

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
IN COOPERATION WITH THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
CLIMATOGRAPHY OF THE UNITED STATES NO. 20 - 36

LATITUDE 40°30'
LONGITUDE 78°01'
ELEV. (GROUND) 670 feet

CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY

STATION HUNTINGDON, PENNSYLVANIA

MEANS AND EXTREMES FOR PERIOD 1941-70

Month	Temperature (°F)								Mean degree days	Precipitation Totals (Inches)							Mean number of days					Month
	Means			Extremes						Mean	Greatest daily	Year	Snow, Sleet				Precip. .10 inch or more	Temperatures				
	Daily maximum	Daily minimum	Monthly	Record highest	Year	Record lowest	Year	Mean					Maximum monthly	Year	Greatest daily	Year		90° and above	32° and below	32° and below	0° and below	
	(29)	(29)	(29)	(29)	(29)	(29)	(29)	(29)					(29)	(29)	(29)	(29)		(29)	(29)	(29)	(29)	
Jan	38.3	18.8	28.6	79	1950	-18	1942	1147	2.42	1.24	1967	8.6	29.5	1964	12.5	1966	6	0	8	28	2	Jan
Feb	39.7	18.9	29.3	77	1954	-15	1961	1005	2.10	1.55	1960	7.3	22.5	1961	14.0	1961	5	0	6	26	1	Feb
Mar	49.7	25.9	37.8	85	1945	-8	1960	848	3.52	2.47	1965	8.4	34.0	1942	26.0	1942	7	0	2	24	*	Mar
Apr	63.0	36.6	49.8	93	1942	11	1965	460	3.31	1.46	1948	0.5	5.5	1959	5.5	1959	7	*	0	10	0	Apr
May	73.9	45.5	59.7	96	1962	21	1947	214	3.94	2.41	1956	*	0.5	1963			9	2	0	3	0	May
Jun	82.3	54.7	68.5	100	1966+	34	1966+	44	3.62	2.45	1948						7	6	0	0	0	Jun
Jul	85.9	58.7	72.3	105	1966	40	1966+	6	4.07	2.28	1949						7	8	0	0	0	Jul
Aug	84.0	57.1	70.5	102	1955	39	1968+	16	3.60	2.45	1965						5	6	0	0	0	Aug
Sep	77.8	49.9	63.9	102	1953	24	1957	114	2.83	2.73	1945						5	2	0	1	0	Sep
Oct	66.9	39.0	53.0	97	1953	13	1969	397	2.68	3.92	1954				0.2	1952	5	*	0	9	0	Oct
Nov	52.7	30.3	41.5	79	1949	8	1951	702	3.19	3.15	1950	1.8	11.5	1968	9.0	1953	6	0	*	18	0	Nov
Dec	40.0	21.3	30.7	73	1956	-22	1960	1059	2.52	1.90	1957	6.3	20.0	1951	9.0	1951	6	0	7	27	1	Dec
Year	62.9	38.1	50.5	105	July 1966	-22	Dec. 1960	6012	37.80	3.92	Oct. 1954	32.9	34.0	Mar. 1942	26.0	Mar. 1942	76	24	23	146	4	Year

(a) Average length of record, years.

+ Also on earlier dates, months, or years.

T Trace, an amount too small to measure.

* Less than one half.

** Base 65°F

CLIMATE OF HUNTINGDON, PENNSYLVANIA

Huntingdon, the county seat of Huntingdon County, is located in a valley within the Ridge and Valley Region of South Central Pennsylvania. The Juniata River flows eastward through the borough. Ridges rise to 1000 msl in all directions adjacent to the town. Tussey Mountain some 8 miles northwest, Stone Mountain about 8 miles northeast, and Jacks Mountain 8 miles southeast all peak at around 2000 feet msl. The Raystown branch of the Juniata River, about 3 miles below Huntingdon, has been developed for recreational and power purposes.

The climate is Humid Continental. Most weather systems that effect the area develop in the Midwest, are caught up in the prevailing Westerlies, and are steered eastward. The primary source of moisture is the Gulf of Mexico with a secondary contribution by the Atlantic Ocean. Cold Canadian air masses are somewhat modified by the time they reach the Appalachians due to the long overland trajectory. The mountain ranges to the west of Huntingdon tend to dry an approaching air mass (orographic uplift) so that less moisture is available by the time the system reaches this area. The average annual precipitation of approximately 38 inches, somewhat less than locales along the western slopes of the Alleghenies, reflects this effect.

Summers are warm. Daytime highs usually run in the mid-80s with nighttime lows in the mid-50s. Extended periods of hot humid weather occur occasionally, and on the average 20 days during June-August temperatures reach 90 degrees or higher. Seldom does the mercury drop below 40 degrees during these three months. The record high of 105 degrees was observed on August 4, 1930 and again July 4, 1966. Cloud cover is at a minimum during the summer as better than 60% of available sunshine is received while nights are generally clear. Prevailing winds are from the southwest averaging 8 to 10 mph. Summer season rainfall is adequate, falling for the most part in the form of thundershowers which are observed on an average of 22 days.

