

Name _____

Exploring the Climate of New Jersey

Short Answer Key

1. Coastal areas in New Jersey experience milder winters and cooler summers due to the moderating influence of the Atlantic Ocean. Inland regions, on the other hand, have more temperature extremes, with colder winters and hotter summers.
2. Nor'easters are coastal storms that can bring heavy precipitation, strong winds, and flooding to New Jersey. They often lead to coastal and inland flooding, making them significant weather events for the state.
3. The Appalachian Mountains have a cooling effect on the climate of New Jersey. In the winter, they can block cold air masses from the northwest, moderating temperatures in the state's western regions. Additionally, they can influence weather patterns, sometimes leading to differences in precipitation on the eastern and western sides of the state.
4. Microclimates are small-scale variations in climate within a larger region. In New Jersey, microclimates can affect local agriculture by creating different growing conditions. For example, a valley might have a microclimate that experiences cooler temperatures, which can affect the types of crops that can be grown there compared to nearby hillsides with milder conditions.
5. New Jersey's relatively even distribution of rainfall throughout the year is influenced by its location and proximity to the Atlantic Ocean. The ocean provides a source of moisture, and the state is affected by various weather systems year-round, resulting in a more consistent pattern of precipitation.

