

The Pennsylvania Observer

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January 2010– Pennsylvania Weather Recap

The month of January began with unseasonably cold conditions. With a northwest flow in place through the first week of the month, lake-effect snow showers occurred daily throughout the western half of Pennsylvania. A clipper system moved through on the 7th dropping generally 1 to 3 inches throughout the Commonwealth. In its wake, an unusually cold air mass covered much of the Eastern United States. A low temperature of 2 F was recorded in Pittsburgh and -2 F in Erie on the 10th with single digits to below zero readings throughout Pennsylvania. Thanks to an area of high pressure, a southwesterly flow brought an end to the snow showers and colder temperatures on the 14th. With warmer air in place, a storm system brought widespread rains on the 17th with amounts generally ranging from 0.50 – 0.75” throughout the Commonwealth. An unseasonably mild period persisted through the third week of January. On the 24th and 25th, a powerful storm system affected the entire state. Ahead of it, a warm, moist southerly flow allowed temperatures to rise to the lower 60’s in eastern Pennsylvania during the morning of the 25th. A record daily rainfall of 2.90” occurred on the 25th in Williamsport with rainfall amounts of 1 – 3” common across the state. On the 28th, a blast of arctic air brought much colder conditions along with snow showers to end the month.

Here are the weather extremes across Pennsylvania (**observations taken at 8AM EDT**) during January 2010 from the NWS Cooperative & ASOS Networks. The extremes occurred in the 24-hour period prior to the date listed.

Parameter	Location	Value	Date (8 AM EDT)	County
Highest Temperature	York Haven	64°F	January 26 th	York
Lowest Temperature	Cowanesque Dam	-16°F	January 11 th	Tioga
Greatest Cumulative Liquid Precipitation	Laporte	4.90"	-	Sullivan
Greatest Cumulative Snowfall	Laurel Summit	53"	-	Somerset

Weather Stories

Flooding damage in Pittsburgh

<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/10025/1030953-100.stm>

Flooding along the Susquehanna River in Harrisburg

<http://www.fox43.com/news/wpmt-amnews-susquehannariverflooding-1-26-10,0,495797.story>

Early January arctic blast

<http://www.delcotimes.com/articles/2010/01/04/news/doc4b41498b36b68100067123.txt>

High winds and flooding cause damage in Hazleton

<http://standardspeaker.com/news/rain-wind-cause-damage-problems-throughout-area-1.572065>

First week of January snowfall in Pittsburgh

<http://www.thepittsburghchannel.com/weather/22180998/detail.html>