The numerous ridges and narrow valleys throughout this area contribute to persistent orographic instability cloudiness during the winter season when cold air masses continually advect through the area. Prevailing winds are westerly averaging 12 mph. Daytime highs average in the upper 30s while nighttime lows generally dip into the upper teens. Summer-like temperatures have been observed in the middle of winter, but such readings are quite rare. The highest winter season reading was 79 degrees on January 26, 1950. Sub-zero temperatures are observed on an average of four days each winter, the lowest being -29 degrees set on January 14, 1912.

The first snowfall of any consequence usually occurs in late November or early December. Most snowstorms seldom exceed 10

inches of new snow; however, on March 29, 1942 a record 26.0 inches fell. Usually snow cover does not persist for any great length of time except on north or east-facing slopes which are shaded from the low winter sun. An inch or more of snow is observed on an average of 37 days and six inches or more on 9 days annually. The longest period of snow cover an inch or more was 68 days from December 12, 1944 to February 16, 1945. Very little snow is observed after the end of March.

Spring and fall are of course the transition periods. Prevailing winds flow from the west averaging 10 mph. By late April summer-like 70-degree readings are observed with increasing frequency, and after the warm summer, these same 70-degree readings are noted well into October. Extended periods of dry weather are rare, most often occurring in the fall. The longest dry period was 31 days, the entire month of October 1963. These warm dry fall days with abundant sunshine and the autumnal change of colors highlight the surrounding countryside and represent one of the most pleasant times of the year.

The average growing season is 148 days, although it has varied from 110 days in 1932 to 175 days in 1968. The average date of the last spring frost is May 10th with the latest observed on June 8, 1932. The average date of the first fall frost is October 5, with the earliest on September 14, 1964.

The greatest monthly rainfall was 10.52 inches in May 1933, and the maximum 24-hour rainfall was 3.92 inches on October 16, 1954. A statistical analysis indicates that a 5-inch 24-hour rain can be expected on an average of once every 25 years. Thunderstorms, while predominantly a warm-season phenomena, have been observed at one time or another each month of the year. On the average 10 days with thunder are observed in the spring, 6 in the fall, and one during the winter, which when combined with the summer statistics gives an annual average of 39 thunderstorm days.

Hurricane winds do not effect the area; however, these tropical storms have resulted in locally heavy rains even this far inland. Some damages due to wind and hail associated with a severe thunderstorm are usually recorded somewhere in Huntingdon County each year. Since 1854 when records were first kept on tornadoes, none have been noted in Huntingdon County. This does not mean a tornado will never hit here for a few such storms have been noted in adjacent counties, but it does indicate the possibility of a tornado hitting in this area is fairly remote.

Paul W. Dailey, Jr., NOAA Climatologist
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, Pa. 16802, March 1971

