LOCALiQ

Times Telegram | New Jersey Herald
Daily Messenger | Observer-Dispatch
The Leader | Times Herald-Record
The Spectator

PO Box 631202 Cincinnati, OH 45263-1202

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

_ Tracy Tracy
Tracy Thayer
Smith Marketing Services
Po Box 155
Smith Marketing Services
Brooktondale NY 14817-0155

STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTIES OF
ALLEGANY/STEUBEN/LIVINGSTON

The Spectator, a daily newspaper of general circulation in the Counties of Allegany/Steuben/Livingston, New York; Published in Steuben County, New York; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in said newspaper in the issues dated:

07/08/2025, 07/15/2025, 07/22/2025, 07/29/2025

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates and that the fees charged are legal.

Sworn to and subscribed before on 07/29/2025

Legal Clerk

Notary, State of WI, County of Brown

8.25.26

My commission expires

Order No:	11456000	# of Copies:
Customer No:	1085048	1
PO #:	16160	

THIS IS NOT AN INVOICE!

Please do not use this form for payment remittance.

MARIAH VERHAGEN
Notary Public
State of Wisconsin

Unemployment claims in New York increased last week

Staff reports
USA TODAY Network

Initial filings for unemployment benefits in New York rose last week compared with the week prior, the U.S. Department of Labor said Thursday.

New jobless claims, a proxy for layoffs, increased to 15,713 in the week ending June 28, up from 12,287 the week before, the Labor Department said.

U.S. unemployment claims dropped to 233,000 last week, down 4,000 claims from 237,000 the week prior on a seasonally adjusted basis.

Kansas saw the largest percentage increase in weekly claims, with claims jumping by 51.7%. Delaware, meanwhile, saw the largest percentage drop in new claims, with claims dropping by 58.5%.

The USA TODAY Network is publishing localized versions of this story on its news sites across the country, generated with data from the U.S. Department of Labor's weekly unemployment insurance claims report.

New York gas prices slightly declined from last week

USA TODAY Network

State gas prices slightly declined last week and reached an average of $3.12 per gallon of regular fuel on Monday, down from last week's price of $3.13 per gallon, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

The average fuel price in state rose about 10 cents since last month. According to the EIA, gas prices across the state in the last year have been as low as $3.00 on March 17, 2025, and as high as $3.52 on July 8, 2024.

A year ago, the average gas price in New York was 11% higher at $3.52 per gallon.

The average gas price in the United States last week was $3.16, making prices in the state about 1.3% lower than the nation's average. The average national gas price is lower than last week's average of $3.21 per gallon.

The USA TODAY Network is publishing localized versions of this story on its news sites across the country, generated with data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration. This story was written by Ozge Terzioglu.



Search and rescue teams navigate upstream in an inflatable boat on the flooded Guadalupe River on July 4 in Comfort, Texas. ERIC VRYN/GETTY IMAGES

Americans fear rise of extreme weather events

Susan Page
USA TODAY

Most Americans fear extreme weather is getting worse, a new USA TODAY/Ipsos Poll finds, a concern underscored by the rising death toll from flash floods in central Texas over the July Fourth weekend.

As rescuers frantically searched for survivors in Texas Hill Country, a third of those surveyed nationwide in June said they sometimes or often worry that they themselves will be a victim of a disaster like a hurricane, tornado or flood.

The poll, taken June 13-15, showed both alarm about worsening weather and skepticism that the world would effectively respond to curb it.

A 58% majority predicted that extreme weather events will become more frequent in the near future, though views differed along partisan lines. An overwhelming 84% of Democrats felt that way, compared with just 38% of Republicans.

But even among Republicans, a plurality expressed fears of worsening extreme weather. Just 24% said incidents of extreme weather weren't increasing; another 36% didn't have an opinion or weren't sure.

The online poll of 1,023 adults, taken using Ipsos' KnowledgePanel, has a margin of error of 3.2 percentage points for the full sample. The error margin for the Republican subsample is 6.1% and for Democrats 5.9%.

