Drought Information Statement for the Mid-South

Valid October 2, 2025

Issued By: NWS Memphis, TN

Contact Information: nws.memphis@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated when drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements.
- Please visit https://www.weather.gov/MEG/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.
- Please visit https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates for regional drought status updates.

- Beneficial rainfall was able to bring some improvement in drought conditions across the region.
- Severe drought conditions continue in portions of eastern Arkansas, the Missouri Bootheel, northwest Mississippi, and West Tennessee.

U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor for the Mid-South

Drought Intensity and Extent

- **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**

  None

- **D3 (Extreme Drought)**

  None

- **D2 (Severe Drought)**

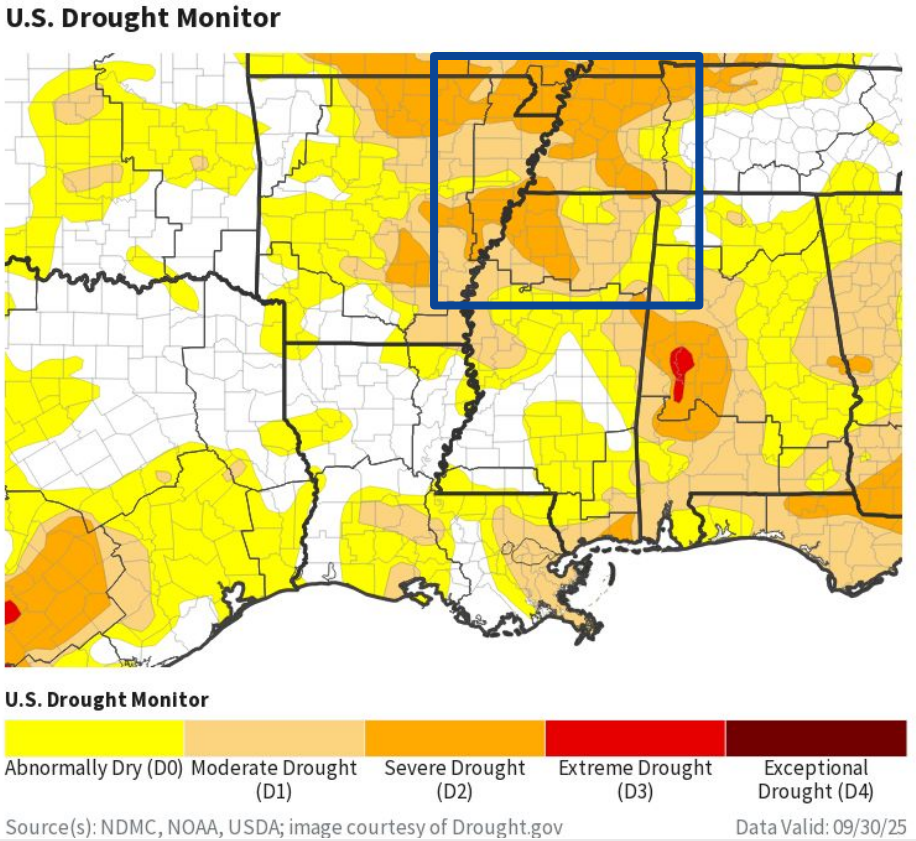
  Portions of West Tennessee, eastern Arkansas, the Missouri Bootheel and northwest Mississippi

