

# Drought Information Statement for the Philadelphia/Mt. Holly Hydrologic Service Area

Valid December 23, 2024

Issued By: NWS Philadelphia/Mt. Holly

Contact Information: [wfphi.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:wfphi.webmaster@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated January 10, 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/phi/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- 
- The state of New Jersey has issued a Drought Warning for the entire state.
  - The state of Maryland has issued a Drought Warning for the Eastern Shore.
  - The state of Delaware has issued a Drought Watch for the entire state.
  - The state of Pennsylvania has issued a Drought Watch for east-central and southeast portions of the state and a Drought Warning for Berks county.



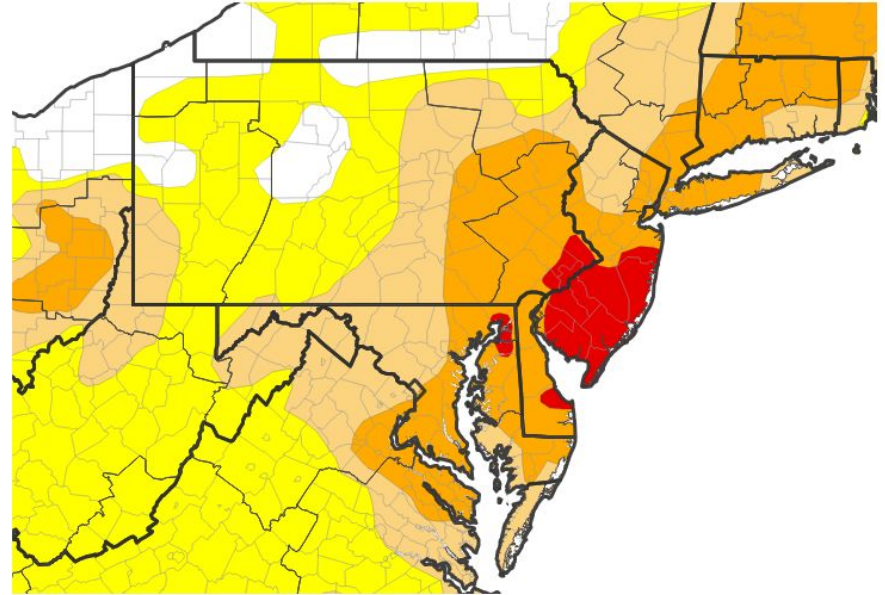


# U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for the Philadelphia/Mt Holly Forecast Area

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: No Exceptional Drought exists across the Hydrologic Service Area (HSA).
  - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Extreme Drought exists across portions of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and the Delmarva.
  - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Most of the forecast area is at least in Severe Drought.
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: The entire forecast area is at least in Moderate Drought.
  - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: The entire forecast area is at least considered Abnormally Dry.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 12/17/24



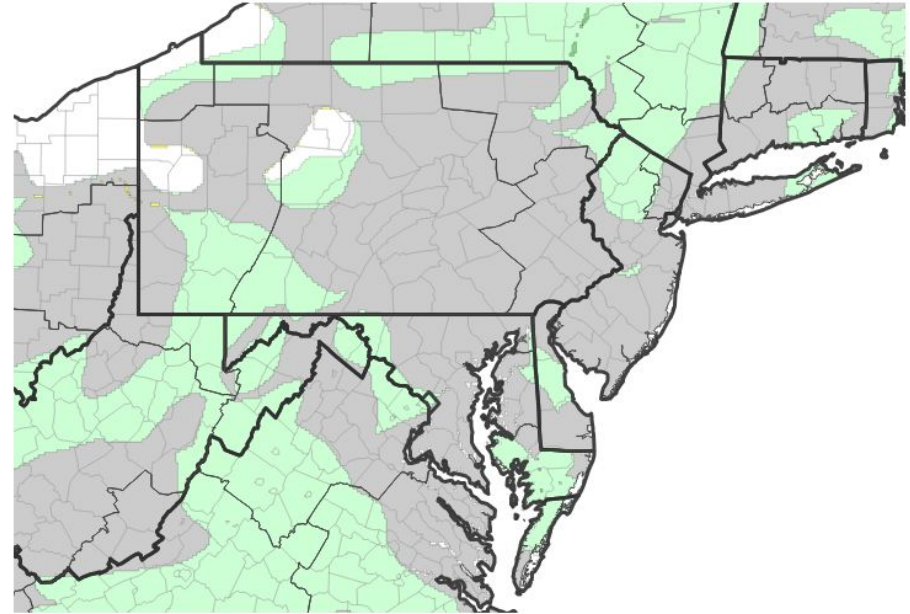


# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

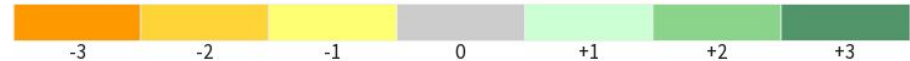
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Philadelphia/Mt Holly Forecast Area

- A Four Week change map can be accessed from the link above.
- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change...
  - Drought Worsened: No deterioration was observed.
  - No Change: The majority of the forecast area remained the same.
  - Drought Improved: Improvement was observed across portions of New Jersey and the Delmarva.

