



Drought Information Statement

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

Valid August 29, 2024

Issued By: NWS Charleston, WV

Contact Information: rlx.webmaster@noaa.gov

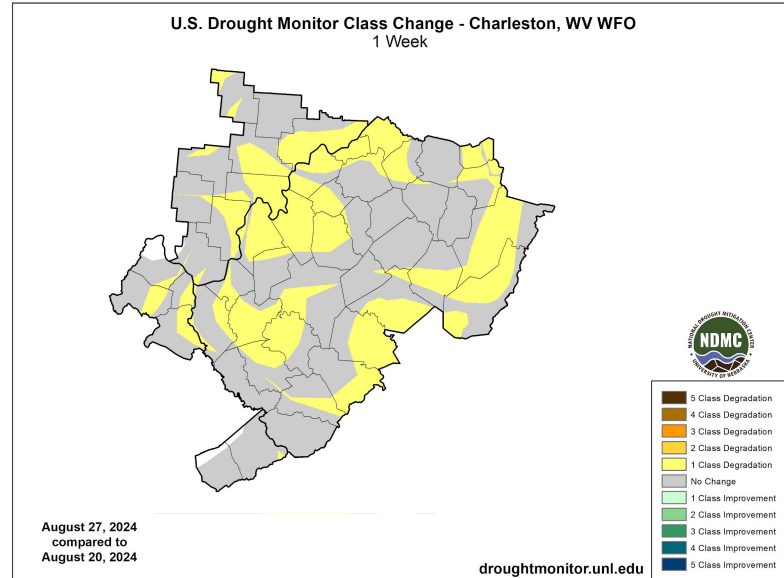
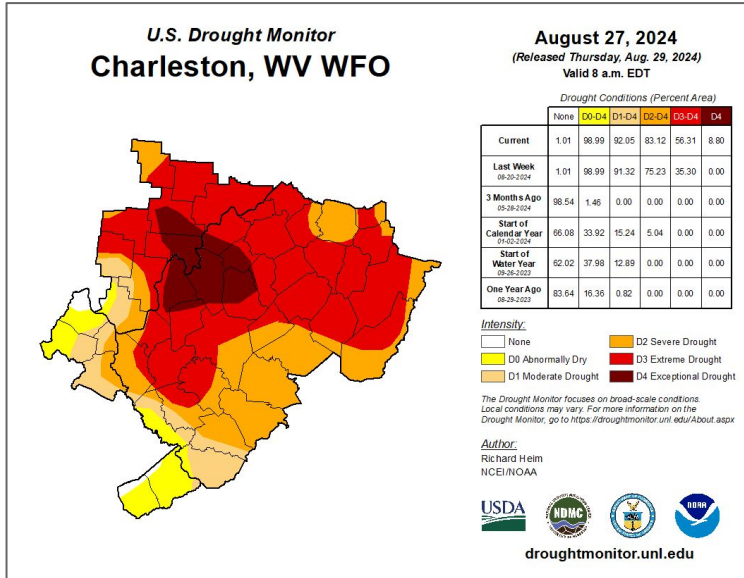
- This product will be updated September 5, 2024
 - Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
 - Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/RLX/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
-
- Exceptional Drought now affecting parts of the lower Kanawha River Hocking River basins





Current Drought Conditions

Latest Drought Monitor and One-Week Change



Main Takeaways

- **D4 (Exceptional Drought):** Introduced across parts of the lower Kanawha River and Hocking River basins
- **D3 (Extreme Drought):** Expansion across the Coal Fields
- **D2 (Severe Drought):** Expanded into southeastern part of the state
- **D1 (Moderate Drought):** No change
- **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** No change

Image Caption:

Left: [U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am EDT August 29, 2024](#)

Right: [U.S. Drought Monitor 1-week change map valid 8am EDT August 29, 2024](#)



