

# *The Pennsylvania Observer*

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## **February 2011– Pennsylvania Weather Recap**

*Prepared by Stephen Quinn*

February began with some snow when a low moved into northwestern Pennsylvania on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. This accounted for an abundance of snow over northwest Pennsylvania during the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. The next storm did not occur until the 8<sup>th</sup> of February when precipitation ahead of a cold front brought some snow to most of Pennsylvania. On this day, areas around Somerset, Erie, and Susquehanna Counties received at least 2-4 inches. The greater amounts fell in the northeastern and northwestern parts of the state. Around the 12<sup>th</sup> when northern parts of Pennsylvania received some light snow as a cold front dug into the northeast United States and was able to drop around 4 inches of snow around Erie. Other areas of the state received less. The bulk of the next snow occurred from the 20<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup>. This snow fell across the northern part of Pennsylvania on the 20<sup>th</sup>, and the southern areas of state received the majority of snow by the 22<sup>nd</sup>. State College received their biggest snow of the season at 4 inches on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Much of southern Pennsylvania received at least 4 inches on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Two more precipitation events, mostly rain occurred during the last few days of the month.

The beginning of February saw temperatures in the 20s to the 30s. This changed during the week of the 16<sup>th</sup>, when temperatures slowly increased and eventually got into the 60s. Many cities including Harrisburg, Philadelphia, Reading and State College tied their highest temperature for the date. State College measured a high of 66 degrees on February 18<sup>th</sup>. Besides this week of unseasonably warm weather, most places had near seasonable readings for much of the month.

Erie, Pennsylvania saw 35.7 inches of snowfall, which is 18.4 inches above their normal value of snowfall for February. Areas around Scranton, Pennsylvania had 6 inches of snowfall above normal putting them at 16.2 inches for the month. Areas around Philadelphia, Pennsylvania saw temperatures slightly above normal and had slightly below normal rain and snowfall.

Here are the weather extremes across Pennsylvania (observations taken at 8AM EDT) during February 2011 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	Lancaster Pottstown	72°F	February 19 <sup>th</sup>	Lancaster Montgomery
Lowest Temperature	Milanville	-14°F	February 11 <sup>th</sup>	Wayne
Greatest Cumulative Liquid Precipitation	Erie	7.12"	-	Erie
Least Cumulative Liquid Precipitation	Wyndmoor	1.79"	-	Montgomery
Greatest Cumulative Snowfall	Coudersport	35.7"	-	Potter

## **Weather Stories**

Strong gusts delay flights, down trees, close Boardwalk

<http://www.philly.com/philly/news/breaking/116909563.html?cmpid=15585797>

Wintry Weather Causes Numerous Crashes

<http://www.wnep.com/wnep-central-pa-crashes,0,6752344.story>

Warm weather means pothole patching time

[http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/pittsburgh/s\\_723555.html](http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/pittsburgh/s_723555.html)

Weather blamed for lower casino take

[http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/pittsburgh/s\\_723555.html](http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/pittsburgh/s_723555.html)