

# Drought Information Statement for Eastern Ohio, Northern West Virginia and Western Pennsylvania Valid July, 18, 2024

Issued By: NWS Pittsburgh, PA

Contact Information: [nws.pittsburgh@noaa.gov](mailto:nws.pittsburgh@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated August, 1, 2024 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/pbz/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.

- Extreme drought has been introduced into Tucker county, WV.
- Expansion of severe drought into eastern Ohio and northern WV





# U.S. Drought Monitor

July 18, 2024  
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Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for eastern Ohio, northern West Virginia, and western Pennsylvania

NEW

## Key Messaging

- Extreme Drought Conditions have been expanded to the eastern WV Panhandle including Tucker County.
- Drought Intensity and Extent
  - ◆ **D3 (Extreme Drought):** Tucker County
  - ◆ **D2 (Severe Drought):** northern Tucker county WV, portions of the northern WV panhandle and eastern Ohio
  - ◆ **D1 (Moderate Drought):** along I-70 and points south in OH, WV, and PA
  - ◆ **D0 (Abnormally Dry):** encompasses the remaining area except a portion of Beaver, Lawrence, and Mercer counties in PA

## U.S. Drought Monitor Pittsburgh, PA WFO

July 16, 2024  
(Released Thursday, Jul. 18, 2024)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

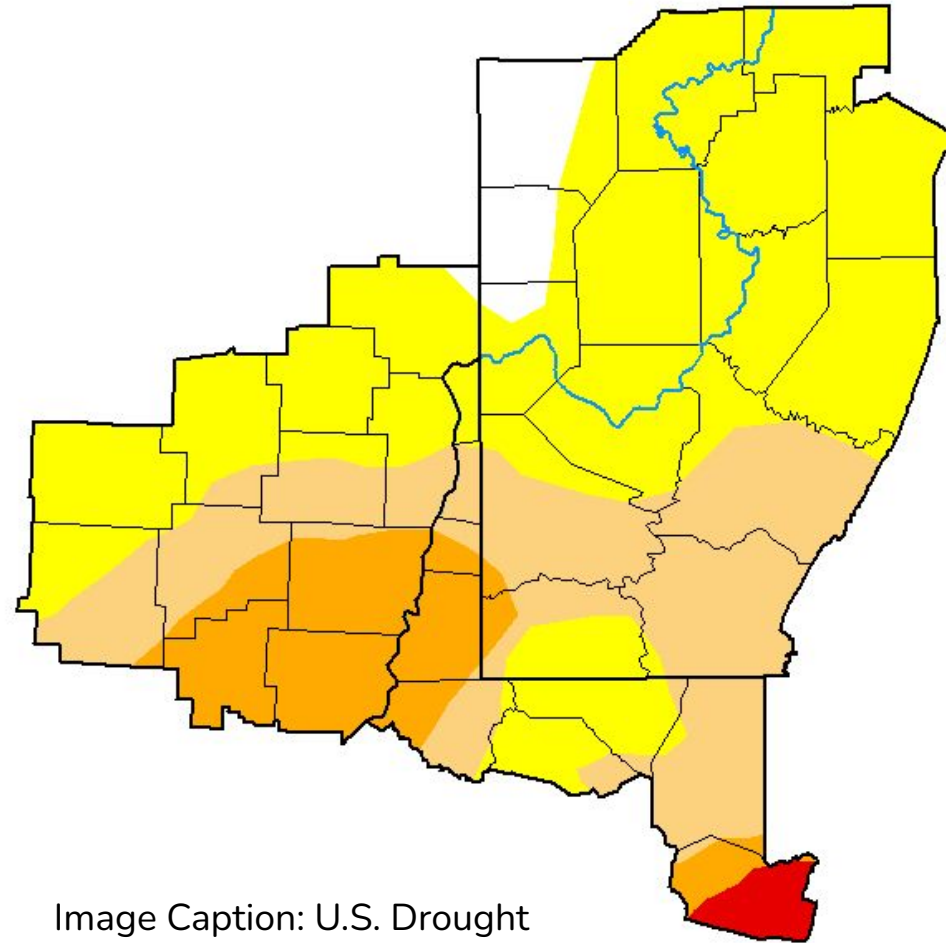


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor map valid July 18, 2024

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	4.66	95.34	40.03	13.86	1.40	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 07-09-2024	11.00	89.00	33.23	1.43	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 04-16-2024	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-02-2024	94.97	5.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-26-2023	80.00	20.00	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 07-18-2023	40.79	59.21	22.21	0.00	0.00	0.00

