

January Recap & Northeast DEWS Discussion

By: Samantha Borisoff, Climatologist
Northeast Regional Climate Center



January 24-26 Winter Storm

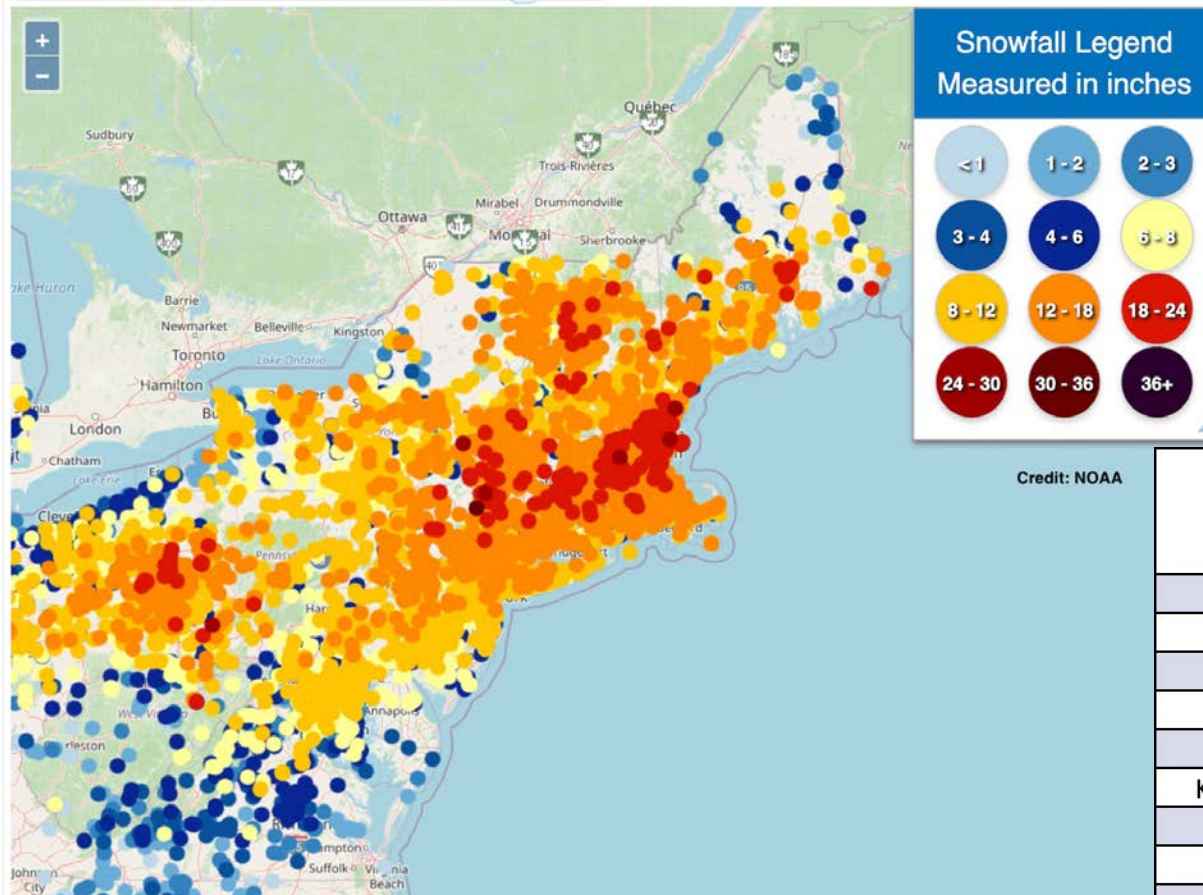
Select the time range for the snowfall reports:

48 Hours

Search for a location on map:

Hide Legend

Create a permalink

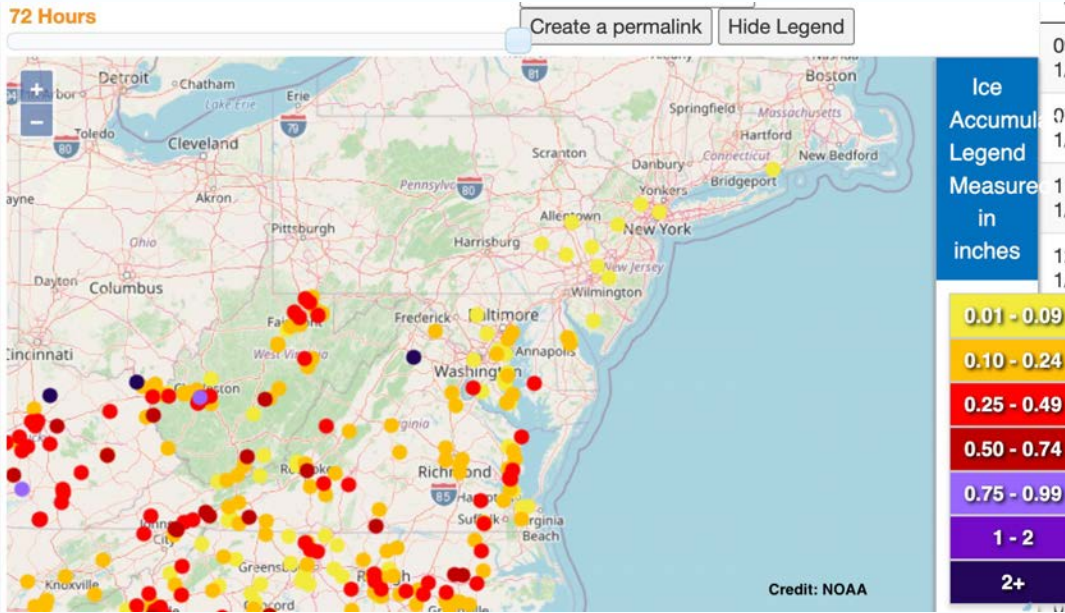


Location	Jan 25-26, 2026 Snowfall (in.)	Rank for January (snowiest)	Rank for All Months (snowiest)
Hartford, CT	17.3	3	
Boston, MA	23.2	4	9
Bridgeport, CT	15.4	4	
Worcester, MA	22.4	4	10

Location	Jan 25, 2026 Snowfall (in.)	Rank for January (snowiest)	Rank for All Months (snowiest)
Bridgeport, CT	15.1	2	7
Hartford, CT	15.6	2	
Allentown, PA	11.8	4	
Boston, MA	16.7	4	9
Pittsburgh, PA	11.2	4	
Kennedy Airport, NY	10.3	5	
Newark, NJ	11.5	5	
Scranton, PA	9.7	5	
Worcester, MA	17.5	5	
Dulles Airport, VA	7.8	6	
LaGuardia Airport, NY	9.7	6	
Islip, NY	12.9	7	
Philadelphia, PA	9.3	7	
Providence, RI	12.9	7	
Baltimore, MD	11.3	8	
Central Park, NY	11.4	8	
Harrisburg, PA	12.5	8	
Binghamton, NY	10.2	9	



January 24-26 Winter Storm



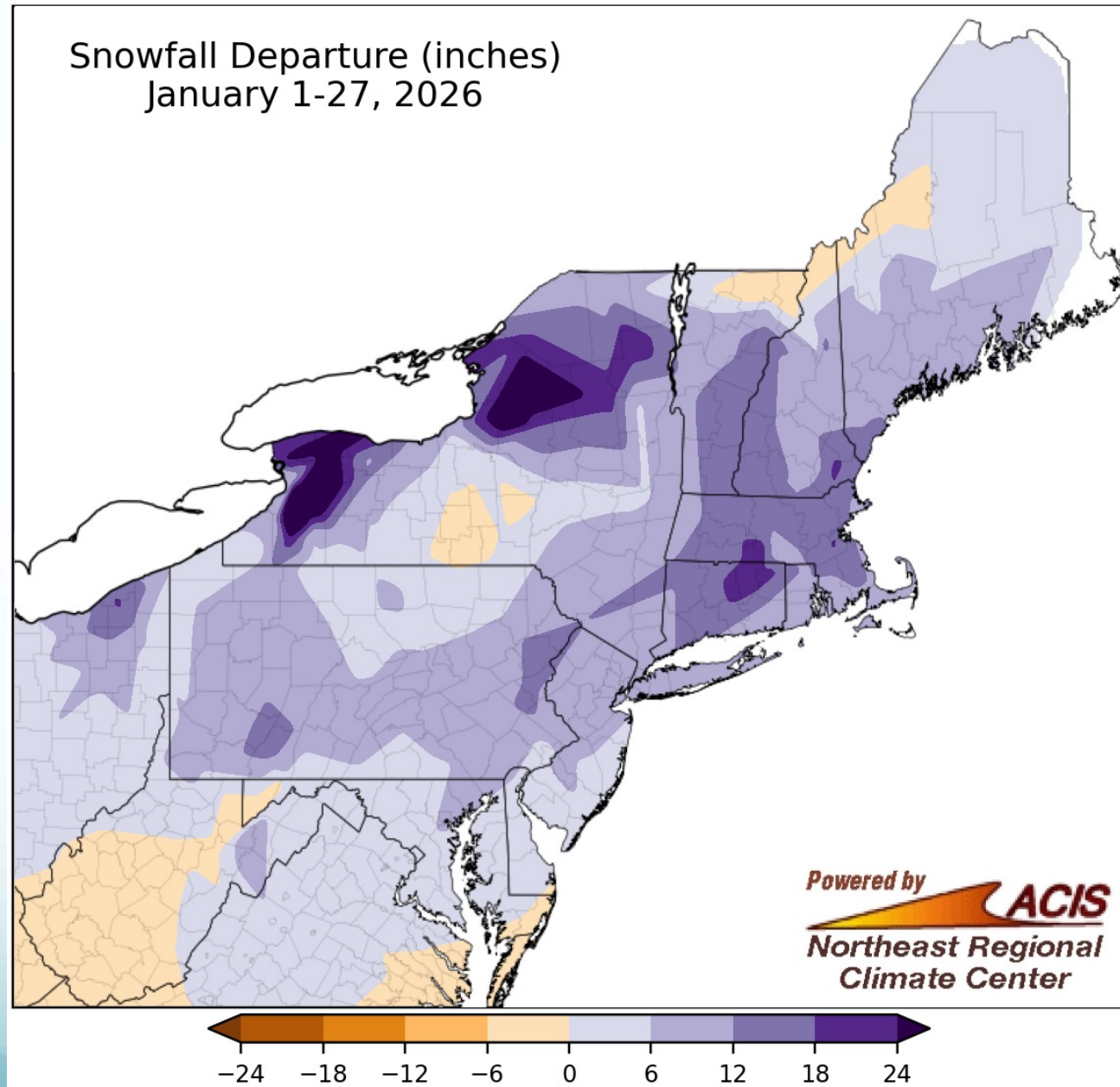
Airport	Number of Hours During Storm with Freezing Rain/Drizzle	Number of Hours During Storm with Ice Pellets	Total Hours
Charleston - WV Intl Yeager AP, WV	16	0	16
Baltimore-Washington Intl AP, MD	5	11	12
Philadelphia Intl AP, PA	2	9	11
Islip-LI MacArthur AP, NY	2	8	10
Newark Liberty Intl AP, NJ	0	9	9
JFK Intl AP, NY	0	9	9
LaGuardia AP, NY	0	8	8
Beckley Raleigh Co AP, WV	6	0	6

