



Drought Information Statement for Central Pennsylvania

Valid **January 30, 2026**

Issued by: National Weather Service State College

Contact Information: ctp.stormreports@noaa.gov

- This next update to this Drought Information Statement will be issued by **February 13, 2026**.
 - Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
 - Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/CTP/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
 - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.
-
- Much of central Pennsylvania remains abnormally dry, with portions of south-central Pennsylvania remaining in Moderate (D1) to Severe (D2) drought.
 - Some improvement is expected in the upper Juniata and West Branch Susquehanna basins through early Spring, with drought expected to generally persist elsewhere.

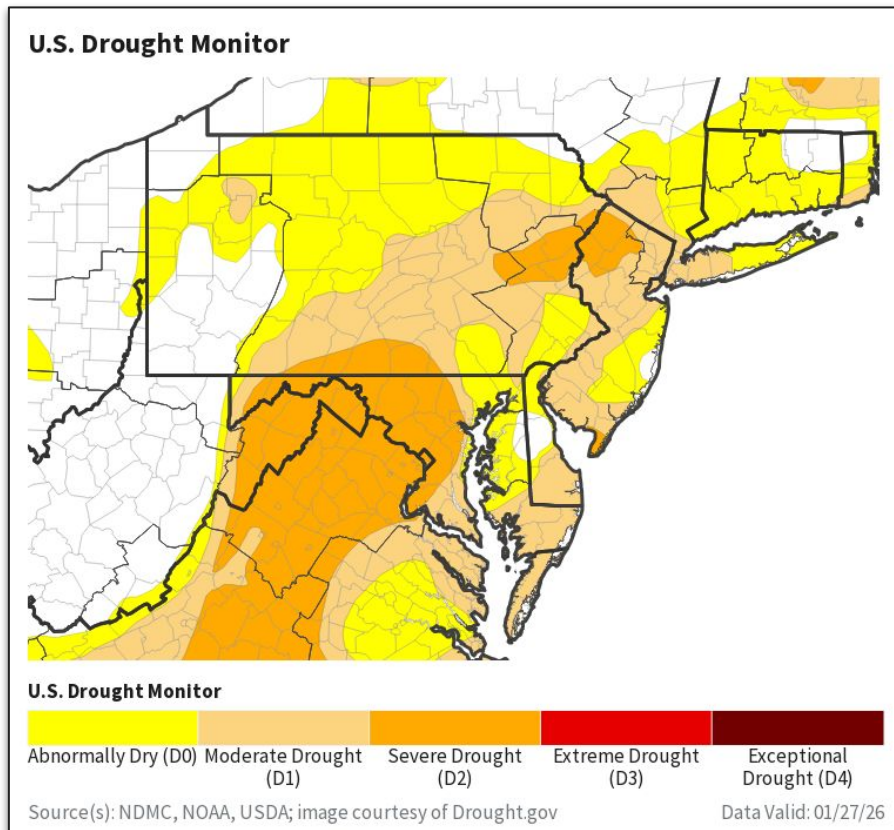




U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

- Drought Intensity and Extent for Central Pennsylvania:
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Bedford, Fulton, Franklin, Adams, Schuylkill
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Centre, Union, Snyder, Northumberland, Montour, Columbia, Blair, Huntingdon, Mifflin, Juniata, Perry, Dauphin, Lebanon, Somerset, Cumberland, York
 - **D0 (Abnormally Dry)**: Warren, McKean, Potter, Tioga, Elk, Cameron, Clinton, Lycoming, Sullivan, Clearfield, Cambria, Lancaster

