

Drought Information Statement for Philadelphia/Mt. Holly Hydrologic Service Area

Valid March 27, 2026

Issued By: National Weather Service Philadelphia/Mt. Holly

Contact Information: wfophi.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated May 1, 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.
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- 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.





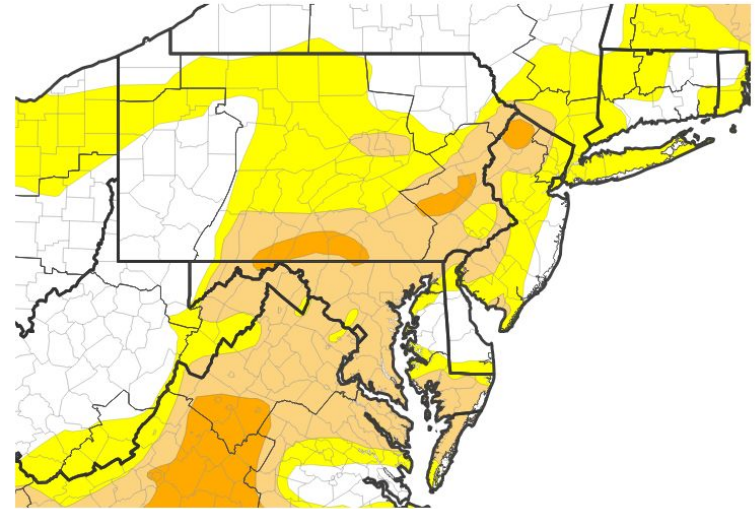
U.S. Drought Monitor

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)**: No Extreme Drought exists across the HSA.
- **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Severe Drought exists across portions of northern New Jersey and the Lehigh Valley.
- **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Moderate Drought exists across portions of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware, but not our Maryland Eastern Shore counties.
- **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Abnormally Dry conditions exist across portions of the four states we serve.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 03/24/26



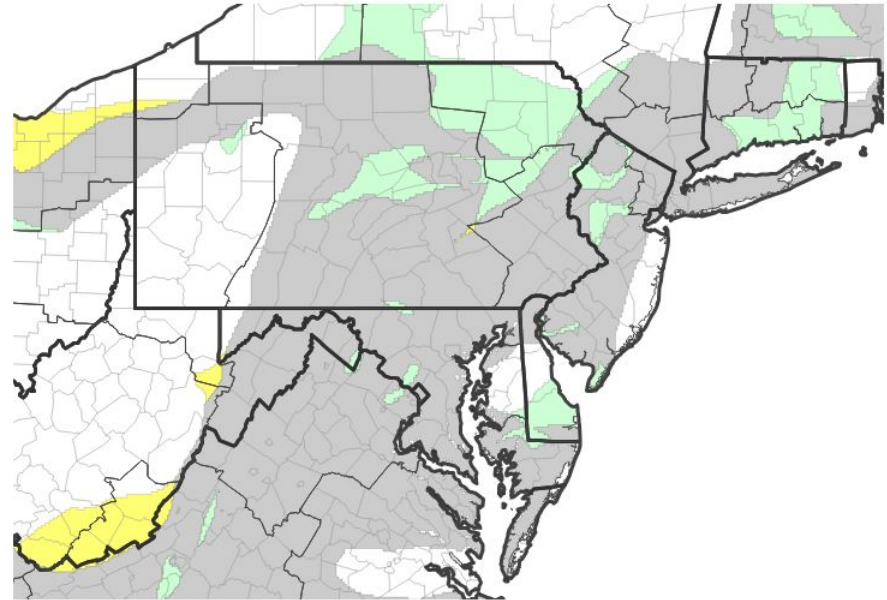


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

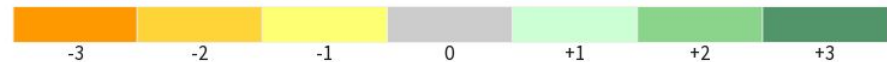
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Philadelphia/Mt. Holly Hydrologic Service Area

- A Four Week change map can be accessed from the link above.
- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change...
 - Drought Worsened: No degradation was observed.
 - No Change: More areas remained the same versus showing degradation or improvement.
 - Drought Improved: Improvement was observed across portions of the four states we serve.