Climate scientists agree that the threat of extreme weather is increasing.

"As Earth's climate changes, it is impacting extreme weather across the planet," a NASA report concludes. "Record-breaking heat waves on land and in the ocean, drenching rains, severe floods, years-long droughts, extreme wildfires, and widespread flooding during hurricanes are all becoming more frequent and more intense."

In recent days, much of Europe has been hit by a sweltering heat wave, reaching record temperatures for June in several countries and prompting a temporary rules change at Wimbledon.

In the poll, many Americans said they had felt the effect of dangerous weather in their own lives:

- 30% had personally experienced extreme weather events in the previous month. Most frequently mentioned were heavy rainfall and severe thunderstorms.
- 57% said unusual weather had become more frequent compared to 10 years ago, especially extreme heat and poor air quality.
- 51% said unusual weather had become more intense compared to 10 years ago. Fifty-four percent said extreme heat had gotten more intense.

Most Americans were both optimistic that humans could reverse climate change and pessimistic that they'll do it.

A 56% majority of those polled agreed with a statement that "humans can slow/reverse climate change but aren't willing to change their behavior." That included 83% of Democrats but just 33% of Republicans, who tend to be more dismissive of climate change.

One in five, 20%, said it was already too late to stop climate change at this point. An almost equal number, 18%, said humans already were making progress against climate change.

And 17% said the impact could be very personal indeed – predicting that climate change will make it more difficult to stay where they currently live.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Tuesday, July 8, the 189th day of 2025. There are 176 days left in the year. On this day:

1497: Vasco da Gama set sail from Lisbon, Portugal, with a fleet of four ships and a crew of 170 men, searching for a sea route from western Europe to Asia via the Cape of Good Hope, South Africa.

1776: Popular tradition told of a tale in which the Liberty Bell rang out from the tower of the Pennsylvania State House (now known as Independence Hall) in Philadelphia to summon citizens and Pennsylvania delegates for the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence.

1853: Commodore Matthew Calbraith Perry forcibly entered Edo (Tokyo) Bay, Japan, with a squadron of two steam warships and 2 sailing sloops. Under the command of the U.S. government, Perry was tasked with reestablishing trade and diplomatic ties, by any means necessary, with Japan, which had isolated itself from the Western world.

1889: Reporters Charles Dow, Edward Jones and Charles Bergstresser published the first issue of "The Wall Street Journal."

1918: An 18-year-old Ernest Hemingway was struck and wounded by fragments from an Austrian mine shell while serving as an ambulance driver for the American Red Cross during World War I. His experience in the war served as inspiration for one of his most popular works, "A Farewell to Arms."

1947: RAAF public information officer Walter Haut stated in a news release that a "flying disc" was recovered by the military near Roswell, New Mexico. And thus, the Roswell U.F.O. conspiracies were born.

1948: Women were accepted for the first time to the U.S. Air Force under a program called Women in the Air Force. Esther Blake was the first recruit.

1950: U.S. President Harry S. Truman appointed Army Gen. Douglas MacArthur commander of United Nations forces in the Korean War, a day after the U.N. Security Council convened and recommended that the U.S. military assume command of all U.N. forces in Korea.

1959: U.S. Army Maj. Dale R. Buis and Master Sgt. Chester M. Ovnand were the among first American casualties of the Vietnam War after they were killed in an attack by six Viet Cong guerrillas at a Military Assistance Advisory Group compound in Biên Hòa, Vietnam.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PSC No. 16 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Services

PSC No. 18 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service (Street Lighting)

PSC No. 19 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service

On June 30, 2025, Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation (RG&E) filed with the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) an Investment Plan for Powering NY, which includes testimony, exhibits, and proposed delivery rate changes to the above-referenced tariff schedules for service.

The changes contained in that filing would increase revenues by approximately $216.2 million from RG&E's electric operations and by approximately $71.3 million from the company's natural gas operations, to become effective in the spring of 2026.

The PSC may approve, modify or reject any or all of the proposed tariff changes. Among other things, the PSC's determination may require revisions of the proposed amount of the increases applicable to particular classifications of service or changes in rates applicable to those classifications for which no increase is proposed by the companies.