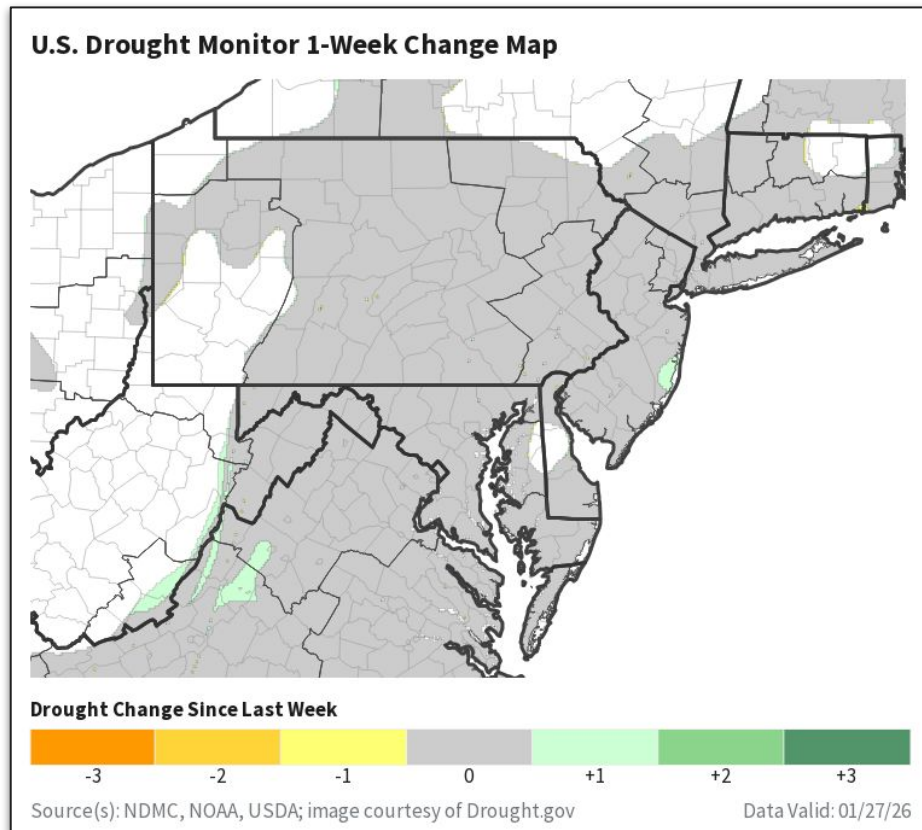




One-Week Change in Drought Intensity

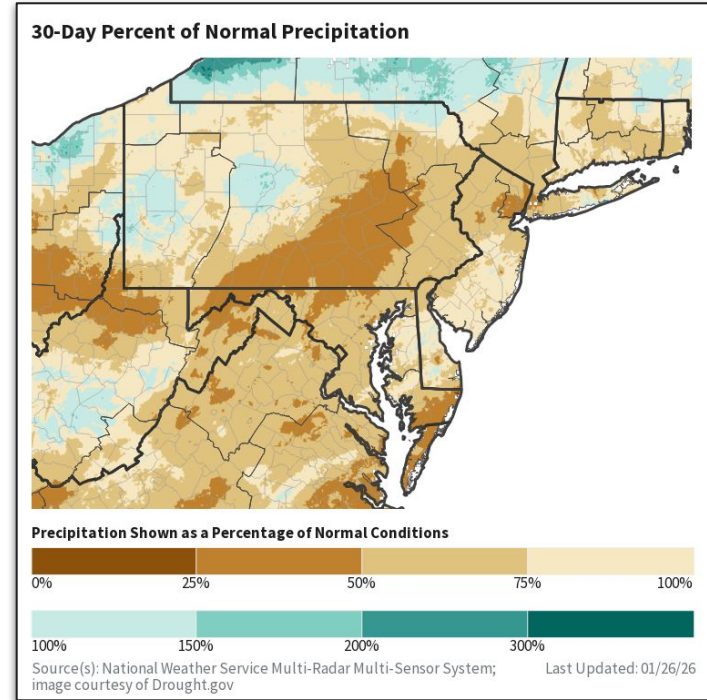
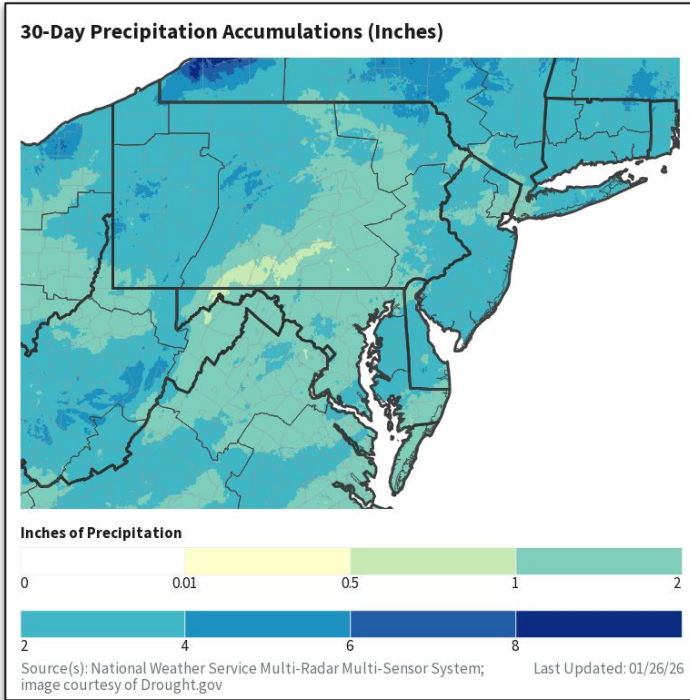
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#)

