

Drought Information Statement

for southeast Ohio, northeast Kentucky, southwest Virginia, and much of West Virginia

Valid August 1, 2024

Issued By: NWS Charleston, WV

Contact Information: rlx.webmaster@noaa.gov

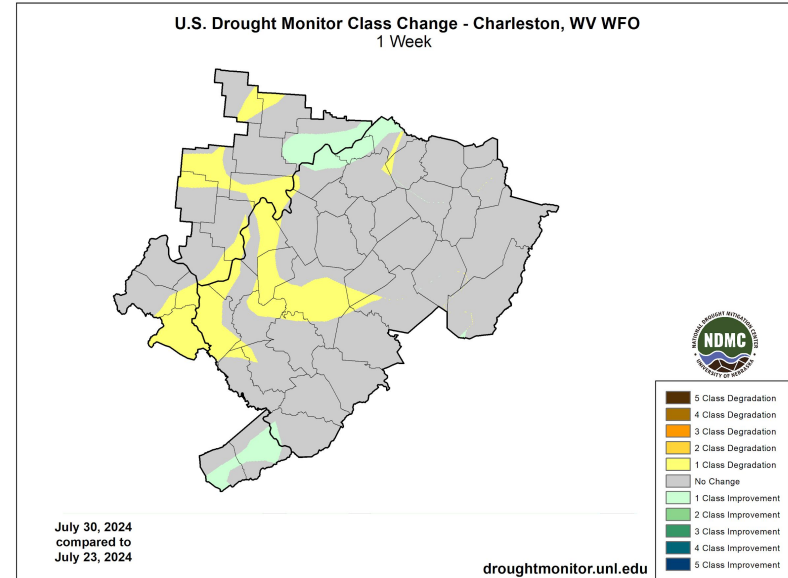
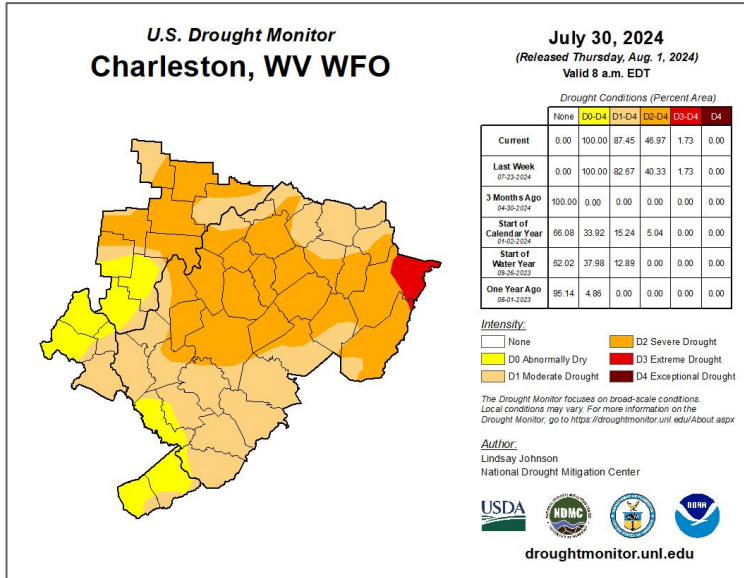
- This product will be updated August 8, 2024
 - Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
 - Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/RLX/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
-
- Extreme Drought continues across eastern Randolph County with some expansion of Severe Drought into the Kanawha River valley





Current Drought Conditions

Latest Drought Monitor and One-Week Change



Main Takeaways

- **D3 (Extreme Drought):** No change
- **D2 (Severe Drought):** Expanded more into Kanawha River valley but improved around Parkersburg
- **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Expanded into Huntington vicinity
- **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** No change

Image Caption:

Left: [U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am EDT August 1, 2024](#)
Right: [U.S. Drought Monitor 1-week change map valid 8am EDT August 1, 2024](#)

