

## Pennsylvania Climate Impact Assessment Report Topics in Focus:

# Pennsylvania Summers

A team of researchers from Penn State assessed the effects of changing weather conditions on agriculture, health, tourism, forestry, and energy in the 2015 Pennsylvania Climate Impact Assessment Update. The report also provides recommendations to help Pennsylvanians prepare and respond.

Summer temperatures in Pennsylvania's cities are expected to continue to increase and resemble the current temperatures in cities to the south. The map below illustrates these expected future (2041-2070) changes if current trends in heat-trapping emissions continue.

## What's Changing?

If current trends of heat-trapping emissions continue, Pennsylvania is expected to be about 3 °C (5.4 °F) warmer in 2041-2070 than it was in 1981-2000. In the future, Pennsylvania's cities will become more like cities to the south.

For example, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania has historically had an average summer temperature of 75.9 °F. But if current emissions trends continue, research indicates that Harrisburg's average temperature in the summer will increase to 81.3 °F, which is currently Birmingham, Alabama's average summer temperature.

How hot it feels is also dependent upon the humidity, wind speed, cloud cover, and other factors that are not considered in these estimates.



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More

These are just a few points of interest regarding changes to climate in Pennsylvania. Explore this Topic in Focus further, as well as other topics of interest to you, by visiting <http://psiee.psu.edu/climate-impacts> or call the Penn State Environment and Natural Resources Institute at 814-863-9287.

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