

Connecticut Drought Conditions Report

Monthly Update for March 2025



Interagency Drought Workgroup
April 3, 2025
Regular Meeting

Stage 2 Drought Trigger Summary by Region – April 2, 2025

	Stage 2 Trigger	Fairfield	Hartford	Litchfield	Middlesex	New Haven	New London	Tolland	Windham	Date of Record
Precipitation (1)	Two-month total below 65% of normal (average)	90% of normal for two-month period	100% of normal for two-month period	90% of normal for two-month period	86% of normal for two-month period	103% of normal for two-month period	96% of normal for two-month period	97% of normal for two-month period	84% of normal for two-month period	3/31/2025
Groundwater (2)	Two out of three months below the 25th percentile	50% of stations meet trigger	70% of stations meet trigger	80% of stations meet trigger	50% of stations meet trigger	46.2% of stations meet trigger	40% of stations meet trigger	100% of stations meet trigger	83.3% of stations meet trigger	3/31/2025
Streamflow (3)	Two out of three months below the 25th percentile	81.8% of stations meet trigger	81.8% of stations meet trigger	50% of stations meet trigger	50% of stations meet trigger	60% of stations meet trigger	80% of stations meet trigger	100% of stations meet trigger	77.8% of stations meet trigger	3/31/2025
Reservoirs (4)	Average levels less than 80% of normal	87.86% of normal	97.17% of normal	102.6% of normal	99.33% of normal	96.33% of normal	97% of normal	100% of normal	100% of normal	3/28/2025
Palmer Drought Severity Index (5)	(-2.0 to -2.99)	out of season	out of season	out of season	out of season	out of season	out of season	out of season	out of season	-
Crop Moisture Index (6)	(-1.0 to -1.99)	out of season	out of season	out of season	out of season	out of season	out of season	out of season	out of season	-
VegDRI (seasonal) (7)	Pre-Drought Conditions	out of season	out of season	out of season	out of season	out of season	out of season	out of season	out of season	-
Fire Danger (8)	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	4/2/2025
U.S. Drought Monitor (9)	Intensity Level D1-D2	D0-D1	D1	D0-D1	D0-D1	D0-D1	D0-D1	D1	D0-D1	3/27/2025

Key:	Drought trigger met across majority of region	Drought trigger partially met	Drought trigger not met
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State Drought Trigger Summary – April 2, 2025

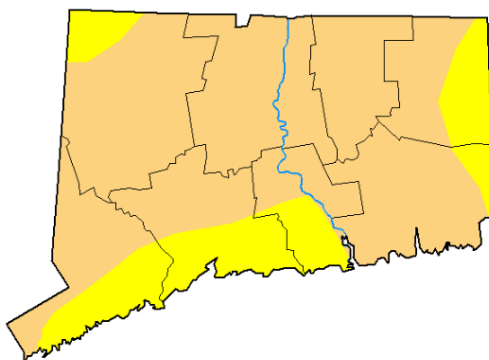
	Stage 2 Trigger	Stage 3 Trigger	Stage 4 Trigger	Stage 5 Trigger	Current Conditions
Precipitation (1)	Two-month total below 65% of normal (average)	Three-month total below 65% of normal (average)	Five-month total below 65% of normal (average)	Seven-month total below 65% of normal (average)	Stage 5 Trigger met in all counties except New Haven and New London. No other drought triggers have been met.
Groundwater (2)	Two out of three months below the 25th percentile	Four consecutive months below the 25th percentile	Six consecutive months below the 25th percentile	Eight consecutive months below the 25th percentile	Stage 2 Trigger met in Hartford, Litchfield, Tolland and Windham counties. Stage 2 Trigger partially met in Fairfield, Middlesex, New Haven and New London Counties. Stage 3 Trigger partially met in Fairfield, Litchfield, Middlesex and Tolland Counties
Streamflow (3)	Two out of three months below the 25th percentile	Four out of five months below the 25th percentile	Six out of seven months below the 25th percentile	Seven consecutive months below the 25th percentile	Stage 2 Trigger met in Fairfield, Hartford, New London, Tolland, and Windham Counties. Stage 2 Trigger partially met in Litchfield, Middlesex and New Haven counties. Stage 3 Trigger met in Tolland. Stage 3 Trigger partially met in all remaining counties
Reservoirs (4)	Average levels less than 80% of normal	Average levels less than 70% of normal	Average levels less than 60% of normal	Average levels less than 50% of normal or less than 50 days of supply	Reservoir levels are averaging between 87.86-102.6% across the state. The state average is 97.54%
Palmer Drought Severity Index (5)	(-2.0 to -2.99)	(-3.0 to -3.99)	(-4 or less)	(-4 or less)	out of season
Crop Moisture Index (6)	(-1.0 to -1.99)	(-2.0 to -2.99)	(-3 or less)	(-3 or less)	out of season
VegDRI (seasonal) (7)	Pre-Drought Conditions	Moderate Drought Conditions	Severe Drought Conditions	Extreme Drought Conditions	out of season
Fire Danger (8)	Moderate	High	Very High	Extreme	Moderate as of 4/2/25 - Fire Danger has oscillated between Low, Moderate and High throughout March.
U.S. Drought Monitor (9)	Intensity Level D1-D2	Intensity Level D2-D3	Intensity Level D3-D4	Intensity Level D4	Currently 78.14% of the state is classified as D1 (Moderate Drought) and the remaining 21.86% of the state is classified as D0 (Abnormally Dry)

Key:	Majority of the state meets drought trigger	Portion of the state meets drought trigger and/or regions partially meet drought trigger	Drought trigger not met

Methodology:
(1) Based on monthly precipitation averaged by region, calculated by National Weather Service (NWS).
(2) Based on monthly assessment of groundwater stations by region, calculated by United States Geological Survey (USGS). Region is identified as meeting trigger when $\geq 65\%$ of stations in the region meet the threshold. Region is identified as partially meeting trigger when $\geq 20\%$ of stations in the region meet the threshold.
(3) Based on monthly assessment of stream gauge stations by region, calculated by USGS. Region is identified as meeting trigger when $\geq 65\%$ of stations in the region meet the threshold. Region is identified as partially meeting trigger when $\geq 20\%$ of stations in the region meet the threshold.
(4) Based on latest available reservoir status reports obtained from public water suppliers and compiled by CT Department of Public Health Drinking Water Section.
5) Calculated by Climate Prediction Center (CPC) for each State Climate Division and extrapolated to county. Northwestern Climate Division reflective of Litchfield county, Central Climate Division reflective of Hartford, Tolland, Windham counties. Average of Central Climate Division and Coastal Climate Division for Fairfield, New Haven, Middlesex, New London counties.
6) Calculated by CPC for each State Climate Division and extrapolated to county. Northwestern Climate Division reflective of Litchfield county, Central Climate Division reflective of Hartford, Tolland, Windham counties. Average of Central Climate Division and Coastal Climate Division for Fairfield, New Haven, Middlesex, New London counties.
(7) Based on visual assessment of geographic extent of each VegDri drought designation in each region, calculated by the National Drought Mitigation Center in collaboration with USGS.
(8) Based on daily forest fire danger report from CT DEEP Bureau of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry.
(9) Based on analysis of most recent edition of the U.S. Drought Monitor, produced by the National Drought Mitigation Center

U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM): The state of Connecticut has had some drought classification via the USDM since September 24, 2024. The maps included are from the weeks of March 25th, March 11th and March 4th. Drought conditions have improved since the beginning of the month, removing D2 status from the central portion of the state. Currently, 78.14% of the state is classified as D1 (Moderate Drought), and 21.86% of the state is classified as D0 (Abnormally Dry)

U.S. Drought Monitor Connecticut



March 25, 2025
(Released Thursday, Mar. 27, 2025)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	78.14	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 03-18-2025	0.00	100.00	77.28	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 12-24-2024	0.00	100.00	99.24	46.41	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2025	0.00	100.00	94.83	10.14	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2024	36.34	63.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 03-26-2024	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate 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>

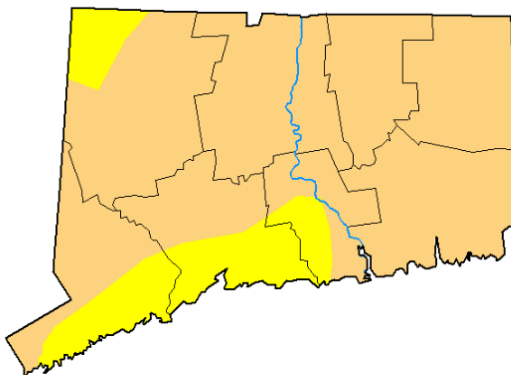
Author:

Brad Rippey
U.S. Department of Agriculture



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

U.S. Drought Monitor Connecticut



March 11, 2025
(Released Thursday, Mar. 13, 2025)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	83.43	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 03-04-2025	0.00	100.00	96.78	46.96	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 12-10-2024	0.00	100.00	100.00	95.27	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2025	0.00	100.00	94.83	10.14	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2024	36.34	63.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 03-12-2024	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate 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>

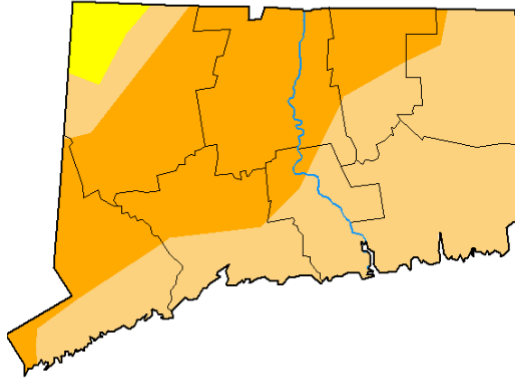
Author:

Richard Tinker
CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

U.S. Drought Monitor Connecticut



March 4, 2025
(Released Thursday, Mar. 6, 2025)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	96.78	46.96	0.00	0.00
Last Week 02-25-2025	0.00	100.00	96.78	46.96	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 12-03-2024	0.00	100.00	100.00	95.27	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2025	0.00	100.00	94.83	10.14	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2024	36.34	63.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 03-05-2024	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate 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:

Curtis Riganti
National Drought Mitigation Center



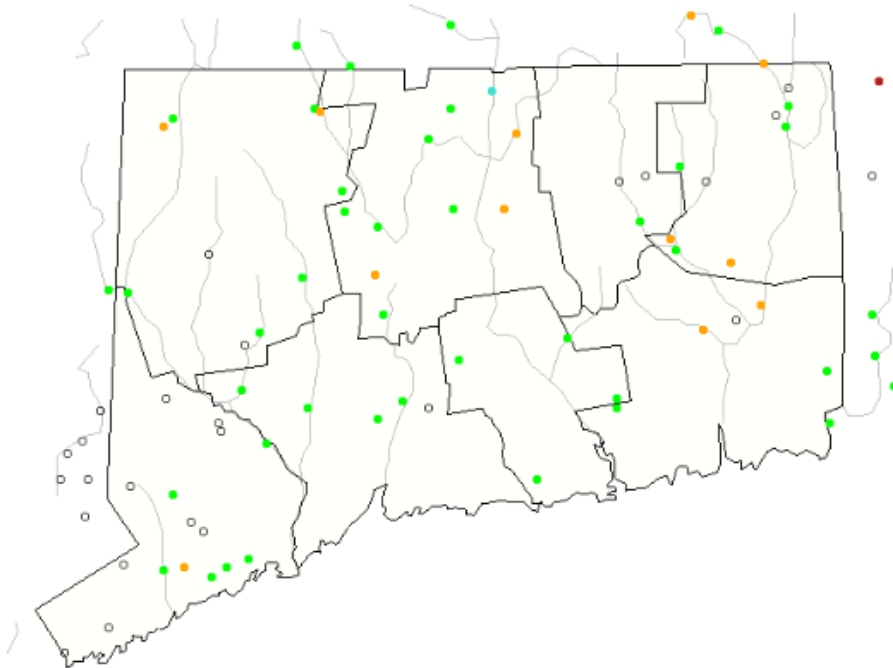
droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Streamflow Levels (via USGS): The map below conveys the 28-day average streamflow as of March 31st. The map below illustrates streamflow levels mostly at Normal and some Below normal levels for this time of year.

Map of 28-day average streamflow compared to historical streamflow for the day of the year (Connecticut)

Connecticut ▼ or Water-Resources Regions ▼

Monday, March 31, 2025



Search USGS streamgage 🔍

Choose a data retrieval option and select a location on the map

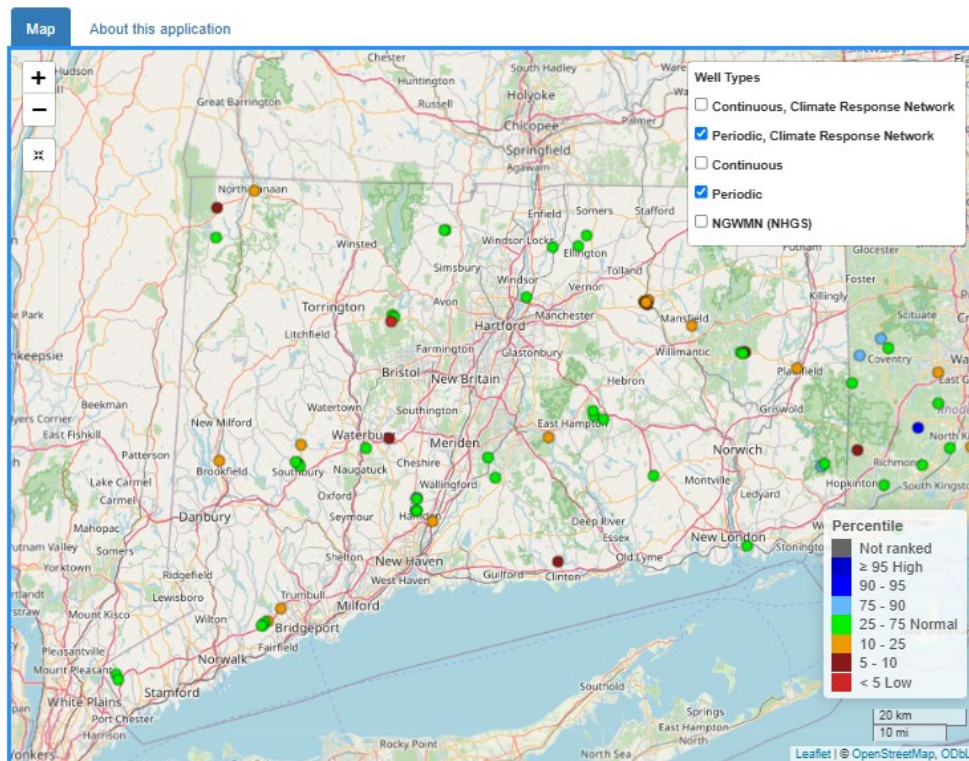
☐ List of all stations ☒ Single station ☐ Nearest stations

Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	Not-ranked
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

Groundwater Levels (via USGS): The following maps are from April 1st – the first map displays periodic monitored wells, while the second map displays continuously monitored wells. The first map shows many wells at normal (25-75%), some wells below normal (10-25%) and a few wells much below normal (5-10%) levels. The second map shows mostly normal (25-75%) wells.

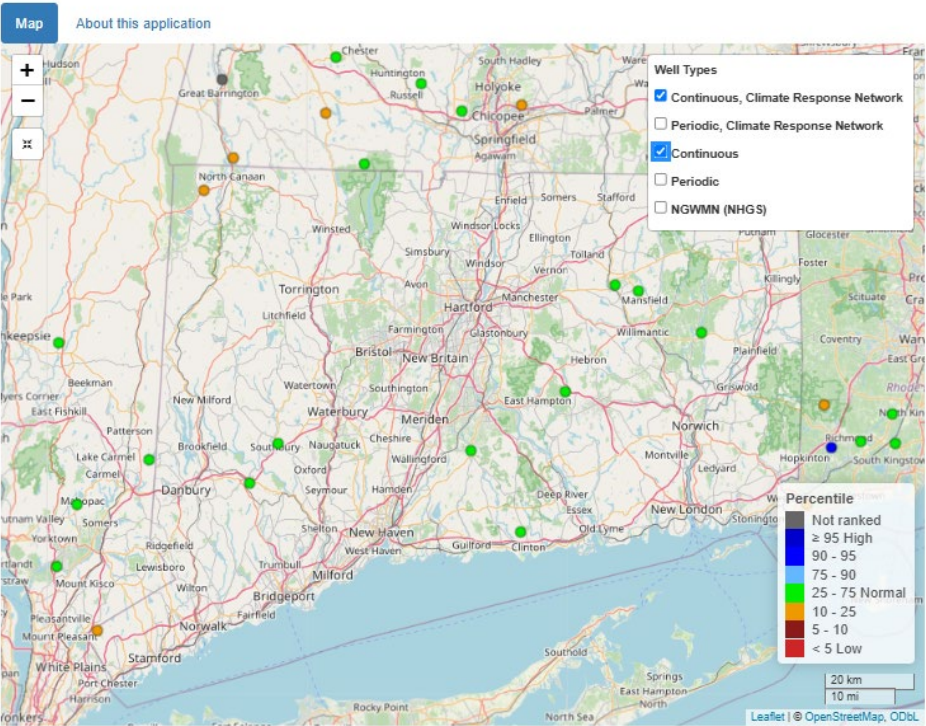
Groundwater Levels in New England

Recent conditions relative to historical monthly statistics



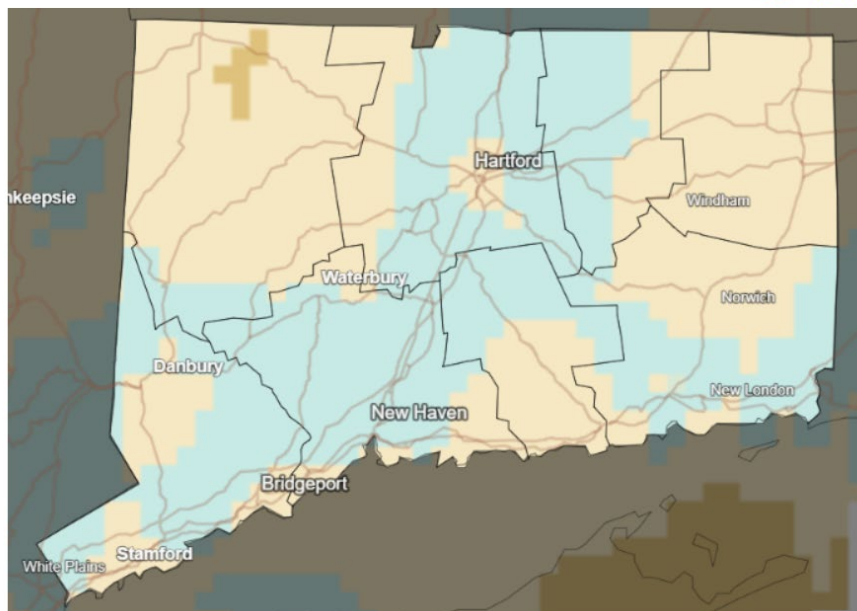
Groundwater Levels in New England

Recent conditions relative to historical monthly statistics

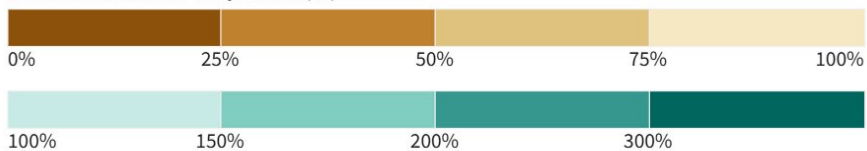


March Precipitation: Below are 30-Day and 60-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation maps dated March 30th illustrating near normal conditions within the last month and over the last two months.