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: 03/24/26



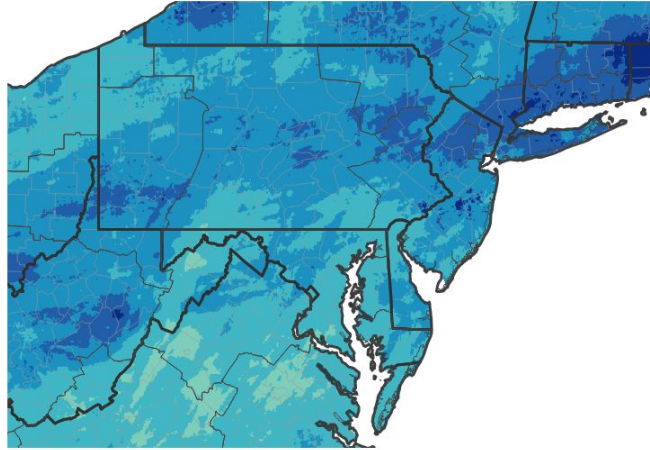


Precipitation

Last 30 Days

- A large amount of the HSA has seen above normal precipitation the last 30 days. Some of our southern counties have seen below normal conditions.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



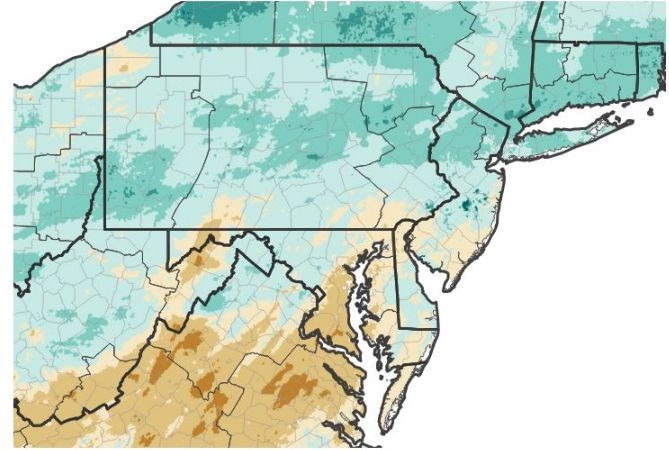
Inches of Precipitation



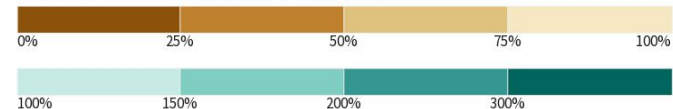
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 03/26/26

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

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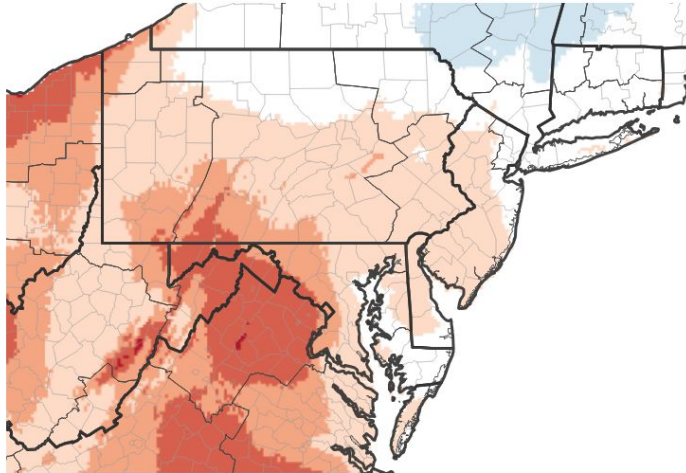




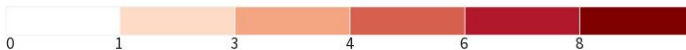
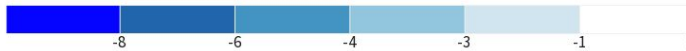
Temperature

- When averaged (ending 3/22), much of the forecast area experienced above normal temperatures the last 7 days.
- Over the last 30 days, much of the forecast area experienced above normal temperatures as well.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