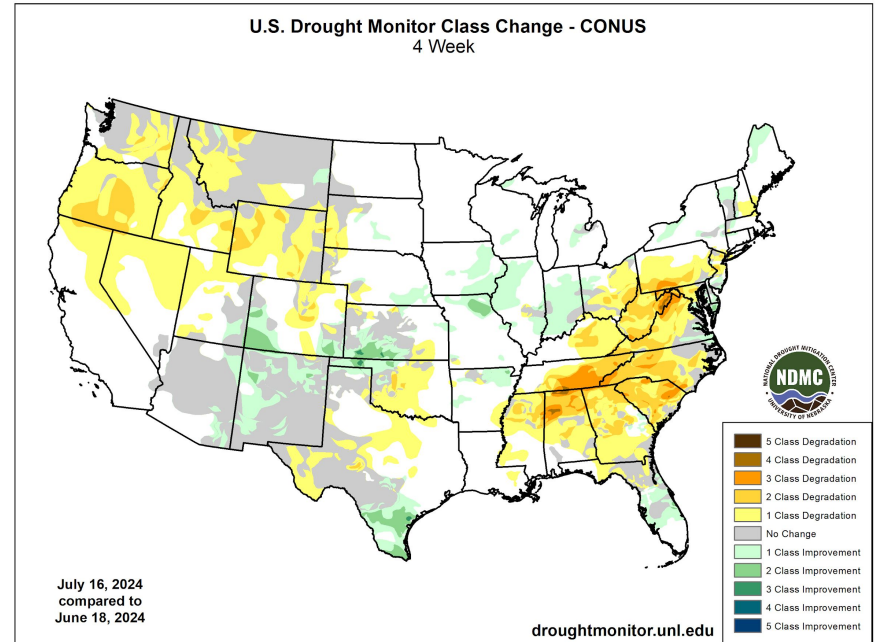




Current Drought Conditions

Latest Drought Monitor One-Week Change

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: [State each county or region within WFO region where a class degradation occurred. If nowhere is under a class degradation, remove subheading.]
 - No Change: [State each county or region within WFO region where no class change occurred. If nowhere is under no change, remove subheading.]
 - Drought Improved: [State each county or region within WFO region where a class improvement occurred. If nowhere is under a class improvement, remove subheading.]

