

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
WEATHER BUREAU

LOCAL CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA
WITH COMPARATIVE DATA

1960

READING, PENNSYLVANIA



NARRATIVE CLIMATOLOGICAL SUMMARY

Reading is located on the Schuylkill River about 66 miles from the mouth of the Schuylkill at Philadelphia and 50 miles from the source of the river. While Reading itself is primarily a manufacturing center, surrounding areas are rich in agriculture products.

The climate of this region is mild with variations from place to place being ascribable chiefly to difference in elevation. Nearby mountains to the east and south range between 800 and 1140 feet. Toward the northwest and west, the country is rolling, with nearby hills seldom exceeding 500 feet in elevation. The valley between the mountains is fertile farm land, while the mountains are covered with second growth timber.

Spring months average 51.5°, summer 73.3°, autumn 55.7° and winter 32.4°. July and August are usually quite humid although high humidities have been experienced for extended periods during all the summer months. Winters are comparatively mild; the number of days with zero or below are less than one. The warmest month is normally July and the coldest February, although January has a greater number of heating degree days. Weather records emphasize the comparatively mild winter weather in this so-called Lebanon Valley. Twenty-five miles north, in the vicinity of the Blue Mountains, real winter weather is evident in contrast with the surrounding terrain.

Precipitation is derived mainly from moisture laden air that is transported from the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean. July is usually the wettest month with August a close second. March is normally the driest although precipitation is well distributed throughout the year; the heaviest amounts coming in the summer months when it is most needed.

Snowfall exceeds the average a little better than half of the time. Very little snow falls in this section after April 1st. The snow cover remains for only brief periods unless an unusually heavy fall occurs, which is very seldom. This item (snowfall) is not much bother to transportation.

Generally speaking, November, December and January are cloudy months, but the remainder of the year is comparatively sunny with abundant sunshine to be expected in June, July and August. The yearly average of 54% gives adequate sunshine for all purposes, agriculturally or otherwise.

A few heavy winds have hit this vicinity on occasions when connected with a general storm condition or freak local disturbance. Prevailing directions is from the northwest for 9 months in the year; the other 3 months from the southeast. The yearly average hourly velocity is 8.7 miles an hour.

The district covers the drainage area of the Schuylkill River and its tributaries upstream from Phoenixville, Pa.; stage forecasts are made for Reading and Pottstown, Pa. when stages are expected to rise nearly to flood levels or to exceed flood levels at either city. When this occurs, it is also necessary to issue warnings to Birdsboro, Spring City, Royersford and Phoenixville, Pa.

While killing frosts have been reported as late in the spring as May 12th and as early in the autumn as September 27th, the average dates of these occurrences is April 16th and October 26th, respectively. This affords a good average growing season of 193 days.