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



Drought Change Since Last Week



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 12/17/24



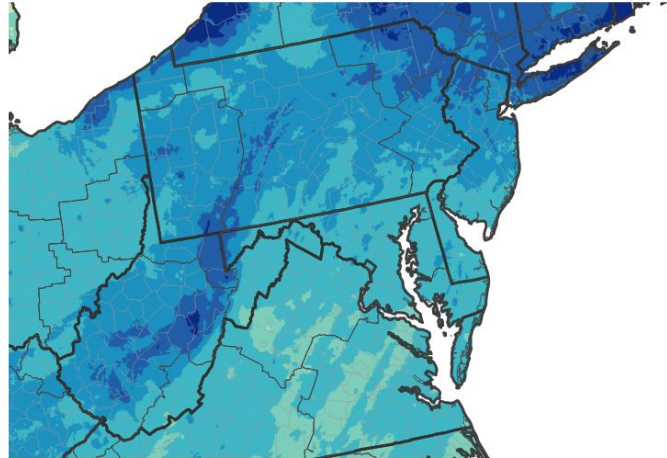


# Precipitation

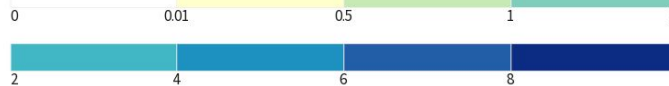
## Last 30 Days

- Precipitation across the HSA varied the last 30 days ranging from below normal to above normal. The most precipitation fell across northern portions of the forecast area.

### 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



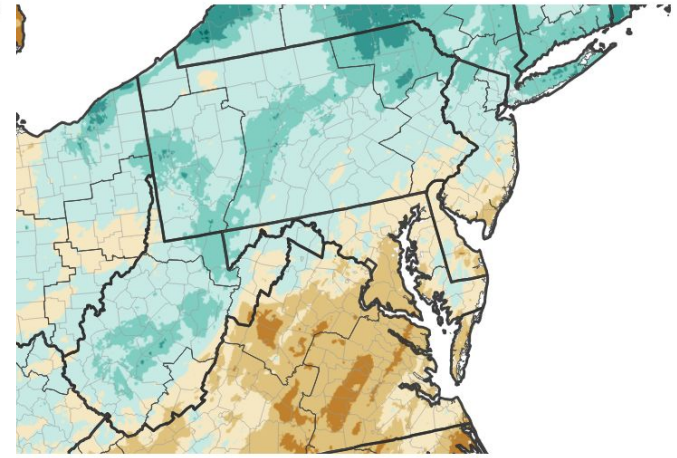
#### Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 12/23/24

### 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: 12/23/24



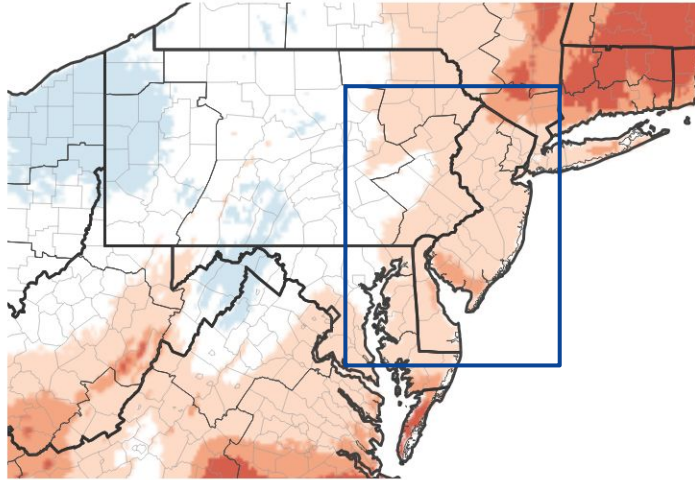




# Temperature

- When averaged (valid 12/19), the entire region has seen either normal or above normal temperatures.
- Over the last 30 days, temperatures have mainly been normal or slightly below.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