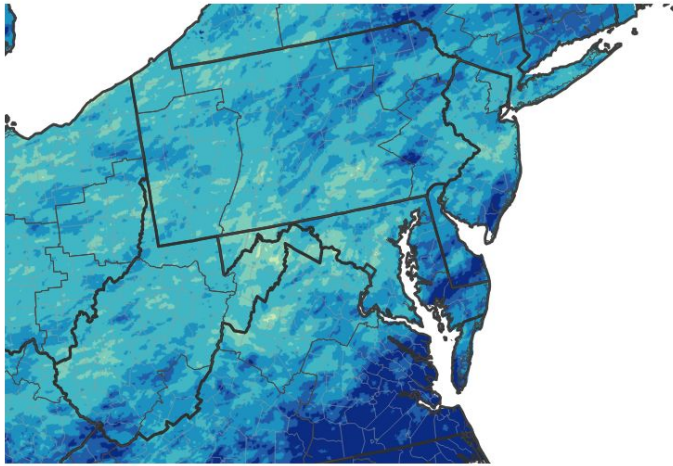




Observed Precipitation

Latest 30-Day Rainfall and Percent of Normal Rainfall

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

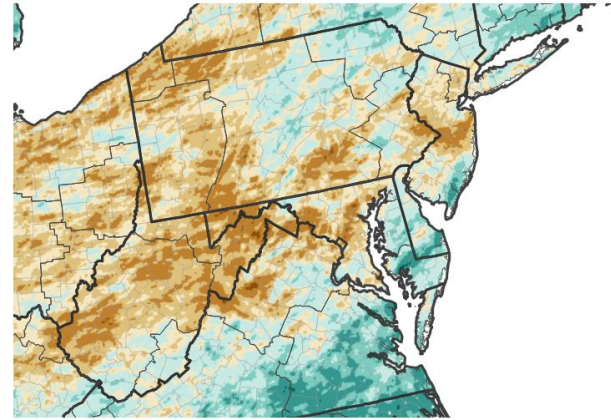


Inches of Precipitation

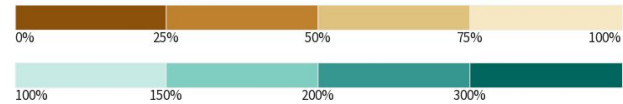


Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 08/01/24

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: 08/01/24

Main Takeaways

- Overall, conditions continue to be dry with many areas only receiving 25 to 50 percent of normal rainfall

Image Caption:

Left - Precipitation Amount for Mid Atlantic
Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation for Mid Atlantic
Data Courtesy NWS National Water Prediction Service
Data over the past 30 days ending August 1, 2024

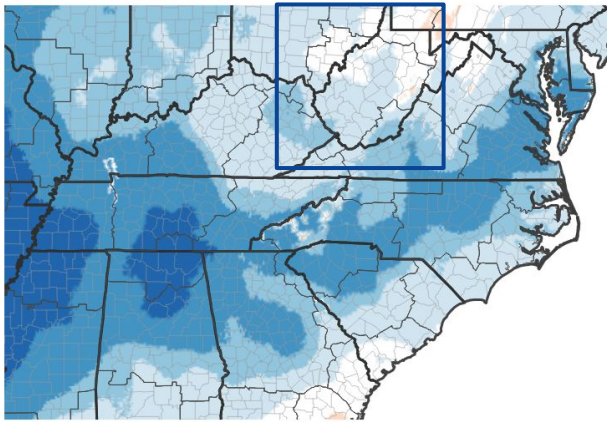




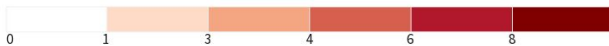
Observed Temperature

Latest 7 and 30-Day Temperature Anomaly

7-Day Temperature Anomaly

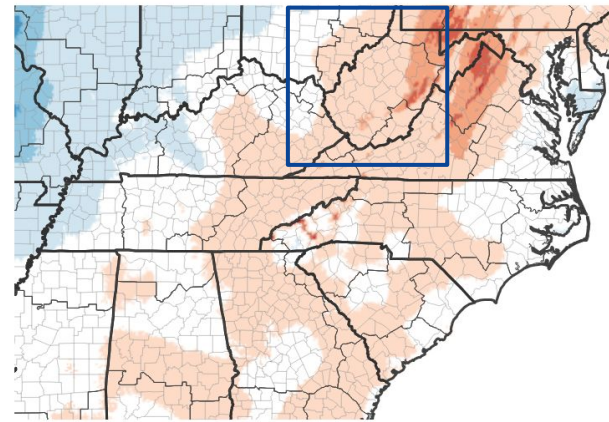


Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)

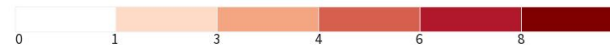
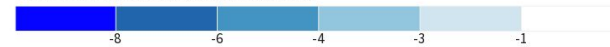


Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 07/27/24

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: 07/27/24

Main Takeaways

- Temperatures continue to run normal to above normal with the highest anomalies observed across the mountains

Image Captions:

Left - 7-Day Departure from Normal Temperature for Appalachia
 Right - 30-Day Departure from Normal Temperature for Appalachia
 Data Courtesy NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information
 Data over the past 30 days ending July 27, 2024