**Intensity:**

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

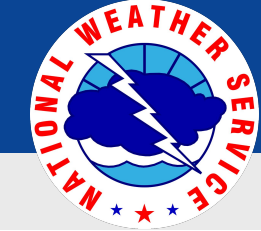
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

**Author:**  
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National Drought Mitigation Center



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)





# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for eastern Ohio, northern West Virginia, and western Pennsylvania

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought Worsened: Due to the lack of precipitation and high temperatures, much of the upper Ohio Valley went from no drought to a 2 category degradation.
  - No Change: Only portions of three counties in western PA remain out of abnormally dry conditions.

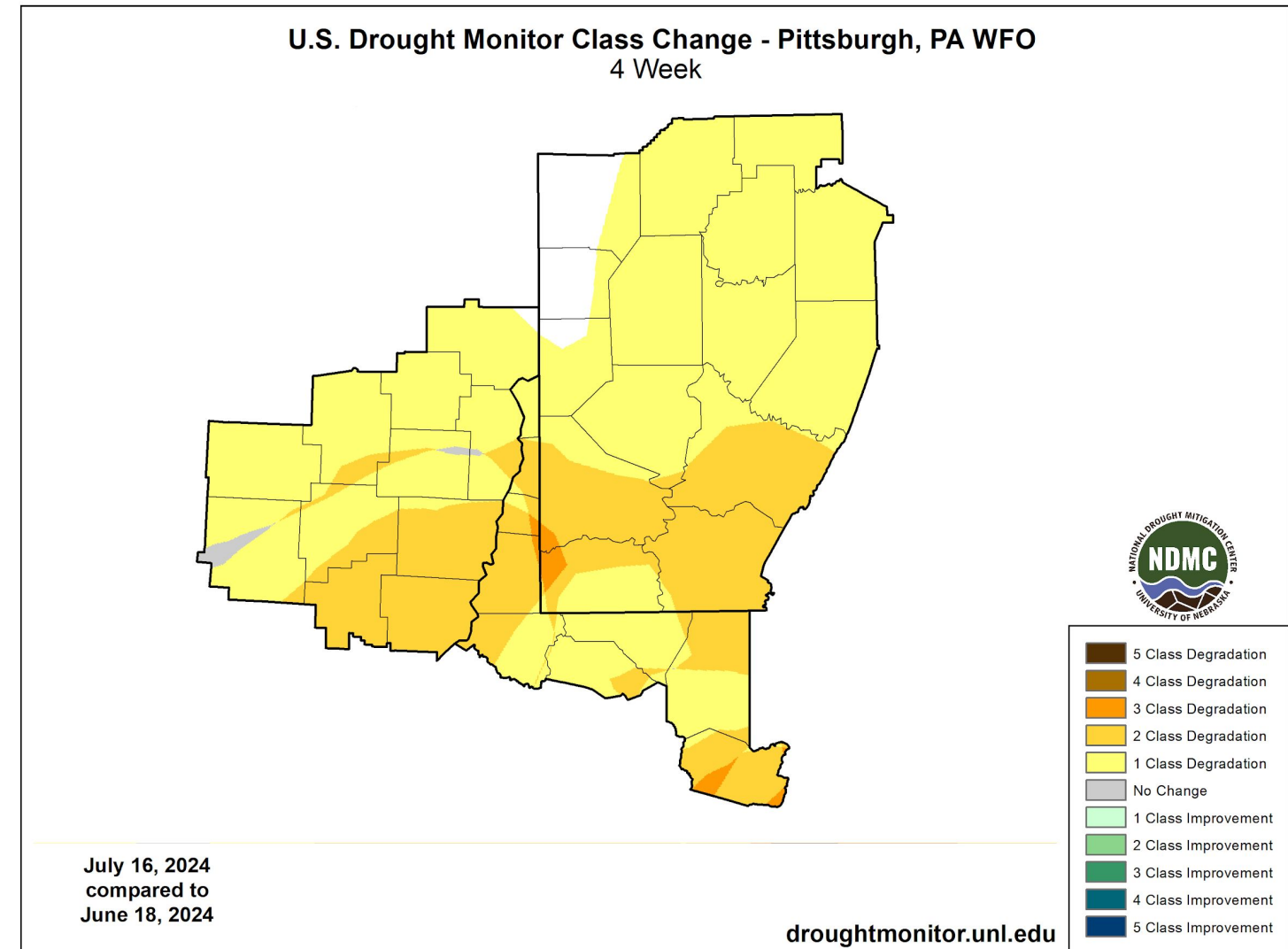


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid July 18, 2024





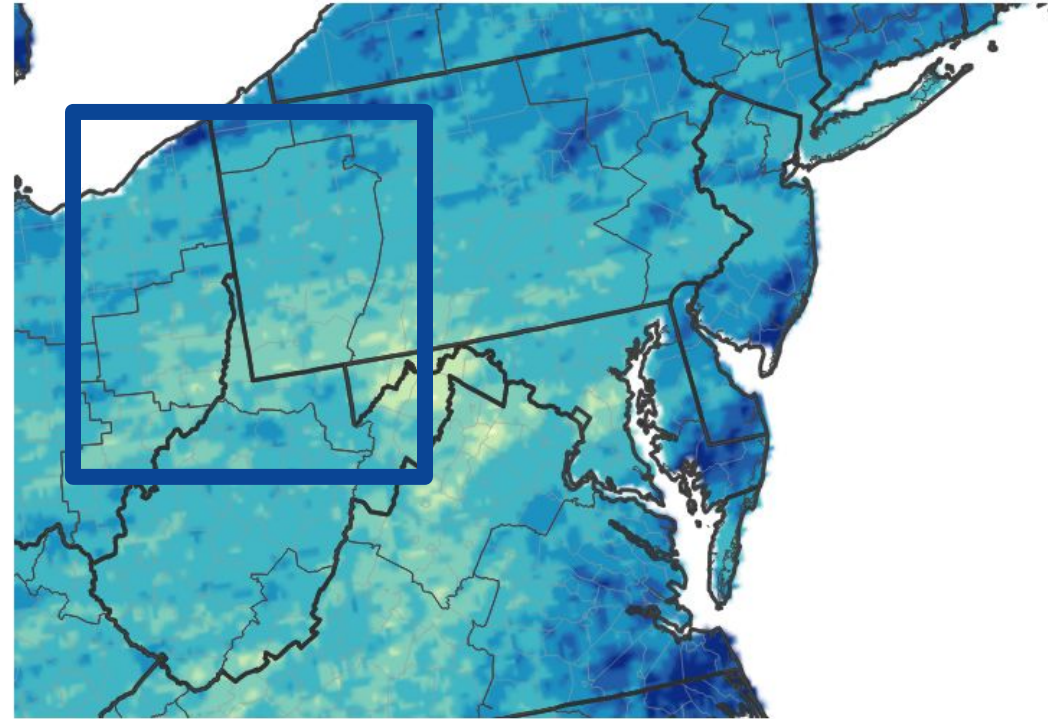
# Observed Precipitation

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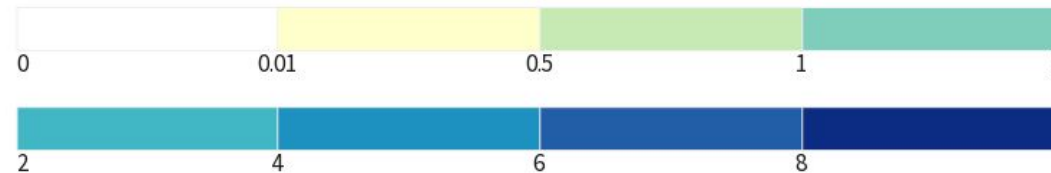
Data over the past 30 days

- Rainfall has averaged around 1-3 inches over the upper Ohio Valley during the last 30 days.
- These amounts are generally around 25-50% of normal for the past 30 day period.

