Drought Information Statement for Philadelphia/Mt. Holly Hydrologic Service Area Valid October 8, 2026

Issued By: National Weather Service Philadelphia/Mt. Holly

Contact Information: wfophi.webmaster@noaa.gov

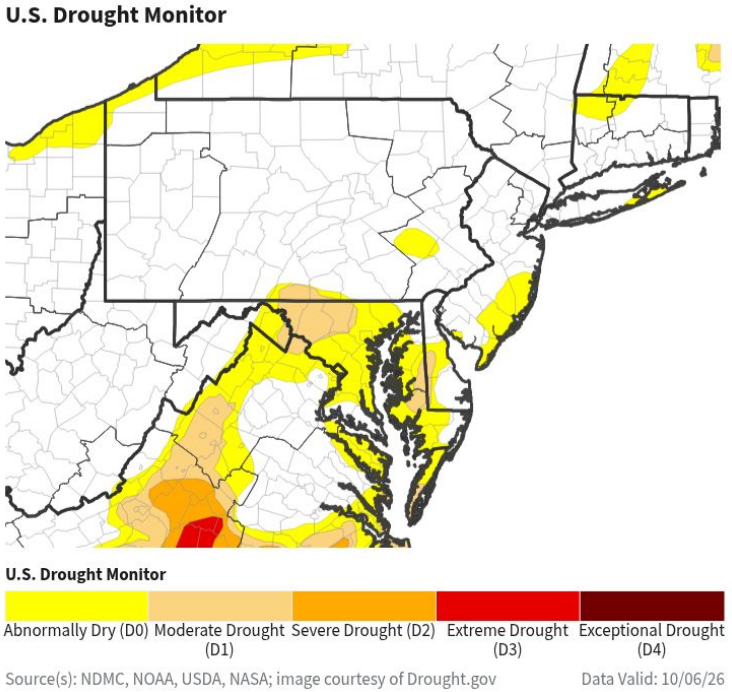
- This product will be updated November 23, 2026 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements.
- Please visit https://www.weather.gov/phi/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.
- Please visit https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates for regional drought status updates.

- The state of New Jersey has issued a Drought Watch for their Coastal South region.
- The state of Delaware has issued a Drought Watch for the entire state.
- The state of Pennsylvania has issued a Drought Watch for Berks and Lehigh County.
- The state of Maryland has issued a Drought Watch 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

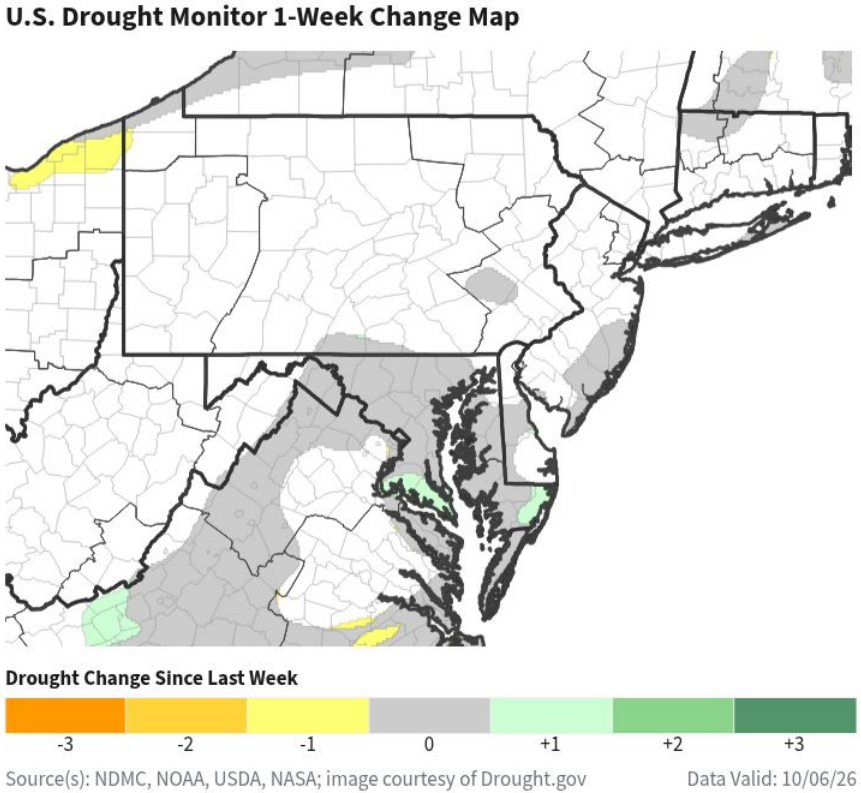
- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: No Exceptional Drought exists across the Hydrologic Service Area (HSA).
  - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: No Extreme Drought exists across the HSA.
  - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: No Severe Drought exists across the HSA.
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Moderate Drought exists across portions of Delaware and Maryland.
  - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Abnormally Dry conditions exist across portions of the New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland.