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE

TOTAL PRECIPITATION

READING, PENNSYLVANIA
209 POST OFFICE BUILDING
1960

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
1910	29.8	30.0	46.4	55.0	59.8	68.0	76.0	71.6	67.8	56.8	39.5	26.8	52.3
1911	33.4	32.0	37.6	49.4	67.4	70.4	77.2	73.2	65.8	54.0	40.2	38.8	53.2
1912	31.3	27.6	37.0	51.1	63.4	69.0	74.2	70.2	67.2	56.8	45.2	36.3	51.6
1913	30.4	30.8	45.3	58.4	61.0	71.2	75.3	73.2	64.6	57.4	46.6	37.8	54.6
1914	31.2	24.8	36.7	49.1	64.8	70.2	73.3	73.8	64.2	58.6	43.8	29.6	51.7
1915	33.2	35.8	36.2	56.4	58.3	68.4	74.0	70.6	69.4	56.8	44.2	32.6	53.0
1916	35.8	27.9	33.2	50.0	63.2	66.2	76.2	74.6	65.9	54.9	43.8	32.4	52.0
1917	31.4	28.5	39.2	50.8	56.0	70.4	75.5	74.8	62.4	50.4	40.8	23.4	50.3
1918	19.8	29.4	43.8	51.0	66.5	68.4	75.4	76.4	62.4	58.6	44.2	38.6	52.7
1919	34.2	34.6	43.6	51.0	62.4	72.1	75.2	70.8	67.2	58.4	44.0	28.0	53.7
1920	23.0	28.5	41.4	48.8	59.6	70.0	73.5	73.2	67.2	60.3	43.4	36.9	52.2
1921	32.9	34.4	50.1	57.2	61.4	72.8	78.6	71.0	71.3	55.1	43.7	33.4	55.2
1922	27.8	34.6	41.8	52.4	65.1	72.0	74.4	71.9	68.1	58.0	45.8	33.0	53.7
1923	31.1	26.8	38.8	50.9	61.6	74.8	74.4	72.5	67.5	54.5	43.7	42.0	53.2
1924	31.3	30.0	49.4	49.0	57.2	68.0	73.3	73.6	62.0	56.3	43.6	32.9	51.4
1925	27.6	37.4	43.4	52.6	58.9	76.0	73.4	72.2	69.4	48.6	42.4	34.2	53.0
1926	31.2	31.2	36.6	47.8	61.5	66.5	75.2	73.8	65.2	54.6	43.8	29.2	51.4
1927	29.9	37.6	44.2	49.4	59.4	66.8	74.7	68.4	67.4	56.2	48.5	36.1	53.4
1928	33.2	32.4	39.8	48.0	61.0	67.8	76.0	75.7	63.2	57.8	47.2	38.1	53.4
1929	31.2	32.6	46.6	53.4	61.4	71.2	74.8	71.2	68.0	53.3	44.8	34.0	53.5
1930	31.2	37.6	41.1	49.4	63.9	73.6	76.6	73.8	71.4	54.0	44.6	33.4	54.2
1931	33.2	35.4	39.4	51.2	62.6	71.0	78.0	74.2	72.0	58.8	51.2	40.1	56.2
1932	43.0	36.9	36.3	49.0	61.7	70.5	75.0	75.5	68.0	58.8	41.6	37.2	54.2
1933	40.8	33.9	39.7	52.6	64.0	72.4	74.4	72.8	68.2	55.2	43.0	33.3	54.2
1934	34.1	21.2	37.2	50.8	64.6	74.4	76.9	70.1	67.3	53.8	48.6	33.4	52.7
1935	28.4	31.2	44.6	50.4	59.4	69.9	76.7	72.8	63.8	56.4	48.0	29.7	52.6
1936	27.1	25.1	46.1	48.9	65.2	70.1	76.5	75.0	67.8	56.8	41.6	38.6	53.2
1937	38.8	34.2	37.4	49.9	64.2	72.0	74.8	75.5	64.7	54.0	44.8	34.5	53.7
1938	32.2	35.8	45.6	54.4	61.4	69.9	75.4	77.1	64.1	57.8	46.6	35.4	54.6
1939	33.0	37.6	40.2	49.0	65.0	71.5	74.2	75.7	67.0	56.0	43.8	36.6	54.2
1940	23.4	33.0	35.8	47.4	61.7	70.4	76.3	70.4	64.4	51.5	44.0	38.0	51.4
1941	29.9	29.8	35.6	58.4	65.3	71.2	76.0	73.0	69.3	60.2	47.8	37.8	54.5
1942	30.2	30.0	43.4	55.8	66.0	71.8	76.4	72.4	66.9	57.2	45.1	30.6	53.8
1943	31.4	33.6	41.0	46.4	63.5	78.6	78.4	76.0	68.0	53.8	43.2	33.0	53.4
1944	34.2	33.2	37.9	49.1	68.4	71.9	78.2	76.0	67.8	54.6	45.0	31.0	53.9
1945	24.3	33.4	52.4	55.5	59.9	71.7	74.6	72.8	69.2	55.0	45.8	29.8	53.8
1946	32.9	32.6	50.0	51.8	62.5	69.0	75.3	70.0	68.4	59.8	48.7	37.2	54.8
1947	37.2	28.6	37.6	52.4	61.6	69.3	74.8	76.4	67.3	62.6	42.8	34.0	53.7
1948	24.8	31.2	44.0	52.3	62.0	71.0	76.2	73.8	67.4	54.4	50.4	36.1	53.6
1949	38.6	38.6	43.6	52.8	63.5	74.2	79.2	76.0	64.2	61.2	44.4	38.0	56.2
1950	41.2	32.9	37.2	48.7	60.5	70.5	74.2	73.4	63.9	58.0	46.1	32.2	53.2
1951	35.4	35.2	44.0	53.0	63.6	71.0	78.0	74.2	67.2	58.7	47.7	36.6	54.4
1952	36.2	37.8	40.6	54.5	63.2	74.6	79.0	74.0	67.9	53.1	45.7	37.5	55.2
1953	37.1	38.5	43.9	51.8	65.1	73.1	77.0	74.4	68.5	58.8	45.8	39.4	56.3
1954	30.6	40.3	41.6	56.3	60.3	72.6	76.6	72.3	68.1	59.6	43.8	34.9	54.7
1955	31.0	34.2	42.6	55.7	65.8	69.7	81.5	77.8	66.7	58.5	42.9	29.5	54.7
1956	32.7	36.7	38.3	49.6	61.0	71.8	72.8	73.6	63.7	57.0	44.8	40.9	53.5
1957	28.9	36.7	42.5	54.5	63.2	74.0	76.7	72.9	68.8	54.0	47.0	38.7	54.8
1958	31.5	27.8	39.6	54.5	61.1	67.5	77.2	74.2	66.4	55.0	45.8	28.2	52.4
1959	31.1	32.5	41.0	55.4	66.9	73.1	77.9	76.7	70.9	59.5	43.7	37.2	55.4
1960	34.8	35.6	33.1	57.1	60.9	71.6	74.0	75.4	67.4	56.0	46.9	28.0	53.4

