

# May Conditions & Northeast DEWS Discussion

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Northeast Regional Climate Center



Northeast Regional  
Climate Center



# May Temperatures - Cold

Station	May 8-10, 2020 Lowest Temp (°F)	All-time Coldest May Temp (°F)	Rank (coldest)
Binghamton, NY	24.0	24.0	1
Harrisburg, PA	30.0	30.0	1
Kennedy Airport, NY	34.0	34.0	1
LaGuardia Airport, NY	36.0	36.0	1
Newark, NJ	34.0	33.0	2
Central Park, NY	34.0	32.0	3
Bridgeport, CT	35.0	31.0	4
Islip, NY	34.0	32.0	4
Scranton, PA	29.0	27.0	4
Williamsport, PA	29.0	28.0	4
Wilmington, DE	33.0	30.0	4
Pittsburgh, PA	28.0	26.0	6
Baltimore, MD	34.0	32.0	7
Buffalo, NY	29.0	25.0	7
Philadelphia, PA	35.0	28.0	7
Rochester, NY	29.0	26.0	8
Boston, MA	34.0	31.0	9

Station	May 8-10, 2020 Lowest Max Temp (°F)	All-time Coldest May Max Temp (°F)	Rank (coldest)
Binghamton, NY	35.0	35.0	1
Caribou, ME	34.0	30.0	2
Dulles Airport, VA	50.0	47.0	2
Harrisburg, PA	46.0	43.0	2
Syracuse, NY	39.0	36.0	4
Kennedy Airport, NY	49.0	43.0	5
Williamsport, PA	46.0	44.0	5
Islip, NY	49.0	44.0	6
Rochester, NY	40.0	38.0	6
Scranton, PA	44.0	40.0	6
Wilmington, DE	49.0	44.0	6
Worcester, MA	40.0	37.0	6
Concord, NH	42.0	37.0	7
Burlington, VT	41.0	37.0	8
Elkins, WV	44.0	35.0	8
Philadelphia, PA	49.0	45.0	8
Pittsburgh, PA	43.0	40.0	8

Several sites had their coldest May temperature on record

High temperatures ranked among 10 coldest for May



# May Temperatures - Cold

## Minimum 1-Day Mean Min Temperature for Middletown-Harrisburg Area, PA (ThreadEx)

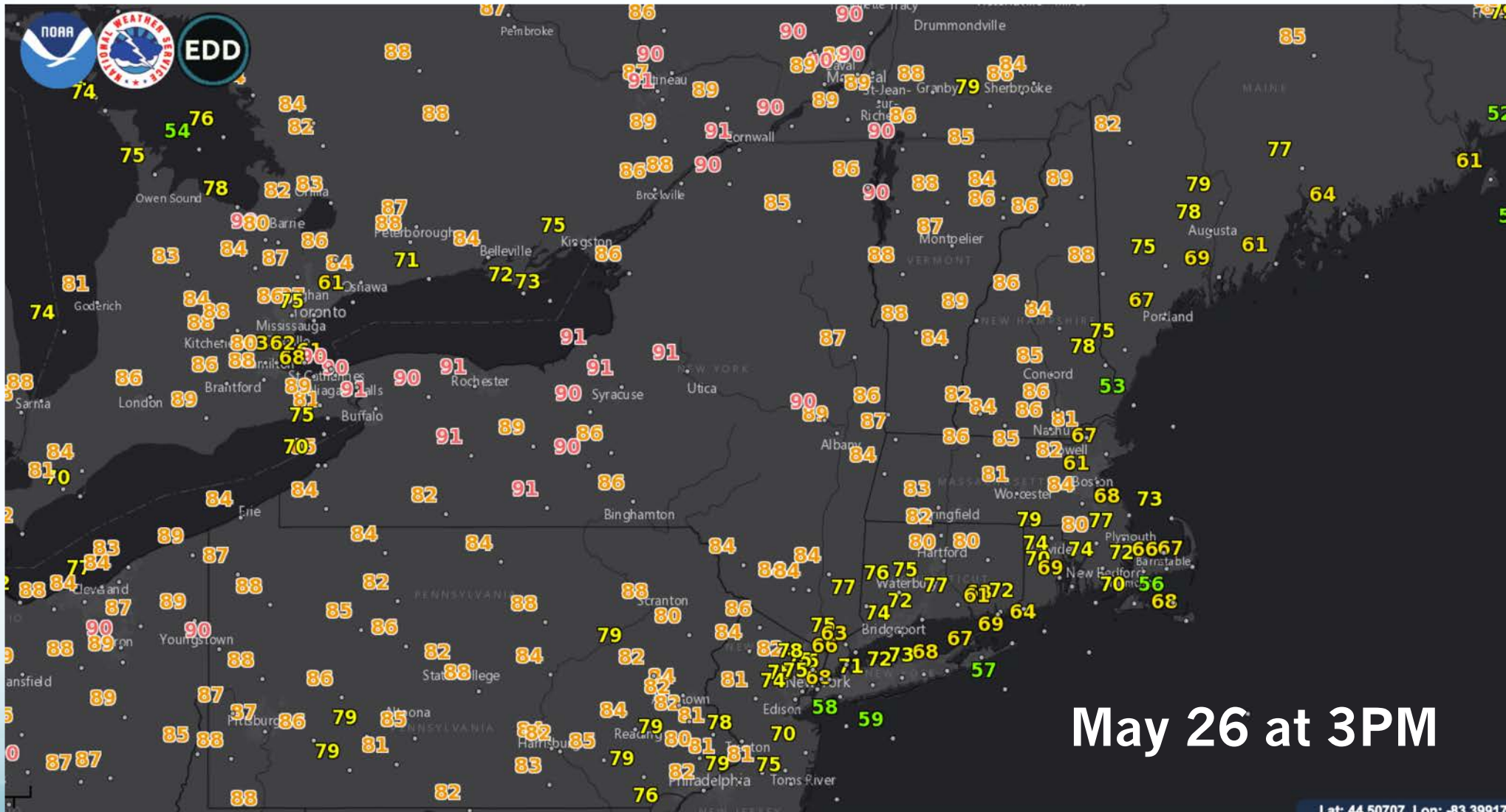
Click column heading to sort ascending, click again to sort descending.

Rank	Value	Ending Date
1	30.0	2020-05-10
2	31.0	1966-05-11
3	32.0	1962-05-10
-	32.0	1947-05-09
5	33.0	2020-05-09
6	34.0	1996-05-14
-	34.0	1968-05-07
-	34.0	1966-05-10
-	34.0	1966-05-05
-	34.0	1956-05-17
Last value also occurred in one or more previous years.		
Period of record: 1888-07-01 to 2020-05-18		

Low temperatures ranked among the 10 coldest for May  
on several days at a few locations



# May Temperatures - Hot



Among the 3 hottest May days on record

Among the 10 earliest 90°F days on record for Buffalo, Erie, & Ithaca

# May Temperatures - Hot

## Maximum 1-Day Mean Max Temperature for Avoca Area, PA (ThreadEx)

Click column heading to sort ascending, click again to sort descending.

Rank	Value	Ending Date
1	93.0	2020-05-26
-	93.0	2006-05-30
-	93.0	1962-05-18
-	93.0	1911-05-23
-	93.0	1911-05-22
6	92.0	2016-05-28
-	92.0	2010-05-26
-	92.0	1962-05-19
-	92.0	1934-05-21
-	92.0	1929-05-30
Last value also occurred in one or more previous years.		
Period of record: 1901-01-01 to 2020-05-26		

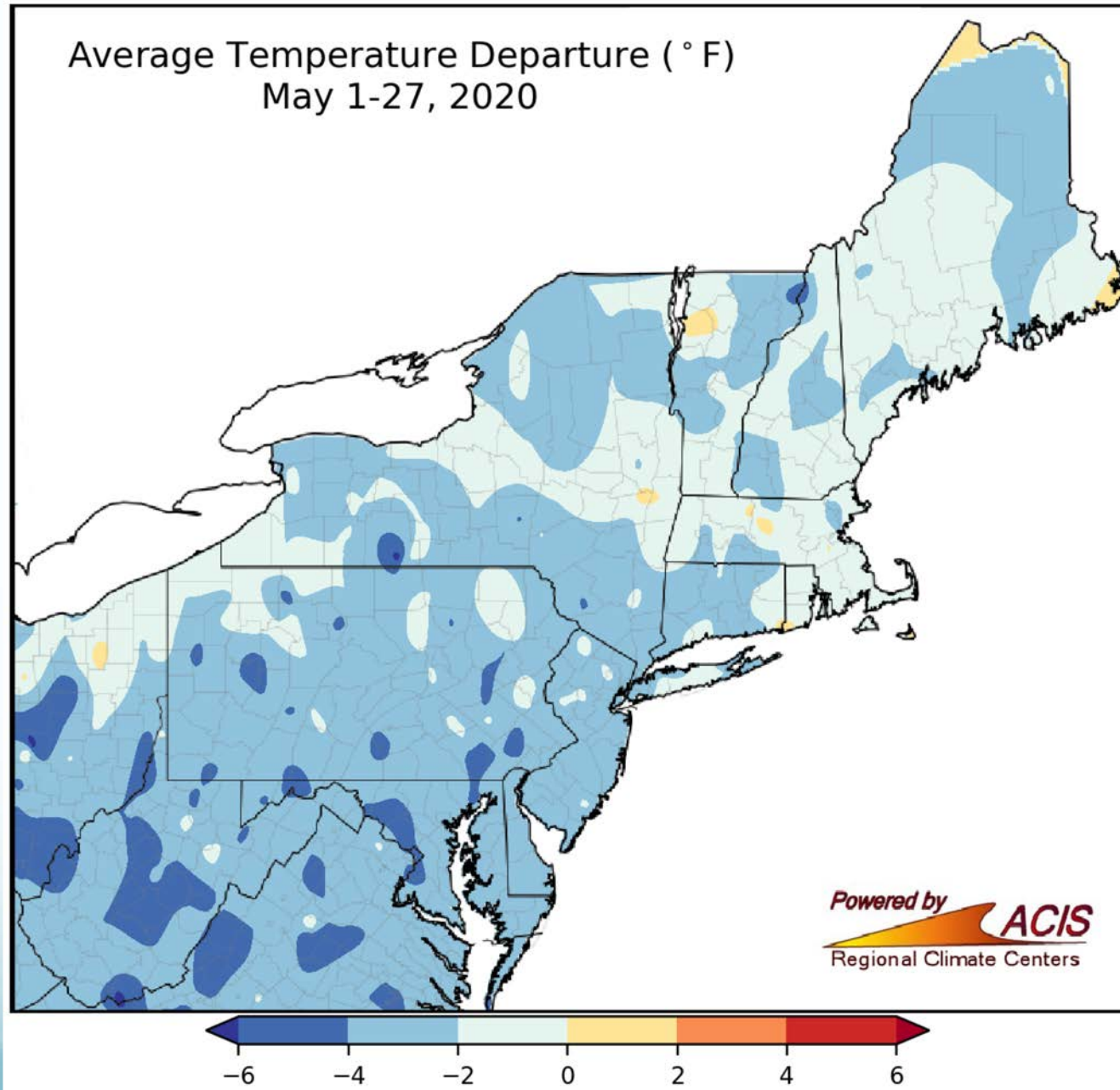
Scranton's hottest  
May day on record

From winter to summer in just  
over two weeks!

