

Drought Information Statement for Eastern Ohio, Northern West Virginia and Western Pennsylvania Valid October 3, 2024

Issued By: NWS Pittsburgh, PA

- This product will be updated no later than October 17, 2024
 - Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
 - Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/pbz/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
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- Some slight improvements across the forecast area.
 - Exceptional drought remains across portions of Muskingum, Guernsey, Noble, Harrison, Belmont and Monroe counties in OH.





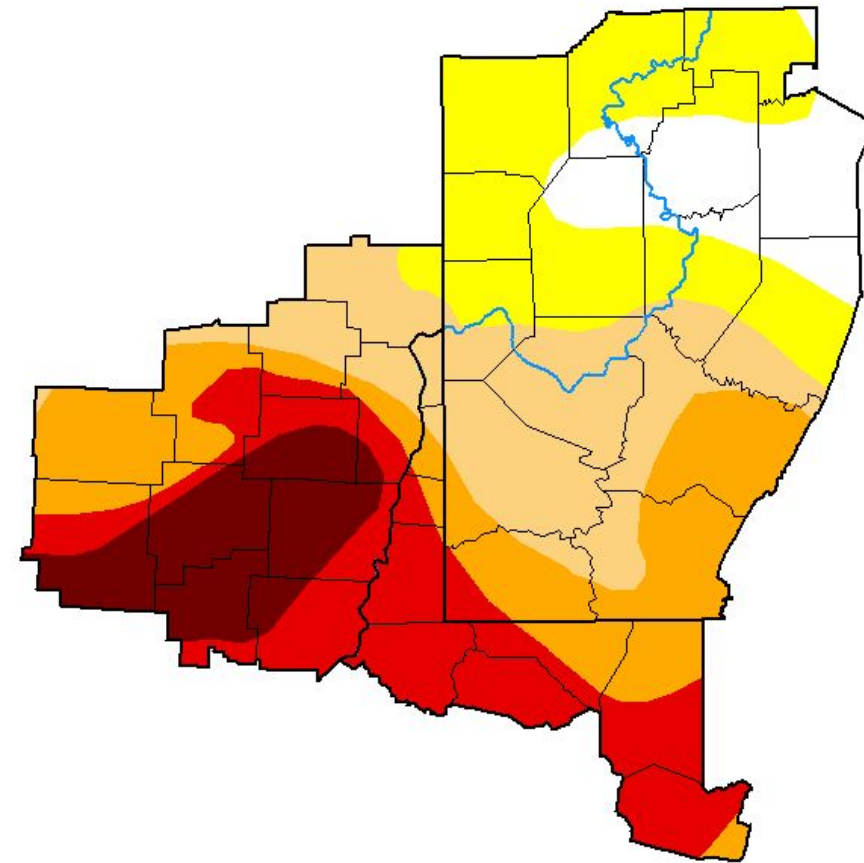
U.S. Drought Monitor

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, Jefferson, Harrison, Belmont, and Monroe counties in OH.
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Tuscarawas, Carroll, Jefferson, Muskingum, Harrison, Guernsey, Belmont, and Monroe OH; the northern WV panhandle, Marion, Monongalia, Preston, and Tucker counties in WV.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Coshocton, Jefferson, Carroll, Jefferson, Muskingum and Guernsey OH; Brooke, Ohio, Monongalia, Preston, and eastern Tucker 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

October 1, 2024
(Released Thursday, Oct. 3, 2024)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

| | None | D0-D4 | D1-D4 | D2-D4 | D3-D4 | D4 |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Current | 10.17 | 89.83 | 69.02 | 48.43 | 28.75 | 10.30 |
| Last Week <i>09-24-2024</i> | 6.35 | 93.65 | 72.08 | 50.95 | 30.96 | 10.53 |
| 3 Months Ago <i>07-02-2024</i> | 14.32 | 85.68 | 9.86 | 0.53 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Start of Calendar Year <i>01-02-2024</i> | 94.97 | 5.03 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Start of Water Year <i>09-26-2023</i> | 80.00 | 20.00 | 0.11 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| One Year Ago <i>10-03-2023</i> | 28.16 | 71.84 | 0.11 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

Intensity:



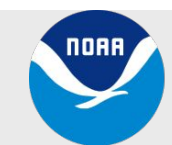
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

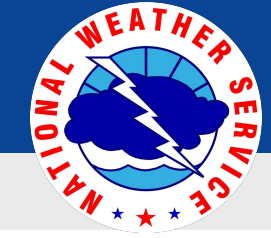
Author:

Richard Tinker
CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

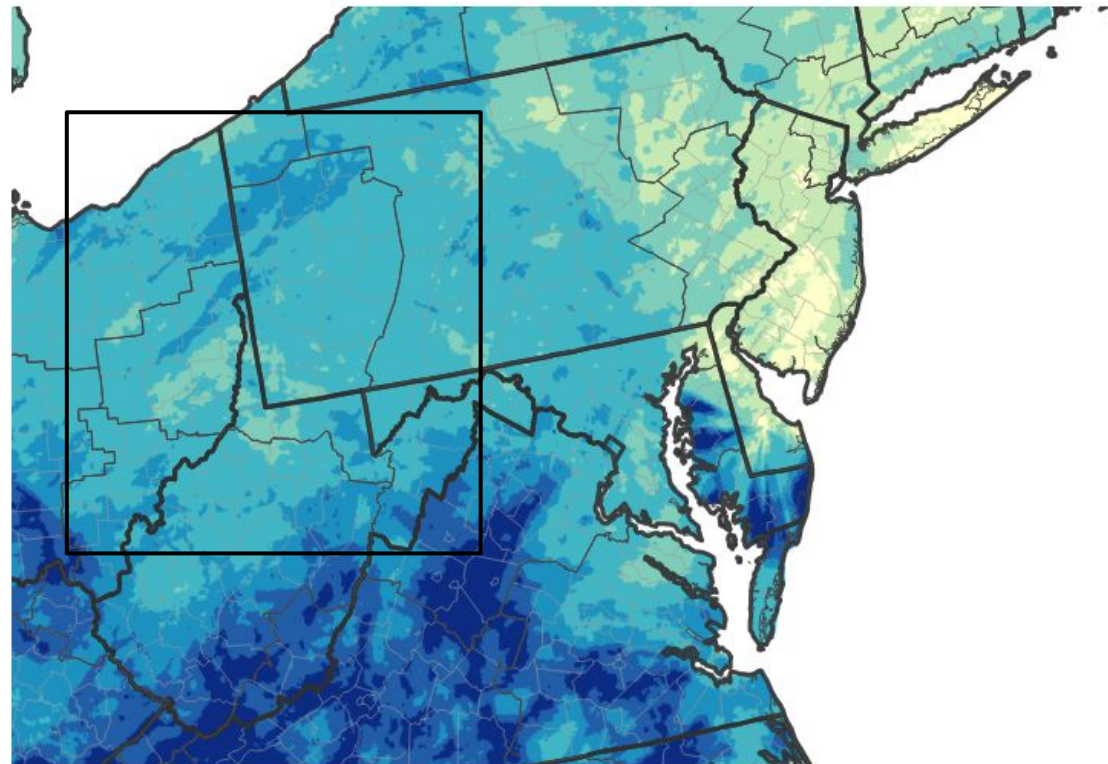




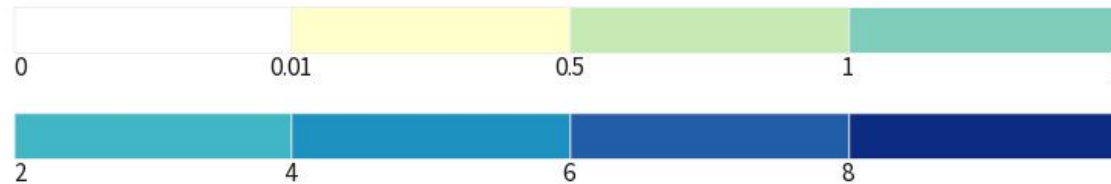
Precipitation

- Much of western PA and northern WV had 0.50-1.50 inches of rain, with isolated higher amounts over the last week, which is near or slightly above average.
- Unfortunately this did not include some of the areas of eastern Ohio experiencing the worst of the Drought, where precipitation was closer to .10-.50 inches. And in the last 30 days, this area remains at 25-50% of normal.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



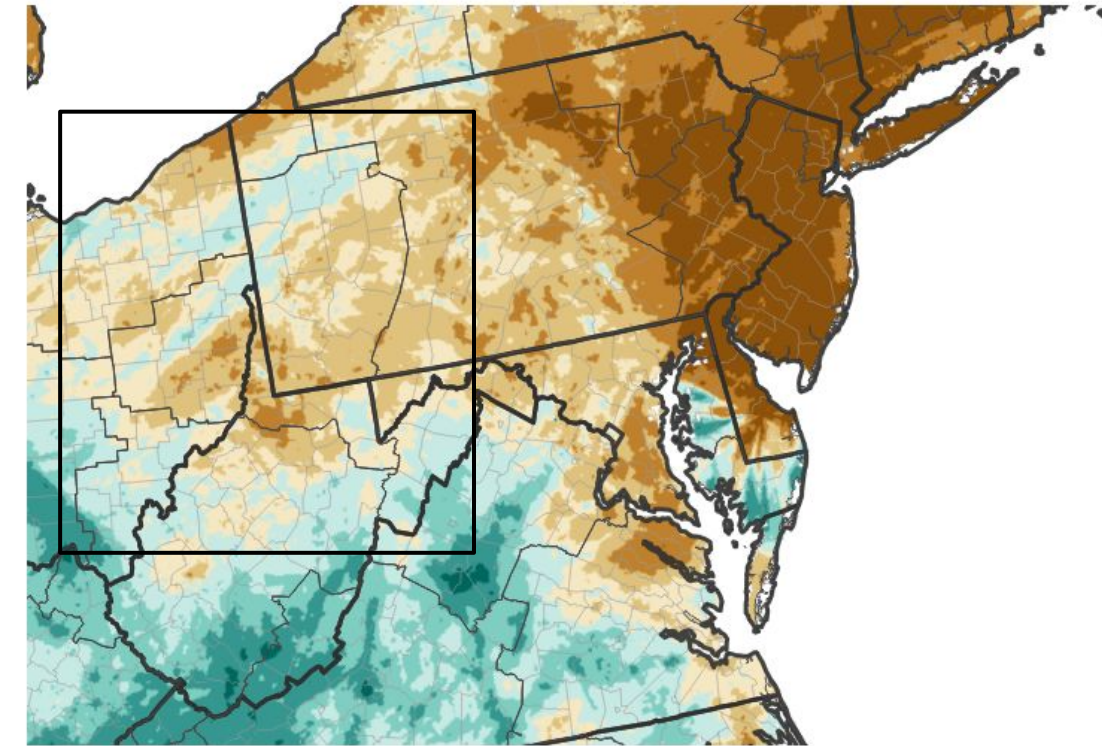
Inches of Precipitation



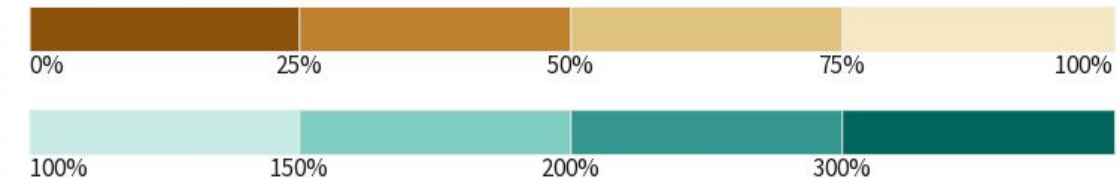
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 10/07/24