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

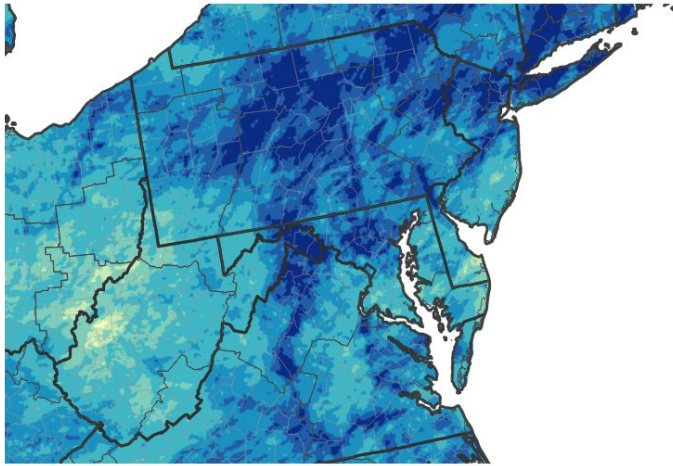
National Weather Service
Charleston, WV



Observed Precipitation

Latest 30-Day Rainfall and Percent of Normal Rainfall

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

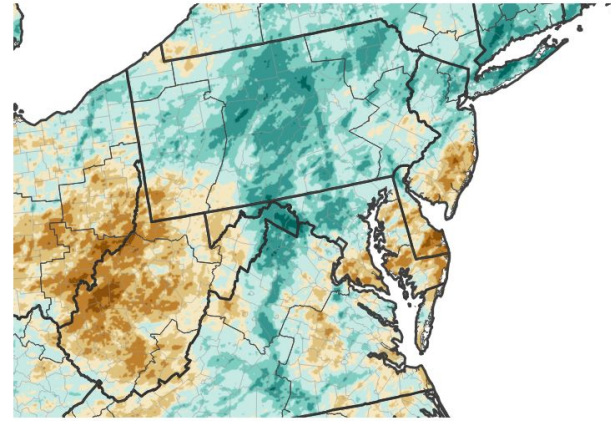


Inches of Precipitation

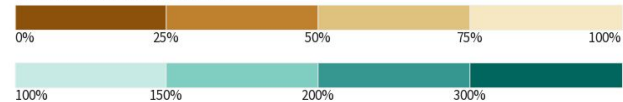


Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 08/29/24

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: 08/29/24

Main Takeaways

- Significant rainfall deficits continue in southeast OH and WV lowlands

Image Caption:

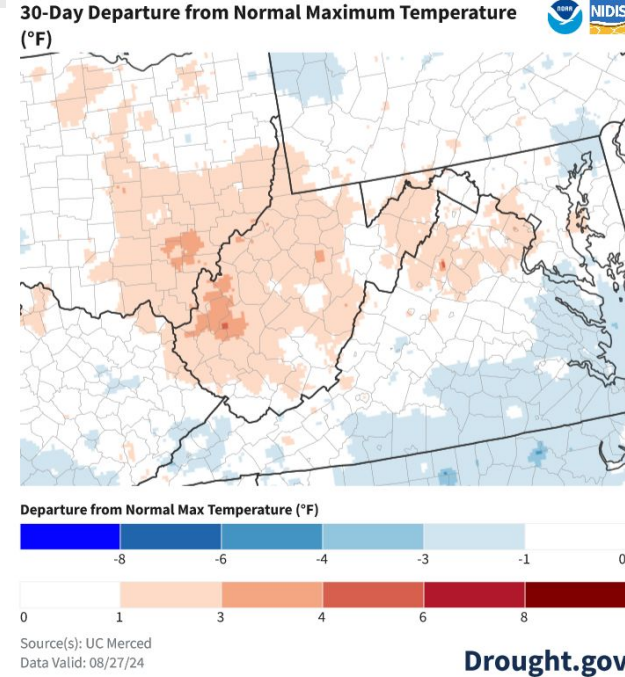
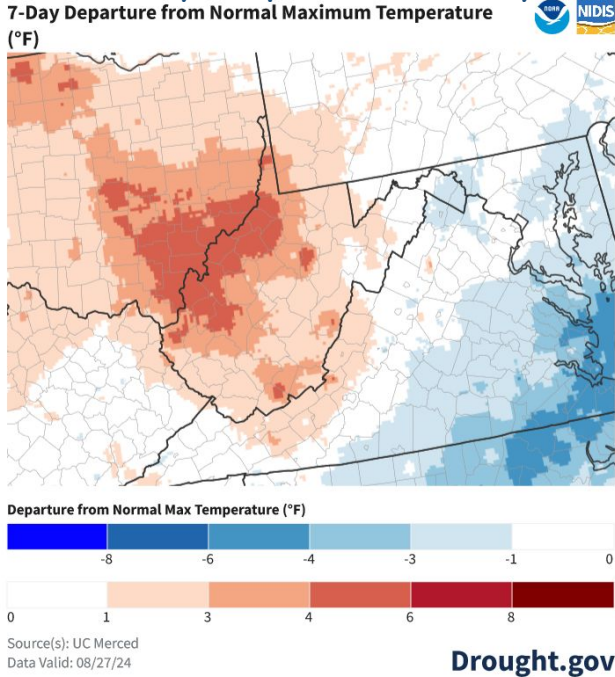
Left - Precipitation Amount for Mid Atlantic
Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation for Mid Atlantic
Data Courtesy NWS National Water Prediction Service
Data over the past 30 days ending August 29, 2024





Observed Temperature

Latest 7 and 30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Main Takeaways

- Max temperatures 3 to 5 degrees above normal over the last week and 1 to 3 degrees above normal over the last month

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 August 27, 2024





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

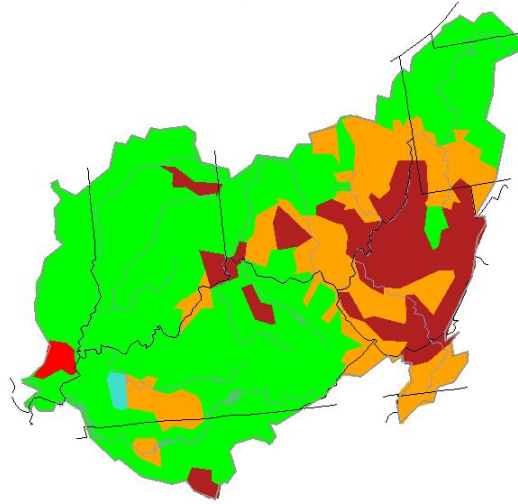
Main Takeaways

- Streamflow remains below to much below normal across much of the WV lowlands and southeast OH
- Groundwater wells remain low across much of the WV lowlands

Impacts

- Reservoir lakes below summer pool:
 - Tygart Lake **34.7' below**
 - Stonewall Jackson lake **7.7' below**
 - Burnsville Lake **2.7' below**
 - Sutton Lake **5.8' below**
 - Beech Fork Lake **2.4' below**
- Some residential and agricultural wells experiencing impacts
- Water supply negatively affected for communities that depend on water from nearby creeks and rivers.
- Water quality may become adversely impacted as well
 - Sutton and Summersville dams recently performed releases to improve water quality in the Kanawha River

