



# Drought Information Statement for Philadelphia/Mt. Holly Hydrologic Service Area Valid February 20, 2026

Issued By: National Weather Service Philadelphia/Mt. Holly

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

- This product will be updated March 27, 2026 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.
  - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.
- 
- The state of New Jersey has issued a Drought Warning for the entire state.
  - There are no state declarations in place for Delaware.
  - The state of Pennsylvania has issued either a Drought Watch or Drought Warning for our southeast Pennsylvania Counties.
  - The state of Maryland has issued a Drought Warning for our Maryland Eastern Shore counties.



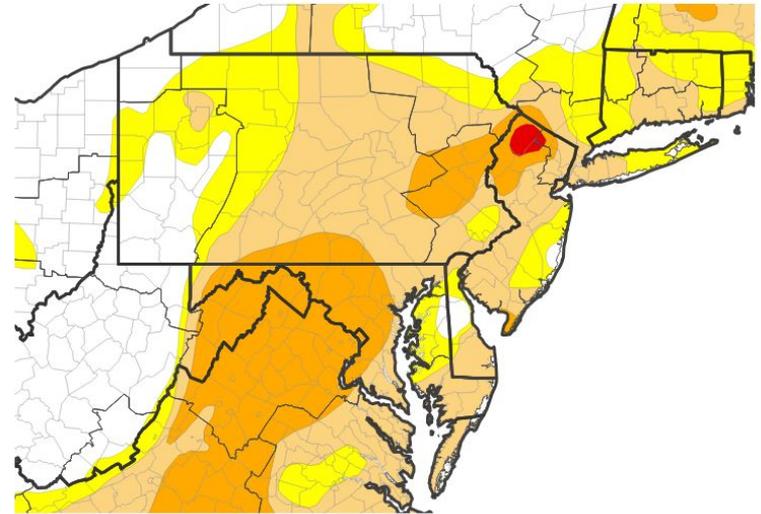


# U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: No Exceptional Drought exists across the Hydrologic Service Area (HSA).
  - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Extreme Drought exists portions of northwest New Jersey.
  - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Severe Drought exists across portions of northern and southern New Jersey, the southern Poconos, and the Lehigh Valley.
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Moderate Drought exists across portions of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware, but not the Maryland Eastern Shore.
  - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Abnormally Dry conditions exist just about everywhere drought isn't defined.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 02/17/26



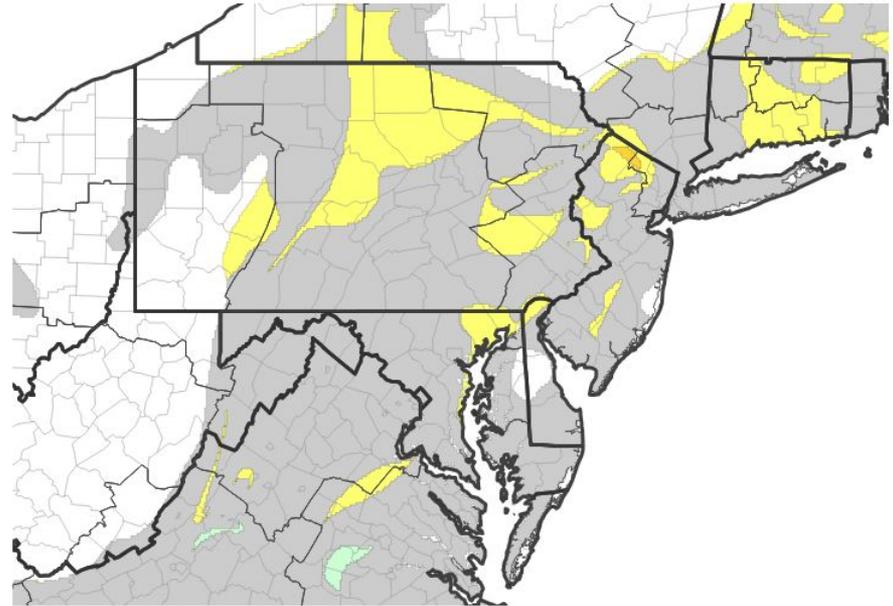


# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

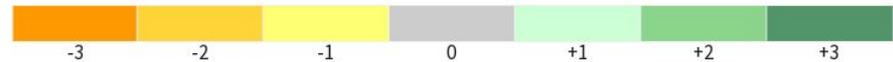
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Philadelphia/Mt. Holly Hydrologic Service Area

- A Four Week change map can be accessed from the link above.
- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change...
  - Drought Worsened: Degradation was observed across portions of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware.
  - No Change: More areas remained the same versus showing degradation or improvement.
  - Drought Improved: No improvement was observed.