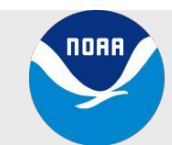
30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation

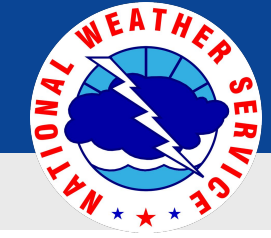


Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 10/07/24





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows are beginning to recover with the periods of rain over the last 2 weeks.
- Private wells are low or completely dry in OH and WV.
- Reservoirs across the region are below normal and in some cases below winter pools.

Agricultural Impacts

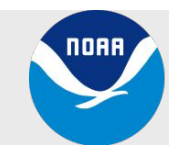
- Soil moisture ranges from 1-5% over much of eastern Ohio and northern West Virginia.
- Hay and pasture are poor or very poor across OH and WV. [USDA](#)
- Farmers are hauling water for livestock and supplemental feeding.
- There have been sales of livestock as a result of lack of feed and water.

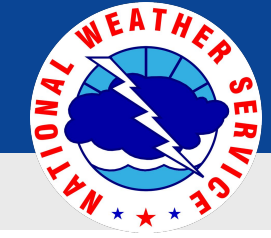
Fire Hazard Impacts

- Burn Ban in effect in Extreme and Exceptional drought areas in OH.

Mitigation Actions

- Some voluntary water restrictions have been put in place.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflows are running closer to normal across the region, at least in the short range (last 7 days).
- Groundwater wells are beginning to improve in PA and northern WV.
- October is the typical month for draw down to winter pools. However, several of the reservoirs are already near or falling below winter pool.

| Explanation - Percentile classes | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------|--------------|-------------------|------|---------|
| | | | | | | | |
| Low | <10 | 10-24 | 25-75 | 76-90 | >90 | High | No Data |
| | Much below normal | Below normal | Normal | Above normal | Much above normal | | |

Sunday, October 06, 2024

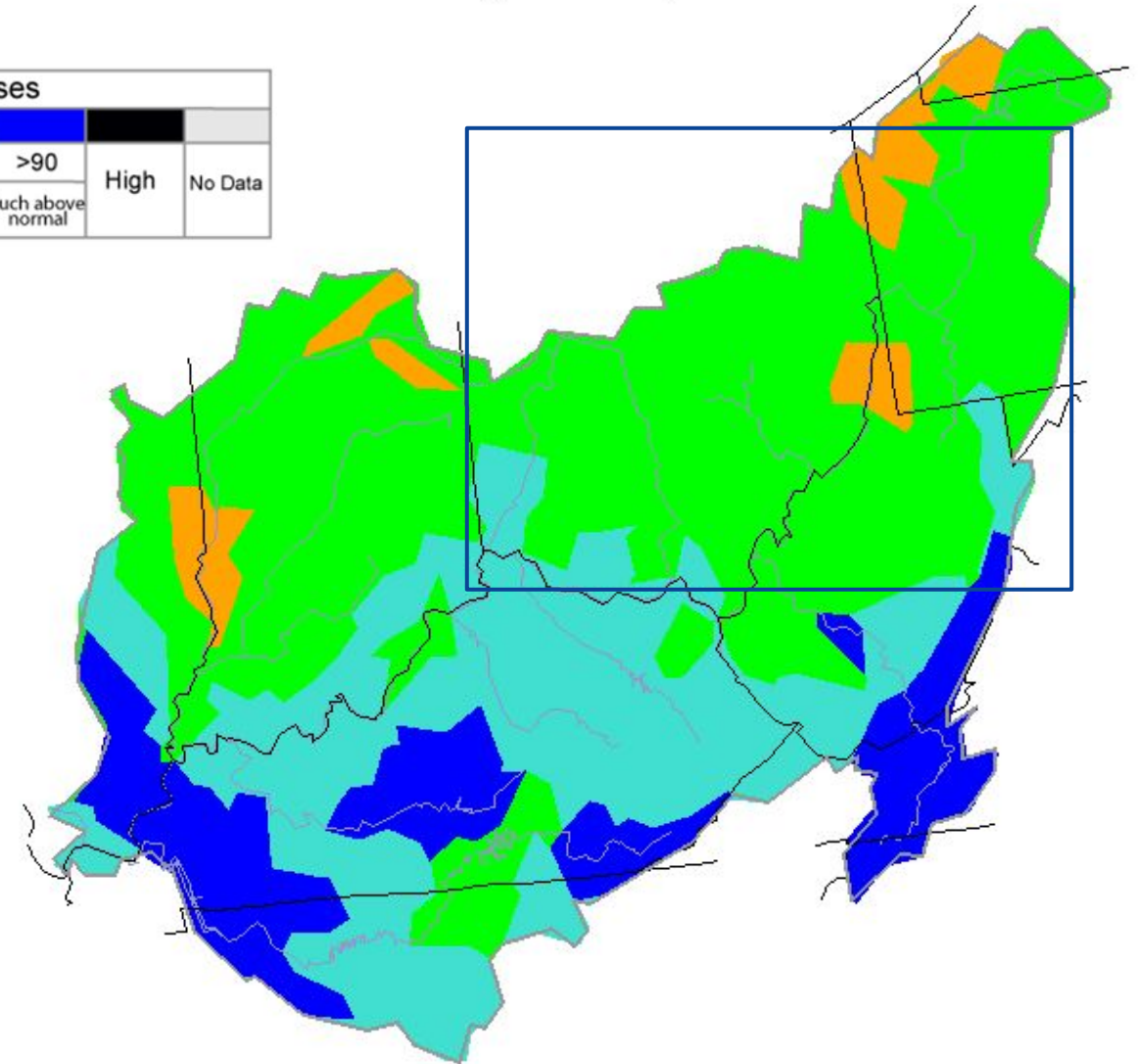
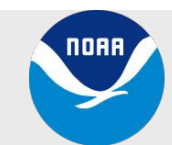
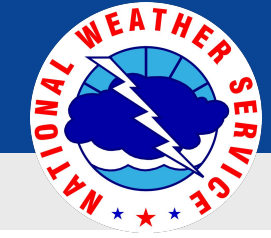