- **D1 (Moderate Drought)**

  Portions of eastern Arkansas, north Mississippi, and West Tennessee

- **D0 (Abnormally Dry)**

  Portions of northeast Mississippi, eastern Arkansas and West Tennessee

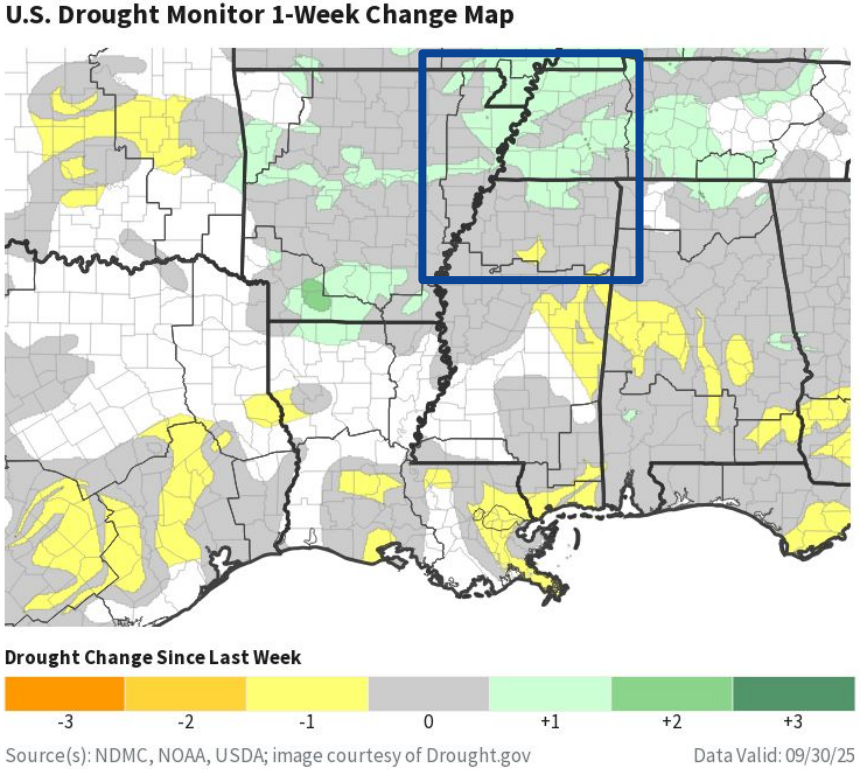


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest 4-week change map for the Mid-South

One-Week Drought Monitor Class Change

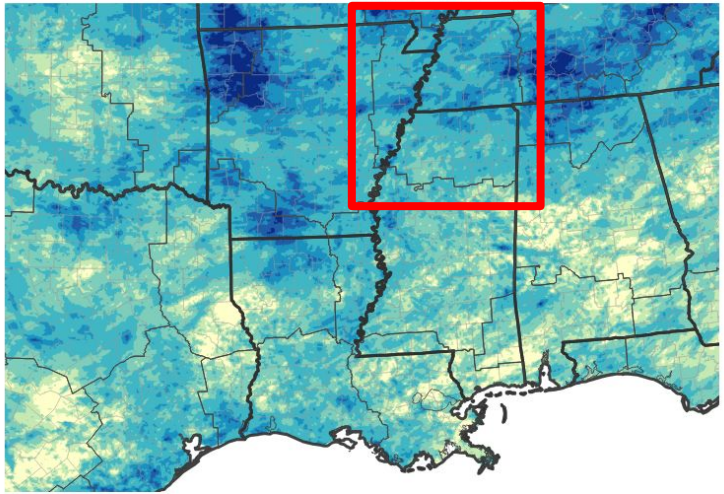
- **Drought Worsened**
  Small swaths across north Mississippi
- **Drought Improved**
  Portions of eastern Arkansas, the Missouri Bootheel, West Tennessee, and north Mississippi
- **No Change**
  The remainder of the Mid-South



Precipitation

- Precipitation totals over the past 30 days generally ranged from 1-4 inches with pockets of higher amounts up to 6 inches.
- Rainfall amounts over the past 30 days were mostly below normal across north Mississippi, with generally near to slightly above normal elsewhere.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



