56% | 54% | 54% | 53% | 56% | 60% | 60% | 69% | 73% |
| NEARBY WATERS | 37° | 34° | 34° | 37° | 42° | 51° | 65° | 69° | 65° | 56° | 47° | 44° |
| DRY DAYS | 41% | 41% | 49% | 56% | 61% | 64% | 66% | 68% | 64% | 60% | 50% | 43% |
| REASONABLY DRY DAYS | 80% | 79% | 79% | 77% | 80% | 81% | 82% | 81% | 80% | 81% | 77% | 79% |
| 5-DAY PRECIPITATION | 0.41 | 0.43 | 0.43 | 0.43 | 0.47 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.47 | 0.45 | 0.45 | 0.44 | 0.42 |
| LIKELY SNOWFALL | 21.2" | 20.7" | 13.5" | 3.8" | 0.3" | 0.0" | 0.0" | 0.0" | 0.0" | 0.2" | 6.6" | 18.0" |
| SNOWY DAYS | 59% | 59% | 40% | 17% | 2% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 5% | 24% | 52% |
| THUNDER DAYS | 0% | 1% | 3% | 7% | 11% | 17% | 21% | 17% | 10% | 3% | 1% | 1% |
| FOGGY DAYS | 3% | 2% | 5% | 4% | 4% | 4% | 2% | 2% | 4% | 5% | 2% | 3% |

COMMENTS: The area has a lakeside variation of the standard mid-latitude four-season year. The moderating effect of the lake and the winds that blow across it keep summer and daytime temperatures lower and winter and nighttime temperatures higher than places farther inland. The "lake effect" also adds to the winter snowfall, especially at those places closest to the shoreline. The lake rarely freezes over, even in the coldest winters. The sun shines on a bit over half of the year's daylight hours, with a range from some 28% in December to around 70% in July. Temperatures in a typical year will span a hundred degrees, from below zero during some Arctic outbreak in winter to the middle 90's on some sunny and windless summer afternoon. Most summer afternoons will be warm rather than hot, and summer nights are typically mild to cool. Winter afternoons are usually cloudy, humid, and cold--as likely to remain below freezing as to rise above it. Winter snowfalls vary tremendously from one year to the next, with the ground usually snow-covered most of the winter.