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid 10/06/2024

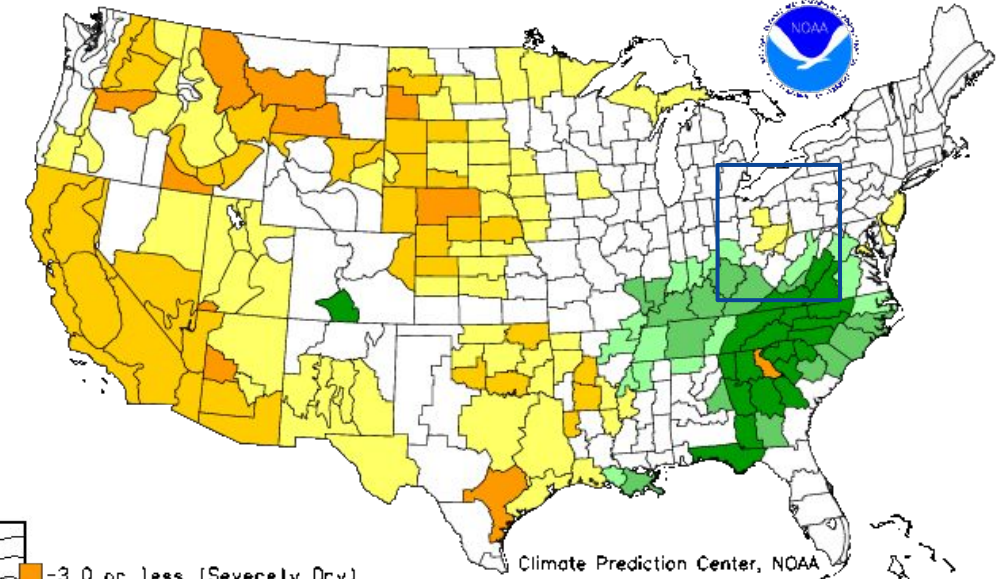




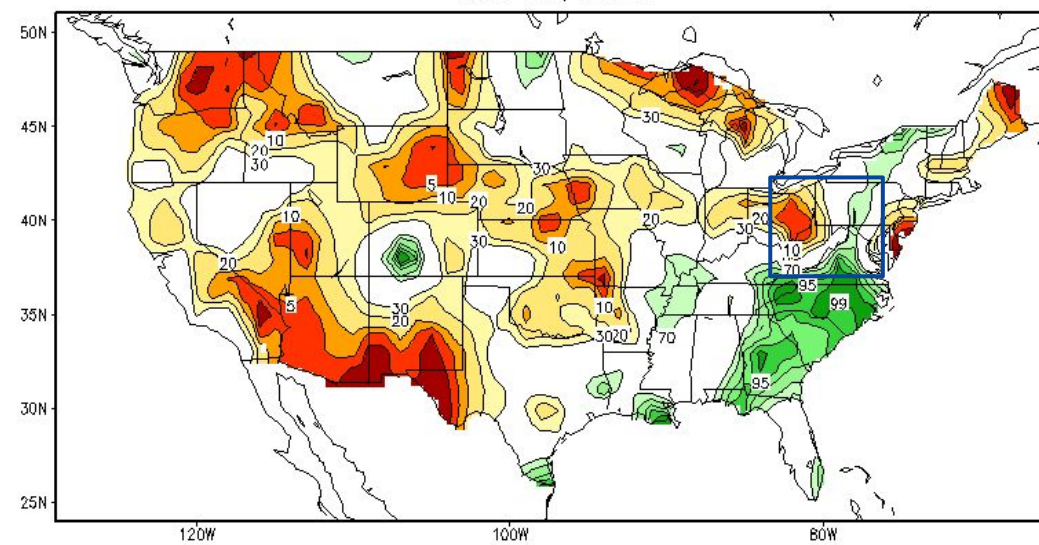
Agricultural Impacts

- Pasture and crop conditions are poor or very poor across portions of OH and WV.
 - 98% of WV pastures are rated very poor to poor.
 - There are reports of crop yield loss in WV, OH, and PA
- Supplemental feeding of bees and pollinators.
- Supplemental feeding of livestock
 - Reports of livestock being sold due to lack of feed/water

