

# Regional Drought and Water Supply Status

## June 2024 – End of Month Report

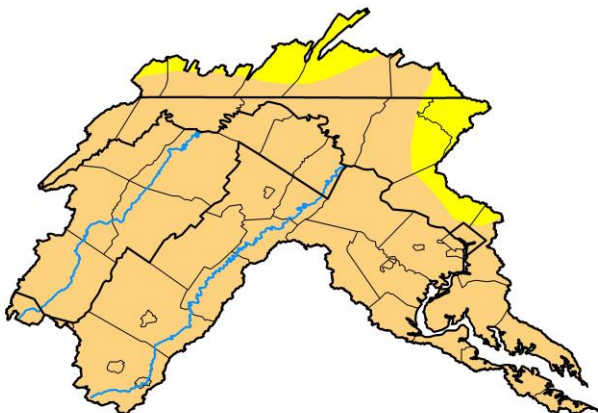
### Summary of Current Conditions in the COG Region – As of June 27, 2024

Due to the rapid onset of elevated temperatures and lack of precipitation, most of the COG region is experiencing a moderate drought (D1). Precipitation, groundwater, and streamflow levels have been dropping steadily over the past few weeks and the Potomac River streamflow at Point of Rocks is currently below the low-flow threshold of 2,000 cubic feet per second (cfs). When this occurs, the [Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin's CO-OP](#) begins daily monitoring and reporting of Potomac flows and drinking water withdrawals. Local reservoirs remain full and there is no current threat to the region's water supply. In addition, rainfall of close to one inch is forecasted over the next week.

The current drought stage as defined in COG's [Metropolitan Washington Water Supply and Drought Awareness Response Plan](#) is normal. The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality issued a [drought warning advisory on June 24](#) for their Northern Virginia region and the areas monitored in the COG region by [the Maryland Department of the Environment](#) are currently under a normal status. No voluntary or mandatory water restrictions are in place in the COG region.

COG will continue to closely monitor conditions and convene the Drought Coordination Technical Committee if needed. Please visit COG's Water Supply and Drought Website at [www.mwcog.org/drought](http://www.mwcog.org/drought) for additional information.

### U.S. Drought Monitor Potomac Watershed



**June 25, 2024**  
(Released Thursday, Jun. 27, 2024)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
<b>Current</b>	0.00	9.36	90.64	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 06-20-2024	8.76	75.84	15.40	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 03-28-2024	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-04-2024	29.14	40.05	18.78	12.03	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-28-2023	26.87	34.54	23.45	15.13	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 06-29-2023	0.13	55.30	38.37	6.20	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:**