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 across the four states we serve.
  - No Change: There was no change observed across the four states we serve.
  - Drought Improved: No improvement was observed across the four states we serve.

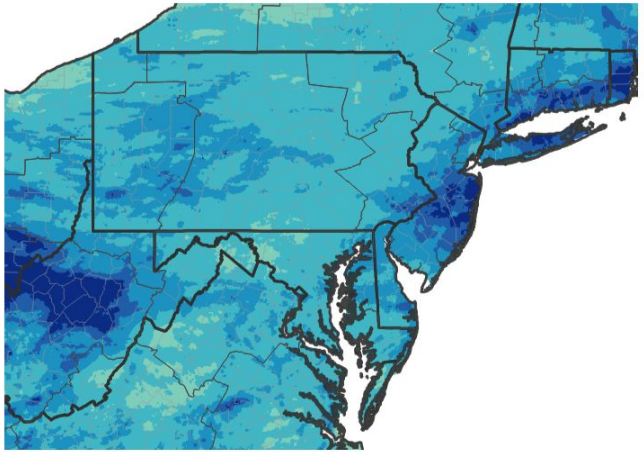


Precipitation

Last 30 Days

- Precipitation totals the last 30 days have been above normal across portions of New Jersey. Elsewhere, 30 day precipitation totals have been below normal to normal.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



Inches of Precipitation

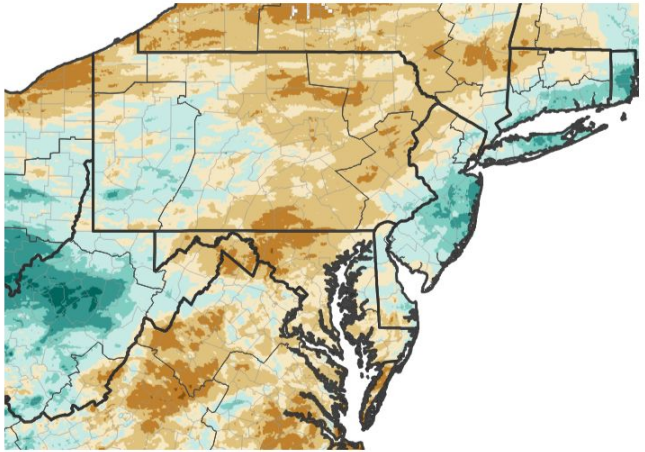
0 0.01 0.5 1 2

2 4 6 8

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

Last Updated: 10/08/26

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions

0% 25% 50% 75% 100%

100% 150% 200% 300%

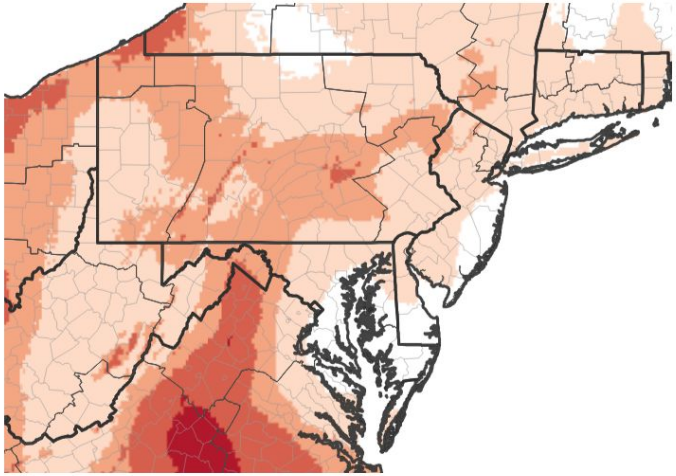
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 10/08/26