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
1910	3.24	4.63	0.66	5.02	2.33	3.73	3.53	3.06	2.05	2.02	2.64	1.90	34.81
1911	2.96	2.23	2.98	3.47	3.55	4.70	4.56	7.96	2.55	3.70	3.80	3.10	45.34
1912	1.83	2.54	6.24	3.39	2.89	2.01	8.34	4.93	6.02	3.31	2.80	4.56	47.46
1913	3.81	2.07	7.19	5.88	2.85	1.21	3.35	2.79	5.37	8.79	2.20	3.44	45.93
1914	3.89	3.27	1.76	3.85	1.20	2.51	4.21	3.13	0.43	1.40	2.14	5.52	33.31
1915	6.51	5.55	1.42	2.61	3.46	2.84	4.56	8.44	2.26	3.18	2.13	4.37	47.33
1916	1.73	3.64	3.93	3.97	2.82	4.51	12.41	1.56	2.62	1.24	1.95	4.07	44.45
1917	4.14	1.74	4.83	2.12	3.01	3.26	2.76	3.00	2.42	5.07	0.85	2.24	35.24
1918	4.64	2.64	1.83	5.02	4.00	2.84	2.43	3.00	2.64	0.74	1.79	4.74	36.41
1919	3.24	3.23	4.72	2.07	3.55	2.46	5.21	7.51	2.08	2.96	4.57	2.49	44.09
1920	2.74	3.03	4.51	5.10	1.39	3.35	3.67	4.34	3.83	0.82	3.13	4.75	40.66
1921	2.79	2.66	2.43	5.76	3.34	1.06	2.55	4.13	3.70	1.50	5.87	2.17	37.96
1922	2.16	2.69	4.11	1.88	3.23	7.23	3.58	5.21	1.16	1.18	0.53	1.18	36.16
1923	3.52	2.38	3.58	3.24	2.43	0.54	2.89	1.27	3.34	3.61	2.21	4.51	33.50
1924	4.62	4.20	3.17	5.34	5.38	5.15	1.76	4.71	6.33	0.04	1.44	1.95	44.07
1925	3.83	2.33	2.52	3.10	2.99	2.60	11.66	1.86	2.53	4.58	3.30	1.54	42.84
1926	3.67	3.82	1.80	1.96	2.07	3.67	5.73	7.05	4.07	3.69	3.26	2.10	42.89
1927	2.40	3.00	1.40	2.73	2.73	4.39	3.82	3.99	2.08	4.81	2.63	4.38	38.16
1928	3.10	4.30	2.92	5.95	2.78	6.18	5.04	4.82	3.19	1.81	2.03	0.76	42.88
1929	3.57	3.76	2.66	5.32	3.48	3.65	2.10	3.41	4.31	5.45	2.95	2.51	43.17
1930	2.28	2.60	2.07	2.91	3.89	2.55	1.73	1.21	3.25	0.66	2.11	2.61	27.88
1931	2.16	1.90	4.35	1.91	3.66	4.79	4.55	4.73	2.79	2.06	0.36	1.27	34.52
1932	3.36	1.60	5.97	1.26	4.94	4.10	4.23	6.81	0.68	5.64	5.71	2.43	46.96
1933	1.21	2.64	4.46	4.14	5.42	1.77	4.69	7.53	2.84	1.95	0.59	1.91	38.75
1934	2.64	1.96	4.27	2.58	3.03	2.02	6.53	2.11	8.03	1.61	2.85	2.30	39.91
1935	3.05	2.56	2.09	2.44	0.99	2.76	6.70	1.44	3.09	1.71	5.23	1.91	33.97
1936	5.29	2.79	4.77	2.41	1.35	5.76	1.73	4.87	1.02	2.18	1.17	4.38	37.72
1937	5.05	1.83	2.43	3.24	2.61	3.10	4.10	5.23	0.89	5.37	1.96	1.34	37.15
1938	2.19	1.77	2.45	2.25	2.24	5.54	7.78	2.58	4.70	2.49	3.14	1.88	39.11
1939	3.44	4.55	2.59	3.27	1.39	4.38	3.43	3.58	2.55	4.03	0.59	2.70	36.30
1940	0.66	2.88	4.17	4.84	2.70	1.40	4.35	5.40	3.66	2.01	4.88	3.40	40.33
1941	3.53	1.94	2.68	1.88	1.57	4.76	4.73	3.32	0.37	2.15	1.74	3.26	31.93
1942	2.49	2.40	4.85	1.47	9.29	4.74	5.60	7.75	3.98	3.22	3.33	5.09	54.31
1943	2.46	1.73	2.67	2.90	4.36	2.43	2.48	1.67	1.13	6.78	3.49	1.27	33.35
1944	2.90	1.97	5.47	6.05	2.39	4.50	0.93	2.53	5.81	1.91	4.30	3.63	42.19
1945	3.71	2.77	2.19	3.43	4.79	5.02	7.50	3.31	6.87	1.77	5.07	3.84	50.27
1946	1.40	2.26	3.26	0.66	5.30	7.72	4.52	4.01	2.65	2.52	1.12	2.42	37.84
1947	3.88	2.22	2.76	4.62	5.58	4.03	6.66	3.61	3.28	1.88	3.64	1.28	46.14
1948	4.13	2.07	3.94	3.56	8.50	3.95	2.51	5.15	3.02	1.49	4.27	5.90	48.49
1949	6.36	2.72	1.82	4.34	3.56	1.23	6.84	1.06	3.27	2.56	1.53	3.72	39.01