The complete RG&E filing may be examined on the PSC's website or the PSC's Albany office. These cases are open and public. Individuals may provide comments directly to the Secretary of the PSC or offer comments at a public statement hearing hosted by the PSC. As the case proceeds, documents pertaining to the case are posted on the PSC website.

The PSC is required to render a decision within 11 months.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PSC No. 87 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Service
PSC No. 88 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Transportation Service
PSC No. 90 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Service
PSC No. 119 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service
PSC No. 120 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service
PSC No. 121 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service (Street Lighting)

On June 30, 2025, New York State Electric & Gas Corporation (NYSEG) filed with the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) an Investment Plan for Powering NY, which includes testimony, exhibits, and proposed delivery rate changes to the above-referenced tariff schedules for service.

The changes contained in that filing would increase revenues by approximately $457.4 million from NYSEG's electric operations and by approximately $90.8 million from the company's natural gas operations, to become effective in the spring of 2026.

The PSC may approve, modify or reject any or all of the proposed tariff changes. Among other things, the PSC's determination may require revisions of the proposed amount of the increases applicable to particular classifications of service or changes in rates applicable to those classifications for which no increase is proposed by the companies.

The complete NYSEG filing may be examined on the PSC's website or the PSC's Albany office. These cases are open and public. Individuals may provide comments directly to the Secretary of the PSC or offer comments at a public statement hearing hosted by the PSC. As the case proceeds, documents pertaining to the case are posted on the PSC website.

The PSC is required to render a decision within 11 months.

Advertiser: Smith Marketing Service
Agency: N/A
Section-Page-Zone(s): A-3-All
Description: NYSEG Public Notice
Ad Number: 11462271
Insertion Number: N/A
Size: 4 Col x 4 in
Color Type: N/A

The Spectator
Tuesday, July 8, 2025

Geologists: Recent activity normal

Volcanoes thousands of miles apart rumbling

Elizabeth Weise
USA TODAY

Despite the jolts and temblors, geologists say there's no cause for alarm over volcanoes recently rumbling and even spewing lava – enough to spark a swarm of news stories – in Alaska, Washington state, Oregon and Hawaii.

"Volcanoes can be unpredictable and there's always chance that something bad will happen, but these recent seismic events along the Pacific Ring of Fire from Alaska to Washington to offshore Oregon are probably not directly related to each other," said Natalia Ruppert, a seismologist with the U.S. Geological Survey's Earthquake Science Center in Seattle.

"This is what volcanoes do," she said. "They come to life for a while, sometimes the earthquake activity leads to an eruption and sometimes it doesn't."

Most of the U.S. volcanoes that have been making themselves known since spring woke up a bit, shook themselves off and then fell back into slumber.

Two, one in Hawaii and one in Alaska, are in the midst of active and ongoing – but relatively small and nonthreatening – eruptions.

While it all might seem ominous, it isn't. It's simply part of life on a dynamic, seismically active planet.

There's no direct connection between any of these, Ruppert said. "The distance between these (seismic) activity centers is thousands of miles."

While volcanoes have always been a part of the West Coast's geography, it might seem that this is an especially busy time for these mountains caused by fissures in the Earth's crust that go down to the mantle below.

But seismologists and volcanologists are keeping a careful eye on them, Ruppert said. "This is why the federal government funds earthquake and volcano monitoring efforts through the Department of the Interior and USGS."

Consider these recent events:

- More than 300 earthquakes occurred at Washington's Mount Rainier in early July, the largest earthquake swarm ever recorded at the volcano. The swarm, a cluster of earthquakes in the same area in rapid succession, began July 8. Within two days a total of 334 earthquakes had been identified by the Pacific Northwest Seismic Network. But it's not hugely unusual for the majestic volcano about 70 miles southeast of Seattle, which registered a similar swarm of quakes in 2009. Rainier's last eruption, however, was about 1,000 years ago, Ruppert said.
- North of Washington state, Alaska has three volcanoes that are making themselves felt.

