



# Drought Information Statement

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

Valid September 5, 2024

Issued By: NWS Charleston, WV

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

- This product will be updated September 12, 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 more of the Hocking and Muskingum River basins
  - Extreme Drought expands across WV



# Current Drought Conditions

Latest Drought Monitor

## Main Takeaways

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

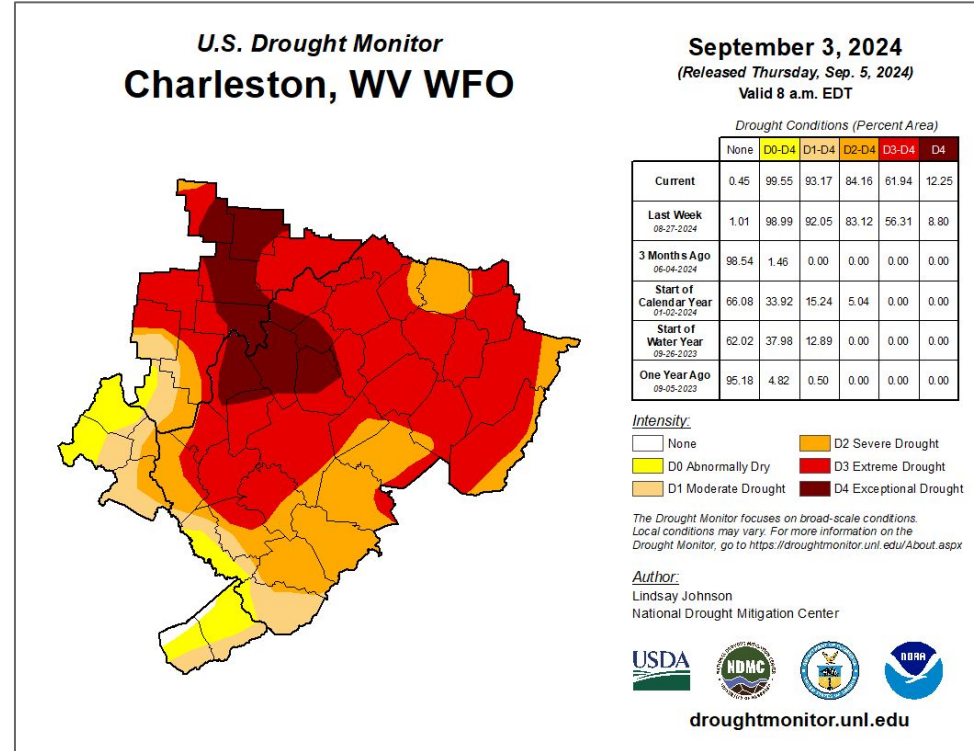


Image Caption: Right: [U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am EDT September 5, 2024](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx)





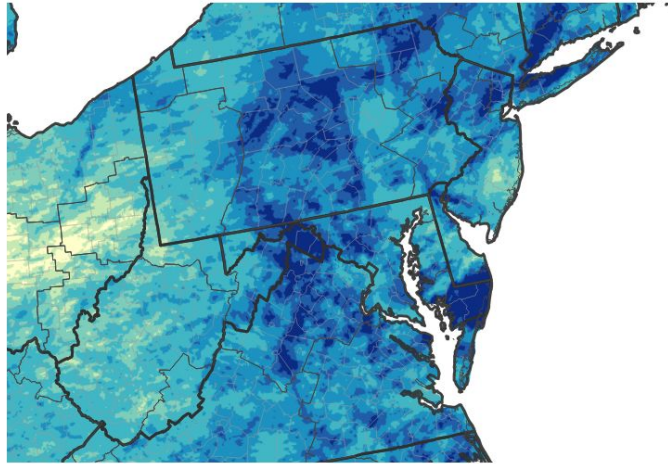
# Observed Precipitation

## Latest 30-Day Rainfall and Percent of Normal Rainfall

### Main Takeaways

- Significant rainfall deficits continue in southeast OH and WV lowlands

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



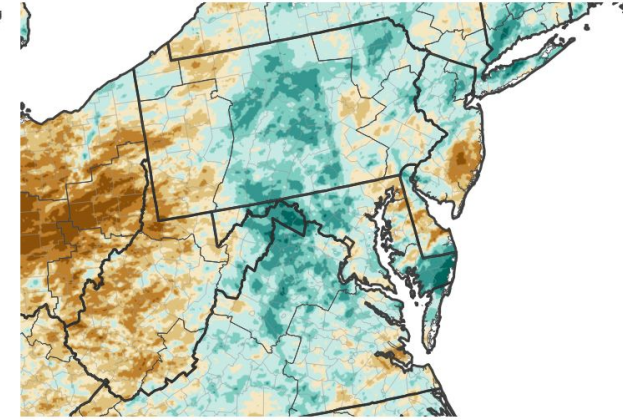
Inches of Precipitation



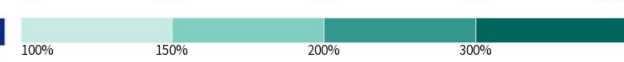
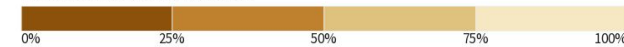
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 09/05/24