Station	May 2020 Lowest Temp (°F)	May Rank (coldest)	May 2020 Highest Temp (°F)	May Rank (hottest)
Binghamton, NY	24 (May 9)	1	88 (May 26)	3
Scranton, PA	29 (May 9)	4	93 (May 26)	1
Rochester, NY	27 (May 13)	4	93 (May 26)	3
Buffalo, NY	29 (May 9)	7	93 (May 26)	2



# May Temperatures



From 6°F below normal to near normal



# May Snowfall

## Maximum 1-Day Total Snowfall for Elkins Area, WV (ThreadEx)

Click column heading to sort ascending, click again to sort descending.

Rank	Value	Ending Date
1	1.5	2020-05-08
2	1.0	1954-05-10
3	0.7	1963-05-01
4	0.5	1989-05-07
-	0.5	1923-05-10
6	0.1	1909-05-02
7	T	2020-05-09
-	T	2016-05-15
-	T	1996-05-12
-	T	1989-05-06
Last value also occurred in one or more previous years.		
Period of record: 1899-01-01 to 2020-05-10		

Elkins - snowiest May day and snowiest May on record

## Monthly Total Snowfall for Islip Area, NY (ThreadEx)

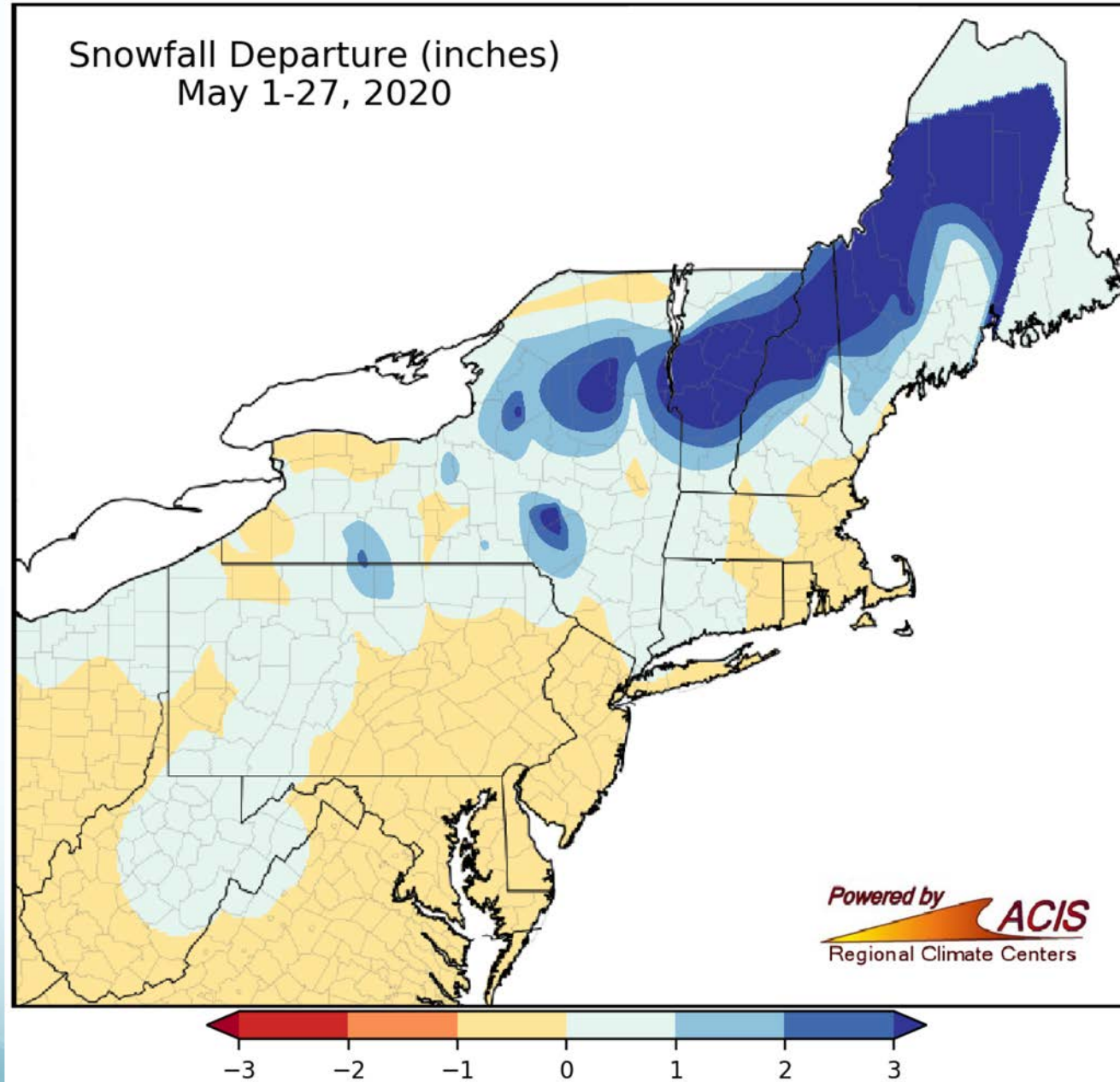
Click column heading to sort ascending, click again to sort descending.

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Season
2020	2.5	0.0	T	T	T	2.5

Islip – May was snowier than February; latest snowfall on record; tied as snowiest May



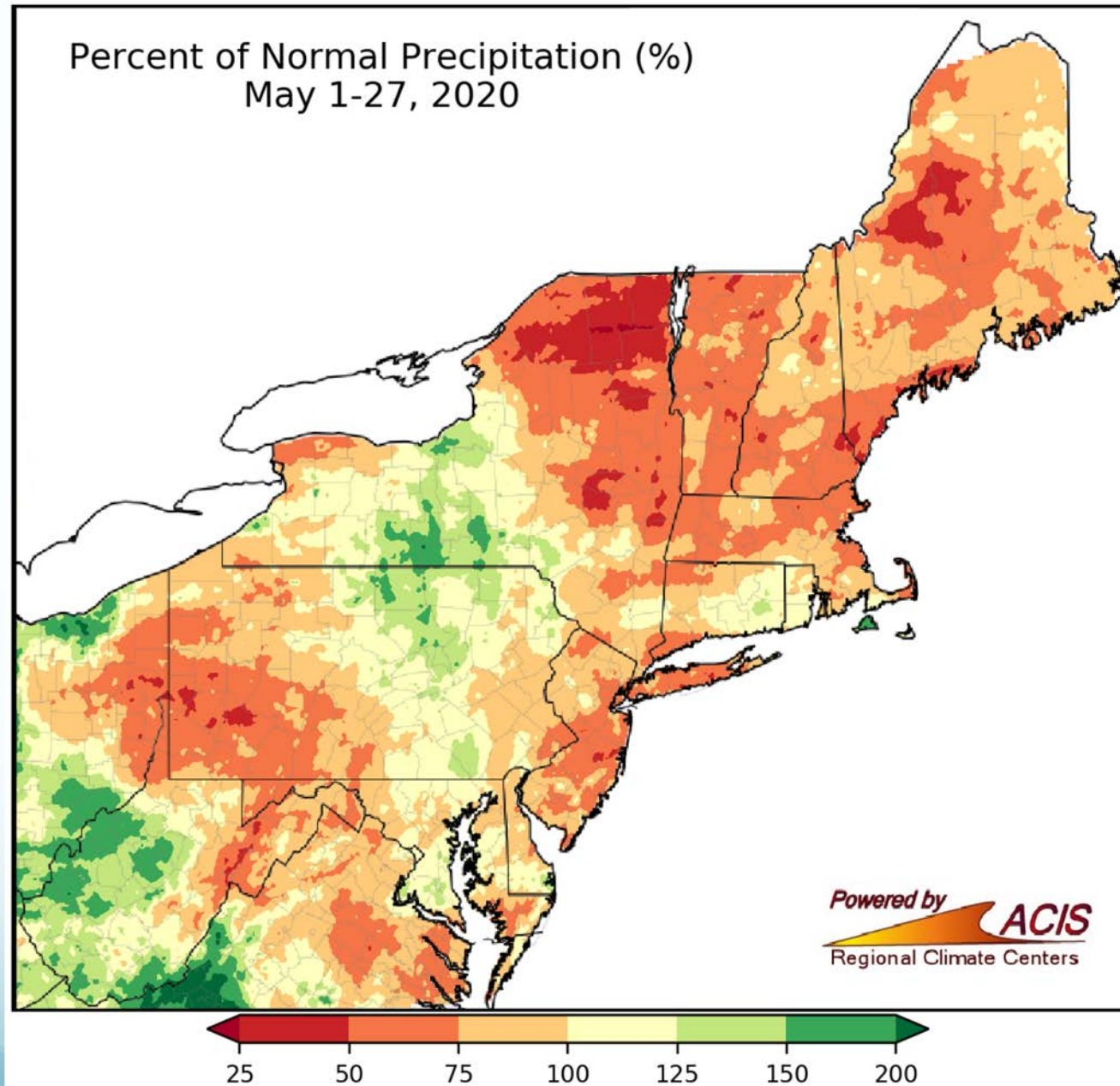
# May Snowfall



From near normal to more than 3" above normal



# May Precipitation



From 25% of normal to 200% of normal



# May Precipitation

## Maximum 1-Day Total Precipitation for Charleston Area, WV (ThreadEx)

Click column heading to sort ascending, click again to sort descending.