As of July 10, Alaska's Great Sitkin volcano was on a Watch alert level, with lava continuing to erupt in the summit crater. Located at in the Aleutian Islands, the volcano's levels of seismic activity remain low with occasional small earthquakes, USGS reports. That eruption began in May 2021. There has been an ongoing eruption of lava at the summit since in July 2021.





TOP: Hawaii, site of Kilauea, is still being formed by a volcanic hot spot that has so far created 15 different volcanoes that stretch 3,800 miles across the Pacific. MARIO TAMA/GETTY IMAGES FILE

BELOW: Most of the volcanoes that have been making themselves known since spring fell back into slumber. Mount Rainier's last eruption was about 1,000 years ago. SAMUEL CORUM/GETTY IMAGES FILE

On Alaska's Kenai Peninsula, a flurry of small earthquakes shook the Iliamna volcano on June 15. However no surface activity was observed and on July 1 the volcano was set at a Normal alert code.

North of Iliamna, another Alaskan volcano, Mount Spurr, has been experiencing swarms of shallow earthquakes since February. It is currently on a Normal advisory level. For now, there's little concern, Ruppert said.

- Heading south down the West Coast, seismologists are also monitoring the Axial Seamount, a massive undersea volcano located 300 miles off the Oregon coast. It's been attracting attention for months as scientists prepare for an eruption they expect sometime in 2025. Because it's so far underwater, only scientists using an array of instruments will know about the eruption.

The volcanoes are located along what's known as the Ring of Fire, a 25,000-mile long, horseshoe-shaped string of volcanoes and seismically active areas that stretches from the southern tip of South America, up along the West coast of the United States, across the coast of Alaska, down through Japan all the way to New Zealand.

It's created by the Pacific plate sinking below the North American plate and is the most seismically and volcanically active zone in the world, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

Far to the west in Hawaii, Kilauea continues to erupt, though as of July 11 it has not been exhibiting the massive fountains of lava that had been taking place earlier in the month. On July 9, USGS said the most recent eruption had ended.

Hawaii's volcanoes are not part of the Ring of Fire. The island chain was (and is still being) formed by a volcanic hot spot that has so far created 15 different volcanoes that stretch 3,800 miles across the Pacific.

In Hawaii's case, the volcanoes are the result of a heat source deep within the Earth's mantle. The plume of magma coming from that hot spot in the ocean floor remains stationary as the Pacific Plate slowly – 2 to 4 inches a year – moves over the top of it. This is why Hawaii's oldest volcanoes, on Kauai, are 5.5 million years old while the newest, on the Big Island, are only 700,000 years old and still growing.

Official: Australia will not commit troops in advance

Kirsty Needham
REUTERS

SYDNEY – Australia will not commit troops in advance to any conflict, Defense Industry Minister Pat Conroy said on July 13, responding to a report that the Pentagon has pressed its ally to clarify what role it would play if the United States and China went to war over Taiwan.

Australia prioritizes its sovereignty and "we don't discuss hypotheticals," Conroy said in an interview with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

"The decision to commit Australian troops to a conflict will be made by the government of the day, not in advance but by the government of the day," he said.

The Financial Times reported on July 12 that Elbridge Colby, the U.S. undersecretary of defense for policy, has been pressing Australian and Japanese officials on what they would do in a Taiwan conflict, although the U.S. does not offer a blank check guarantee to defend Taiwan.

Colby posted on X that the Department of Defense is implementing President Donald Trump's "America First" agenda of restoring deterrence, which includes "urging allies to step up their defense spending and other efforts related to our collective defense."

China claims democratically governed Taiwan as its own and has not ruled out the use of force to bring Taiwan under its control. Taiwanese President Lai Ching-te rejects China's sovereignty claims, saying only Taiwan's people can decide their future.

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, speaking in Shanghai at the start of a six-day visit to China that is likely to focus on security and trade, said Canberra did not want any change to the status quo on Taiwan.

