

**Verification of Day 4 through Day 7 Forecast  
for Buffalo and Rochester, NY**

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**ABSTRACT**

The National Weather Service recently embarked on a program to expand the public forecast suite to seven days. The obvious question that arose from forecasters was "just how accurate can we be with forecasts that far in advance?" The purpose of this study was to analyze how well the Buffalo NWS office has been doing in the extended forecasts, days 4 through 7.

This study looks at the extended forecast in the State Forecast Product (SFP) for the period July 2001 thru Jan 2002. Temperature and probability of precipitation forecasts were recorded for both Buffalo and Rochester, New York. The temperature and precipitation forecasts were then verified, for the afternoon issuance of the SFP, with the observations taken at the Buffalo and Rochester airports. The forecasts were also compared to the MRF-MOS (median range forecast) guidance and climatology. Statistics that were used to analyze temperature forecasts were Bias and MAE (mean absolute error). The Brier score was calculated to analyze precipitation forecasts.