Rank	Value	Ending Date
1	2.38	1917-05-27
2	2.26	1994-05-07
3	2.14	2020-05-20
4	2.02	1982-05-29
5	1.99	1995-05-18
6	1.96	1941-05-31
7	1.95	2009-05-04
-	1.95	2008-05-08
9	1.92	2010-05-12
10	1.87	1908-05-30

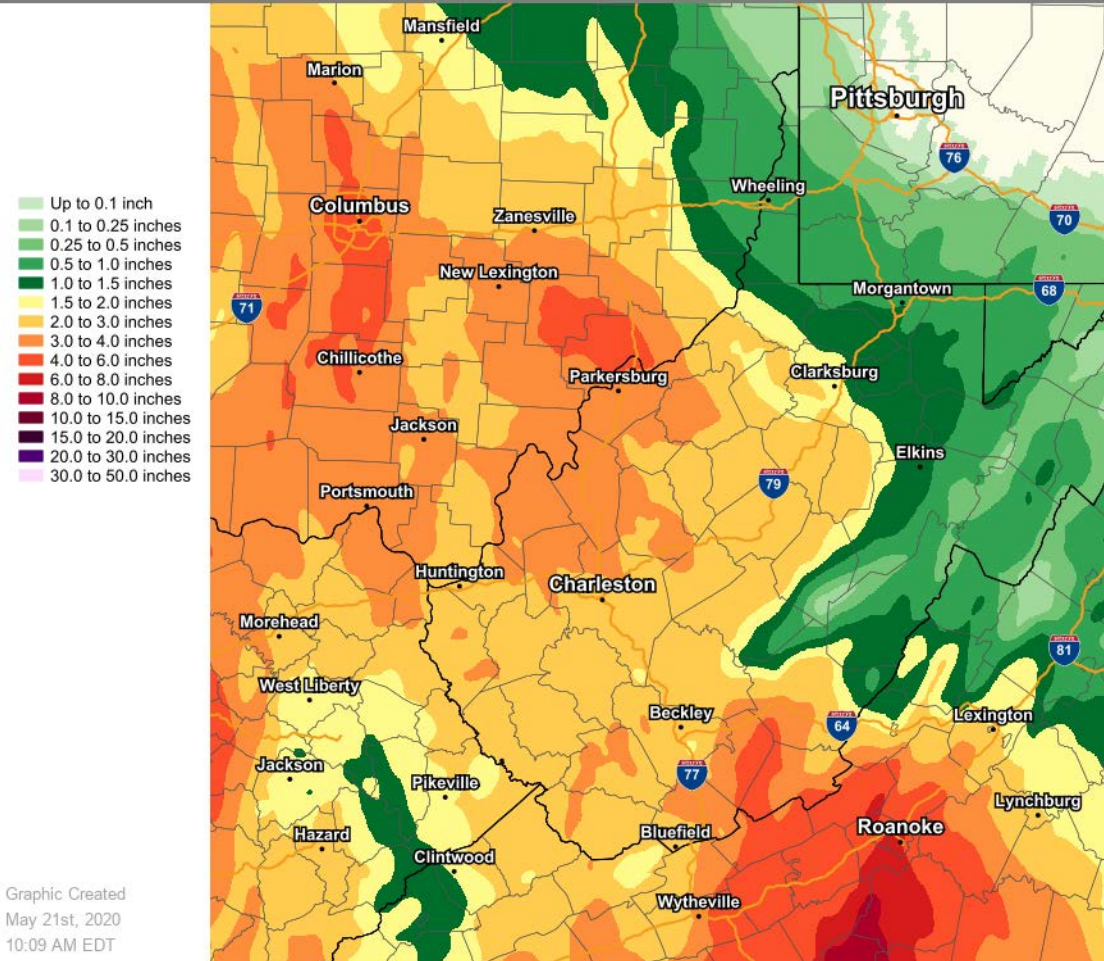
Period of record: 1892-04-02 to 2020-05-25

Charleston – 3<sup>rd</sup> wettest May day on record



## Observed Precipitation

Valid Ending Thursday May 21st, 2020 at 10 AM EDT



Some areas saw flash flooding



Graphic Created  
May 21st, 2020  
10:09 AM EDT

# May 15 Severe Weather



Credit: NWS Albany



Credit: Pepperell  
Emergency  
Management/David Querze

An EF-1 tornado and straight-line winds of up to 100 mph caused damage in New York and New England

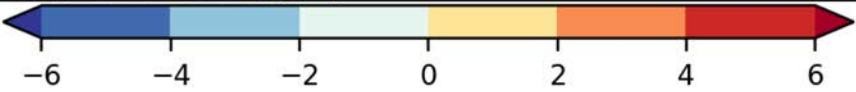
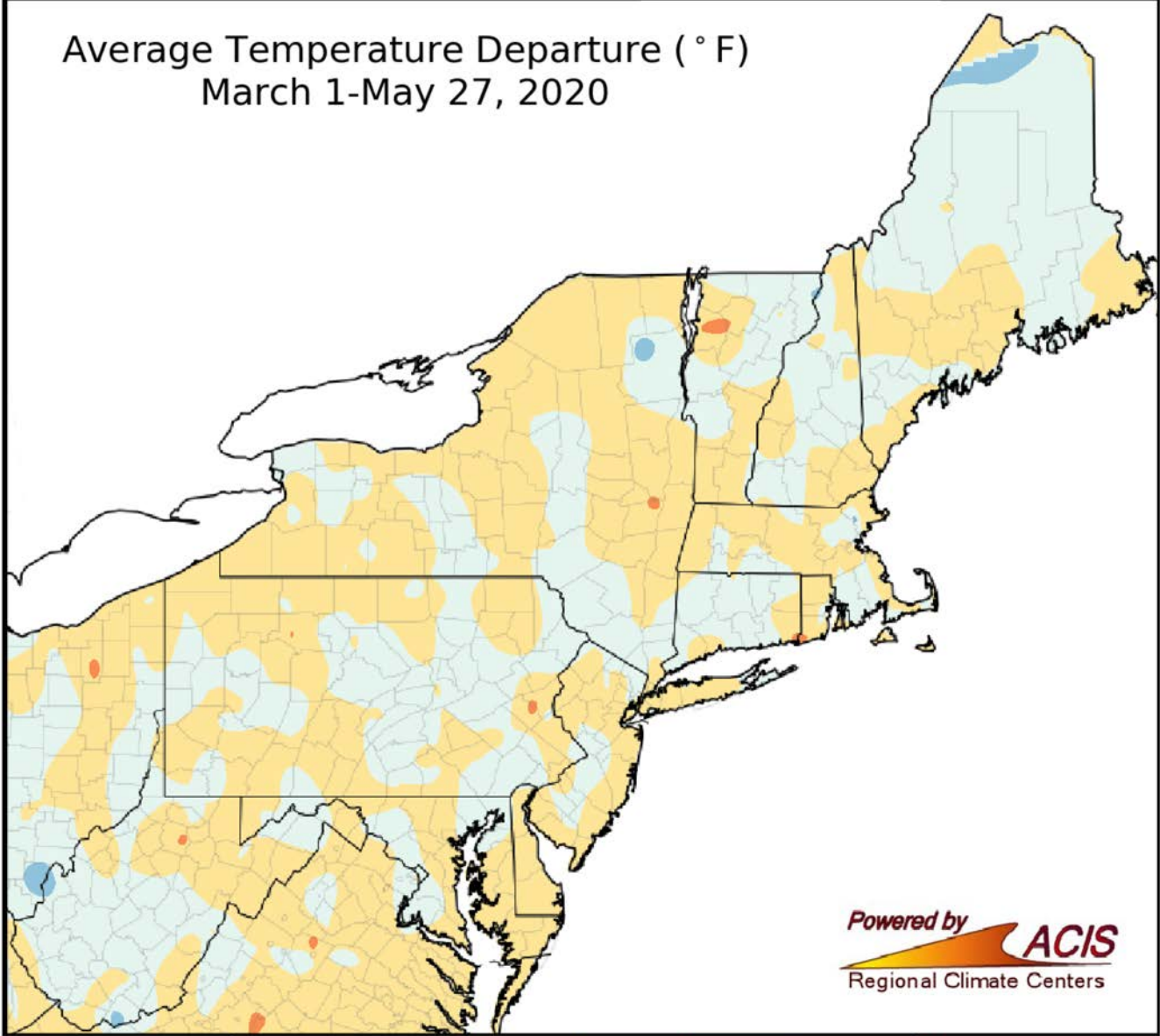


Credit: Pepperell  
Emergency  
Management/David Querze



# Spring Temperatures

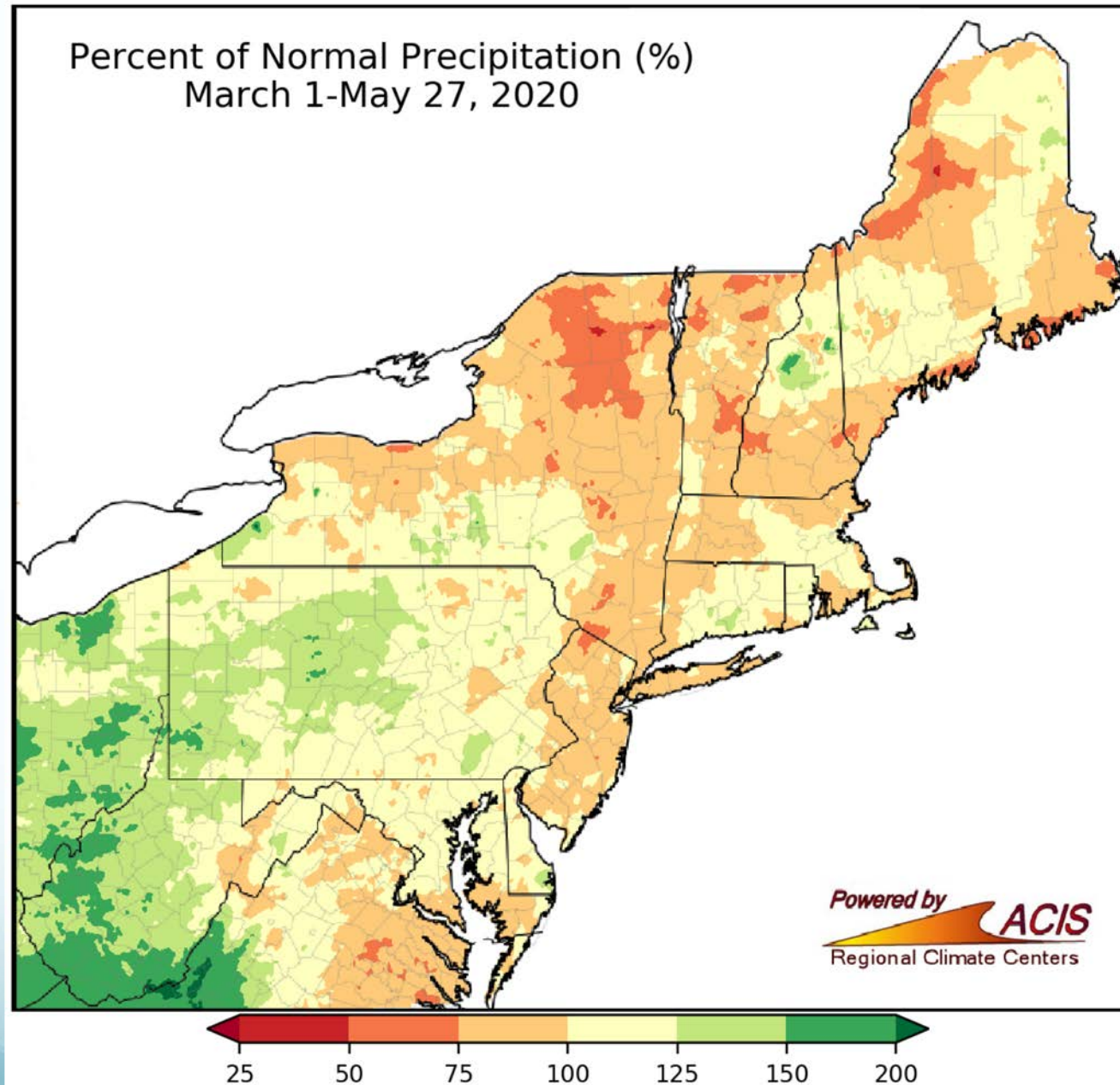
Average Temperature Departure (°F)  
March 1-May 27, 2020



