

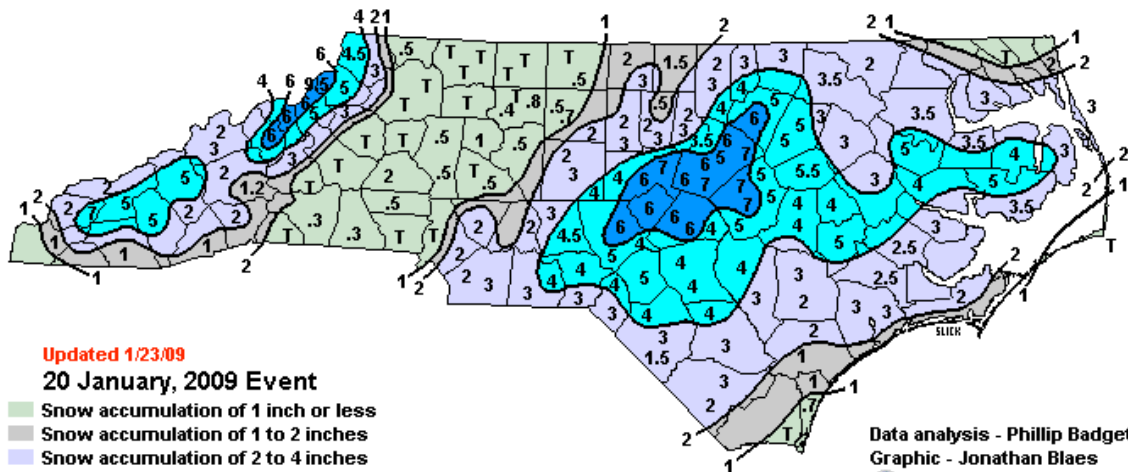
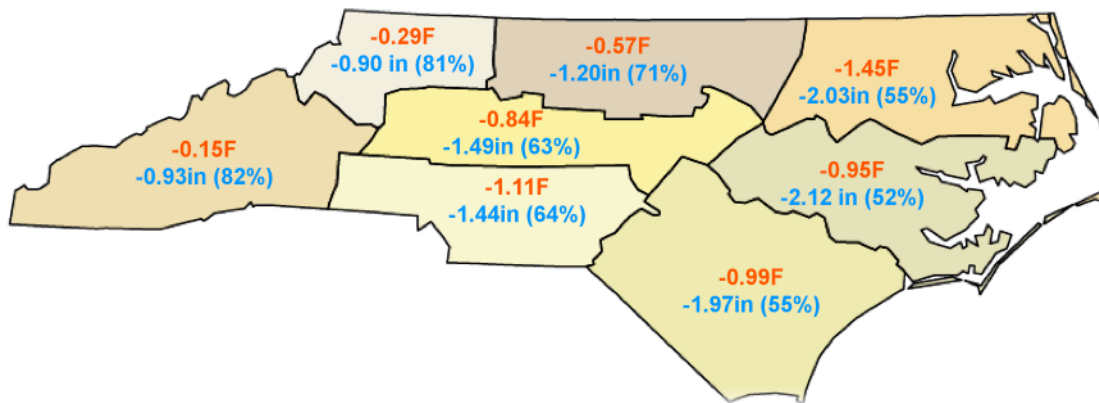
# Monthly Climate Summary: North Carolina January 2009: Cold, Dry in the East

February 3, 2009

## Temperature and Precipitation Summary

Most of North Carolina was cold and dry during January 2009. In particular, temperatures in central and eastern NC were between 0.5F and 1.5F below normal. These same regions were also drier than the mountain regions with precipitation observations typically only 55%-70% of normal. The entire state experience several cold air outbreaks including bitter temperatures on January 16-17 and 21 and substantial snowfall on January 20.

### Temperature and Precipitation by Climate Division Departures from Normal for Dec 2008 Based on Preliminary Data



Updated 1/23/09  
20 January, 2009 Event

- Snow accumulation of 1 inch or less
- Snow accumulation of 1 to 2 inches
- Snow accumulation of 2 to 4 inches
- Snow accumulation of 4 to 6 inches
- Snow accumulation of 6 inches or more

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## Impacts to Agriculture and Water Resources

However, despite the relatively dry conditions across central and eastern NC in January, impacts to water resources and agriculture were minimal. Topsoil moisture is adequate for the winter grains that are still in production, and precipitation from previous months in central and eastern NC has prevented negative impacts to water supply systems in those regions. This pattern is shown in the lack of change in the US Drought Monitor depictions for NC. While stream flow and groundwater levels continue to be quite low for this time of the year in western NC, low demand for water resources has so far kept water supply systems from experiencing problems.

### Change in US Drought Monitoring Status during Dec 2008

*Provided by DENR Division of Water Resources*

