New Hampshire Groundwater Level Monitoring April, 2021



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GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS SUMMARY

The <u>Northeast Regional Climate Center</u> (NRCC) at Cornell University has yet to release their April precipitation statistics. Another source of precipitation statistics, the <u>National Drought Management</u> <u>current conditions web page</u> indicates that most of the state is at or within 100% of normal precipitation over the last 30 days. Only a small portion of the eastern and seacoast areas of the state are at 50-75% of precipitation for the last 30 days. Figure 1 shows the distribution of percent precipitation, published by NRCC, and water levels in the well network.

Abnormally dry conditions have expanded into eastern New Hampshire since last March. Moderate drought has expanded to the length of Connecticut River Valley and spread to the Merrimack River Valley. Abnormally dry conditions persist in the eastern half of the state. As of April 27th, 57% of the state was abnormally dry, and 43% was in moderate drought (Figure 2).

Groundwater levels peaked in December across much of the state, following rain events and subsequent snowmelt. Since then, groundwater has been in steady decline in the northern and western portions of the state. Most wells are showing levels this month below their monthly averages, for those that are calculated. The only wells with groundwater levels that are within the normal or above-normal ranges are Nashua, New London, Colebrook and Barnstead. Groundwater level trends are mixed in the Merrimack River basin and Seacoast Region. These wells that are showing upward are likely responding to localized continued rain events and snowmelt. In the case of Nashua, the upward trend is a likely result from a high, stabilized groundwater table from adjacent locally dammed reservoirs.

Figures 1 and 2 show the monthly status of groundwater levels for both bedrock and overburden wells in the network. Only wells with a period of record (POR) 10 years or more are placed within statistical categories of low through high (symbols red through blue, respectively). Bedrock wells are installed into bedrock and overburden wells are installed in the unconsolidated materials above bedrock.

The New Hampshire Geological Survey's groundwater monitoring network (Figures 1 and 2) currently includes 11 bedrock and 20 overburden observation wells, all of which are measured monthly by hand. Using the monthly hand readings, monthly averages and percentile statistics were calculated and are summarized in Figures 1 and 2, the following hydrographs^{*}, and in Table 1.

*The hydrographs show the following data over a period of 12 months: (1) monthly groundwater depths in red, (2) the monthly average over the period of record (POR) of the well in black, and (3) color-coded statistical ranges over the POR of the well. Note the POR is listed below each month's column on the chart and reported as the number of measurements for that respective month. This might include multiple readings in the same month and does not include any gaps in data so therefore may not represent a continuous period. A second set of hydrographs are also included and depict a statistical envelope of 15% and 85% values along with the current year monthly reading and median.

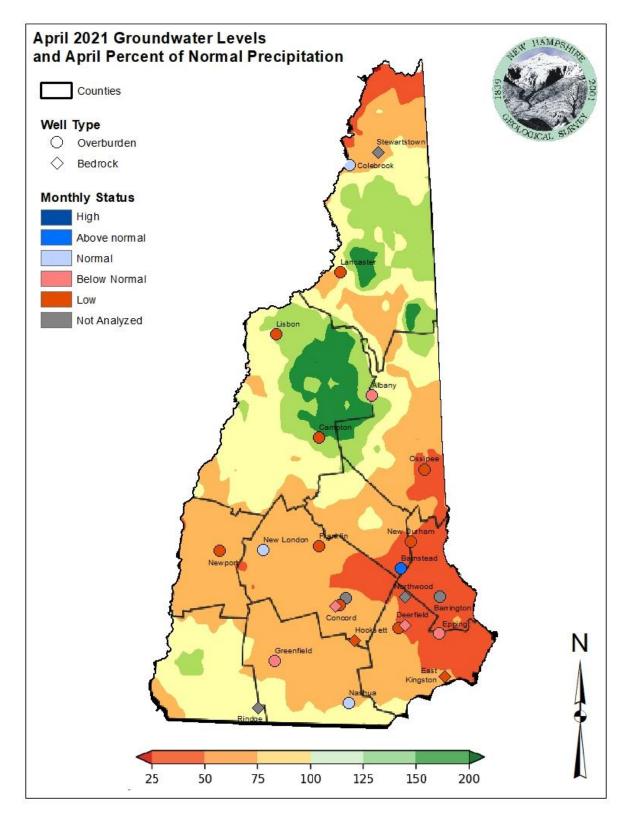


Figure 1. Groundwater Monitoring Network showing groundwater levels relative to statistical envelopes calculated over each well's period of record (POR) and percent normal precipitation map for April, 2021 (<u>Northeast Regional Climate Center</u>).