Within 2°F of normal



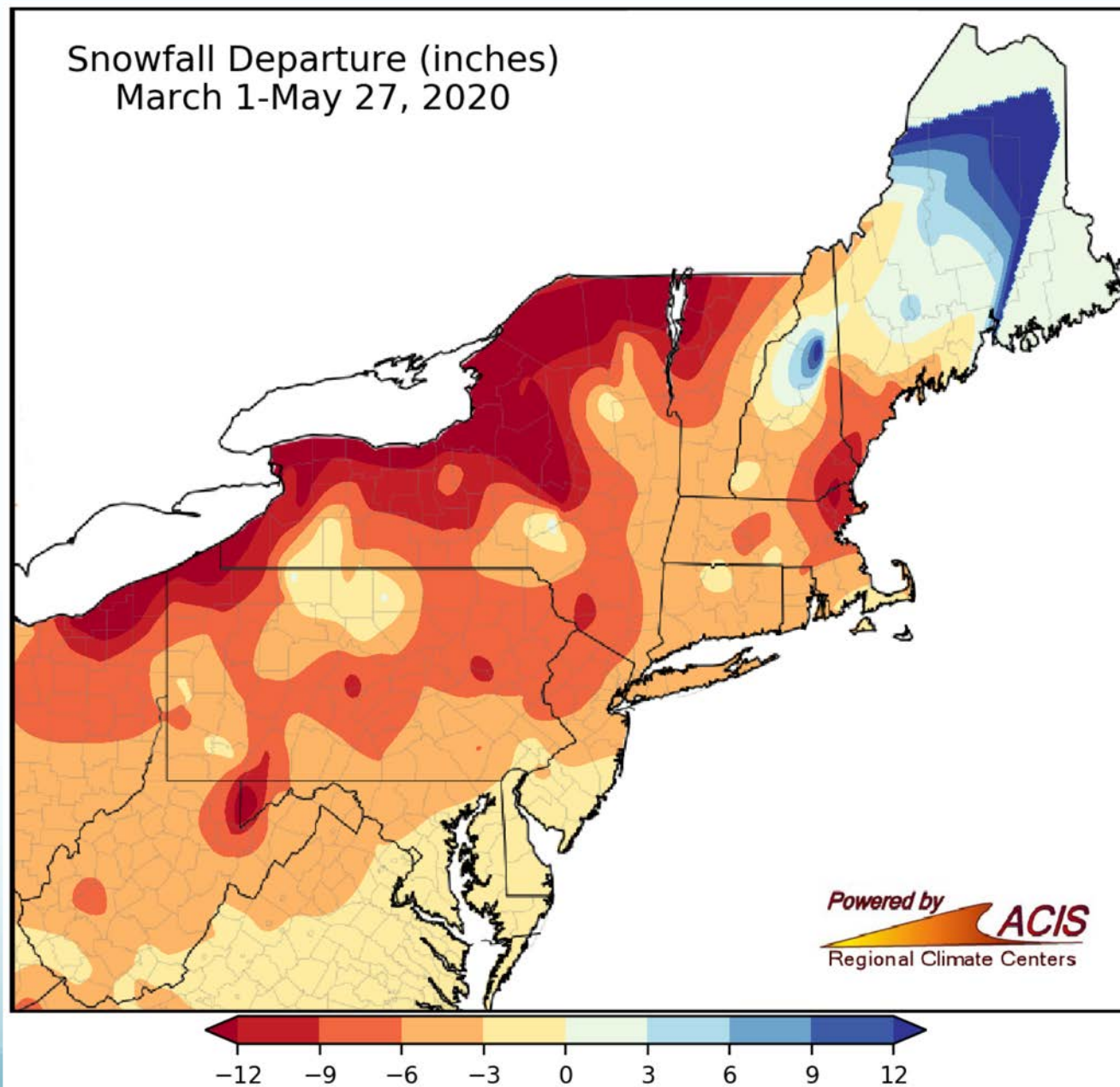
# Spring Precipitation



From 50% of normal to 200% of normal

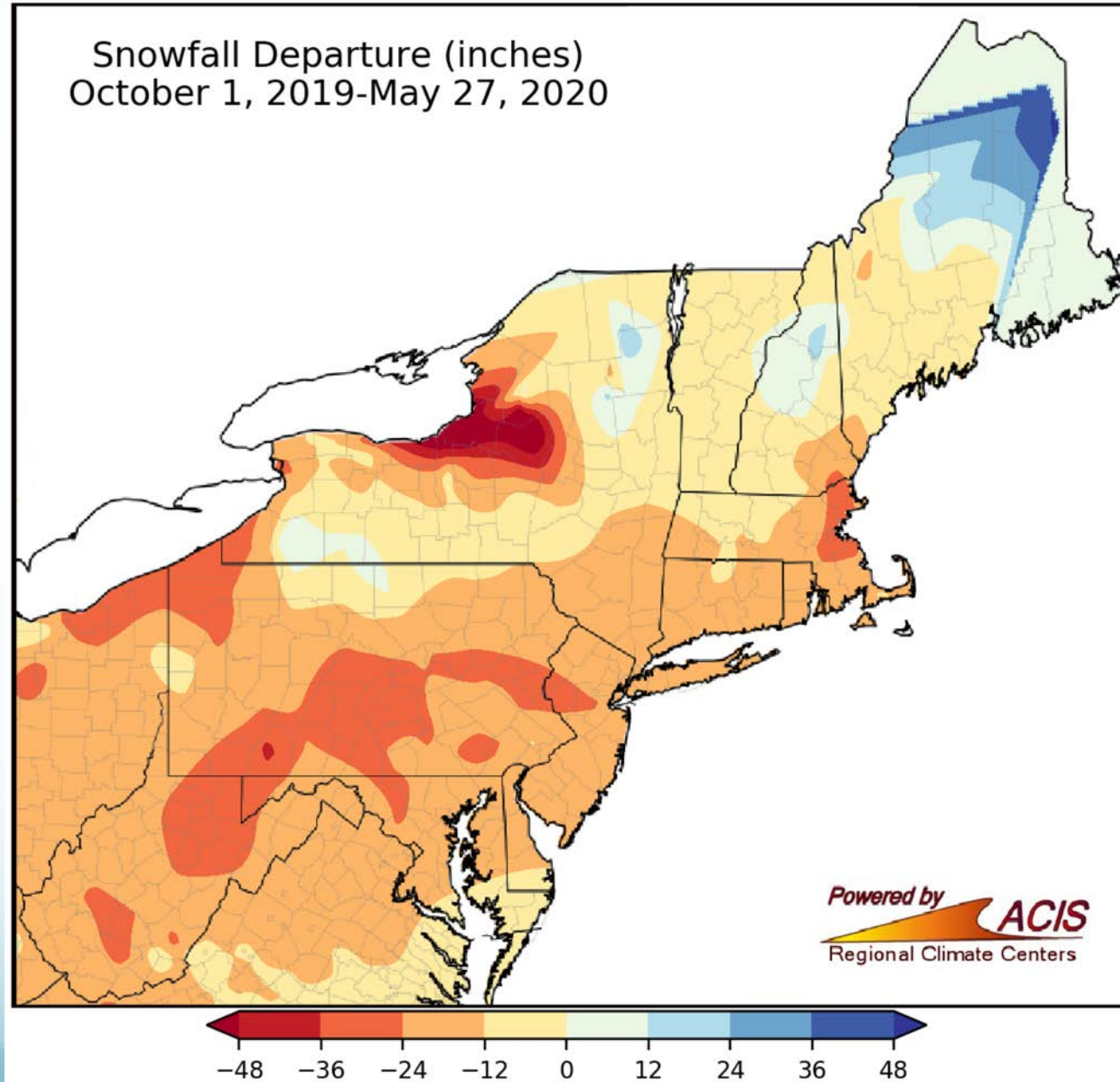


# Spring Snowfall



From more than 12" below normal to more than 12" above normal

# October-May Snowfall



From more than 48" below normal to 48" above normal

# October-May Snowfall

## Time Series Summary for Middletown-Harrisburg Area, PA (ThreadEx)

Click column heading to sort ascending, click again to sort descending.

Rank	Ending Date	Total Snowfall Oct 1 to May 31	Missing Count
1	2020-05-31	5.1	4
2	1995-05-31	9.0	0
3	1938-05-31	9.5	0

## Time Series Summary for Philadelphia Area, PA (ThreadEx)

Click column heading to sort ascending, click again to sort descending.

Rank	Ending Date	Total Snowfall Oct 1 to May 31	Missing Count
1	1973-05-31	T	0
2	2020-05-31	0.3	4
3	1998-05-31	0.8	0
4	1950-05-31	2.0	0
5	2012-05-31	4.0	0
-	2002-05-31	4.0	0

## Time Series Summary for Washington Area, DC (ThreadEx)

Click column heading to sort ascending, click again to sort descending.