NWPS 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)



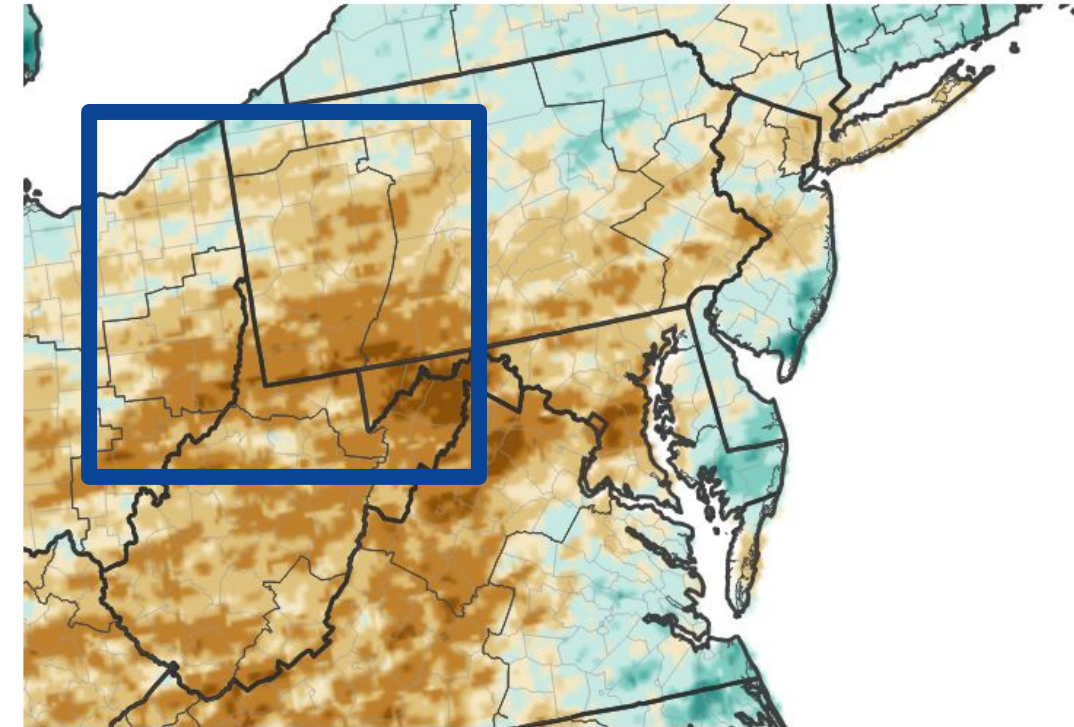
Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 07/17/24

30-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 07/17/24

Image Caption:

Left - Precipitation Amount Map for the Mid-Atlantic Region  
 Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation Map for the Mid-Atlantic Region  
 Data is Courtesy of the [National Centers for Environmental Information](https://www.ncep.noaa.gov/)  
 Data over the past 30 days ending July 17, 2024