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



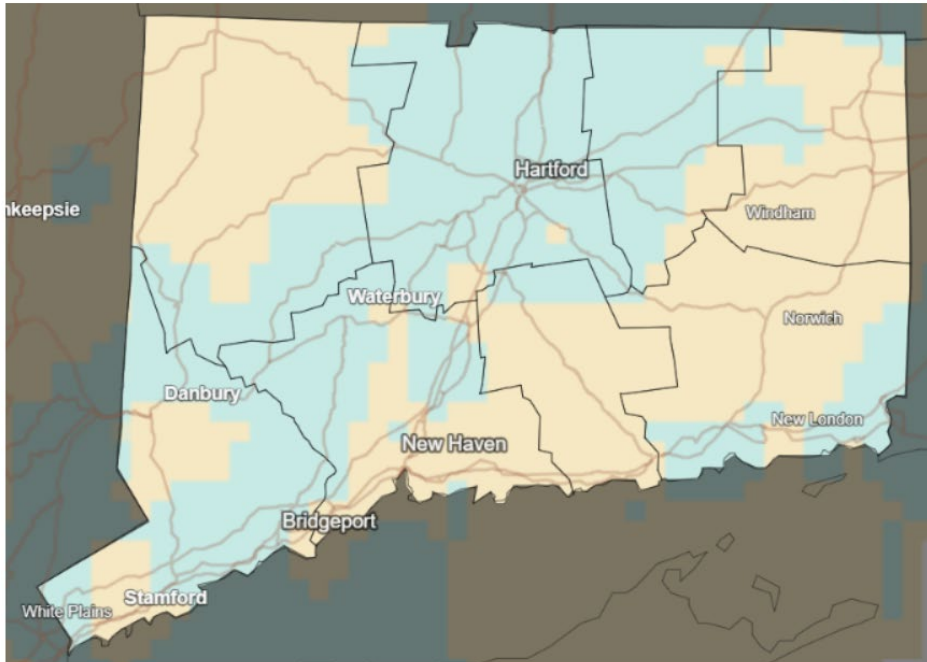
This map shows precipitation for the past 30 days as a percentage of the historical average (1991–2020) for the same time period. Green/blue shades indicate above-normal precipitation, while brown shades indicate below-normal precipitation.

Source(s): UC Merced

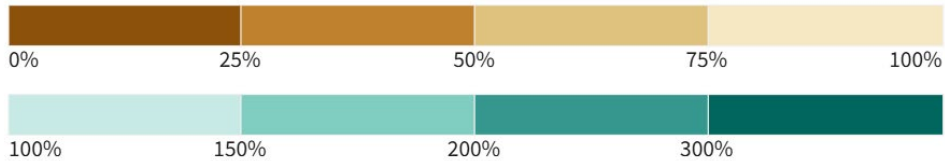
Data Valid: 03/30/25

Drought.gov

60-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



This map shows precipitation for the past 60 days as a percentage of the historical average (1991–2020) for the same time period. Green/blue shades indicate above-normal precipitation, while brown shades indicate below-normal precipitation.

Source(s): UC Merced

Data Valid: 03/30/25

Drought.gov

Fire Danger Levels from CT DEEP:

CT DEEP Forestry monitors wildfire conditions regularly and moves to a daily measurement when conditions are drier and the risk of wildfires is greater. In order, their fire danger ranking scheme is: **LOW, MODERATE, HIGH, VERY HIGH, AND EXTREME**. According to CT DEEP Forestry, wildfire danger levels in the state were as follows for the month of March:

- 3/1/25 – 3/2/25: **HIGH**
- 3/3/25 – 3/5/25: **MODERATE**
- 3/6/25: **LOW**
- 3/7/25 – 3/14/25: **HIGH**
- 3/15/25 – 3/16/25: **MODERATE**
- 3/17/25: **LOW**
- 3/18/25: **MODERATE**
- 3/19/25: **HIGH**
- 3/20/25: **LOW**
- 3/21/25 – 3/23/25: **HIGH**
- 3/24/25: **LOW**
- 3/25/25 – 3/28/25: **HIGH**
- 3/29/25: **MODERATE**
- 3/30/25 – 3/31/25: **LOW**
- 4/1/25 – 4/2/25: **MODERATE**



U.S. Geological Survey

**Status of streamflow
and groundwater levels,
as of end of March 2025**



Provisional data, subject to review and revision

Name	Total	Number of wells below normal	Number of wells below normal for 2 out of last 3 months	Number of wells below normal for 4 or more consecutive months	Percent below normal	Percent stage 2	Percent stage 3
Fairfield	10	5	5	3	50	50	30
Hartford	10	1	7	1	10	70	10
Litchfield	5	4	4	2	80	80	40
Middlesex	6	2	3	2	33.3	50	33.3
New Haven	13	3	6	2	23.1	46.2	15.4
New London	5	0	2	0	0	40	0
Tolland	12	8	12	6	66.7	100	50
Windham	6	3	5	0	50	83.3	0

END OF MARCH 2025 GROUNDWATER SUMMARY BY COUNTY



Provisional data, subject to review and revision

Name	Total	Number of streamgages below normal	Number of streamgages below normal for 2 out of last 3 months	Number of streamgages below normal for 4 out of last 5 months	Percent below normal	Percent stage 2	Percent stage 3
Fairfield	11	2	9	5	18.2	81.8	45.5
Hartford	11	5	9	7	45.5	81.8	63.6
Litchfield	10	0	5	2	0	50	20
Middlesex	4	0	2	1	0	50	25
New Haven	5	1	3	3	20	60	60
New London	5	1	4	2	20	80	40
Tolland	1	0	1	1	0	100	100
Windham	9	0	7	4	0	77.8	44.4

MARCH 2025 STREAMFLOW SUMMARY BY COUNTY



Provisional data, subject to review and revision

Surface Reservoir Capacity Measurements and Trends

3/28/2025 Update

Continued Improvement Over the Past Week!

Thirty-four surface water systems measure their reservoir capacities weekly and report the readings to the Drinking Water Section (DWS). The attached table summarizes the most recent measurements in percent full and shows the week-to-week trend of their capacities.

Key takeaways:

>= 100% of Normal n=34

19

+3 from last week

State Average Percent Full

92.0%

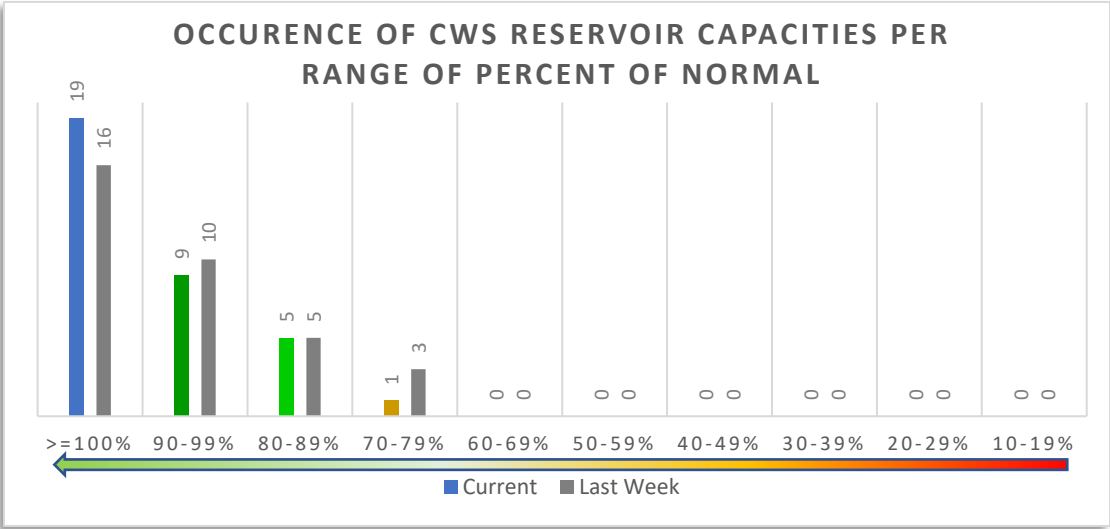
90.3% last week

Average Percent of Normal

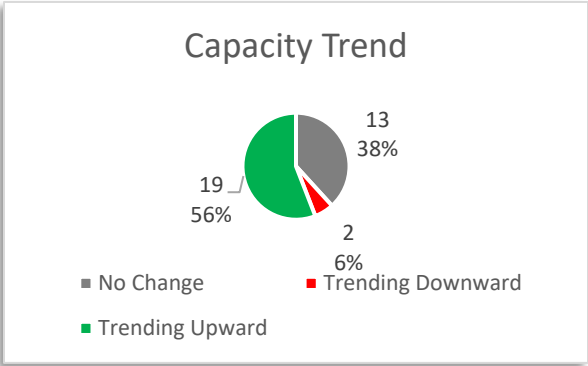
96.3%

94.5% last week

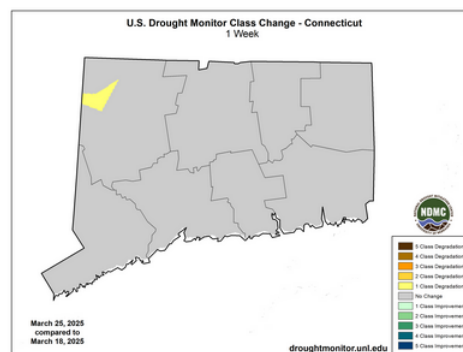
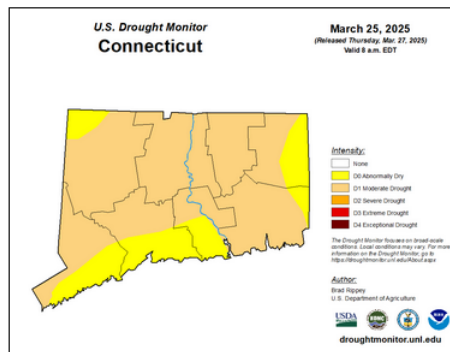
- 13 reservoir systems have reported that they are currently 100% full. (+2 since last week)



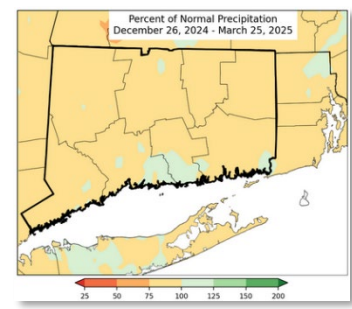
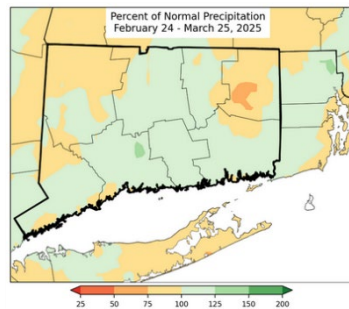
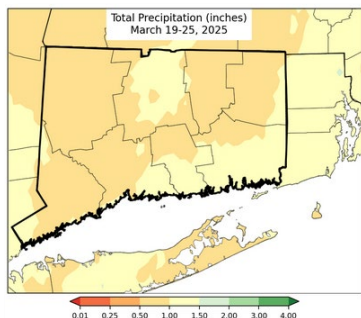
- The gray bars indicate last week’s measurements, and the colored bar is the current measurement. In non-drought conditions, the graph above would have all of the systems in the >=100% of normal column (n=34).
- 19 systems’ short-term week to week trend is upward (+1 since last week). 2 systems are trending downward in capacity from their previous measurements (No change since last week). 13 systems have had no change in capacity (-1 since last week).