Total Precipitation (Inches) Huntington, Pennsylvania

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l
1941	2.60	0.25	1.76	2.29	2.69	5.39	5.25	4.08	2.64	1.97	2.72	3.62	35.26	1941	27.8	27.0	33.2	55.4	61.4	69.0	72.9	69.0	65.9	56.4	43.6	35.4	51.4
1942	1.71	2.10	4.66	1.76	7.05	4.49	2.55	3.52	4.71	3.43	1.98	5.40	43.36	1942	29.0	27.9	40.3	54.0	63.4	69.6	73.5	70.3	64.6	54.8	40.5	27.3	51.2
1943	2.71	1.37	2.06	4.05	5.70	2.06	6.12	1.85	2.24	3.68	2.24	0.99	34.26	1943	28.8	29.3	36.2	47.4	67.8	71.4	73.2	72.6	64.0	51.2	38.8	30.0	49.8
1944	1.63	1.31	4.79	3.98	4.38	2.12	2.41	2.54	2.37	3.60	1.95	3.15	34.24	1944	32.0	31.7	36.2	47.4	67.8	71.4	73.2	72.6	64.0	51.2	38.8	30.0	49.8
1945	2.00	1.87	6.00	4.48	4.28	4.15	2.66	5.29	8.10	2.07	6.60	2.29	49.79	1945	22.5	30.8	49.2	53.7	58.2	67.7	72.3	70.5	66.8	51.6	41.4	27.0	51.0
1946	1.38	1.95	4.23	0.96	7.71	8.26	3.36	4.85	4.54	4.49	1.15	1.90	44.78	1946	29.8	30.6	45.8	48.8	59.7	66.6	72.2	66.7	65.1	56.8	45.2	34.3	51.8
1947	3.02	0.90	1.71	2.91	3.86	2.88	5.48	8.77	0.24	0.80	5.41	0.98	38.96	1947	32.5	34.4	37.0	48.7	59.5	68.9	72.6	69.7	63.1	48.2	33.1	50.9	
1948	2.19	1.51	2.82	6.84	3.59	6.56	3.76	1.80	0.63	2.81	5.82	4.93	40.22	1948	35.4	26.2	33.7	51.9	60.2	67.6	69.9	74.8	63.6	59.0	39.6	31.3	51.3
1949	3.37	2.35	0.46	3.06	2.59	1.59	7.84	3.10	2.03	2.81	1.49	3.72	43.26	1949	20.5	27.1	41.4	47.6	59.7	68.2	72.2	70.4	63.6	50.7	32.9	50.2	
1950	3.91	2.76	3.39	2.13	3.77	3.30	4.16	2.90	3.56	4.35	6.94	3.48	44.85	1950	36.3	34.7	37.6	46.1	62.5	70.6	75.1	71.3	60.4	57.2	41.8	32.8	
1951	3.35	3.12	4.53	3.00	1.68	6.24	4.12	1.22	1.99	1.66	3.76	4.29	38.96	1951	32.0	33.7	39.4	48.7	59.5	68.9	72.6	69.7	63.1	54.7	37.1	50.9	
1952	3.65	1.63	4.60	4.84	5.41	1.14	4.14	2.86	3.24	1.18	5.41	2.12	40.22	1952	32.5	34.4	37.0	48.7	59.5	68.9	72.6	69.7	63.1	48.2	33.5	51.5	
1953	4.23	1.59	4.82	3.63	5.49	2.57	3.11	2.80	1.41	0.33	2.66	1.83	34.47	1953	33.8	35.1	39.8	48.6	63.2	68.3	72.3	70.1	63.5	54.3	42.2	34.8	
1954	1.96	1.26	3.89	3.34	2.97	3.40	5.92	4.54	3.57	6.37	2.14	3.85	42.00	1954	26.7	35.0	38.0	52.7	56.0	69.3	71.4	69.9	64.9	55.9	40.2	31.2	
1955	0.57	2.52	5.25	3.88	0.73	3.21	2.26	7.24	2.20	4.69	2.86	0.22	35.63	1955	28.0	27.9	40.9	52.3	62.3	64.9	77.2	75.4	63.8	53.9	37.3	27.8	
1956	1.48	4.03	4.25	3.56	5.24	3.22	6.95	5.27	2.16	4.28	1.99	3.80	46.23	1956	28.4	32.7	35.7	46.5	56.4	69.6	70.5	69.7	60.6	54.1	42.6	38.5	
1957	M	M	2.51	5.51	1.50	6.93	1.31	0.82	2.59	3.01	1.82	4.24	M	1957	M	M	37.9	51.9	59.7	68.6	70.2	66.9	48.3	42.6	33.7		
1958	3.32	2.27	3.56	3.21	4.95	4.05	6.96	3.81	3.76	1.64	2.99	0.85	41.37	1958	26.5	23.2	35.7	50.3	56.8	63.1	73.0	68.6	61.9	50.2	43.2	22.5	
1959	2.96	2.50	3.33	4.47	3.28	3.40	5.92	5.25	5.82	5.82	4.79	2.48	44.74	1959	25.2	28.6	39.6	50.8	63.7	68.2	73.2	73.9	67.1	54.9	39.0	33.9	
1960	2.48	3.32	1.60	1.77	8.51	4.50	3.64	2.29	4.65	1.03	1.93	1.38	37.10	1960	31.1	31.4	27.4	53.9	57.8	66.7	69.0	72.1	65.6	51.4	42.5	21.3	
1961	2.42	3.54	4.45	4.75	3.15	2.78	4.20	3.97	2.92	1.06	3.03	2.85	39.12	1961	22.8	31.0	39.3	44.8	55.9	62.5	72.5	72.5	69.3	53.6	43.0	30.2	
1962	1.83	4.43	3.25	3.53	1.41	3.04	2.22	2.08	5.82	1.59	2.20	2.07	33.47	1962	27.2	26.9	39.1	49.2	56.0	69.4	71.2	69.4	61.0	50.9	38.2	25.8	
1963	1.25	1.94	4.38	1.34	2.26	3.19	4.11	1.75	1.82	0.00	4.86	1.07	27.97	1963	23.2	21.7	33.7	50.1	55.9	67.7	73.0	67.6	61.4	55.6	46.7	27.4	
1964	4.30	2.84	2.64	5.37	1.87	3.71	3.26	2.69	2.55	0.83	2.06	0.89	34.01	1964	28.3	25.9	39.6	46.6	60.3	67.6	73.7	66.8	62.4	49.5	44.0	31.6	
1965	3.15	2.02	5.19	1.80	2.29	0.66	2.89	5.45	1.88	3.36	1.73	0.60	31.02	1965	26.2	27.9	34.9	47.5	62.6	66.3	69.5	69.6	65.3	50.3	41.6	35.9	
1966	3.12	3.21	1.73	3.11	3.31	0.69	2.53	1.21	3.87	1.55	3.59	1.76	29.68	1966	24.8	28.7	39.7	45.8	56.6	68.8	73.8	72.3	62.2	49.2	42.9	30.5	
1967	1.31	1.59	6.06	3.34	5.52	1.15	6.74	4.03	3.07	3.41	2.07	2.80	29.68	1967	34.2	24.9	37.3	51.3	52.3	69.9	71.2	69.4	61.0	50.9	38.2	37.8	
1968	1.07	T	3.00	1.26	6.78	6.54	1.07	4.18	3.52	3.44	4.67	1.89	37.42	1968	23.0	27.1	41.4	52.5	55.6	66.9	72.6	73.4	64.8	55.2	42.7	28.3	
1969	0.92	0.53	1.02	1.77	2.22	3.16	4.70	4.22	1.37	2.35	2.83	M	M	1969	26.5	30.1	35.7	51.6	61.0	69.3	73.7	70.6	62.4	39.4	M		
1970	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	1970	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	