Rank	Ending Date	Total Snowfall Oct 1 to May 31	Missing Count
1	1998-05-31	0.1	0
-	1973-05-31	0.1	0
3	2020-05-31	0.6	6
4	2012-05-31	2.0	0
5	1976-05-31	2.2	0





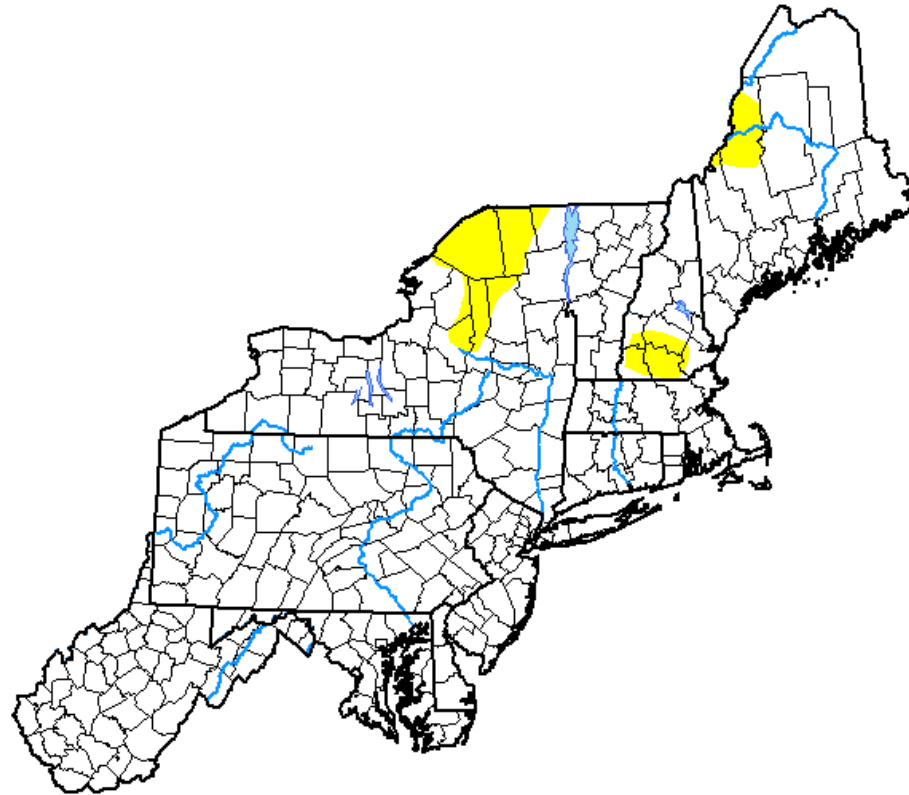
# Drought Monitor

## U.S. Drought Monitor Northeast

**May 26, 2020**  
(Released Thursday, May 28, 2020)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	94.65	5.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> <i>05-19-2020</i>	96.65	3.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> <i>02-25-2020</i>	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> <i>12-31-2019</i>	99.61	0.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> <i>10-01-2019</i>	48.74	51.26	8.49	2.23	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> <i>05-28-2019</i>	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00



Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>*

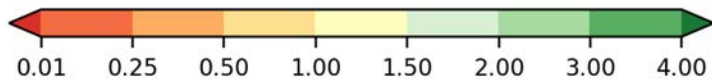
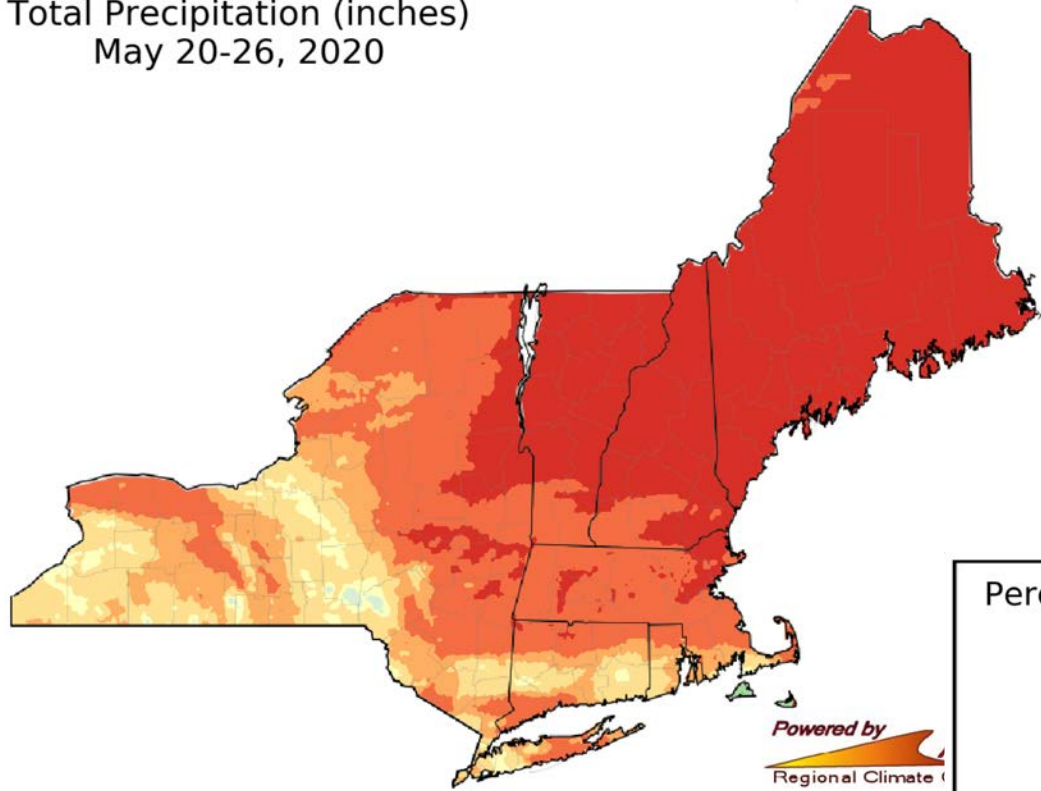
Author:

Curtis Riganti  
National Drought Mitigation Center

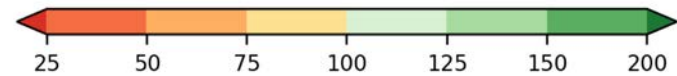
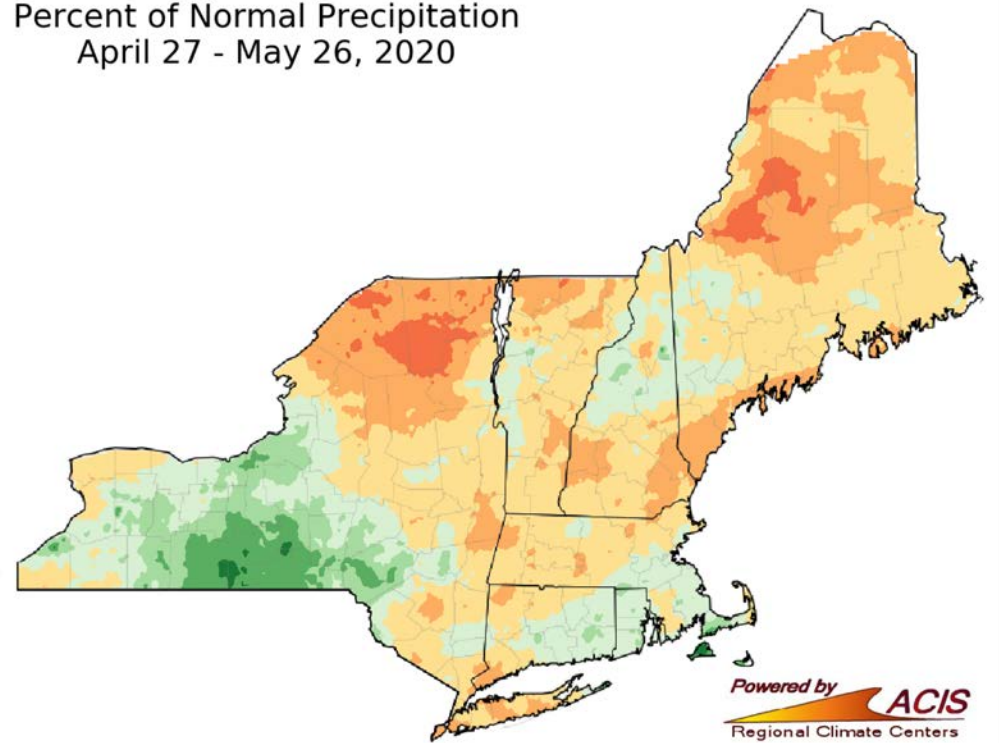


[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

Total Precipitation (inches)  
May 20-26, 2020



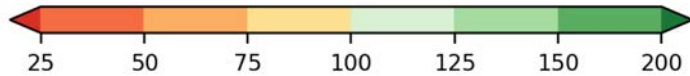
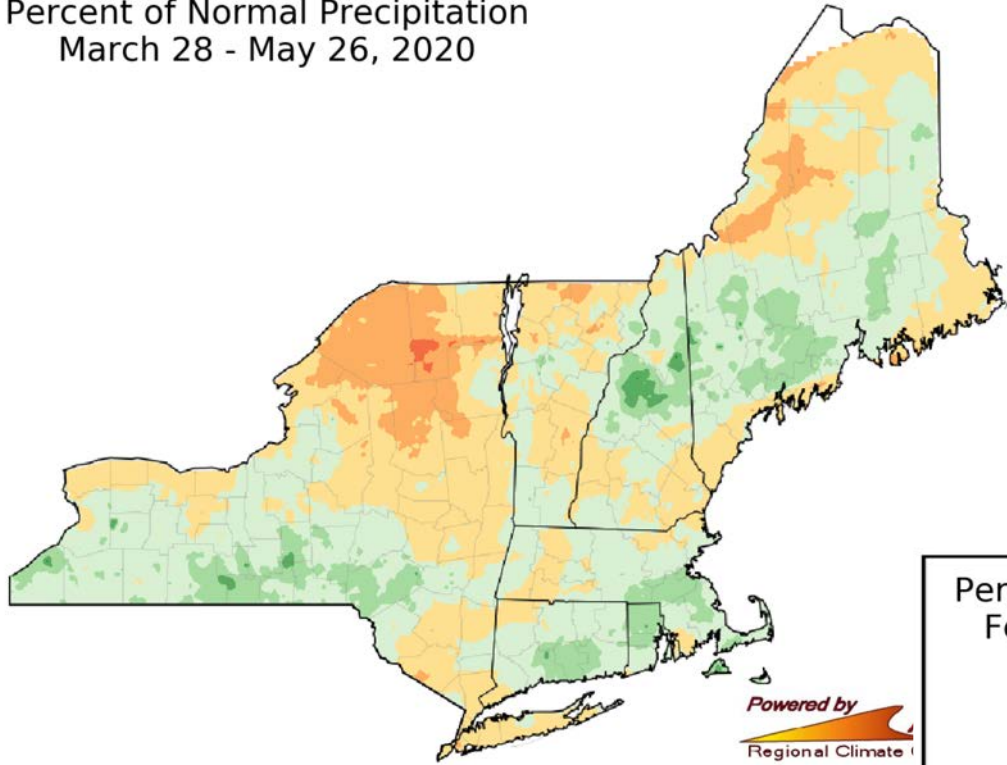
Percent of Normal Precipitation  
April 27 - May 26, 2020



