

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE PIERRE AREA, SOUTH DAKOTA

LOCATION: Pierre (PEER, not pee-AIR), the capital of South Dakota, is located very close to the geographic center of that state. The city is situated on the eastern bank of the Missouri River, in the midst of the Great Plains. Elevations are some 1,500 feet above sea level. The economy of the city is based on government activities, cattle ranching, and farming. The city also serves as a base of operations for recreational activity on the southern end of Lake Oahe, a short distance out of town to the north and west.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:16	10:26	11:54	13:26	14:46	15:29	15:11	14:03	12:35	11:03	9:41	8:56
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	5:18	6:26	7:15	8:18	9:22	10:27	11:23	10:20	8:30	6:58	5:08	4:36
AREA OF BLUE SKY	41%	41%	37%	39%	42%	48%	58%	57%	54%	50%	41%	41%
LOW FOR MONTH	-17 °	-14 °	-1 °	20 °	31 °	44 °	51 °	48 °	34 °	21 °	3 °	-11 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	6 °	10 °	21 °	35 °	46 °	57 °	62 °	60 °	50 °	38 °	23 °	13 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	27 °	31 °	42 °	59 °	70 °	80 °	89 °	87 °	76 °	64 °	46 °	32 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	52 °	56 °	70 °	83 °	90 °	98 °	104 °	103 °	98 °	87 °	69 °	56 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	98%	97%	85%	39%	4%	0%	0%	0%	1%	27%	82%	94%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	19%	46%	43%	13%	1%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	65%	66%	56%	44%	44%	47%	41%	41%	43%	48%	56%	66%
DRY DAYS	84%	82%	81%	77%	71%	67%	74%	77%	83%	87%	87%	84%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	97%	93%	91%	87%	83%	80%	85%	87%	90%	94%	97%	96%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.07	0.10	0.15	0.30	0.42	0.53	0.35	0.32	0.20	0.16	0.08	0.08
LIKELY SNOWFALL	5.0 "	6.6 "	6.9 "	2.6 "	0.1 "	0.0 "	0.0 "	0.0 "	0.0 "	0.8 "	3.4 "	5.2 "
SNOWY DAYS	16%	18%	17%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	10%	16%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	0%	0%	4%	14%	28%	29%	25%	10%	3%	0%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	6%	7%	7%	3%	3%	2%	2%	3%	3%	3%	5%	7%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 63% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 52% in December, to a high of 75% in July. The year's lowest temperature should be close to -21°, and the highest should be near 106°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be essentially the same as actual ones. The four standard mid-latitude seasons are sharply defined, although abrupt shifts to unseasonal weather are common. Outdoor recreation activities focus on water sports on the Missouri River, Lake Oahe to the north, and Lake Sharpe to the south. Hunting, particularly of upland birds and waterfowl, is popular in season.