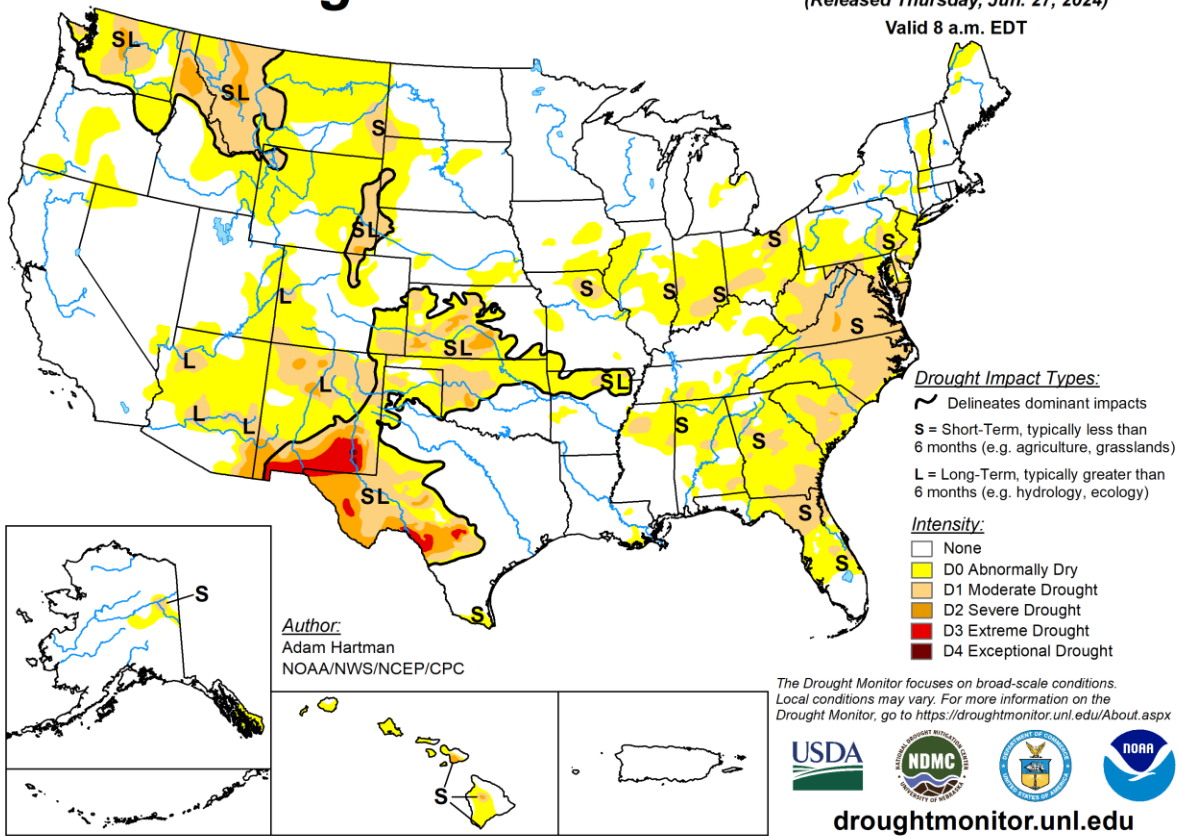
Adam Hartman  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



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

# U.S. Drought Monitor

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## Potomac Streamflow – Below median levels

