

## Drought Information Statement for

Eastern Ohio, Northern West Virginia and Western Pennsylvania Valid September 5, 2024

### Issued By: NWS Pittsburgh, PA

- This product will be updated September 19, 2024 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <a href="https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements">https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements</a>.
- Please visit <a href="https://www.weather.gov/pbz/DroughtInformationStatement">https://www.weather.gov/pbz/DroughtInformationStatement</a> for previous statements.
- Exceptional drought has been expanded to portions of eastern Ohio.
- Extreme drought has been expanded across eastern Ohio and northern West Virginia.
- General deterioration across much of the region.





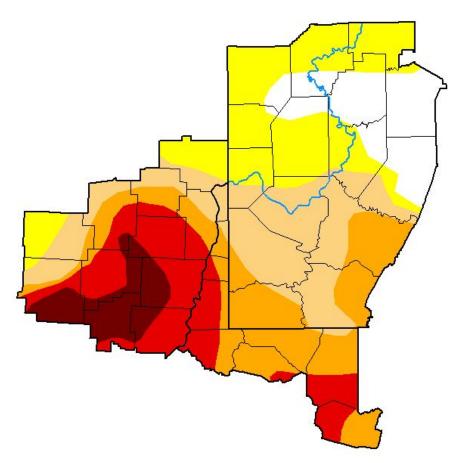




Link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor for eastern Ohio, northern West Virginia, and western Pennsylvania

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - D4 (Exceptional Drought): Portions of Muskingum, Noble, Guernsey, Tuscarawas, Harrison, Belmont, and Monroe counties in OH.
  - O D3 (Extreme Drought): Much of the rest of the aforementioned counties (above), the northern WV panhandle, Marion, Preston, and Tucker counties in WV.
  - D2 (Severe Drought): eastern OH, northern WV, and portions of Washington, Greene, Fayette and Westmoreland in PA
  - D1 (Moderate Drought): eastern Ohio and western PA from I-76 southward.
  - D0: (Abnormally Dry): Much of the rest of the region except for portions of the counties along the I-80.

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



#### September 3, 2024

(Released Thursday, Sep. 5, 2024)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	12.50	87.50	65.13	42.97	22.28	6.66
Last Week 08-27-2024	22.96	77.04	54.60	39.84	13.73	0.00
3 Month's Ago 06-04-2024	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-02-2024	94.97	5.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	80.00	20.00	0. 11	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 09-05-2023	99.32	0.68	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

None D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate 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

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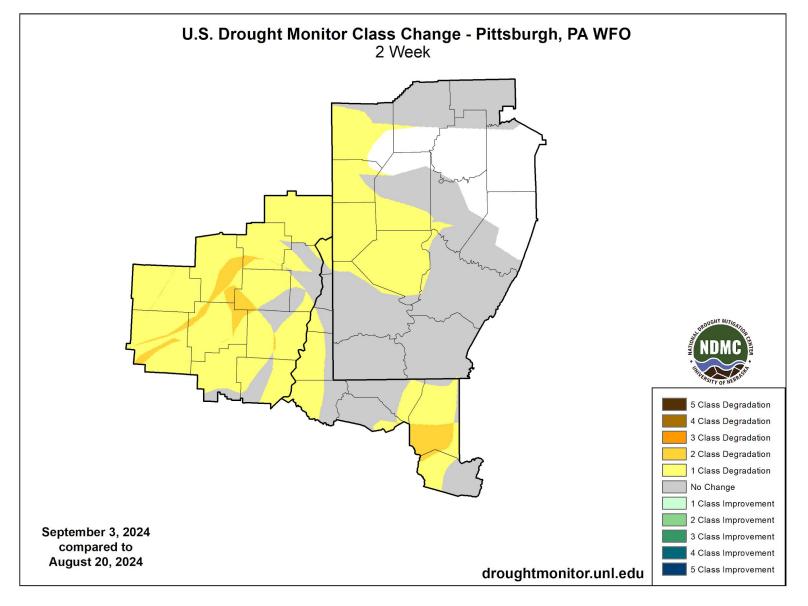