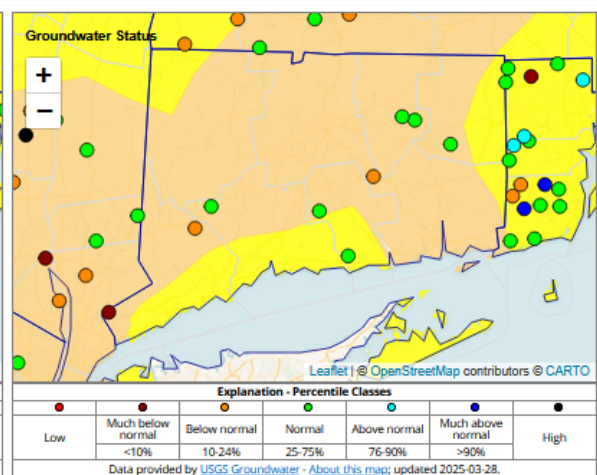
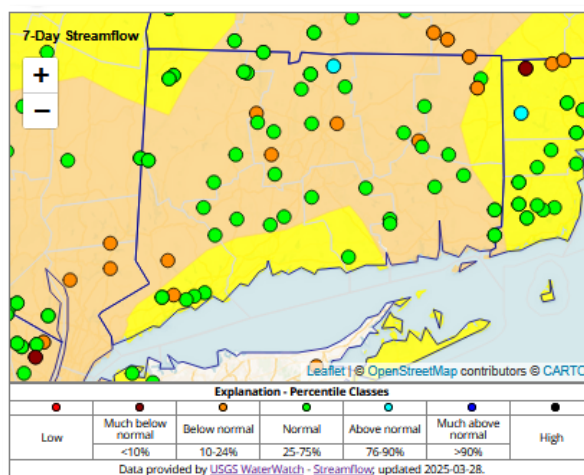
- Putnam Water and East Lyme have entered their 1st drought stage. Danbury Water is in their 2nd drought stage.
- **US Drought Monitor:** – US Drought Monitor made one degradation in drought classification this week in western CT.
- <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CT>



- Last USDM week (between March 19th and March 25th), CT received anywhere from 1 to 1.5 inches of rain. (Map 1). The 30-day Percent of Normal Precipitation map shows closer to normal precipitation across the state (Map 2). The long-term trend over the last 90 days still shows below normal to normal rainfall for the majority of CT (Map 3). The 7-Day Streamflow map shows the impact of the rains where the majority of the state is near normal or above normal. Real time monitoring groundwater wells show below normal levels in some areas while other wells indicate normal levels.



Map 1- 7 Day Total Precipitation Map 2- 30 Day Percent of Normal Precipitation Map 3 – 90 Day Percent of Normal Precipitation





CT Interagency Drought Workgroup NWS Update

Thursday, April 3rd 2025

Prepared by: NWS WFO Boston, MA

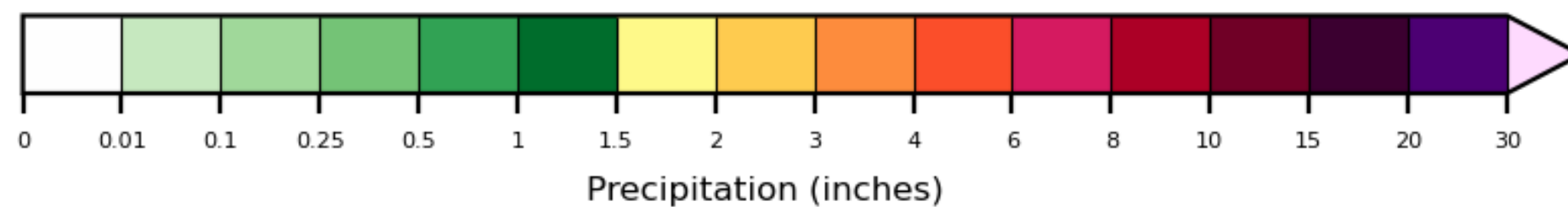
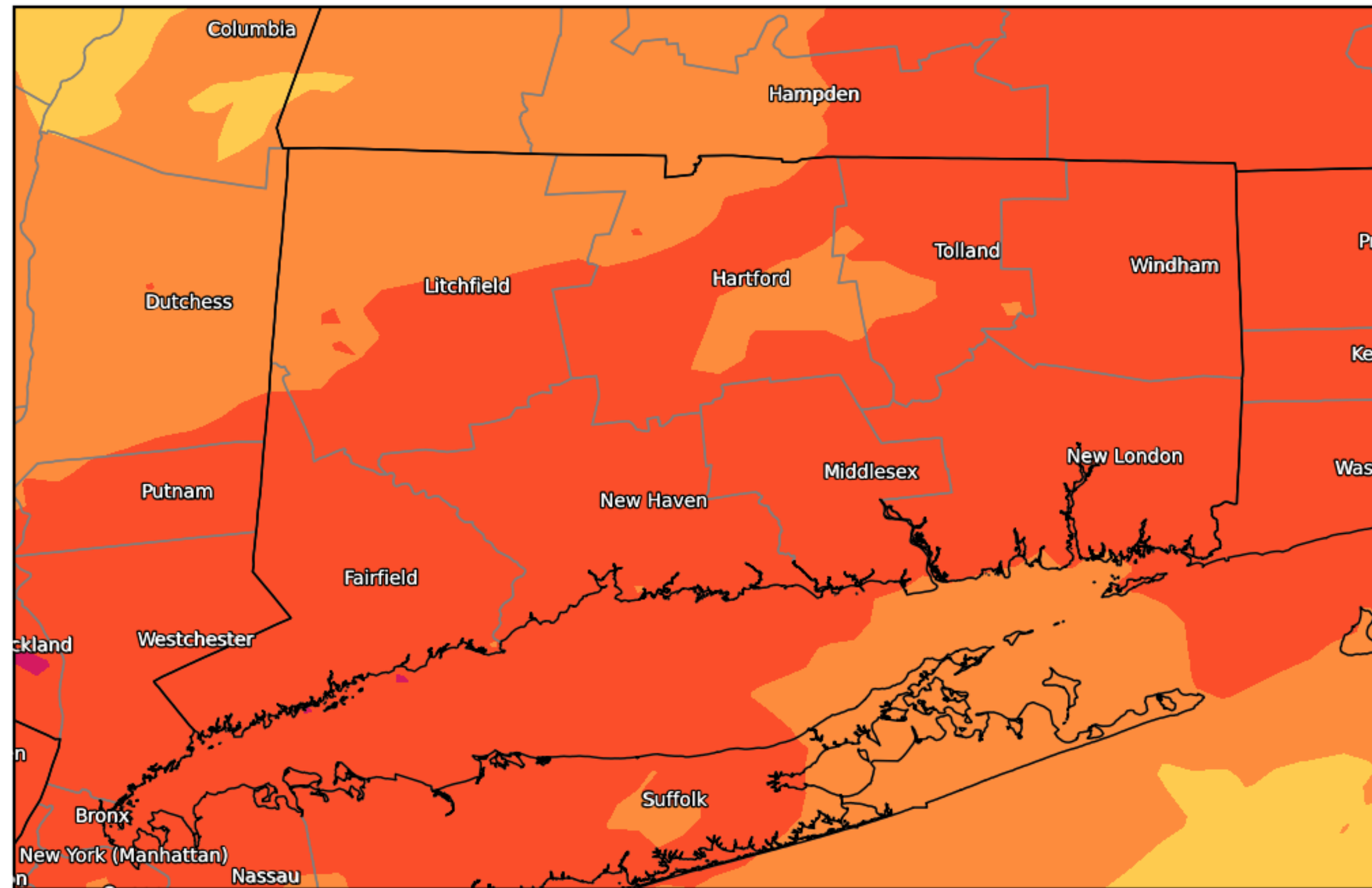
March Precipitation

