

RIVER AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

Prepared for the Pittsburgh Waterways Association Meeting 09/09/2020

National Weather Service Forecast Office, Pittsburgh PA

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

WEATHER RECAP

After three dry months, rain at the end of August lead to an above average month. However, southwest PA still only saw about 50-80% of the precipitation that it normally does during the months of June, July, and August. Temperatures were also slightly warmer than average for the month of August and for meteorological summer. Stream flows remain near normal on the navigable rivers, but below average on the Youghiogheny, Clarion, and other smaller tributaries.

Location	Aug 2020 Precipitation	Departure (Inches)
Pittsburgh	5.57	+2.09

Location	Aug Average Temperature	Departure Degrees	Extreme High	Extreme Low
Pittsburgh	73.2	+1.7	93 on Aug 25	52 on Aug 20

Pittsburgh Forecast:

Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday
Hot	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Sunny
High: 90 °F	Low: 66 °F	High: 88 °F	Low: 61 °F	High: 81 °F	Low: 61 °F	High: 82 °F

OUTLOOK

This week: Ridge of high pressure will keep conditions mainly dry through the end of the week. Temperatures will be well above normal Wed and Thurs, moderating closer to normal for the rest of the week. Cold front will approach late Sat/Sun. Precipitation less than 0.75 inches.

Week of Sept 14th: Cooler temperatures expected behind the cold front Sunday, though dry conditions persist with high pressure returning.

Week of Sept 21st: Warm conditions return with dry weather persisting.

First week of October: Temperatures will be near or slightly above normal with near normal precipitation.

Outlook for October: Near or slightly above average temperature and near normal precipitation. Could be modified by tropical remnants – if active period persists.

Outlook for November: At this time, pattern does not look strong for a warm or wet November.

Dec, Jan, Feb – La Nina Watch from the CPC (60% chance of La Nina with 55% chance of it lasting through the winter). Cold air displaced to the west – warm over the eastern US. Less Snow. Note: we were in a La Nina Pattern in the winter of 2017-2018, which had our wettest Feb on record.

Hurricane Outlook Update Below

HIGH WATER POTENTIAL

Streamflows are running near to below normal across the region. While the moderate drought conditions across SW PA have improved, we are still running on a precipitation deficit for the last 4 months. We would need 3.00-4.00 inches in 12 hours to get streams near bank full.

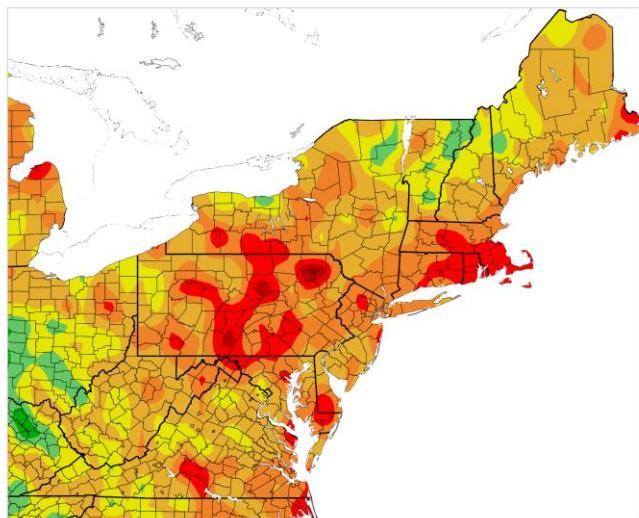
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Average monthly precipitation	2.7	2.39	2.95	3.11	3.95	4.3	3.83	3.48	3.11	2.29	3.23	2.85	38.19
Average High Temperature	35.7	39.3	49.2	61.7	70.8	79.1	82.5	81.4	74.3	62.6	51.2	39.4	60.7
Average Low Temperature	21.1	23	30	40.2	49.3	58.4	62.8	61.5	54	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: 30.15 (+2.68)