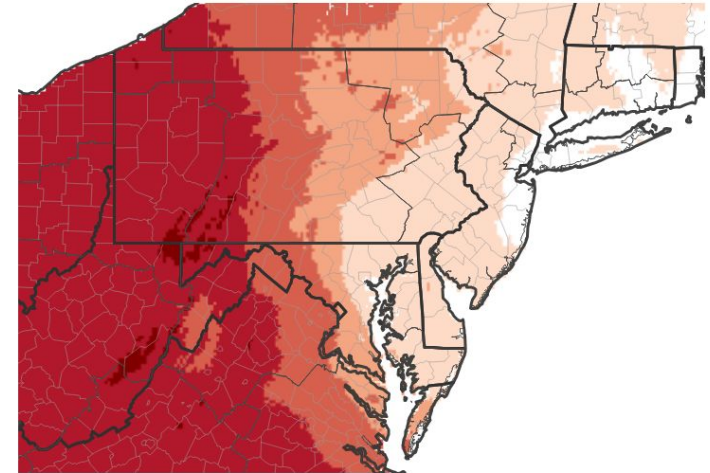
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



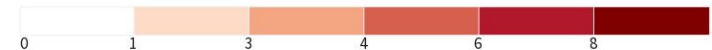
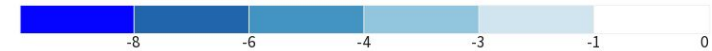
Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 03/22/26

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: 03/22/26





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 3/26, were mainly below normal.

Agricultural Impacts

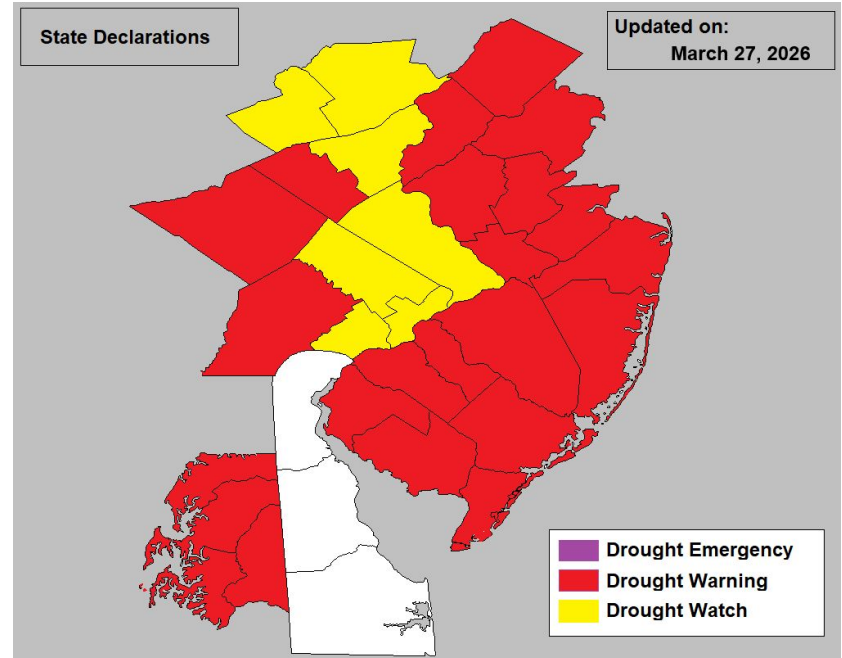
- Crop moisture was running normal to above normal across the forecast area.
- See slide 8 for more details.

Other Impacts

- Per state DEPs, reservoir pools across the HSA were mainly below normal to normal.
- Per the Delaware River Basin Commission, and as of March 23rd, the salt front in the Delaware River Estuary was estimated at river mile marker 63.3. The normal location for this time of year is river mile marker 70. This indicates the salt line is further downstream 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 3/26, were mainly below normal.