Conroy said Australia was concerned about China's military buildup of nuclear and conventional forces, and wants a balanced Indo-Pacific region where no country dominates. He said China was seeking a military base in the Pacific, which was not in Australia's interest.

Talisman Sabre, Australia's largest war-fighting exercise with the United States, opened July 13 on Sydney Harbor and will involve 40,000 troops from 19 countries, including Japan, South Korea, India, Britain, France and Canada.

Conroy said China's navy might be watching the exercise to collect information, as it had done in the past.

The war games will span thousands of miles from Australia's Indian Ocean territory of Christmas Island to the Coral Sea on Australia's east coast, in a rehearsal of joint war fighting, said Vice Adm. Justin Jones, chief of joint operations for the Australian Defense Force.

The air, sea, land and space exercises over two weeks will "test our ability to move our forces into the north of Australia and operate from Australia," Jones told reporters.

"I will leave it to China to interpret what 19 friends, allies and partners wanting to operate together in the region means to them. But for me... it is nations that are in search of a common aspiration for peace, stability, a free and open Indo-Pacific," he said.

U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Joel Vowell, deputy commanding general for the Pacific, said Talisman Sabre was "a deterrent mechanism because our ultimate goal is no war."

PUBLIC NOTICE

PSC No. 87 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Service
PSC No. 88 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Transportation Service
PSC No. 90 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Service
PSC No. 119 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service
PSC No. 120 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service
PSC No. 121 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service (Street Lighting)

On June 30, 2025, New York State Electric & Gas Corporation (NYSEG) filed with the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) an Investment Plan for Powering NY, which includes testimony, exhibits, and proposed delivery rate changes to the above-referenced tariff schedules for service.

The changes contained in that filing would increase revenues by approximately $457.4 million from NYSEG's electric operations and by approximately $90.8 million from the company's natural gas operations, to become effective in the spring of 2026.

The PSC may approve, modify or reject any or all of the proposed tariff changes. Among other things, the PSC's determination may require revisions of the proposed amount of the increases applicable to particular classifications of service or changes in rates applicable to those classifications for which no increase is proposed by the companies.

The complete NYSEG filing may be examined on the PSC's website or the PSC's Albany office. These cases are open and public. Individuals may provide comments directly to the Secretary of the PSC or offer comments at a public statement hearing hosted by the PSC. As the case proceeds, documents pertaining to the case are posted on the PSC website.

The PSC is required to render a decision within 11 months.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PSC No. 16 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Services

PSC No. 18 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service (Street Lighting)

PSC No. 19 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service

On June 30, 2025, Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation (RG&E) filed with the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) an Investment Plan for Powering NY, which includes testimony, exhibits, and proposed delivery rate changes to the above-referenced tariff schedules for service.

The changes contained in that filing would increase revenues by approximately $216.2 million from RG&E's electric operations and by approximately $71.3 million from the company's natural gas operations, to become effective in the spring of 2026.

The PSC may approve, modify or reject any or all of the proposed tariff changes. Among other things, the PSC's determination may require revisions of the proposed amount of the increases applicable to particular classifications of service or changes in rates applicable to those classifications for which no increase is proposed by the companies.

The complete RG&E filing may be examined on the PSC's website or the PSC's Albany office. These cases are open and public. Individuals may provide comments directly to the Secretary of the PSC or offer comments at a public statement hearing hosted by the PSC. As the case proceeds, documents pertaining to the case are posted on the PSC website.

The PSC is required to render a decision within 11 months.

Ad Number: 1145600
Insertion Number: N/A
Size: 4 Col x 4 in
Color Type: N/A
Advertiser: Smith M
Agency: N/A
Section-Page-Zone(s): A-3-All
Description: RG&E P

Great Wellsville Balloon Rally launches



Stars-n-Stripes soars through the air during the 48th annual Great Wellsville Balloon Rally.
PHOTOS BY CHRIS POTTER/THE SPECTATOR



Hot air balloons launched en masse from Island Park on the first night of the 48th annual Great Wellsville Balloon Rally July 18.



The Arena-sponsored balloon takes off during the 48th annual Great Wellsville Balloon Rally July 18.