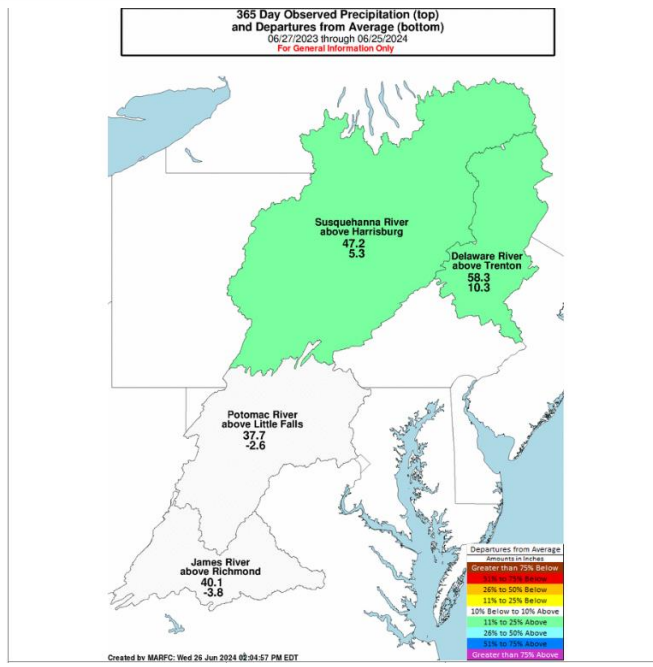
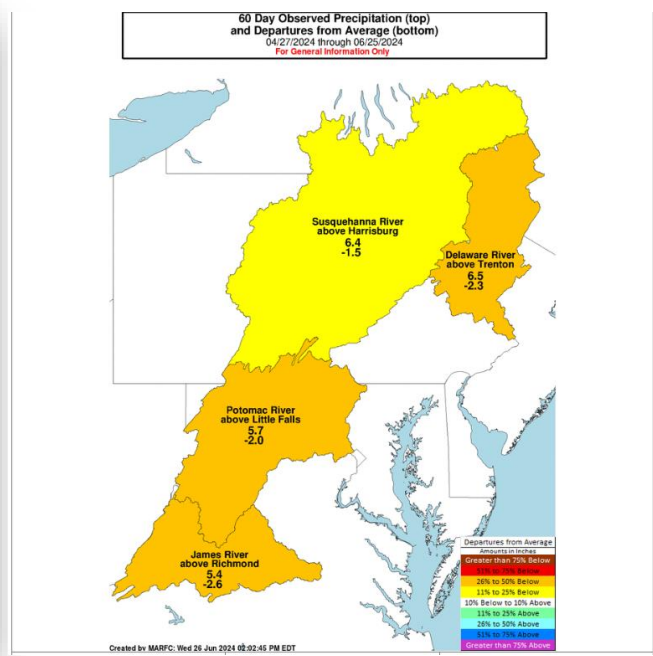
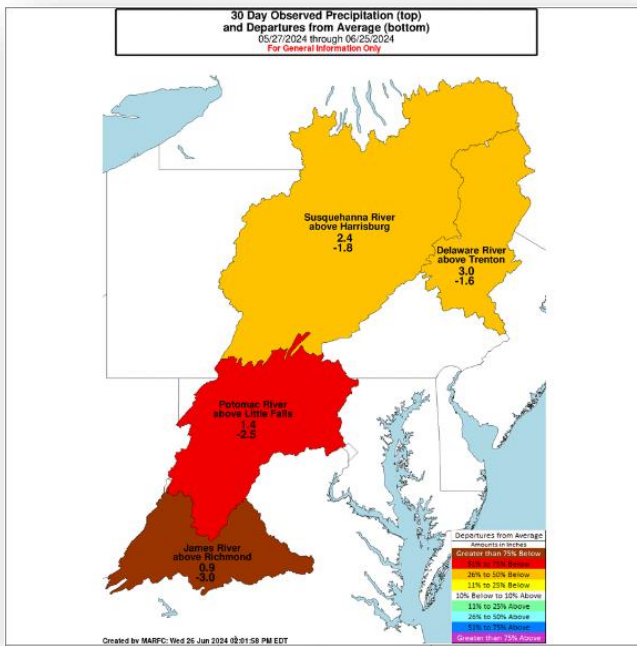
Instantaneous flows readings:

Little Falls: 1,900 cfs (median 4,990 cfs) Source: as of June 27 [USGS Little Falls](#)  
 Point of Rocks: 1,760 cfs (median 4,540 cfs) Source: as of June 27 [USGS Point of Rocks](#)

## 30, 90, and 365 Day Observed Precipitation Levels and Departures from Average

The Potomac Basin received:

30 Day 1.4 inches of precipitation, 2.5 inches above or below normal  
 90 Day 5.7 inches, 2.0 inches below normal  
 365 Day 37.7 inches, 2.6 inches below at normal  
 Source: [Middle Atlantic Regional Forecast Center](#)



### Groundwater Levels – Normal

In the COG region, groundwater levels are below normal.

Source: <https://dashboard.waterdata.usgs.gov/app/nwd/?region=lower48&aoi=default>  
<https://waterdata.usgs.gov/va/nwis/current/?type=gw>  
<https://waterdata.usgs.gov/md/nwis/current/?type=gw>

### Reservoir Levels - Normal

Drinking water reservoirs at Jennings Randolph and Little Seneca are currently near normal levels. Source: <http://www.nab-wc.usace.army.mil/nab/potopub.html>