SNOWFALL

Season	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Total	Season	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Total
1940-41	7.4	T	17.0	2.8	20.0	0	49.4#	1955-56	4.4	2.0	5.1	5.5	12.1	T	29.1
1941-42	T	3.0	10.5	7.5	34.0	0	55.0	1956-57	0.7	0	M	M	8.0	1.0	
1942-43	1.0	9.0	14.4	3.5	5.9	2.2	36.0	1957-58	0	4.0	5.5	8.0	11.5	0	
1943-44	0.3	0.2	1.8	4.1	16.1	0.8	23.3	1958-59	1.0	5.0	5.5	2.5	10.0	5.5	
1944-45	4.7	14.0	13.5	2.6	T	T	34.8	1959-60	T	2.0	1.0	9.0	20.5	T	
1945-46	T	9.4	2.9	8.5	0.2	0	21.0	1960-61	T	15.0	19.5	22.5	4.5	4.0	
1946-47	0	5.5	6.5	12.5	9.3	0	33.8	1961-62	2.0	9.2	2.5	10.0	12.5	0	
1947-48	T	1.6	19.0	13.0	4.0	0	37.6	1962-63	3.0	13.5	8.7	11.6	9.5	0	
1948-49	1.5	6.0	7.0	3.5	1.0	0	19.0	1963-64	0	4.8	29.5	21.0	0.5	1.0	
1949-50	0	4.2	1.0	4.0	3.5	0	12.7	1964-65	0	T	12.0	2.5	19.5	T	
1950-51	7.0	19.5	4.5	3.5	0	0	34.5	1965-66	T	T	25.0	18.6	T	0	
1951-52	0	20.0	2.0	2.0	6.5	0	30.5	1966-67	2.0	9.5	1.2	10.0	16.0	0	
1952-53	2.0	2.5	8.5	1.5	5.0	T	19.7#	1967-68	2.0	13.8	3.1	T	7.5	0	
1953-54	9.0	T	10.5	0.8	T	T	20.3	1968-69	11.5	1.5	1.0	5.0	2.9	M	
1954-55	0.5	0.8	1.7	8.5	2.7	T	14.2	1969-70	M	M	M	M	2.9	M	

M denotes missing
Totals include May or October snowfall

Average Temperature (°F) Huntington, Pennsylvania

HUNTINGDON-SUBSTATION HISTORY

Date	Location (From post office)	Elevation (feet)	Observer
October 1887-June 30, 1929	1.0 miles NNW	700	Mr. W. J. Swigart
July 1, 1929-September 3, 1930	1.0 miles NNW	700	Mr. H. A. Conner
September 4, 1930-Dec. 28, 1947	1.0 miles NNW	700	Mr. Paul Yoder
Dec. 29, 1947-August 26, 1952	0.5 miles W	620	Mr. J. W. Shilling
August 27, 1952-October 7, 1952	0.8 miles NNW	620	Mr. Merle E. Shade
October 8, 1952-March 4, 1954	0.8 miles NNW	630	Mr. John R. Henderson
March 5, 1954-September 5, 1956	0.1 miles NNE	660	Mr. John R. Henderson
September 6, 1956-February 24, 1957	0.1 miles NNE	610	Mrs. Janet I. Vanuch
February 25, 1957-January 6, 1961	0.6 miles WSW	678	Mr. Daniel I. Grove
January 6, 1961-November 19, 1963	0.5 miles NW	640	Mr. James R. Gienger
November 20, 1963-December 1969	1.0 miles NW	670	Mr. James R. Gienger