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Maryland Climate Bulletin
Spring 2026

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DEPARTMENT OF
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State
Climatologist
Office

Summary

Spring 2026 was warmer and drier than normal (i.e., 1991-2020 averages) in Maryland. Statewide temperatures were warmer than normal in March and April but slightly colder than normal in May; however, precipitation was drier than normal in the three months. Regionally, spring mean temperatures were between 51 and 59°F, maximum temperatures were in the 62−71°F range, and minimum temperatures were between 39 and 48°F. Seasonal accumulated total precipitation was in the 5−14 inches range.

Maryland Regional Features (Figures 1-5, C1, and E1)

- The mean temperature was warmer than normal across the state, particularly in Garrett County (4.8−5.1°F), and parts of Montgomery, Frederick, Washington, Carroll, and Howard counties (3.6−4.2°F).

- The maximum temperature was also warmer than normal in the entire state, notably in Garrett County (5.7−6.0°F), parts of Montgomery, Frederick, Washington, Carroll, and Howard counties (4.5−5.1°F).

- The minimum temperature was warmer than normal throughout the state, too, especially in Garrett County (3.9−4.2°F), and western Montgomery and Frederick counties (3.0−3.3°F).

- Precipitation was below normal in most of the state, notably over the southern counties of Charles, Calvert, Saint Mary's, Talbot, Dorchester, Caroline, Wicomico, Somerset, and Worcester (5.5−6.5 inches deficit). These counties received 50−60% less precipitation than normal for the season. Above-normal precipitation was observed only over northwestern Garret County, which received 5−10% more precipitation than normal.

- The partial water year (October 2025 − May 2026) was below normal in the entire state, reflecting the below-normal precipitation since October 2025, particularly over the counties of Charles, Saint Mary's, Calvert, Anne Arundel, Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot, Dorchester, Caroline, Wicomico, Somerset and Worcester (11−12 inches deficit). These regions received between 40 and 43% less water than their climatological amount. The regions with less water deficit are the northern counties in the central Piedmont and western Maryland (13−31% less water than normal).

Maryland Climate Divisions (Figures 6-7, B1, and B2)

- All eight climate divisions experienced warmer-than-normal conditions this spring; Climate Division 8, Allegheny Plateau, had the largest departure from normal (4.9°F), and Climate Division 5, Northeastern Shore, had the smallest (2.2°F). All climate divisions had drier-than-normal conditions this spring; Climate Division 1, Southeastern Shore, had the largest deviation from normal (5.93 inches deficit), and Climate Division 8 had the smallest (0.41 inches deficit).

- Seasonally, statewide temperature anomalies have changed sign since fall 2025. Following a slightly warmer-than-normal fall 2025 (0.7°F) and a colder-than-normal winter 2025-26 (3.6°F below), warmer-than-normal conditions returned in spring 2026 (3.1°F), which was comparable to the statewide anomaly in spring 2025 (3.1°F). Statewide precipitation anomalies have been drier than normal since summer 2025. Following a very dry fall 2025 (4.77 inches deficit), the dry anomalies weakened in winter 2025-26 (2.79 inches deficit) and increased in spring 2026 (3.97 inches deficit).

Historical Context (Figure 8, Tables A1 and A2)

- Statewide mean, maximum, and minimum temperatures this spring (56.8, 68.4, and 45.3°F) were above their long-term (1895-2025) averages (52.7, 63.6, and 41.7°F), and relatively close to their warmest records of 58.2, 69.3, and 47.0°F, established in 2012. The statewide precipitation for this spring (7.64 inches) was below the long-term average (11.02 inches) and within 10% of the driest values (7.94 inches and below), and relatively close to the driest spring on record, which was 5.40 inches in 1986.

- Statewide mean, maximum, and minimum temperatures indicated this spring was the sixth, third, and ninth warmest spring since 1895, respectively. Mean temperatures placed this spring within the five warmest springs for thirteen counties, and in particular, this was the warmest for Garrett County, the second warmest for Montgomery County, and the third warmest for Allegany, Charles, Frederick, Howard, Prince George's, and Washington counties. Similarly, maximum temperatures placed this spring within the five warmest springs for eighteen counties, and in particular, this was the second warmest for Frederick, Garrett, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's, Somerset, Washington, and Wicomico counties, and the third warmest for Allegany, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Calvert, Carroll, Charles, and Worcester counties. Regarding minimum temperatures, this spring was the second warmest for Garrett County, and the rest ranked between the sixth and twelfth warmest.

- Statewide precipitation showed that spring 2026 was the tenth driest spring on record. This spring ranked among the top four driest in nine counties, and in particular, this was the second driest spring for Dorchester, Saint Mary's, Somerset, and Wicomico counties, and the third driest for Calvert, Caroline, and Worcester counties.

Century-Plus Trends, 1895-2026 (Figures 9, 10)

- Statewide mean temperature, heating degree days, and the partial water year (October to May) showed significant trends: a warming trend (2.2°F/century), a decreasing heating trend (−185°FDD/century), and an increasing water year trend (1.92 in/century), respectively. On the other hand, precipitation showed a non-significant wetting trend (0.91 in/century).

- Regionally, spring mean temperatures showed significant warming trends across the state, notably over southern Baltimore County and Baltimore City (2.8−3.2°F/century), and the eastern half of the Eastern Shore (2.2−2.6°F/century).

- Regionally, the accumulated total precipitation in spring showed statistically significant wetting trends over the Piedmont and western Maryland and the southern tip of Worcester County. Maximum increasing trends were found over Garrett County and southwestern Baltimore County (1.6−1.8 in/century). A small, non-statistically significant drying trend was found on the southwestern tip of Charles County.

Chesapeake Bay Sea Surface Temperatures (Figures 11, 12, F1)

- Sea surface temperatures in the Chesapeake Bay this spring were between 55 and 59°F. Regionally, temperatures were above their 2007-2020 mean across most of the Bay, especially in the waters along the Eastern Shore, such as Eastern Bay, Choptank River, Fishing Bay, Nanticoke, Wicomico, Manokin rivers, and Pocomoke Sound (1.2–1.4°F below). Temperatures were below their 2007-2020 mean along the western coast waters of the Middle and Upper basins and in most of the Chincoteague Bay. The spring 2026 all-basin mean temperature of 55.4°F was slightly above the 20-year (2007−2026) mean for the dataset (55.0°F) but far from the warmest spring temperature on record, 58.7°F, set in 2012 (when air temperatures also set records).

Contents

1. Introduction

The Maryland Climate Bulletin is issued by the Maryland State Climatologist Office (MDSCO), which resides in the Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Science at the University of Maryland, College Park. This is the seasonal version of the bulletin.

Maryland's geography is challenging, with the Allegheny and Blue Ridge mountains to the west, the Piedmont Plateau in the center, the Chesapeake Bay, and the Atlantic Coastal Plain to the east. The range of physiographic features and the state's eastern placement within the expansive North American continent contribute to a comparatively wide range of climatic conditions.

The bulletin aims to document and characterize seasonal surface climate conditions, situating them within the context of regional and continental climate variability and change, to help Marylanders interpret and understand recent climate conditions.

The seasonal surface climate conditions for spring 2026 are presented via maps of key variables, such as average surface air temperature, maximum surface air temperature, minimum surface air temperature, accumulated total precipitation, and their anomalies (i.e., departures from normal); they are complemented by the partial water year conditions for the state in Section 3. Statewide and climate division averages for the season are compared using scatter plots in Section 4. The seasonal statewide averages are placed in the context of the historical record via box-and-whisker plots in Section 5. Century-plus trends in statewide air temperature, heating degree-days, accumulated total precipitation, partial water year, and state maps of air temperature and accumulated total precipitation are presented in Section 6. Seasonal sea surface temperatures (SST) in the Chesapeake Bay are presented in Section 7. Ancillary statewide, climate division, and county-level information is provided via tables and plots in Appendices A and B; climatology and variability maps are included in Appendices C-E; mean and variability of the sea surface temperatures in the Chesapeake Bay are displayed in Appendix F.

2. Data and Methods

Surface air temperatures, total precipitation, and heating degree-days data in this report are from the following sources:

- NOAA Monthly U.S. Climate *Gridded* Dataset at 5-km horizontal resolution (NClimGrid – Vose et al., 2014). It is available in a preliminary status from 1895 to the present at: https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/data/nclimgrid-monthly/access/
  Data was downloaded on June 10, 2026.

- NOAA Monthly U.S. Climate *Divisional* Dataset (NClimDiv – Vose et al., 2014). It is available in a preliminary status from 1895 to the present (v1.0.0-20260604) at: https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/pub/data/cirs/climdiv/
  Data was downloaded on June 8, 2026.

Data and sources for the Chesapeake Bay are the following:

- Satellite-based sea surface temperatures from NOAA's CoastWatch Program. The data was made available by the Program's East Coast Node. This satellite-based sea surface temperature data uses data from the Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer (AVHRR) on the European MetOp satellites, and the Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) on the U.S. SNPP and NOAA JPSS satellites. In creating this product, nighttime overpasses for the U.S. East Coast are used, thereby avoiding daytime solar heating of the ocean surface and the associated warm bias in the data. In particular, the product acquired is the monthly sea surface temperatures for the Chesapeake and Delaware Bays, with a nominal horizontal resolution of 750 m. Please be advised that although a seasonal resolution version of the data set exists at the East Coast Node, for consistency with the analysis of surface atmospheric parameters in this Bulletin, the monthly version was preferred to derive the seasonal version of the data set in-house, as the seasonal resolution of the data at the East Coast Node was obtained from daily resolution data. It is available from 2007 to the present at:
  https://eastcoast.coastwatch.noaa.gov/data/avhrr-viirs/sst-ngt
  Data was downloaded on June 2, 2026.

- A shapefile of watersheds for the state from the Maryland Department of the Environment and the Department of Natural Resources: the Maryland Watersheds – 8 Digit Watersheds. It contains 138 separate watersheds, identified with an 8-digit numeric code from which three are on the main steam of the Chesapeake Bay: the Upper Chesapeake Bay (code: 02139996; from the mouth of the Susquehanna River to northern side of the mouth of the Gunpowder River), the Middle Chesapeake Bay (code: 02139997; from the Gunpowder River to the mouth of the Chester River), and the Lower Chesapeake Bay (code: 02139998; from the south side of the mouth of the Chester River to the mouth of the Potomac River), which in turn are used to create a one-watershed shapefile for the entire basin. These four watersheds are used to create area-averaged sea surface temperatures for the Bay. It is available at:
  https://data.imap.maryland.gov/datasets/maryland::maryland-watersheds-8-digit-watersheds/about

Some definitions:

About the seasons: Seasons are defined following the common three-month meteorological definitions. Spring includes March, April, and May; summer includes June, July, and August; fall includes September, October, and November; and winter includes December, January, and February. Seasonal temperatures are calculated as the mean of temperatures over the three months, while seasonal precipitation and degree days are calculated as the sum of their values over the three months, which are in turn obtained by summing their daily values.

About climate and climatology. Weather and climate are closely related, but they are not the same. Weather represents the state of the atmosphere (temperature, precipitation, etc.) at any given time. On the other hand, climate refers to the long-term average of weather elements. If the average period is sufficiently long, we can begin to characterize the climate of a particular region.

It is customary to follow the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) recommendation and use 30 years for the average. The 30-year average weather data is traditionally known as Climate Normal (Kunkel and Court, 1990) and is updated every ten years (WMO, 2017). Establishing a climate normal, or climatology, is important because it allows one to compare a specific day, month, season, or even another normal period with the current normal. Such comparisons characterize anomalous weather and climate conditions, climate variability and change, and help define extreme weather and climate events (Arguez et al., 2012). The current climate normal, or simply the climatology, is defined for the period 1991–2020.

It should be noted that the satellite-based sea surface temperature data set has a short temporal coverage of 20 years, from 2007 to the present, which prevents the calculation of its current climate normal (1991-2020). In this case, the 2007-2020 mean is used as the base for comparison in calculating anomalies.

About the anomalies: Anomalies for a given season (e.g., spring 2026) are the departures of the seasonal value from the corresponding climatology; in this case, the 1991-2020 climatology. When the observed seasonal value exceeds its climatological value, it is referred to as above normal (e.g., warmer than normal or wetter than normal) or a positive anomaly. In contrast, when this value is smaller than its climatological value, it is referred to as below normal (e.g., colder than normal or drier than normal) or a negative anomaly. In the case of the sea surface temperature anomalies, they are calculated with respect to their 2007-2020 mean.