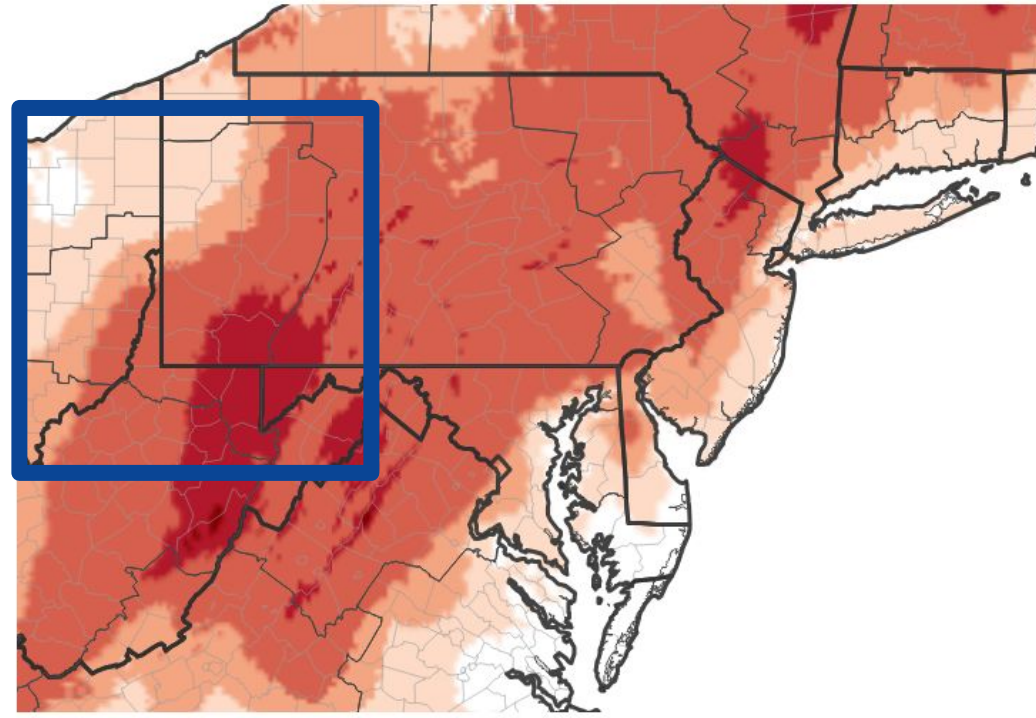


# Observed Temperature

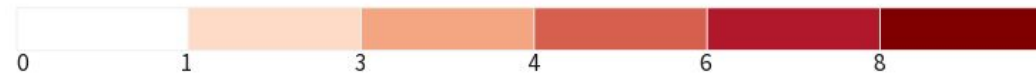
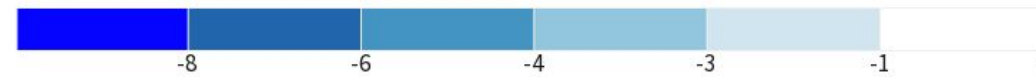
July 18, 2024  
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- Temperatures have been well above normal across eastern Ohio, northern West Virginia, and western Pennsylvania over the past 30 days.
- The combination of higher temperatures and lack of rainfall has contributed to the rapid deterioration in drought conditions.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



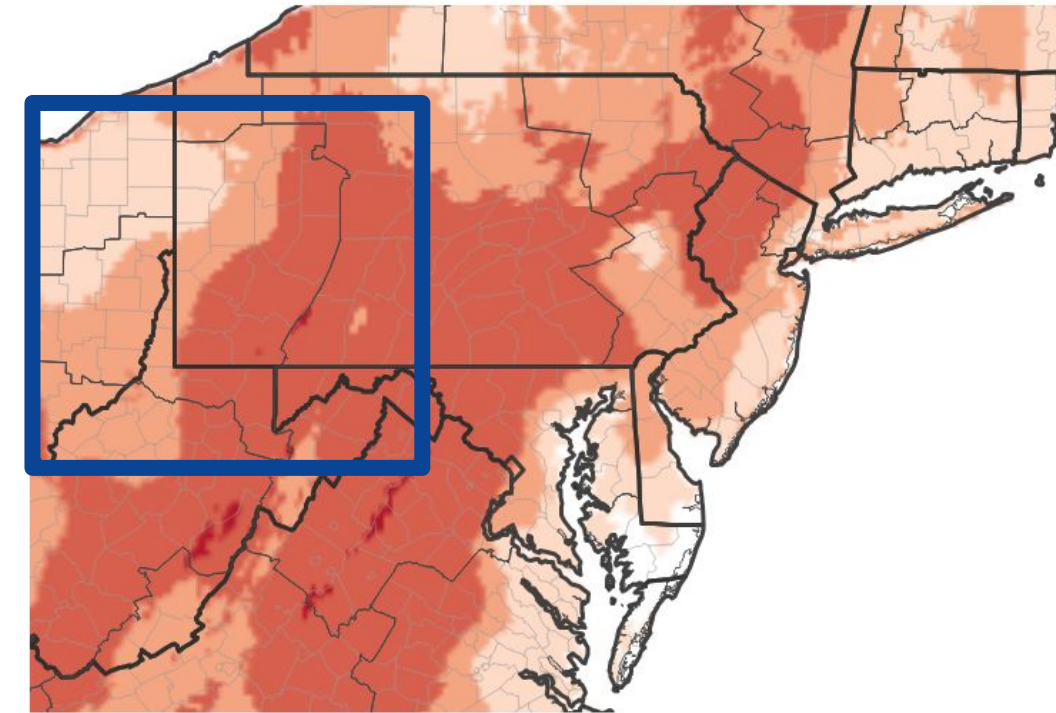
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



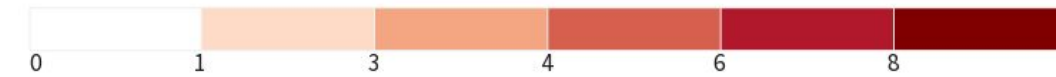
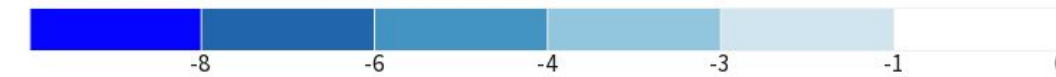
Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 07/14/24