Inches of Precipitation

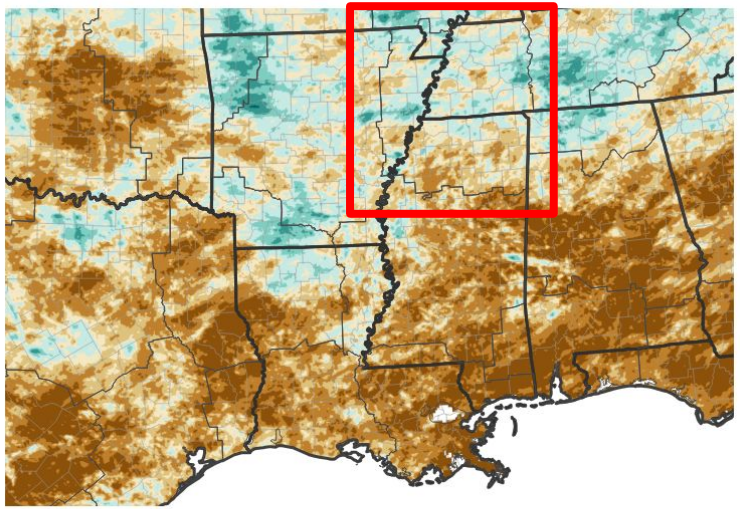
0 0.01 0.5 1 2

2 4 6 8

Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 10/02/25

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions

0% 25% 50% 75% 100%

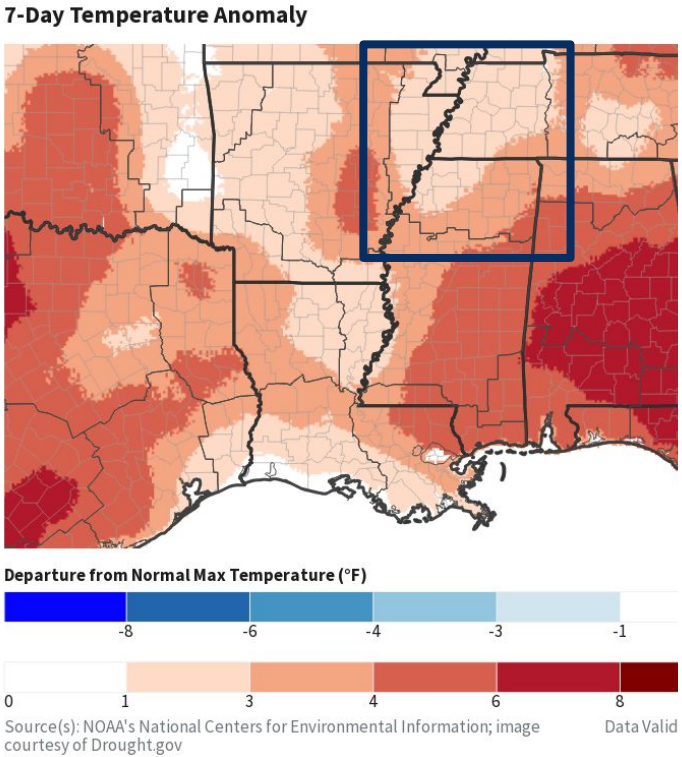
100% 150% 200% 300%

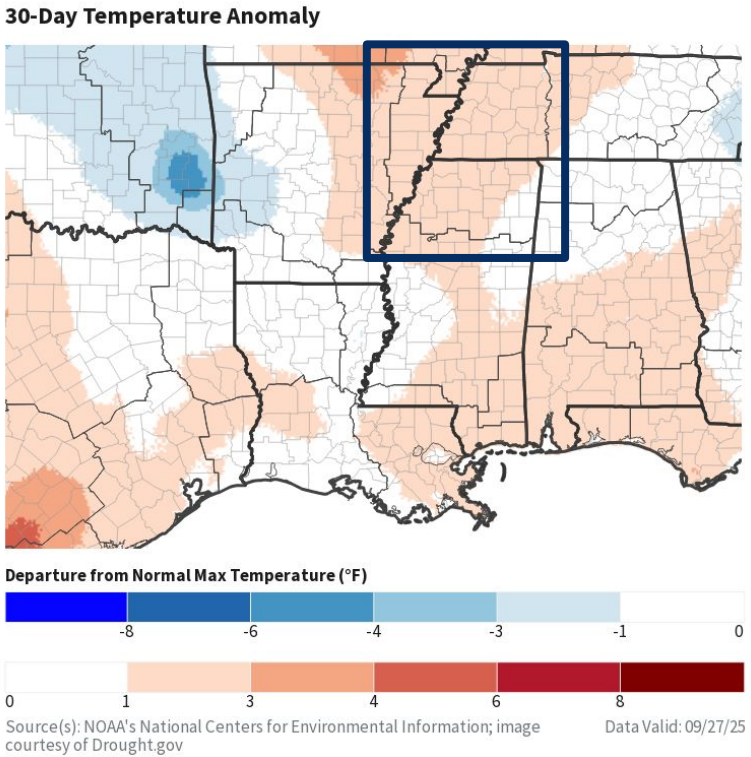
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 10/02/25

Temperature

- Average temperatures were above normal to above normal by 1-4 degrees over the last week.
- Average temperatures were above normal by 1-3 degrees over the last 30 days.