About variability. The seasonal standard deviation of a climate variable measures its dispersion relative to its seasonal mean and assesses its year-to-year, or interannual, variability. Anomalies are sometimes compared against that variability to identify extremes in the climate record. When anomalies are divided by the standard deviation, they are referred to as standardized anomalies.

About degree days. Degree days are the difference between the daily mean temperature (calculated by averaging the high and low temperatures) and a predefined base temperature. Since energy demand is cumulative, degree-day totals are typically calculated on a daily, monthly, seasonal, and annual basis.

- *Heating and cooling degree days.* These are used to obtain a general idea of the energy required to warm or cool buildings. The base temperature used for this purpose is 65°F, which is considered tolerable for human comfort (CPC, 2023).

About the water year. The water year is the sum of total precipitation from October 1st to September 30th of the following year and is labeled by the year in which the measurements end. Therefore, the water year 2026 started in October 2025 and will end in September 2026. Total precipitation for the entire water year reflects both winter snow accumulation and summer rainfall. Precipitation that falls during a water year reflects the amount of water that will contribute to actual stream flow and groundwater inputs for that year. This issue presents only the partial water year from October 2025 to May 2026, based on the total monthly precipitation data.

About NOAA's Climate Divisions. The term "climate division" refers to one of the eight divisions in the state that represent climatically homogeneous regions, as determined by NOAA: https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/monitoring/dyk/us-climate-divisions

The eight climate divisions in Maryland are:

- Climate Division 1: Southeastern Shore. It includes the counties of Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester.
- Climate Division 2: Central Eastern Shore. It includes the counties of Caroline, Dorchester, and Talbot.
- Climate Division 3: Lower Southern. It includes the counties of Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's.
- Climate Division 4: Upper Southern. It includes the counties of Anne Arundel and Prince George's.
- Climate Division 5: Northeastern Shore. It includes the counties of Kent and Queen Anne's.
- Climate Division 6: North Central. It includes the counties of Baltimore, Carroll, Cecil, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, and the city of Baltimore.
- Climate Division 7: Appalachian Mountains. It includes the counties of Allegany and Washington.
- Climate Division 8: Allegheny Plateau. It includes Garrett County.

Note that these Climate Divisions do not correspond with the *Physiographic Provinces* in the state, as the former follow county lines. Climate Division 8 follows the *Appalachian Plateau Province*, Climate Division 7 follows the *Ridge and Valley Province*; however, Climate Division 6 includes the *Blue Ridge and the Piedmont Plateau provinces,* Climate Divisions 3, 4, and a portion of 6 include the *Upper Coastal Plain Province*, and Climate Divisions 1, 2, 5, and a portion of 6 include the *Lower Coastal Plain (or Atlantic Continental Shelf) Province*.

3. Spring 2026 Maps

A. Mean Temperatures

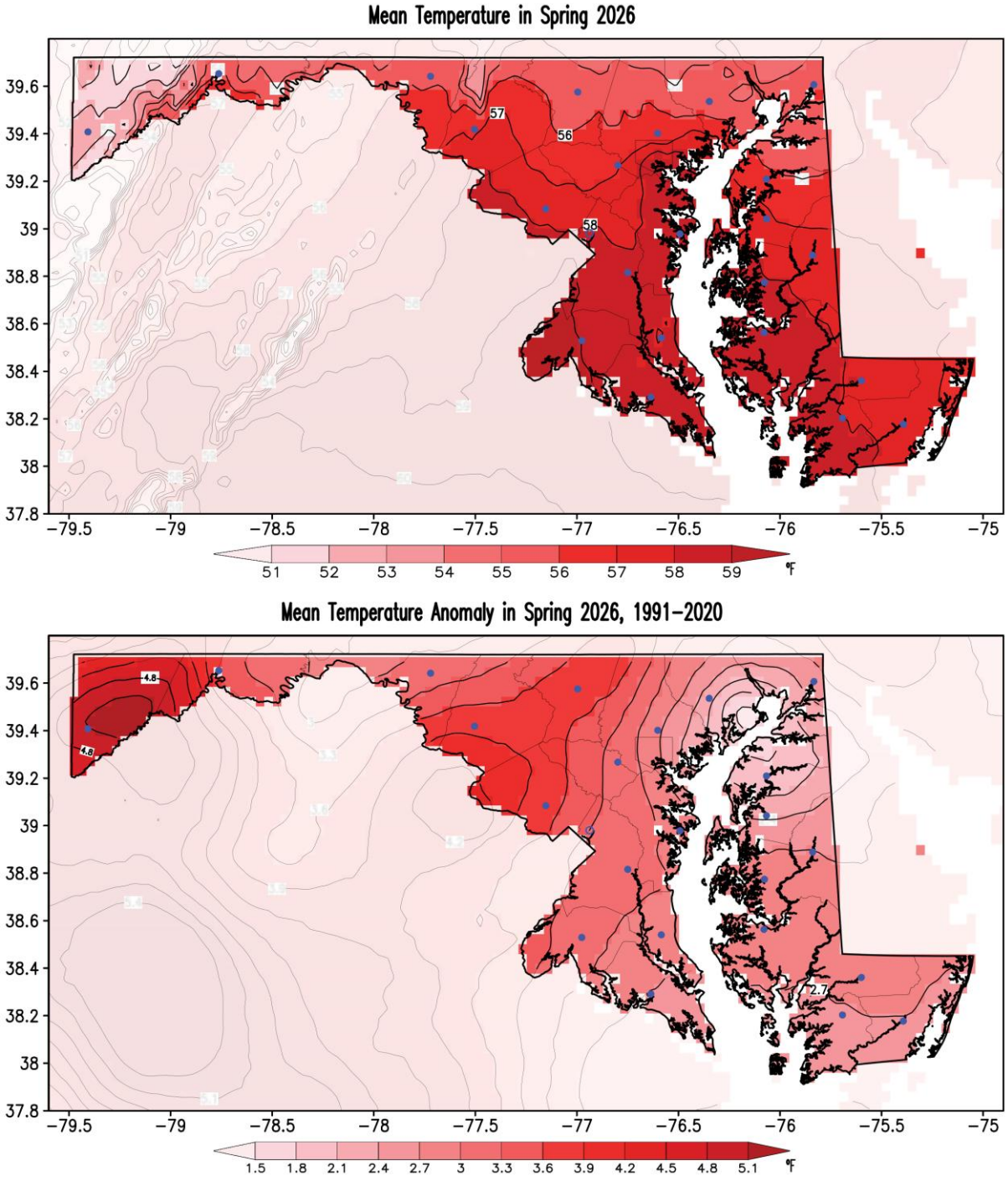

Figure 1. Seasonal mean surface air temperature (top panel) and its anomaly with respect to the 1991-2020 climatology (bottom panel) for spring 206. Temperatures are in °F following the color bar. Red shading in the anomaly map marks warmer-than-normal conditions. Note shading outside the state has been washed out to facilitate focus on Maryland. Filled blue circles mark the county seats.

B. Maximum Temperatures

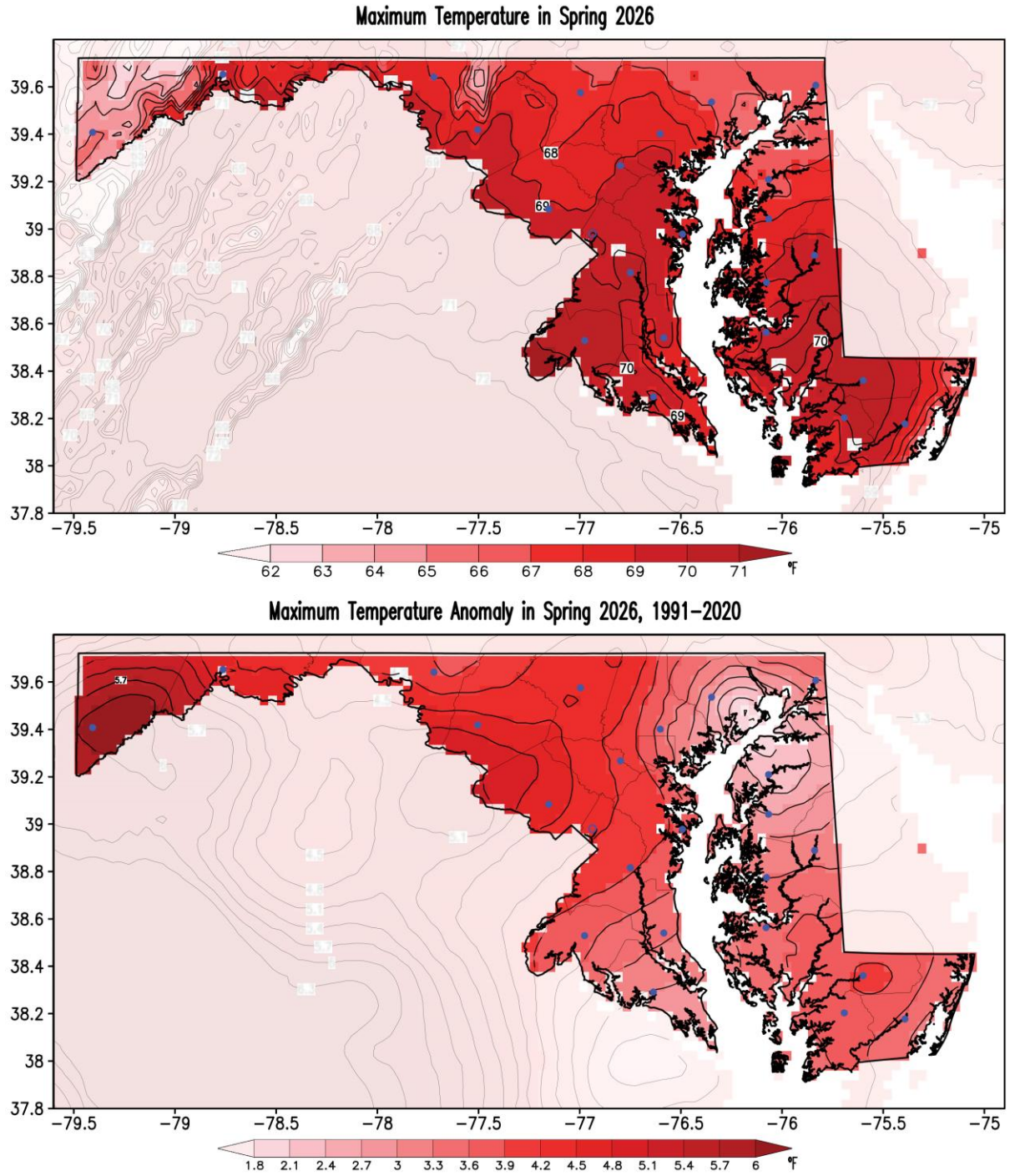

Figure 2. Seasonal maximum surface air temperature (top panel) and its anomaly with respect to the 1991-2020 climatology (bottom panel) for spring 2026. Temperatures are in °F following the color bar. Red shading in the anomaly map marks warmer-than-normal conditions. Note shading outside the state has been washed out to facilitate focus on Maryland. Filled blue circles mark the county seats.