- One-Week Drought Monitor Class Change:
 - The status quo was maintained across central Pennsylvania, as much of the area received a significant snowfall last week but that water remains locked up in the snowpack.





30-Day Precipitation and Percent of Normal

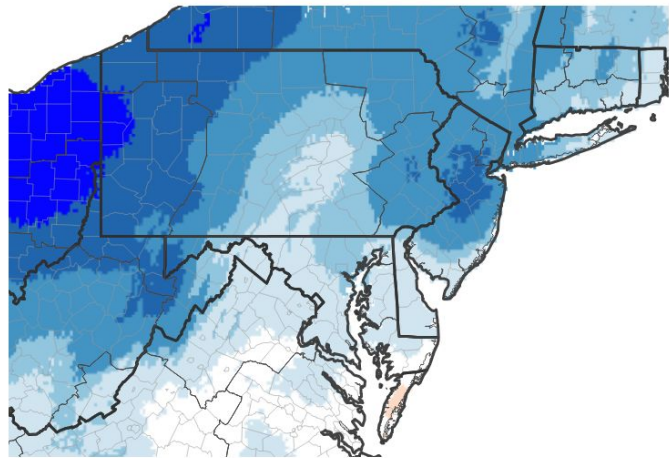


- Below average precipitation was observed across most of Pennsylvania over the past 30 days, with portions of south-central Pennsylvania receiving less than 50% of average precipitation.



7-Day & 30-Day Temperature Anomalies

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



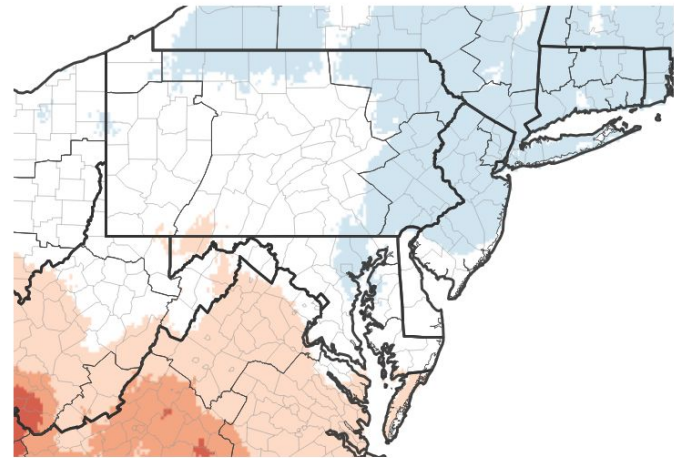
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



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

Data Valid: 01/25/26

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: 01/25/26

- 7-Day temperature anomalies were below to well below average, while 30-Day temperature anomalies were generally near to slightly below average.





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Due to the recent cold temperatures, most of the waterways across central Pennsylvania are being significantly impacted by ice.

Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture conditions remain abnormally dry across south-central Pennsylvania, with near to above average soil moisture observed across north-central Pennsylvania. See slide 8 for details on regional soil moisture.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- The significant wildfire potential outlook is near average across Pennsylvania for February 2026. See slide 9 for a map and details.