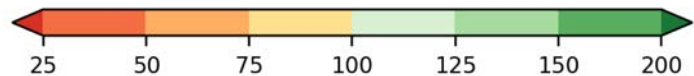
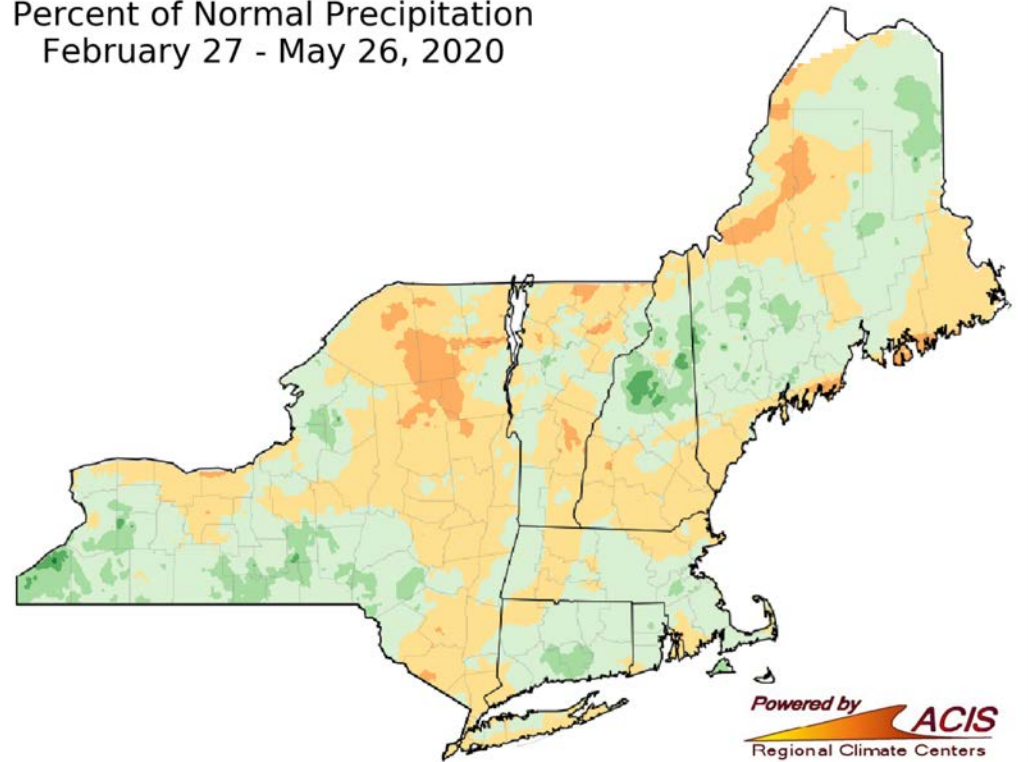
Powered by  
Regional Climate Centers

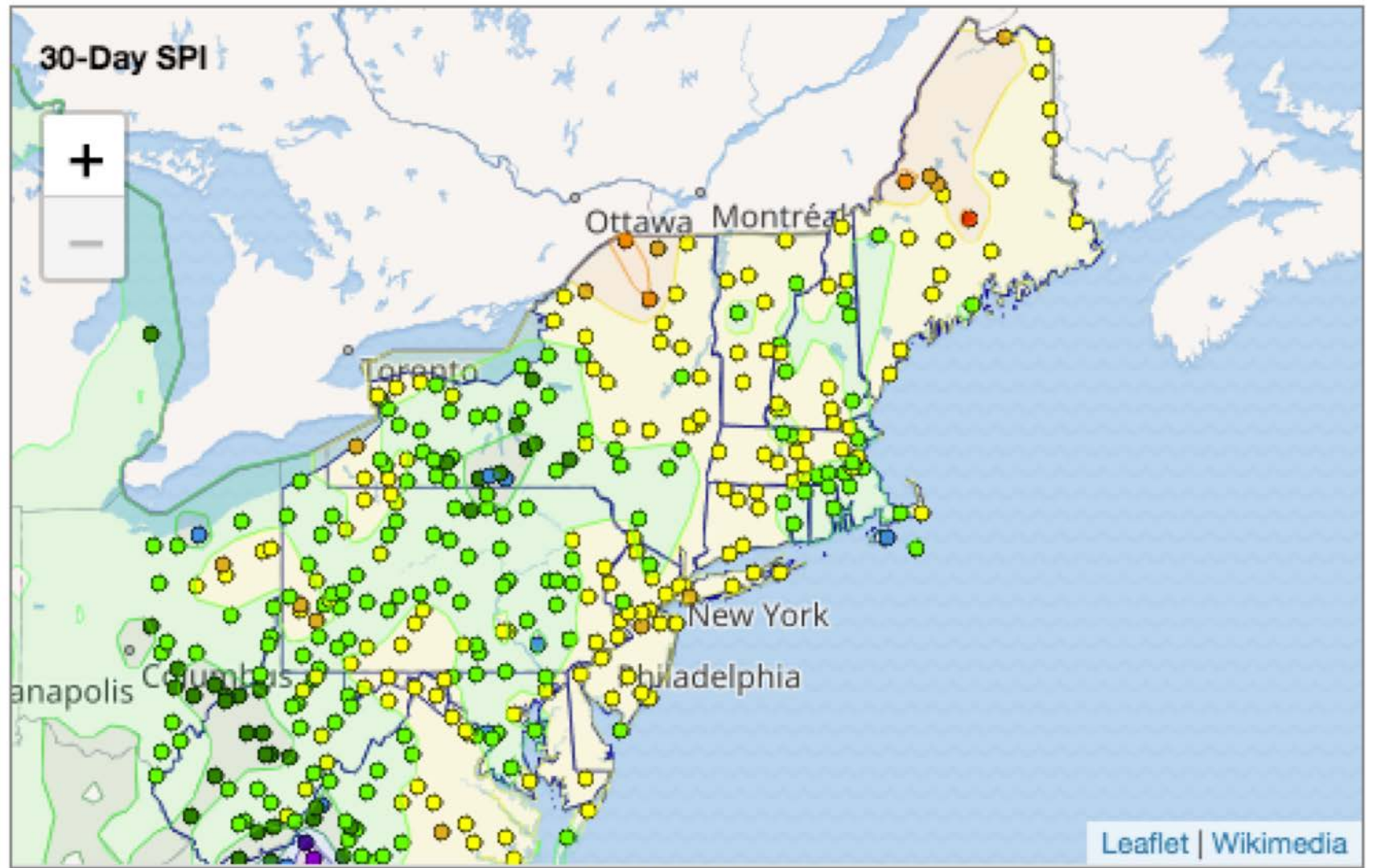
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ACIS  
Regional Climate Centers

Percent of Normal Precipitation  
March 28 - May 26, 2020



Percent of Normal Precipitation  
February 27 - May 26, 2020



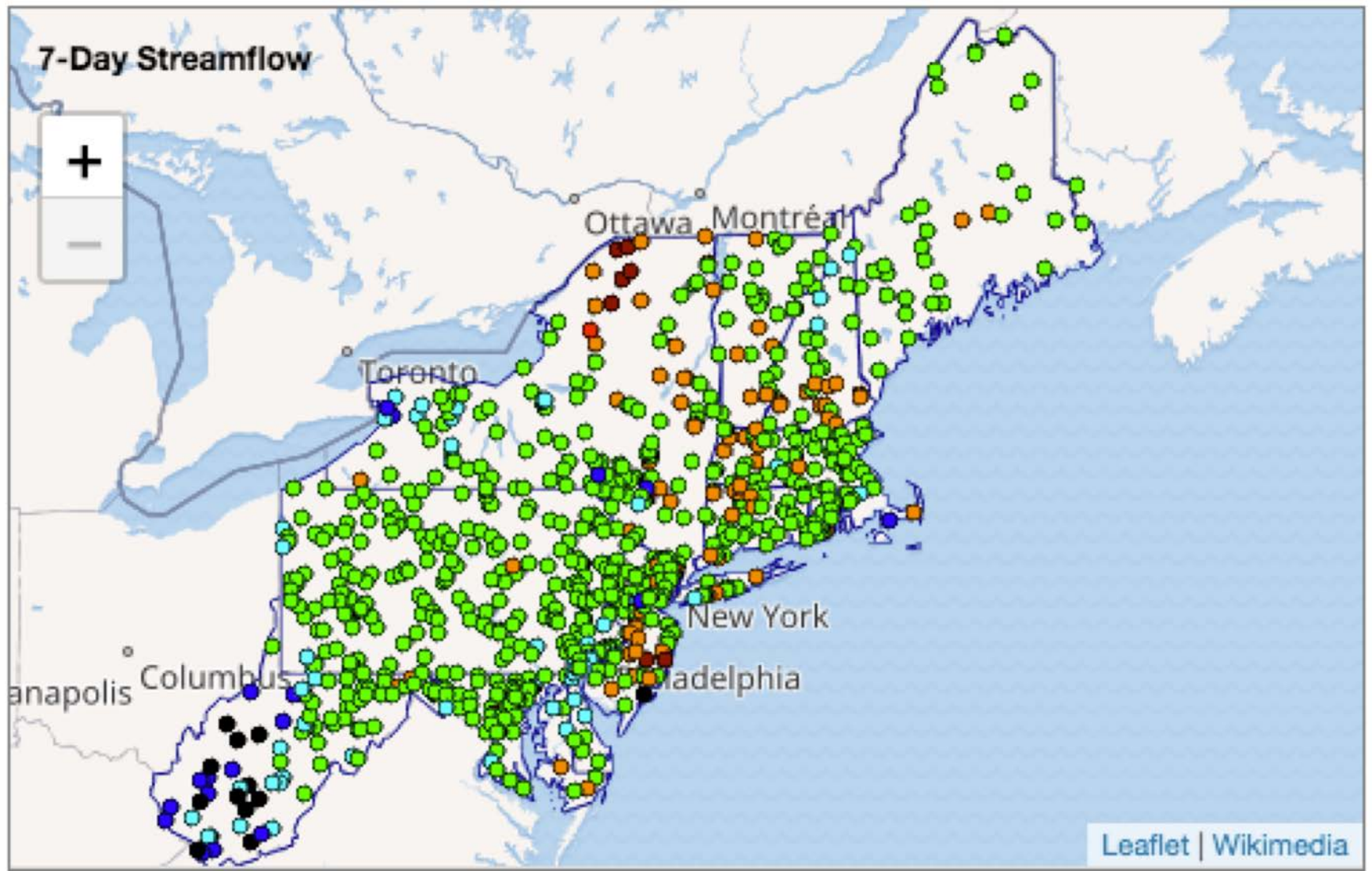


**Explanation - SPI Levels**

●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
<-3.0	-3.0 to -2.5	-2.5 to -2.0	-2.0 to -1.5	-1.5 to -1.0	-1.0 to 0.0	0.0 to 1.0	1.0 to 1.5	1.5 to 2.0	2.0 to 2.5	2.5 to 3.0	>3.0

Data provided by [High Plains Regional Climate Center](#).