C. Minimum Temperatures

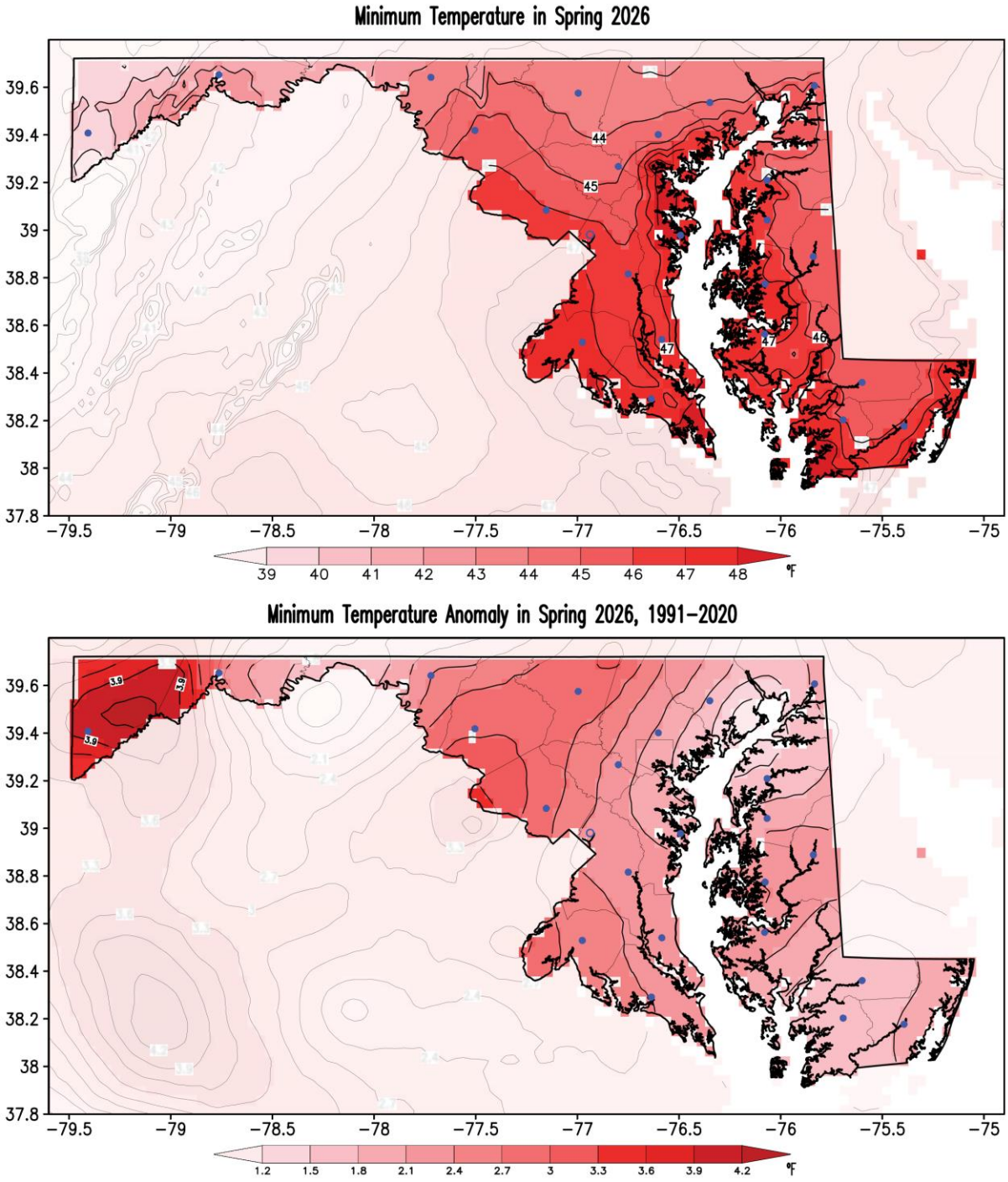

Figure 3. Seasonal minimum surface air temperature (top panel) and its anomaly with respect to the 1991-2020 climatology (bottom panel) for spring 2026. Temperatures are in °F following the color bar. Red shading in the anomaly map marks warmer-than-normal conditions. Note shading outside the state has been washed out to facilitate focus on Maryland. Filled blue circles mark the county seats.

D. Precipitation

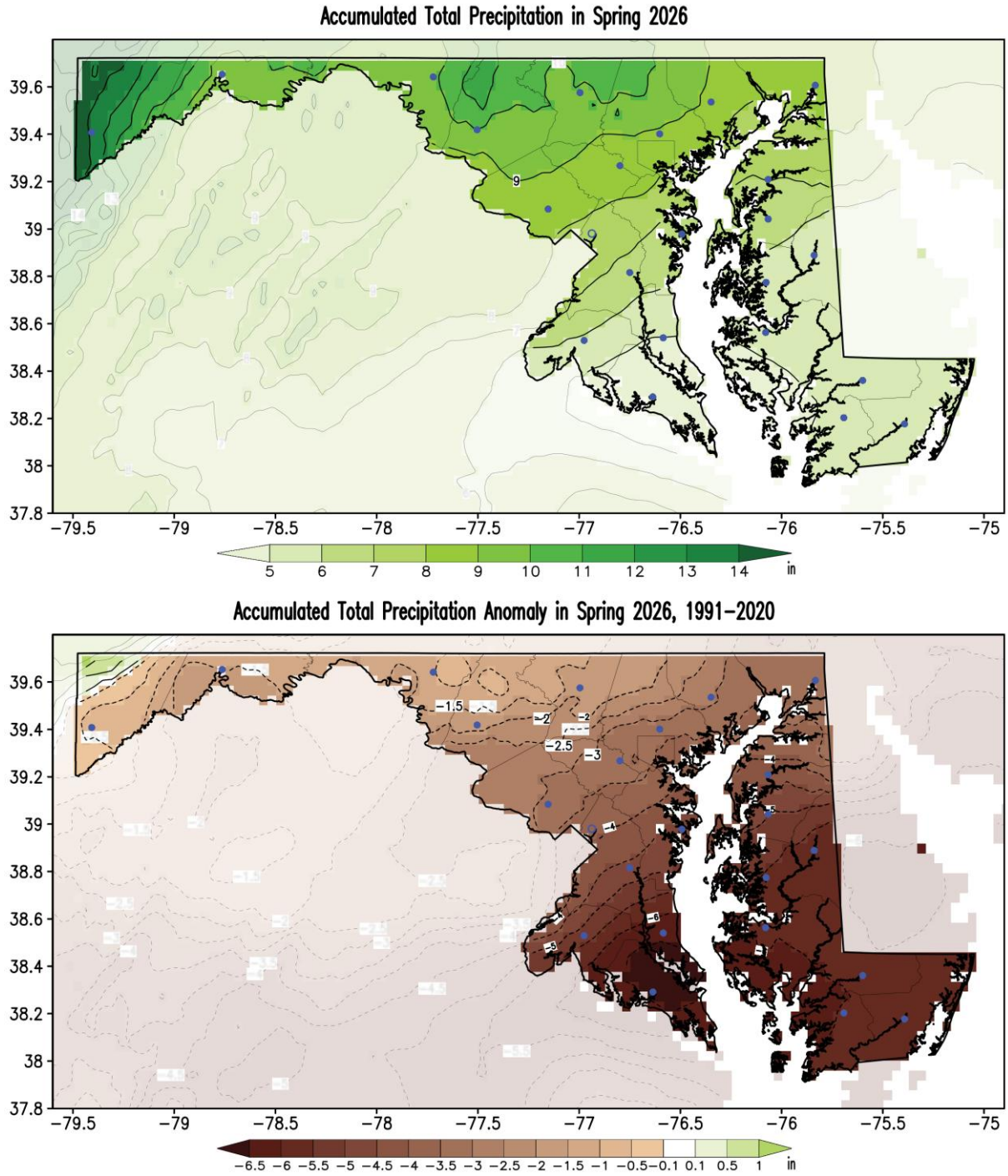

Figure 4. Seasonal accumulated total precipitation (top panel) and its anomaly with respect to the 1991-2020 climatology (bottom panel) for spring 206. Precipitation is in inches following the color bar. Brown/green shading on the anomaly map indicates drier/wetter-than-normal conditions. Note shading outside the state has been washed out to facilitate focus on Maryland. Filled blue circles mark the county seats.

E. Water Year (October 2025 – May 2026)

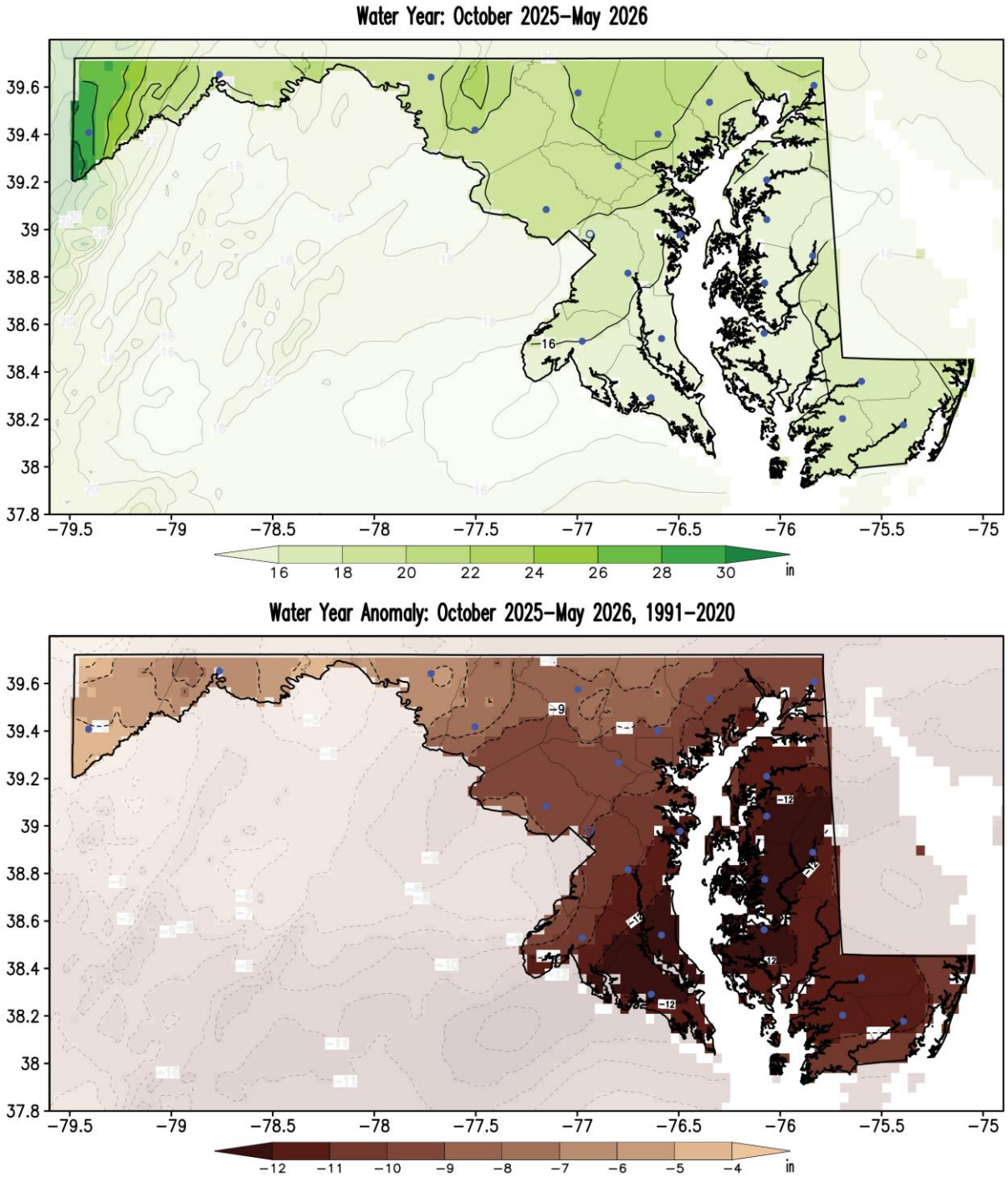

Figure 5. Partial water year until May 2026 (top panel), and its anomaly with respect to the 1991-2020 climatology (bottom panel). Water year is in inches following the color bar. Brown shading in the anomaly map marks drier-than-normal conditions. The current maps display the partial conditions from October 2025 to May 2026. Note shading outside the state has been washed out to facilitate focus on Maryland. Filled blue circles mark the county seats.

