

Drought Information Statement for Philadelphia/Mt. Holly Hydrologic Service Area Valid May 5, 2026

Issued By: National Weather Service Philadelphia/Mt. Holly

Contact Information: wfophi.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated June 12, 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.





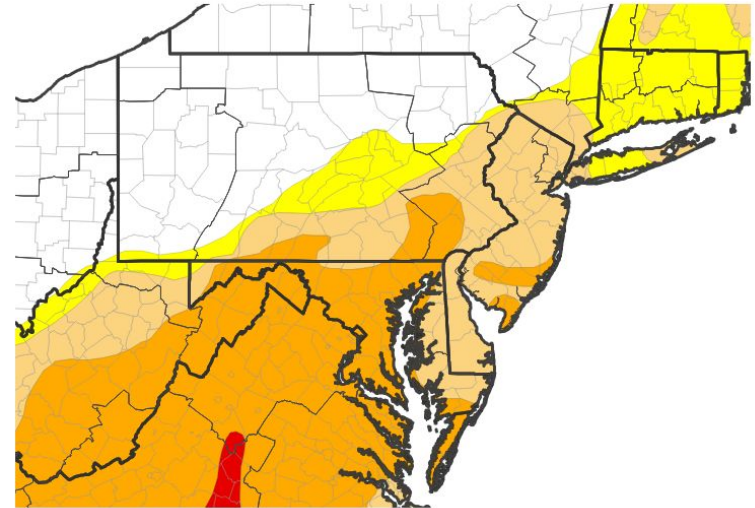
U.S. Drought Monitor

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)**: No Extreme Drought exists across the HSA.
- **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Severe Drought exists across portions of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Maryland.
- **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Moderate Drought exists across much of our HSA.
- **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Abnormally Dry conditions exist across the southern Poconos.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 04/28/26



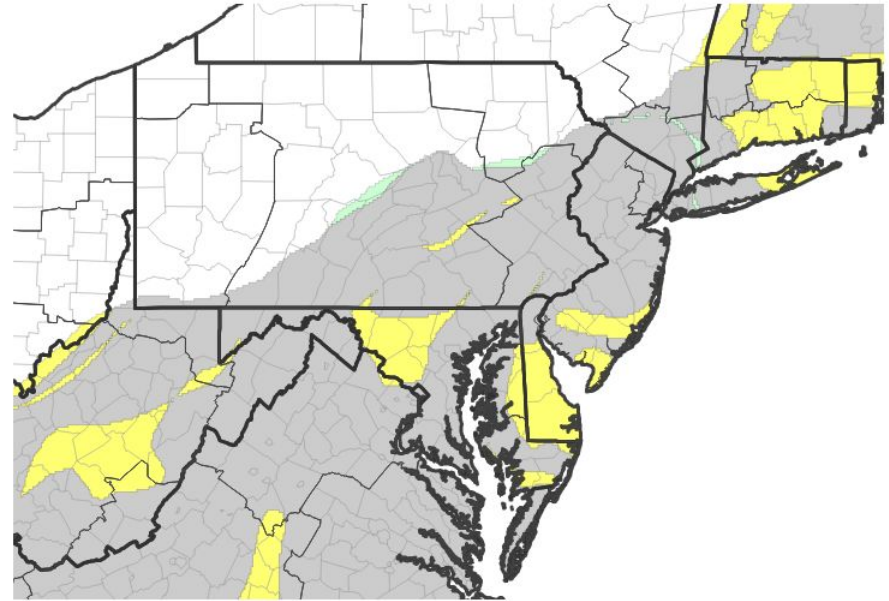


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

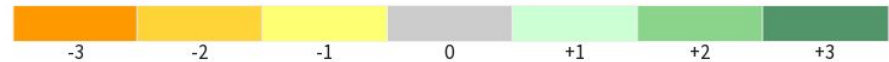
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Philadelphia/Mt. Holly Hydrologic Service Area

