

RIVER AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

Prepared for the Pittsburgh Waterways Association Meeting 01/08/2020

National Weather Service Forecast Office, Pittsburgh PA

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

WEATHER RECAP

December was a rollercoaster of a month, which ultimately ended warmer than average. The bulk of the precipitation fell as rain, however, there were three days of over a half inch of measurable rainfall, and more reported in eastern Ohio and northern West Virginia. Two of these events resulted in rises to Action stage, with Flood stages reported at Charleroi and Elizabeth on the 18th.

The total precipitation for Pittsburgh in 2019 was 52.46 inches. This made 2019 the third wettest year on record, just coming off of breaking the record in 2018.

<i>Location</i>	<i>December 2019 Precipitation</i>	<i>Departure (Inches)</i>
Pittsburgh	3.52	+0.67

<i>Location</i>	<i>Dec Average Temperature</i>	<i>Departure Degrees</i>	<i>Extreme High</i>	<i>Extreme Low</i>
Pittsburgh	35.4	+3.0	62 on Dec 26	9 on Dec 19

Pittsburgh Forecast:

Today	Tonight	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday
								
Snow Showers Likely	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy then Chance Rain	Rain Likely	Rain Likely	Showers	Showers	Partly Sunny
High: 34 °F	Low: 19 °F	High: 44 °F	Low: 36 °F	High: 55 °F	Low: 49 °F	High: 66 °F	Low: 43 °F	High: 50 °F

OUTLOOK

Rest of the week: Snow showers will taper off today, with a quick warmup in advance of the next low pressure system, expected for passage on Friday. A series of systems will bring rain to the region through the weekend, though there may be a mix at onset up along Lake Erie. Rainfall amounts are projected to be in the 0.75-2.00 inch range across the region.

Week of Jan 13th: Active and “warm” period persists. Another system for late week.

Week of Jan 20th: Remaining above normal for temperature and wetter than normal.

Week of Jan 27th: Turning colder with near or slightly above normal precipitation.

Outlook for February: Models still hinting for a return of winter for February.

Feb-Mar-Apr Outlook: Temperatures near to slightly below normal and above average precipitation.

Apr-May-Jun Outlook: Temperatures slightly above average and above average precipitation.

HIGH WATER POTENTIAL

Streamflows are running at or above normal in Monongahela, Allegheny, and upper Ohio rivers. This, and the fact that we are now in “dormancy”, means it will take less rainfall to reach bank full (~1.50-2.00”). High flows are anticipated given forecasted systems through the weekend.

	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

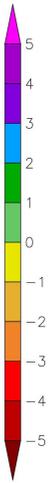
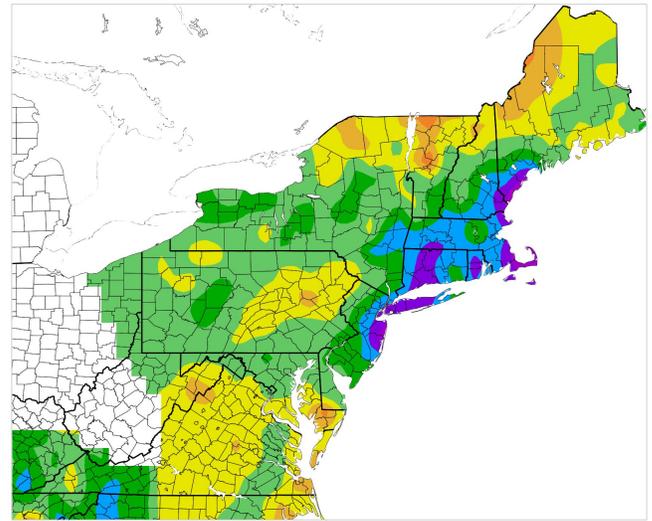
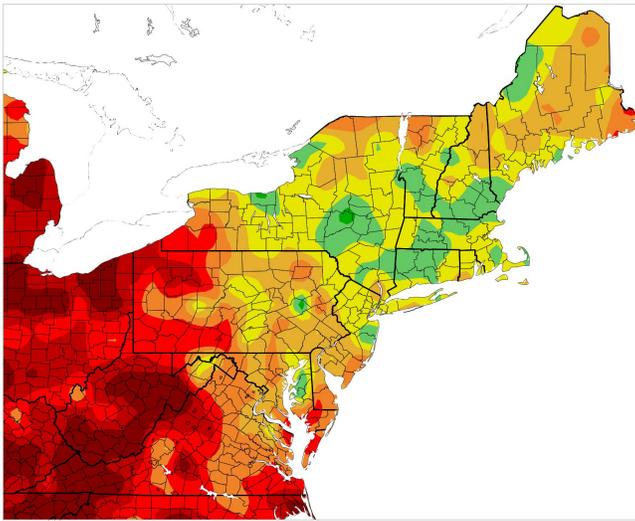
Average Yearly precipitation Pittsburgh: 38.19 inches. In 2020: 1.31 (+0.87)

Totals for: **2019: 52.46” (+14.27)**; 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. **2019-20:** 7.6" (-4.7); 2018-19: 36.6" (-5.3); 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)
12/1/2019 – 12/31/2019

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
12/1/2019 – 12/31/2019



Generated 1/6/2020 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers 1/6/2020 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

7 Day rain forecast