4. Spring 2026 and Fall 2025 – Spring 2026 Climate Divisions Averages

A. Spring 2026 Scatter Plots

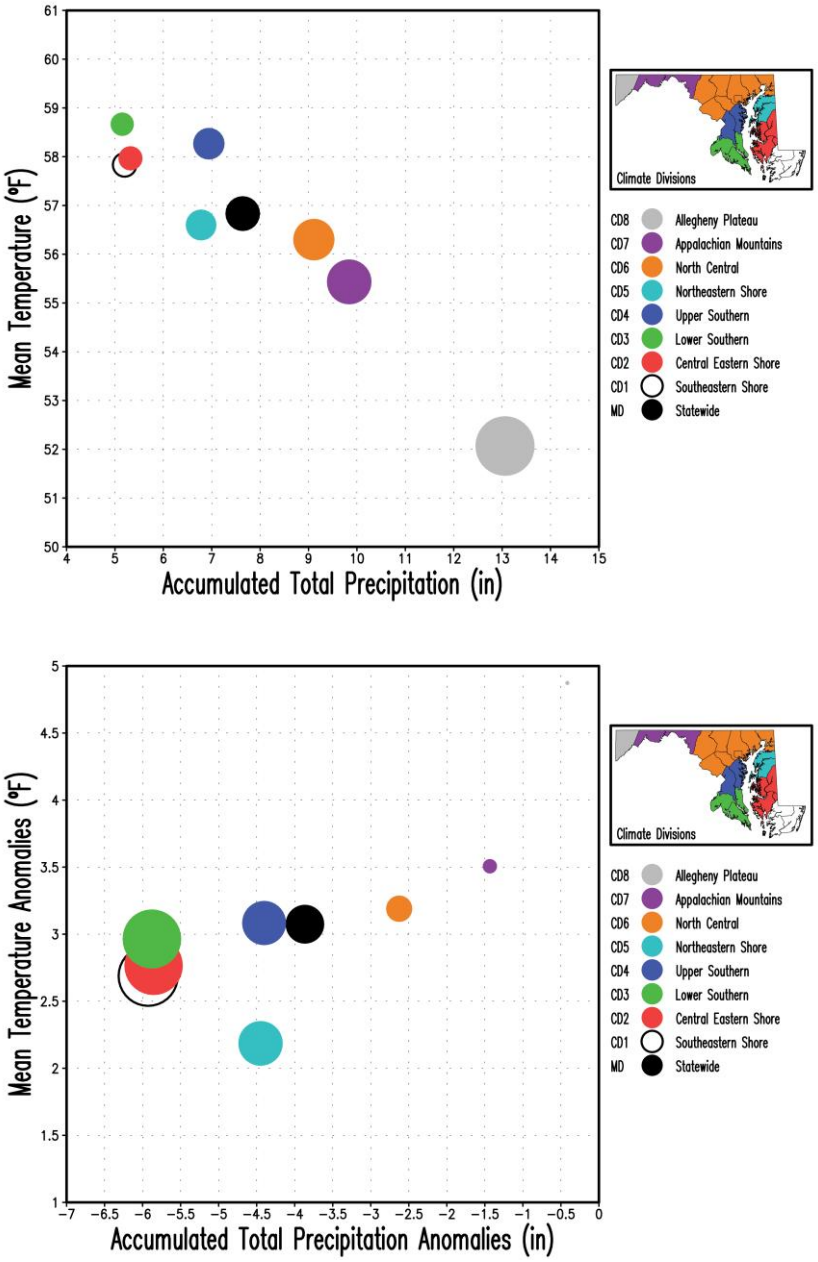

Figure 6. Scatter plots of Maryland (statewide) and Climate Divisions (CD#) seasonal mean surface air temperature vs. accumulated total precipitation for spring 2026. The upper panel shows the mean temperature and total precipitation, and the bottom panel displays their anomalies with respect to the 1991-2020 climatology. Temperatures are in °F, and precipitation is in inches. The size of the circles is proportional to the total precipitation scaled down by the maximum precipitation (13.06 inches in CD8, top panel) and by the maximum precipitation anomaly (|−5.93| inches in CD1, bottom panel) among the nine regions. Note that the color of the filled circles corresponds to the color of the Climate Divisions on the inset map.

B. Fall 2025 to Spring 2026 Scatter Plots

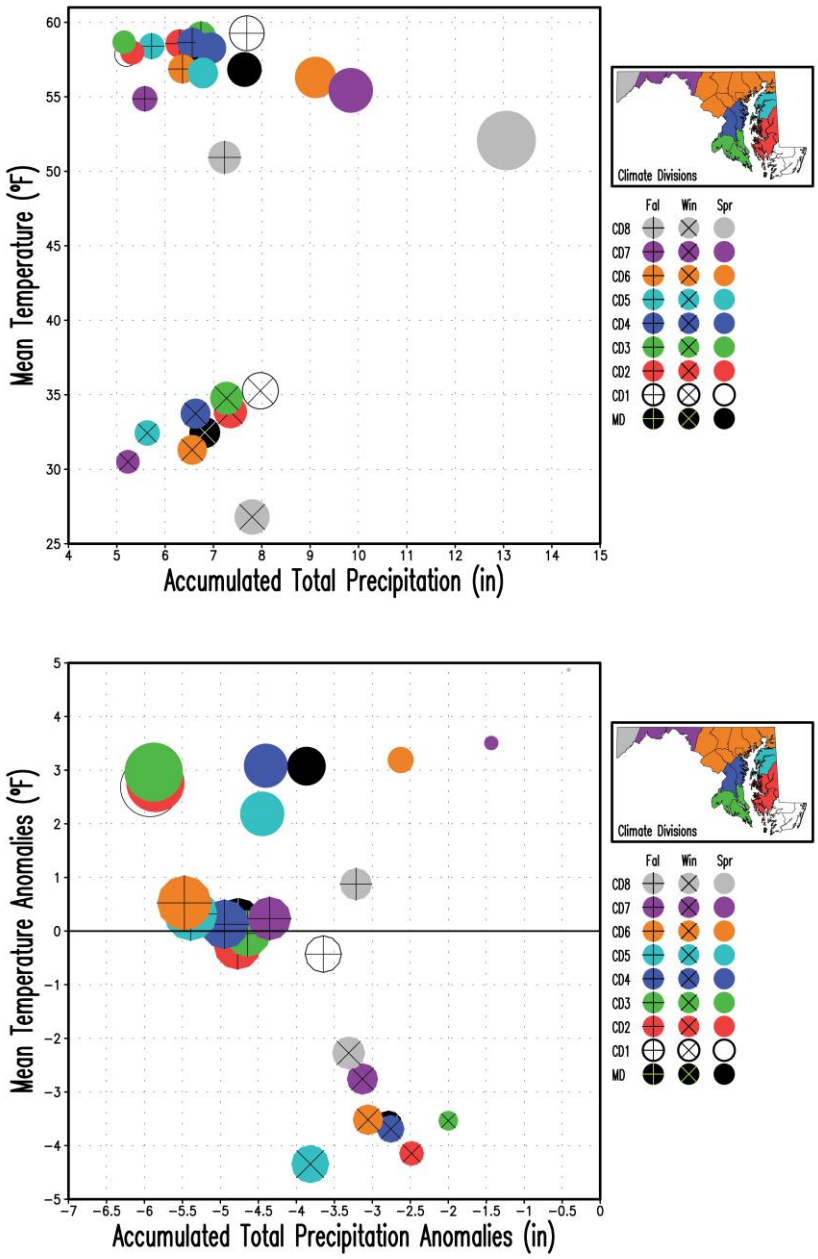

Figure 7. Scatter plots of Maryland (statewide) and Climate Divisions (CD#) seasonal mean surface air temperature vs. accumulated total precipitation for fall 2025, winter 2025-26, and spring 2026. The upper panel shows the mean temperature and total precipitation, and the bottom panel displays their anomalies with respect to the 1991-2020 climatology. Temperatures are in °F, and precipitation is in inches. The size of the circles is proportional to the total precipitation scaled down by the maximum precipitation (13.06 inches in CD8 in spring, top panel) and by the maximum precipitation anomaly (|–5.93| inches in CD1 in spring, bottom panel) among the nine regions and three seasons. Spring 2026 is displayed with filled circles only, while winter 2025-26 and fall 2025 are displayed with superposed multiplication and addition signs, respectively.

5. Spring 2026 Statewide Averages in the Historical Record

A. Box and Whisker Plots

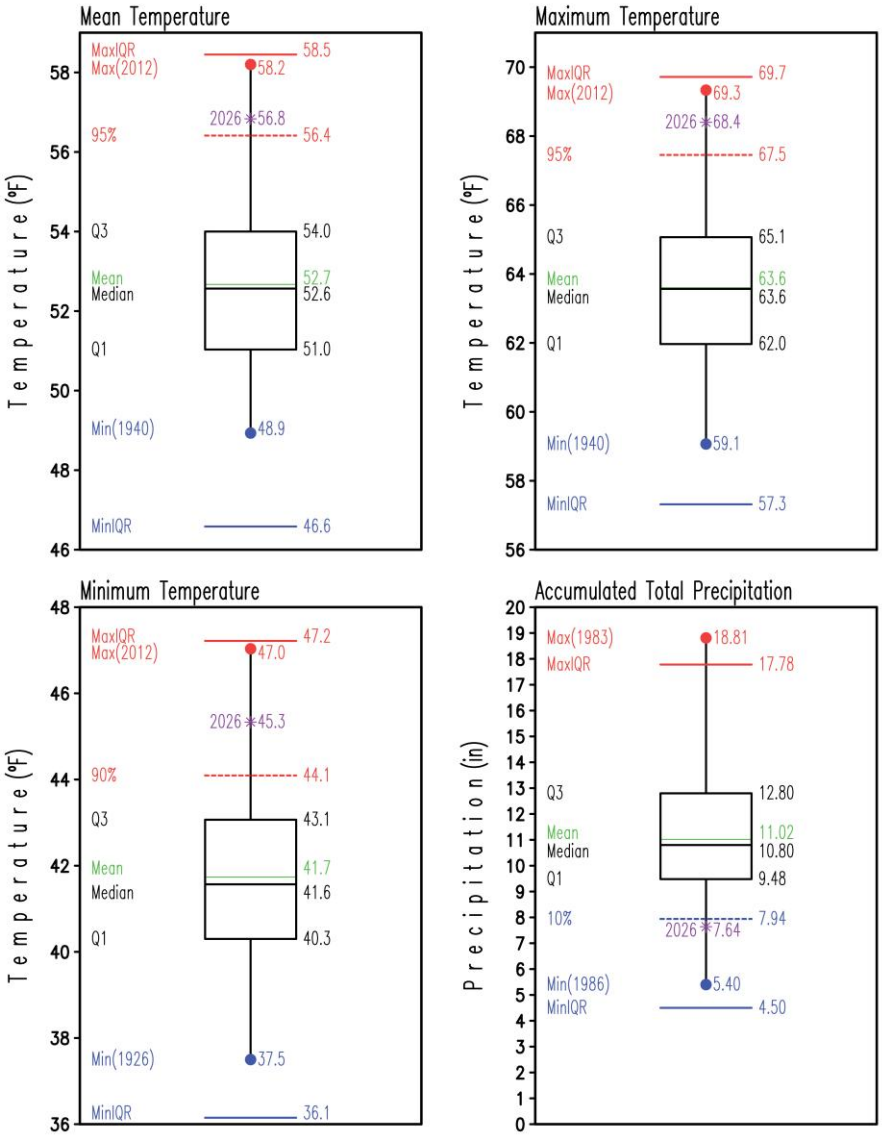

Figure 8. Box and Whisker plots of Maryland (statewide) seasonal mean (upper left), maximum (upper right), minimum (lower left) surface air temperatures, and accumulated total precipitation (lower right) for spring for the period 1895-2025. Conditions for spring 2026 are represented by the label and asterisk in purple. Statistics for the period 1895-2025 are labeled at the left side of each box and whisker plot and their values at their right. Temperatures are in °F and precipitation is in inches. The mean is the green line within the box, while the median is the black line within the box. The lower (Q1) and upper (Q3) quartiles, indicating the values of the variable that separate 25% of the smaller and larger values are the lower and upper horizontal black lines of the box, respectively. For reference, the 95 percentile for the mean and maximum temperatures and the 90 percentile fo the minimun temperature, are displayed with a horizontal dashed, red line, and the 10 percentile for precipitation is displayed with a horizontal dashed, blue line. The blue and red dots mark the minimum and maximum values in the period at the end of the whiskers; the year of occurrence is shown in parenthesis. The blue and red horizontal lines represent extreme values defined by Q1-1.5×(Q3-Q1) and Q3+1.5×(Q3-Q1), respectively.