Number of Hours Present Weather includes any of: PL,+PL,-PL
BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, MD

Year	Jan ↓	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2026	16											
2004	13	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1978	10	1	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
2002	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
1975	9	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1



January Snowfall

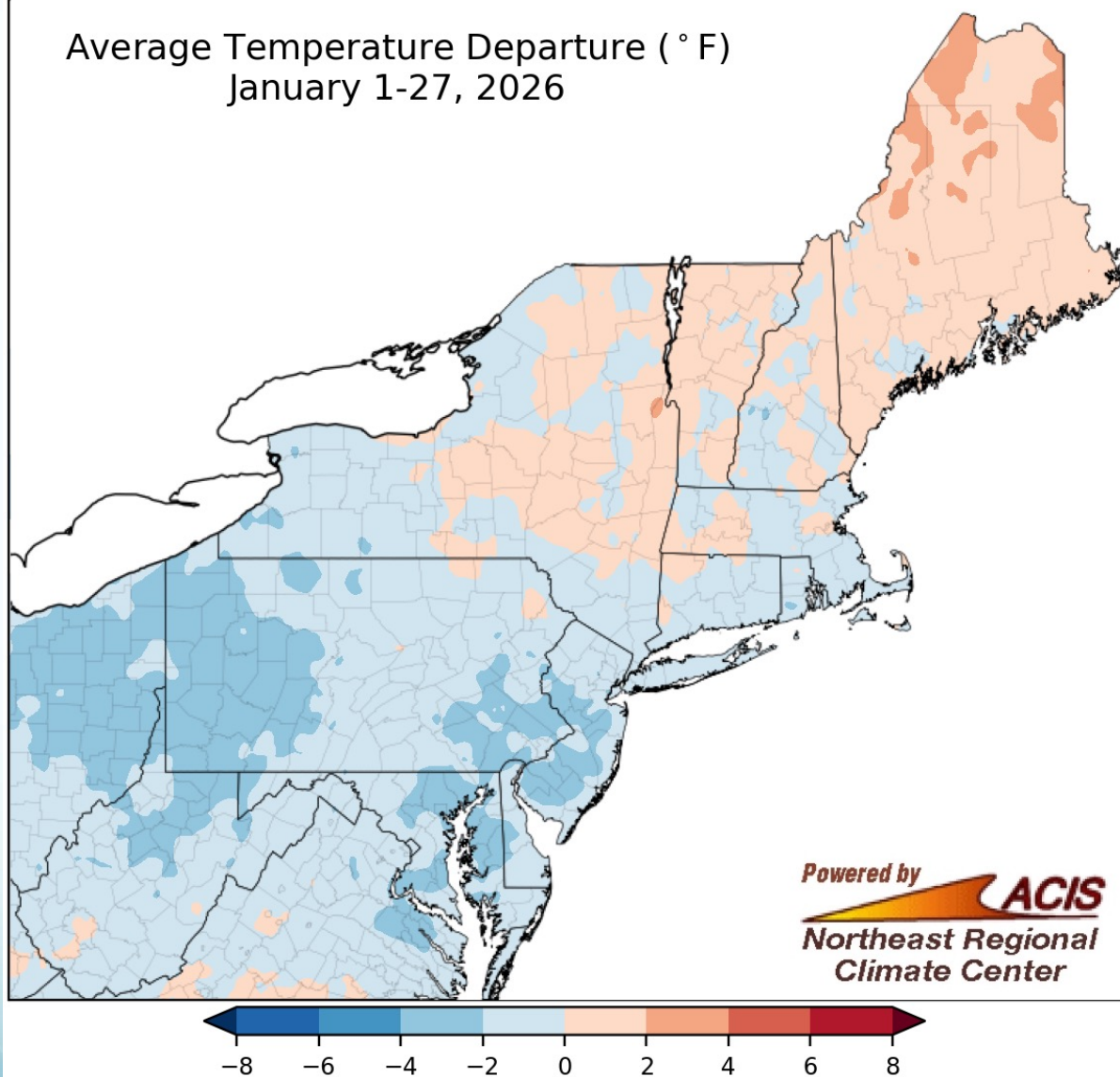


From 6" below normal to over 24" above normal

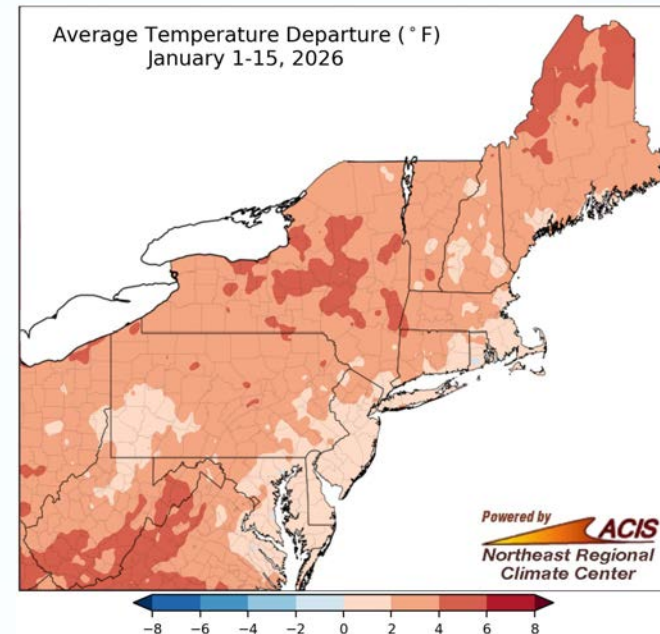


January Temperatures

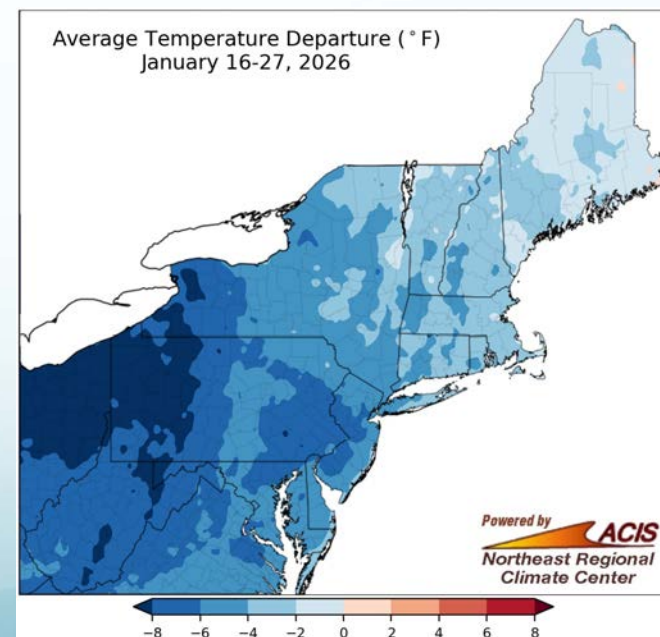
Average Temperature Departure (°F)
January 1-27, 2026