MONTHLY AND SEASONAL SNOWFALL

READING, PENNSYLVANIA
209 POST OFFICE BUILDING
1960

Season	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total
1909-10	0	0	0	T	2.9	22.6	13.1	6.4	T	T	0	0	45.0
1910-11	0	0	0	0	1.7	15.4	2.7	6.0	6.3	0.7	0	0	32.8
1911-12	0	0	0	0	1.8	1.7	11.7	4.7	4.7	T	0	0	24.6
1912-13	0	0	0	0	T	10.8	1.7	3.1	T	T	0	0	15.6
1913-14	0	0	0	0	0.3	1.3	2.3	19.7	12.3	0	0	0	35.9
1914-15	0	0	0	T	T	5.2	4.0	T	15.3	4.8	0	0	29.3
1915-16	0	0	0	0	T	8.0	1.6	11.1	8.9	7.0	0	0	36.6
1916-17	0	0	0	0	T	10.5	9.1	11.1	13.3	3.0	0	0	47.0
1917-18	0	0	0	T	0.4	19.5	22.6	2.5	T	0.2	0	0	45.2
1918-19	0	0	0	0	0	T	4.7	1.5	0.6	T	0	0	6.8
1919-20	0	0	0	0	0	7.1	6.0	10.0	7.0	T	0	0	30.1
1920-21	0	0	0	0	0.8	1.3	2.5	14.5	1.3	0.1	0	0	20.5
1921-22	0	0	0	0	2.0	4.1	18.8	10.4	2.8	0	0	0	38.1
1922-23	0	0	0	0	0	6.1	14.1	12.8	4.7	3.3	T	0	41.0
1923-24	0	0	0	0	0	2.0	2.0	14.1	3.2	10.0	0	0	31.3
1924-25	0	0	0	0	0.5	0.5	38.8	T	T	T	0	0	37.8
1925-26	0	0	0	1.1	0.5	0.3	5.0	22.3	1.0	T	0	0	30.2
1926-27	0	0	0	0	T	5.2	4.6	13.5	T	T	0	0	23.3
1927-28	0	0	0	0	T	2.7	14.9	5.5	10.5	3.0	0	0	36.6
1928-29	0	0	0	0	0.1	0.5	3.8	11.3	3.0	0	0	0	18.5
1929-30	0	0	0	0	T	11.0	12.2	2.5	T	T	0	0	25.7
1930-31	0	0	0	0	T	2.0	0.3	1.6	3.2	0	0	0	7.1
1931-32	0	0	0	0	1.5	0.5	T	0.8	9.8	T	0	0	12.6
1932-33	0	0	0	0	T	8.6	0.4	10.0	4.0	0.3	0	0	23.3
1933-34	0	0	0	0	0.2	8.5	0.2	16.6	10.0	T	0	0	35.5
1934-35	0	0	0	T	T	0.9	22.1	11.0	3.2	T	0	0	37.2
1935-36	0	0	0	0	T	9.1	13.8	13.8	2.4	T	0	0	39.1
1936-37	0	0	0	0	1.5	2.7	1.7	1.8	11.1	T	0	0	18.8
1937-38	0	0	0	T	0.7	4.1	5.3	3.2	2.1	T	0	0	15.4
1938-39	0	0	0	0	13.4	0.2	16.1	0.9	3.3	0.1	0	0	34.0