6. 1895-2026 Spring Trends

A. Statewide Mean Temperature, Heating Degree-Days, Accumulated Total Precipitation, and Partial Water Year (October–May)

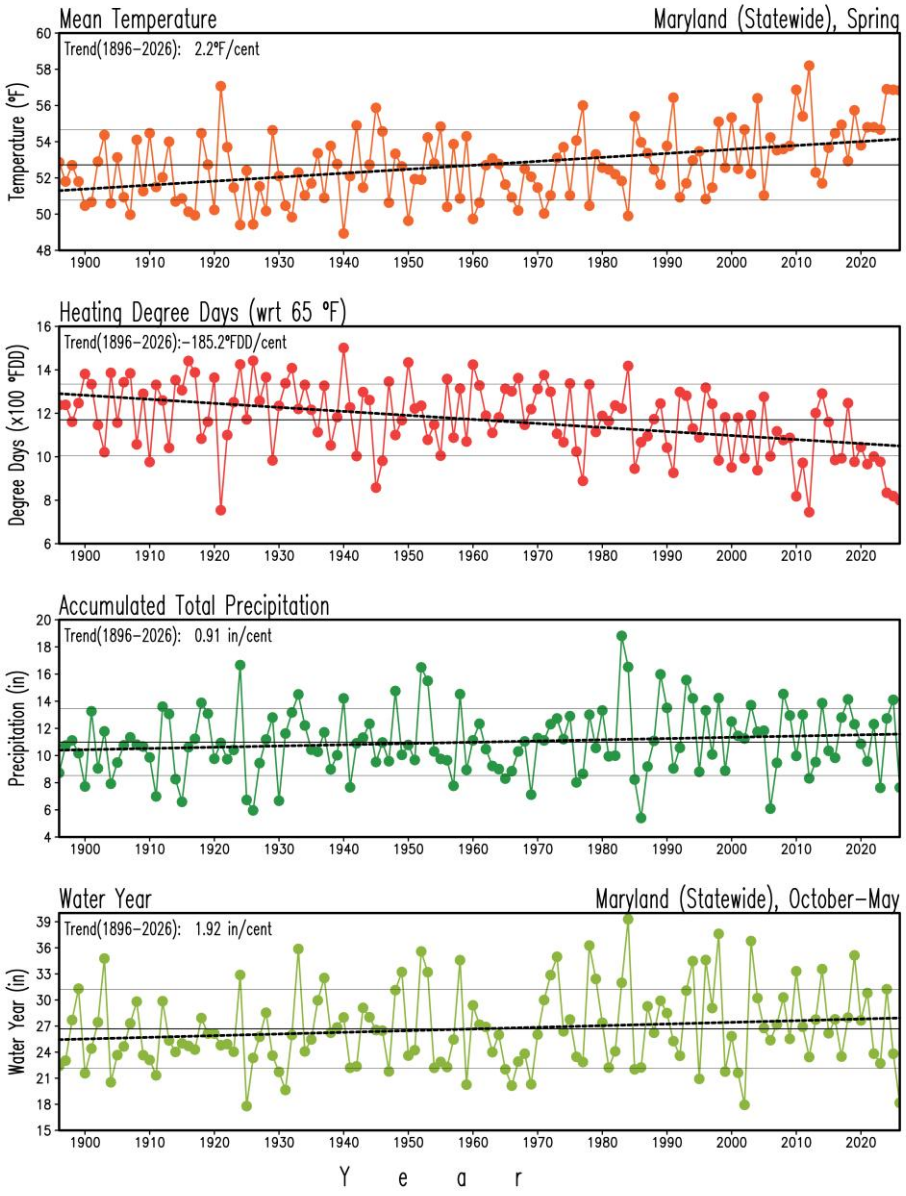

Figure 9. Maryland (statewide) mean surface air temperature, heating degree-days, accumulated total precipitation in spring, and partial water year (October – May) for the period 1895-2026. Temperature is in °F, heating degree-days is in °F degree-days (°FDD), and precipitation and water year are in inches. The thin, continuous black lines in each panel display the long-term means (52.7°F, 1170°FDD, 10.99 in, and 26.68 in, 1895-2026), and the double thin, continuous gray lines indicate the standard deviation (1.9°F, 165°FDD, 2.46 in, and 4.53 in) above/below the long-term mean. The thick dashed black lines show the long-term linear trends. The warming temperature trend (2.2°F/century), the decreasing heating degree-days trend (−185°FDD/century), and the increasing water year trend (1.92 in/century) are statistically significant at the 95% level (*Student's t-test* −Santer et al. 2000), but not the wetting precipitation trend (0.91 in/century).

B. Temperature and Precipitation Maps

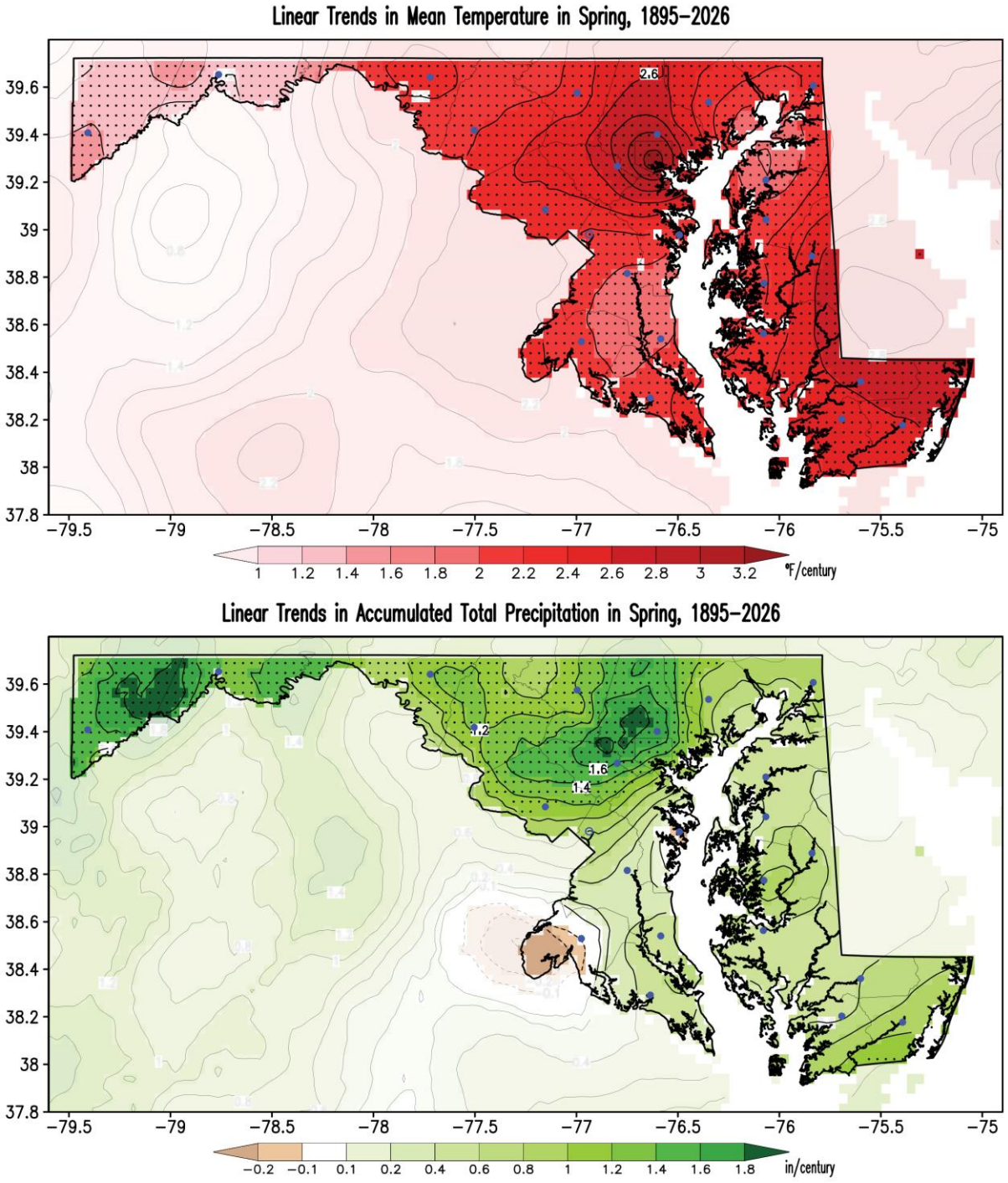

Figure 10. Linear trends in spring surface air mean temperature and accumulated total precipitation for the period 1895-2026. Temperatures are in °F/century, and precipitation is in inches/century following the color bars. Red shading in the temperature map marks warming trends. Brown/green shading in the precipitation map shows drying/wetting trends. Stippling in the maps shows regions where trends are statistically significant at the 95% level (*Student's t-test* −Santer et al. 2000). Note that shading outside the state has been washed out to facilitate focus on Maryland. Filled blue circles mark the county seats.

7. Chesapeake Bay's Satellite Sea Surface Temperatures

A. Spring 2026 Maps

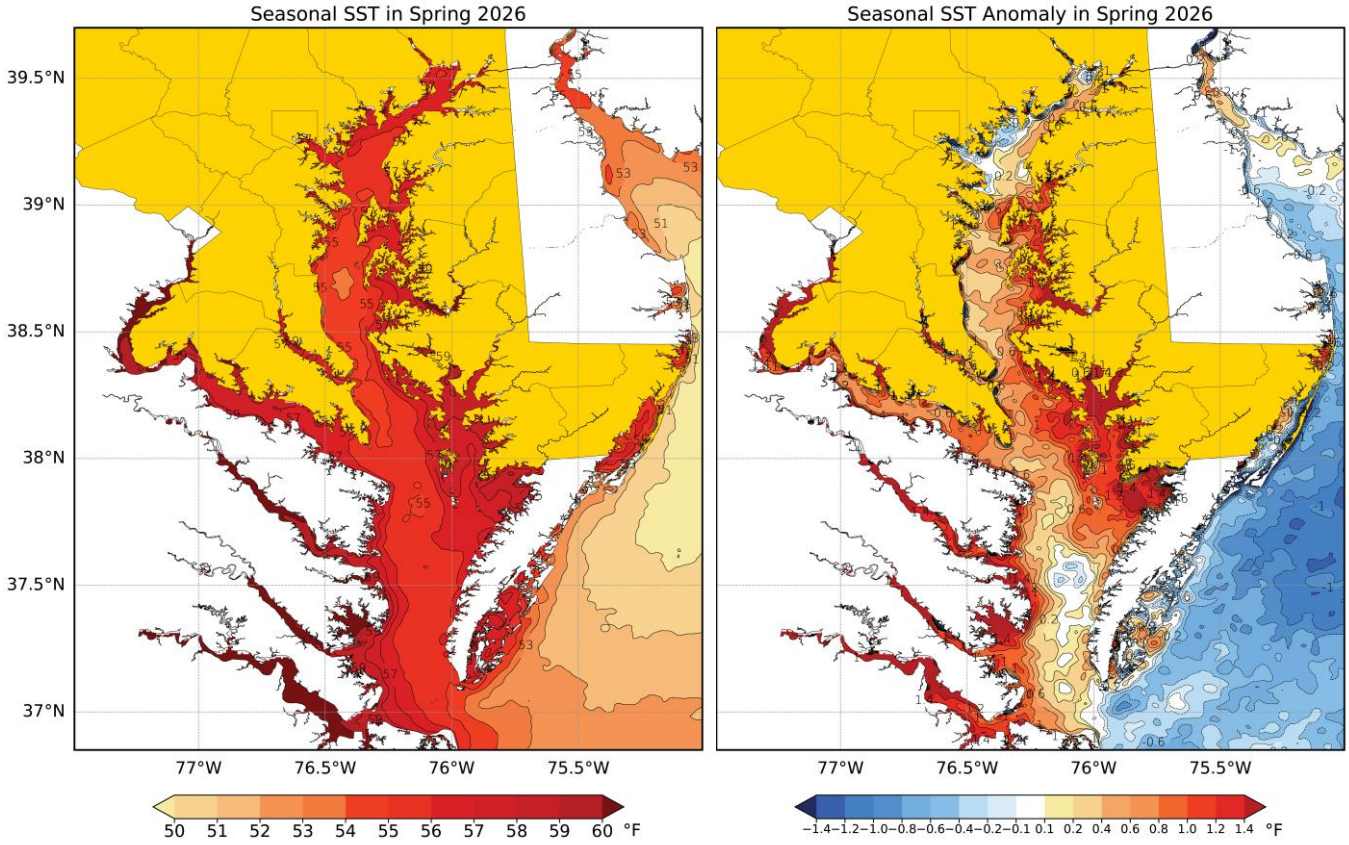

Figure 11. Seasonal sea surface temperature (left panel) and its anomaly (right panel) in the Chesapeake Bay and surrounding coastal areas in spring 2026. Temperatures are in °F following the color bar. Blue/orange shading in the anomaly map marks colder/warmer temperatures than the 2007-2020 mean. For clarity, the temperatures and their anomalies have been smoothed using a 9-point spatial smoother applied four times. Note that Maryland has been shaded yellow to facilitate focus on the state waters. Be aware that the NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office (NCBO) develops seasonal summaries of water quality parameters in the Chesapeake Bay, and that a map of seasonal sea surface temperature anomalies using the same multi-sensor satellite set is also included. Differences with the NCBO's map arise due to differences in the units (°F here vs. °C there), in the mean to be subtracted from the temperatures of the season (2007-2020 here vs. 2007-2025 there), the spatial smoothing here (and none there), and the way the seasonal temperatures are obtained (from monthly temperature here vs. daily temperatures there).