Average Temperature Departure (°F)
January 1-15, 2026

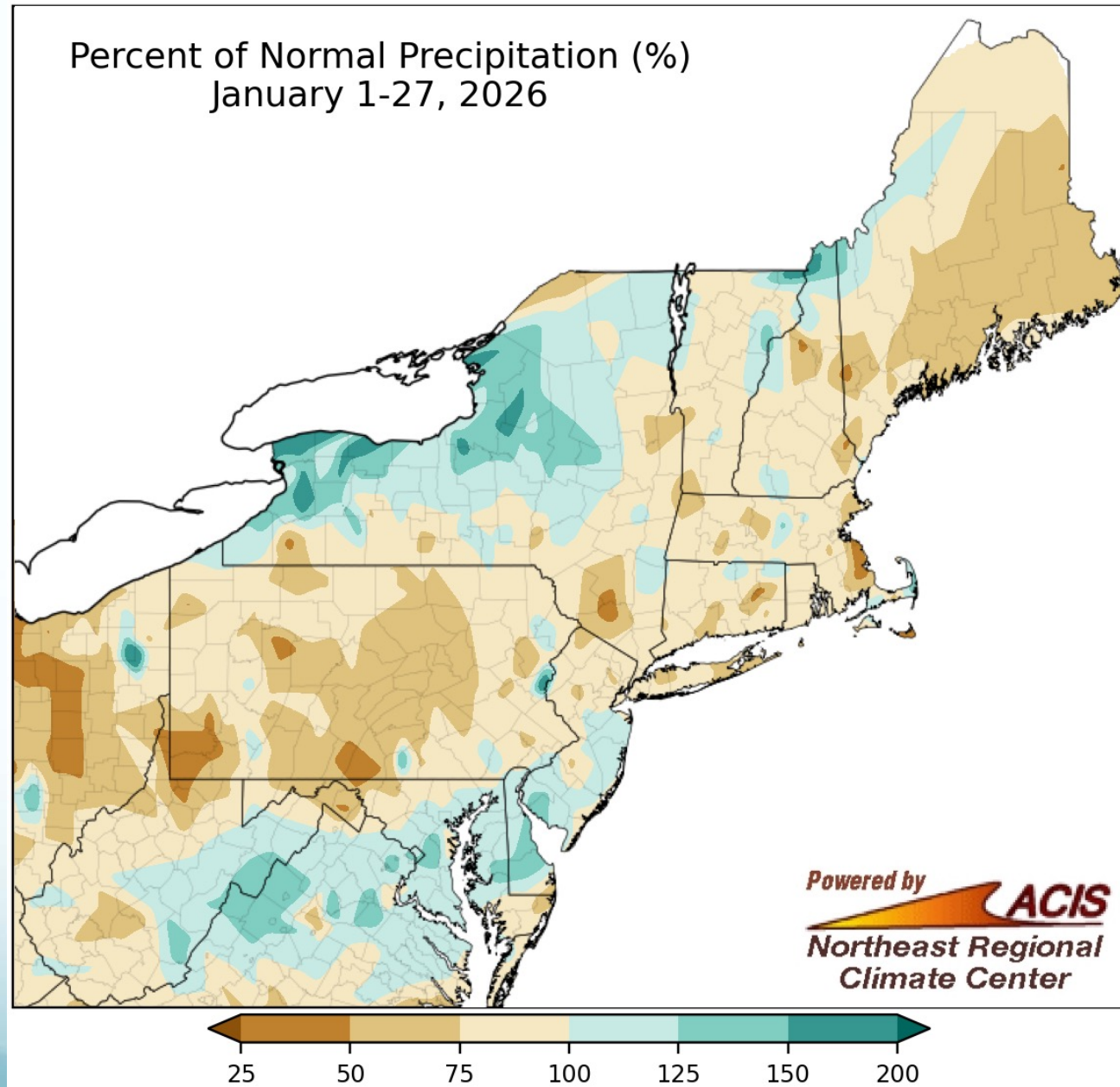


Average Temperature Departure (°F)
January 16-27, 2026



From 4°F below normal to
4°F above normal

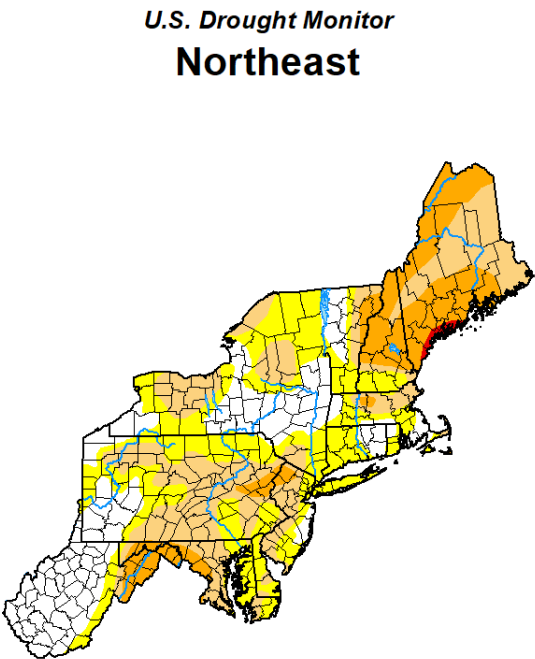
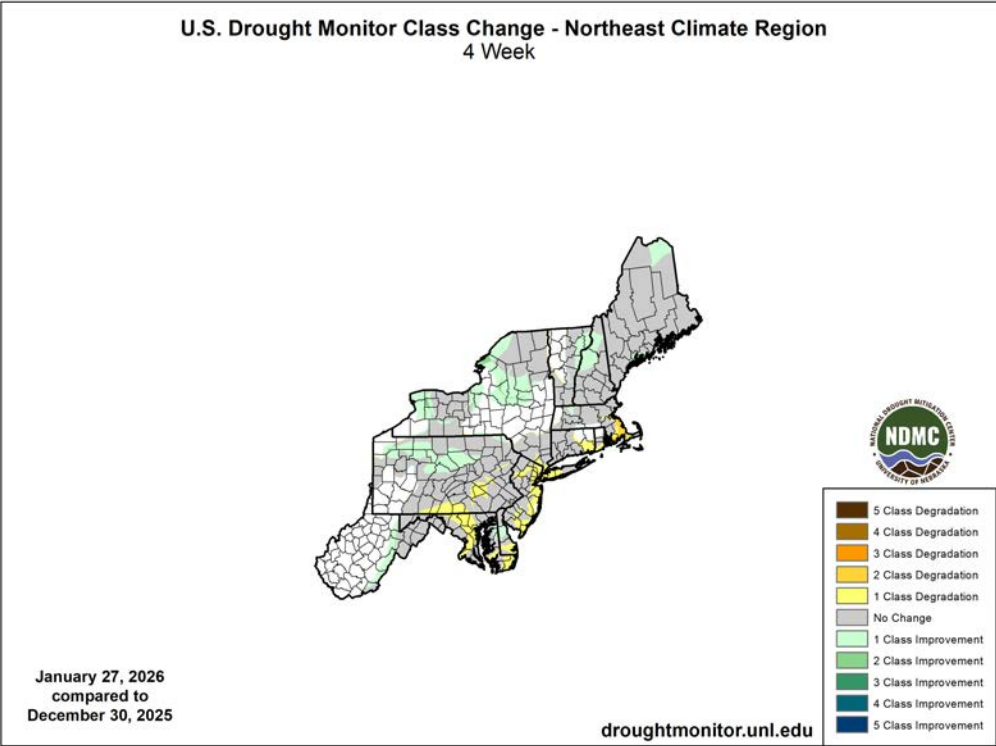
January Precipitation



From less than 50% of normal to 200% of normal



Drought Monitor



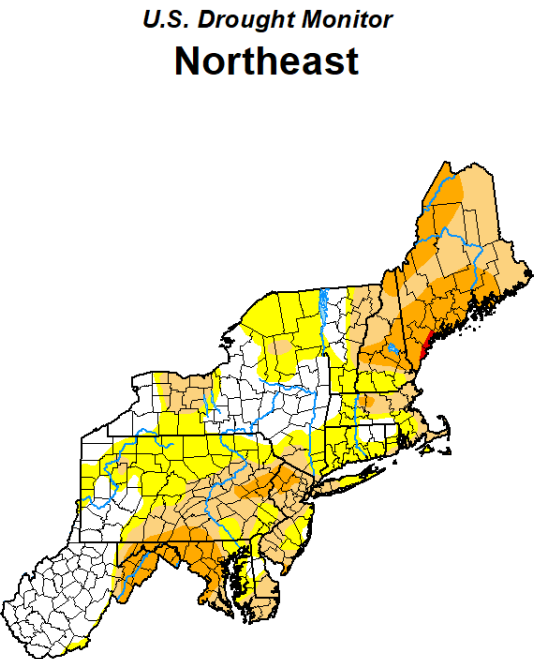
December 30, 2025
(Released Wednesday, Dec. 31, 2025)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	25.21	29.47	28.63	16.20	0.49	0.00
Last Week 12-23-2025	24.28	29.96	28.29	16.98	0.49	0.00
3 Months Ago 09-30-2025	7.86	42.89	23.79	18.78	6.67	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-07-2025	33.83	32.27	24.14	8.39	1.37	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-30-2024	7.86	42.89	23.79	18.78	6.67	0.00
One Year Ago 12-31-2024	27.81	30.61	28.51	11.71	1.37	0.00

Intensity:

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



January 27, 2026
(Released Thursday, Jan. 29, 2026)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

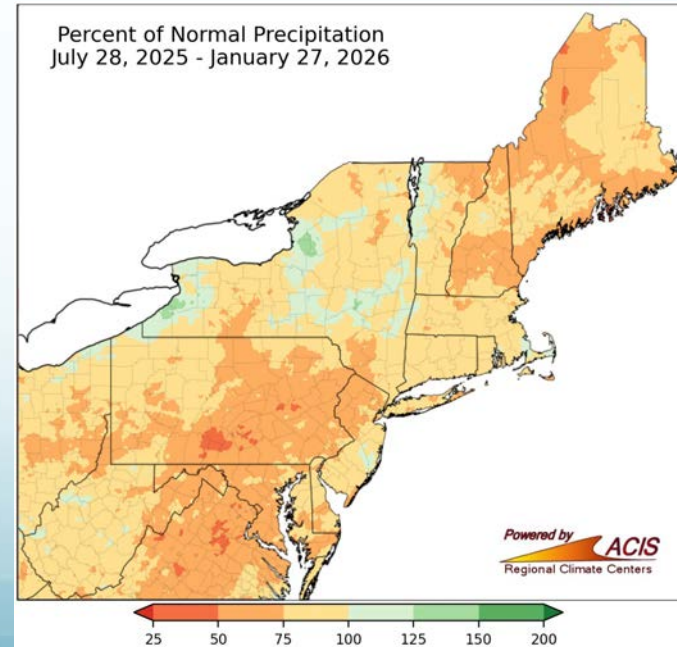
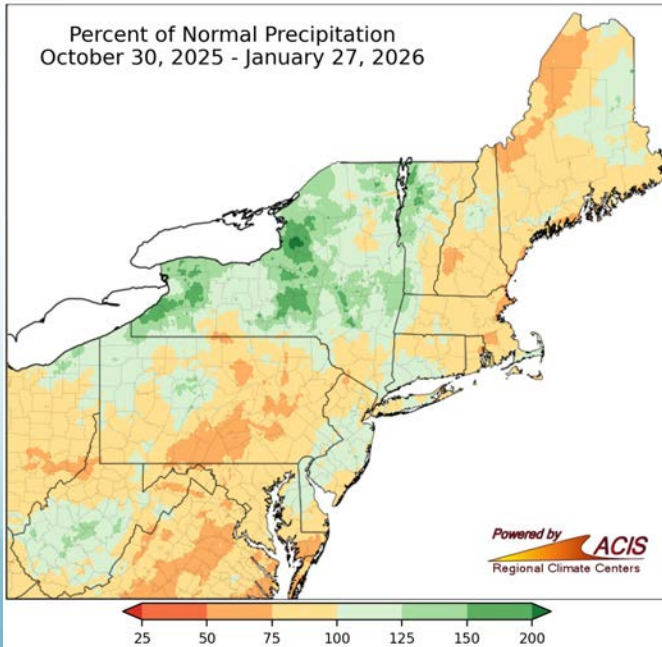
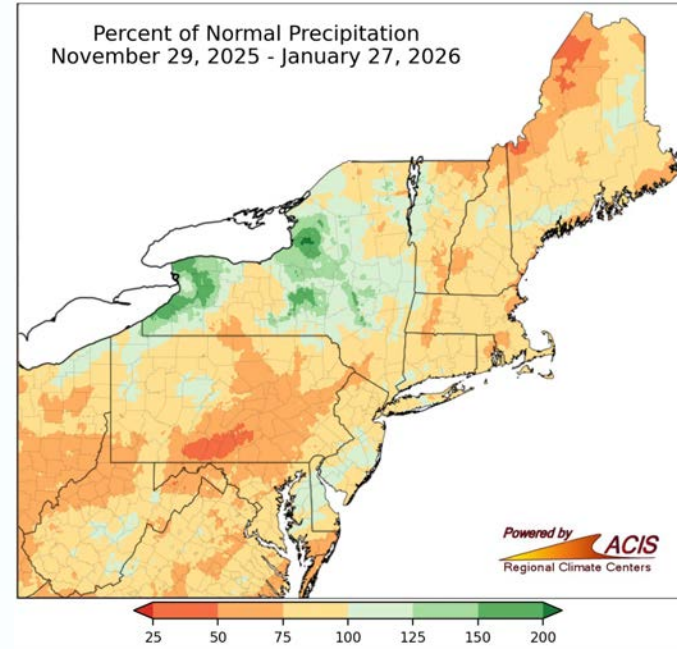
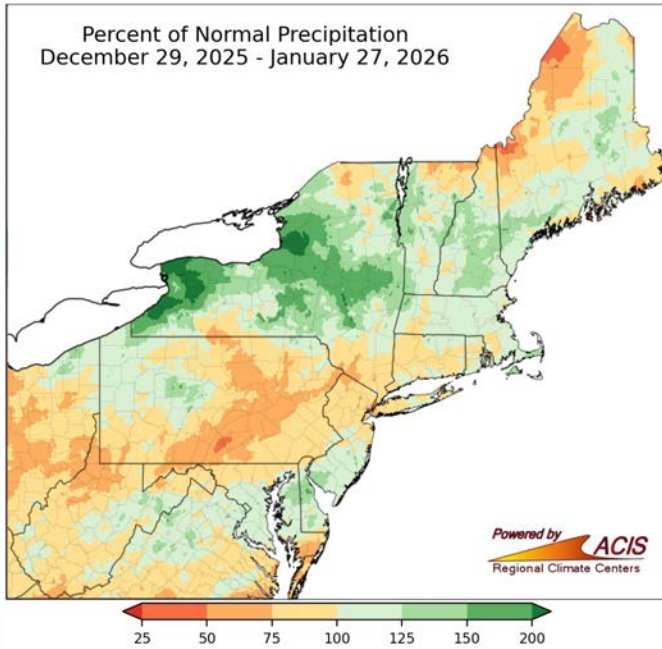
Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	28.45	28.39	26.60	16.36	0.20	0.00
Last Week 01-20-2026	27.52	29.20	26.72	16.36	0.20	0.00
3 Months Ago 10-28-2025	6.63	28.03	31.04	22.85	11.45	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-06-2026	24.63	28.38	28.46	18.33	0.20	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-30-2025	7.86	42.89	23.79	18.78	6.67	0.00
One Year Ago 01-28-2025	27.00	39.10	22.64	9.90	1.37	0.00

