

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE OLYMPIA AREA, WASHINGTON

LOCATION: Olympia, the capital of Washington state, is located in the west-central part of the state. The city is situated at the very end of Puget Sound, at the mouth of the Deschutes River. Elevations are close to sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	8:59	10:16	11:53	13:35	15:03	15:50	15:30	14:15	12:38	10:57	9:26	8:36
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	1:43	2:47	4:12	5:45	7:07	7:02	9:19	8:08	6:32	3:38	1:55	1:20
AREA OF BLUE SKY	15%	19%	23%	26%	32%	34%	49%	45%	42%	26%	17%	14%
LOW FOR MONTH	15 °	18 °	23 °	27 °	31 °	38 °	41 °	40 °	34 °	28 °	22 °	17 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	32 °	33 °	35 °	37 °	42 °	47 °	49 °	50 °	46 °	41 °	37 °	34 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	44 °	48 °	53 °	59 °	66 °	71 °	77 °	77 °	70 °	60 °	51 °	45 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	55 °	61 °	67 °	76 °	84 °	88 °	92 °	92 °	87 °	75 °	61 °	55 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	51%	46%	43%	27%	6%	0%	0%	0%	2%	16%	34%	47%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	8%	8%	2%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	80%	71%	62%	55%	53%	53%	49%	50%	55%	68%	79%	84%
NEARBY WATERS	46 °	45 °	46 °	48 °	51 °	54 °	56 °	56 °	54 °	52 °	49 °	48 °
DRY DAYS	38%	38%	44%	52%	63%	72%	86%	85%	71%	55%	38%	36%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	56%	58%	60%	70%	80%	85%	93%	90%	84%	71%	52%	55%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	1.27	1.13	0.81	0.56	0.35	0.27	0.12	0.15	0.38	0.74	1.35	1.39
LIKELY SNOWFALL	6.9 "	3.1 "	1.2 "	0.1 "	0.0 "	0.0 "	0.0 "	0.0 "	0.0 "	0.0 "	1.1 "	2.7 "
SNOWY DAYS	11%	8%	4%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	8%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	32%	30%	26%	17%	10%	7%	11%	19%	30%	43%	35%	34%

COMMENTS: The area has a temperate marine climate and a four-season year. Both the prevailing winds off of the Pacific Ocean to the west and the heavy cloud cover keep temperatures from getting as warm in the summer or as cold in the winter as places farther inland. Bright sunshine occurs on 38% of the year's daylight hours, ranging from a low of 15% in December to a high of 60% in July. The low temperature for the year will be near 8° some windless winter sunrise, while the high will be around 95° some sunny summer afternoon. Precipitation is heavy, and is concentrated in the winter months. A typical summer afternoon will be long, sunny, moderately humid, rainless, and warm rather than hot. Summer nights are quite cool and damp, even chilly and raw on occasion. A typical winter afternoon will be short, overcast, very humid, raining, and cool rather than cold. However, only a couple of afternoons each winter will fail to warm to above the freezing point. Winter nights drop below freezing about half the time. Rain is far more common than snow.