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: 09/05/24

### 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 September 5, 2024





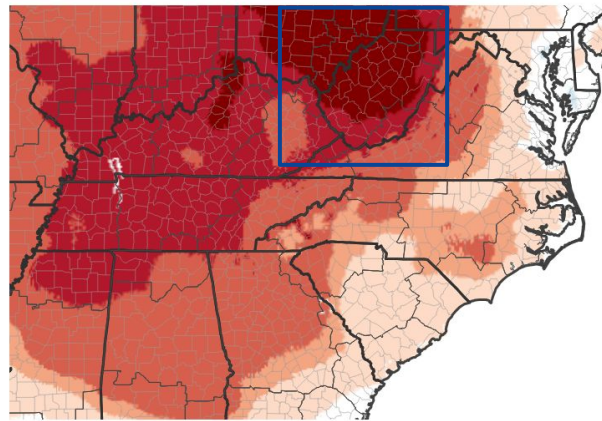
# Observed Temperature

## Latest 7 and 30-Day Temperature Anomaly

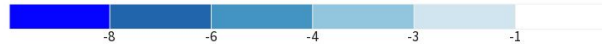
### Main Takeaways

- Max temperatures 4 to 6 degrees above normal over the last week and 1 to 3 degrees above normal over the last month

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



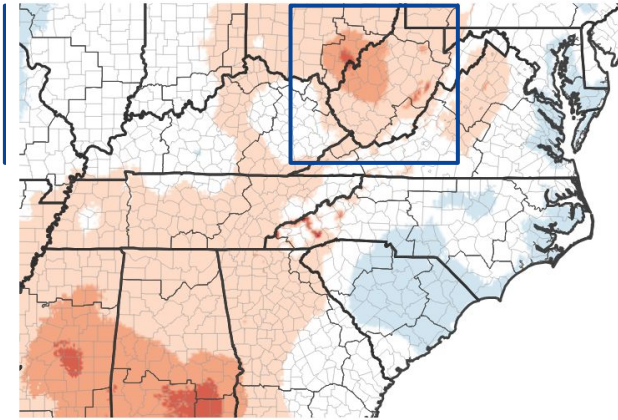
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



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

Data Valid: 09/01/24

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: 09/01/24

### 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 September 1, 2024







# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Brief recovery of 7-day average streamflows
- Several reservoir lake levels are well below summer pools

## Agricultural Impacts

- Low soil moisture has stunted crop growth in southeast OH and much of WV
- Crop yield losses continue to be reported in southeast OH and much of WV
  - Lack of hay has resulted in supplemental feeding
  - Early sales of livestock
- Hauling of water for livestock continues across many parts of southeast OH and WV

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- If dryness persists, above normal brush fire activity is possible going forward