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

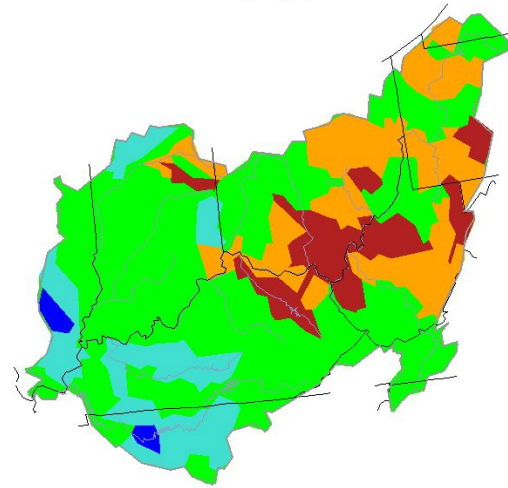
Main Takeaways

- Streamflow much below normal across the Ohio, Little Kanawha, and Tygart River basins
- Groundwater wells continue to drop across the mountains

Impacts

- Reductions of inflow into area reservoirs with Tygart Lake and Stonewall Jackson lake below summer pool
- Recreational impacts reported at Tygart Lake
- Some residential and agricultural wells may be experiencing impacts
- Water supply may be negatively affected for communities that depend on water from nearby creeks and rivers.
- Water quality may become adversely impacted as well

Wednesday, July 31, 2024



Explanation - Percentile classes								
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	Not-ranked	
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal			

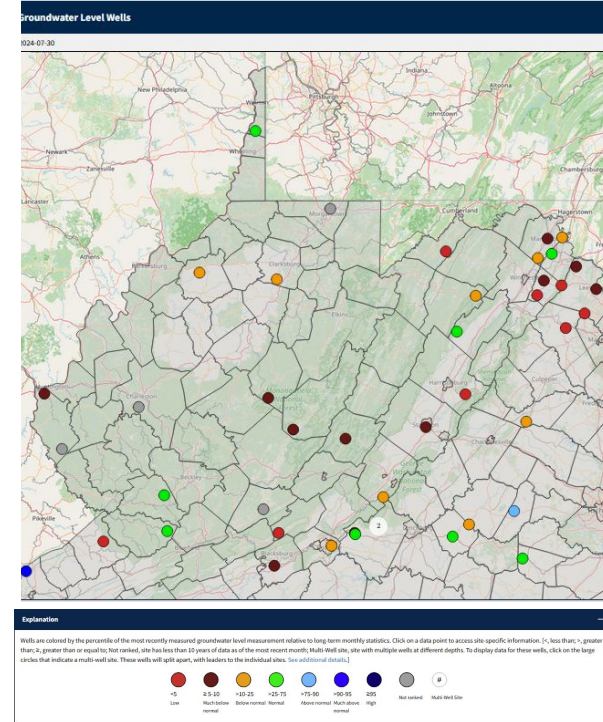


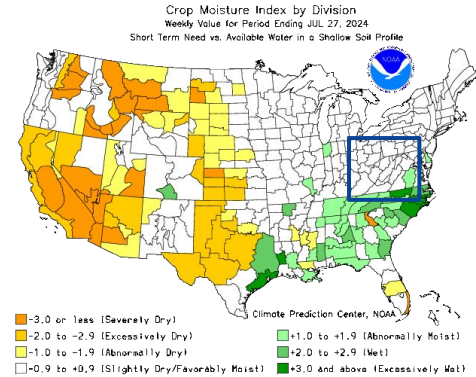
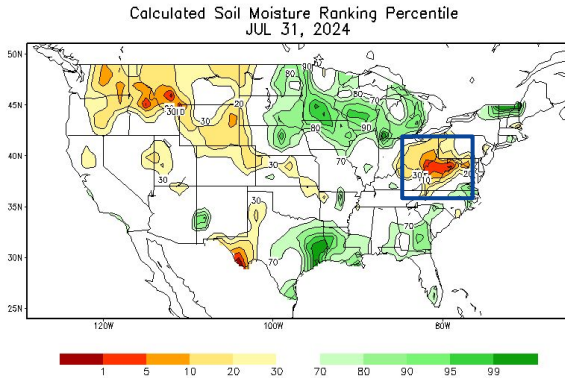
Image Caption:

Left - USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC maps valid July 31, 2024
Right - USGS groundwater wells valid August 1, 2024





Agricultural Impacts



Main Takeaways

- Soil moisture remains below normal across the northern half of the area

Impacts

- Declining levels in irrigation wells/ponds have led to hauling of water for livestock across parts of the northern lowlands
- Loss of half of blueberry crop has been reported in Mason County
- Hay shortage reported throughout the northern lowlands/mountains with supplemental feeding needed

USDA Crop Progress and Condition Weekly Reports

[West Virginia](#)
[Virginia](#)

[Ohio](#)
[Kentucky](#)

Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid July 31, 2024

Right: USDA Crop Progress Report valid July, 2024





Fire Hazard Impacts

Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#).

Main Takeaways

- Low ponds
- Potential for navigation issues in the weeks/months ahead on the big rivers (especially Mississippi)

Impacts

Recent dry weather has led to some lower

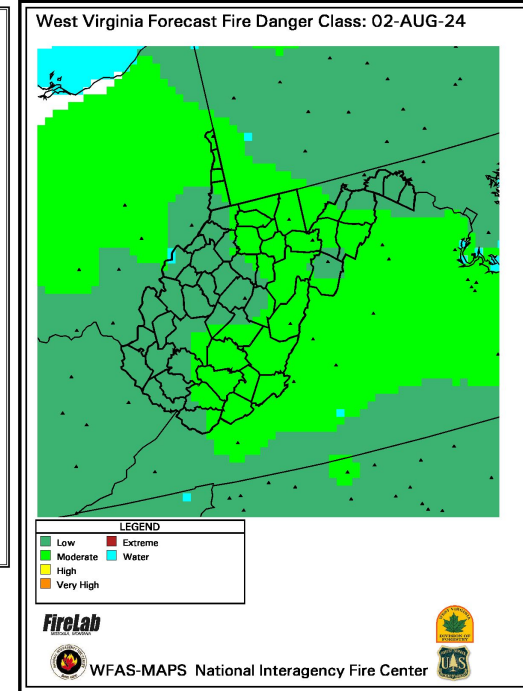
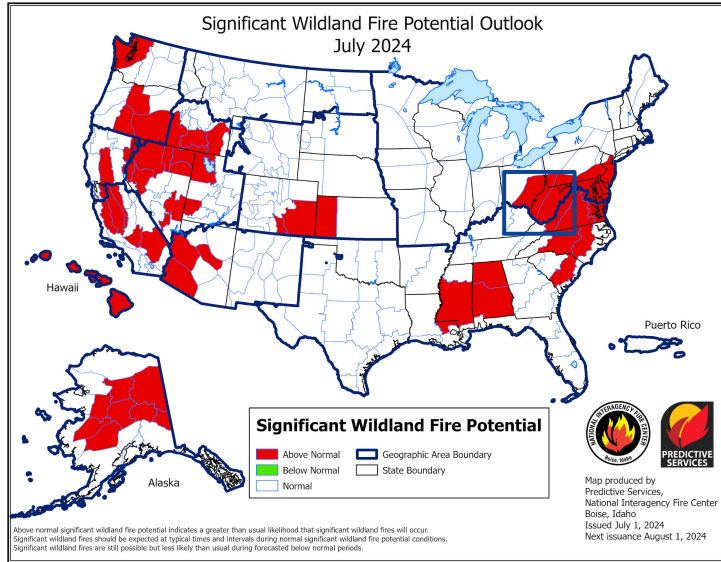


Image Captions:

Left: Significant Wildland Fire Potential monthly outlook valid July, 2024

Right: Area fire danger class, valid August 2, 2024





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- 7-day average streamflows continue well below much of southeast OH and central/northern WV
- Inflow reduction resulting in below normal lake levels at Stonewall Jackson Lake and Tygart Lake

Agricultural Impacts

- Low soil moisture has stunted crop growth in parts of southeast OH and northern WV
- Some crop yield losses reported in the northern WV, particularly with hay
 - Lack of hay has resulted in supplemental feeding
- Hauling of water for livestock has been reported in southeast OH and northern WV

Fire Hazard Impacts

- If dryness persists, above normal brush fire activity is possible during the second half of summer given drying vegetation and the continued potential for above normal temperatures.