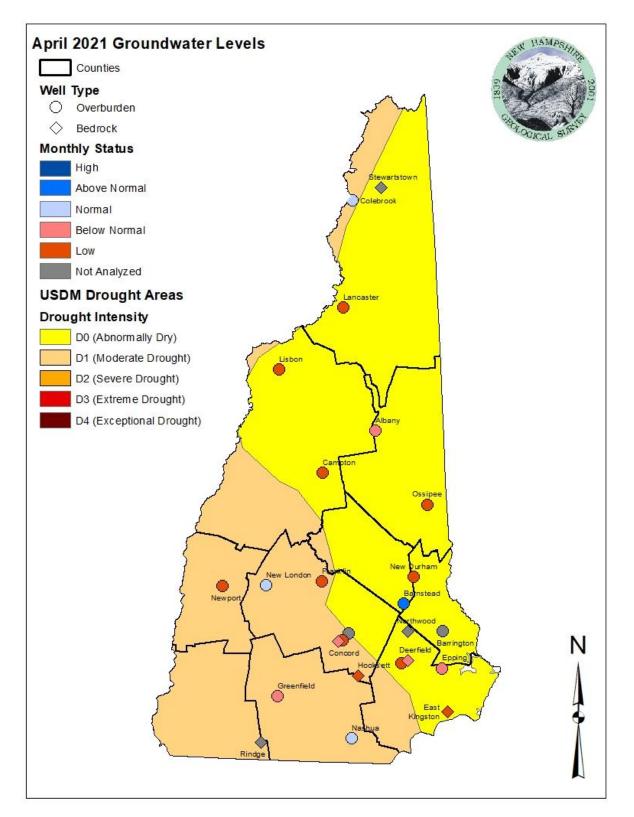
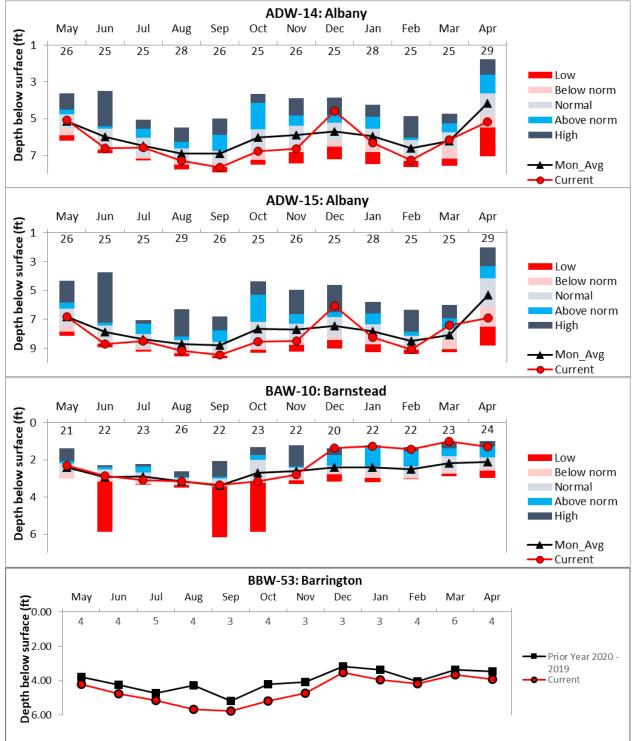