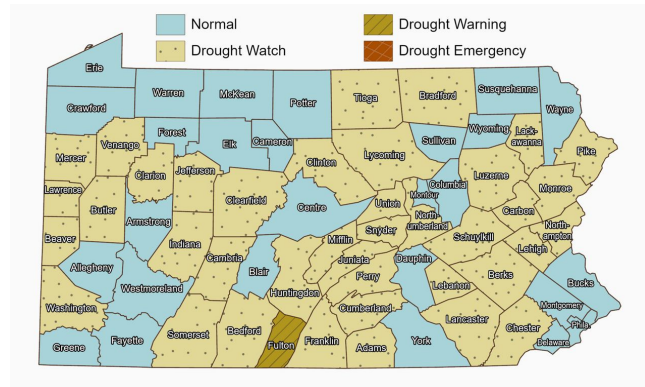
Other Impacts

- As of January 27, 2026, there were no county burn bans in effect across Pennsylvania.

Mitigation Actions

- There are both voluntary and mandatory water restrictions in place for some communities across central Pennsylvania. Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.

Latest PA drought designations:



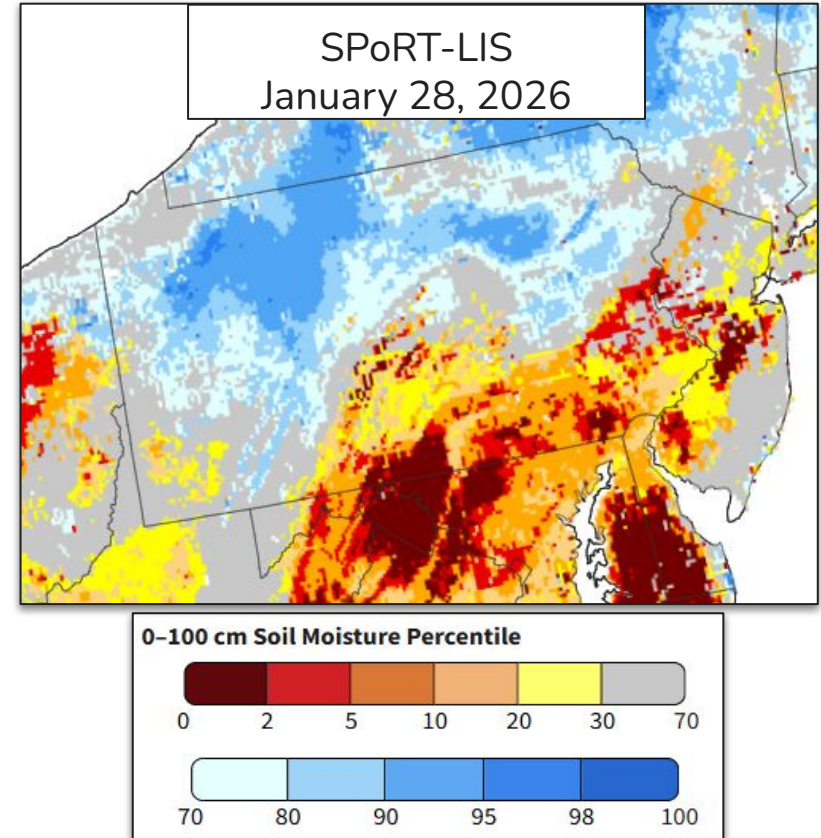
The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has issued a Drought Watch for several Pennsylvania counties and a Drought Warning for Fulton County. (The NWS does not declare Drought Watches or Warnings.)