Crop Moisture Index by Division
 Weekly Value for Period Ending SEP 28, 2024
 Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

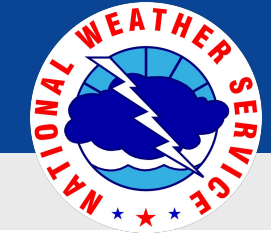


Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
 OCT 06, 2024



- -3.0 or less (Severely Dry)
- -2.0 to -2.9 (Excessively Dry)
- -1.0 to -1.9 (Abnormally Dry)
- -0.9 to +0.9 (Slightly Dry/Favorably Moist)
- +1.0 to +1.9 (Abnormally Moist)
- +2.0 to +2.9 (Wet)
- +3.0 and above (Excessively Wet)

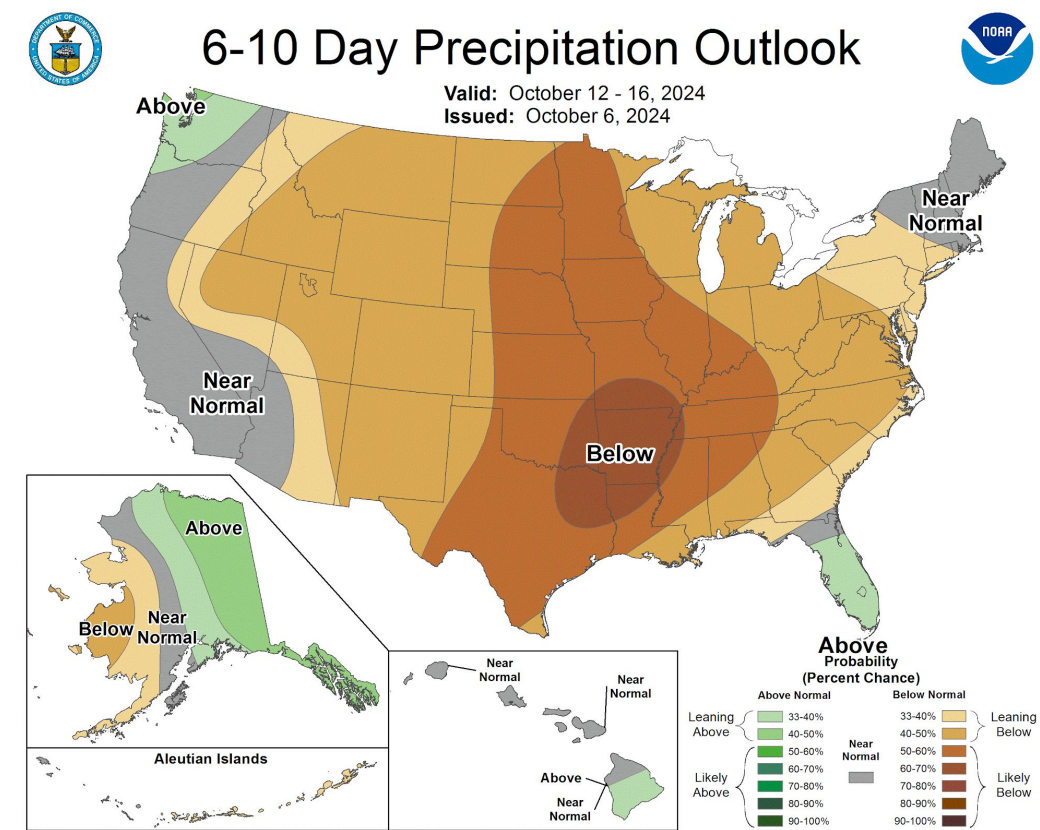
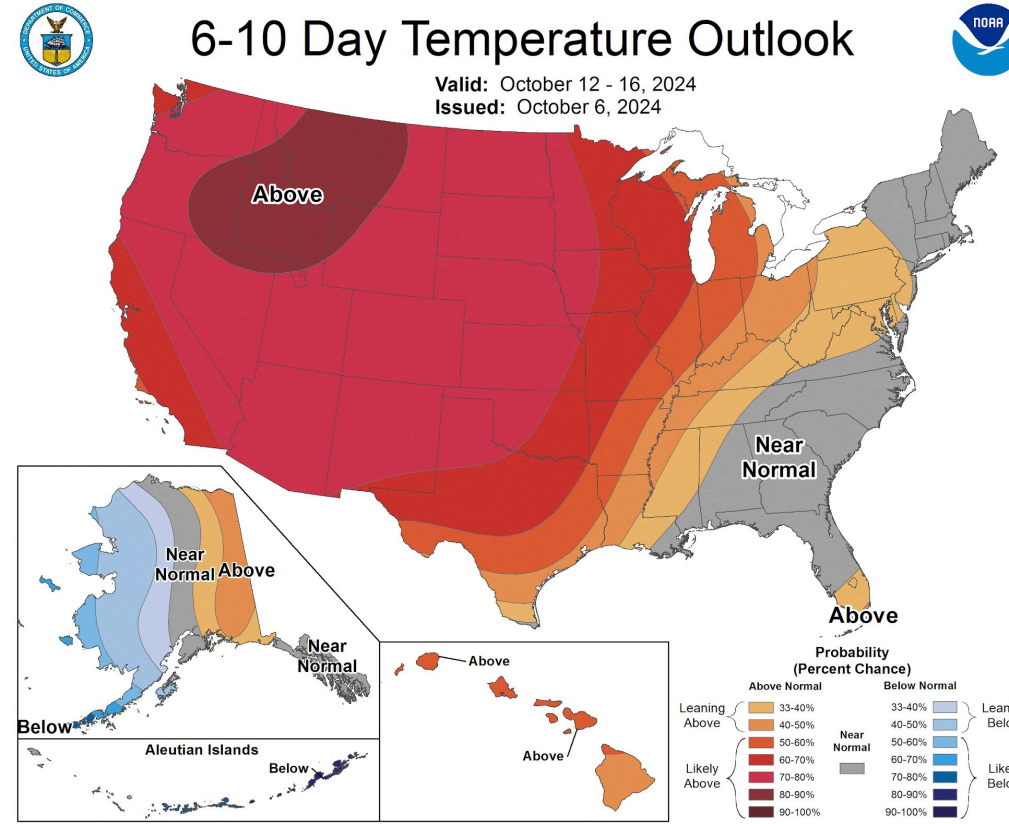