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



Drought Change Since Last Week



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

Data Valid: 02/17/26



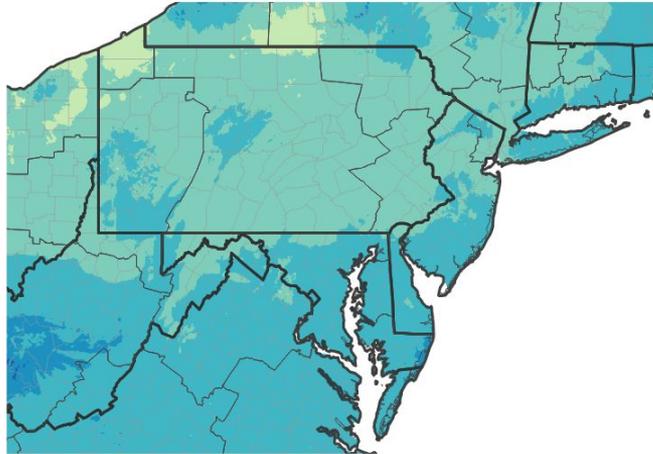


# Precipitation

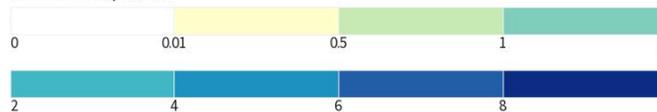
## Last 30 Days

- Much of the HSA has seen below normal precipitation the last 30 days.

### 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



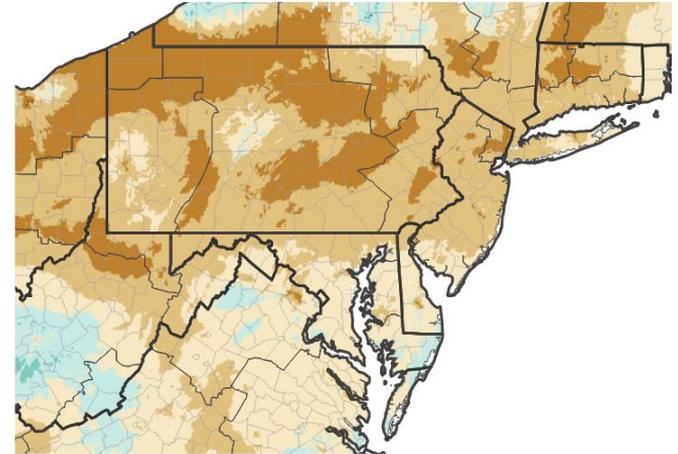
#### Inches of Precipitation



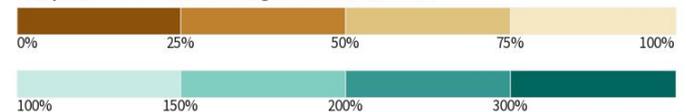
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 02/19/26

### 30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



#### Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions



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

Last Updated: 02/19/26

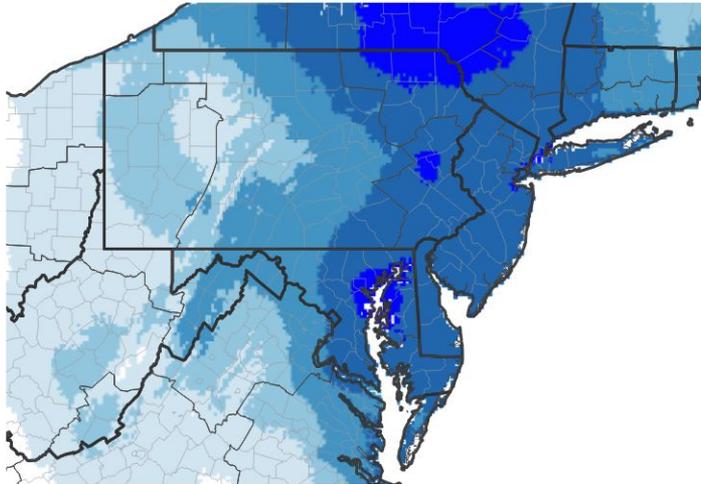




# Temperature

- When averaged (ending 2/15), the entire forecast area experienced below normal temperatures the last 7 days.
- Over the last 30 days, the entire forecast area experienced below normal temperatures as well.

