

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE NORFOLK METROPOLITAN AREA, VIRGINIA

LOCATION: The Norfolk metropolitan area is located in extreme southeastern Virginia. Situated at the southern end of Chesapeake Bay and on the estuary of the James River, the area includes the cities of Norfolk, Portsmouth, Newport News, and Hampton—all surrounding the magnificent anchorage of Hampton Roads. Virginia Beach, with its Atlantic exposure, is not included in this summary. Elevations are everywhere close to sea level, and much of the land is low-lying and marshy. The Great Dismal Swamp starts at the southern outskirts of Portsmouth and Norfolk.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:57	10:49	11:57	13:07	14:08	14:39	14:26	13:35	12:28	11:17	10:15	9:42
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	5:05	6:08	7:10	8:16	9:07	9:43	9:13	8:46	7:45	6:58	6:00	5:00
AREA OF BLUE SKY	40%	42%	43%	47%	45%	46%	45%	46%	48%	51%	49%	43%
LOW FOR MONTH	18°	19°	26°	35°	45°	56°	62°	62°	53°	40°	29°	21°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	34°	34°	40°	48°	58°	66°	71°	70°	65°	54°	44°	36°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	49°	51°	58°	67°	76°	83°	87°	85°	80°	70°	60°	52°
HIGH FOR MONTH	69°	71°	78°	86°	90°	95°	96°	95°	91°	84°	77°	70°
FROSTY MORNINGS	46%	43%	17%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	8%	34%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	1%	4%	21%	34%	25%	8%	1%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	59%	56%	53%	50%	56%	57%	60%	63%	62%	60%	60%	59%
NEARBY WATERS	45°	43°	47°	52°	63°	73°	77°	78°	75°	67°	57°	52°
DRY DAYS	65%	62%	65%	67%	66%	66%	60%	63%	73%	75%	73%	69%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	79%	77%	78%	81%	80%	81%	76%	78%	84%	84%	82%	81%
DRY HOURS	86%	87%	87%	91%	92%	94%	94%	93%	93%	92%	91%	89%
LIKELY SNOWFALL	2.6"	2.8"	1.4"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.1"	1.4"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	5%	5%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	1%	4%	6%	10%	16%	23%	29%	23%	10%	3%	1%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	6%	7%	3%	3%	3%	3%	1%	3%	3%	6%	7%	6%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 61% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 51% in January, to a high of 66% in June. The year's lowest temperature should be close to 14°, and the highest should be near 97°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be pretty much the same as actual ones for most of the year, but will be up to 4° warmer than actual ones during the summer months. Clear days occur on a third of the year's days, peaking in October (42%), and dropping to a minimum during the summer (afternoon thunderstorms). Summer afternoons are hot and humid, while winter afternoons are mild to chilly and damp. Snowfalls are extremely variable from year to year, and snow rarely remains on the ground for long.