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

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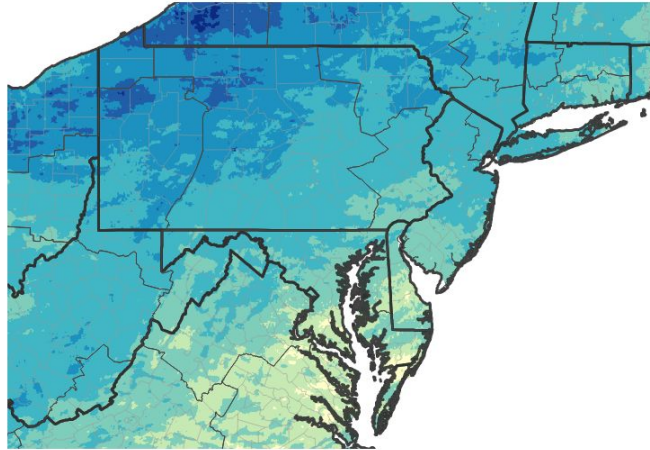


Precipitation

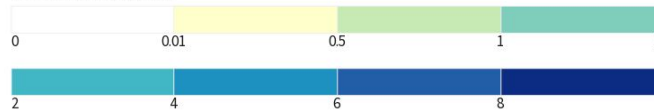
Last 30 Days

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

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



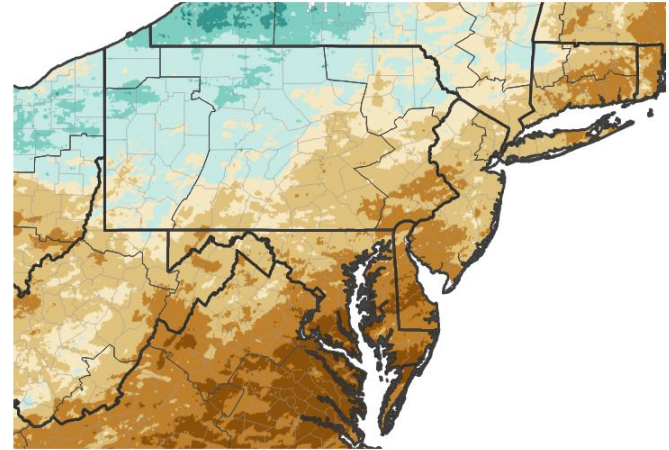
Inches of Precipitation



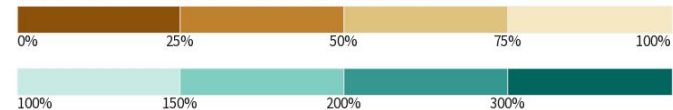
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 05/04/26

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: 05/04/26

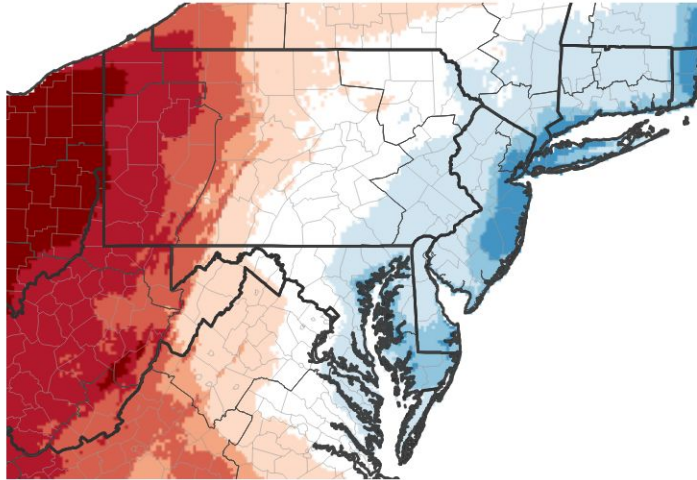




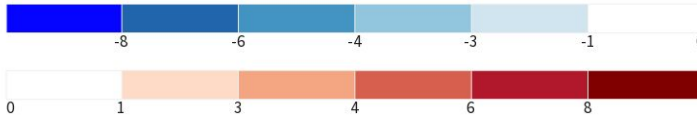
Temperature

- When averaged (ending 4/29), much of the forecast area experienced below normal temperatures the last 7 days.
- Over the last 30 days, much of the forecast area experienced above normal temperatures.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



