

# RIVER AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

Prepared for the Pittsburgh Waterways Association Meeting 02/20/2019  
National Weather Service Forecast Office, Pittsburgh PA

For the latest river and weather forecasts--<http://www.weather.gov/pittsburgh>

## WEATHER RECAP

Despite the rather warm start, a string of 10 days with seasonably cold temperatures lend to a near-normal month of January. Precipitation was also only slightly above normal for the month, with the bulk of the measurable precipitation falling during the middle of the month. That being said, low pressure system from the 19-20<sup>th</sup> brought a wintry mix and 1.50 inches of rain across portions of the upper Ohio Valley, leading to rises on the Area Rivers and some flooding in Ohio. Two additional rain events through mid-February resulted in rises on all major rivers and some minor ice jam flooding on the Allegheny.

## OUTLOOK

**This week:** Wednesday storm system will bring up to 2 inches of rain to the Monongahela, Cheat, and Youghiogheny river basins after changing over from snow/mix. River rises are expected. High pressure will keep the region dry Thursday and Friday before yet another system approaches for the weekend. Temperatures will approach 60 on Sunday. Precipitation totals 2.00-4.00 inches.

**Outlook for week of Feb 25:** Active period continues with seasonable temperatures for the week through March 1<sup>st</sup>. Precipitation between 0.50-1.25 inches.

**Outlook for week of Mar 04:** Cold returns for the start of the month with below average values expected. Precipitation values close to normal. Precipitation approx. 1.00 or less.

**Outlook for March:** Despite the cold start to March, temperatures will trend back to normal values by the end of the second week. No real strong signals for a wet Spring.

**Outlook for April:** Near normal temperatures and precipitation.

**Spring Outlook:** No real strong signals for a wetter than normal Spring. Temperature averaging near normal.

## HIGH WATER AND RIVER ICE POTENTIAL

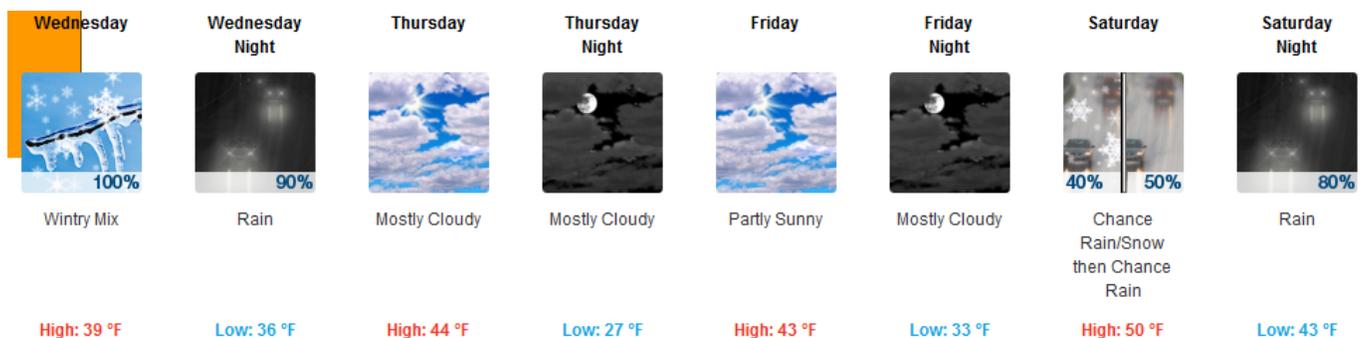
Streamflows are running around 200% of normal due to several rainfall events through the end of January and beginning of February. As a result, 1.00 inch of rainfall in 6-12 hours may cause streams and rivers to reach bank full. Unfortunately rainfall projections are likely to keep river levels near or above action levels through the beginning of next week. River Ice Season is likely over.

<i>Location</i>	<i>January 2019 Precipitation</i>	<i>Departure (Inches)</i>
<i>Pittsburgh</i>	3.06	+0.36

<i>Location</i>	<i>Jan Average Temperature</i>	<i>Departure Degrees</i>	<i>Extreme High</i>	<i>Extreme Low</i>
<i>Pittsburgh</i>	27.5	-0.9	61 on Jan 1	-5 on Jan 30

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Average monthly precipitation	2.7	2.39	2.95	3.11	3.95	4.3	3.83	3.48	3.11	2.29	3.23	2.85	38.19
Average High Temperature	35.7	39.3	49.2	61.7	70.8	79.1	82.5	81.4	74.3	62.6	51.2	39.4	60.7
Average Low Temperature	21.1	23	30	40.2	49.3	58.4	62.8	61.5	54	42.9	34.7	25.3	42
Average monthly snowfall	11.8	10.3	7.6	1.5	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	2	8.3	41.9