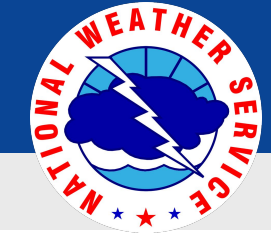


Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Latest 6-10 day outlook calls for warming temperatures and below average precipitation.

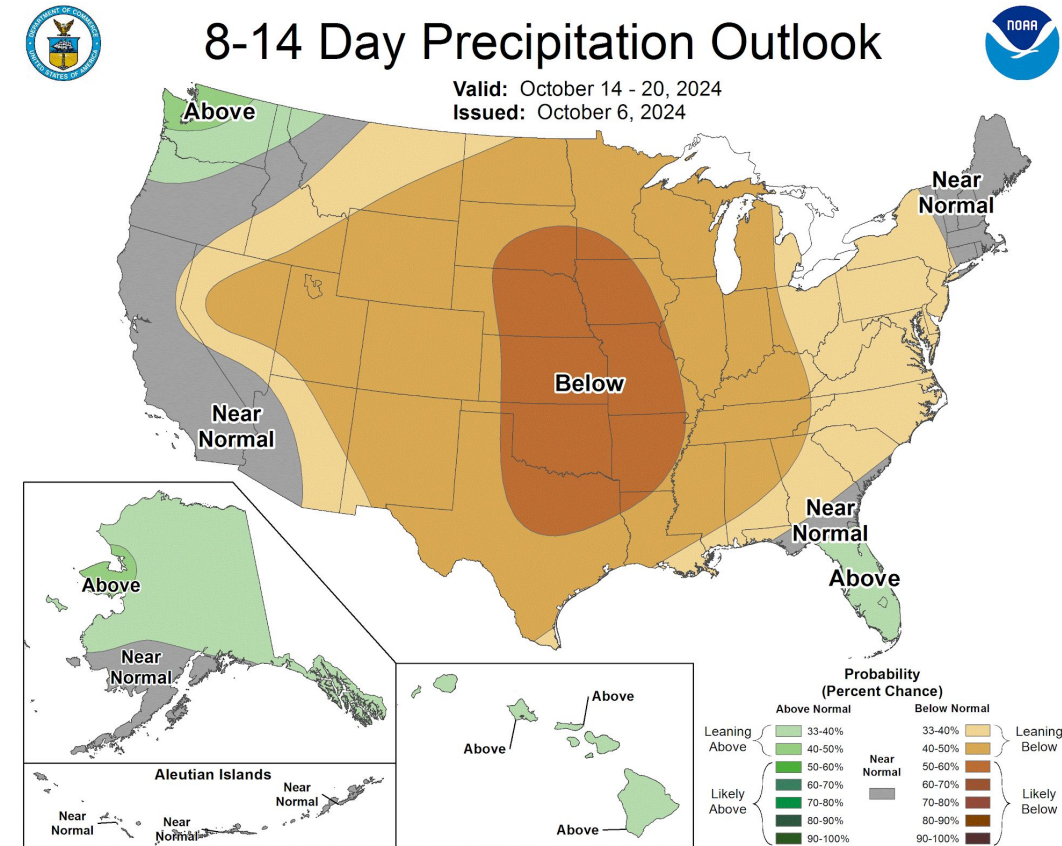
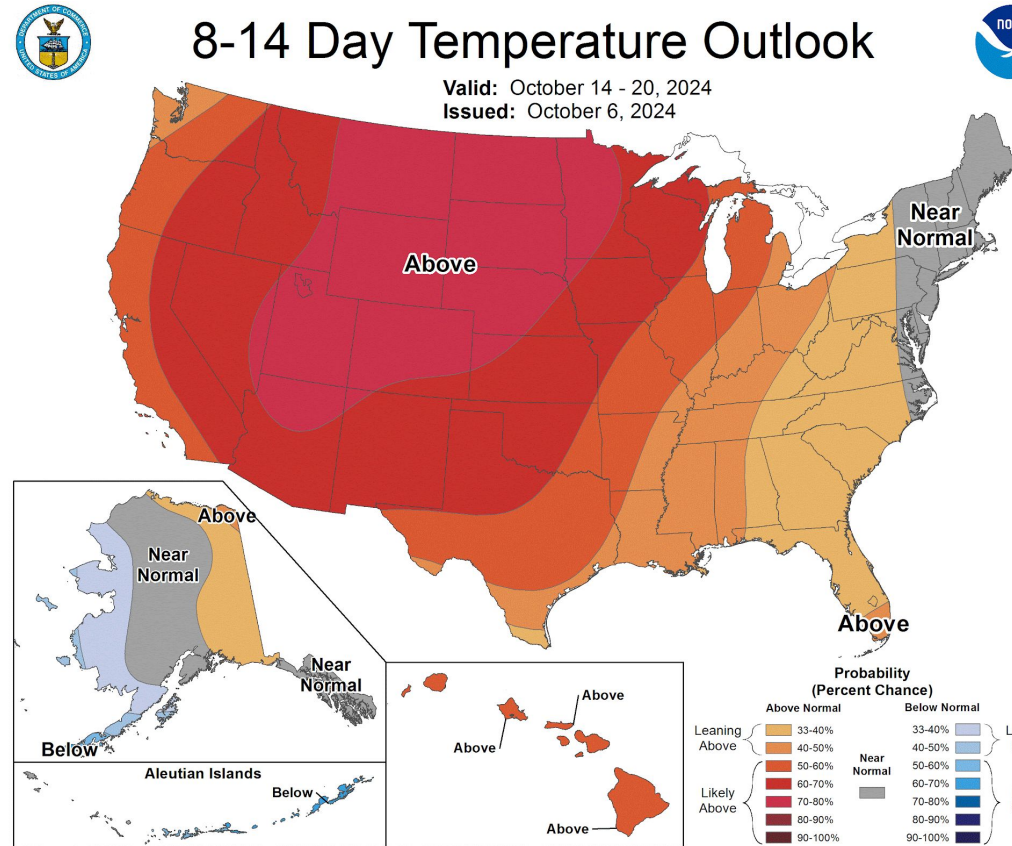