Mitigation Actions

- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.



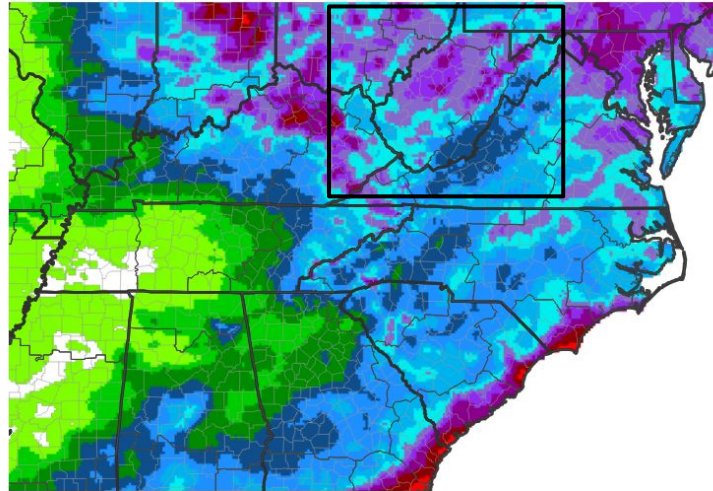


Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

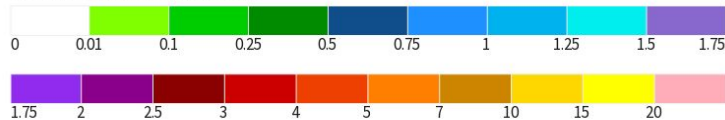
Next 7 days:

- Rounds of showers and thunderstorms through Saturday before a drying trend ensues
- Rainfall from thunderstorm activity may result in localized and temporary improvement of drought conditions, though it is hard to predict where this will occur.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 08/01/24

Image Caption:
Weather Prediction Center 7-day precipitation forecast valid August 1, 2024





Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

Main Takeaways

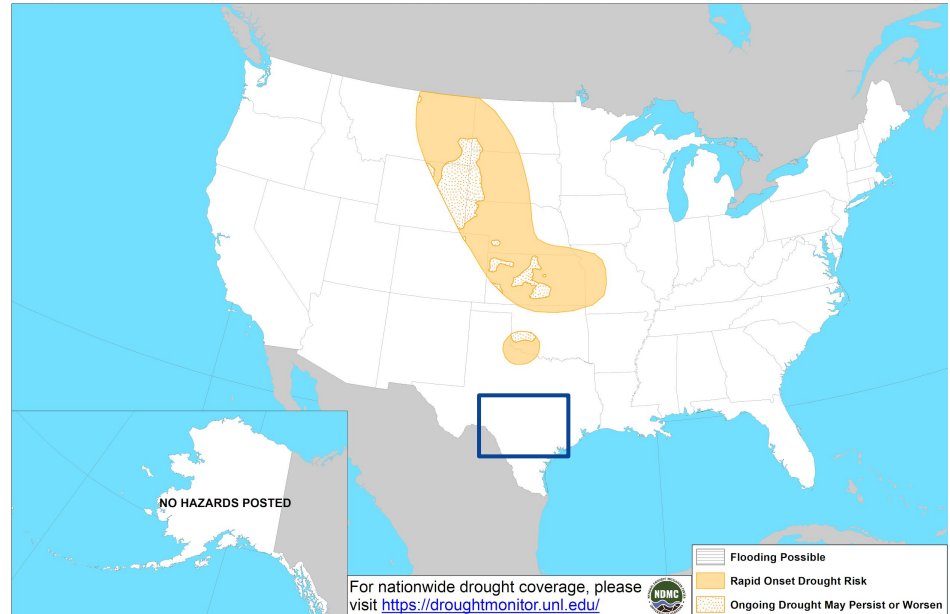
- Low ponds
- Potential for navigation issues in the weeks/months ahead on the big rivers (especially Mississippi)