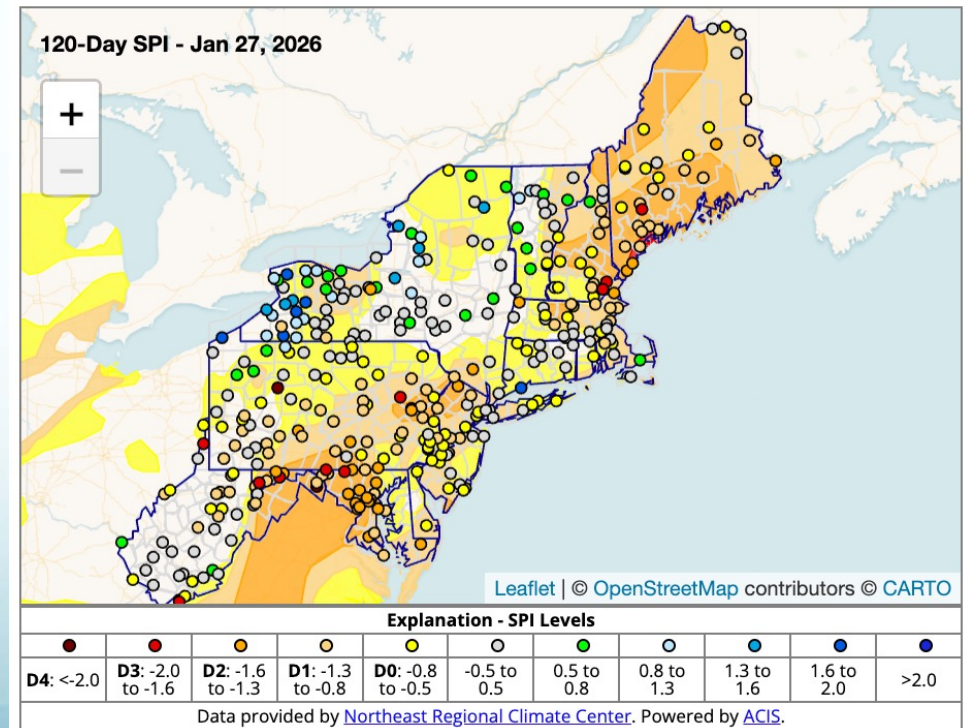
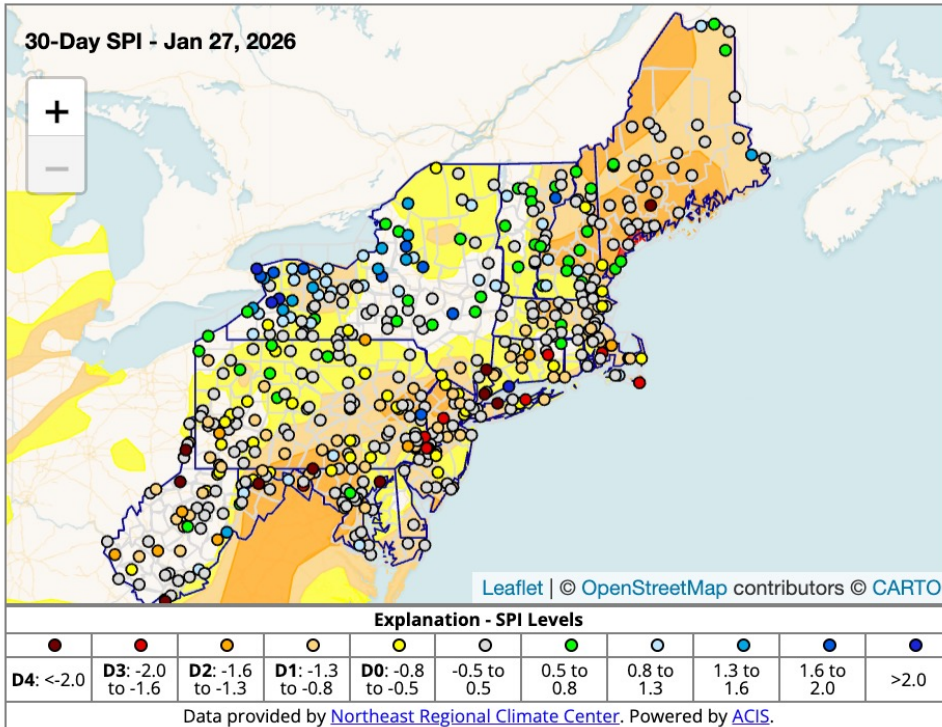
Intensity:

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

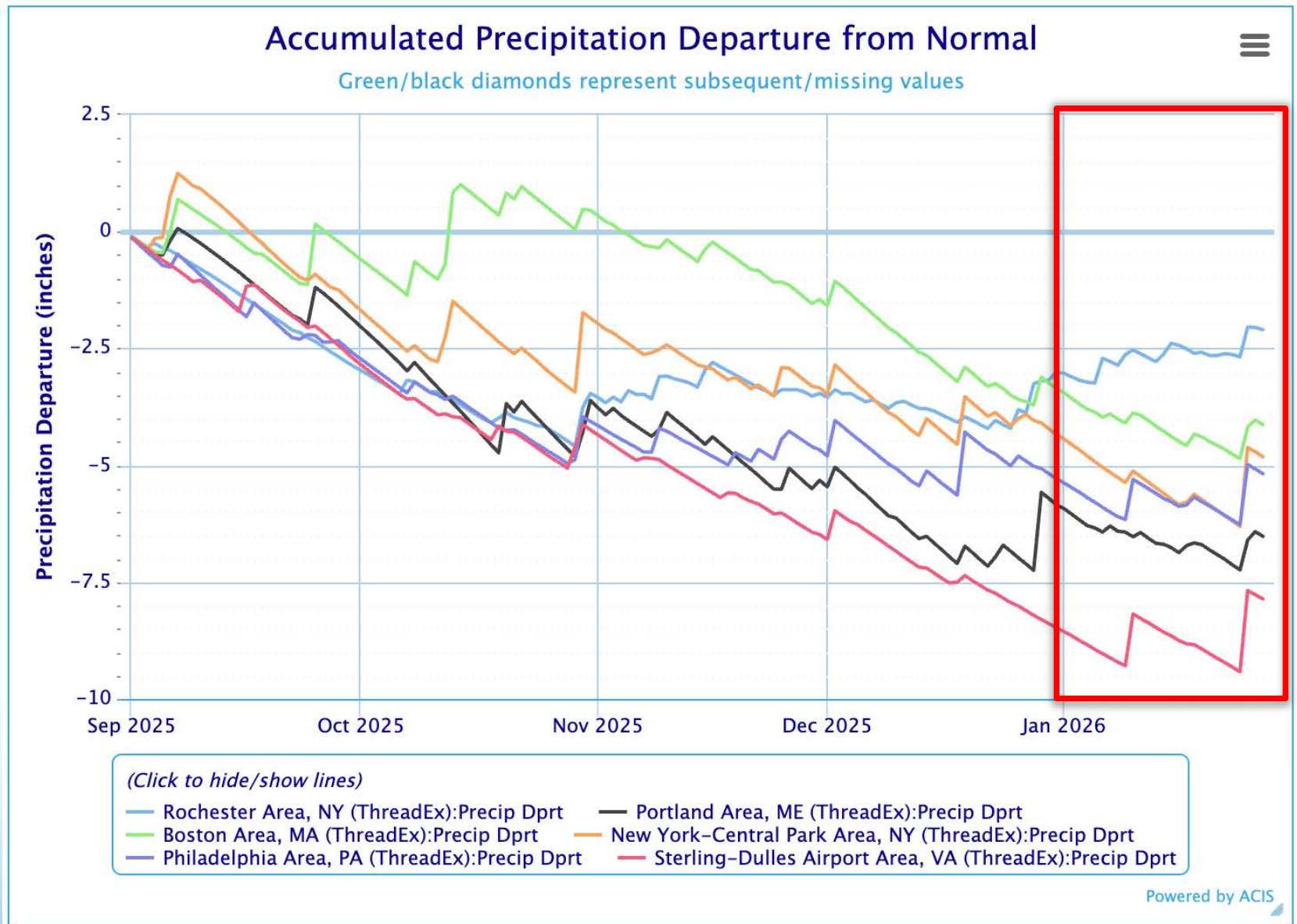
Precipitation



Standardized Precipitation Index

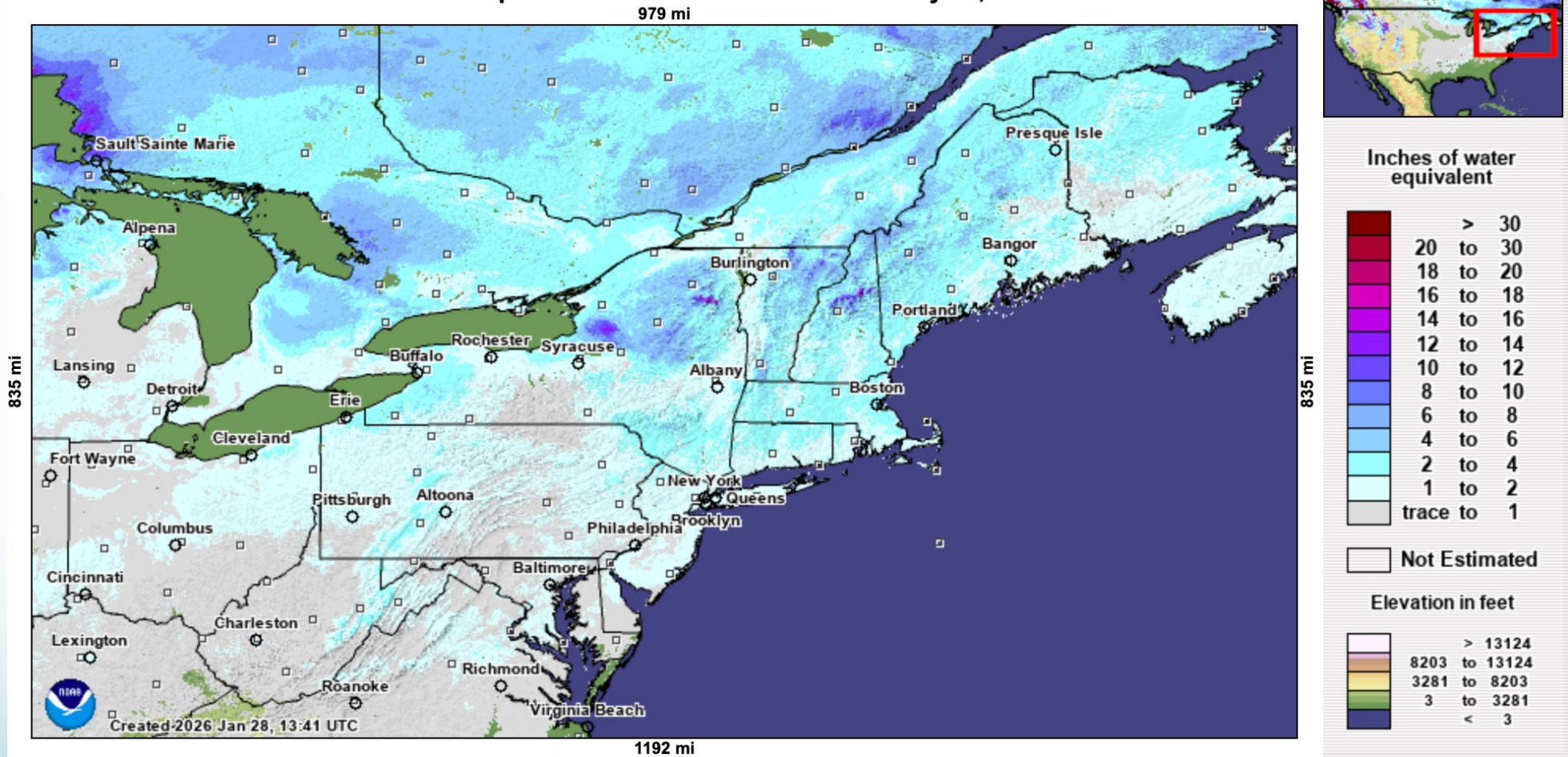


Precipitation



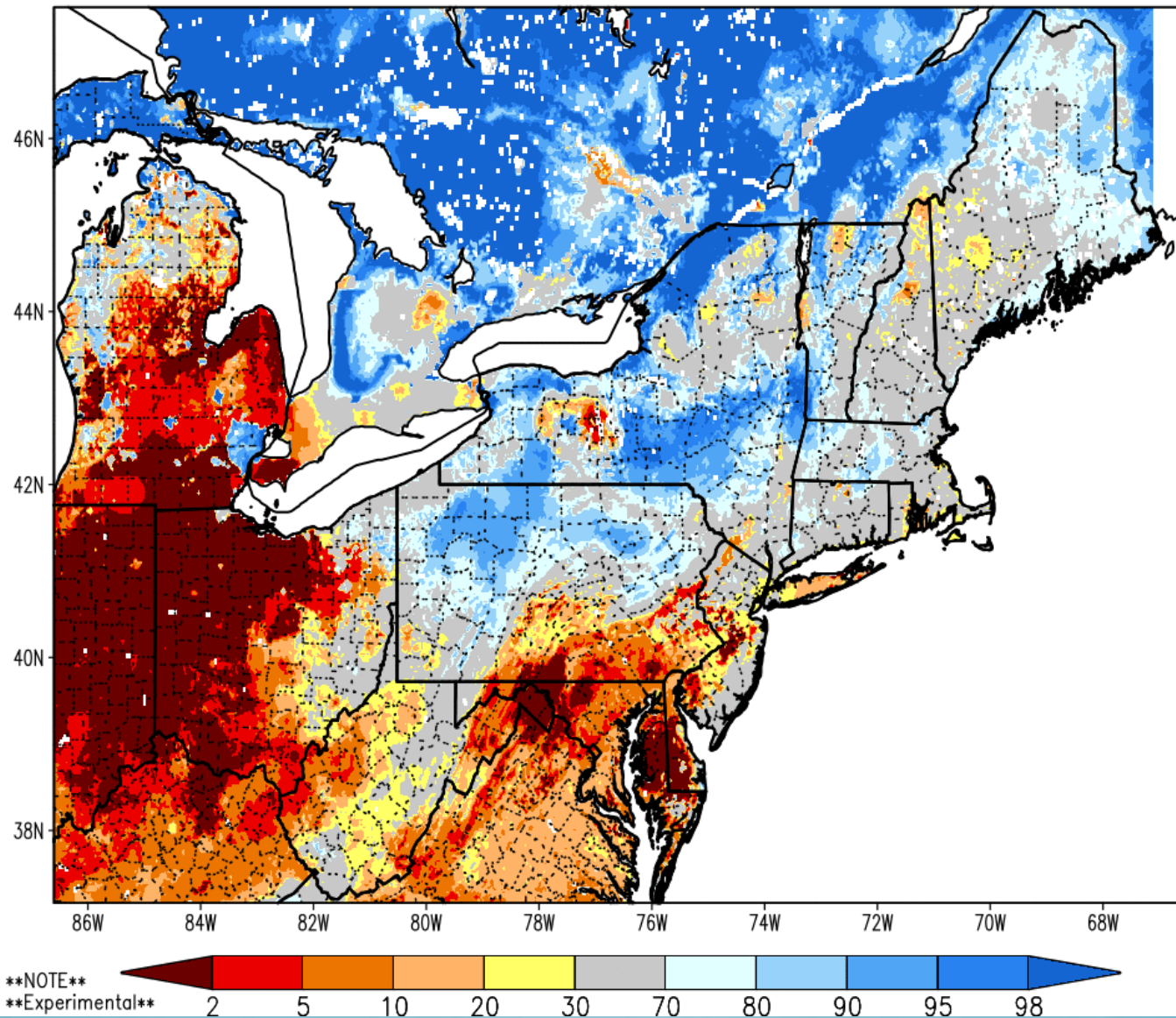
Snow Water Equivalent

Modeled Snow Water Equivalent forecasted for 2026 January 29, 12:00 UTC

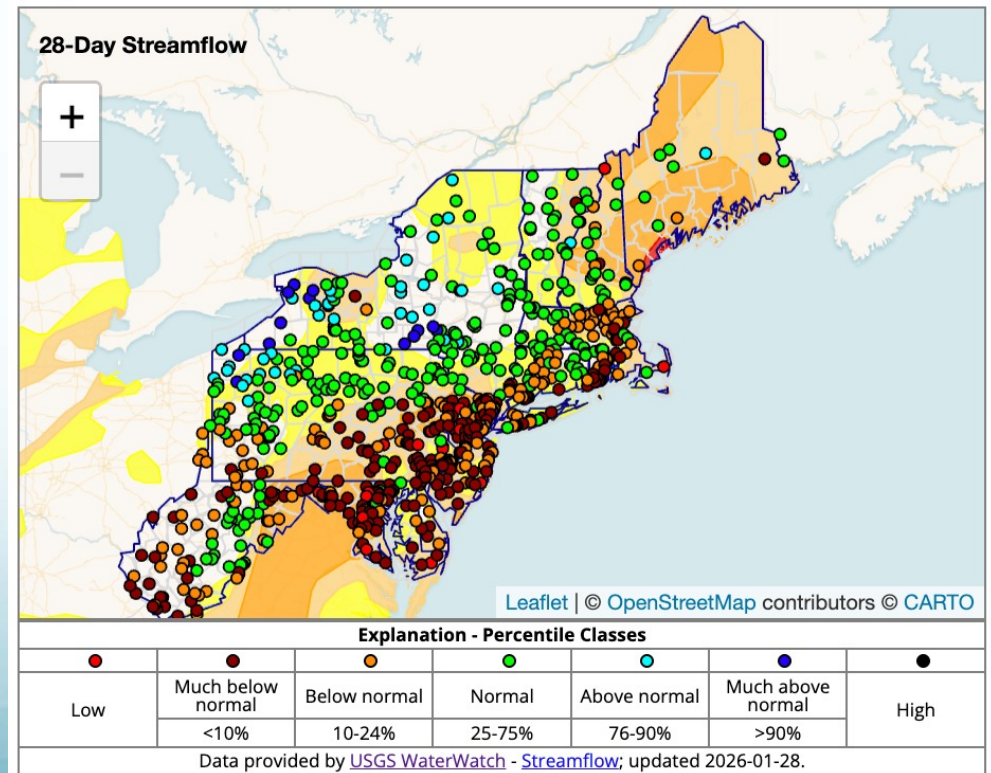
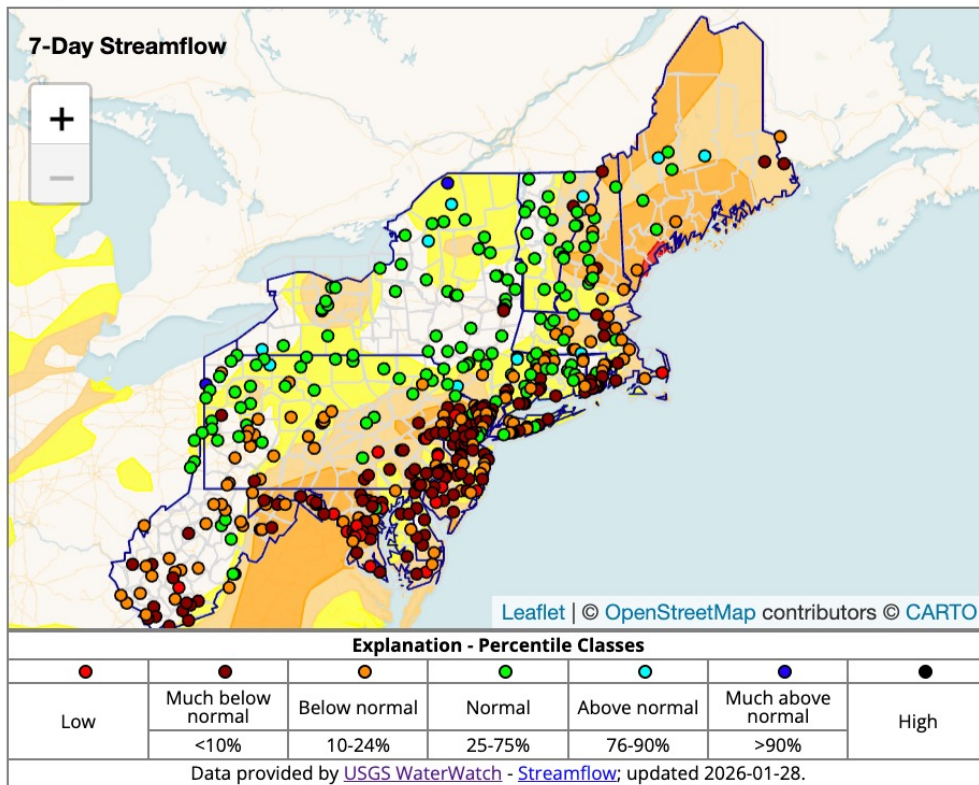


