

# How is climate related to weather?

Well, **weather** is a bunch of bizarre events that happens in the atmosphere all over the world.

**Climate** helps you understand the **weather** in your own part of the world.

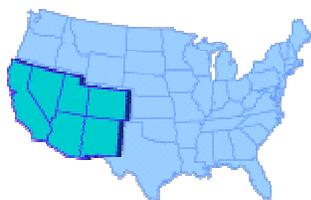
Here's a simple explanation of **weather**: *it's what happens outside.*

The air, or atmosphere, around us behaves in different ways. It changes when it's hot or cold, and when it's wet or dry. It acts differently when it's calm or stormy, and clear or cloudy. The atmosphere reacts to everything from rain to sunshine. A snow flurry is weather. Thunder and lightning are **weather**, too. Sometimes the atmosphere behaves violently, and sometimes it's peaceful and quiet. Either way, it's weather. Meteorologists record the weather every day. The constant recording of weather information helps to determine the **climate** of an area.

**Climate** is the average **weather** in a location over a long period of time. A place that doesn't get much rain over many years would have a dry climate. A place where it stays cold for most of the year would have a cold climate.

**Climate** is useful for weather forecasting. It also helps determine when the best time would be for farmers to plant their crops. It could even be helpful for you and your family to plan a vacation

In other words, look out your window any day, any time and you see **weather**. Look out your window every day for a month or longer, observe the **weather** each day, and you can determine the **climate**.



The Southwestern region includes the states of Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah.

## Climate in January

January is a cool to mild month with most areas remaining very dry. The wettest areas can be found along the California coast. Elevation is important as well. The higher you go, the colder and snowier it gets.

Facts & Figures for January	Highs / Lows	Precip.	Snow	Rain
Albuquerque, NM	47° / 23°	0.4"	2.5"	0.1"
Colorado Springs, CO	41° / 17°	0.3"	5.0"	0.1"
Phoenix, AZ	66° / 41°	0.8"	Trace	0.8"
San Francisco, CA	56° / 42°	4.2"	Trace	4.2"

Adapted from:

[http://weathereye.kgan.com/cadet/climate/climate\\_vs.html](http://weathereye.kgan.com/cadet/climate/climate_vs.html)

# How is climate related to weather?

## Climate in July

July is warm and dry, with the hottest temperatures over the California and Arizona deserts. It is cooler along the coast because the air blowing off the Pacific Ocean is cooler. There is very little rain, but most of the rain falls in the mountains during thunderstorms.

### Facts & Figures for July

	<b>Highs / Lows</b>	<b>Rain</b>
Albuquerque, NM	92° / 65°	1.3"
Colorado Springs, CO	85° / 57°	2.5"
Phoenix, AZ	105° / 80°	0.8"
San Francisco, CA	71° / 54°	Trace

### Extremes

- The **hottest** recorded temperature in the Southwestern region is 134 degrees Fahrenheit in Greenland Ranch, California on July 10, 1913.
- The **coldest** recorded temperature is -69 degrees Fahrenheit in Peter's Sink, Utah on February 1, 1985.

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