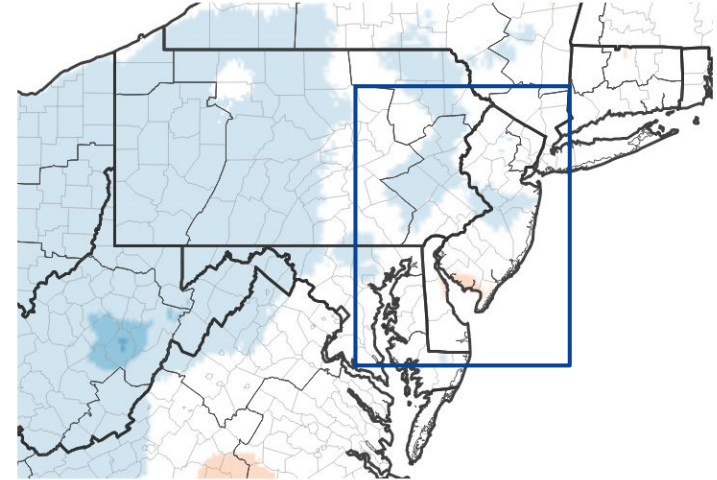
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



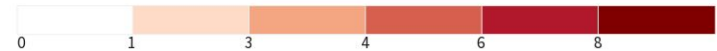
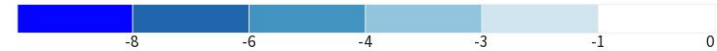
Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 12/19/24

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: 12/19/24





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Seven-day average streamflow conditions, ending 12/22, varied widely across the region from much below normal to normal. See the next slide for more details.

## Agricultural Impacts

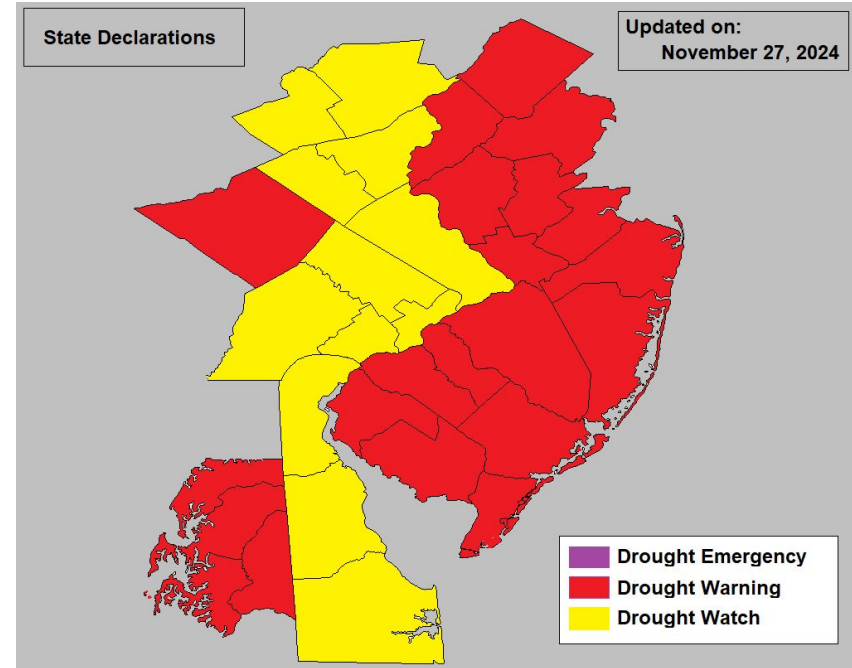
- Soil moisture was running below normal across much of the HSA.
- See slide 8 for more details.

## Other Impacts

- Per state DEPs, reservoir pools across the HSA were mainly below normal.
- Per the Delaware River Basin Commission, and as of December 16th, the salt front in the Delaware River Estuary was estimated at river mile 80.4. The normal location for this time of year is river mile marker 69. This means the salt line was further upstream compared to normal.

## Mitigation Actions

- Per the state of New Jersey, a Drought Warning has been issued for the entire state.
- Per the state of Maryland, a Drought Warning has been issued for the Eastern Shore.
- Per the state of Delaware, a Drought Watch has been issued for the entire state.
- Per the state of Pennsylvania, a Drought Watch has been issued for the East-Central and Southeast portions of the state. A Drought Warning has been issued for Berks county.



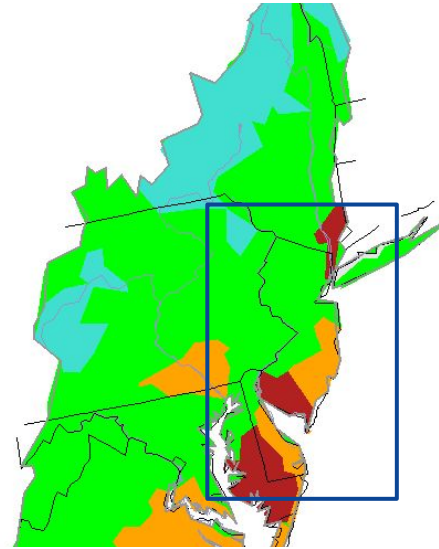
Keep in mind, the National Weather Service does not declare Drought Watches or Warnings.





