## ECONOMIC PROFILE

### Climate Data

# Park City & Summit County Utah

Prepared by
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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE | CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

#### CLIMATE DATA

Park City sits at the mouth of a small north-south canyon along the east slopes of the Wasatch Mountains. The canyon opens into a high mountain valley, where elevations range from about 6,400 to 7,000 feet above sea level. The valley is protected by the surrounding mountains, which rise to over 10,000 feet in some areas.

The varied topography influences the general climate of the area. Cooler air from surrounding mountain slopes collects in the Snyderville Basin area and forms a shallow nocturnal inversion during much of the year, especially in the winter months. Average winter minimum temperatures in Park City are in the low-teens, with highs in the mid 30s. Temperatures as cold as -30 degrees Fahrenheit have been recorded in Park City. Sheltered by the surrounding mountains, strong winds seldom develop in the valleys but can be very gusty over the ridges and in surrounding open areas.

The heaviest precipitation occurs during the winter and early spring months. Nearly three quarters of the area's annual moisture typically falls between December and March, predominantly as snow. The average annual snowfall for Park City is 140 inches, more than double the amount received at the Salt Lake International Airport. To supplement those rare times with minimal snowfall the local ski resorts have installed snowmaking equipment.

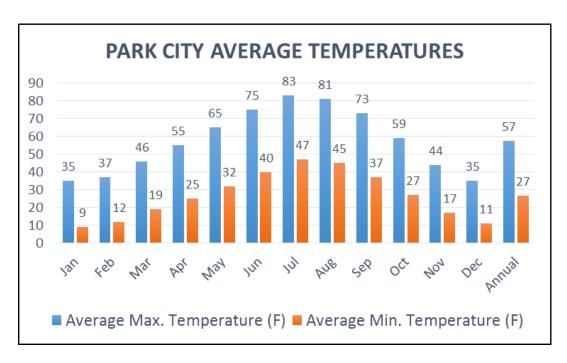
The dry powdery snow found at Utah's 14 ski resorts is considered to be the "greatest snow on earth".

(Utah facts 1995-96)

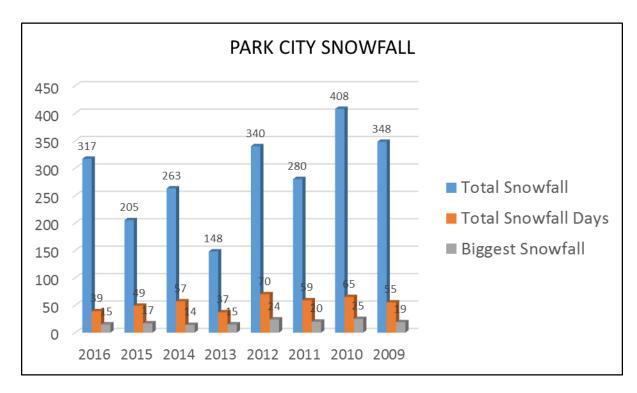
Summer nights are cool and crisp as cooled air flows down the mountain slopes. The average minimum July temperature is only 47 degrees Fahrenheit. Daytime maximum temperatures in July average 83 degrees Fahrenheit, with temperatures occasionally reaching into the upper 90s. Summer thunderstorms build up over the western Wasatch Mountains and drift across the area, especially during late July and into August. June through September moisture averages a little over an inch each month, with September being the driest month of the year.

The average length of the growing season in the Park City area is a little over 100 days and may be as long as 120 days in some parts of the valley.

Source: Utah Climate Center – Utah State University, National Weather Service Updated June 2016



Source: U.S. Climate Data www.usclimatedata.com/limate/park-city/utah/united-states/usut0390 *Updated June 2016* 



Source: On The Snow www.onthesnow.com

Updated June 2016

#### **UTAH CLIMATE CENTER WEBSITE**

Utah State University's Utah Climate Center makes climate data and reports readily available to the general public through its website (<a href="https://climate.usurf.usu.edu">https://climate.usurf.usu.edu</a>). There, users can find a variety of information from daily forecasts to historical averages for temperature, freeze dates, precipitation and more. Reports are available for every weather station, both active and inactive, in the Center's database and links to other climate resources are provided. The Climate Center also designs new reports to meet the needs of agriculture, natural resources, government, industry, tourism and educational organizations throughout the intermountain region.

#### HELPFUL CLIMATE LINKS

Utah Climate Center: <a href="mailto:climate.usu.edu">climate.usu.edu</a>

Western Regional Climate Center: wrcc.dri.edu

MESOWEST from University of Utah: <a href="mesowest.utah.edu">mesowest.utah.edu</a> Utah Water Research Laboratory: <a href="engineering.usu.edu">engineering.usu.edu</a>

U.S. Drought Monitor: droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Utah Ski Weather: utahskiweather.com

Utah Snow Report: <a href="mailto:skiutah.com/snow\_report">skiutah.com/snow\_report</a>
Utah Avalanche Forecast: <a href="mailto:utahavalanchecenter.org">utahavalanchecenter.org</a>

More Links from the Utah Climate Center: climate.usurf.usu.edu/links.php