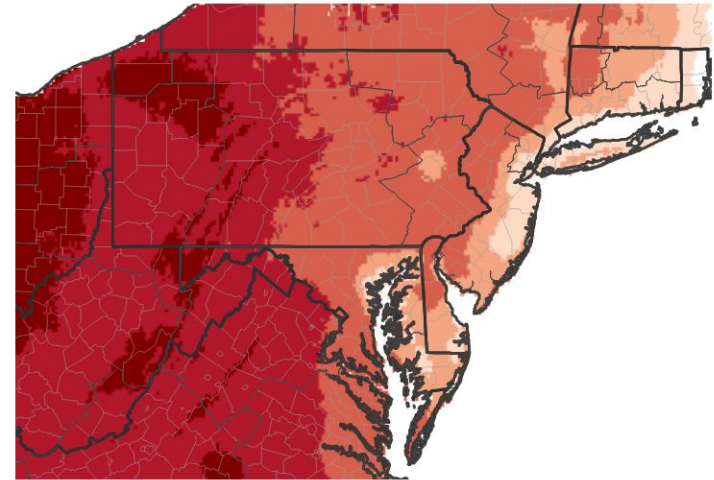
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



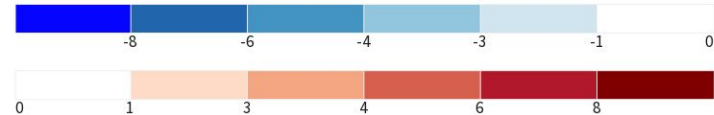
Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 04/29/26

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: 04/29/26





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 4/4, were mainly below normal.

Agricultural Impacts

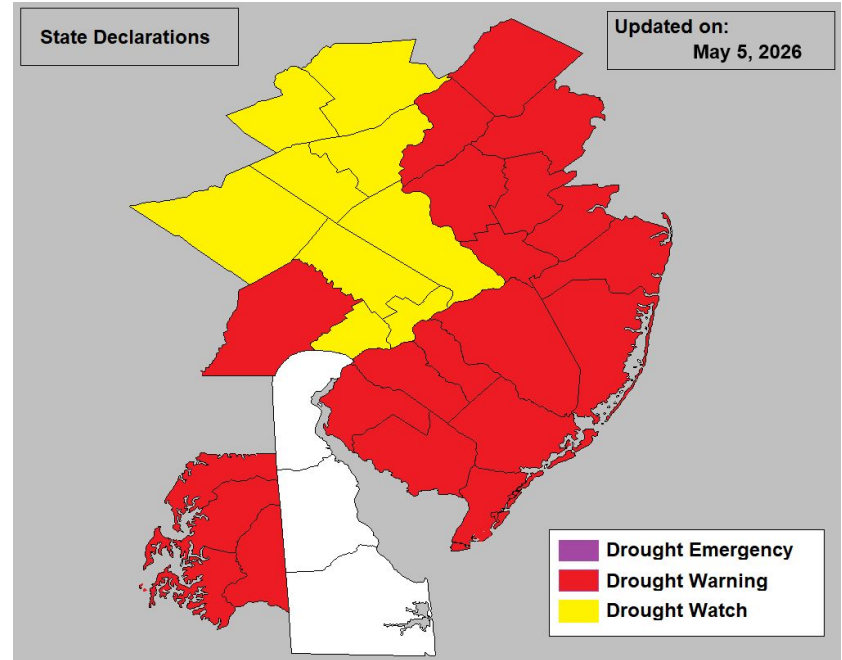
- Between April 26 and May 2, crop moisture was normal to slightly above normal across the HSA.
- See slide 8 for more details.

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 April 6th, the salt front in the Delaware River Estuary was estimated at river mile marker 60.5. The normal location for this time of year is river mile marker 67. 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 4/4, were mainly below normal.

