

NORMAL BODY TEMPERATURE RANGES

°F

0 - 2 years

3 - 10 years

11 - 65 years

> 65 years

Oral	—	95.9 99.5	97.6 99.6	96.4 98.5
Rectal	97.9 100.4	97.9 100.4	98.6 100.6	97.1 99.2
Axillary	94.5 99.1	96.6 98.0	95.3 98.4	96.0 97.4
Ear	97.5 100.4	97.0 100.0	96.6 99.7	96.4 99.5
Core	97.5 100.0	97.5 100.0	98.2 100.2	96.6 98.8

Normal body temperature is a range. This table shows that normal temperatures vary by site. Therefore, readings from different sites, even if taken at the same time, should not be directly compared.

References are located in the Operator's Manual

Normal Body Temperature Ranges

Normal body temperature in a healthy person is a range that fluctuates throughout the day. Body temperature can vary as much as 1.0° to 2.0°F (0.5°C to 1.0°C) and is lowest in the morning (2-4 AM) while resting and is warmest in the afternoon (4-6 PM) while active.

Up to 5% of the population has a body temperature that falls outside of the normal range. Body temperature variation is the result of an individual's metabolic rate. Slower equals cooler and faster means higher normal body temperature. Metabolic rate is determined by factors such as genetic makeup, lifestyle, age, and environment.

Body temperature is regulated by the hypothalamus that continuously adjusts temperature to stay within a set range of normal in the absence of illness.

Fever is defined as a temperature above an individual's normal range. Fever occurs from an infection or inflammation or can also be caused by noninfectious illnesses such as stroke, blood clots, or gout attacks.

Different sites equal different temperatures:

- > Rectal temperature is typically higher than Core
- > Core is typically higher than Oral
- > Oral is typically higher than Axillary

Should I add/subtract a degree?

This question can only be answered based on the policy of your individual institution. The SureTemp® Plus will accurately predict the temperature of the site where the probe is placed. No internal offsets are utilized to adjust any temperature to an oral equivalent. Many facilities simply report a temperature along with the site used.

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