Temperature

- For the 7-Day Temperature Anomaly (ending 10/4), the forecast area experienced normal to above normal temperatures.
- For the 30-Day temperature anomaly, the forecast area experienced mainly normal temperatures.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)

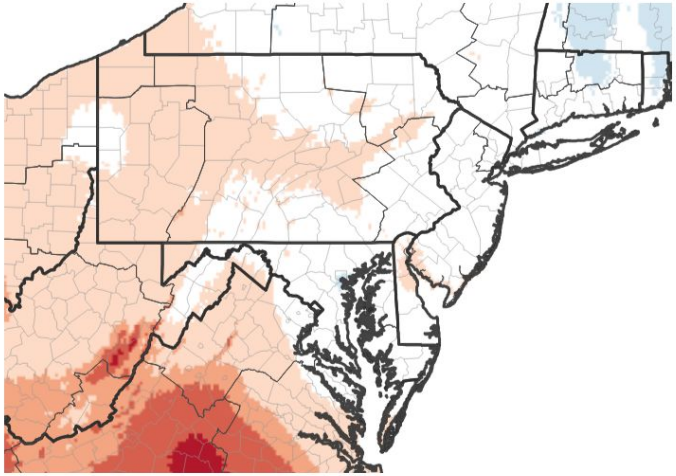
-8 -6 -4 -3 -1 0

0 1 3 4 6 8

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

Data Valid: 10/04/26

30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)

-8 -6 -4 -3 -1 0

0 1 3 4 6 8

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

Data Valid: 10/04/26

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 10/7, were mainly below normal. See slide 7 for more details.

Agricultural Impacts

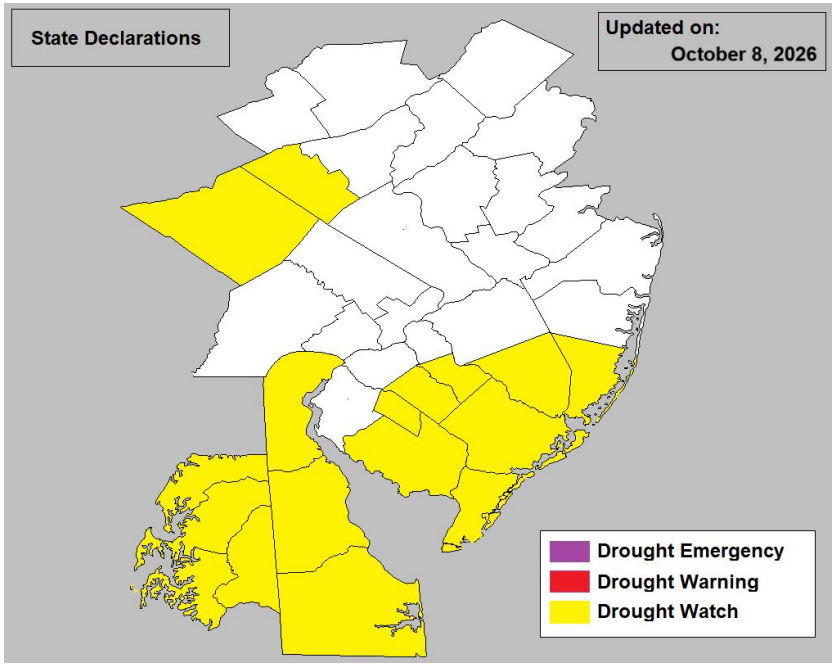
- Between September 27 and October 3, crop moisture was normal to above normal across the HSA. See slide 8 for more details.

Other Impacts

- Per state DEPs, reservoir pools across the HSA were mainly normal.
- Per the Delaware River Basin Commission, and as of October 5th, the salt front in the Delaware River Estuary was estimated at river mile marker 73.8. The normal location for this time of year is river mile marker 72. This indicates the salt line is further upriver compared to normal.

Mitigation Actions

- Per the state of New Jersey, a Drought Watch has been issued for their Coastal South region.
- Per the state of Maryland, a Drought Watch has been issued for our Maryland Eastern Shore counties.
- Per the state of Delaware, a Drought Watch has been issued for the entire state.
- Per the state of Pennsylvania, a Drought Watch has been issued for Berks and Lehigh 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 10/7, were mainly below normal.