3.5-4.5" of liquid equivalent precipitation in January. Within 0.5" of normal

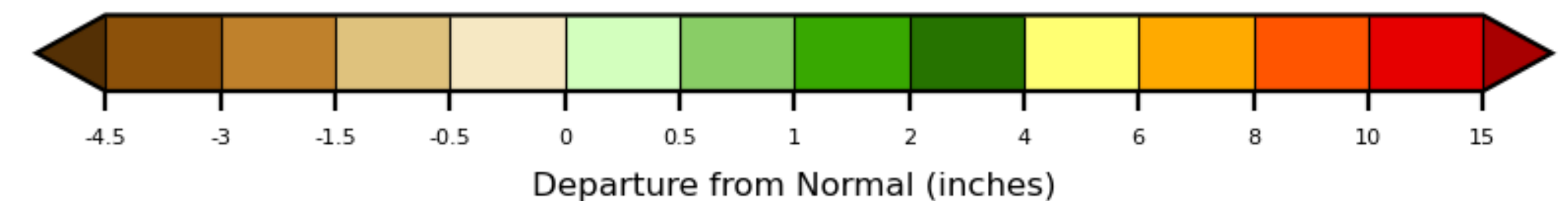
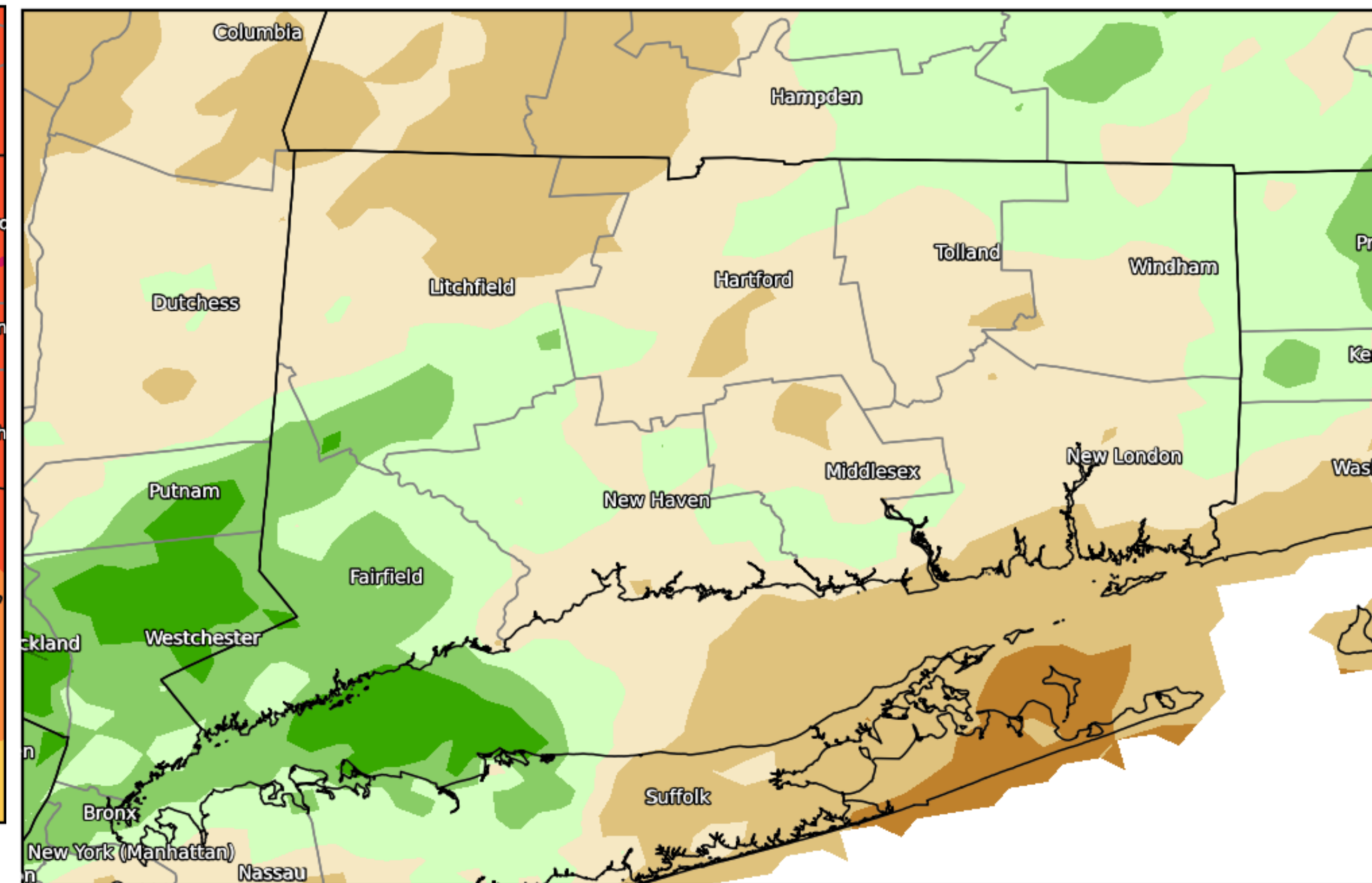


Boston/Norton MA
WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

Accumulated Precipitation (inches)
March 01, 2025 to April 01, 2025



Precipitation Departure from Normal (inches)
March 01, 2025 to April 01, 2025



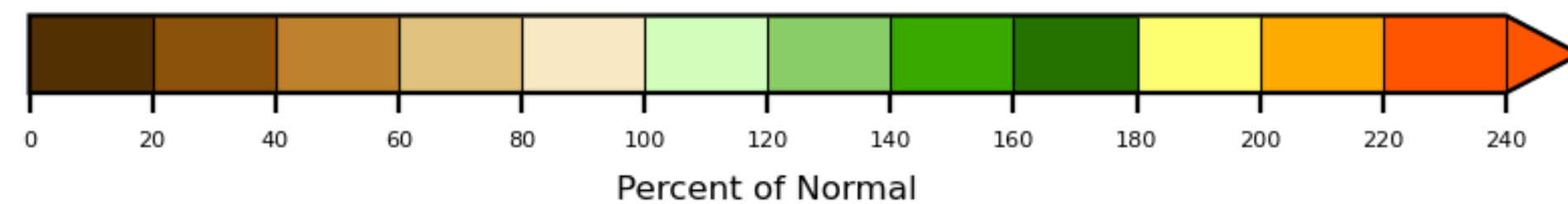
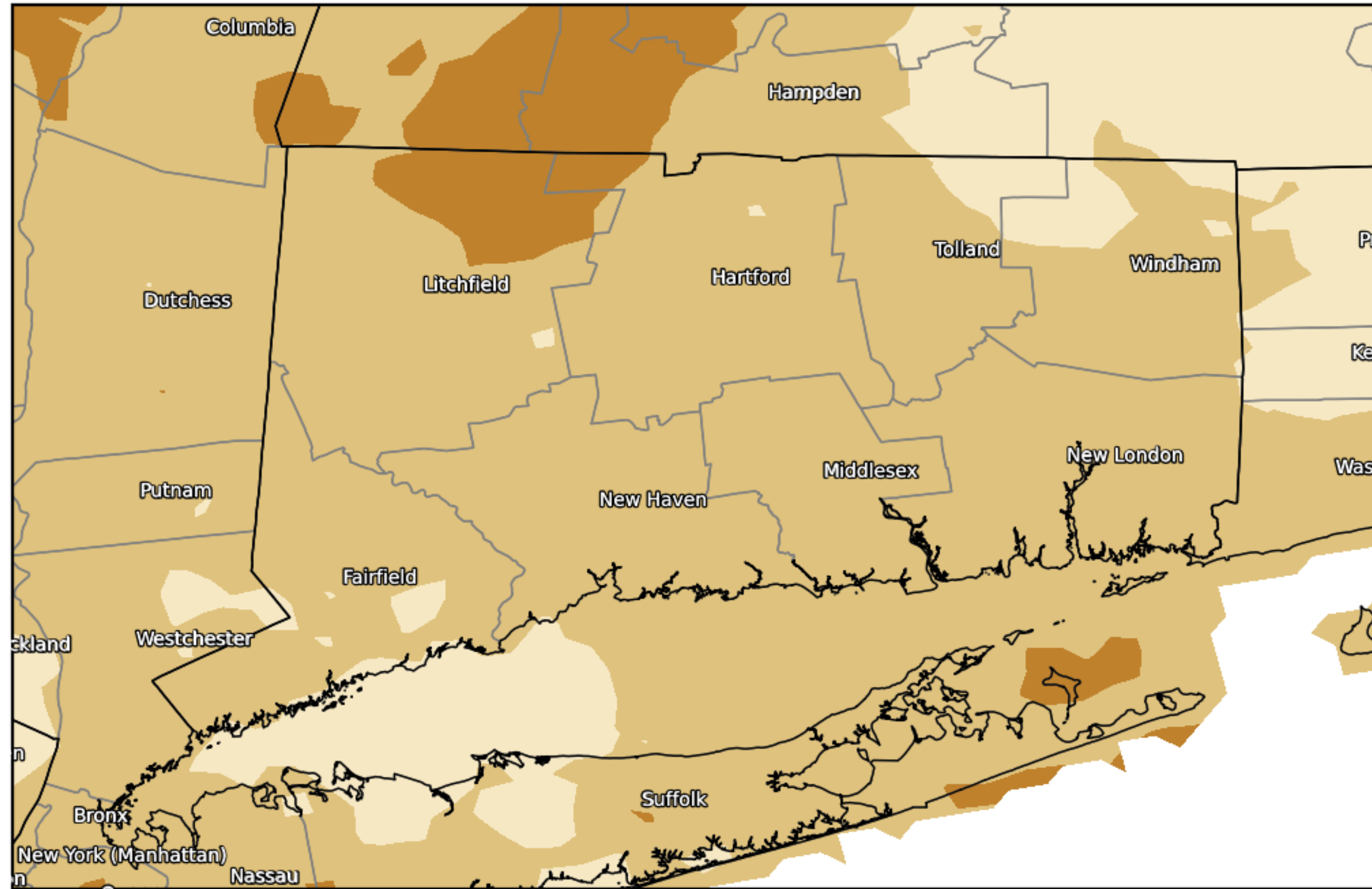
3 and 6 Month Percent of Normal Precip