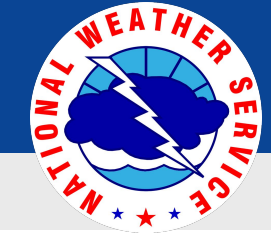


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- 8-14 day currently highlights above normal temperatures and below average precipitation.





Long-Range Outlooks

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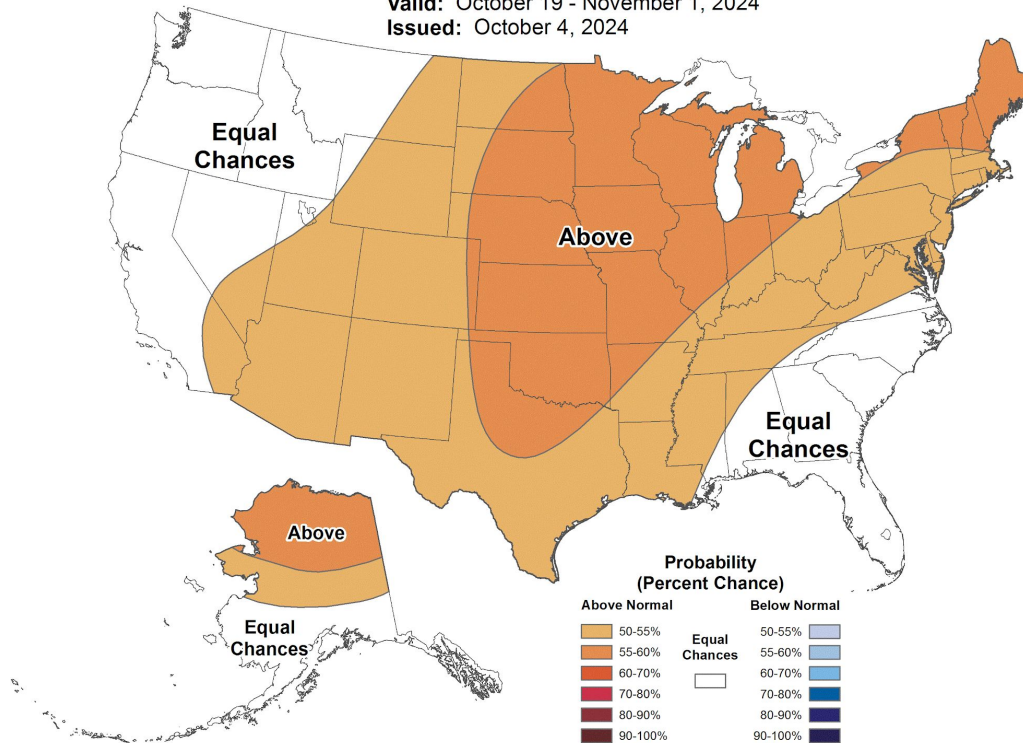
- The weeks 3-4 outlook suggests the potential for near normal or slightly above normal temperatures and below average precipitation.