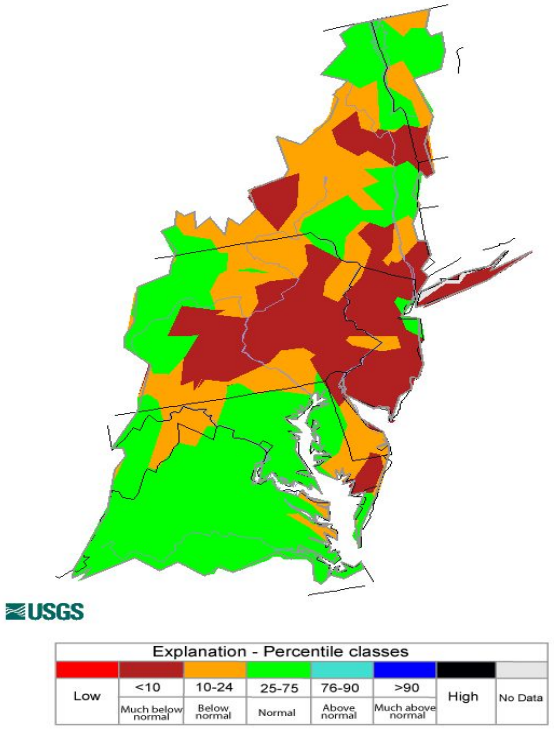
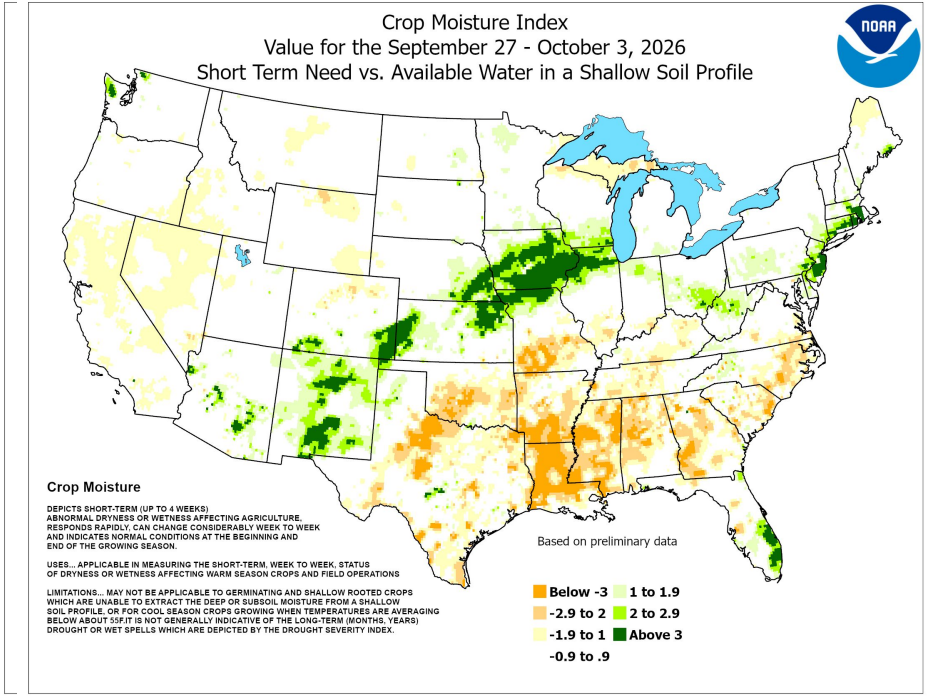


Image Caption: HUC map USGS 7 day streamflow for the Mid-Atlantic valid October 7, 2026

