

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE ALLENTOWN - BETHLEHEM METROPOLITAN AREA, PENNSYLVANIA

LOCATION: The Allentown - Bethlehem metropolitan area is located in east-central Pennsylvania. The cities and their outlying satellite communities are situated along the industrialized Lehigh River, and the metropolitan area extends as far as Easton, where that river joins the larger Delaware. The area is quite hilly, even mountainous, but elevations along the valley are between 300 and 400 feet above sea level. South Mountain is up to a thousand feet higher than the valley. The area was heavily settled by German immigrants in the 1700's—better known as the Pennsylvania “Dutch”. This German heritage is still quite strong in the surrounding towns of the valley and nearby mountains.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:38	10:38	11:55	13:16	14:26	15:02	14:47	13:48	12:31	11:10	9:59	9:20
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:24	5:35	6:30	6:57	7:51	8:57	9:08	8:26	7:12	6:14	4:27	4:03
AREA OF BLUE SKY	33%	36%	37%	36%	36%	39%	42%	44%	44%	45%	35%	34%
LOW FOR MONTH	3°	5°	15°	25°	39°	49°	55°	52°	43°	32°	22°	8°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	22°	23°	30°	39°	50°	59°	64°	62°	55°	44°	35°	25°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	37°	39°	49°	62°	72°	81°	85°	83°	76°	66°	52°	40°
HIGH FOR MONTH	55°	58°	68°	78°	85°	90°	95°	94°	89°	80°	67°	56°
FROSTY MORNINGS	91%	89%	67%	22%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	13%	48%	84%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	11%	21%	12%	4%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	62%	57%	52%	48%	51%	53%	52%	55%	57%	55%	60%	64%
DRY DAYS	68%	67%	67%	64%	65%	66%	69%	69%	73%	76%	68%	67%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	77%	77%	74%	73%	73%	77%	76%	77%	82%	82%	78%	79%
DRY HOURS	85%	84%	85%	86%	88%	92%	93%	93%	91%	91%	87%	85%
LIKELY SNOWFALL	8.1"	8.6"	5.5"	0.9"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	1.3"	5.8"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	17%	17%	10%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	12%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	1%	1%	3%	7%	13%	19%	21%	18%	10%	3%	2%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	11%	11%	10%	6%	8%	6%	6%	8%	12%	11%	10%	11%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 54% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 43% in December, to a high of 62% in July. The year's lowest temperature should be close to 1°, and the highest should be near 97°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be pretty much the same as actual ones. A bit under a third of the year's days will be clear and sunny, with October getting the most (38%) such days. During the winter months, two afternoons out of three will warm to above the freezing point—although often not by much. Snowfalls are usually moderate, and the ground is not snow-covered for most of the winter—especially in the cities. Year-to-year variation in snowfall is substantial. Freezing-rain is a common winter problem.