

TERMINAL AIRPORT FORECASTS (TAF)

The format of the TAF is essentially the same as that of the aviation routine weather report (METAR).

TAF KPIT 091730Z 091818 15005KT 5SM HZ FEW020 WS010/31022KT
1 2 3 4 5 6

FM 1930 30015G25KT 3SM SHRA OVC015 TEMPO 2022 1/2SM +TSRA OVC008CB
7 8 9

FM0100 27008KT 5SM SHRA BKN020 OVC040 PROB40 0407 1SM -RA BR
10

FM1015 18005KT 6SM -SHRA OVC020 BECMG 1315 P6SM NSW SKC
11 12 13

1. Type of Forecast (TAF - routine or TAF AMD - amended).
2. Station Designator (K indicates contiguous U.S.).
3. Date (2 digits) and Time (4 digits, UTC) or issuance.
4. Valid period: Date (2 digits), Beginning Time (2 digits, UTC), Ending Time (2 digits, UTC).
5. Wind, Visibility, Weather and/or Obstructions to Visibility, Sky Condition (per METAR code).
6. In U.S. TAF, non-convective low-level (at or below 2,000 ft) Wind Shear. (3 digit height in hundreds of feet / 3 digit true wind direction, 2 or 3 digit wind speed. KT indicates knots).
7. From M 2 digit hour and 2 digit minute beginning time indicates significant change. Each FM group begins a new line.
8. TEMPorary changes expected for less than 1 hour total and less than half of 2 digit hour beginning and 2 digit hour ending time period.
9. Cloud type - Cumulonimbus only (CB).
10. PROBability and 2 digit percent (30 or 40). Probable condition during 2 digit hour beginning and 2 digit hour ending time period.
11. BECoMing - change expected during 2 digit hour beginning and 2 digit hour ending time period.
12. Visibility - Plus 6SM indicates more than 6 miles.
13. No Significant Weather (NSW).

Forecast for Pittsburgh International airport issued on 9th day of month at 1730Z. Valid from 1800Z on the 9th to 1800Z on the 10th. Wind from 150° at 5 knots, visibility 5 statute miles, haze, few clouds, bases at 2,000 feet AGL. Non-convective low-level wind shear - at 1,000 feet AGL wind from 310° at 22 knots.

From 1930Z, wind from 300° at 15 knots, gusts to 25 knots, visibility 3 statute miles with rain showers, ceiling 1,500 overcast. Between 2000Z and 2200Z expect temporary conditions of visibility 1/2 statute mile, thunderstorm, heavy rain showers, ceiling 800 overcast, cumulonimbus clouds.

From 0100Z, wind from 270° at 8 knots, visibility 5 statute miles, rain showers, ceiling 2,000 broken, 4000 overcast, 40 percent probability of visibility 1 statute mile, light rain and mist, between 0400Z and 0700Z.

From 1015Z, wind from 180° at 5 knots, visibility 6 statute miles, light rain showers, ceiling 2,000 overcast. Becoming, between 1300Z and 1500Z, visibility more than 6 statute miles, no significant weather, sky clear.