## Mitigation Actions

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





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

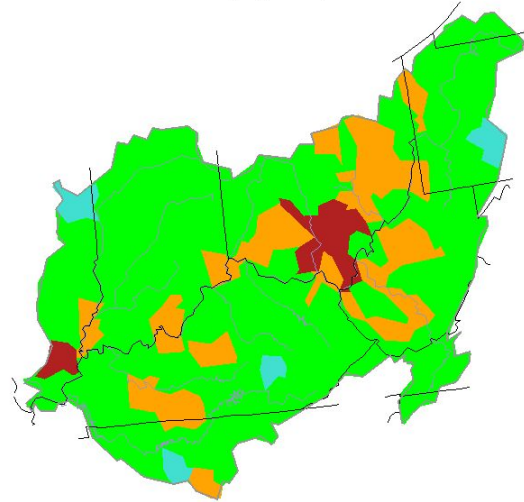
## Main Takeaways

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

## Impacts

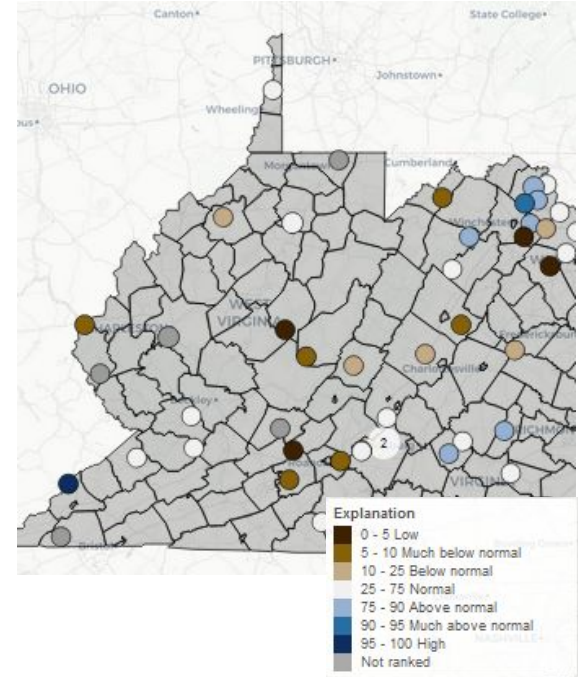
- Reservoir lakes below summer pool:
  - Tygart Lake **37.2' below**
  - Stonewall Jackson lake **8.3' below**
  - Burnsville Lake **3' below**
  - Sutton Lake **3.8' below**
  - Beech Fork Lake **2.6' below**
- Some residential and agricultural wells experiencing impacts
- Water supply negatively affected for communities that depend on water from nearby creeks and rivers.
- Water quality may become adversely impacted as well

Thursday, September 05, 2024



USGS

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



**Image Caption:**  
 Left - USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC maps valid September 5, 2024  
 Right - USGS groundwater wells valid September 5, 2024





# Agricultural Impacts

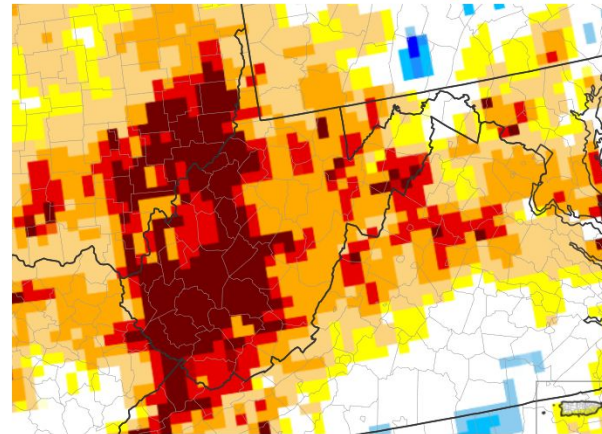
## Main Takeaways

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

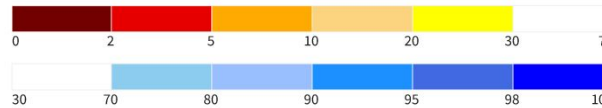
## Impacts

- 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 WV and southeast OH
- Hay shortage reported throughout WV and southeast OH
  - supplemental feeding needed
  - Reports of livestock being sold due to lack of feed/water

GRACE Root Zone Soil Moisture Percentile

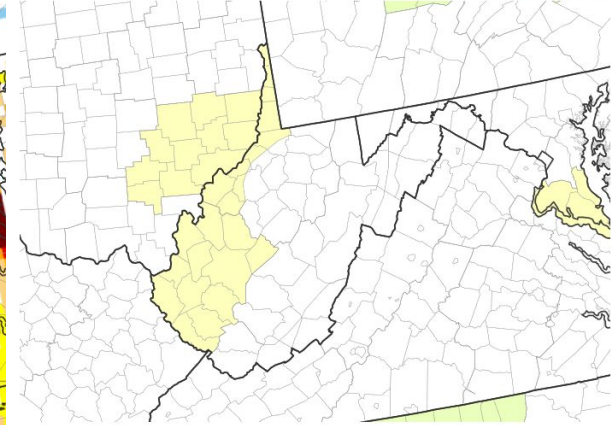


Root Zone Soil Moisture: Wetness Percentile



Source(s): NASA, National Drought Mitigation Center  
Data Valid: 09/03/24

Crop Moisture Index



Crop Moisture Index



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center  
Data Valid: 08/31/24

Drought.gov

Drought.gov

## USDA Crop Progress and Condition Weekly Reports

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

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

## Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile valid September 3, 2024