Thursday, August 29, 2024



USGS

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			

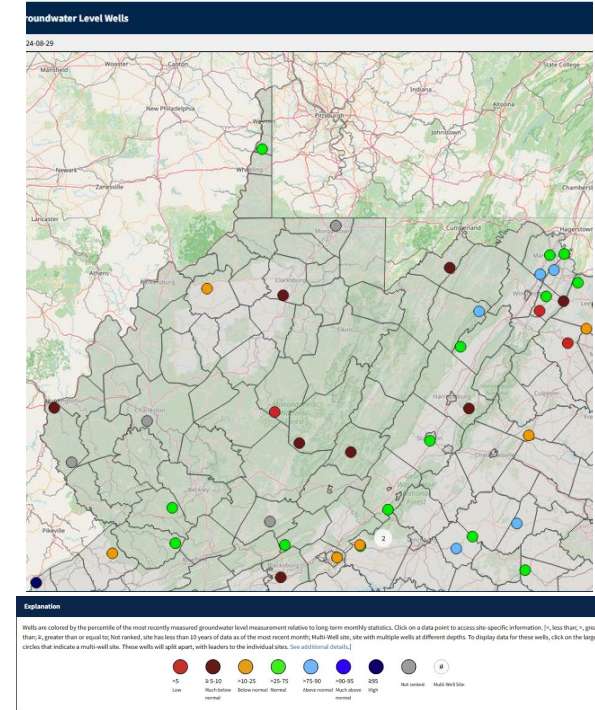


Image Caption:
 Left - USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC maps valid August 29, 2024
 Right - USGS groundwater wells valid August 29, 2024





Agricultural Impacts

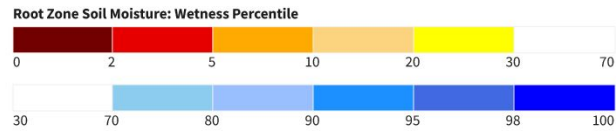
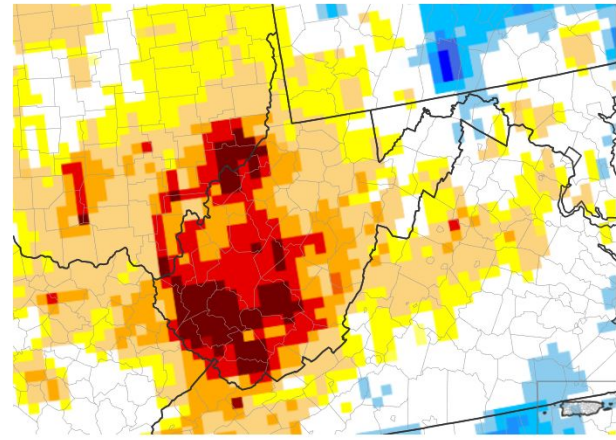
Main Takeaways

- Soil moisture remains well below normal across the much of the WV lowlands and southeast OH

Impacts

- Declining levels in irrigation wells/ponds have led to hauling of water for livestock across parts of southeast OH and the lowlands of WV
- Crop yield loss reports across much of the western/central WV and southeast OH
- Hay shortage reported throughout the central lowlands/mountains/southeast OH
 - supplemental feeding needed

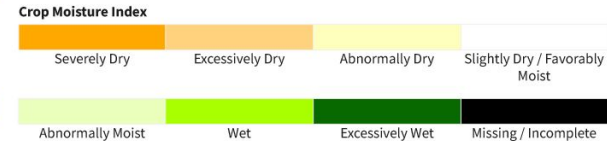
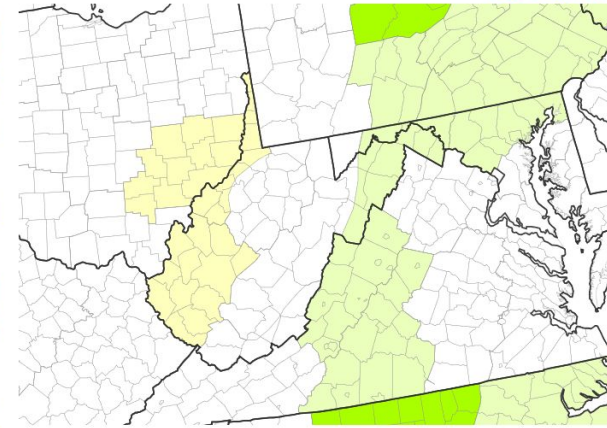
GRACE Root Zone Soil Moisture Percentile