Agricultural Conditions

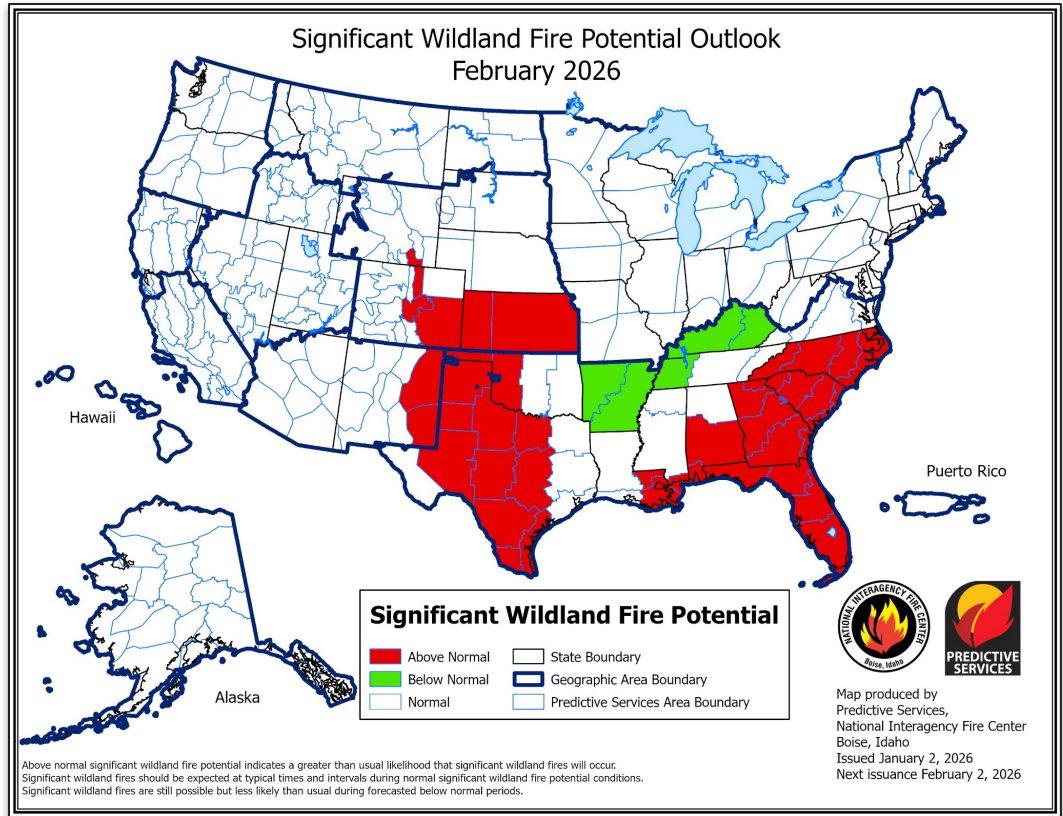
- Soil moisture conditions remain abnormally dry across south-central Pennsylvania, with near to above average soil moisture observed across north-central Pennsylvania.





Fire Hazard Impacts

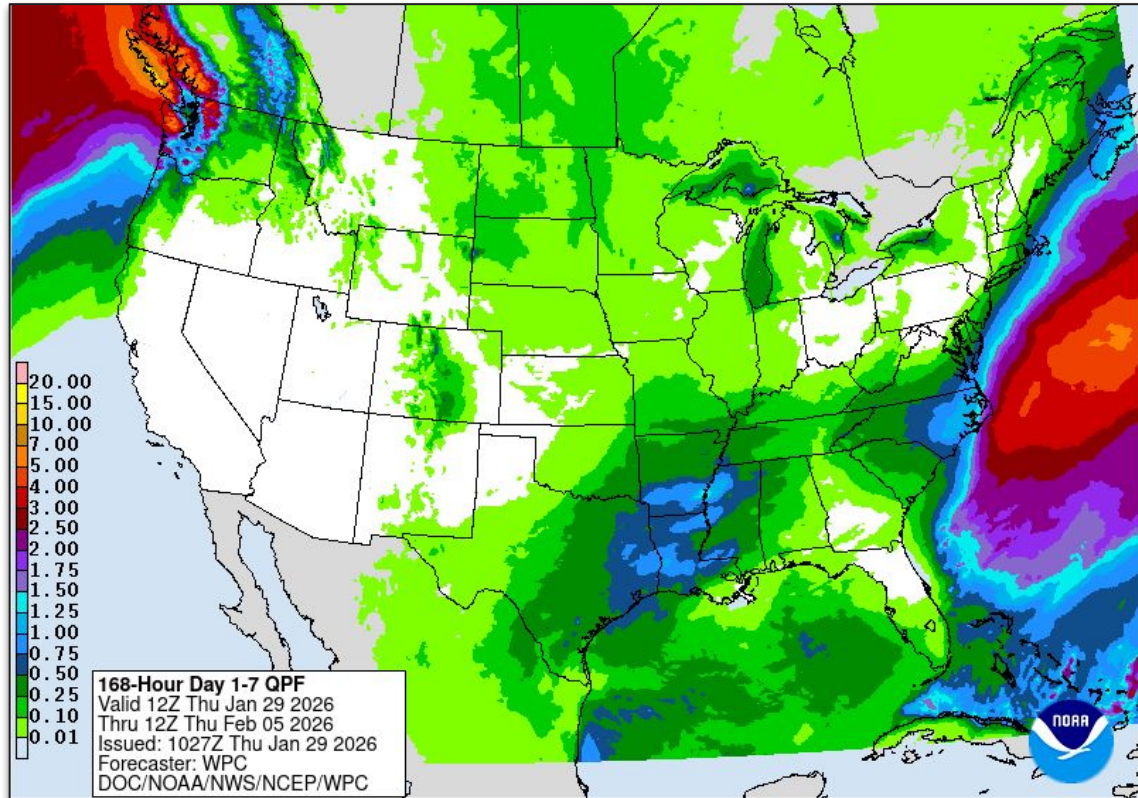
- The significant wildfire potential outlook is near average across Pennsylvania for February 2026.