B. Upper, Middle, Lower, and Entire Basins Averages in Spring

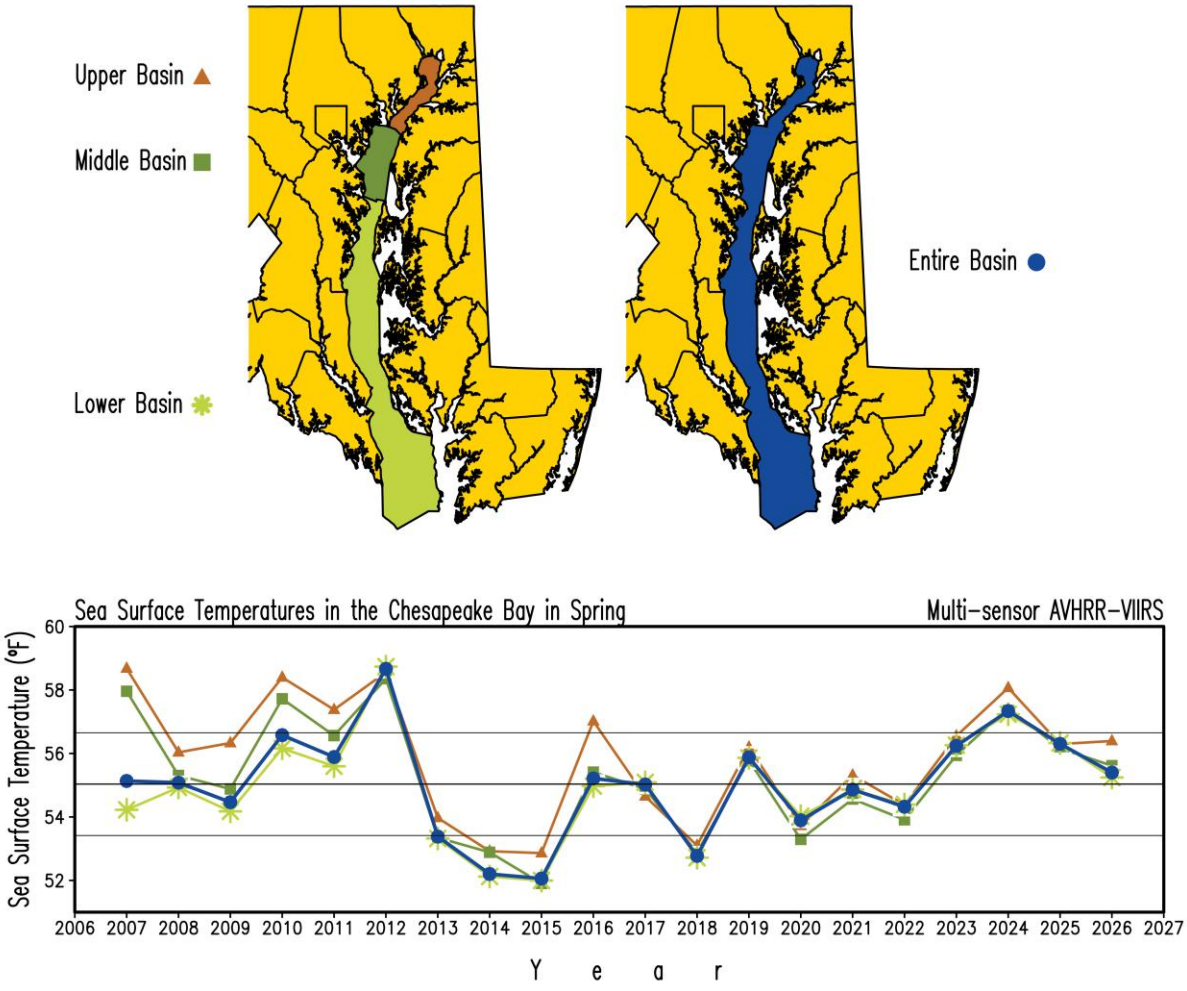

Figure 12. Watersheds in the Chesapeake Bay (top panel) and their area-averaged sea surface temperatures in spring for the period 2007-2026 (bottom panel). Temperatures are in °F. The color of the lines corresponds to the color of the watersheds in the Bay, as indicated on the maps: Brown for the Upper Bay, dark green for the Middle Bay, light green for the Lower Bay, and Navy Blue for the Entire Bay. The mean temperature for the Entire basin in spring 2026 was 55.4°F, while for the Upper, Middle, and Lower basins was 56.4, 55.6, and 55.2°F, respectively. The thin, continuous black line in the lower panel displays the 2007-2026 mean for the Entire Basin (55.0°F), and the double thin, continuous gray lines indicate the standard deviation (1.6°F) above/below the long-term mean. The 2007-2026 mean temperatures for the Upper, Middle, and Lower basins in spring were 55.8, 55.2, and 54.9°F, respectively, while their standard deviations were 1.9, 1.8, and 1.6°F, respectively. For consistency with the analysis of the atmospheric variables, the seasonal time series are obtained from the monthly time series.

Appendix A. Spring 2026 Tables: Statewide, Climate Divisions, and Counties

A. Mean Temperature and Precipitation

Region	Mean Air Temperature (°F)	Rank (#)
Statewide	56.8	127
Climate Division 1	57.8	129
Climate Division 2	58.0	126
Climate Division 3	58.7	129
Climate Division 4	58.3	127
Climate Division 5	56.6	123
Climate Division 6	56.3	128
Climate Division 7	55.4	130
Climate Division 8	52.1	132
Allegany	55.1	130
Anne Arundel	58.3	127
Baltimore	56.3	127
Baltimore City	58.0	128
Calvert	58.1	128
Caroline	57.4	127
Carroll	55.6	129
Cecil	55.5	124
Charles	59.1	130
Dorchester	58.3	127
Fredrick	56.4	130
Garrett	52.1	132
Harford	55.4	123
Howard	56.8	130
Kent	56.3	123
Montgomery	57.6	131
Prince George's	58.2	130
Queen Anne's	56.9	124
Saint Mary's	58.4	127
Somerset	58.3	129
Talbot	58.1	126
Washington	55.7	130
Wicomico	58.0	129
Worcester	57.4	128

Region	Acc. Total Precipitation (in)	Rank (#)
Statewide	7.64	10
Climate Division 1	5.20	3
Climate Division 2	5.32	2
Climate Division 3	5.15	3
Climate Division 4	6.94	10
Climate Division 5	6.78	8
Climate Division 6	9.11	29
Climate Division 7	9.84	55
Climate Division 8	13.06	80
Allegany	9.92	56
Anne Arundel	7.01	11
Baltimore	9.19	29
Baltimore City	8.38	21
Calvert	5.00	3
Caroline	5.57	3
Carroll	9.82	52
Cecil	8.18	17
Charles	5.70	4
Dorchester	5.06	2
Fredrick	9.98	52
Garrett	13.04	80
Harford	8.61	22
Howard	8.72	25
Kent	7.21	10
Montgomery	8.62	29
Prince George's	6.90	9
Queen Anne's	6.51	7
Saint Mary's	4.52	2
Somerset	5.12	2
Talbot	5.79	4
Washington	9.77	56
Wicomico	5.19	2
Worcester	5.26	3

Table A1. Seasonal mean surface air temperature (left) and accumulated total precipitation (right) in Maryland (statewide), climate division, and county levels for spring 2026. Temperatures are in °F, and precipitation is in inches. The rank is the position the variable for spring 2026 occupies among the 132 springs since 1895 after the 132 values have been arranged from lowest to highest using the *standard competition ranking method*. The closer the rank is to 132, the larger (i.e., warmer/wetter) the value of the surface variable is in the record; similarly, the closer the rank is to 1, the smaller (i.e., the colder/drier) the value of the surface variable is in the record.

B. Maximum and Minimum Temperatures

Region	Maximum Air Temperature (°F)	Rank (#)
Statewide	68.4	130
Climate Division 1	69.1	131
Climate Division 2	69.4	129
Climate Division 3	69.8	130
Climate Division 4	69.7	131
Climate Division 5	67.5	124
Climate Division 6	67.9	130
Climate Division 7	68.3	130
Climate Division 8	64.2	131
Allegany	68.3	130
Anne Arundel	69.4	130
Baltimore	68.1	130
Baltimore City	69.2	129
Calvert	69.0	130
Caroline	69.3	127
Carroll	67.6	130
Cecil	66.4	126
Charles	70.6	130
Dorchester	69.6	129
Fredrick	68.2	131
Garrett	64.2	131
Harford	66.6	125
Howard	68.8	131
Kent	66.9	125
Montgomery	69.2	131
Prince George's	70.0	131
Queen Anne's	67.9	124
Saint Mary's	69.2	128
Somerset	69.4	131
Talbot	68.9	129
Washington	68.3	131
Wicomico	70.0	131
Worcester	68.1	130

Region	Minimum Air Temperature (°F)	Rank (#)
Statewide	45.3	124
Climate Division 1	46.6	121
Climate Division 2	46.5	123
Climate Division 3	47.5	124
Climate Division 4	46.8	124
Climate Division 5	45.7	122
Climate Division 6	44.7	124
Climate Division 7	42.5	125
Climate Division 8	39.9	131
Allegany	41.9	127
Anne Arundel	47.1	123
Baltimore	44.5	124
Baltimore City	46.6	123
Calvert	47.2	124
Caroline	45.5	123
Carroll	43.7	127
Cecil	44.6	122
Charles	47.5	126
Dorchester	46.9	123
Fredrick	44.7	126
Garrett	40.0	131
Harford	44.2	122
Howard	44.8	125
Kent	45.7	123
Montgomery	46.0	126
Prince George's	46.5	124
Queen Anne's	45.9	122
Saint Mary's	47.6	125
Somerset	47.3	121
Talbot	47.2	124
Washington	43.1	123
Wicomico	45.9	121
Worcester	46.7	122

Table A2. Seasonal maximum (left) and minimum (right) surface air temperatures in Maryland (statewide), climate division, and county levels for spring 2026. Temperatures are in °F. The rank is the position the variable for spring 2026 occupies among the 132 springs since 1895 after the 132 values have been arranged from lowest to highest using the *standard competition ranking method*. The closer the rank is to 132, the larger (i.e., the warmer) the value of the surface variable is in the record; similarly, the closer the rank is to 1, the smaller (i.e., the colder) the value of the surface variable is in the record.