A big crowd turned out as hot air balloons launched.



Balloon riders were all smiles as the 48th annual Great Wellsville Rally had four successful launches from Friday to Sunday.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PSC No. 87 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Service
PSC No. 88 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Transportation Service
PSC No. 90 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Service
PSC No. 119 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service
PSC No. 120 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service
PSC No. 121 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service (Street Lighting)

On June 30, 2025, New York State Electric & Gas Corporation (NYSEG) filed with the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) an Investment Plan for Powering NY, which includes testimony, exhibits, and proposed delivery rate changes to the above-referenced tariff schedules for service.

The changes contained in that filing would increase revenues by approximately $457.4 million from NYSEG's electric operations and by approximately $90.8 million from the company's natural gas operations, to become effective in the spring of 2026.

The PSC may approve, modify or reject any or all of the proposed tariff changes. Among other things, the PSC's determination may require revisions of the proposed amount of the increases applicable to particular classifications of service or changes in rates applicable to those classifications for which no increase is proposed by the companies.

The complete NYSEG filing may be examined on the PSC's website or the PSC's Albany office. These cases are open and public. Individuals may provide comments directly to the Secretary of the PSC or offer comments at a public statement hearing hosted by the PSC. As the case proceeds, documents pertaining to the case are posted on the PSC website.

The PSC is required to render a decision within 11 months.

SAVE $350 when you transform your patio into an outdoor oas
SunSetter America's #1 Awning
Instant shade—at the touch of a button.
Enjoy more quality time with family and friends.
Up to 10-Year Limited Warranty.
Call 1-844-203-9663 now to SAVE $350 TODAY!
America's #1 Awning!

Aging in Place?
AmeriGlide offers affordable stair lifts to keep you safe on the stairs.
Benefits of an AmeriGlide stair lift:
Regain your independence
Eliminate the risk of falls on the stairs
Access all levels of your home
CALL NOW TO SAVE $200 ON ANY STAIR LIFT!
1-855-921-5525
AmeriGlide

PUBLIC NOTICE

PSC No. 16 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Services

PSC No. 18 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service (Street Lighting)

PSC No. 19 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service

On June 30, 2025, Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation (RG&E) filed with the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) an Investment Plan for Powering NY, which includes testimony, exhibits, and proposed delivery rate changes to the above-referenced tariff schedules for service.

The changes contained in that filing would increase revenues by approximately $216.2 million from RG&E's electric operations and by approximately $71.3 million from the company's natural gas operations, to become effective in the spring of 2026.

The PSC may approve, modify or reject any or all of the proposed tariff changes. Among other things, the PSC's determination may require revisions of the proposed amount of the increases applicable to particular classifications of service or changes in rates applicable to those classifications for which no increase is proposed by the companies.

The complete RG&E filing may be examined on the PSC's website or the PSC's Albany office. These cases are open and public. Individuals may provide comments directly to the Secretary of the PSC or offer comments at a public statement hearing hosted by the PSC. As the case proceeds, documents pertaining to the case are posted on the PSC website.

The PSC is required to render a decision within 11 months.

Ad Number: 11456000
Insertion Number: N/A
Size: 4 Col x 4 in
Color Type: N/A
Advertiser: Smith Marketing Service
Agency: N/A
Section-Page-Zone(s): A-3-All
Description: RG&E Public Notice

Hurricane season may be heating up

Experts say expect more active August in Atlantic

Doyle Rice
USA TODAY



Experts say the slow start to hurricane season likely won't last as the conditions for storms become more common in August, September and October. GIORGIO VIERA/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

The hurricane map in the Atlantic Ocean may be nearly blank now, but forecasters say that may not last much longer, as several signs point to an uptick in activity across the basin.

"The tropical environment should become more conducive for Atlantic hurricane activity in the next few weeks," said Colorado State University meteorologist Phil Klotzbach in a July 24 email to USA TODAY.