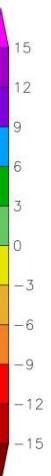
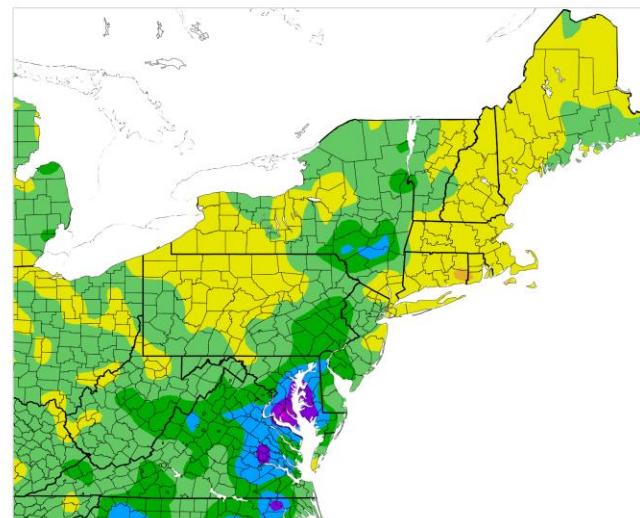
Totals for: 2019: 52.46" (+14.27); 2018: 57.83" (+19.64); 2017: 42.15"; 2016: 35.01"; 2015: 40.56"; 2014: 36.84"; 2013: 36.65"; 2012: 41.74"

Average Yearly snowfall Pittsburgh: 41.9 inches. 2019-20: 21.7" (-19.6); 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)
8/1/2020 – 8/31/2020



Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
8/1/2020 – 8/31/2020

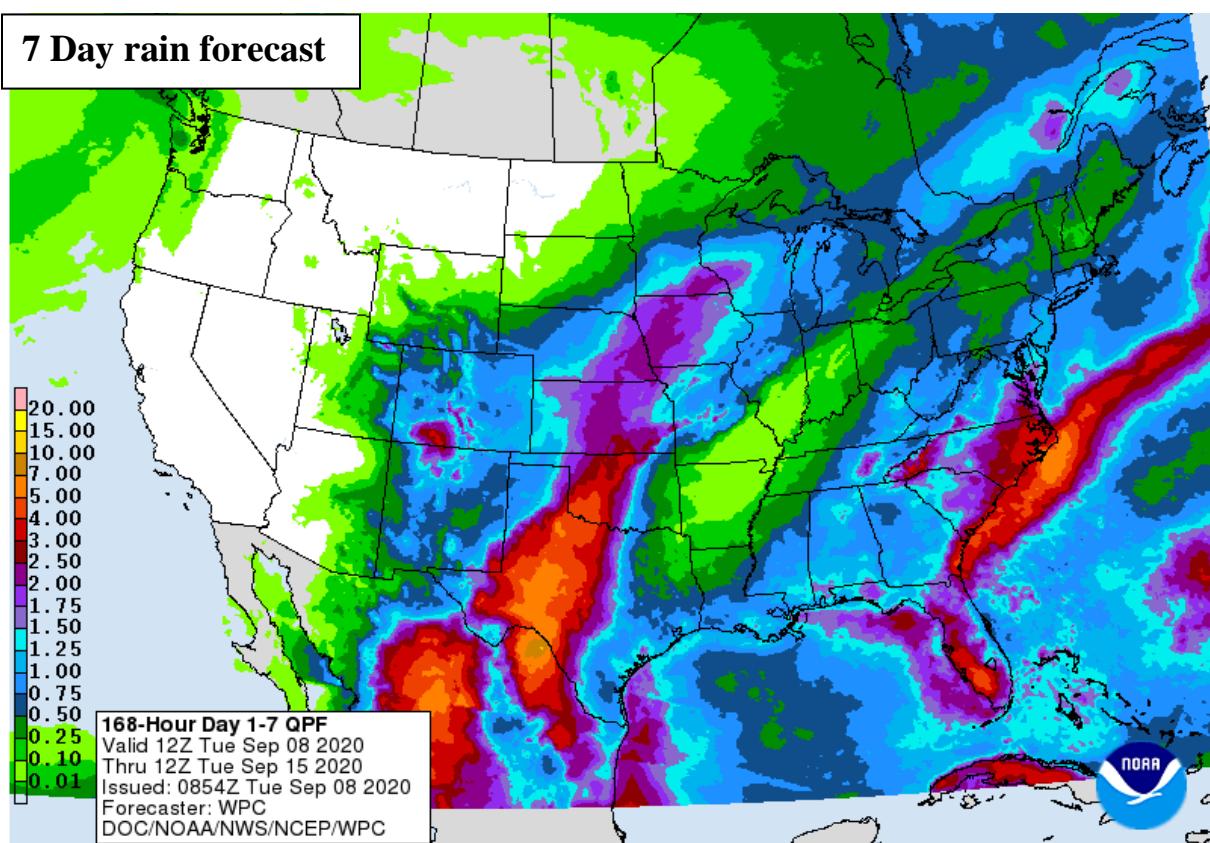


Generated 9/6/2020 at HPRCC using provisional data.