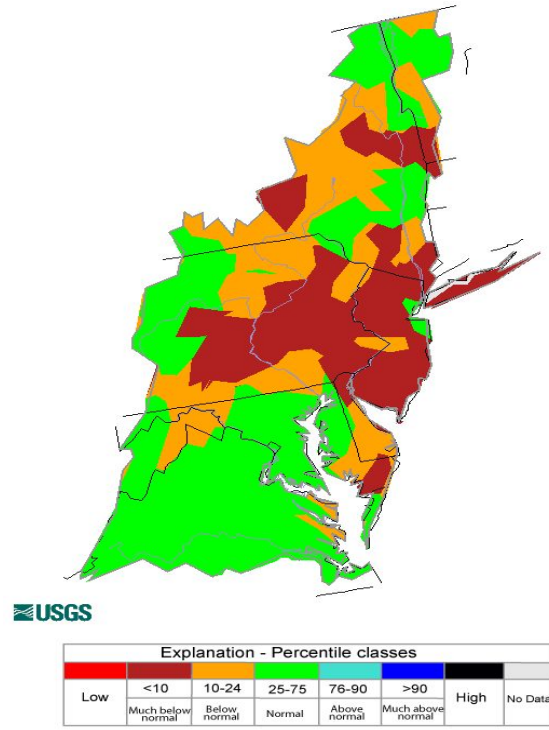
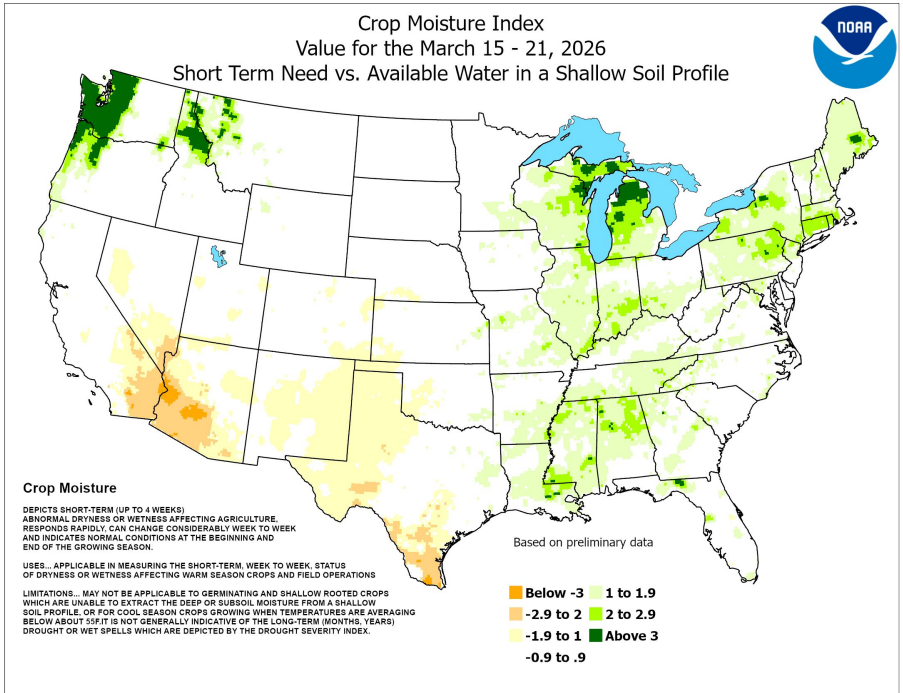


Image Caption: HUC map [USGS 7 day streamflow for the Mid-Atlantic](#) valid March 26, 2026



Agricultural Impacts

- Crop moisture was running normal to above normal across the forecast area.