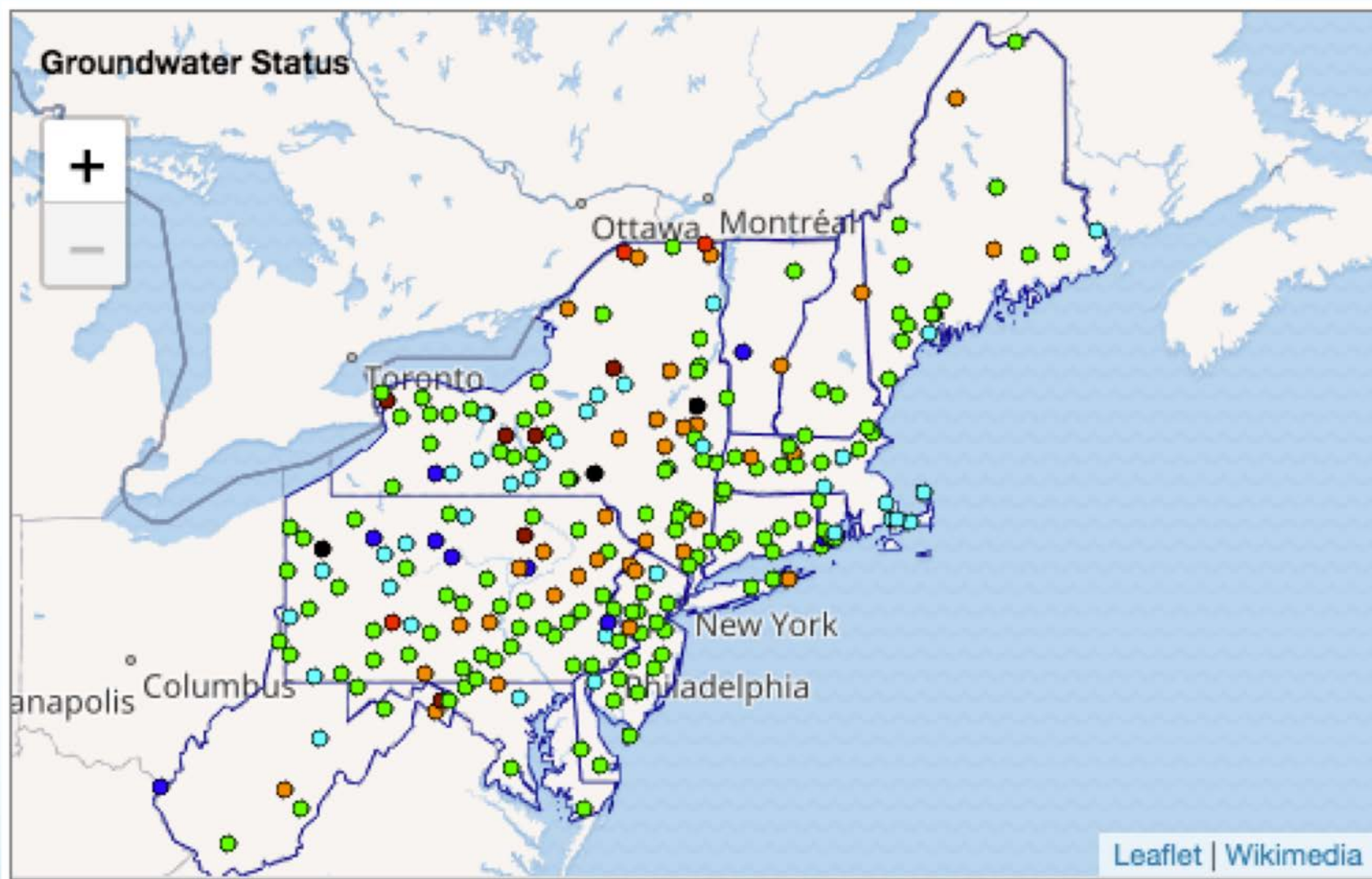


**Explanation - Percentile Classes**

Low	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	High	
	<10%	10-24%	25-75%	76-90%	>90%		

Data provided by [USGS WaterWatch - Streamflow](#).





**Explanation - Percentile Classes**

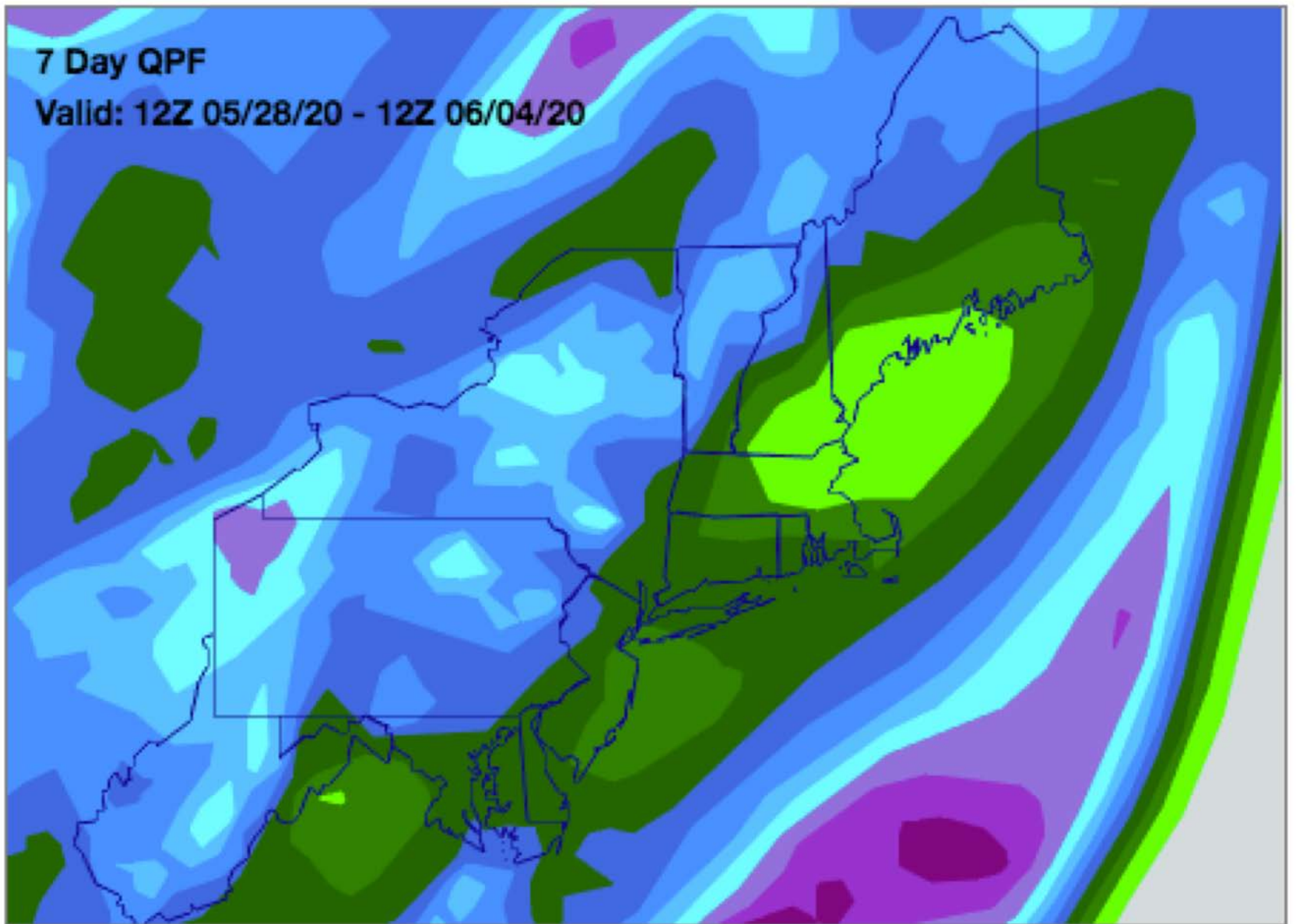
Low	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	High	
	<10%	10-24%	25-75%	76-90%	>90%		

Data provided by [USGS Groundwater Watch](#) - [Climate Response Network](#).