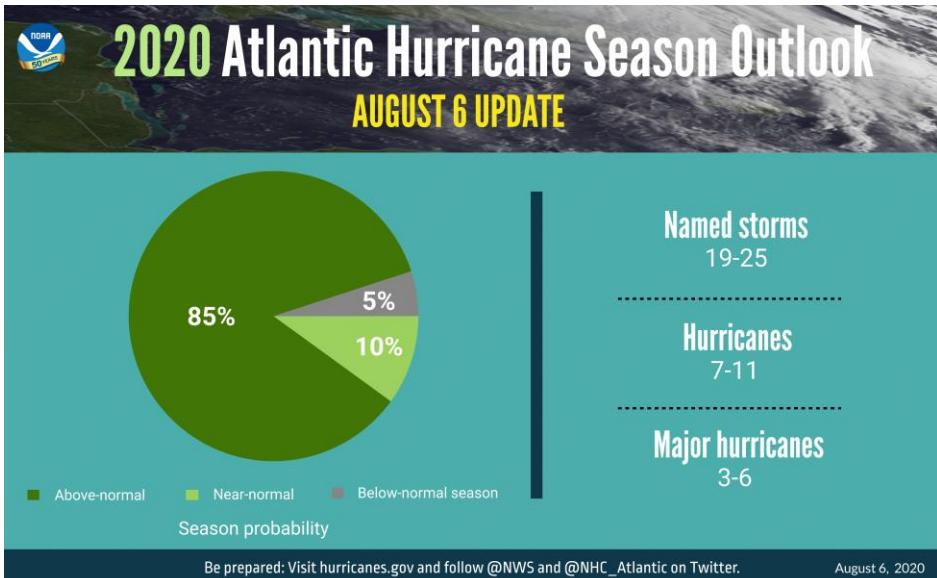
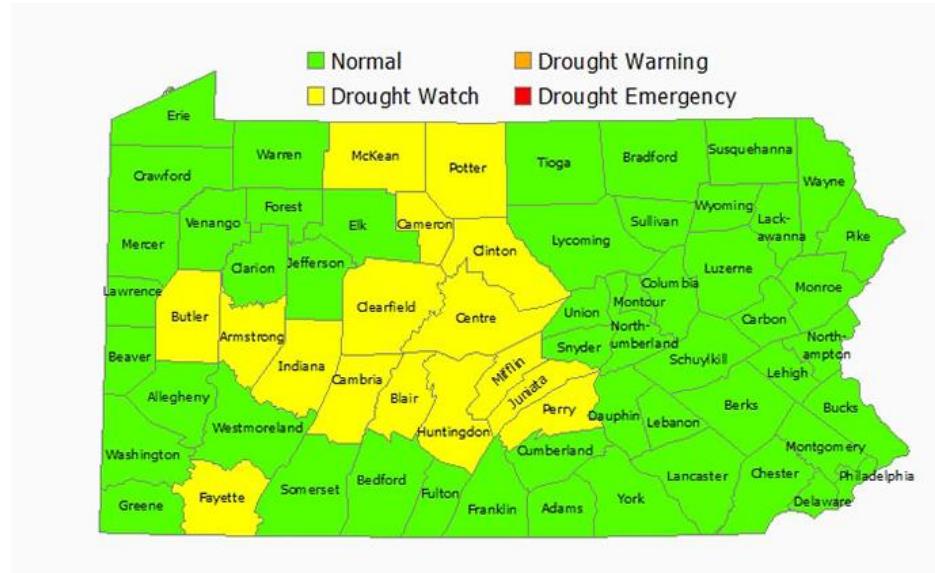
NOAA Regional Climate Centers 9/6/2020 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

7 Day rain forecast



Pennsylvania DEP Drought Declaration:



With nine named storms as of the first week of August, which is the most ever recorded since the satellite era began, the Hurricane Outlook has been updated to increase the amount of named storms and hurricanes. We generally average 12 named storms, 6 of which become hurricanes and 3 that become major hurricanes.

This continues to be as a result of warmer than average water temperature and weak trade winds and wind shear in the Atlantic basin.