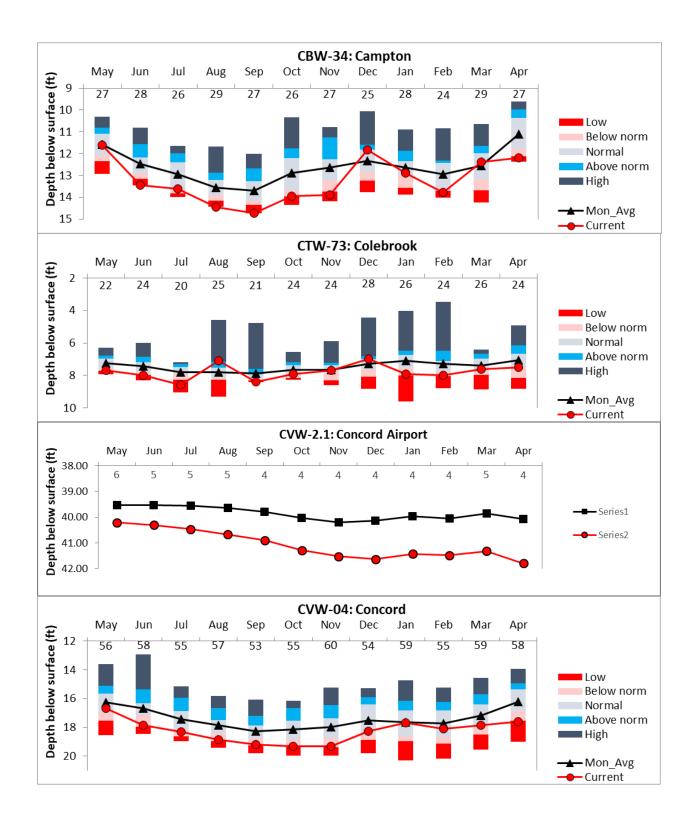
Figure 2. Groundwater Monitoring Network showing groundwater levels relative to statistical envelopes calculated over each well's period of record (POR) and drought areas according to data released by the <u>U.S. Drought Monitor</u> on April 27, 2021.

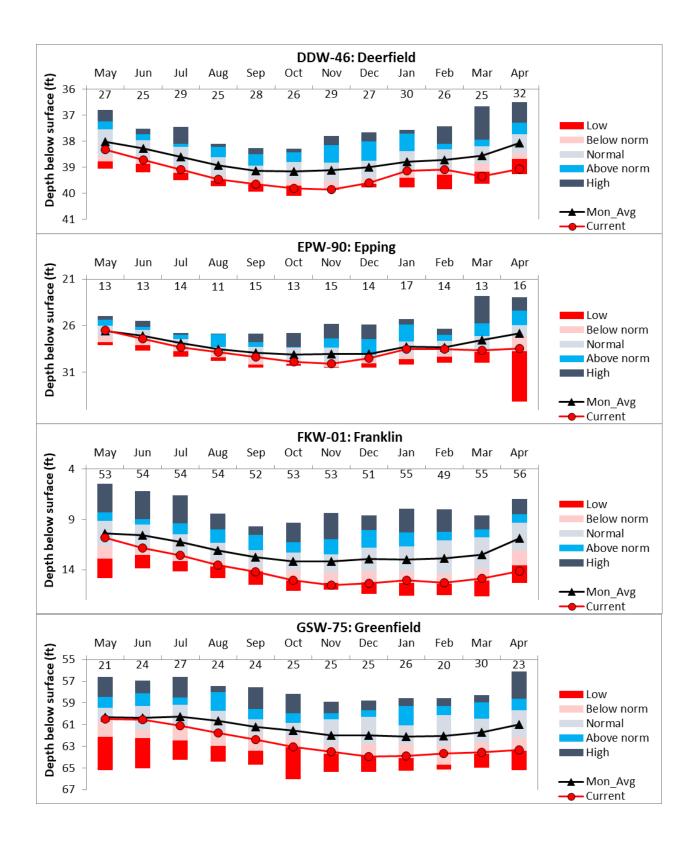
 Table 1. Summary of groundwater levels sorted by region (dark blue – high, blue – above normal, light blue – normal, pink – below normal, red – low.

