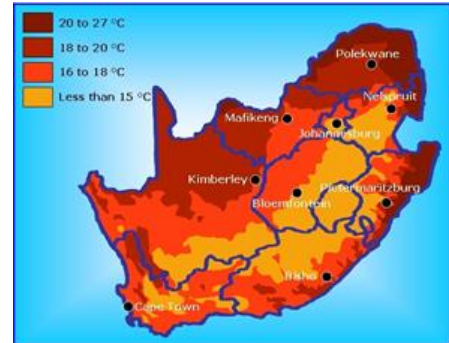




South African temperatures tend to be lower than that of other regions at the same latitude, such as Australia, due to the greater elevation of the continent above sea level.

There is very little difference in average temperatures from the south to the north, despite the latitudinal span of 13°, due to the increase in height towards the equator.

There is a mean annual temperature difference of 6°C between the east and west coasts, the latter being the colder of the two.



Winter temperatures rarely falls below 0°C. The maximum summer temperatures are often above 35°C, sometimes exceeding 38°C in the lower Orange River valley and the Mpumalanga Lowveld.

Provincial Capitals	Mean Temperature °C	
	January	July
Western Cape, Cape Town	20.9	12.2
Eastern Cape, Bisho	22.1	13.8
Northern Cape, Kimberley	25.3	10.8
Free State, Bloemfontein	23.0	7.7
KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg	22.9	12.9
North-West, Mafikeng	24.1	12.0
Gauteng, Johannesburg	20.1	10.4
Mpumalanga, Nelspruit	24.0	14.8
Limpopo, Polokwane	22.6	12.2