30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 07/14/24

Image Caption:

Left - 7 Day Temperature Anomaly Map for the Mid-Atlantic Region  
 Right - 30 Day Temperature Anomaly Map for the Mid-Atlantic Region  
 Data is Courtesy of the [National Centers for Environmental Information](https://www.ncep.noaa.gov/)  
 Data over the past 30 days ending July 14, 2024





# Summary of Impacts

July 18, 2024

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Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

## Hydrologic Impacts

- No hydrologic impacts are noted currently. Although there have been some concerns about low flows impacting navigation, action has not been taken as of yet. Area streamflows are in the 10-25th percentile based on a 28 day average.

## Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture is at or below the 10th percentile across the upper Ohio Valley. See the [NWS Climate Prediction Center](#)
- Despite this, crop conditions remain in fair-good condition across the area. Some farmers are hauling water for livestock. [USDA](#)

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- The Keetch-Byram Drought Index is around 400-600, which is more indicative of late summer conditions. However, the fire risk remains low at this time. [WAFS/NIFC](#)

## Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

## Mitigation Actions

- None reported.





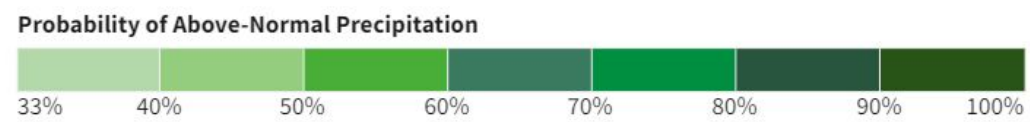
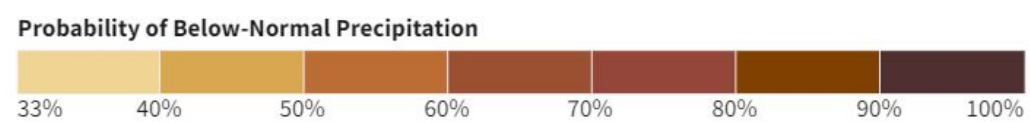
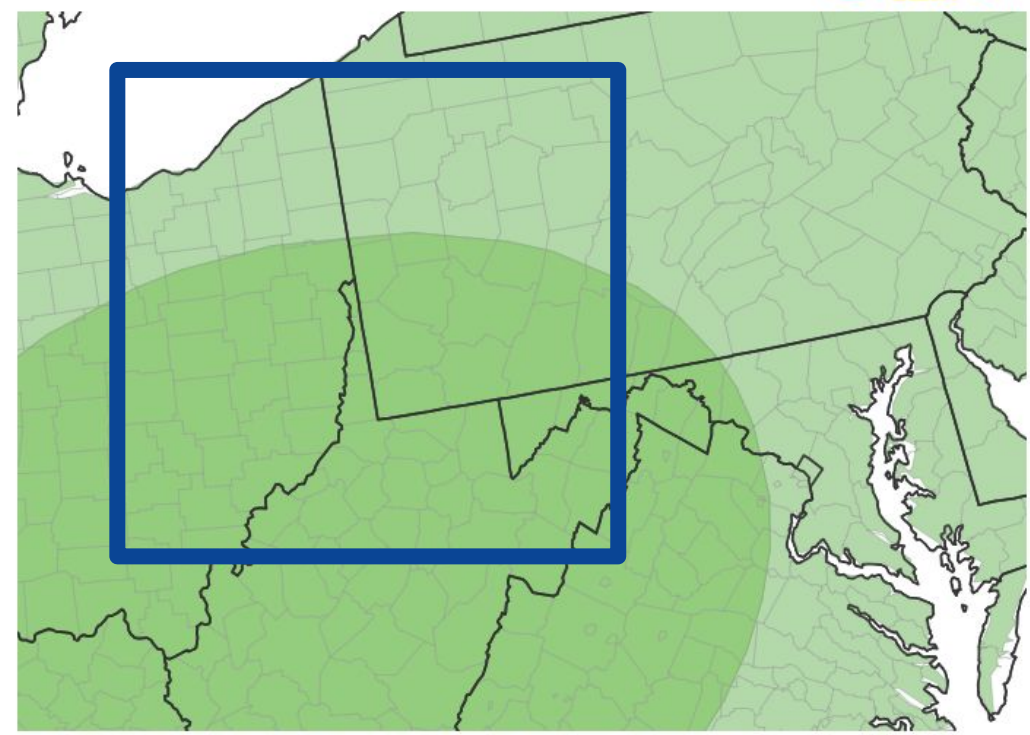
# Long-Range Outlooks