Weeks 3-4 Temperature Outlook



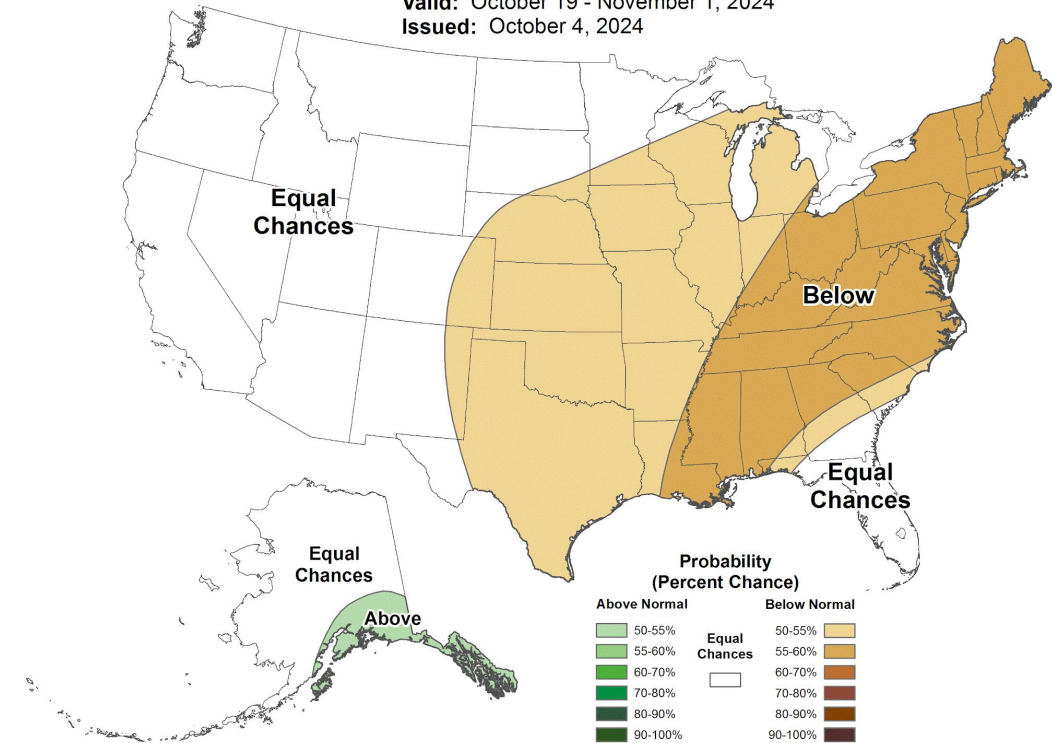
Valid: October 19 - November 1, 2024
Issued: October 4, 2024



Weeks 3-4 Precipitation Outlook



Valid: October 19 - November 1, 2024
Issued: October 4, 2024

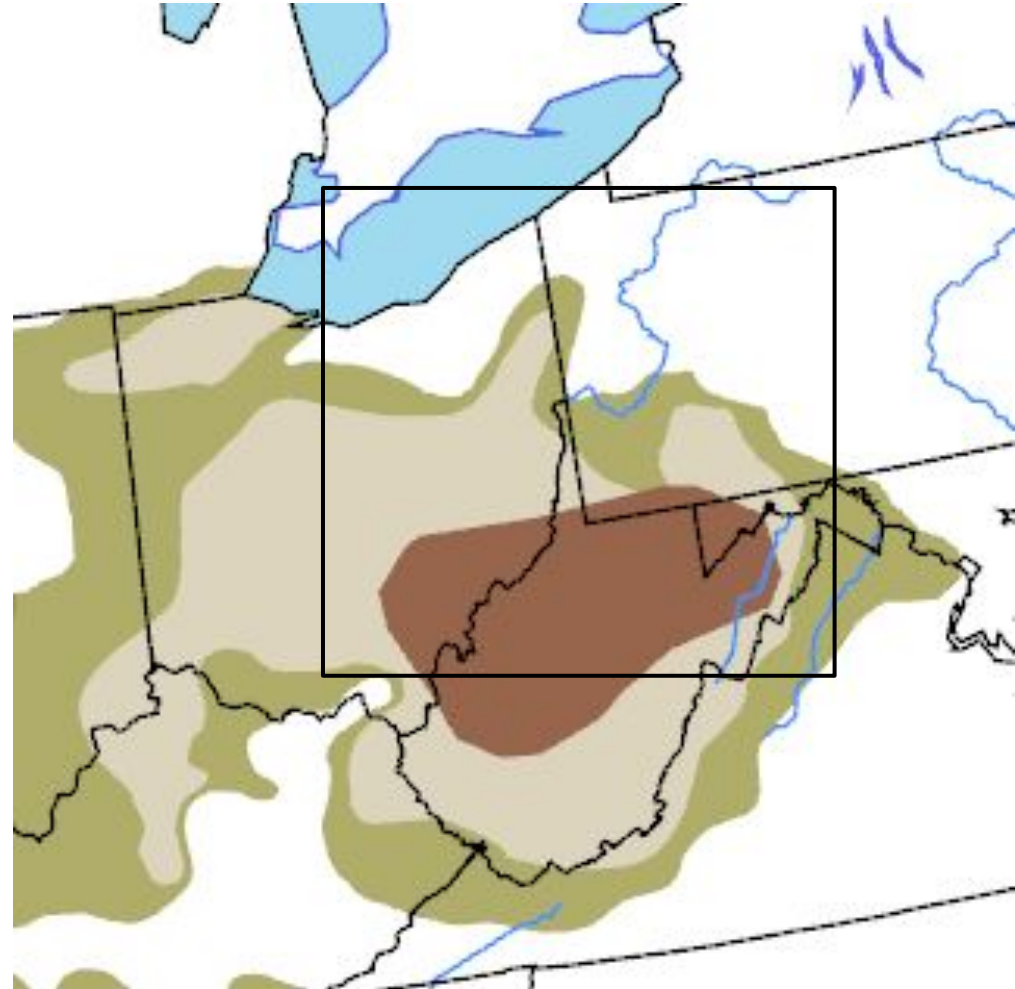




Drought Outlook

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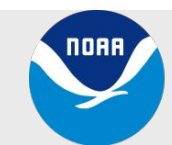
- The newest seasonal drought outlook suggests that there could be some slight improvement to drought conditions in the next three months.
- However, it will take more than normal rainfall for much of Ohio and West Virginia to recover if temperatures remain above average.



Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



**National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration**

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Pittsburgh, PA