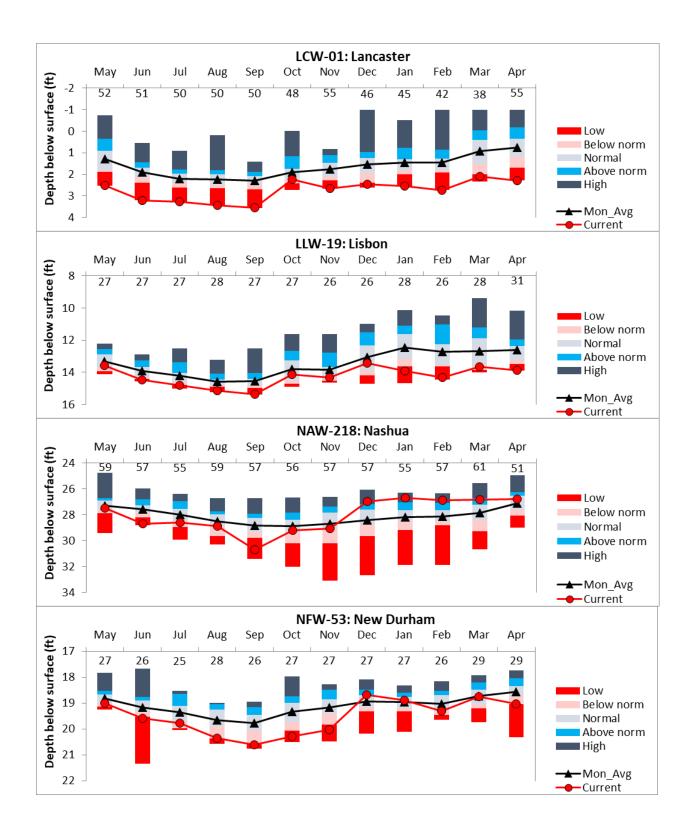
Well	Town	Well type	Screen/ open Interval (ft)	Depth to Water (ft)	Monthly Average (ft)	Current Status	Departure from Avg. (ft)	Change since last month (ft)
ADW-14	Albany	Overburden	77.5-79.5	5.18	4.17	Below norm	-1.01	0.98
ADW-15	Albany	Overburden	16-18	6.9	5.31	Below norm	-1.59	0.5
BAW-10	Barnstead	Overburden	23-25	1.28	2.09	Above norm	0.81	-0.27
BBW-53	Barrington	Overburden	21-23	3.91		Not Analyzed	-	-0.27
CBW-34	Campton	Overburden	21-23	12.18	11.1	Low	-1.08	0.2
CTW-73	Colebrook	Overburden	105-107	7.5	7.06	Normal	-0.44	0.1
CVW-02.1	Concord	Overburden	59.8-61.8	41.79		Not Analyzed	-	-0.47
CVW-04	Concord	Overburden	25-27	17.58	16.22	Low	-1.36	0.28
DDW-46	Deerfield	Overburden	59.8-61.8	39.05	38.05	Low	-1	0.28
EPW-90	Epping	Overburden	39.45-40.7	28.44	26.8	Below norm	-1.64	0.21
FKW-01	Franklin	Overburden	45.5-47.5	14.17	10.86	Low	-3.31	0.68
GSW-75	Greenfield	Overburden	35.8-37.8	63.36	61.01	Below norm	-2.35	0.21
LCW-01	Lancaster	Overburden	28-30	2.28	0.77	Low	-1.51	-0.19
LLW-19	Lisbon	Overburden	49.8-52.3	13.88	12.61	Low	-1.27	-0.24
NAW-218	Nashua	Overburden	66-68	26.8	27.13	Normal	0.33	0.03
NFW-53	New Durham	Overburden	28-30	19.04	18.57	Low	-0.47	-0.29
NLW-01	New London	Overburden	40-42	4.81	4.58	Normal	-0.23	-1.58
NPW-03	Newport	Overburden	40.5-42.5	6.37	4.8	Low	-1.57	-0.36
NPW-06	Newport	Overburden	58-60	6.89	4.85	Low	-2.04	-0.34
OXW-38	Ossipee	Overburden	0-22.55	35.74	34.51	Low	-1.23	0.27
CVWB-01	Concord	Bedrock	470-480	20.06	19.98	Below norm	-0.08	0.15
CVWB-02	Concord	Bedrock	0-315	14.12	13.69	Below norm	-0.43	-0.32
DDWB-01	Deerfield	Bedrock	0-300	17.35	16.35	Below norm	-1	0.33
EAWB-01	East Kingston	Bedrock	463-473	22.36	21.95	Low	-0.41	-0.22
EAWB-02	East Kingston	Bedrock	0-323	21.46	20.61	Low	-0.85	-0.32
HTW-05	Hooksett	Bedrock	0-102.7	48.89	46.12	Low	-2.77	-0.11
NWWB-01	Northwood	Bedrock	0-130	3.14		Not Analyzed	-	-0.11
RGWB-01	Rindge	Bedrock	391-401	14.27		Not Analyzed	-	0.6
RGWB-02	Rindge	Bedrock	0-285	16.98		Not Analyzed	-	0.61
SOWB-01	Stewartstown	Bedrock	443-453	16.75		Not Analyzed	-	9.45
SOWB-02	Stewartstown	Bedrock	0-303	16.8		Not Analyzed	-	1.1