### Probability of Reservoir Releases – Below Normal

**Please note that this information will change once the July report is released.**

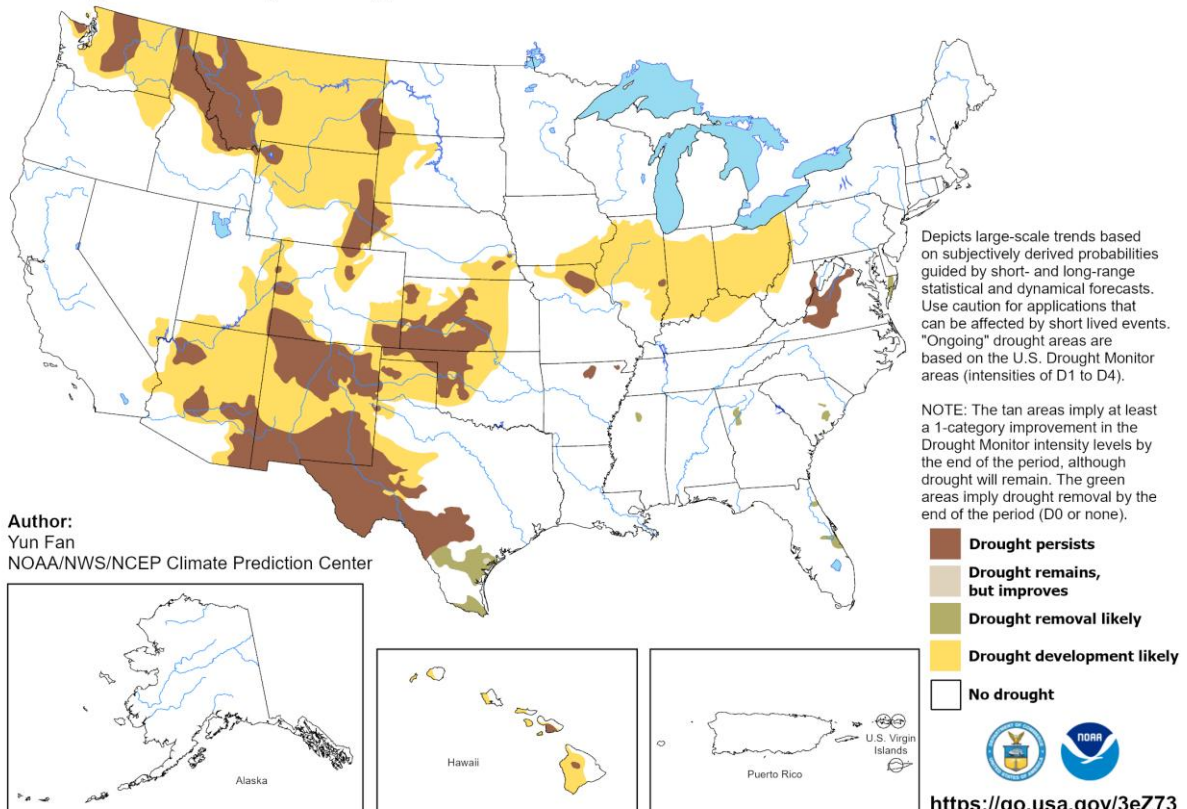
As of the June 2024 report, there is a below normal probability of releases from the Washington metropolitan area's back-up water supply reservoirs for the 2024 summer and fall seasons. Generally, the use of Jennings Randolph and Little Seneca reservoirs is triggered by low flows brought about by a combination of low precipitation and low groundwater levels. There is a **5 to 11** percent conditional probability that natural Potomac flow will drop below 600 to 700 million gallons per day (MGD) at Little Falls through December 31 of this year. Source: [ICPRB](#)

### Seasonal Drought Outlook – Persists in Northern Virginia

The U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook predicts no drought for portions of our region but could persist for the Northern Virginia area. Source: [National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center](#)