60-80 % of normal last 3 months. 40-80% of normal last 6 months

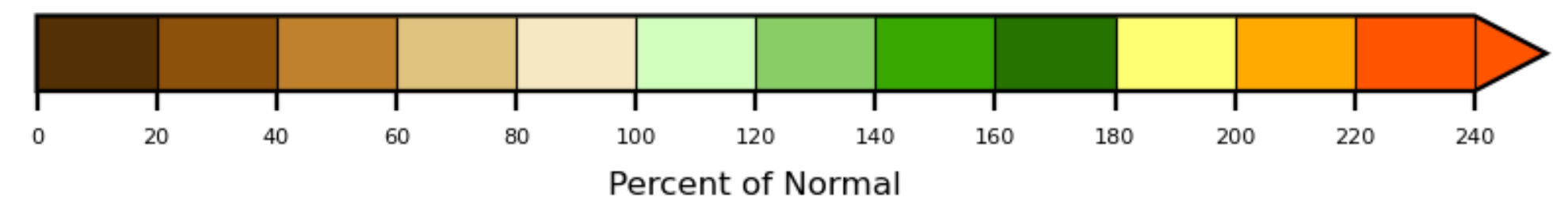
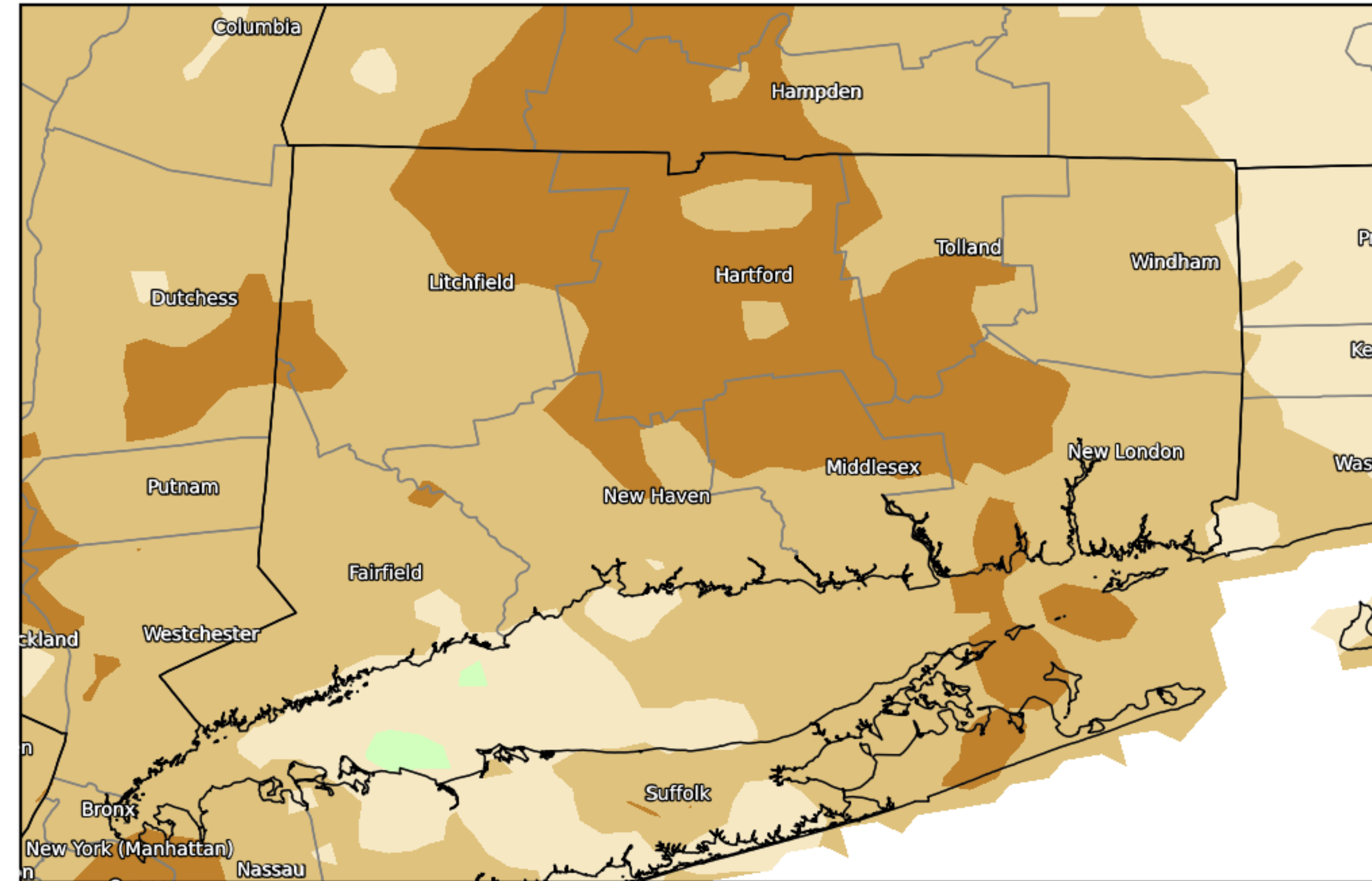


Boston/Norton MA
WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

Precipitation Percent of Normal
January 01, 2025 to April 01, 2025



Precipitation Percent of Normal
October 01, 2024 to April 01, 2025



CPC 8-14 Day Outlook

Leaning below normal temperatures and near normal precipitation



Boston/Norton MA
WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE



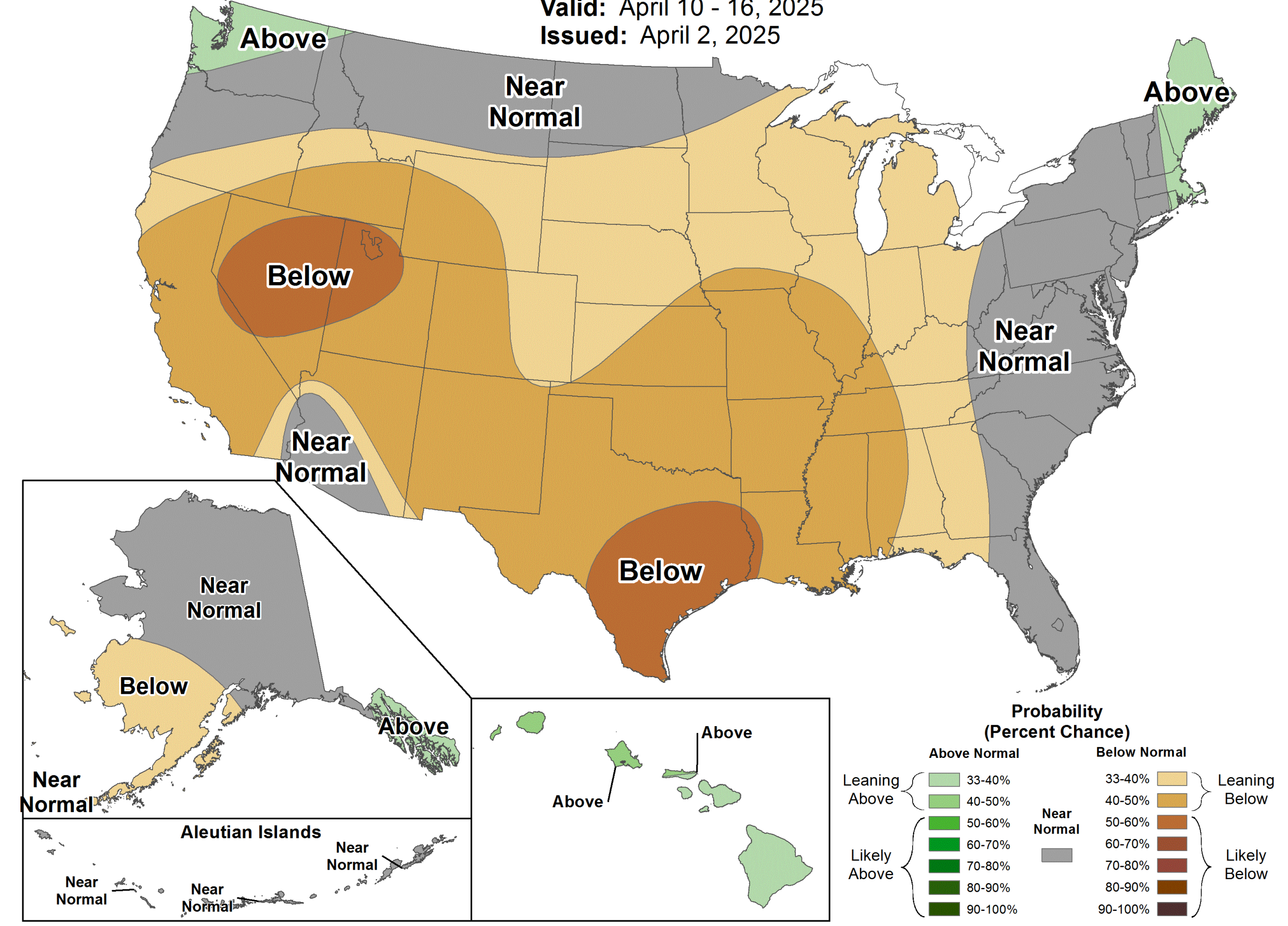
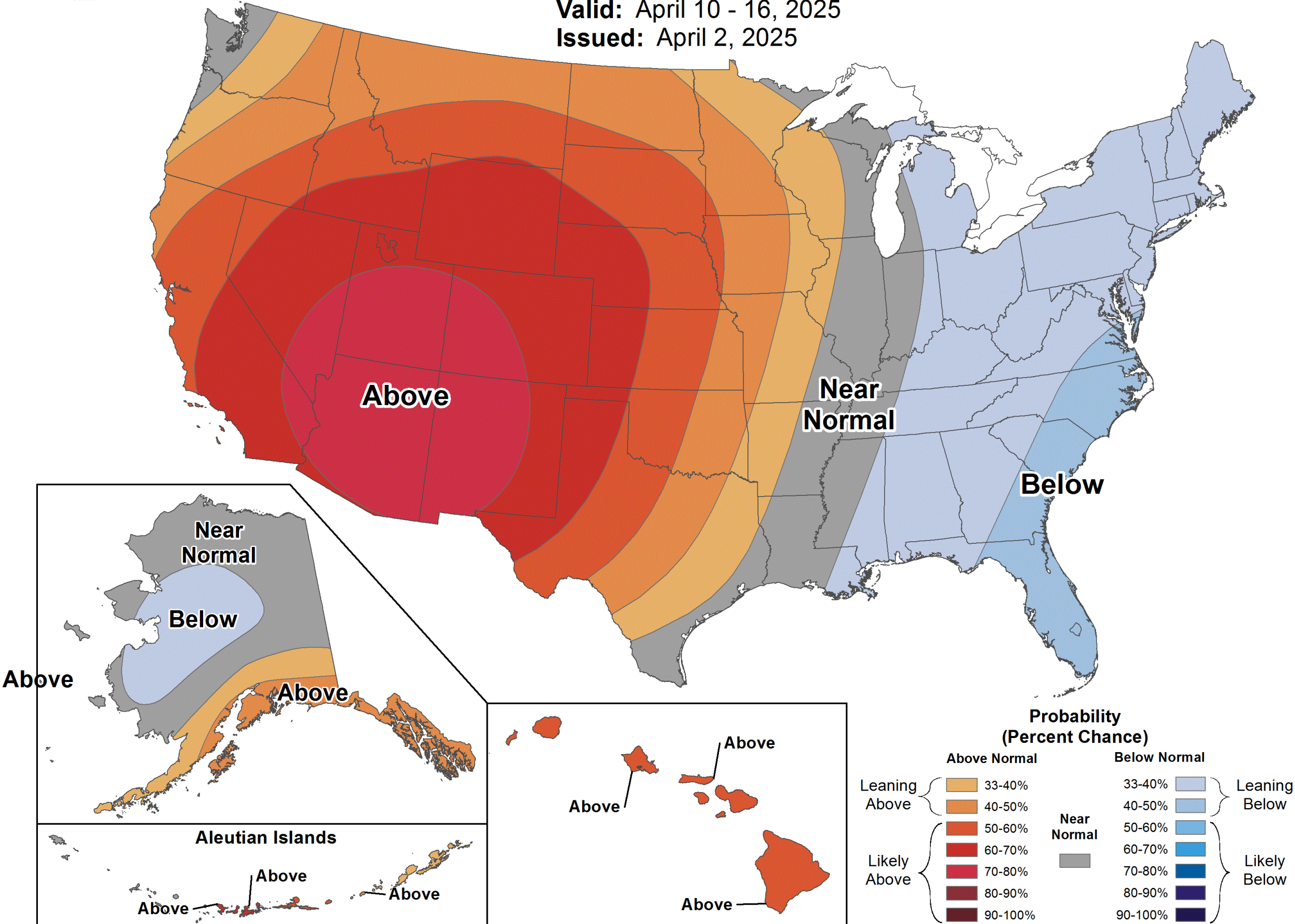
8-14 Day Temperature Outlook