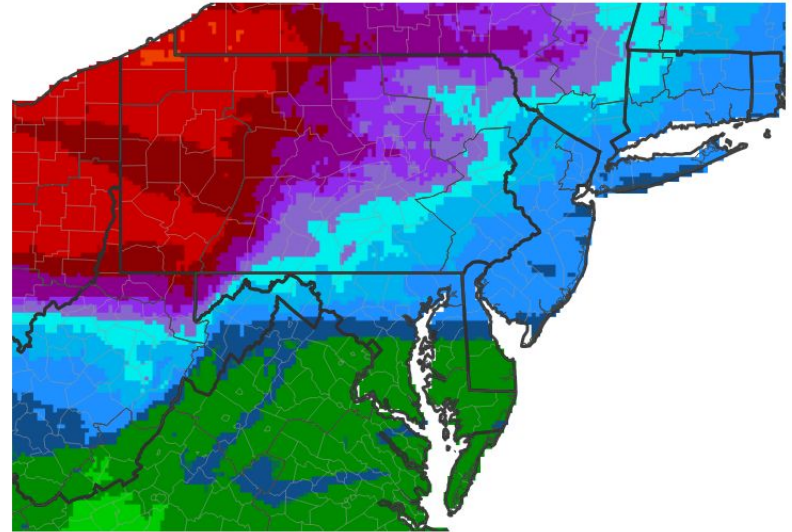


Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

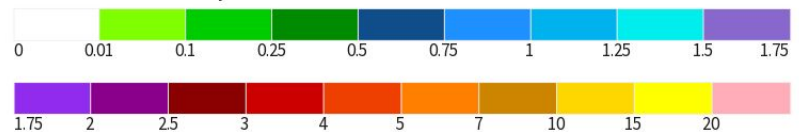
A cold front passes through much of the region this morning, then becomes nearly stationary over the Delmarva Peninsula into this evening until moving offshore tonight. High pressure builds in from the west on Saturday before passing overhead Saturday night and departing on Sunday. A series of disturbances will impact the region next week as Bermuda high pressure sets up over the western Atlantic.

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

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for March 26, 2026–April 2, 2026



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 03/26/26



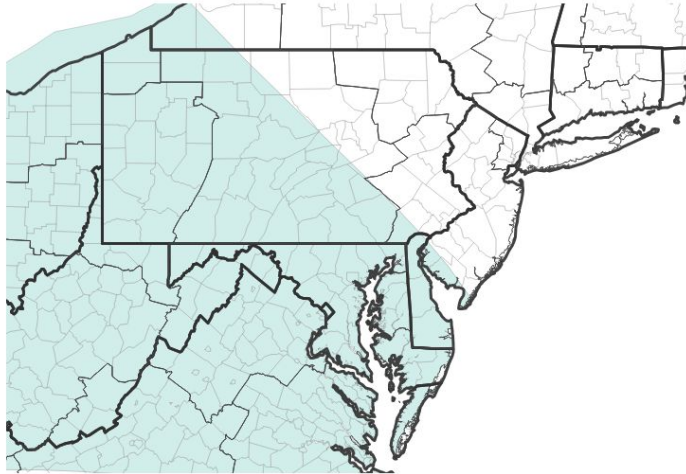


Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Long-Range signals suggest April's average monthly precipitation will be either normal or above normal.
- Long-Range signals suggest April's average monthly temperatures have a greater chance of either being normal or above normal versus below normal.

Monthly Precipitation Outlook for April 1, 2026–April 30, 2026



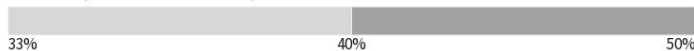
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



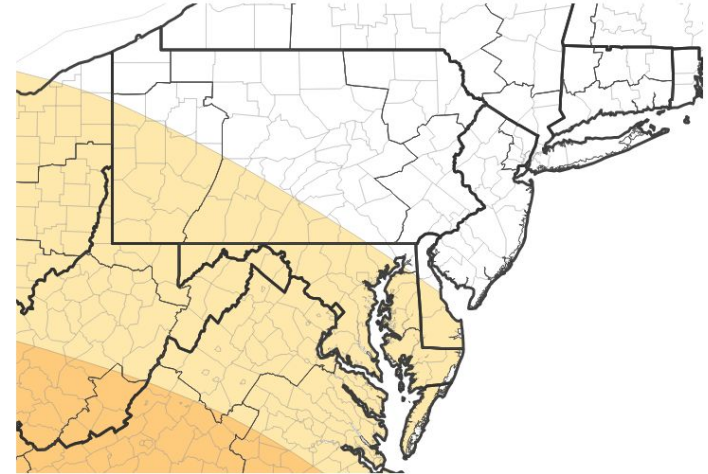
Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 03/19/26

Monthly Temperature Outlook for April 1, 2026–April 30, 2026



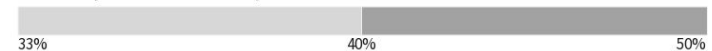
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

Last Updated: 03/19/26