## Pittsburgh Forecast:



**8-14 Day Outlook...** Temperatures will run below normal with precipitation close to or slightly above normal.

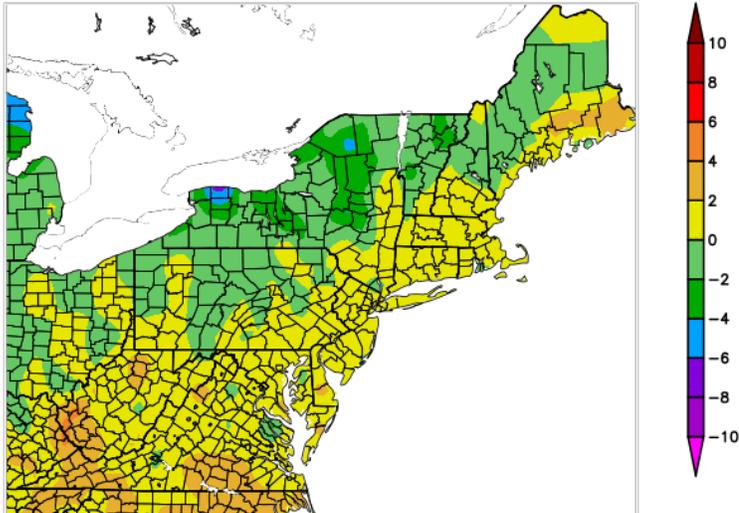
**Apr-May-Jun Outlook...**Above average temperatures and precipitation near normal.  
**Jun-Jul-Aug Outlook...**Temperatures slightly above normal and above normal precipitation.

**Average Yearly precipitation Pittsburgh:** 38.19 inches **In 2019: 6.06" (+1.83)**

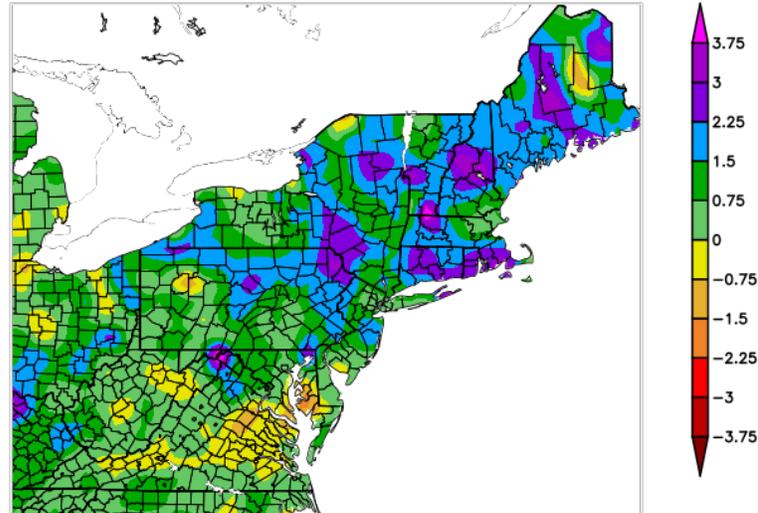
Totals for: **2018: 57.83" (+19.64)**; 2017: 42.15"; 2016: 35.01"; 2015: 40.56"; 2014: 36.84"; 2013: 36.65"; 2012: 41.74"

**Average Yearly snowfall Pittsburgh:** 41.9 inches. **2018-19: 24.7" (-4.4)**; 2017-18: 59.8" (+17.9); 2016-17: 32.0" (-9.2),  
 2015-16: 29.6" (-12.3) 2014-15: 47.2"; 2013-14: 63.4"; 2012-13: 57"; 2011-12: 37"; 2010-11: 57"; 2009-10: 77"