droughtmonitor.unl.edu

## Recent Change in Drought Intensity

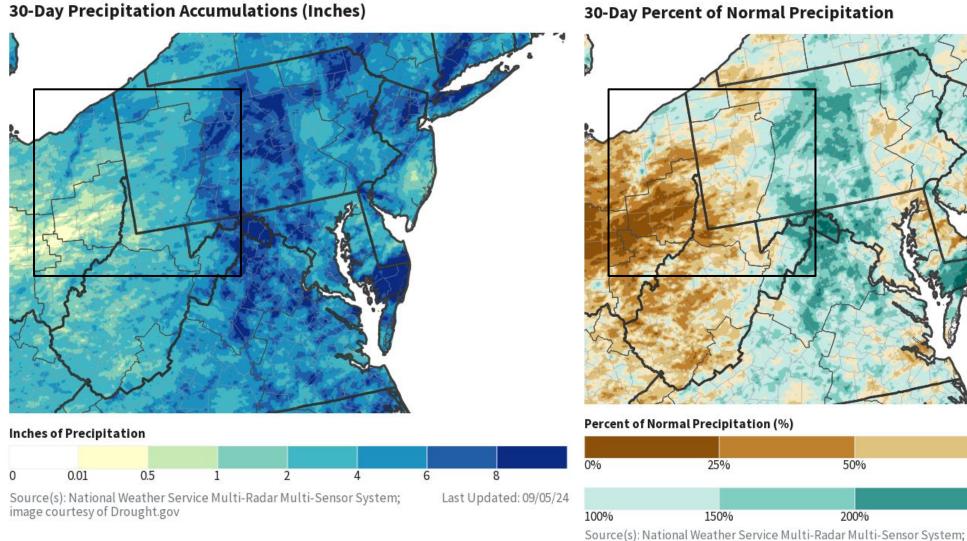
Link to the latest 2-week change map for eastern Ohio, northern West Virginia, and western Pennsylvania

- Two Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought Worsened: across much of eastern Ohio, northern West Virginia and Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Lawrence and Mercer counties in PA.
  - No Change: much if southwestern PA and Venango and Forest PA.
  - Drought Improved: None.



# Precipitation

- While some areas of western PA received rounds of rain from thunderstorms or the remnant of hurricane Debby, much of the rest of the region experienced below average precipitation over the last 30 days.
- Precipitation in eastern Ohio and the northern West Virginia panhandle is less than 25% of normal.



# **30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation** Percent of Normal Precipitation (%) 50% 75% 100%

200%

150%

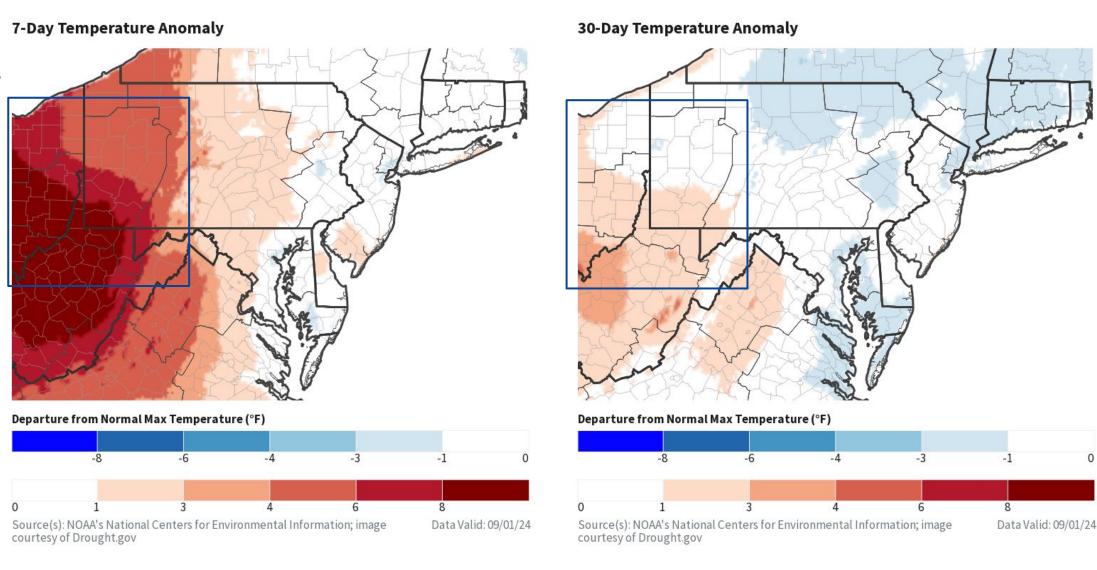
image courtesy of Drought.gov

300%

Last Updated: 09/05/24

# Temperature

- Continued above average temperatures over much of the upper Ohio valley has only exacerbated conditions in the areas in severe to exceptional drought.
- Average temperature over the last week were 6-8 degrees above average.





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

### **Hydrologic Impacts**

• Streamflows remain well below normal in both the last 14 and 30 day timeframes, especially in the Monongahela, Ohio and Muskingum River basins and sub-basins. Recreation on many lakes and reservoirs is ending early due to seasonally low pool levels.