Agricultural Impacts

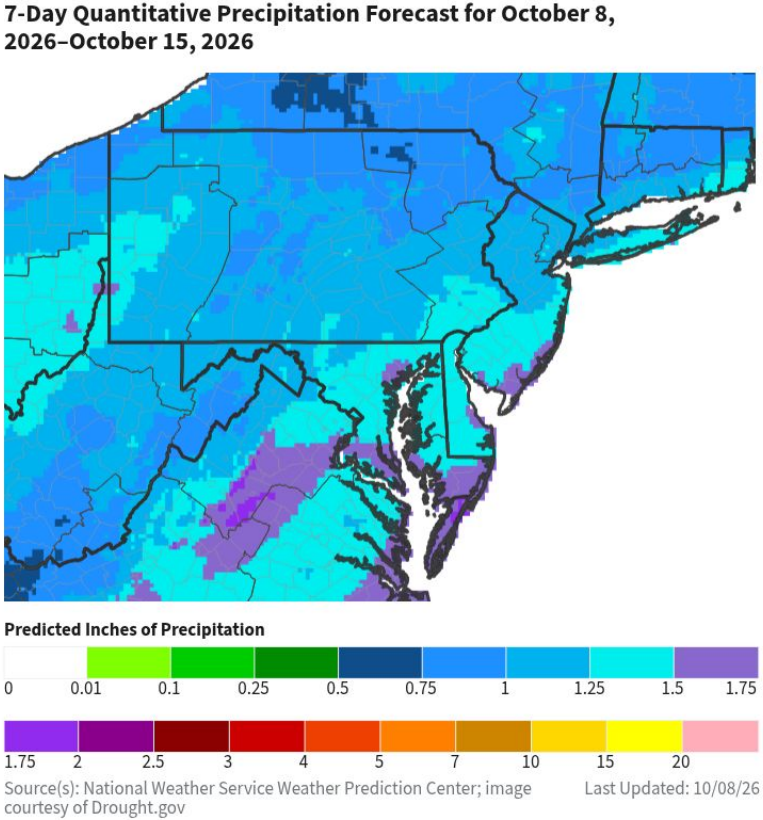
- Between September 27 and October 3, crop moisture was normal to above normal across the HSA.



Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

A cold front will cross the region today. High pressure will follow. Despite the frontal passage, dry weather is expected into the weekend. The remnants of Isaias will bring a return of unsettled conditions Sunday into Monday.

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

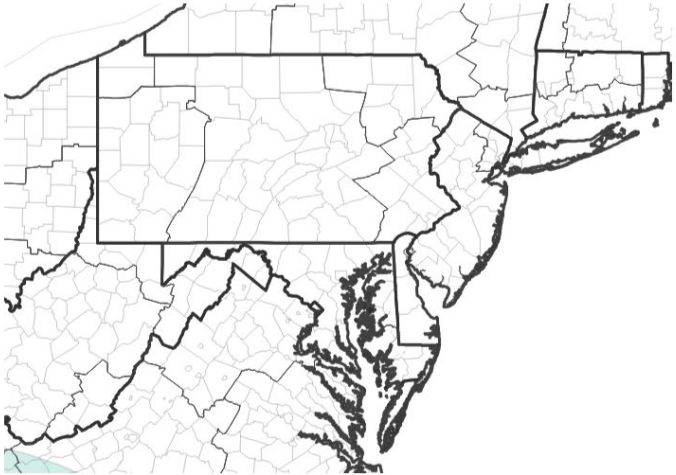


Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Long-Range signals suggest the average monthly precipitation through the end of October will be about normal.
- Long-Range signals suggest the average monthly temperature through the end of October will be about normal.

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



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation

33% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation

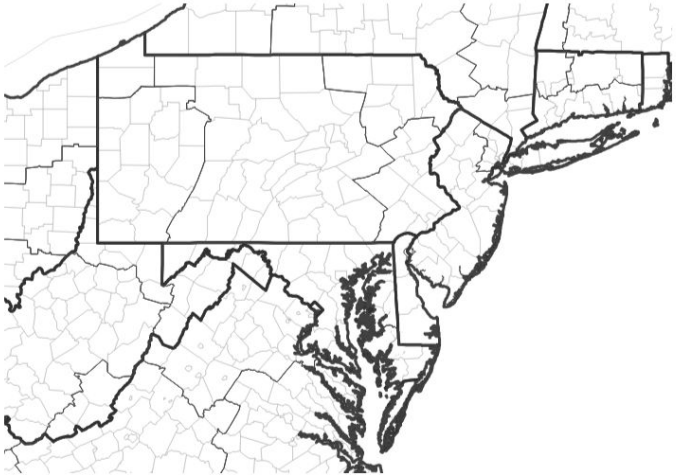
33% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation

33% 40% 50%

Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 09/30/26

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



Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures

33% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures

33% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures

33% 40% 50%

Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 09/30/26