July 18, 2024  
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The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Temperatures will remain near or slightly above average across the region over the next 2 weeks.
- A return of SW flow and Gulf moisture should bring a better chance for precipitation. There is a 33-40% chance for above normal precipitation in the 8-14 day time range.

8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook for July 25-31, 2024



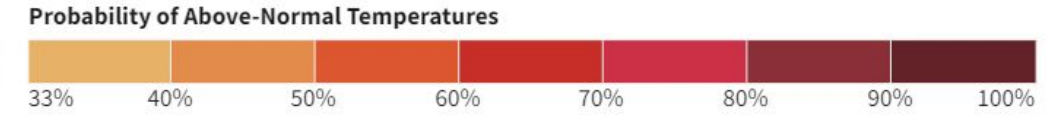
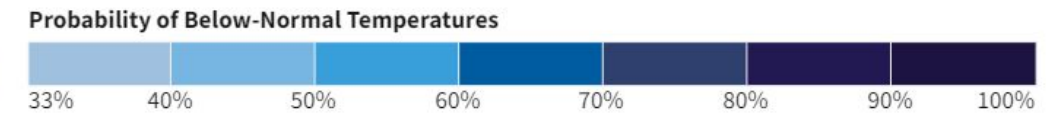
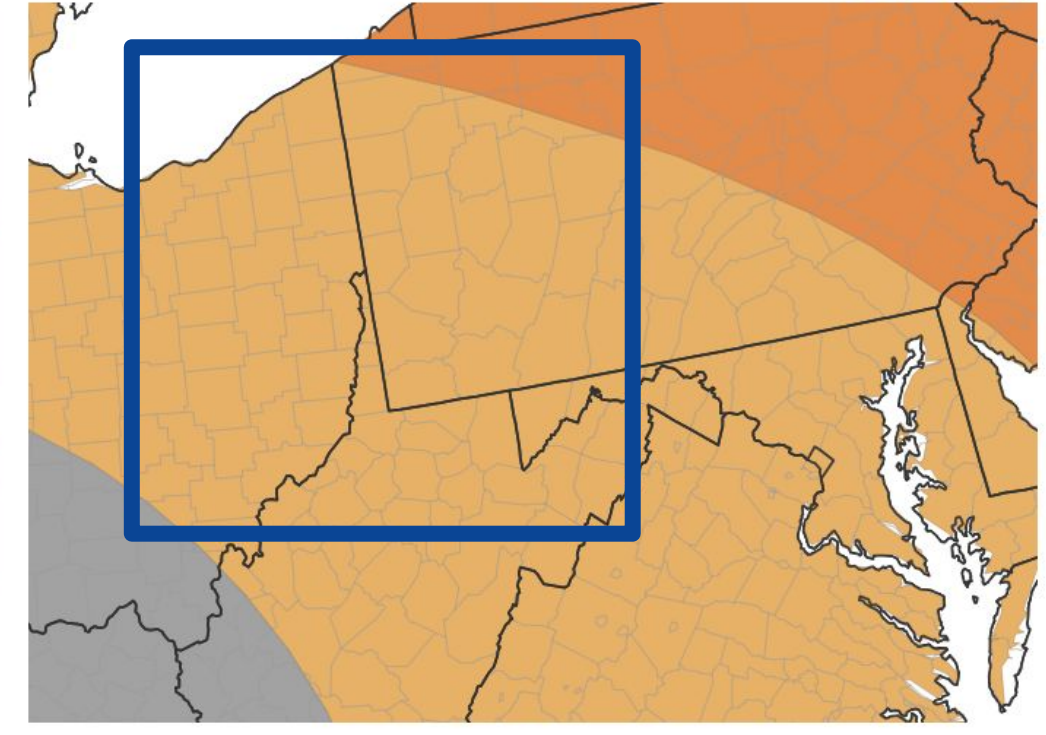
■ Near-Normal Conditions

This map shows the probability (percent chance) of above-normal, near-normal, or below-normal precipitation 8 to 14 days in the future.