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Seven-day average streamflow conditions varied widely from much below normal to normal. Below normal streamflows were more prevalent across our southern area of responsibility.



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			

Image Caption: HUC map [USGS 7 day streamflow for the Mid-Atlantic](#) valid December 22, 2024

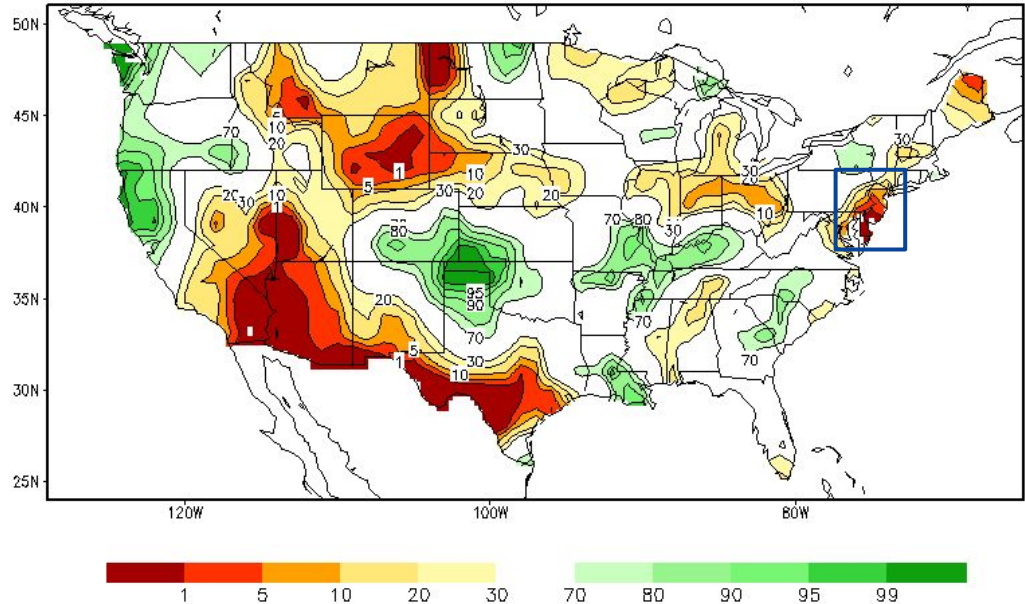




# Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture was running below normal across much of the cross the HSA.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile  
DEC 22, 2024





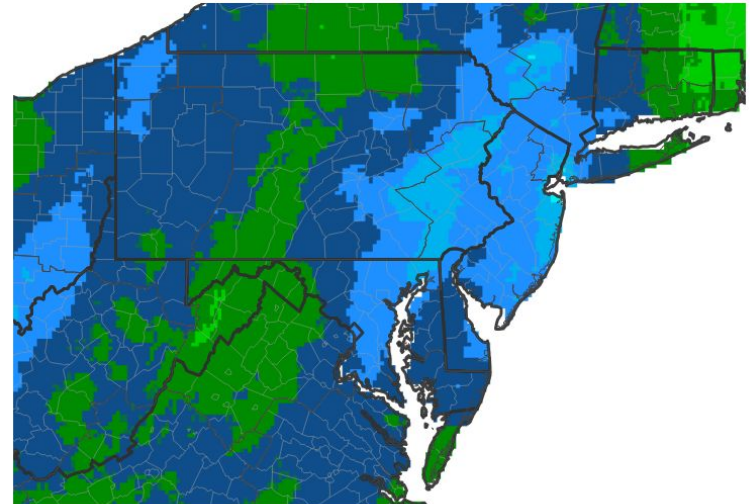


# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

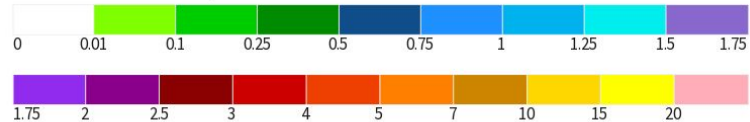
Arctic high pressure across New England will weaken and shift offshore through tonight. A weak system will bring a round of light wintry mixed precipitation to the region the morning of Christmas Eve. Cool and dry high pressure will then settle to our northeast, with mostly dry conditions and gradually moderating temperatures. The high will retreat into the weekend, yielding another possibility of precipitation.

The 8 to 14 day outlook calls for above normal temperatures and precipitation.

**7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for December 23, 2024–December 30, 2024**



**Predicted Inches of Precipitation**



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 12/23/24