Soil Moisture

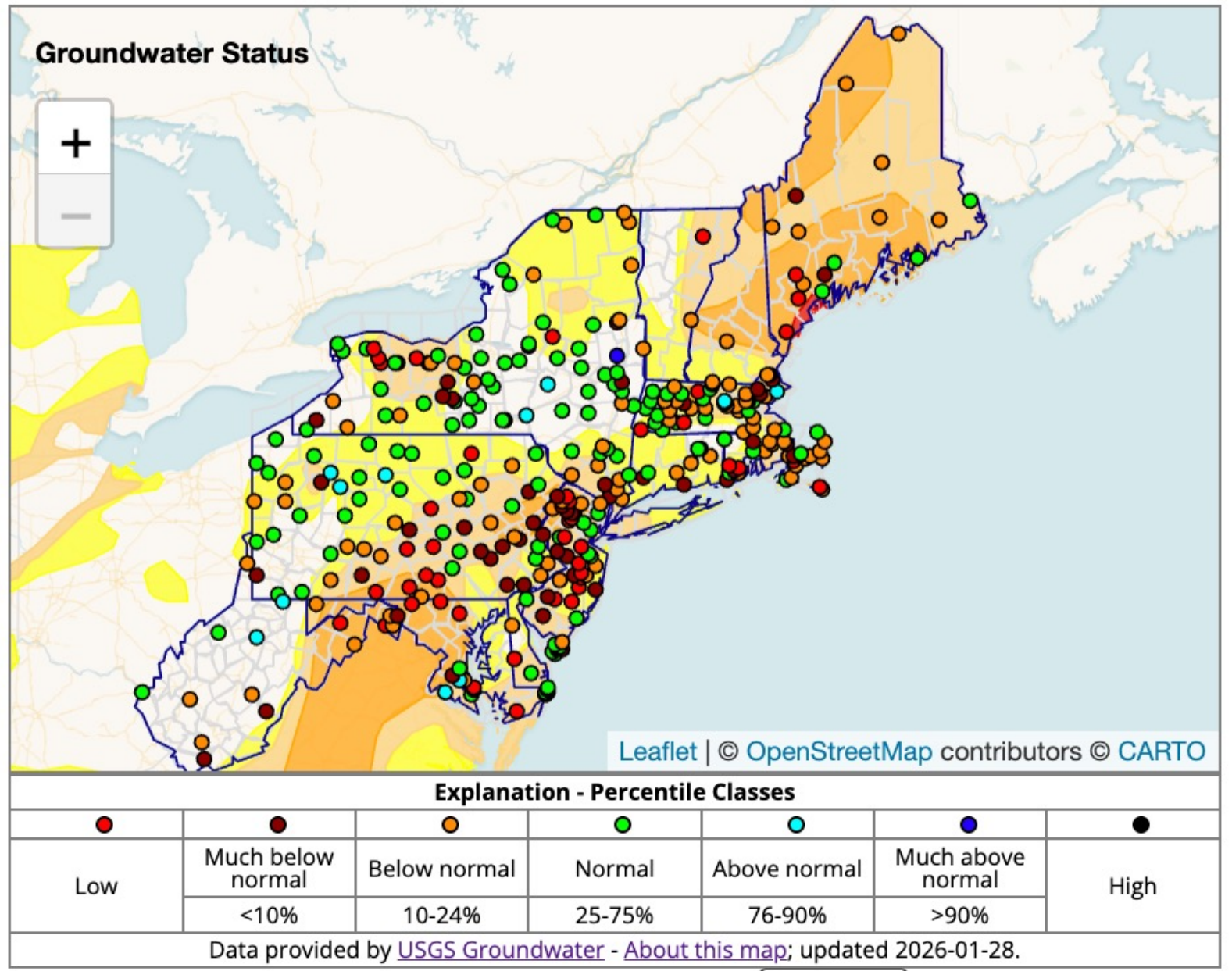
SPoRT-LIS 0–100 cm Soil Moisture percentile valid 29 Jan 2026



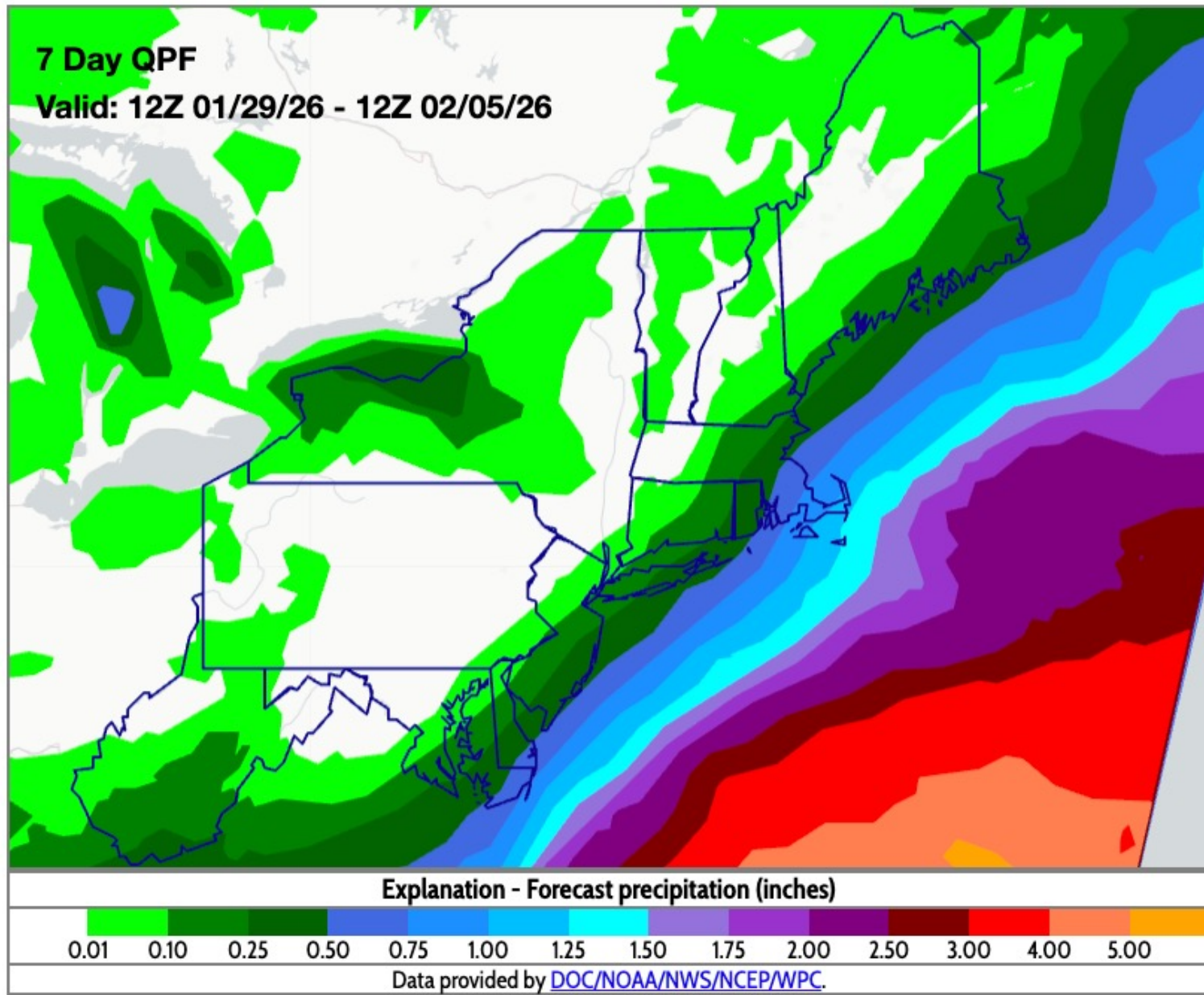
Streamflow



Groundwater

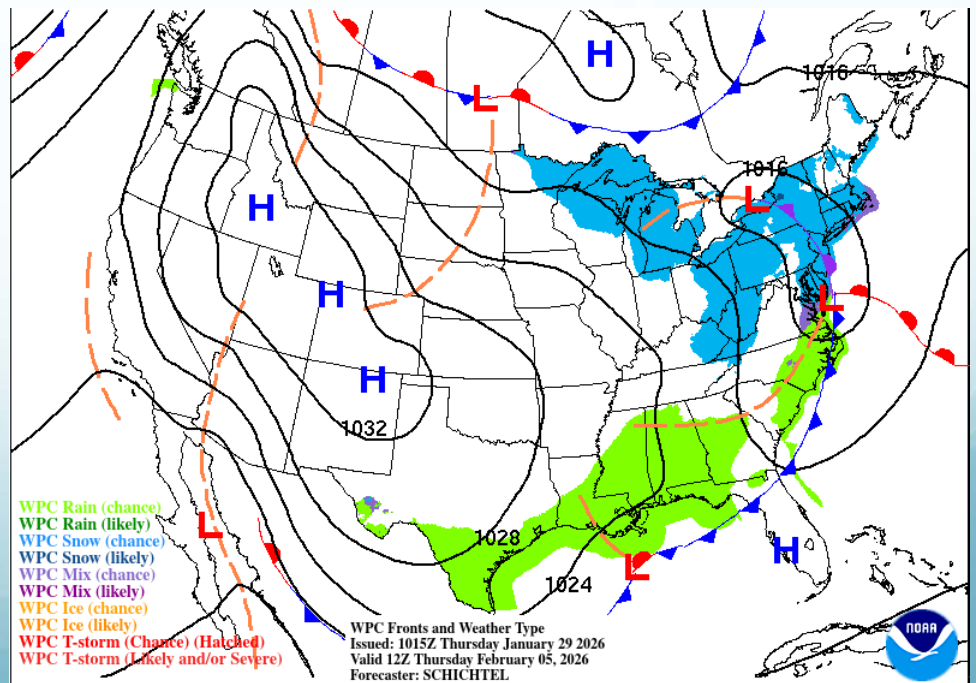
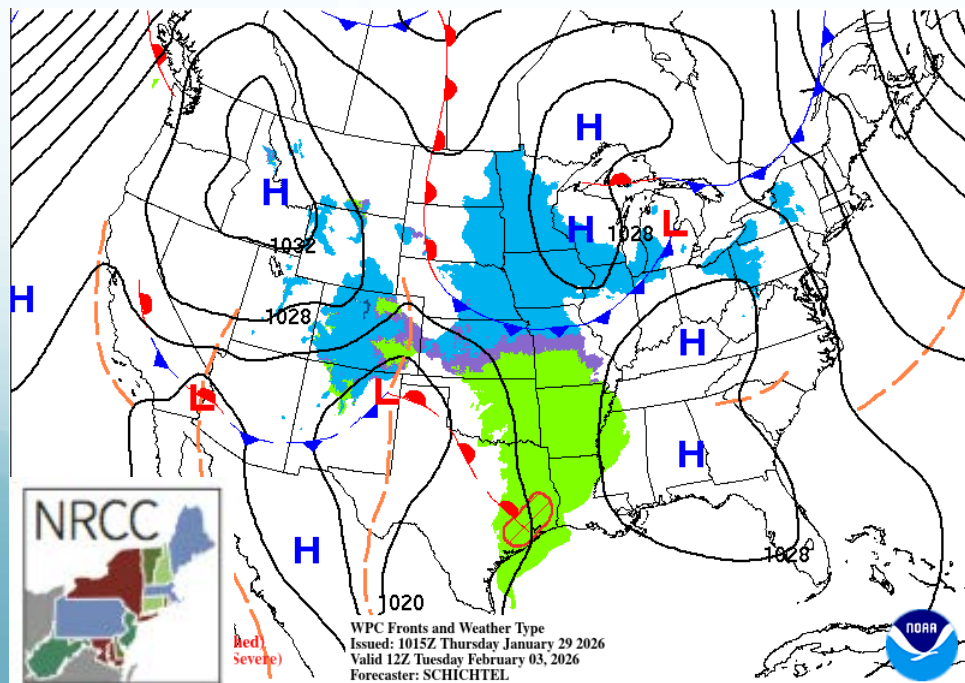
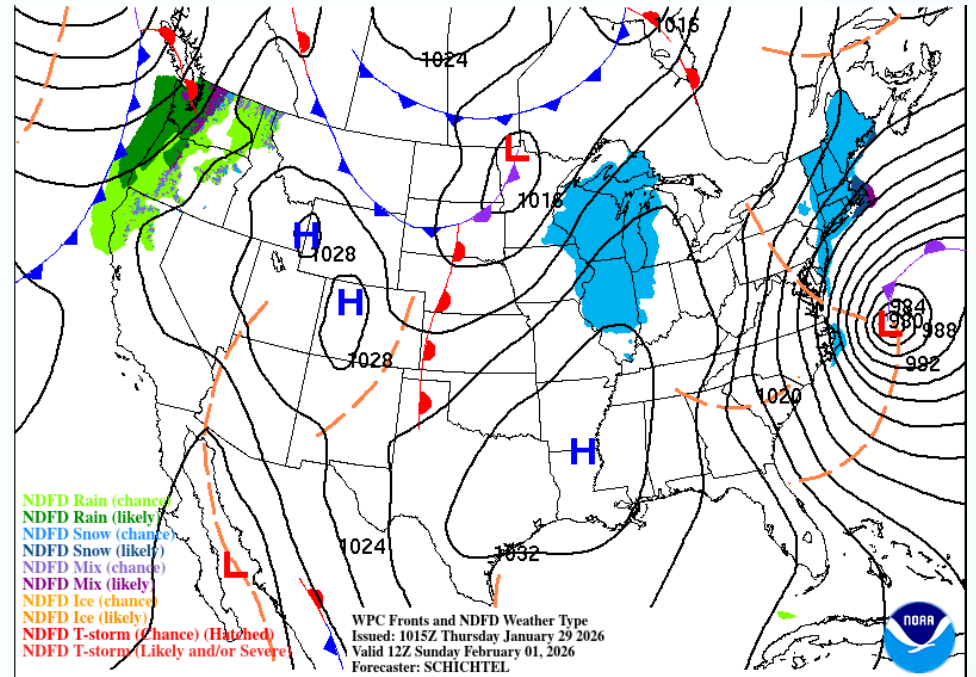
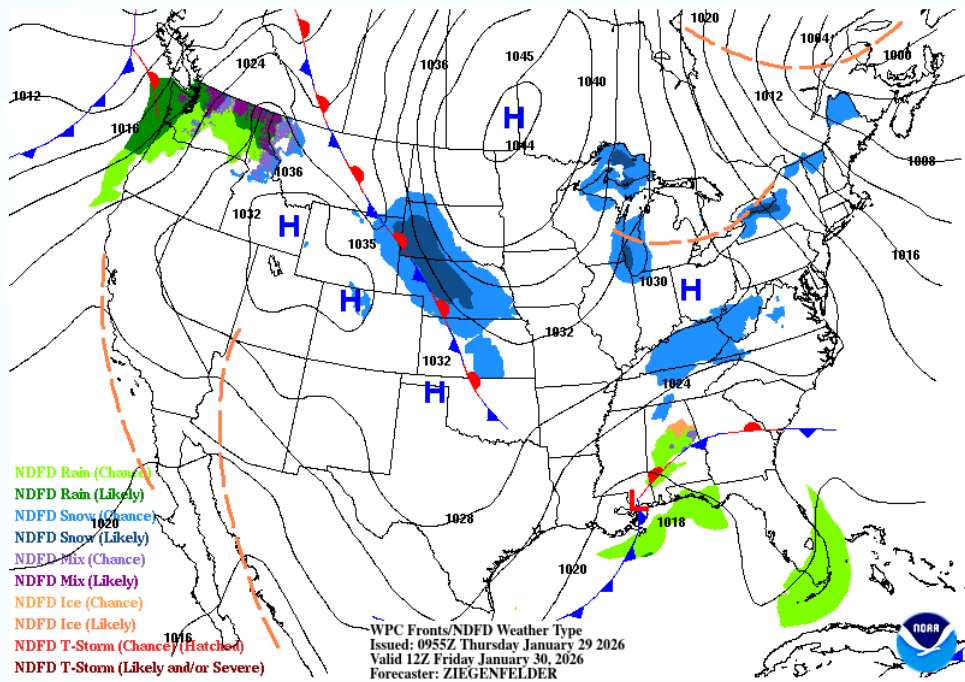