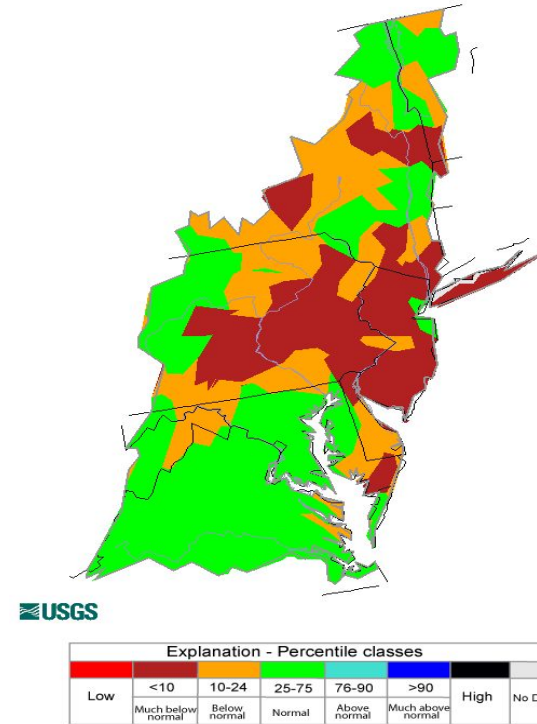


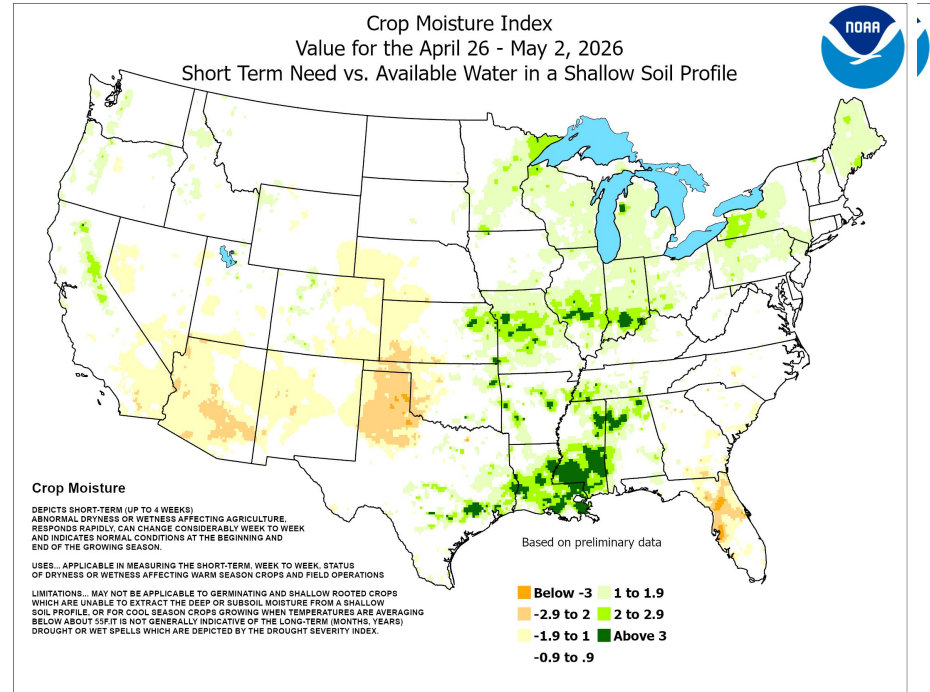
Image Caption: HUC map [USGS 7 day streamflow for the Mid-Atlantic](#) valid May 4, 2026





Agricultural Impacts

- Between April 26 and May 2, crop moisture was normal to slightly above normal across the HSA.