### 7-Day Temperature Anomaly



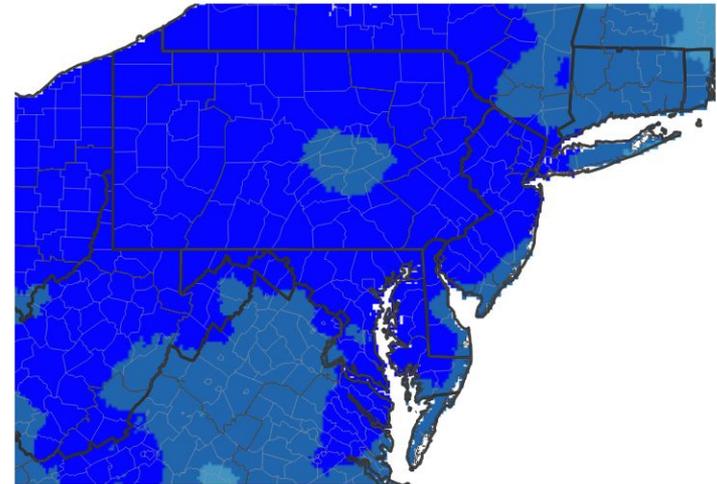
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



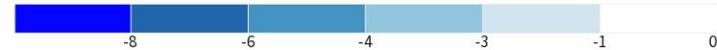
0 1 3 4 6 8

Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 02/15/26

### 30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



0 1 3 4 6 8

Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 02/15/26





# 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 2/19, were mainly below normal.

## Agricultural Impacts

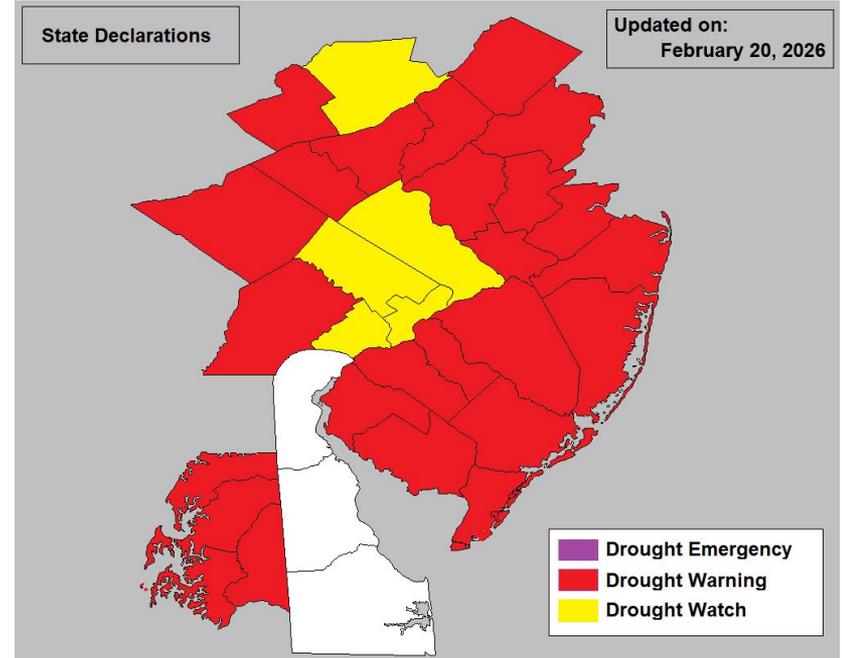
- Crop moisture was running normal across the forecast area.
- See slide 8 for more details.

## Other Impacts

- Per state DEPs, reservoir pools across the HSA were mainly below normal.
- Per the Delaware River Basin Commission, and as of February 9th, the salt front in the Delaware River Estuary was estimated at river mile marker 76.7. The normal location for this time of year is river mile marker 71. This indicates the salt line is 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 our Maryland Eastern Shore counties.
- Per the state of Delaware, there are no state declarations in place.
- Per the state of Pennsylvania, either a Drought Watch or Drought Warning have been issued for our Southeast Pennsylvania Counties.



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





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Seven-day average streamflow conditions, ending 2/19, were mainly below normal.