Source(s): NASA, National Drought Mitigation Center
Data Valid: 08/27/24

Drought.gov

Crop Moisture Index



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center
Data Valid: 08/24/24

Drought.gov

USDA Crop Progress and Condition Weekly Reports

- [West Virginia](#)
- [Ohio](#)
- [Virginia](#)
- [Kentucky](#)

Image Captions:
 Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid August 27, 2024
 Right: USDA Crop Progress Report valid August 24, 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
- Several reservoir lake levels are well below summer pools in WV
- Sutton and Summersville dams recently performed releases to improve water quality in the Kanawha River

Agricultural Impacts

- Low soil moisture has stunted crop growth in the WV lowlands and southeast OH
- Crop yield losses continue to be reported in the much of the WV lowlands
 - Lack of hay has resulted in supplemental feeding
- Hauling of water for livestock continues across western/central WV and in southeast OH

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



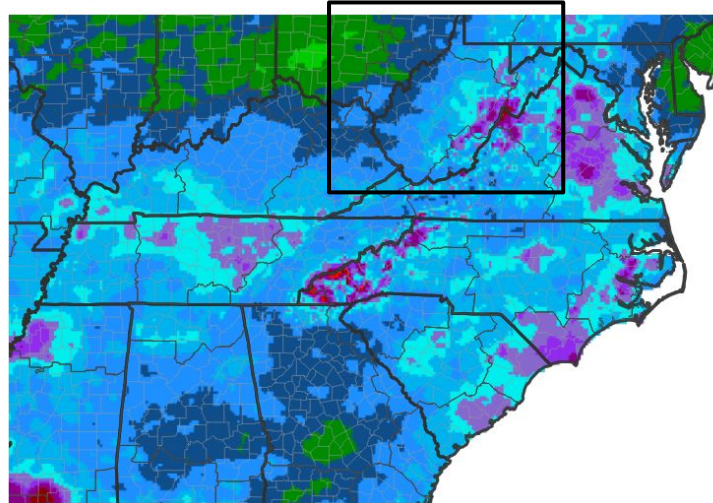


Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

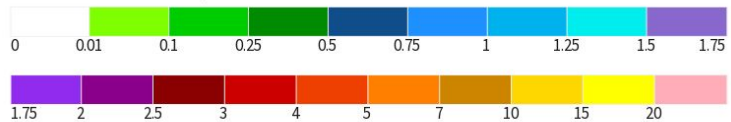
Next 7 days:

- Isolated to widely scattered showers/storms Friday. Front crosses Sunday with better chances for showers/storms Saturday afternoon into Sunday.
 - No widespread significant precipitation expected
 - Localized amounts to 2" possible in any slow moving downpour
- High pressure for much of next week with dry conditions returning

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for August 29, 2024-September 5, 2024



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 08/29/24

Image Caption:

Weather Prediction Center 7-day precipitation forecast valid August 29, 2024





8-14 Day Outlook

Temperature and Precipitation Outlook

Main Takeaways

- Below normal temperatures with normal precipitation favored

Impacts

- Deterioration of drought may temporarily slow with the lower temperatures

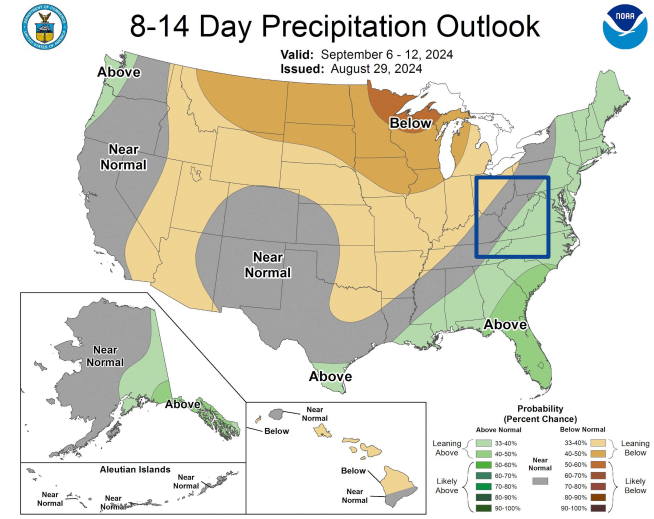
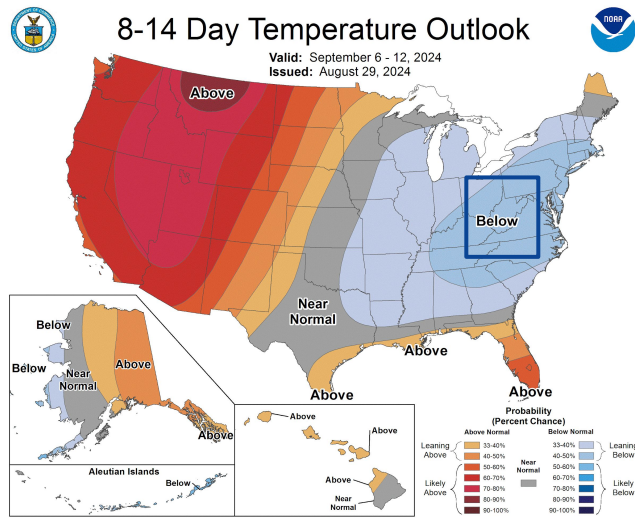


Image Captions:
Climate Prediction Center 8-14 day temperature and precipitation outlook valid August 29, 2024



Weeks 3-4 Outlook

Temperature and Precipitation Outlook

Main Takeaways

- Increased probability of above normal temperatures

Impacts

- Worsening drought conditions possible across many locations

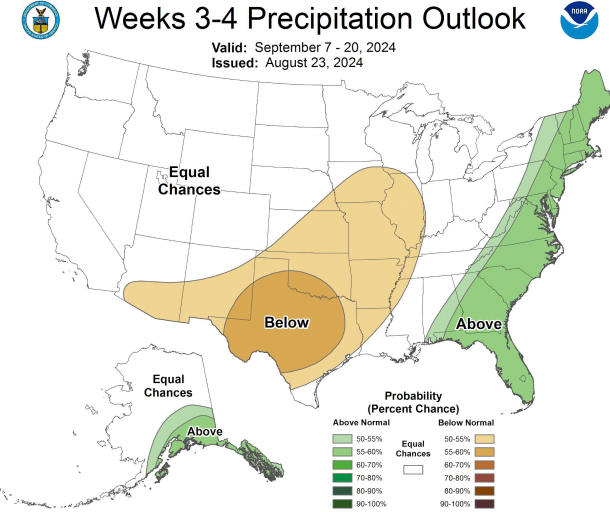
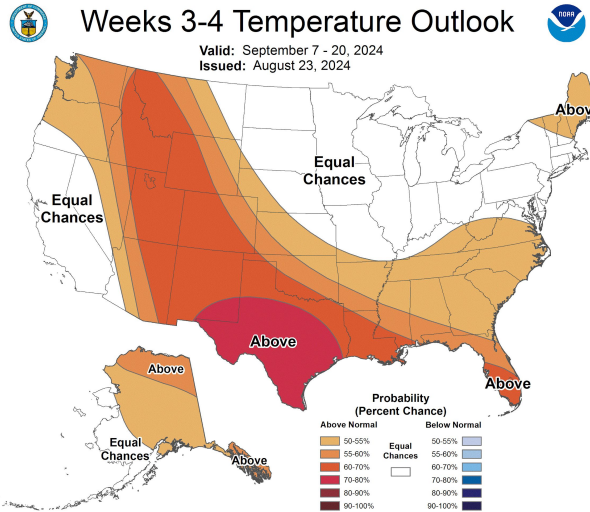


Image Captions:
Climate Prediction Center weeks 3-4 temperature and precipitation outlook valid August 23, 2024