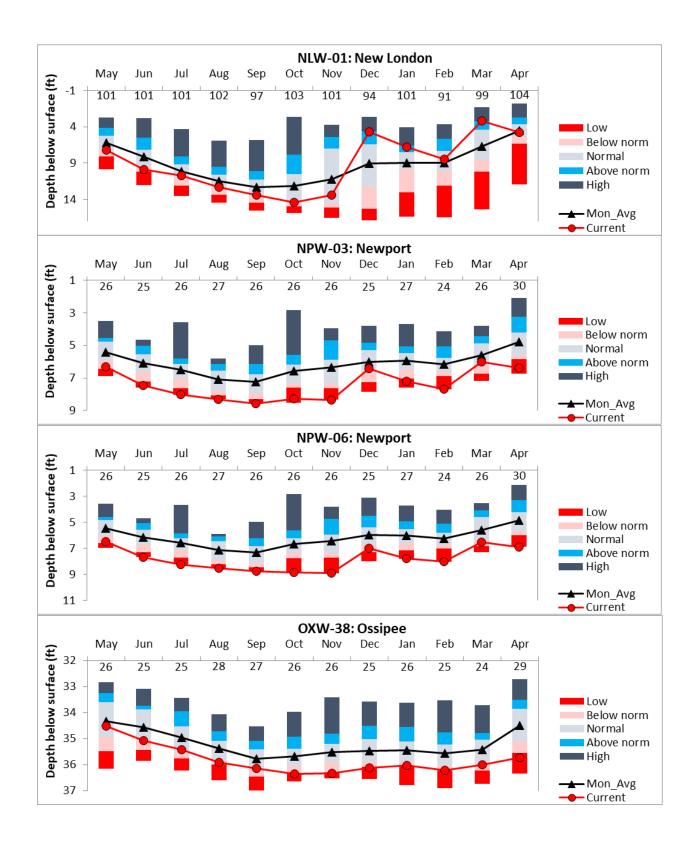


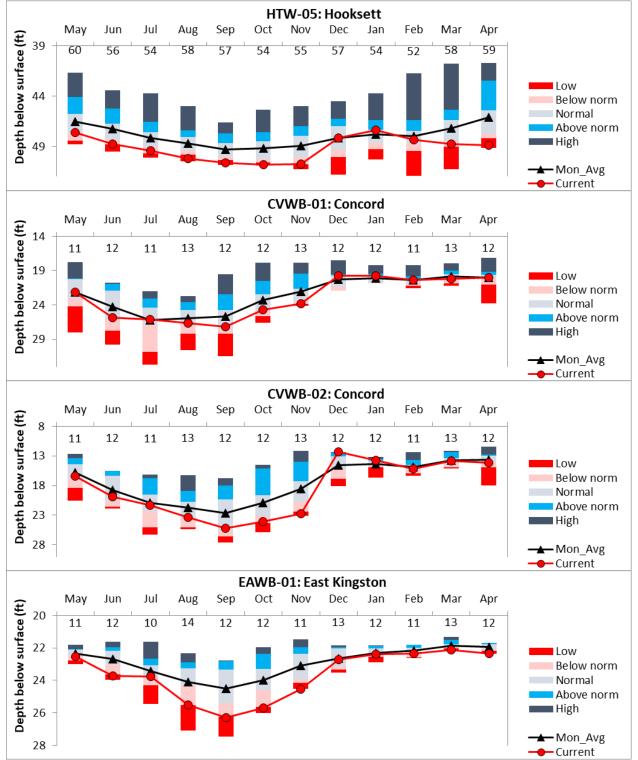
OVERBURDEN WELL HYDROGRAPHS (Showing statistics for wells with ≥ 10 years of data)











BEDROCK WELL HYDROGRAPHS (Showing statistics for wells with ≥ 10 years of data)

