

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE LAS CRUCES AREA, NEW MEXICO

LOCATION: Las Cruces, the county seat of Dona Ana County and New Mexico's second largest city, is located in the Rio Grande Valley of southwestern New Mexico. The town is situated some forty miles north of El Paso. The Organ Mountains raise their rugged peaks (8,919') some twelve miles to the east. Las Cruces itself has an elevation of about 3,880 feet above sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:18	11:01	11:58	12:58	13:48	14:14	14:03	13:21	12:24	11:25	10:33	10:05
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	7:48	8:45	10:02	11:14	12:10	12:37	11:08	10:34	10:00	9:26	8:31	7:33
AREA OF BLUE SKY	61%	62%	64%	70%	72%	74%	58%	60%	67%	72%	68%	62%
LOW FOR MONTH	14°	19°	24°	32°	41°	52°	61°	60°	49°	36°	22°	16°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	26°	29°	34°	42°	49°	59°	65°	63°	56°	44°	32°	26°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	58°	62°	69°	77°	85°	94°	94°	92°	87°	78°	66°	58°
HIGH FOR MONTH	70°	75°	81°	89°	97°	104°	103°	100°	97°	89°	79°	71°
FROSTY MORNINGS	80%	66%	40%	10%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	55%	80%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	4%	27%	80%	81%	69%	34%	3%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	36%	28%	22%	17%	18%	19%	30%	34%	35%	31%	33%	38%
DRY DAYS	89%	91%	91%	94%	93%	89%	74%	74%	82%	87%	90%	89%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	97%	95%	97%	98%	97%	96%	88%	88%	90%	94%	97%	94%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.06	0.08	0.06	0.03	0.05	0.10	0.24	0.28	0.20	0.12	0.07	0.08
SNOWY DAYS	3%	3%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	3%
THUNDER DAYS	2%	2%	2%	3%	10%	17%	38%	34%	15%	6%	2%	2%
FOGGY DAYS	3%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	2%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 81% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 75% in December, to a high of 89% in June. The year's lowest temperature should be close to 11°, and the highest should be near 105°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be up to 6° cooler than actual ones. Summer afternoons tend to be very sunny, very dry, and very hot. From late June through early September, about one day in three will have afternoon thunderstorms, not all of which actually bring rain to the earth's surface. Summer nights start out warm, cooling to mild at sunrise. Winter afternoons are very sunny, very dry, and cool more often than cold. Winter nights will usually drop well below freezing. Snowfalls and flurries are common, but winter rain is even more common. Winter rains tend to be light, but more persistent than summer thundershowers.