Source(s): Climate Prediction Center  
Last Updated: 07/17/24

**Drought.gov**

8-14 Day Temperature Outlook for July 25-31, 2024



■ Near-Normal Conditions

This map shows the probability (percent chance) of above-normal, near-normal, or below-normal temperature 8 to 14 days in the future.

Source(s): Climate Prediction Center  
Last Updated: 07/17/24

**Drought.gov**





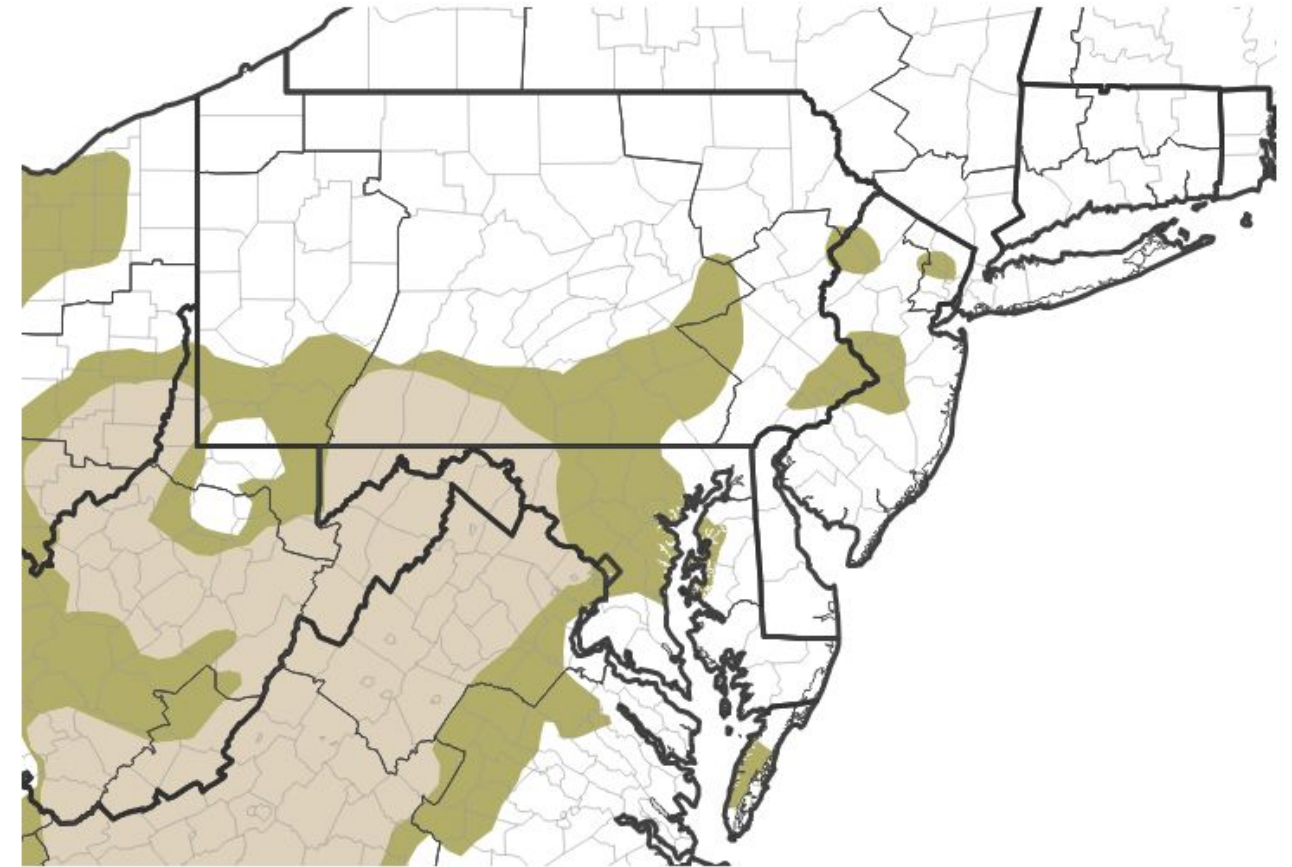
# Drought Outlook

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Information on the latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#).

- While short term drought should persist, and in some cases worsen, long term drought (3 months) does look to improve.

## Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook



### Drought Is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 07/18/24

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)