Season	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total
1938-40	0	0	0	0	T	6.5	7.6	19.2	3.5	1.7	0	0	38.5
1940-41	0	0	0	1.0	2.0	2.3	19.7	9.2	17.6	0	0	0	51.8
1941-42	0	0	0	0	0	0.7	7.3	2.7	1.3	T	0	0	12.0
1942-43	0	0	0	0	T	6.6	12.5	8.0	8.8	1.2	0	0	37.1
1943-44	0	0	0	0	T	0.1	4.2	8.3	13.9	4.8	0	0	31.3
1944-45	0	0	0	T	0.3	10.7	23.4	7.0	0	T	0	0	41.4
1945-46	0	0	0	0	T	16.5	2.7	10.2	T	0	0	0	29.4
1946-47	0	0	0	0	0	1.9	5.6	19.1	5.5	0	0	0	32.1
1947-48	0	0	0	0	T	7.2	18.9	17.2	0.9	0	0	0	44.2
1948-49	0	0	0	0	T	9.6	7.2	9.1	2.5	T	T	0	28.4
1949-50	0	0	0	0	0.2	4.5	T	3.9	2.2	T	0	0	10.8
1950-51	0	0	0	0	1.7	3.7	4.9	1.5	0.6	0	0	0	12.4
1951-52	0	0	0	0	T	13.3	5.1	0.3	5.0	T	0	0	23.7
1952-53	0	0	0	T	2.7	5.7	5.3	0.3	3.0	T	T	0	17.0
1953-54	0	0	0	0	11.5	T	12.3	3.8	T	0.2	0	0	27.8
1954-55	0	0	0	0	T	0.8	4.1	8.5	2.6	T	0	0	16.0
1955-56	0	0	0	0	2.7	1.2	3.8	3.8	11.2	0.5	0	0	23.2
1956-57	0	0	0	0	T	0.1	6.4	7.6	1.1	1.0	0	0	16.2
1957-58	0	0	0	0	T	5.0	5.7	21.0	21.5	T	0	0	53.2
1958-59	0	0	0	0	0.9	4.0	3.9	1.7	4.8	1.1	0	0	16.4
1959-60	0	0	0	0	T	7.3	0.5	7.2	16.4	T	0	0	31.4
1960-61	0	0	0	T	T	11.5							

The horizontal lines drawn on the Average Temperature, Total Precipitation, Monthly and Seasonal Degree Days, and Monthly and Seasonal Snowfall tables separate the data according to station location (see Station Location table).

STATION LOCATION

Location	Occupied from	Occupied to	Airline distance and direction from previous location	Latitude	Longitude	Elevation above								REMARKS	
						Sea level		Ground							
						Ground	Actual barometer elevation (ft.)	Wind instruments	Extreme thermometers	Psychrometer	Telepsychrometer	Tipping bucket rain gage	Weighting rain gage		8" rain gage
35-37 North 6th Street	12- 1-12	12- 1-32		40° 20' N	75° 58' W	264	323	98	83	81		73			
County Court Bldg.	12- 1-32	2-23-40	App.20 ft.S	40° 20' N	75° 58' W	264	514	306	285	283		275		275	New and better quarters secured in County Court Bldg.
31-33 North 6th Street															
P. O. Bldg. 5th and Washington	2-23-40	Present	App.200 ft. W	40° 20' N	75° 58' W	266	289	*306	49	47		40		40	Quarters assigned in the new Post Office Building. *Wind tower housing direction and velocity unit still located on top of the Berks County Court House. Rental of \$175 per annum for space involved. Rain gage, sunshine recorder and thermometer shelter on roof of P.O.Bldg.