Right: USDA Crop Progress Report valid August 31, 2024



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service  
Charleston, WV

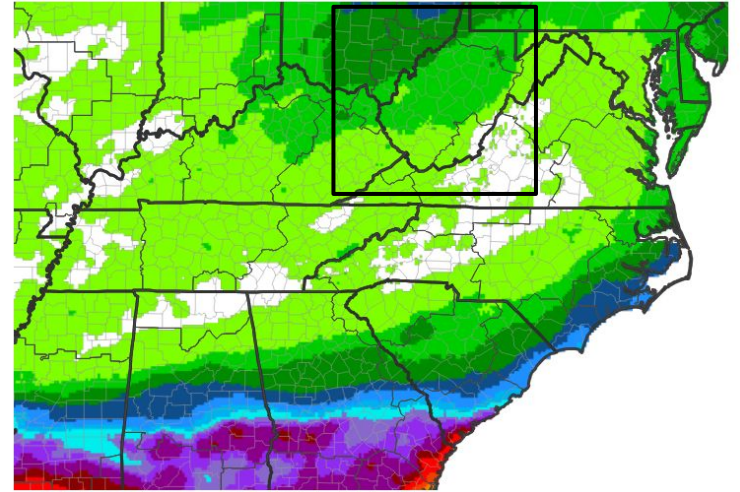


# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

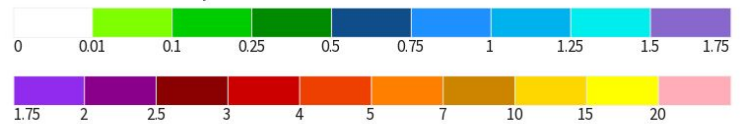
## Next 7 days:

- Strong cold front crosses Friday night with a few showers/storms
  - No widespread significant precipitation expected
  - Amounts less than 0.25", perhaps up to 0.50" in southeast OH
  
- High pressure and dry for next week

## 7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for September 5, 2024-September 12, 2024



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 09/05/24

**Image Caption:**  
Weather Prediction Center 7-day precipitation forecast valid September 5, 2024







# 8-14 Day Outlook

## Temperature and Precipitation Outlook

### Main Takeaways

- Above normal temperatures with below normal precipitation favored

### Impacts

- Worsening drought conditions possible across many locations

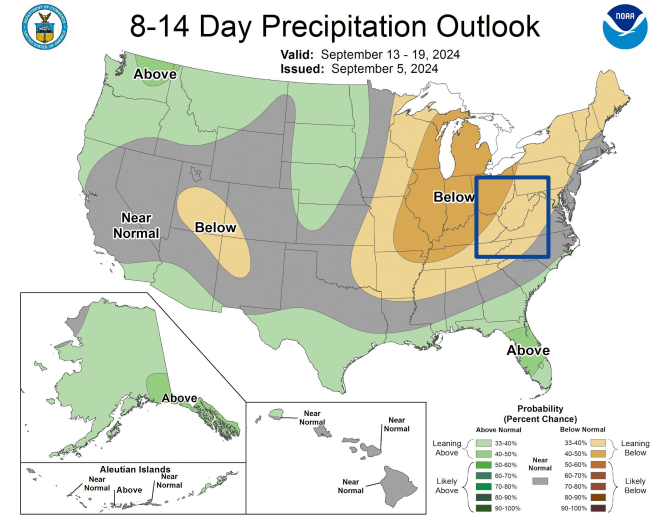
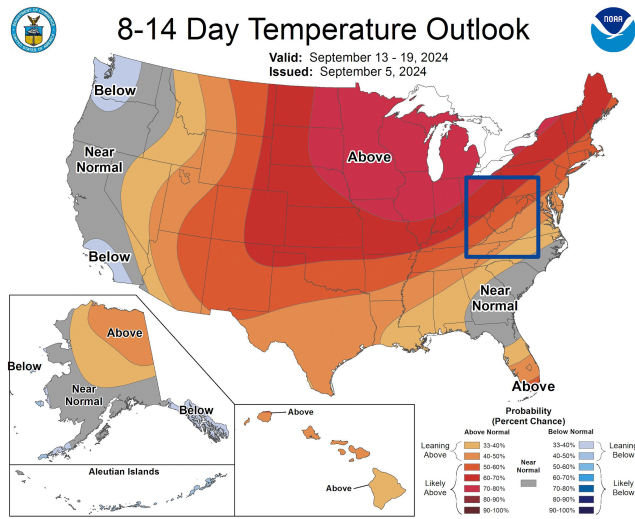


Image Captions: Climate Prediction Center 8-14 day temperature and precipitation outlook valid September 5, 2024