Valid: April 10 - 16, 2025
Issued: April 2, 2025



8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: April 10 - 16, 2025
Issued: April 2, 2025



CPC 3-4 Week Outlook

Leaning above normal temperatures



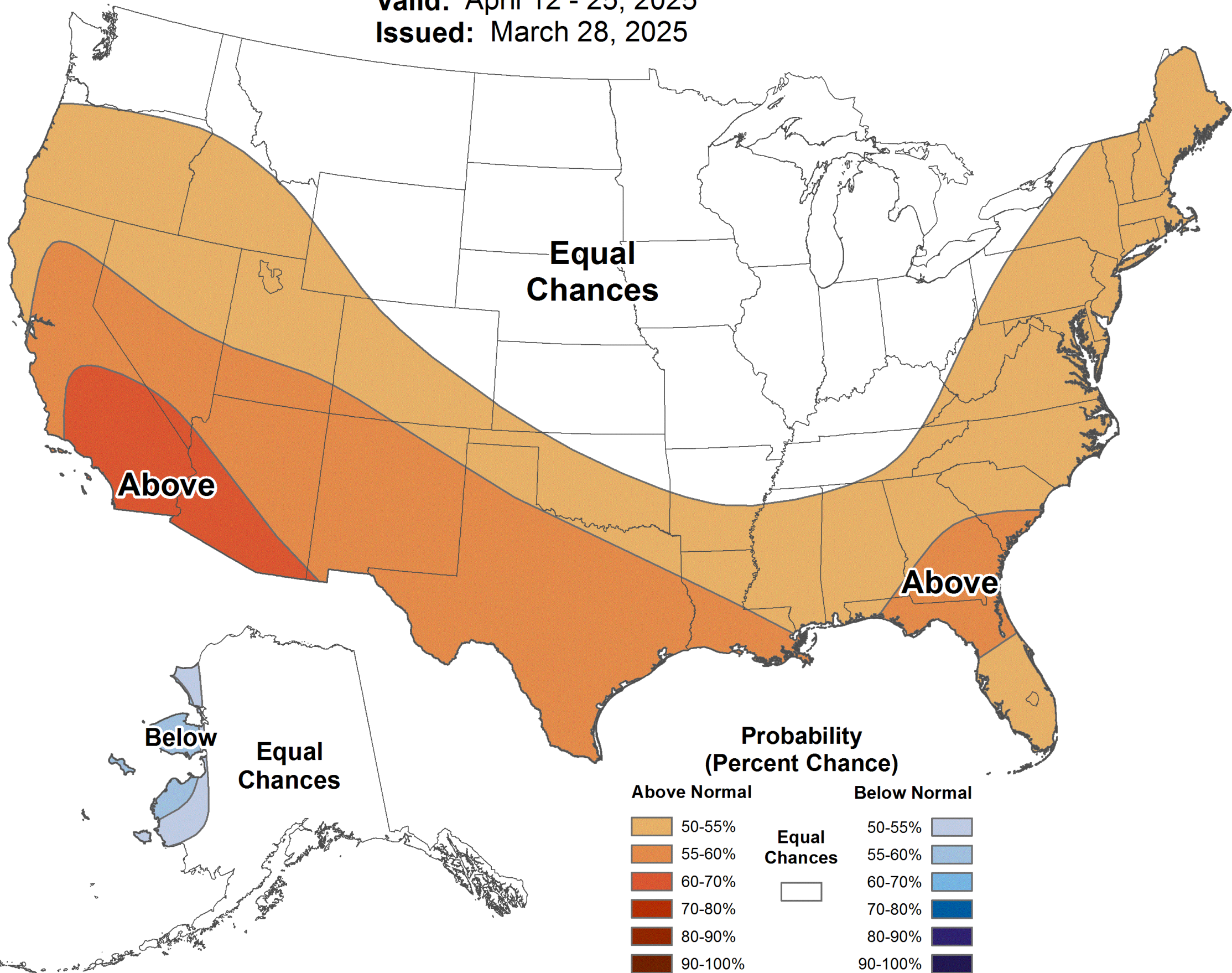
Boston/Norton MA
WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE



Weeks 3-4 Temperature Outlook



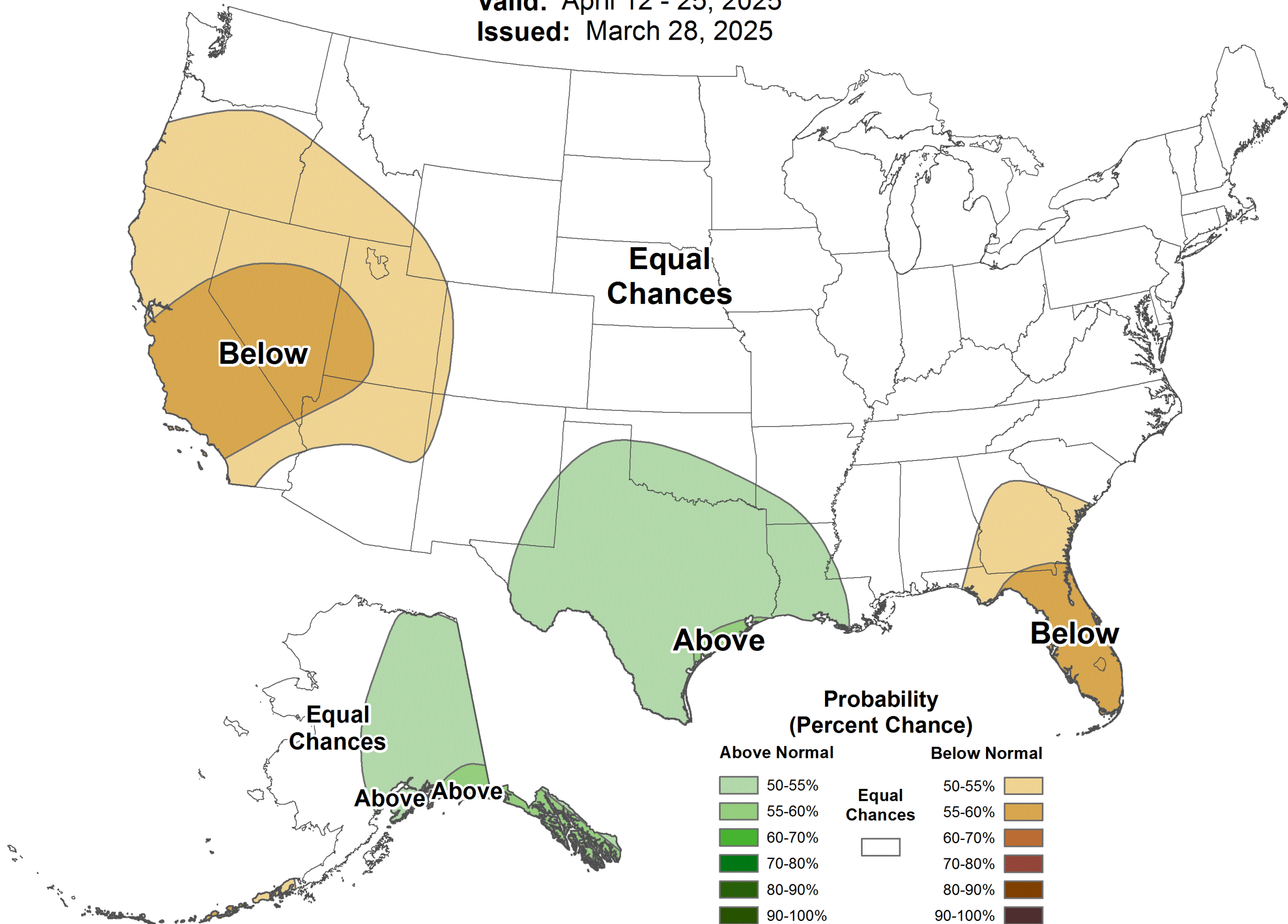
Valid: April 12 - 25, 2025
Issued: March 28, 2025



Weeks 3-4 Precipitation Outlook



Valid: April 12 - 25, 2025
Issued: March 28, 2025



Connecticut Precipitation
National Weather Service Offices
Boston/Norton MA, Albany NY, Upton NY
Preliminary Precipitation Data (inches) by County
Precipitation Data through March 2025
Includes CoCoRaHS data

CT 1-Month Mar 2025	Rainfall	Departure	Percent	Normal
Litchfield	3.44	-0.72	83	4.16
Hartford	4.13	0.02	100	4.11
Tolland	4.14	-0.20	95	4.34
Windham	3.86	-0.59	87	4.45
Fairfield	3.97	-0.39	91	4.36
New Haven	4.49	0.14	103	4.35
Middlesex	3.82	-0.53	88	4.35
New London	4.42	-0.45	91	4.87

CT 2-month Feb 25-Mar 25	Rainfall	Departure	Percent	Normal
Litchfield	6.74	-0.75	90	7.49
Hartford	7.37	-0.01	100	7.38
Tolland	7.44	-0.25	97	7.69
Windham	6.54	-1.20	84	7.74
Fairfield	6.71	-0.75	90	7.46
New Haven	7.73	0.22	103	7.51
Middlesex	6.65	-1.04	86	7.69
New London	7.97	-0.31	96	8.28

CT 3-month Jan 25-Mar 25	Rainfall	Departure	Percent	Normal
Litchfield	7.80	-3.25	71	11.05
Hartford	8.49	-2.52	77	11.01
Tolland	8.71	-2.81	76	11.52
Windham	7.62	-3.86	66	11.48
Fairfield	7.78	-3.26	70	11.04
New Haven	8.87	-2.19	80	11.06
Middlesex	7.75	-3.69	68	11.44
New London	9.34	-2.67	78	12.01