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

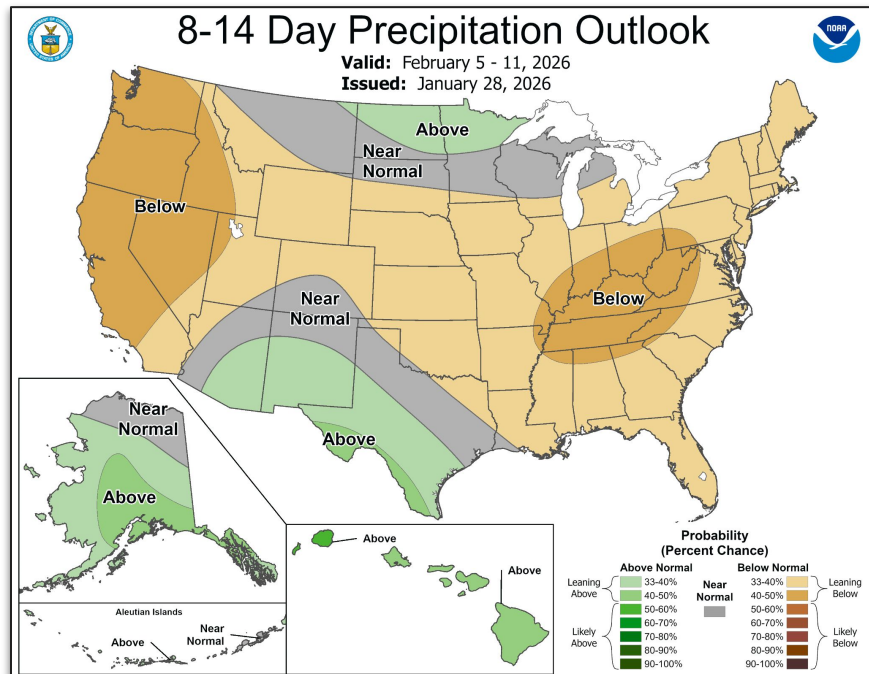
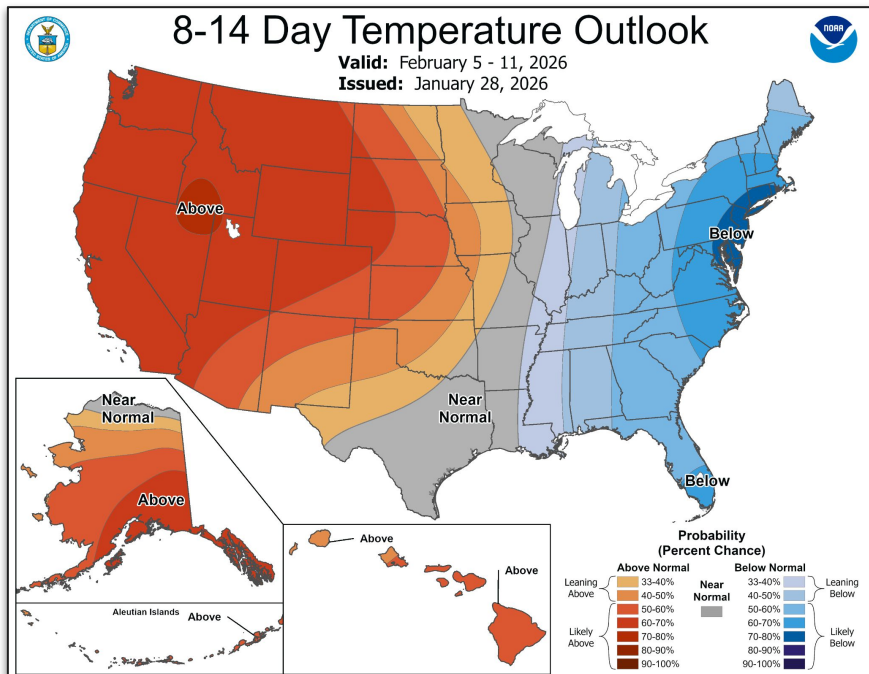
- 7-Day precipitation is generally expected to be less than a tenth of an inch across central Pennsylvania.





