

# Climate: The View from the Front Porch

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# The Issue of Climate in Perspective

- Our climate is a valuable resource, yet an ever present threat
- Annual variability and long-term change create uncertainty
- Managing uncertainty is vital for both operational and strategic decision making



# National Climate Services Partnership



- National Climatic Data Center
- Regional Climate Centers
- AASC Recognized State Climate Offices

# Some Activities of State Climate Offices

- Provide a gateway to data and information from NCDC, RCCs, and other sources
- Monitor current climate conditions, assess impacts, and ***place events into spatial and historical context***
- Understand and respond to the needs of users by providing customized services to aid decision making



# A Matter of Perspective

## Geostationary Earth Observing Platforms



*Remote sensing often provides a bird's-eye view, while people see the world from their front porch.*

# Cognitive Biases Affect Interpretation

- Availability heuristic
- Anchoring
- Confirmation bias
- Illusory correlation
- Overconfidence effect
- ... many others



# Drought Monitoring

## Adding Context

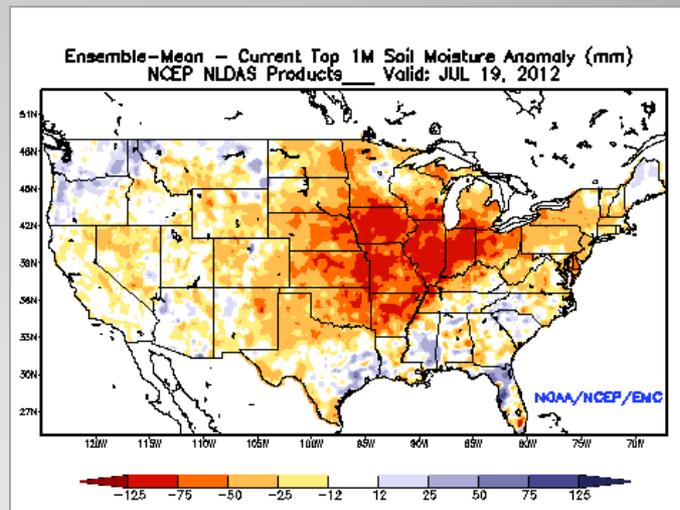
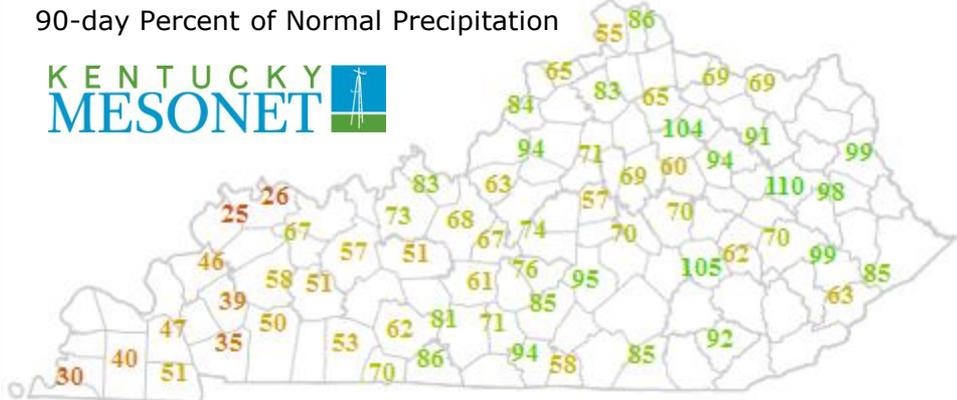
From the front porch →



Local detail within statewide context ↓

90-day Percent of Normal Precipitation

**KENTUCKY  
MESONET**



Regional detail within national context ↑

# From Data to Decision