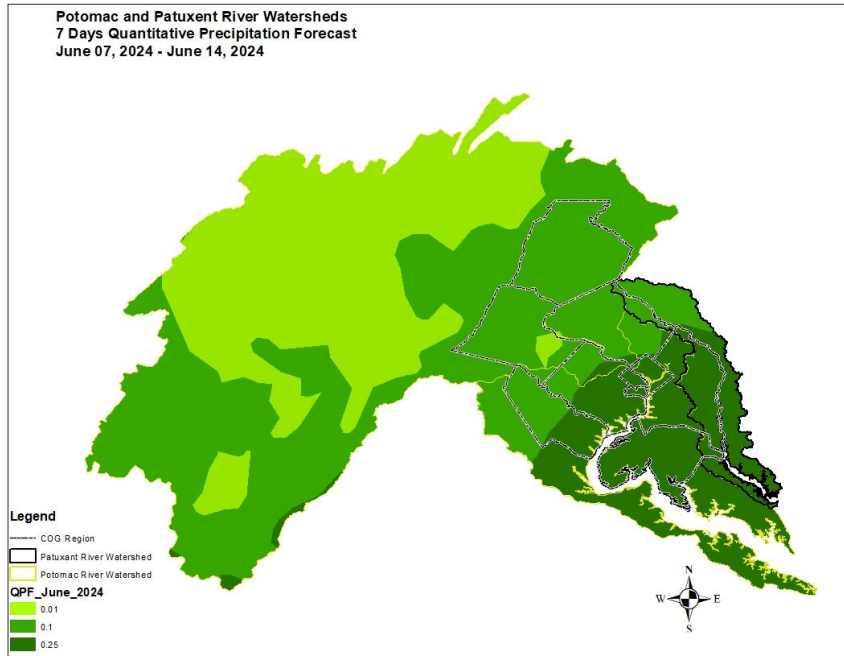
## U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for June 20 - September 30, 2024  
Released June 20, 2024



## Short Term Precipitation Outlook

The 7 Day quantitative precipitation forecast calls for roughly 0.25 inches of rain in the COG region.

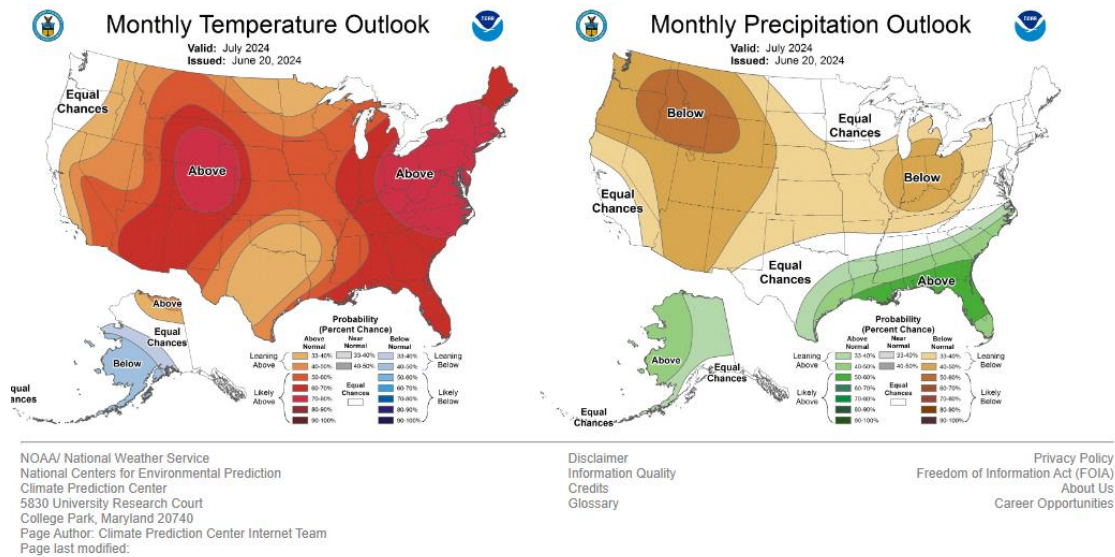


Source: [NOAA NWS Weather Prediction Center](#) and COG

## U.S. Climate Outlook for May – Normal Temperature and Precipitation

### OFFICIAL 30-Day Forecasts

Issued: June 20, 2024



For more details on how to interpret these maps [Understanding NOAA's monthly climate outlooks](#). Map by NOAA Climate.gov, based on data from the Climate Prediction Center.