8-14 Day Outlook

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



- The 8-14 day forecast calls for a trend towards below average temperatures and below average precipitation for central Pennsylvania.

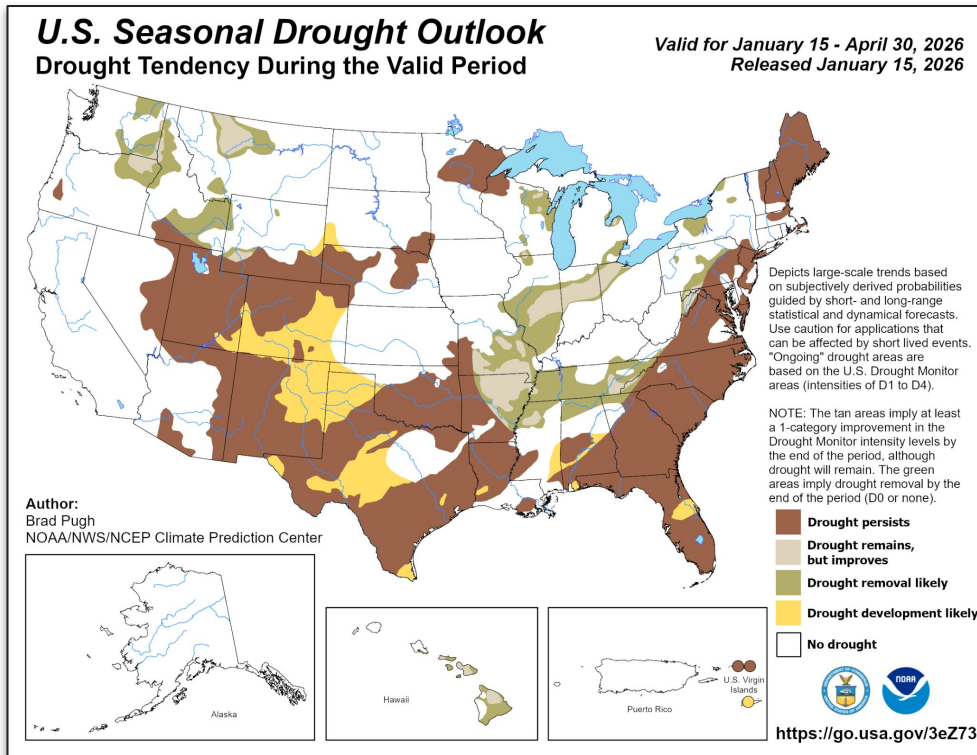




Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](https://cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/)

- Some improvement is expected on the western periphery of the drought in central Pennsylvania, but existing drought is expected to persist across much of south-central and southeastern Pennsylvania.



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
Central Pennsylvania