

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Pennsylvania's Diverse Climate: From Mountains to Valleys



Pennsylvania, often known as the Keystone State, is home to a diverse range of climates due to its varying geography and topography. From the Appalachian Mountains to the rolling valleys, let's explore the climate across the state of Pennsylvania.

### **Eastern Pennsylvania**

Eastern Pennsylvania, including cities like Philadelphia and Allentown, experiences a humid subtropical climate.

This means hot and humid summers and cold winters. Summers are typically warm, with temperatures in the 80s and 90s Fahrenheit, while winters can be cold and snowy, with temperatures often dropping below freezing. Precipitation is spread fairly evenly throughout the year, with some occasional thunderstorms during the summer months.

### **Western Pennsylvania**

Western Pennsylvania, including Pittsburgh, has a humid continental climate. Summers in this region are warm but less humid than in the east, with temperatures in the 80s and occasional heatwaves. Winters can be cold and snowy, with temperatures often below freezing. Lake-effect snow from Lake Erie can bring heavy snowfall to areas in the northwest part of the state.

### **Northern Pennsylvania**

Northern Pennsylvania, particularly in the Pocono Mountains region, experiences a colder climate due to its higher elevation. Summers are cooler with temperatures in the 70s and low humidity, making it a popular destination for outdoor activities. Winters are cold and snowy, with average temperatures well below freezing. The region also receives more annual snowfall compared to other parts of the state.

### **Southern Pennsylvania**

Southern Pennsylvania, including cities like Harrisburg, features a transitional climate with characteristics of both the humid subtropical climate of the east and the humid continental climate of the west. Summers are warm and humid, while winters are cold and can bring snowfall. This area receives a moderate amount of precipitation throughout the year.

### **Central Pennsylvania**

Central Pennsylvania, with cities like State College, experiences a climate influenced by its location in the Appalachian Mountains. Summers are warm and pleasant, with temperatures in the 70s and 80s. Winters are colder and can bring snow, but they are typically milder compared to the northern part of the state. The area is known for its beautiful fall foliage.