Impacts

Recent dry weather has led to some lower



Day 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook
Valid: 08/08/2024-08/14/2024



Climate Prediction Center
Made: 07/31/2024 3PM EDT

Follow us:
www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov





8-14 Day Outlook

Temperature and Precipitation Outlook

Main Takeaways

- Increased probability of above normal precipitation

Impacts

- Some minor improvement in drought conditions is possible, though this will be highly dependent on spatial coverage and intensity of precipitation

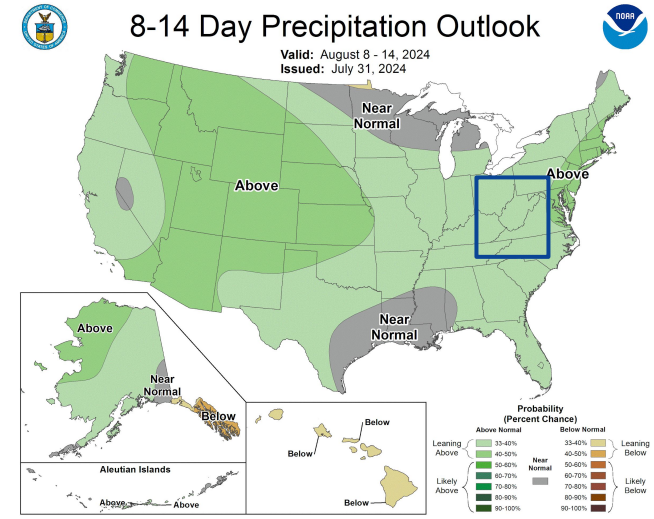
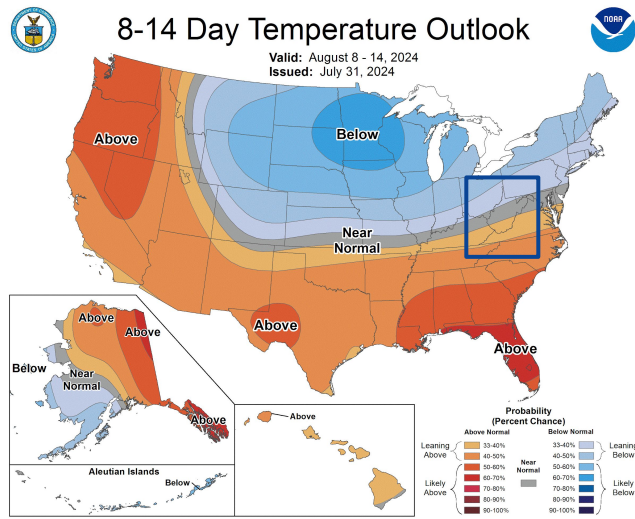


Image Captions:
Climate Prediction Center 8-14 day temperature and precipitation outlook valid July 31, 2024



Weeks 3-4 Outlook

Temperature and Precipitation Outlook

Main Takeaways

- Increased probability of above normal temperatures and precipitation

Impacts

- Additional improvement in drought conditions is possible, though this will be highly dependent on spatial coverage of precipitation
- Continued above normal temperatures for several more weeks will cause drought to persist if rainfall only remains near normal

