

6-Month Climate Model Forecast Summary for Pennsylvania

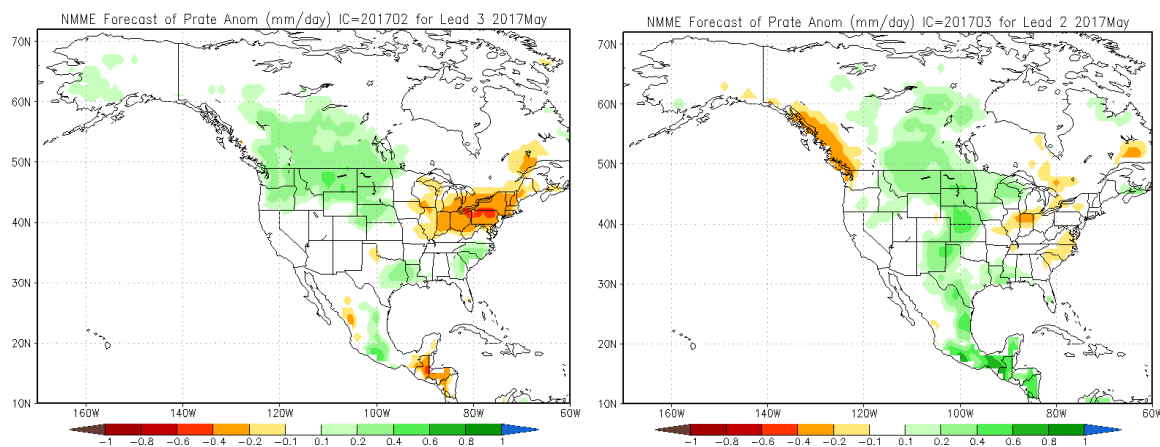
April 1, 2017

Climate models continue to improve and may have some skill in forecasting patterns of temperature and precipitation anomalies several months in advance. However, climate modeling is still a very inexact science. Lacking highly precise observations from the earth's environment (air, land and sea) and a full understanding of the scientific processes that affect the motions in the atmosphere, it is impossible to make precise seasonal-scale weather predictions with any accuracy. Please keep this in mind as you review this forecast.

The following forecast is produced based on analysis of monthly forecast products from the Climate Forecast System Version 2 (CFS) and the North American Multi-Model Ensemble (NMME). Links to forecasts are provided at the end of this document.

Discussion:

Climate models continue to hint at above average temperatures across the eastern U.S. throughout April and into the summer months. Models are in fairly close agreement that precipitation will be above average for April. Beyond April, models struggle to come to an agreement on whether precipitation will be above or below average across Pennsylvania. Most of the temperatures have become more certain, which is reflected in the table in the bottom of the document, while precipitation remains uncertain.



May through September precipitation is fairly uncertain.

Forecast:

Changes highlighted in yellow
Previous forecast in parentheses

<u>Month</u>	<u>Temperature</u>	<u>Precipitation</u>
April	A (N)	A (N)
May	U(N)	U (B)
June	A (N)	U (U)
July	A (N)	N (U)
August	A (N)	U (U)
September	U (N/A)	U (N/A)

BB = Much Below Normal

B = Below Normal

N = Near Normal

A = Above Normal

AA = Much Above Normal

U = Uncertain

The next forecast will be issued April 15, 2017.

References:

CFS forecasts: <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/CFSv2/CFSv2seasonal.shtml>

CFS forecasts: <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/people/mchen/CFSv2FCST/monthly/>

NMME forecasts: <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/NMME/monanom.shtml>

NMME forecasts: <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/NMME/verif/monindex.html>