WPLG-TV hurricane expert Michael Lowry agreed with this prediction, telling USA TODAY that "we're already seeing longer-range forecast models start to perk up ... The deep Atlantic tropical waves coming from Africa have been peppier this week, and July 24's long-range forecast models jumped from a generally quiet next 15 days to a much busier look for the first part of August."

The 2025 season is expected to have 13 to 19 named storms, and six to 10 of those will become hurricanes, according to a preseason forecast from NOAA. The agency's website underscores the importance of being prepared regardless of the hurricane season forecast.

With three named tropical storms (Andrea, Barry and Chantal) so far, the number of storms is actually above average for this time of year. "Currently, we're above-normal for named storms but below normal for all other metrics," Klotzbach said.

One of those metrics is Accumulated Cyclone Energy, a key measurement of the severity of a hurricane season. ACE measures the total wind energy produced by a season of tropical storms and hurricanes.

It measures the intensity and duration of storms, and gives a better indication of overall activity than simply counting the number of storms, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

By that measurement, this is the slowest start to an Atlantic season since 2009, as the three storms that formed were all rather weak, though Chantal did cause some deadly flooding in North Carolina.



Debris covers the parking lot next to a destroyed business in Asheville, North Carolina, on Oct. 20, 2024, after Hurricane Helene devastated the area. A quiet July isn't uncommon, but activity is expected to ramp up in the coming months. JIM WATSON/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

'Approaching a pivot point'

The season is about to heat up, Lowry said, as August is the month when activity usually ramps up.

Lowry said that "despite the slow start we're approaching a pivot point in the Atlantic. Hurricanes aren't common in June and July. They happen, of course, but there are usually tall hurdles to overcome to get there."

However, he added "that's not the case in August, September, and the first part of October. Those hurdles are a lot shorter so the right window can get you a big hurricane in a hurry," he said.

July outlook for Atlantic

"Things look pretty quiet overall," Andy Hazelton, a hurricane scientist at the University of Miami, told USA TODAY in an email. "There are some stronger waves starting to show up in the Central Atlantic, but right now, dry and sinking air is making development tough. There's another wave coming off (Africa) that may have a slight chance of development in about a week or so near the Caribbean Islands," he said.

A slow July isn't unusual: "The season is usually pretty quiet through July," Klotzbach noted. "On average, we've got over 95% of major hurricane activity left to go and still about 93% of ACE left to go. On average, our first hurricane forms in the Atlantic on August 11."

Early August forecast

Hazelton explained that "large-scale conditions should become a little more favorable as a Madden-Julian Oscillation pulse crosses the Pacific and moves into the Atlantic, enhancing large-scale rising motion and reducing shear.

The MJO is an eastward moving disturbance of clouds, rainfall, winds, and pressure that traverses the planet in the tropics and returns to its initial starting point in 30 to 60 days, on average, noted Climate Prediction Center meteorologist Jon Gottschalck in an online report. The MJO influences tropical cyclone activity in both the eastern Pacific and Atlantic basins during the Northern Hemisphere summer.

Conditions should especially become more favorable the second or third week of August, which aligns pretty well with the long-term climatology of when the Atlantic starts to become more active.

"So in short, July should end with little fanfare, but we'll need to watch for an uptick in activity come the first and second week of August," Lowry said.

Are waters warm enough?

Hurricanes need warm water to form, preferably 79 degrees or above, and water temperatures in a key section of the Atlantic are starting to warm up:

"One of the biggest changes I've observed in recent weeks is a considerable warming of the so-called Main Development Region of the Atlantic above its seasonal averages," Lowry said. "To open the hurricane season in June, waters across this bellwether part of the Atlantic where most of our strongest hurricanes get their start were running average to even below average."

He said that during this past week, MDR water temperatures have surged to the 7th warmest in the satellite record (back to 1981), running only slightly cooler than 2017 and 2005 at this point in the season. At the same time, he said the belt of water just north of the tropics has cooled since the start of the season, creating a more conducive orientation that favors rising air and storminess in the tropical Atlantic.

"The central MDR looks reasonably primed for development," noted Weather Trader meteorologist Ryan Maue in a Substack post.

