

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE TACOMA AREA, WASHINGTON

LOCATION: Tacoma is located in west-central Washington. The city is situated at the south end of Commencement Bay, an arm of Puget Sound. Elevations are everywhere close to sea level. On clear days, Mount Rainier, some forty miles southeast, dominates the horizon.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	8:58	10:15	11:53	13:35	15:04	15:52	15:32	14:16	12:38	10:56	9:25	8:34
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	2:00	3:25	5:07	6:48	7:47	8:28	9:41	8:31	6:34	3:50	2:06	1:38
AREA OF BLUE SKY	18%	23%	28%	30%	34%	41%	50%	47%	42%	28%	18%	17%
LOW FOR MONTH	22 °	26 °	33 °	34 °	39 °	45 °	49 °	48 °	42 °	35 °	29 °	24 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	34 °	36 °	38 °	41 °	46 °	51 °	54 °	54 °	51 °	45 °	40 °	36 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	45 °	48 °	52 °	58 °	64 °	69 °	74 °	74 °	68 °	60 °	51 °	46 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	56 °	59 °	65 °	74 °	80 °	84 °	89 °	87 °	83 °	72 °	61 °	56 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	34%	23%	12%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	11%	26%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	80%	74%	67%	60%	56%	54%	51%	53%	58%	70%	80%	82%
NEARBY WATERS	46 °	45 °	46 °	48 °	51 °	54 °	56 °	56 °	54 °	52 °	49 °	48 °
DRY DAYS	40%	43%	47%	55%	65%	72%	86%	83%	73%	57%	39%	38%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	61%	65%	68%	75%	84%	86%	93%	91%	84%	74%	61%	58%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.92	0.78	0.58	0.43	0.29	0.23	0.11	0.14	0.32	0.54	0.93	1.02
LIKELY SNOWFALL	5.1 "	2.3 "	1.1 "	0.1 "	0.0 "	0.0 "	0.0 "	0.0 "	0.0 "	0.0 "	0.8 "	1.6 "
SNOWY DAYS	8%	4%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	5%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	1%	1%	1%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	1%	1%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	15%	12%	7%	4%	1%	1%	3%	6%	14%	22%	17%	18%

COMMENTS: The area has a temperate marine version of the mid-latitude four-season year. Summers are sunny, dry, and warm. Winters are cloudy, wet, and chilly. Bright sunshine occurs on 44% of the year's daylight hours, ranging from a low of 19% in December to a high of 62% in July. The low temperature for the year will be near 17° some windless winter sunrise, while the high will be around 91° some sunny summer afternoon. Precipitation is moderate, with most of it coming as rain during the winter months. A typical summer afternoon will be long, sunny, moderately humid, rainless, and warm rather than hot. Summer nights tend to be clear and cool. A typical winter afternoon will be short, cloudy, very humid, probably rainy, and chilly. Winter nights are cold, damp, and often wet. Winter rains are far more common than winter snows, and the ground rarely stays snow-covered past noon of the next day--especially in the city.