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
 1/1/2019 - 1/31/2019



Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)  
 1/1/2019 - 1/31/2019

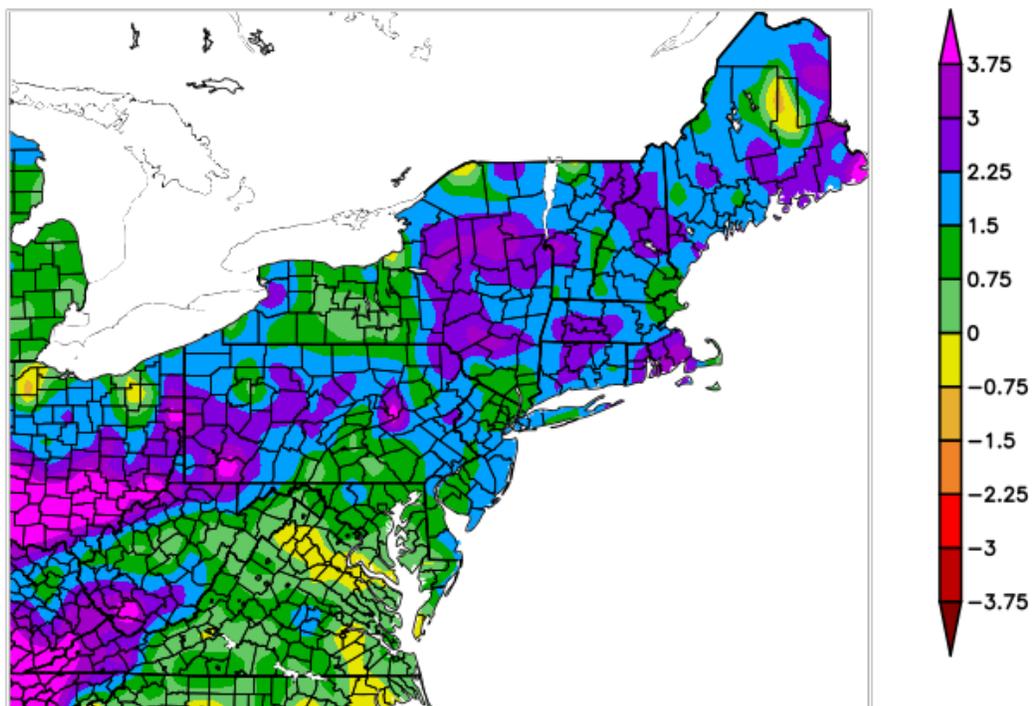


Generated 2/10/2019 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers 2/10/2019 at HPRCC using provisional data.

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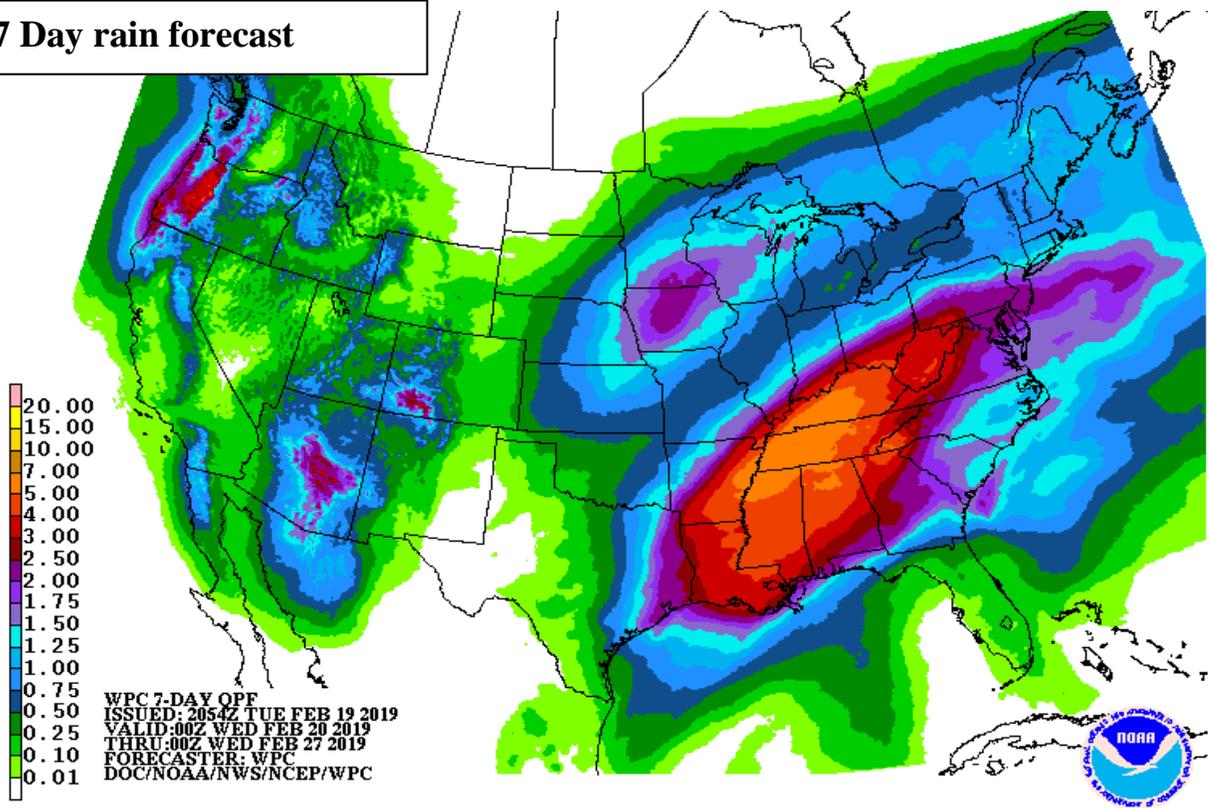
Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)  
 1/20/2019 - 2/18/2019



Generated 2/19/2019 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

# 7 Day rain forecast



## El Nino Advisory now in effect through Spring

Generally results in a near normal Spring. Precipitation near normal. ~10.00 inches.