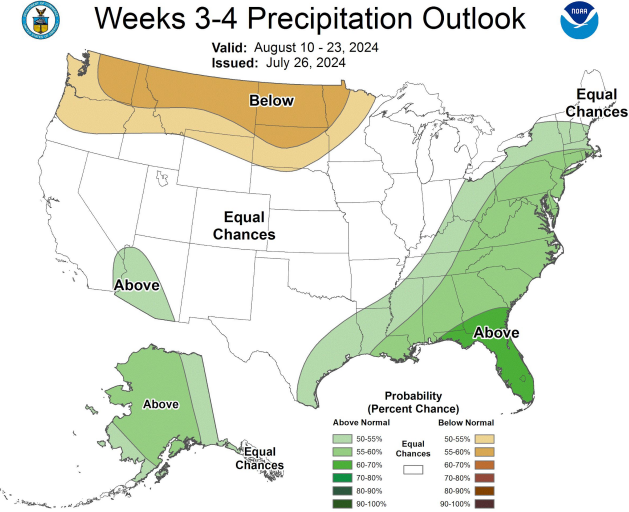
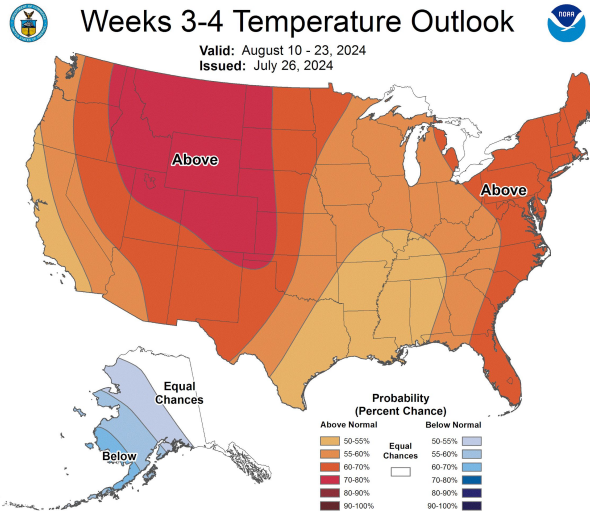


Image Captions:
Climate Prediction Center weeks 3-4 temperature and precipitation outlook valid July 26, 2024





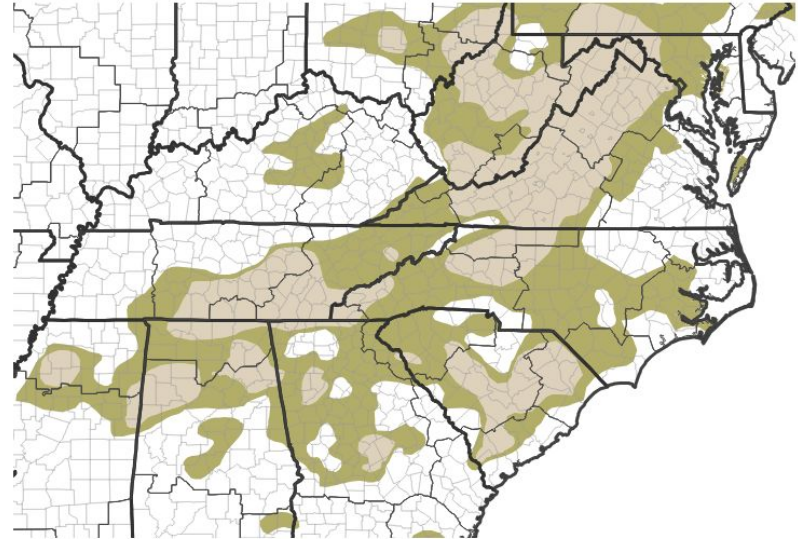
Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook

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

Main Takeaways

- Overall improvement in drought conditions is possible through the remainder of the summer months with chances for above normal precipitation in the short and long range outlooks
- However, even near normal rainfall combined with above normal temperatures would result in drought persistence

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 07/18/24

Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook Released July 18, 2024
Valid July 1, 2024 - September 30, 2024