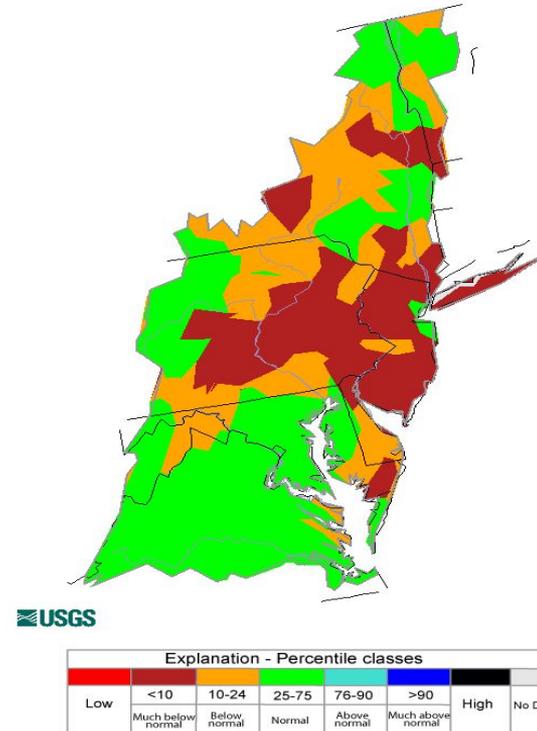


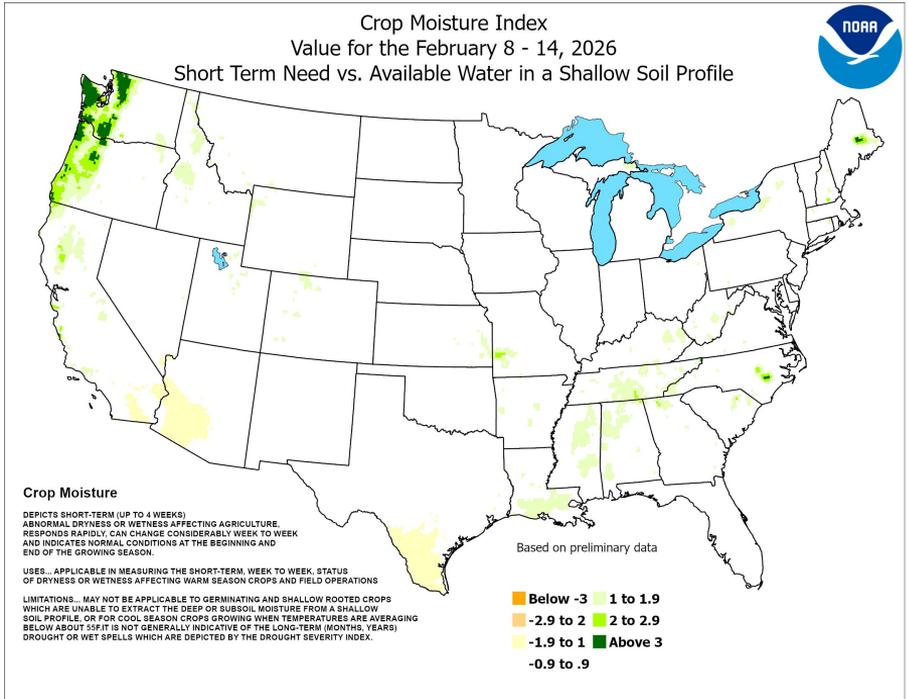
Image Caption: HUC map [USGS 7 day streamflow for the Mid-Atlantic](#) valid February 19, 2026





# Agricultural Impacts

- Crop moisture was running normal across the forecast area.



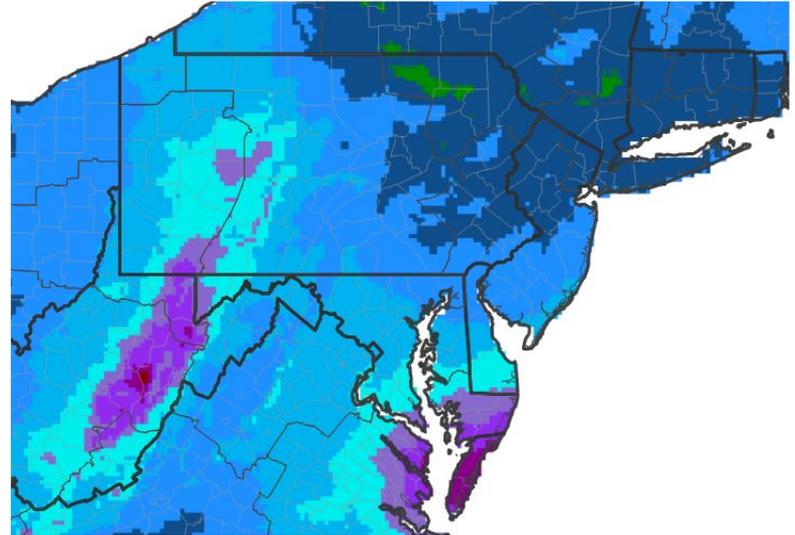


# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

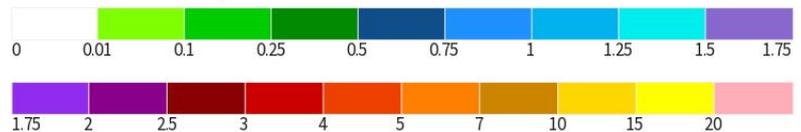
Low pressure will move across our area through today, followed by a weak cold front on Saturday. A winter storm will impact our area Sunday into Monday. High pressure builds in later Tuesday, then a warm front may lift north across our area Wednesday into Thursday.