Appendix B. Spring 2026 Bar Graphs: Statewide, Climate Divisions, and Counties

A. Temperatures and Precipitation

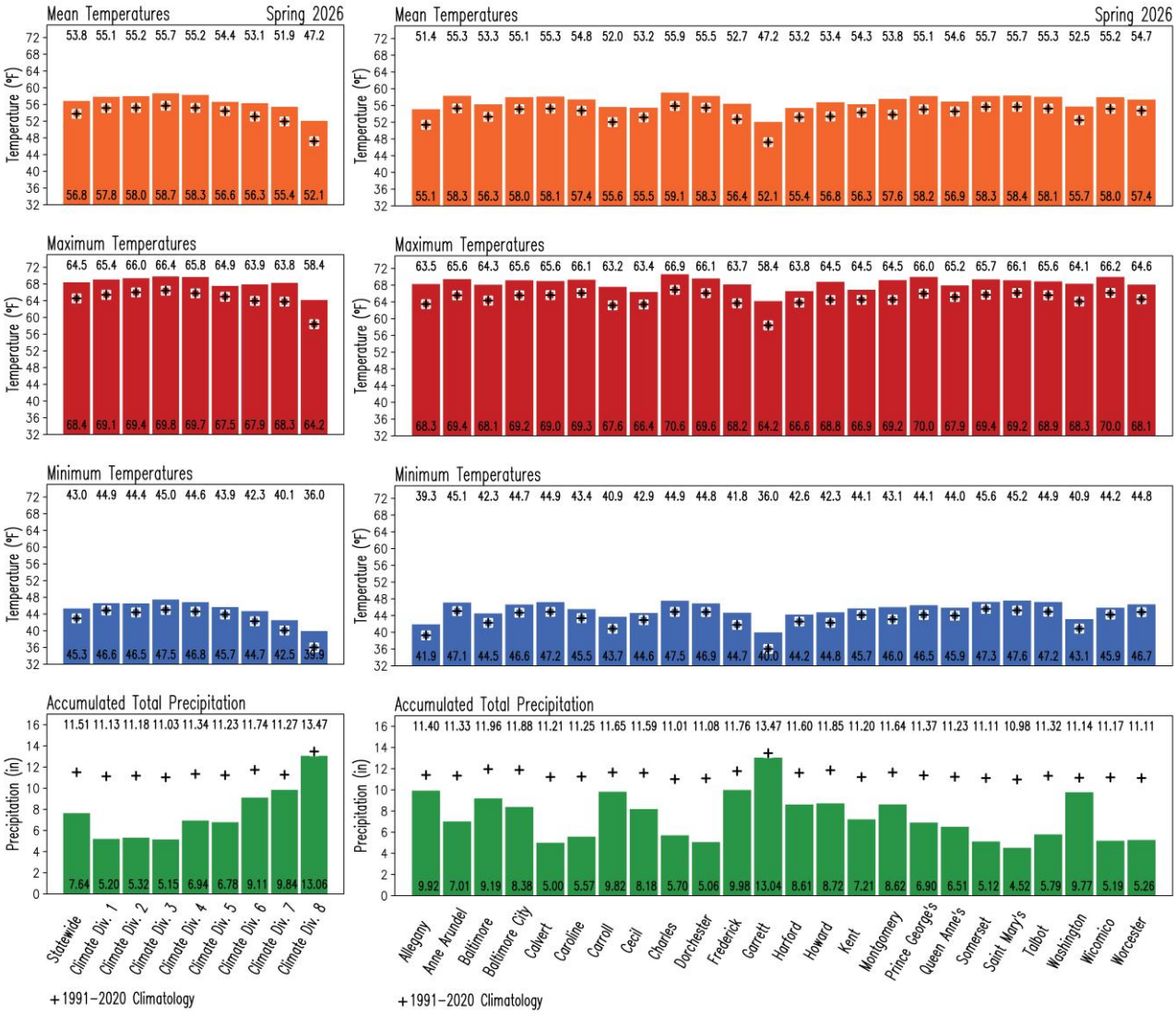

Figure B1. Seasonal surface variables in Maryland for spring 2026. Color bars represent the variables as follows: mean surface air temperature (orange), maximum surface air temperature (red), minimum surface air temperature (blue), and accumulated total precipitation (green) at statewide and climate division (left column), and at county (right column) levels. Temperatures are in °F, and precipitation is in inches. The numbers at the base of the bars indicate the magnitude of the variable for spring 2026. For comparison, the corresponding 1991-2020 climatological values for spring are displayed as black addition signs, and their magnitudes are shown at the top of the panels.

B. Temperature and Precipitation Anomalies

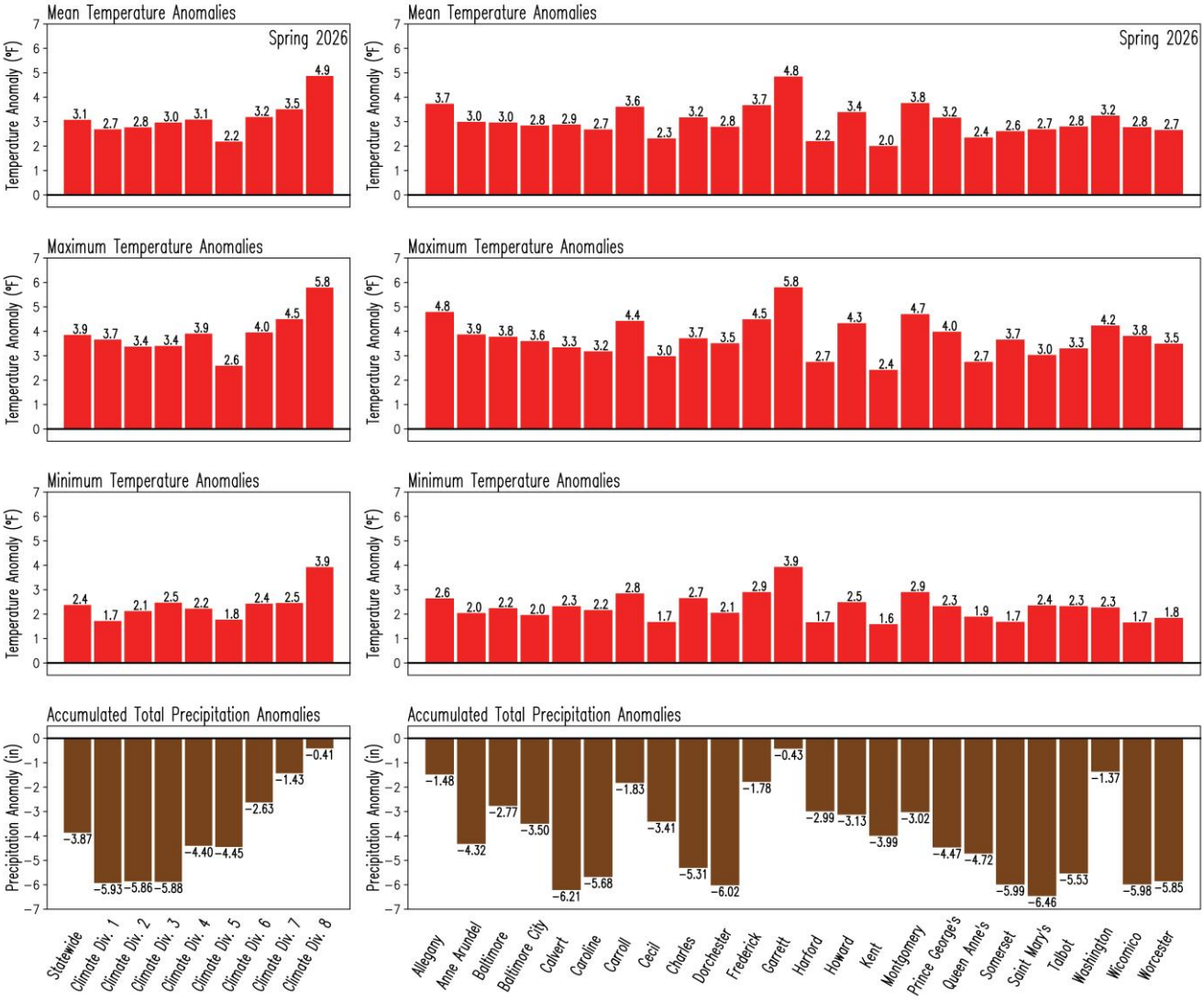

Figure B2. Anomalies of the seasonal surface variables in Maryland for spring 2026. Anomalies are with respect to the 1991-2020 climatology. The red color represents warmer than normal anomalies for mean surface air temperature (upper row), maximum surface air temperature (second row from top), and minimum surface air temperature (third row from top), while the brown color indicates drier than normal anomalies in accumulated total precipitation (bottom row) at statewide and climate division (left column), and at county (right column) levels. Temperatures are in °F, and precipitation is in inches. The numbers outside the bars indicate the magnitude of the anomaly for spring 2026.

Appendix C. Spring Climatology and Spring 2026 Precipitation as Percentage of Climatology Maps

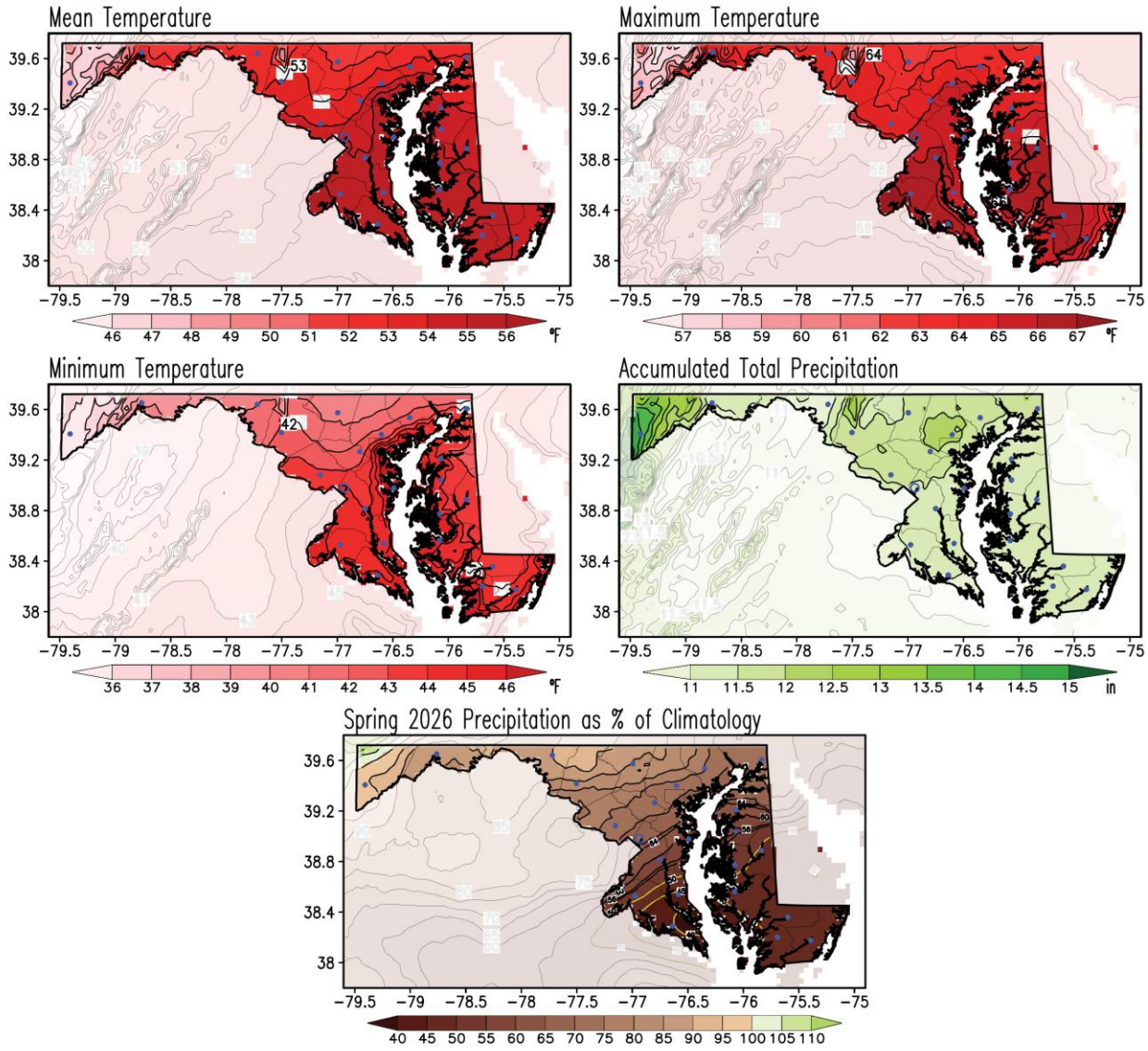

Figure C1. Spring climatology of the seasonal mean, maximum, and minimum surface air temperatures, and accumulated total precipitation for the period 1991-2020 (upper and middle rows), and precipitation in spring 2026 as a percentage of climatology (bottom row). Temperatures are in °F and precipitation in inches, as indicated by the color bars. This is the current climate normal against which the spring 2026 conditions are compared to obtain the spring anomalies (from Figures 1 to 4). The precipitation as a percentage is obtained by dividing the total precipitation (from Figure 4) by the climatology (from the middle-right panel) and multiplying that ratio by 100, so units are in percent of climatology (%); brown/green shading in this map shows drier/wetter-than-normal conditions. Note that shading outside the state has been washed out to facilitate focus on Maryland. Filled blue circles mark the county seats.

