

Interactive Map Definitions

Elements

- **Snow Water Equivalent:** A measurement of the amount of water contained in snowpack. It can be considered as the depth of water that would theoretically result if the whole snowpack instantaneously melted. Snow Water Equivalent is the product of snow depth and snow density.
- **Snow Depth:** The actual depth of snow on the ground.
- **Precipitation:** Any type of water that forms in the Earth's atmosphere and then drops onto the surface of the Earth under the force of gravity. The most common types of precipitation are rain, hail, and snow.
- **Reservoir Storage:** Volume of usable water stored in a reservoir.
- **Streamflow - Adjusted Volume:** Volume of streamflow that would occur without the influences of major upstream reservoirs or diversions, otherwise known as unregulated or naturalized flow. Reservoirs and diversions are used as an adjustment based on size of reservoir/diversion relative to total streamflow volume and availability of historical records. Adjusted Volume datasets include streamflow points that are: 1) adjusted due to presence of major upstream reservoirs/diversions with historical records; 2) not adjusted due to lack of major upstream reservoirs/diversions; 3) not adjusted or partially adjusted due to lack of historical records for all major upstream reservoirs/diversions. Volumetric NRCS water supply forecasts are for Adjusted Volume.
- **Streamflow – Observed Volume:** Volume of streamflow as observed at a gaging station. In a watershed with major reservoir storage and/or diversions, the observed volume can be significantly different from the adjusted volume.
- **Streamflow - Diversion Discharge:** Flow rate as measured in or along a diversion structure.
- **Streamflow - Forecast Point:** Point within a watershed for which volume, threshold, and/or stage forecasts are published by the NRCS Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting Program.

Parameters

- **Value:** Magnitude, quantity, or number of the measured or calculated element for the selected date or duration.
- **Percent of Official Average:** Value as a percent of the Official NRCS 30-Year Average for the selected date or duration (not available for all elements or stations).
- **Percent of Official Median:** Value as a percent of the Official NRCS 30-Year Median for the selected date or duration (not available for all elements or stations).
- **Percent of POR Average:** Value as a percent of the POR (Period of Record) average for the selected date or duration. Average calculation includes the value for the date being analyzed.
- **Percent of POR Median:** Value as a percent of the POR (Period of Record) median for the selected date or duration. Median calculation includes the value for the date being analyzed.
- **Anomaly - POR Median Departure:** Difference between value and POR Median for the selected date or duration. Median calculation includes the value for the date being analyzed.

- **Percentile:** Percentage of POR (Period of Record) observations that are less than or equal to the value being analyzed for the selected date or duration. $\text{Percentile} = 1 - ((m-1)/(n-1))$ where m =rank and n =number of observations.
- **Maximum Rank:** Rank or position of analyzed value within POR (Period of Record) observations for the selected date or duration, where rank=1 is the maximum value. If more than one value has the same rank, the top rank of that set of values is returned.
- **Minimum Rank:** Rank or position of analyzed value within POR (Period of Record) observations for the selected date or duration where rank=1 is the minimum value. If more than one value has the same rank, the top rank of that set of values is returned.
- **Records:** Determines whether analyzed value is greater (less) or equal to the highest (lowest) or 2nd highest (2nd lowest) value in the POR for the selected date or duration.
- **Official Average:** NRCS official 30-year average updated every 10 years for the selected date or duration (currently 1981-2010 average; not available for all elements or stations).
- **Official Median:** NRCS official 30-year median updated every 10 years for selected date or duration (currently 1981-2010 average, not available for all elements or stations).
- **POR Average:** Period of Record average for selected date or duration.
- **POR Median:** Period of Record median for selected date or duration.
- **POR Minimum:** Period of Record minimum value for the selected date or duration.
- **POR Maximum:** Period of Record maximum value for the selected date or duration.
- **Year of POR Minimum:** Calendar year(s) of period of record minimum value for the selected date or duration.
- **Year of POR Maximum:** Calendar year(s) of period of record maximum value for the selected date or duration.
- **Number of Observations:** Number of values in period of record dataset for the selected date or duration.

Parameter Display Rules

- **Minimum Data Requirements:** Minimum $n=20$ for selected date/duration required for map color display for Percentile, Maximum Rank, Minimum Rank, Records, POR average, Percent of POR Average, POR Median, Percent of POR Median, Year of POR Minimum, Year of POR Maximum, and Anomaly-POR Median Departure.
- **Data Variability Rule:** For map color display for Percentile, Maximum Rank, Minimum Rank and Records. If current value > 0 , then need at least 10% of values in record for selected date/duration (including current value) to be > 0 . If current value = 0, then need at least 80% of values in record for selected date/duration (including current value) to be > 0 .