

# The Pennsylvania Observer

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## December 2007 - Pennsylvania Weather Recap

It was a wintry start to the month as the first week of December brought a wintry mix on the first two days followed by a widespread lake-effect snow and then an unusually moist Alberta Clipper deposited between 2 and 6 inches across much of the state with nearly 10 inches in the northeast corner. A cold air mass settled into the region dropping temperatures below zero in the valleys of the north and west. Pittsburgh measured a new record low of 7F on December 6<sup>th</sup>.

The second week of the month saw some modification in temperatures as readings rose closer to seasonal levels. There were several bouts of mixed precipitation, mainly rain in the southern half of the state with some snow in the northern counties. A potent disturbance moved into the eastern Great Lakes as a secondary storm developed along the mid-Atlantic coast on Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. A prolonged period of icing occurred from the central mountains through the lower and middle Susquehanna Valley and into the suburbs of Philadelphia. Some sections around the state capital had nearly 1.5 inches of ice. Meanwhile, the northeast stayed mainly snow and received between 4 and 10 inches. Heavy snow followed in the wrap-around from the storm depositing nearly a foot of new snow in the northwest counties.

The period leading up to Christmas brought a flood of Pacific air to the eastern states with a potent cold front crossing Pennsylvania on Dec 23<sup>rd</sup>. Most sections had between 0.5-1.50 inches of rain. It turned seasonably chilly behind the front with a brown Christmas for the southern two-thirds of the Commonwealth, but still enough snow on the ground for a white Christmas near the NY state border.

A sneaky storm raced up the eastern seaboard on Dec 26-27 bringing rain and a wintry mixture to the eastern half of the state. A wet cold front moved across the region on December 29<sup>th</sup> and then a weak, but moist disturbance on Dec 30<sup>th</sup> dropped between 1 and 4 inches of snow from the south-central mountains to the Poconos. Some parts of northeast Pennsylvania had 6-10 inches of wet snow. The month ended with seasonably cold air and dry conditions to ring in the New Year, though a potent cold front did bring a mixture of snow and rain to the western half of the state just after midnight.

Here are the weather extremes across Pennsylvania (**observations taken at 7AM EST**) during December 2007 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	Washington	72°F	December 11	Washington
Lowest Temperature	Oswayo	-8°F	December 6 <sup>th</sup>	Potter

Greatest Cumulative Liquid Precipitation	Susquehanna	8.70"	-	Susquehanna
Greatest Cumulative Snowfall	Covington	46.5"	-	Tioga