# 7 Day QPF

Valid: 12Z 05/28/20 - 12Z 06/04/20



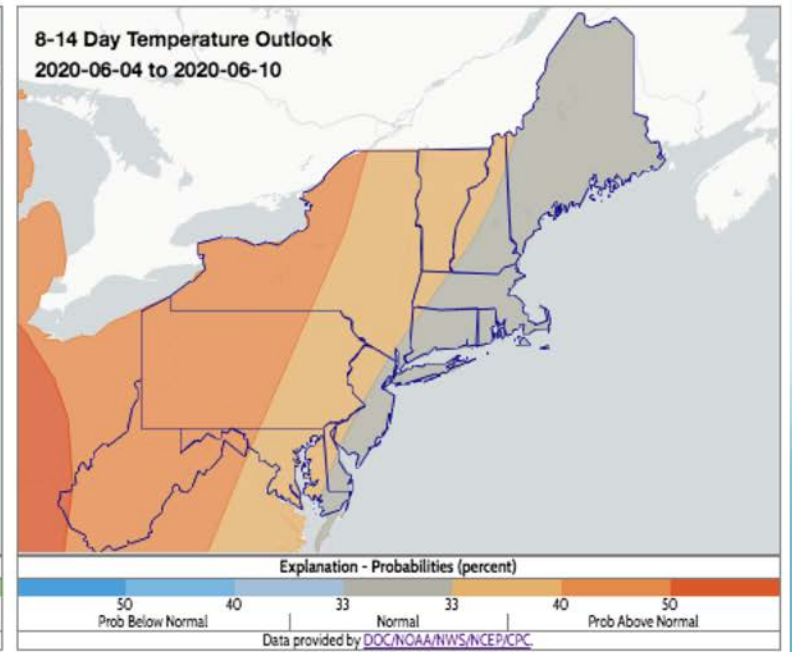
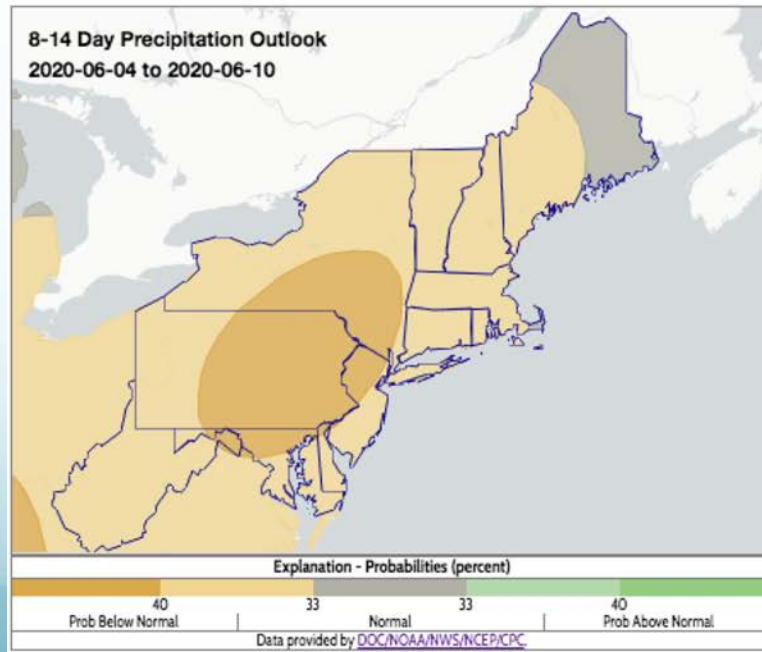
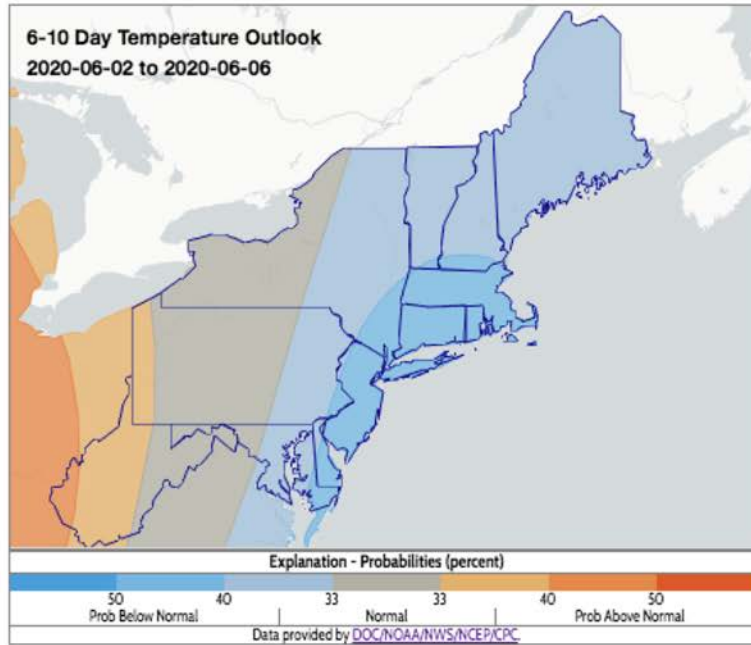
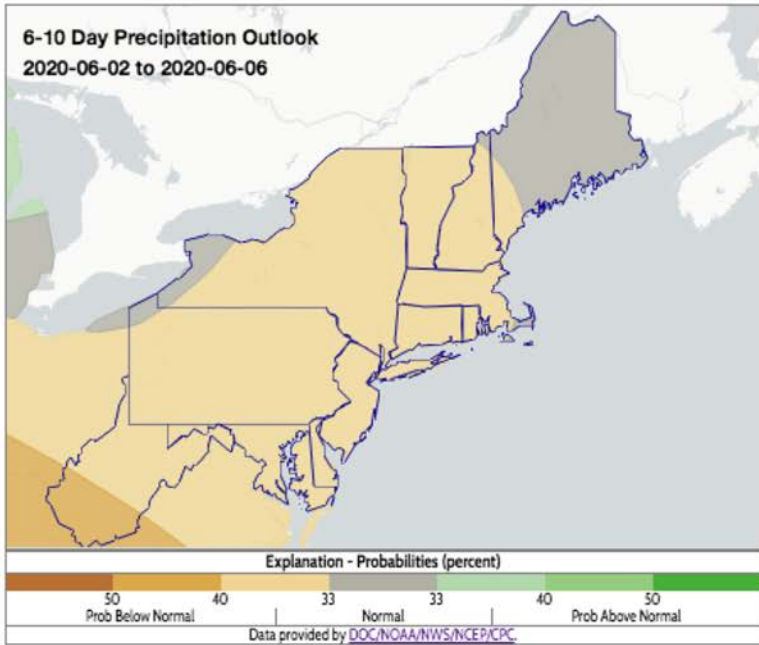
Explanation - Forecast precipitation (inches)

0.01 0.10 0.25 0.50 0.75 1.00 1.25 1.50 1.75 2.00

Data provided by [DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC](https://www.noaa.gov/office/orgs/office-of-dominion-coastal-ocean-and-atmospheric-science).

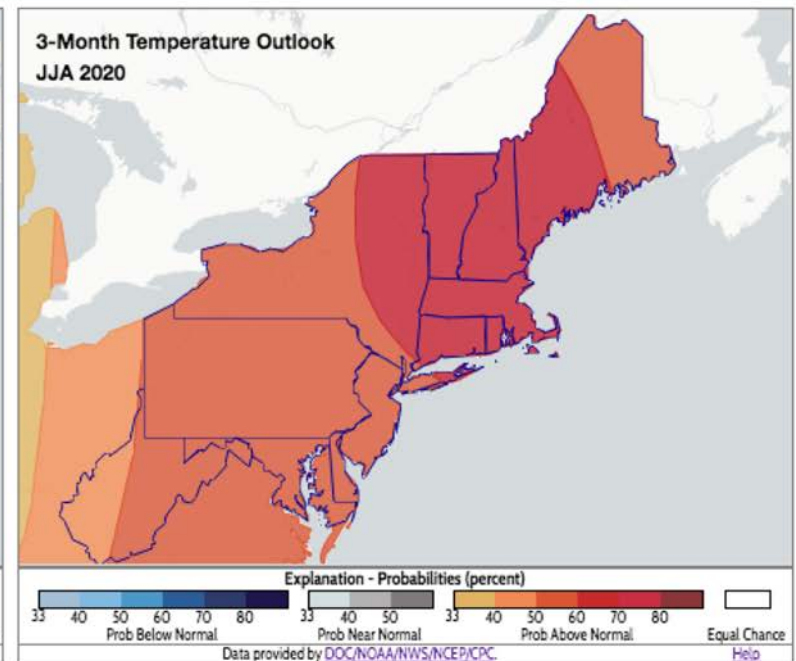
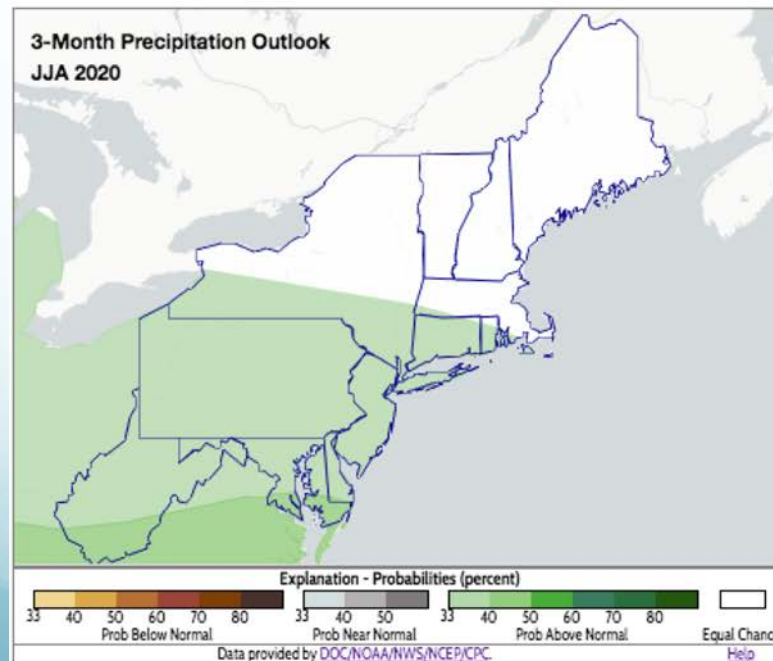
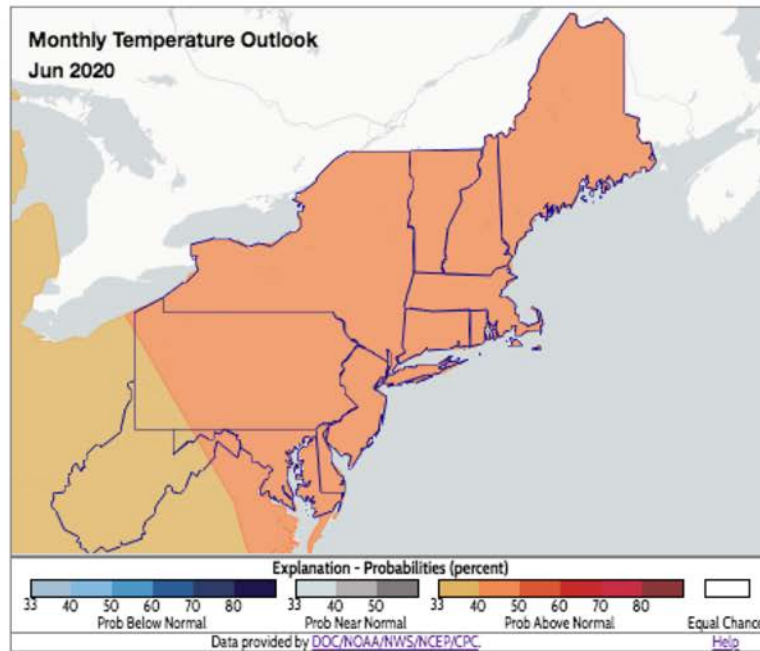
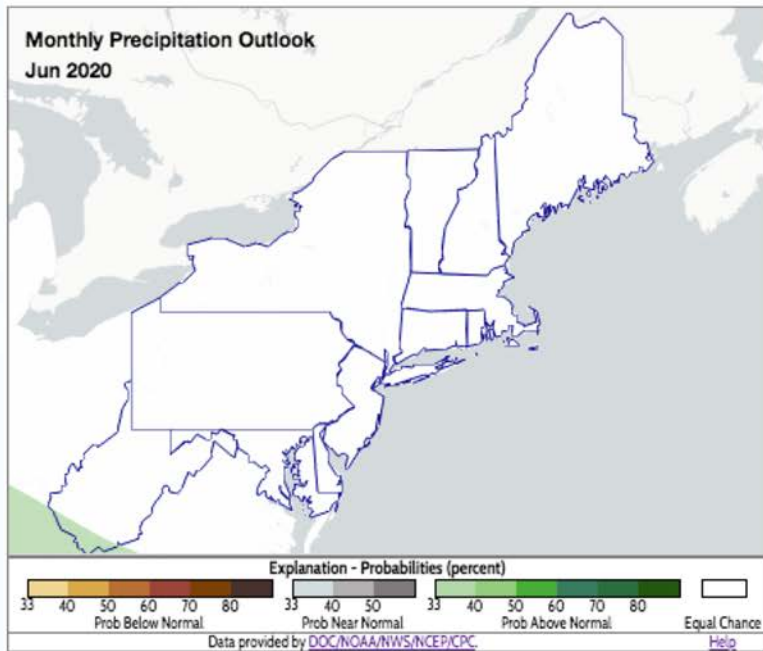


# Short-term Outlooks





# Monthly & 3-Month Outlooks



# Contact Information

- [nrcc@cornell.edu](mailto:nrcc@cornell.edu)
- 607-255-1751

## Upcoming Webinars

- Tuesday, June 30 at 9:30am
  - Heat Season
- Thursday, July 30 at 9:30am
  - EDDI (Evaporative Demand Drought Index)
- Thursday, August 27 at 9:30am
  - Hurricane Outlook & Season Update



[www.nrcc.cornell.edu](http://www.nrcc.cornell.edu)