

Table 2, Rhode Island Drought Indices and Phases

Drought Phase	Palmer Drought Index +	Crop Moisture Index	Precipitation +	Ground Water** +	Stream flow +	Reservoirs**
Normal	-1.0 to -1.99	0.0 to -1.0	Slightly Dry	1 month below normal 1 month below normal	2 consecutive months below normal	Reservoir levels at or near normal for the time of year
Advisory	-2.0 to -2.99	-1.0 to -1.9 Abnormally Dry	2 month cumulative below 65% of normal	At least 2 out of 3 months below normal	3 consecutive months below normal	Small index Reservoirs below normal
Watch	-3.0 to -3.99	-2.0 to -2.9 Excessively Dry	1 of the following criteria met: 3 month cum. <65% or 6 month cum. <70% or 12 month cum. <70%	4-5 consecutive months below normal	At least 4 out of 5 consecutive months below normal	Medium index Reservoirs below normal
Warning	-4.0 and below	> -2.9 Severely Dry	2 out of 3 of the above criteria met: 3 month cum. <65% and 6 month cum. <65% or 6 month cum. <65% and 12 month cum. <65% or 3 month cum. <65% and 12 month cum. <65%	6-7 consecutive months below normal observation wells recording monthly record lows	At least 6 out of 7 consecutive months below normal	Large index reservoirs below normal
Emergency	-4.0 and below	> -2.9 Severely dry	Same criteria as Warning and Previous month was Warning or Emergency	>7 months below normal Observation wells recording monthly record lows	>7 months below normal	Continuation of previous month's conditions

+ Major Hydrologic Indicators.

** Local triggers from the water system supply management plans will also be considered in assessing drought phases on a regional basis. The WRB staff will review local plans and work with suppliers to coordinate regarding drought phases and to collect, review and report surface reservoir and ground water data.

"Normal" is defined as the statistical average of the data for the period of record. Percentages for precipitation are relative to normal.