### **Agricultural Impacts**

- Soil moisture remains in the 1-5% over much of eastern Ohio and northern West Virginia.
- Some deterioration in crop conditions is being noted, especially in Ohio and West Virginia. Hay and pasture growth has been limited in Ohio. Some farmers are hauling water for livestock. <u>USDA</u>

### **Fire Hazard Impacts**

 Significant Wildfire Potential Outlook is above normal for portions of eastern Ohio, northern West Virginia, and southwestern Pennsylvania. <u>NIFC</u>

#### **Other Impacts**

• There are no known impacts at this time

### **Mitigation Actions**

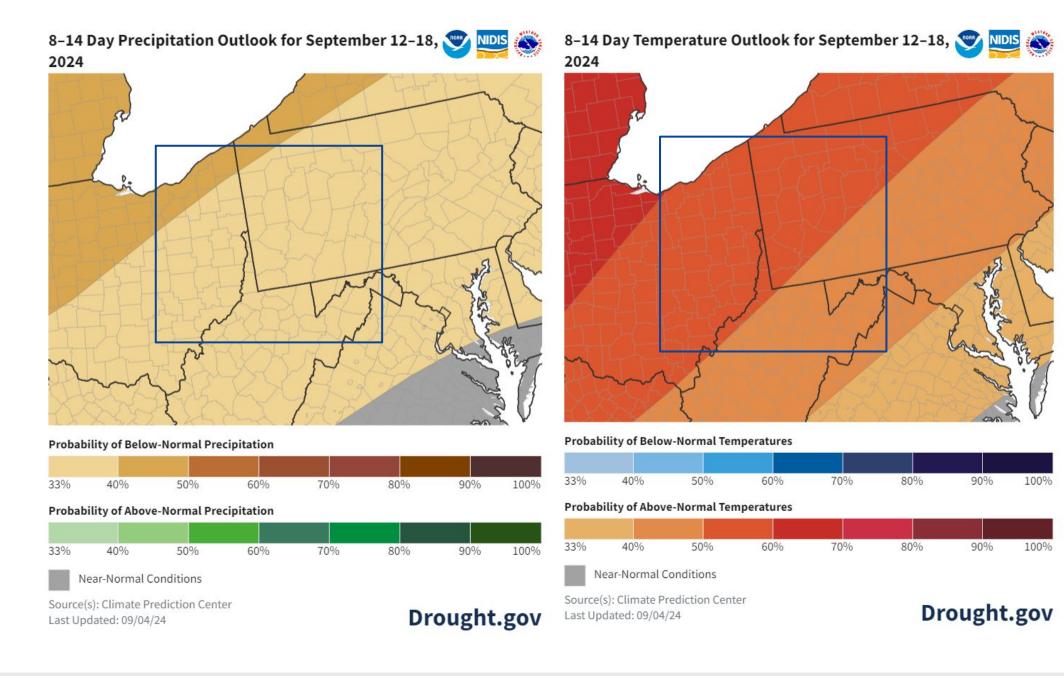
Some voluntary water restrictions have been put in place.



## Long-Range Outlooks

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

- Both dry and warm conditions are expected over the next two weeks.
- This will continue to support deteriorating conditions, with minimal precipitation forecast at this time.





## **Drought Outlook**

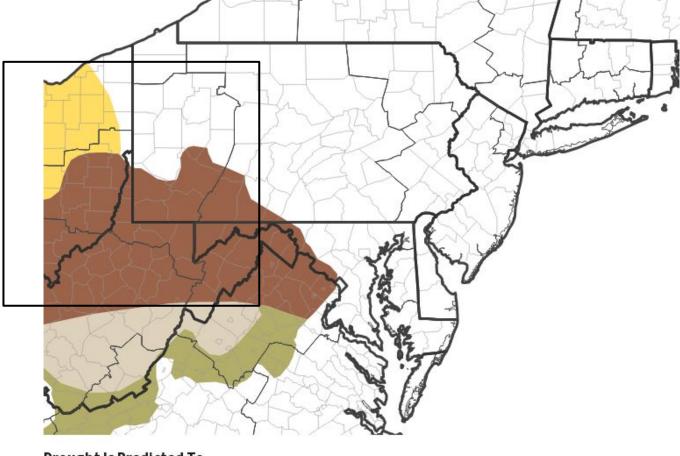
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 With no long range signal for cool and wet weather at this point, drought conditions are projected to persist, both during the rest of September and for much of the fall season.

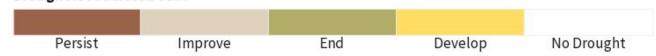
#### Links to the latest:

Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook

#### 1-Month Drought Outlook for September 1, 2024–September 30, 2024







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

Last Updated: 08/31/24