Precipitation Forecast



“Normal” precipitation for this period is about 0.40” to 0.80”

Forecast Maps



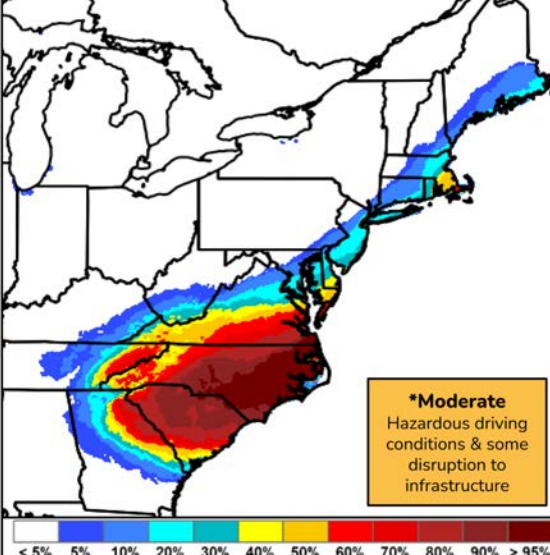
Forecast Information

Key Messages for Eastern U.S. Winter Storm Issued: Thu, Jan 29, 2026 3:55 AM EST

Impactful winter storm likely for the Southern Appalachians, Carolinas, and East Coast this weekend

- Heavy Snow**
Confidence continues to increase for significant heavy snow across much of the Southern Appalachians, Carolinas, and southern Mid-Atlantic Friday into Sunday. Confidence for snowfall impacts remain lower farther north, with the exception of southeast New England.
- Strong Winds and Coastal Impacts**
This rapidly deepening storm system will produce powerful onshore winds along the Mid Atlantic Coast from the North Carolina Outer Banks northward. Wind gusts near-hurricane force will coincide with astronomical high tides to produce moderate to locally significant coastal flooding. Near-blizzard conditions are expected across northeast North Carolina and Southeast Virginia, as sharply reduced visibilities due to the snow and blowing snow make travel extremely treacherous.
- Forecast Uncertainty**
This potent storm system could pose considerable disruptions to the Carolinas and southeastern Virginia. Impacts are less certain into the Northeast. Please see the latest forecast at www.weather.gov.

Chance of at least Moderate* Snowfall Impacts
Valid: Friday through Monday Morning



*Moderate
Hazardous driving conditions & some disruption to infrastructure

< 5% 5% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% > 95%

For more information go to: www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov and www.weather.gov

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

Weather Prediction Center
College Park, Maryland

NOAA's Climate Prediction Center

<https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/>

temperature and precipitation outlooks for multiple time frames from 6-10 days to three months; broad scale teleconnections like ENSO



NOAA's National Weather Service

<https://www.weather.gov/>

local forecasts for the next seven days

NOAA's Weather Prediction Center

<https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/>

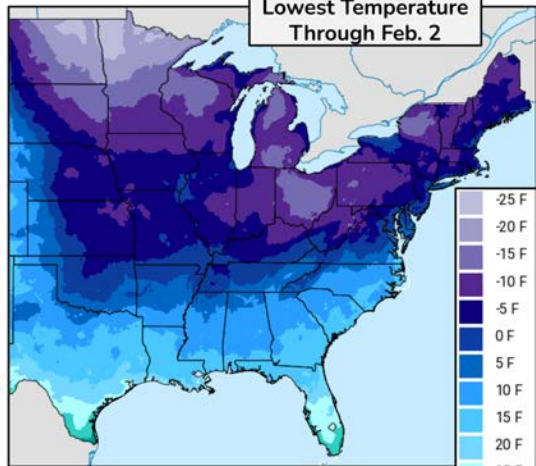
weather patterns and hazards for the next seven days

Key Messages for Prolonged Extreme Cold Issued: Tue, Jan 27, 2026 3:35 PM EST

Dangerously cold temperatures persist across the eastern U.S. into early February

- Continued Cold Through Midweek**
Much below normal temperatures persist over the Midwest through the Northeast through Thursday with wind chills of -15°F to -20°F again tonight over parts of Indiana and Ohio. Meanwhile slight warming over the Mid-South and Southeast provides some daytime respite, particularly in the parts of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee where power outages continue after the historic weekend ice storm.
- Next Arctic Surge Begins Friday**
The next blast of Arctic air surges south down the Plains, across the Great Lakes and through the Southeast and East Friday through Saturday. Daily record lows are expected by Friday over the Ohio Valley and Mid-Atlantic, expanding over the Southeast Saturday, then focusing across Florida for Sunday through Monday. Florida and Gulf Coast agricultural interests should prepare for hard freezes.
- Cold Weather Safety**
This could be longest duration of cold in several decades. Cover up if you are outside, ensure pets and animals have protection from the cold, and continue to mitigate against frozen pipes.