Dust billowing out of the Sahara Desert in Africa can impact Atlantic hurricanes. According to the University of Miami, the Saharan Air Layer – a mass of dry, hot, and dust-laden air that forms over the Sahara Desert during the late spring, summer, and early fall, and moves over the tropical North Atlantic Ocean – can suppress tropical cyclone formation.

"As far as the Saharan dust, it's been the lowest on record so far this hurricane season. This could actually be a symptom of less robust tropical waves that transport the dust across the Atlantic, but over the past week, the waves have been noticeably stronger," Lowry said.

"Dust seasonally drops off quickly in August, so, except for sporadic outbreaks, Saharan dust becomes less of a factor in August and September," he added.

Advertiser: Smith Media Marketing Service
Agency: N/A
Section-Page-Zone(s): A-3-All
Description: RG&E Public Notice
Ad Number: 11456000
Insertion Number: N/A
Size: 4 Col x 4 in
Color Type: N/A

PUBLIC NOTICE

PSC No. 87 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Service
PSC No. 88 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Transportation Service
PSC No. 90 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Service
PSC No. 119 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service
PSC No. 120 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service
PSC No. 121 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service (Street Lighting)

On June 30, 2025, New York State Electric & Gas Corporation (NYSEG) filed with the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) an Investment Plan for Powering NY, which includes testimony, exhibits, and proposed delivery rate changes to the above-referenced tariff schedules for service.

The changes contained in that filing would increase revenues by approximately $457.4 million from NYSEG's electric operations and by approximately $90.8 million from the company's natural gas operations, to become effective in the spring of 2026.

The PSC may approve, modify or reject any or all of the proposed tariff changes. Among other things, the PSC's determination may require revisions of the proposed amount of the increases applicable to particular classifications of service or changes in rates applicable to those classifications for which no increase is proposed by the companies.

The complete NYSEG filing may be examined on the PSC's website or the PSC's Albany office. These cases are open and public. Individuals may provide comments directly to the Secretary of the PSC or offer comments at a public statement hearing hosted by the PSC. As the case proceeds, documents pertaining to the case are posted on the PSC website.

The PSC is required to render a decision within 11 months.

Donate Your Car
Imagine the Difference You Can Make
Vehicle donations are fully tax-deductible and the proceeds help provide services to help the blind and visually impaired.
FREE TOWING & TAX DEDUCTIBLE
When you donate your car, you'll receive:
✓ a $200 restaurant voucher & ✓ a 2-night, 3-day hotel stay at one of 50 locations
Call 1-888-476-2051
Help Prevent Blindness Get A Vision Screening Annually
Heritage for the Blind

SAVE $350 when you transform your patio into an outdoor oasis.
SunSetter America's #1 Awning
● Instant shade—at the touch of a button.
● Enjoy more quality time with family and friends.
● Up to 10-Year Limited Warranty.
Call 1-844-203-9663 now to SAVE $350 TODAY!
America's #1 Awning!

PUBLIC NOTICE

PSC No. 16 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Services

PSC No. 18 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service (Street Lighting)

PSC No. 19 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service

On June 30, 2025, Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation (RG&E) filed with the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) an Investment Plan for Powering NY, which includes testimony, exhibits, and proposed delivery rate changes to the above-referenced tariff schedules for service.

The changes contained in that filing would increase revenues by approximately $216.2 million from RG&E's electric operations and by approximately $71.3 million from the company's natural gas operations, to become effective in the spring of 2026.

The PSC may approve, modify or reject any or all of the proposed tariff changes. Among other things, the PSC's determination may require revisions of the proposed amount of the increases applicable to particular classifications of service or changes in rates applicable to those classifications for which no increase is proposed by the companies.

The complete RG&E filing may be examined on the PSC's website or the PSC's Albany office. These cases are open and public. Individuals may provide comments directly to the Secretary of the PSC or offer comments at a public statement hearing hosted by the PSC. As the case proceeds, documents pertaining to the case are posted on the PSC website.

The PSC is required to render a decision within 11 months.