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

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for February 19, 2026–February 26, 2026



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 02/19/26



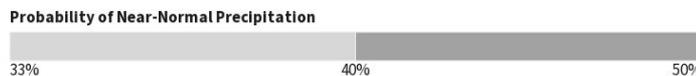
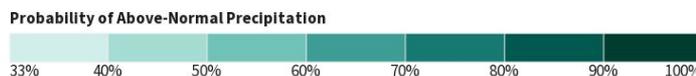
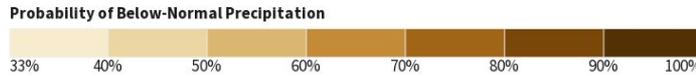
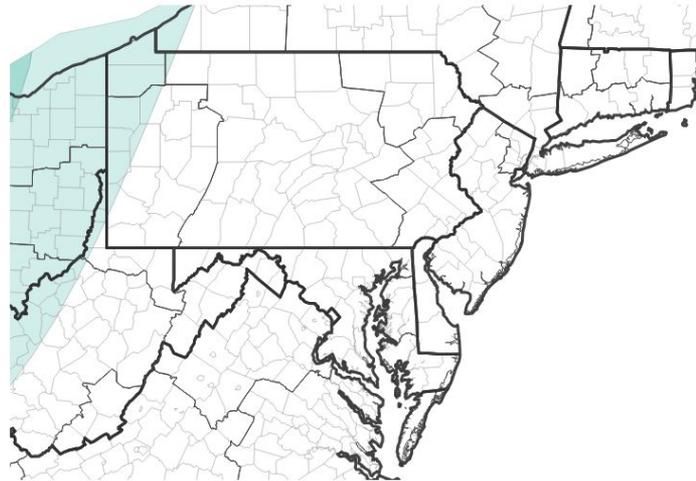


# Long-Range Outlooks

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

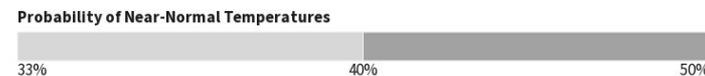
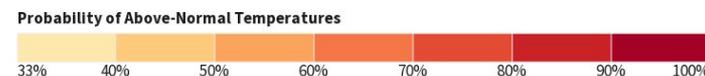
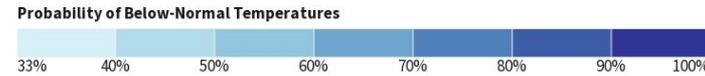
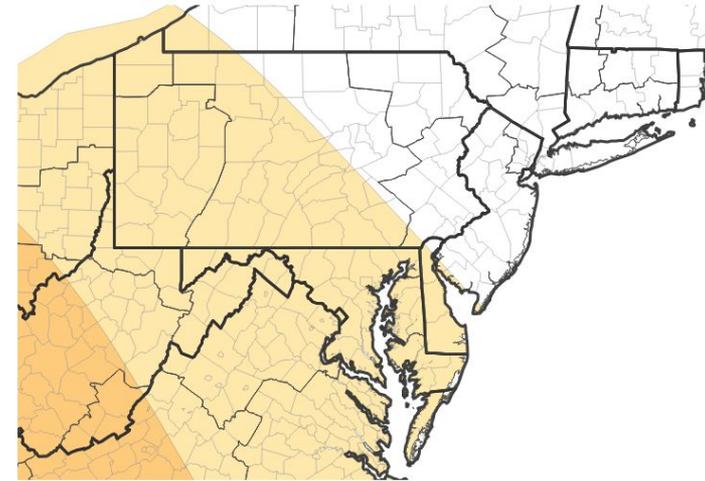
- There are no signals suggesting average monthly precipitation will be either above or below normal.
- Long-Range signals suggest average monthly temperatures have a greater chance of either being normal or above normal versus below normal.

Monthly Precipitation Outlook for February 1, 2026–February 28, 2026



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 02/19/26

Monthly Temperature Outlook for March 1, 2026–March 31, 2026



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 02/19/26