Lowest Temperature Through Feb. 2



-25 F
-20 F
-15 F
-10 F
-5 F
0 F
5 F
10 F
15 F
20 F
25 F
30 F
35 F

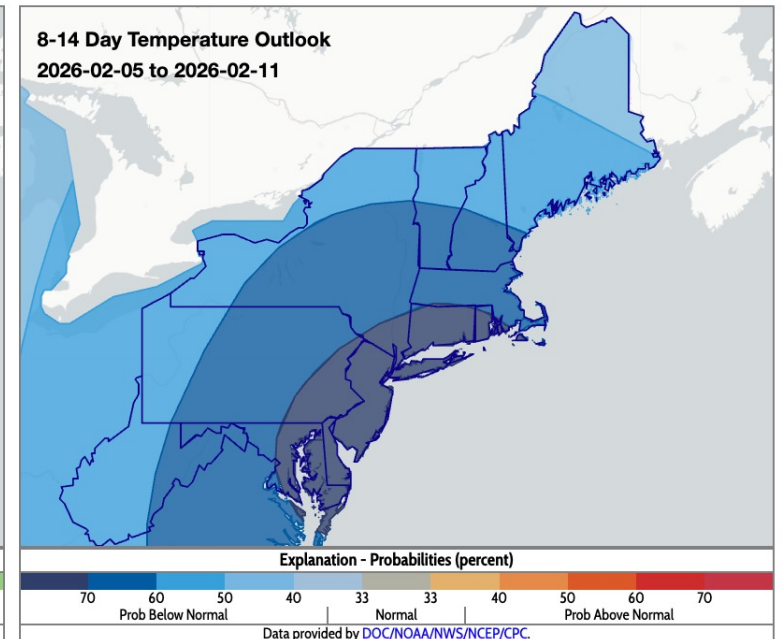
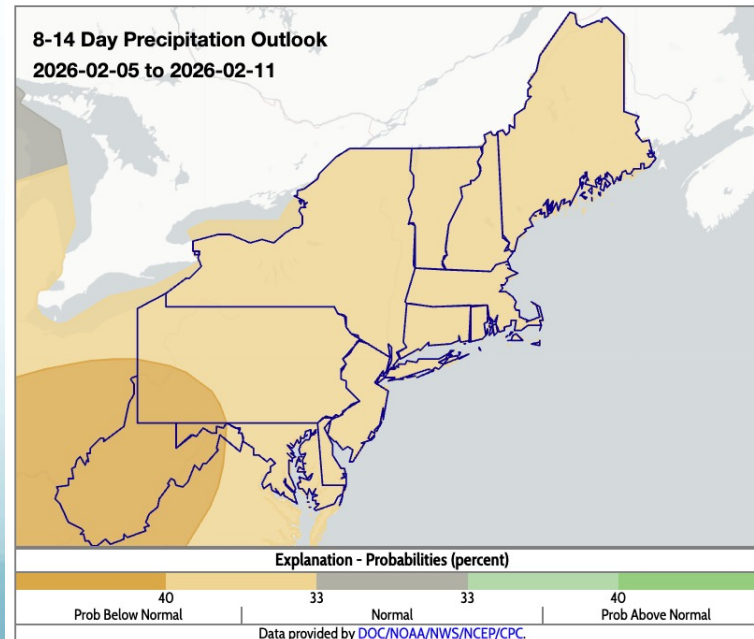
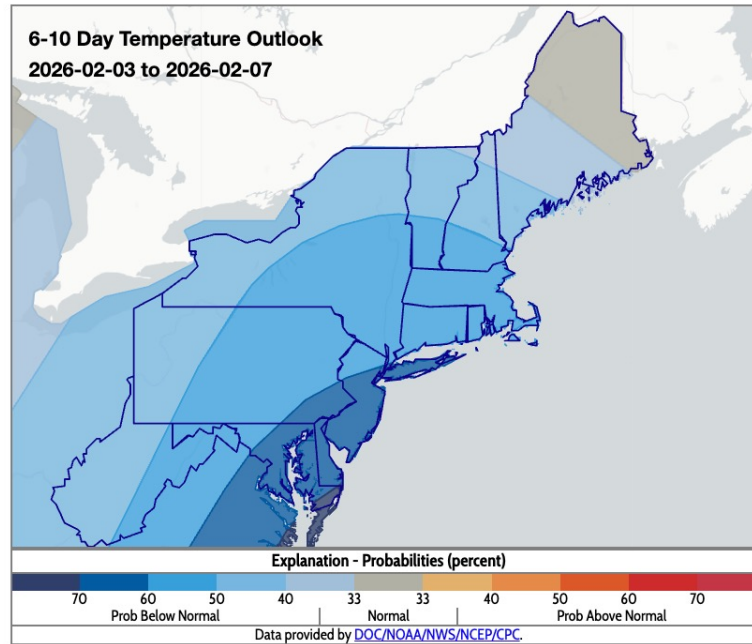
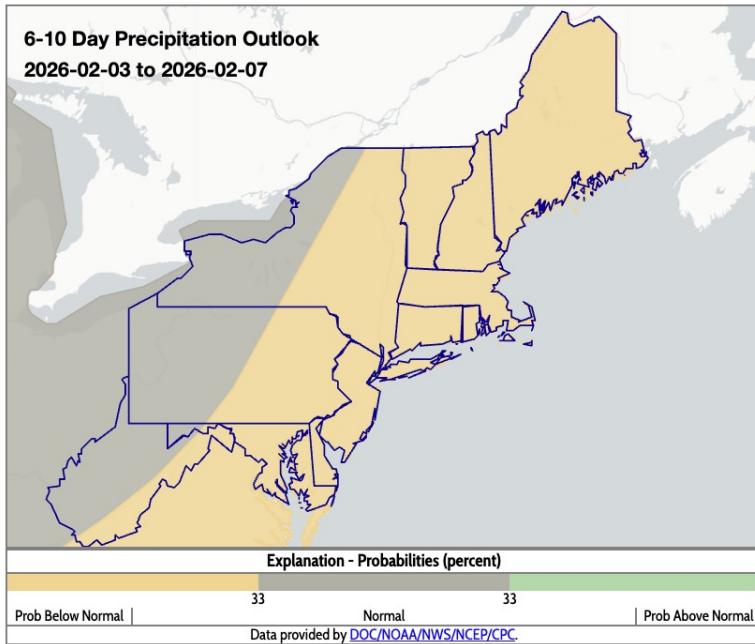
Cold weather safety information:
<https://www.weather.gov/safety/cold>

For more information go to: www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov, www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov, and www.weather.gov

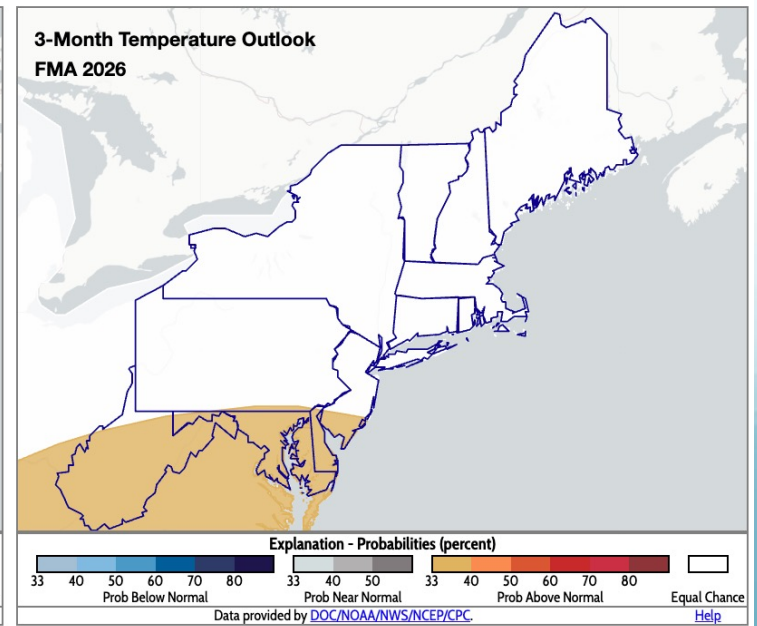
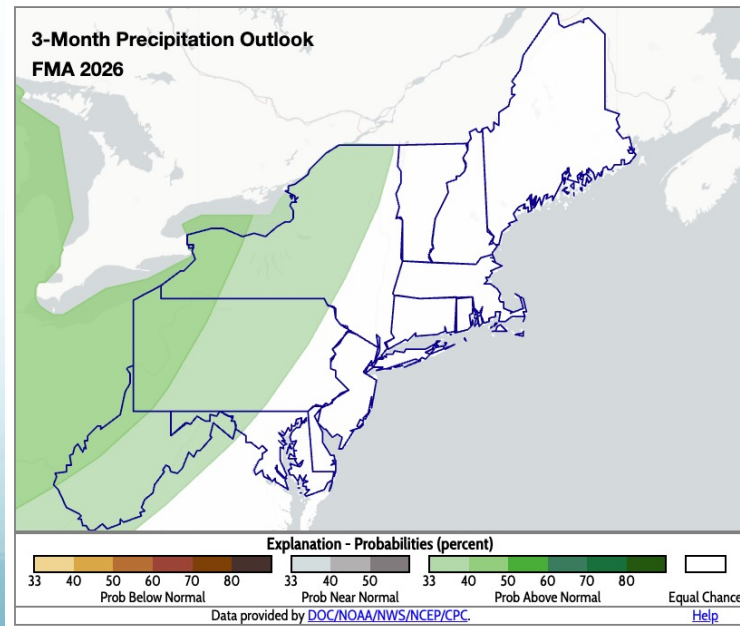
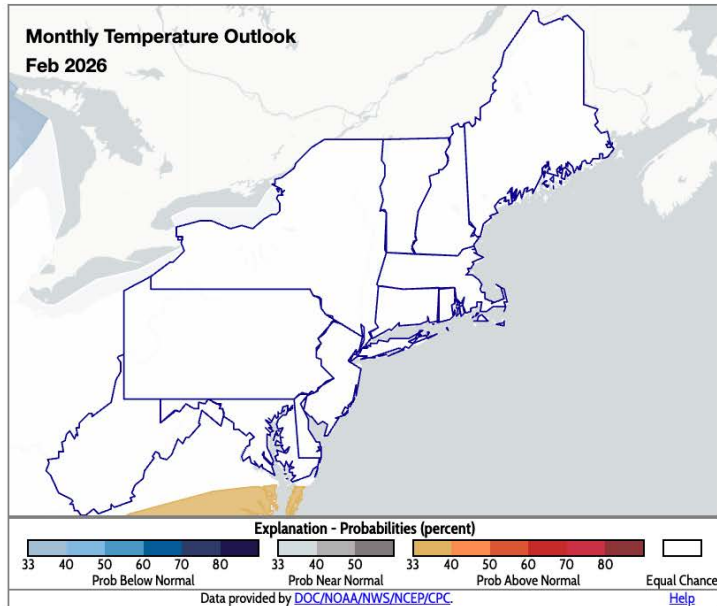
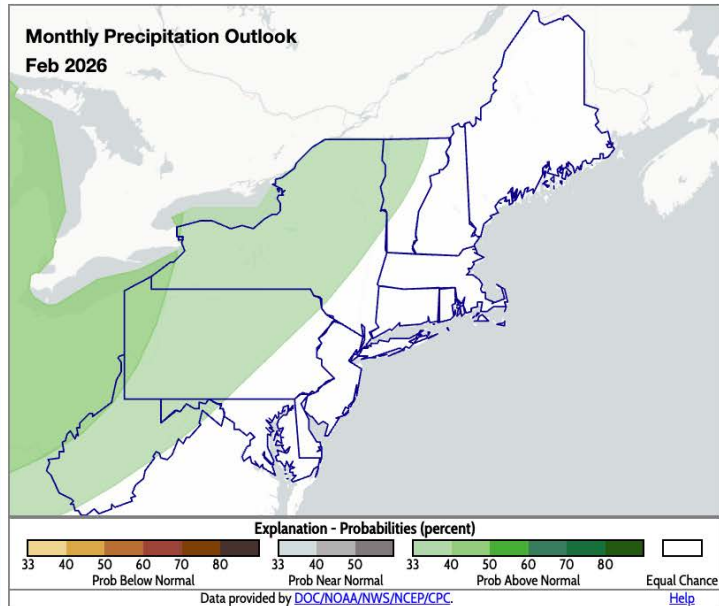
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

Weather Prediction Center
College Park, Maryland

Short-term Outlooks



Monthly & 3-Month Outlooks



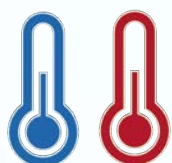
Key Points for January



Mostly **above-normal snowfall** – multiple sites had one of their **10 snowiest January days**



Precipitation was **below or near normal** for many areas



Temperatures were generally **within 2°F of normal**



Little change in drought conditions – **Possible improvement** with snowmelt



Coastal storm possible this weekend – **Cold temperatures** persist



Colder and drier than normal weather favored short term – Longer term favors **wet weather** for interior areas



Contact Information

- nrcc@cornell.edu

Upcoming Webinars

- Thursday, February 26 at 9:30am EST
 - Hourly ACIS Products
- Thursday, March 26 at 9:30am EDT
 - Spring Flooding Outlook - Tentative
- Thursday, April 30 at 9:30am EDT
 - Forest Climate Indicators Tool



www.nrcc.cornell.edu