CT 4-month Dec 24-Mar 25	Rainfall	Departure	Percent	Normal
Litchfield	12.28	-2.76	82	15.04
Hartford	12.71	-2.24	85	14.95
Tolland	14.03	-1.66	89	15.69
Windham	12.46	-3.27	79	15.73
Fairfield	12.64	-2.48	84	15.12
New Haven	14.13	-0.83	94	14.96
Middlesex	13.67	-2.09	87	15.76
New London	15.98	-0.32	98	16.30

CT 5-month Nov 24-Mar 25	Rainfall	Departure	Percent	Normal
Litchfield	15.13	-4.17	78	19.30
Hartford	15.16	-4.26	78	19.42
Tolland	16.39	-3.80	81	20.19
Windham	14.63	-5.54	73	20.17
Fairfield	16.02	-3.40	82	19.42
New Haven	16.75	-2.37	88	19.12
Middlesex	16.17	-3.93	80	20.10
New London	18.52	-2.28	89	20.80

CT 6-month Oct 24-Mar 25	Rainfall	Departure	Percent	Normal
Litchfield	15.58	-8.55	65	24.13
Hartford	15.47	-8.85	64	24.32
Tolland	16.89	-8.06	68	24.95
Windham	15.05	-9.64	61	24.69
Fairfield	16.26	-7.70	68	23.96
New Haven	17.17	-6.59	72	23.76
Middlesex	16.84	-8.63	66	25.47
New London	19.64	-5.45	78	25.09

CT 7-month Sep 24-Mar 25	Rainfall	Departure	Percent	Normal
Litchfield	16.67	-11.87	58	28.54
Hartford	16.16	-12.43	57	28.59
Tolland	18.17	-10.71	63	28.88
Windham	16.49	-12.31	57	28.80
Fairfield	17.28	-10.96	61	28.24
New Haven	18.44	-9.26	67	27.70
Middlesex	18.29	-10.87	63	29.16
New London	20.94	-8.39	71	29.33

CT 12-month Apr 24-Mar 25	Rainfall	Departure	Percent	Normal
Litchfield	42.86	-7.86	85	50.72
Hartford	42.55	-8.30	84	50.85
Tolland	41.72	-8.35	83	50.07
Windham	40.74	-9.44	81	50.18
Fairfield	44.12	-6.11	88	50.23
New Haven	46.02	-2.67	95	48.69
Middlesex	43.34	-7.82	85	51.16
New London	45.54	-4.38	91	49.92

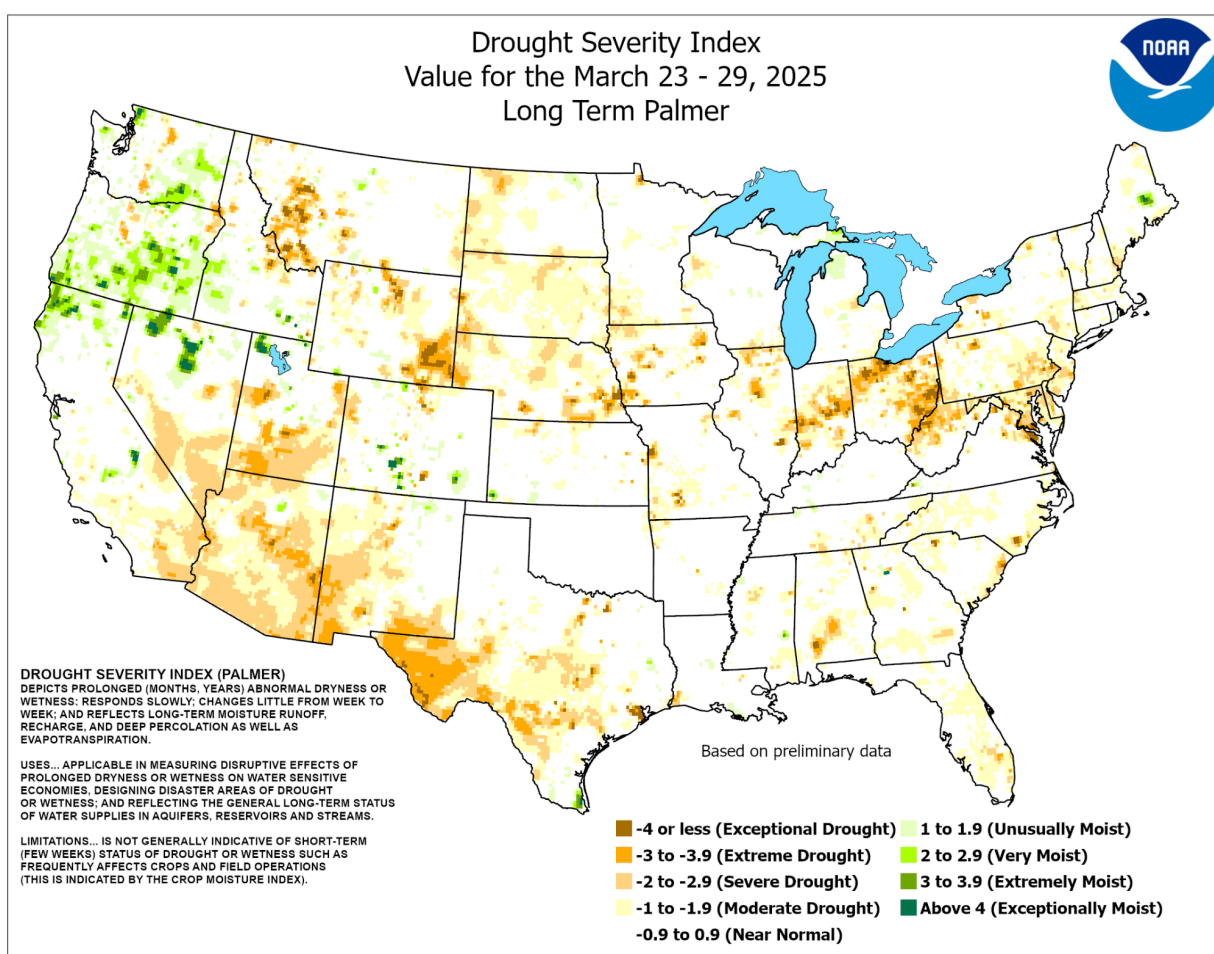
CT 24-month Apr 23-Mar 25	Rainfall	Departure	Percent	Normal
Litchfield	113.59	12.15	112	101.44
Hartford	114.81	13.11	113	101.70
Tolland	111.11	10.97	111	100.14
Windham	109.00	8.64	109	100.36
Fairfield	108.44	7.99	108	100.45
New Haven	115.61	18.23	119	97.38
Middlesex	108.00	5.68	106	102.32
New London	109.47	9.64	110	99.84

CT 36-month Apr 22-Mar 25	Rainfall	Departure	Percent	Normal
Litchfield	162.73	10.59	107	152.14
Hartford	162.38	9.76	106	152.62
Tolland	160.01	9.77	107	150.24
Windham	156.95	6.37	104	150.58
Fairfield	152.69	1.86	101	150.83
New Haven	164.17	18.09	112	146.08
Middlesex	159.82	6.01	104	153.81
New London	154.46	4.50	103	149.97

County-based monthly precipitation totals are calculated using an average of all available full-month precipitation totals within that County from the following networks: Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow network (CoCoRaHS), Cooperative Weather Observer Program (Coop), and Automated Surface Observing Systems (ASOS) data.

Coop and ASOS sites are part of National Weather Service networks. CoCoRaHS is a community-based network of volunteers that report precipitation.

County-based monthly normals were calculated using 30-year precipitation normals from NOAA/National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) for the period of 1981-2010. Monthly normals from 42 stations (consisting of Coop and ASOS stations) were grouped by County to calculate a single monthly normal for each County.



Map 1. Palmer Drought Index Map for the Week Ending March 29th, 2025. From the Climate Prediction Center.

NEWS > CONNECTICUT NEWS

A few chances for wet weather in CT this week. Will it end the drought?



Douglas Hook

In Hartford a downpour hits against the sunroof of a car with the states capital in the distance. The National Weather Service upgraded the severe thunderstorm risk across western Massachusetts and Connecticut on Monday afternoon. (Douglas Hook / Hartford Courant)



By **SEAN KROFSSIK** | skrofssik@courant.com | Hartford Courant

UPDATED: March 31, 2025 at 8:52 AM EDT

There are multiple chances for rain this week as the calendar clicks into April.

Monday's forecast has a high of 65 degrees is expected to be mostly cloudy with a morning shower or two. There is a low of 44 in the forecast, which calls for evening showers, a thunderstorm followed by periods of rain, according to [Accuweather](#).

The [National Weather Service](#) also forecasts showers likely today, Monday, with thunderstorms also possible after 5 p.m. The chance of precipitation is 60%, according to the weather service, with higher amounts possible in thunderstorms.

Rain is not bad news for Connecticut, [which has seen dry spells](#) in recent months. The [U.S. Drought Monitor](#) said it was the 53rd driest February on record since 1895, and 2.82 inches of total precipitation that month. The monitor says 2.6 million Connecticut residents are "in areas of drought," which a map indicates is "moderate."

"The Northeast also frequently experiences "flash" droughts—the rapid onset of intense dry periods that can follow a period of normal to above-normal precipitation. While these flash droughts may last only 2–6 months, they can have profound impacts in the region, resulting in agricultural losses, shortages in public water supplies, very low streamflows, and increased wildfire risk," according to the U.S. Drought Monitor.

According to the state, the [Interagency Drought Workgroup](#) met on March 6 to "review conditions and made the recommendation to remain in a Stage 2 Drought, statewide." It will meet again this week to determine if the status will continue.

This winter saw below-average snowfall in Connecticut, Gary Lessor, chief meteorologist at Western Connecticut State University has said. This year, there was 21.7 inches of snowfall from December through Feb. 28, compared to the normal 39.1 inches of snowfall for that same time frame. Winter precipitation — which includes rain and hail — was 8.85 inches from December through Feb. 28, compared to the normal of 10.49 inches.

Tuesday will be sunny, windy and cooler with a high of 54 degrees. Ponding from overnight rain could lead to morning commute delays, according to Accuweather.

Wednesday has a high of 49 degrees with intervals of sun and clouds. There is a chance of an afternoon shower. It warms up to a high of 69 degrees on Thursday with an 81 percent chance of rain as it gets more humid in the afternoon, according Accuweather.

The workweek ends on Friday with a high of 64 degrees as thick cloud cover is followed by sunshine, according to Accuweather.

Originally Published: March 31, 2025 at 5:00 AM EDT

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