

## Office of the New Jersey State Climatologist weather and climate monitoring networks

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An era is upon us where literally hundreds of precipitation observations are available across New Jersey each day, with dozens of observations as often as every five minutes. These include measurements made manually by volunteer observers and others recorded by electronic gauges. The Office of the NJ State Climatologist (ONJSC) manages two networks that provide the majority of these observations. Our NJ Weather and Climate Network (NJWxNet) <[www.njwx.org](http://www.njwx.org)> includes five minute to daily observations of precipitation from over 50 stations across the state; maintained by the ONJSC and dozens stations from other networks. Over 250 NJ citizen scientists participate in the NJ Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS) <[www.cocorahs.org](http://www.cocorahs.org)>. These volunteers measure precipitation once per day using a standard, accurate manual gauge and submit reports via a simple web form. Quality control of observations takes place manually and via electronic means within the ONJSC. The addition of observations from these networks to the several dozen Cooperative Observing Station Network reports long gathered by the National Weather Service (vital records for placing precipitation episodes into historical perspective) provides stakeholders with an unprecedented number of observations for important decision making purposes.