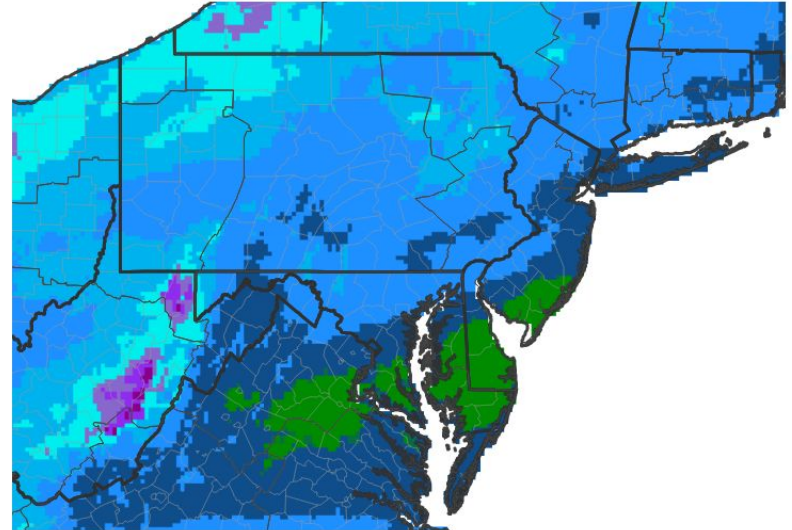


Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

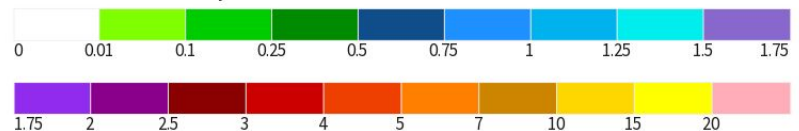
A couple of systems will move through the region during the midweek period and bring some rain. High pressure returns for the end of the week. Another system may impact the region this weekend.

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

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for May 4, 2026–May 11, 2026



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 05/04/26



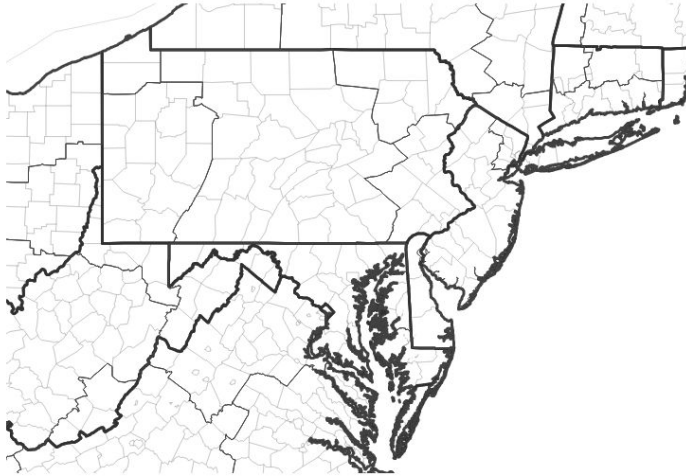


Long-Range Outlooks

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

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

Monthly Precipitation Outlook for May 1, 2026–May 31, 2026



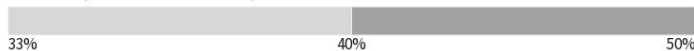
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



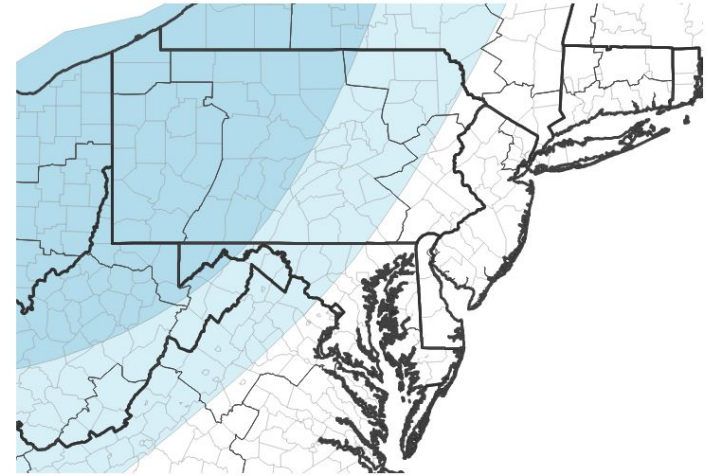
Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 04/30/26

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



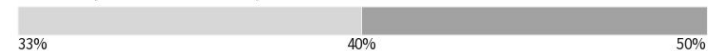
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

Last Updated: 04/30/26