Appendix D: The Water Year Climatology and October 2025-May 2026 as Percentage of Climatology Maps

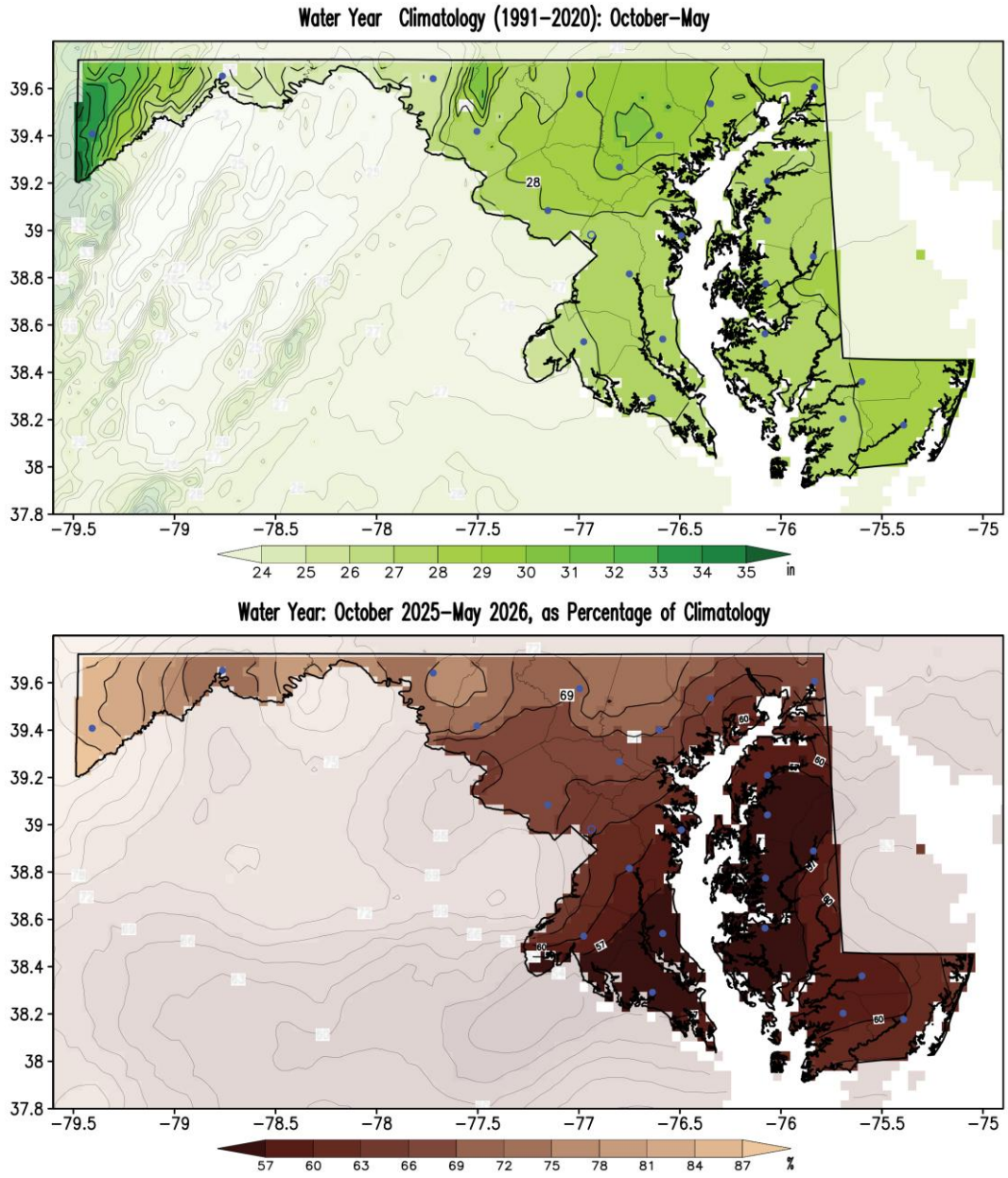

Figure D1. Climatology of the partial water year (October – May, top panel), and the partial water year (October 2025 – May 2026) as a percentage of the climatology (bottom panel). Climatology is for the period 1991-2020. The climatology for the water year is in inches, following the color bar. The partial 2026 water year as a percentage of climatology is obtained by dividing the 2026 water year (Figure 5, upper panel) by the climatology (upper panel) and multiplying the ratio by 100; hence, units are in percent (%). Brown shading in the percentage map highlights regions where the partial 2026 water year is drier than normal. Note that shading outside the state has been washed out to facilitate focus on Maryland. Filled blue circles mark the county seats.

Appendix E. Spring Standard Deviation and Spring 2026 Standardized Anomalies Maps

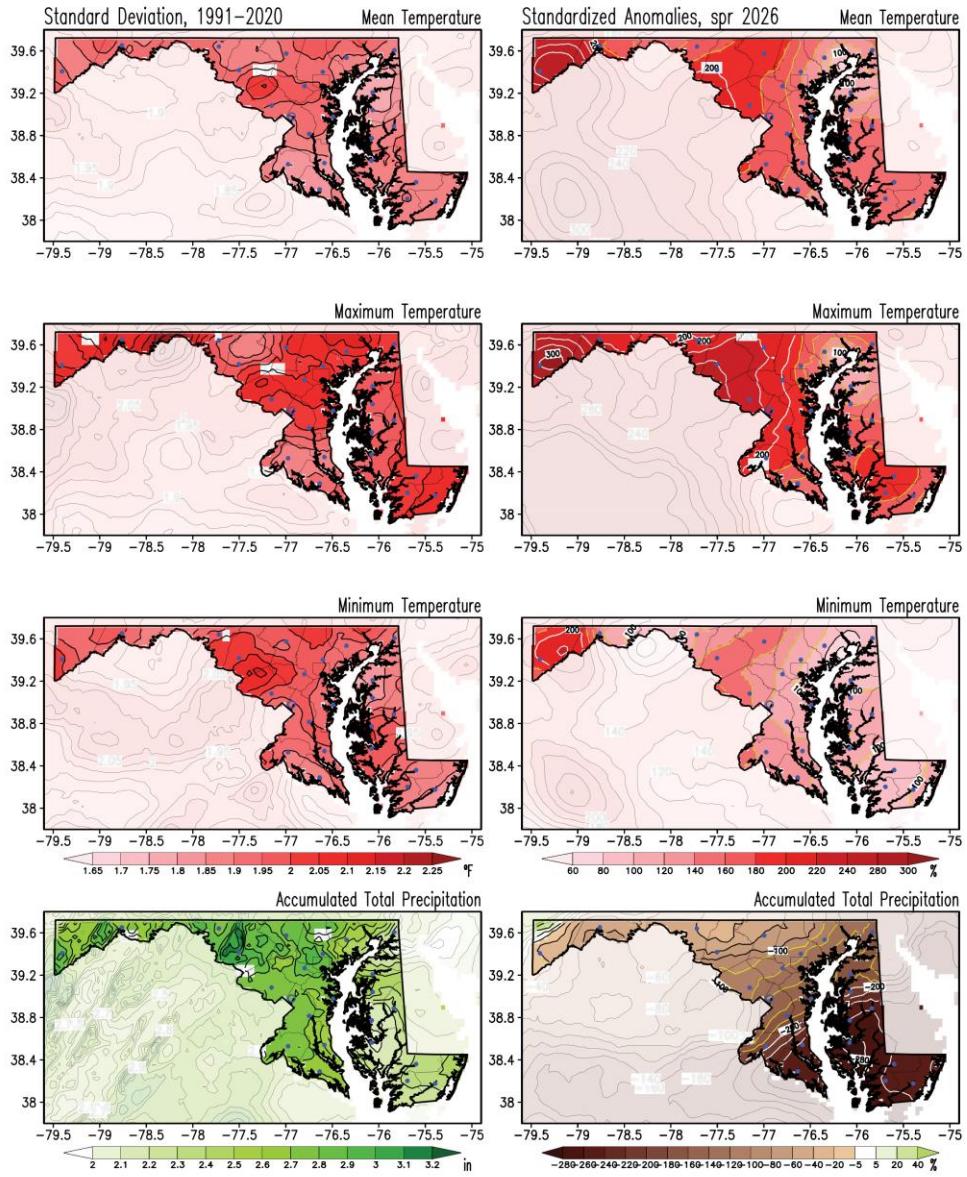

Figure E1. Standard deviation for spring and standardized anomalies of temperatures and precipitation for spring 2026. Standard deviations for seasonal mean, maximum, and minimum surface air temperatures and accumulated total precipitation were obtained for the 1991-2020 period (left column). Anomalies for spring 2026 (right column) are obtained as a percentage of the standard deviations. The standard deviations for temperature are in °F, and those for precipitation are in inches, according to the color bars. Red shading in the anomaly temperature maps marks warmer-than-normal conditions; brown/green shading in the anomaly precipitation map marks drier/wetter-than-normal conditions. The yellow isolines on the anomaly maps mark values at or above 100% or 1 standard deviation. The standardized anomalies are obtained by dividing the raw anomalies (from Figures 1 to 4) by the standard deviation (from the left column panels) and multiplying the result by 100; hence, the units are in percent (%). Note that shading outside the state has been washed out to facilitate focus on Maryland. Filled blue circles mark the county seats.

Appendix F. Spring Mean and Standard Deviation of Sea Surface Temperatures Maps

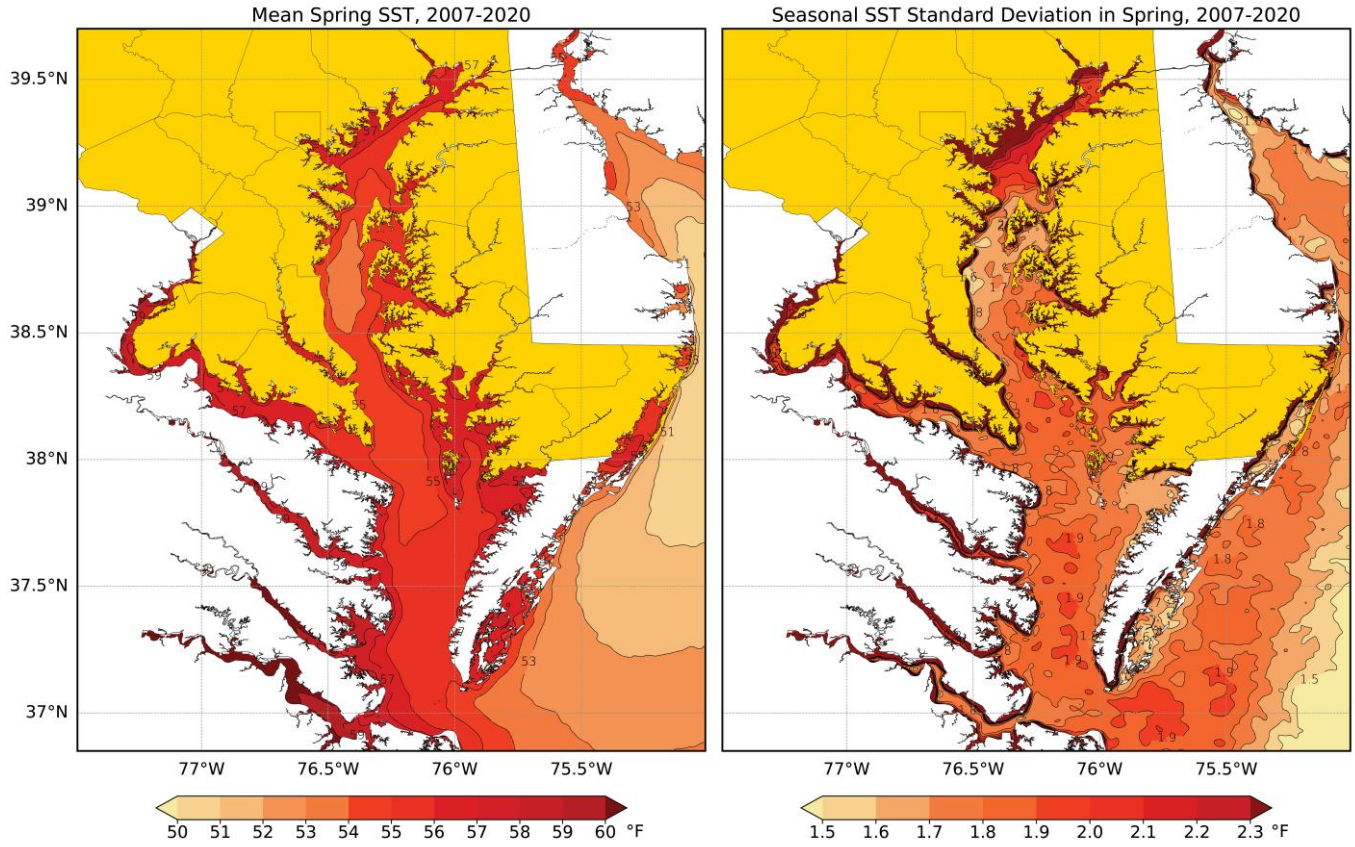

Figure F1. Mean (left panel) and standard deviation (right panel) of seasonal sea surface temperatures in the Chesapeake Bay and surrounding coastal areas in spring for the period 2007-2020. The mean and standard deviation of the temperatures are in °F as indicated by the color bars. The mean temperature map is the current mean against which the spring 2026 conditions are compared to obtain the spring 2026 anomalies (from Figure 11). For clarity, the mean and standard deviation of the temperature have been smoothed using a 9-point spatial smoother, applied four times. To facilitate comparison between the mean map (left panel) and the spring 2026 map (Figure 11, left panel), the shading schemes are the same. Note that Maryland has been shaded yellow to facilitate focus on the state waters.

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