Summary of Impacts

Links: See/submit Condition Monitoring Observer Reports (CMOR) and view the Drought Impacts Reporter

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflow is normal to much below normal across the lower Mississippi River Basin and the Tennessee River Basin. The Mississippi River is forecast to fall below low water thresholds by early next week.

Agricultural Impacts

- Pastures provide very little or no feed. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition across West Tennessee, north Mississippi, and northeast Arkansas.
- There is an extreme degree of loss to yield potential, as well as complete or near crop failure across northwest Tennessee.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Lee County, Mississippi has been placed under a burn ban until 10/19.

Other Impacts

- There are no known additional impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.

Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

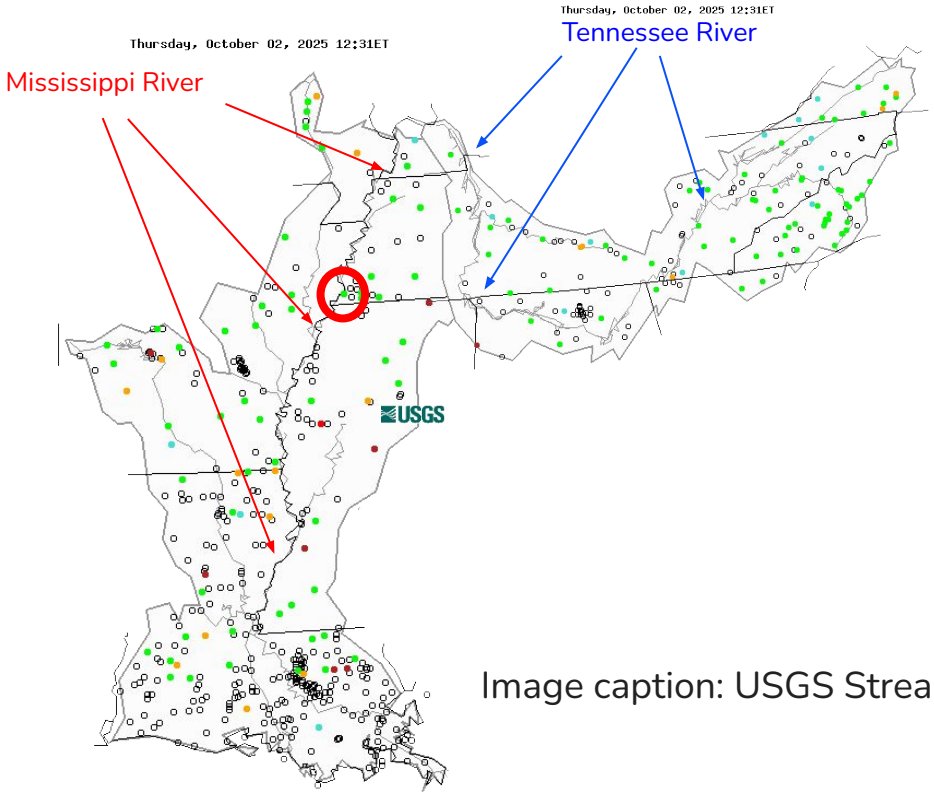
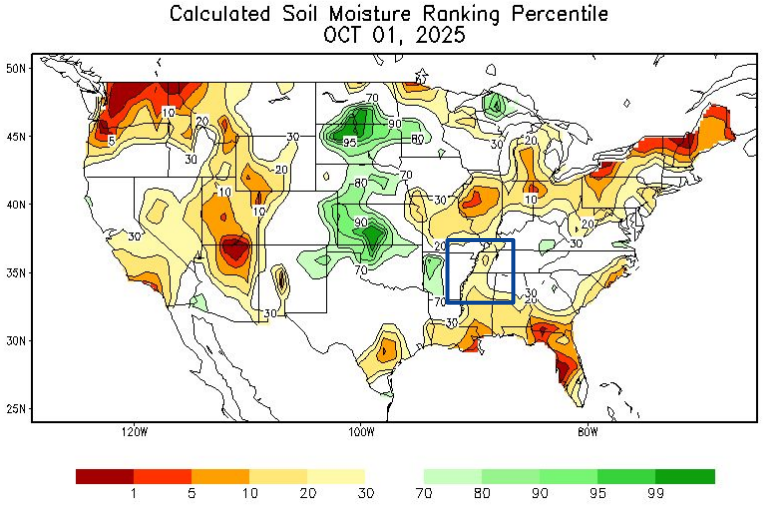


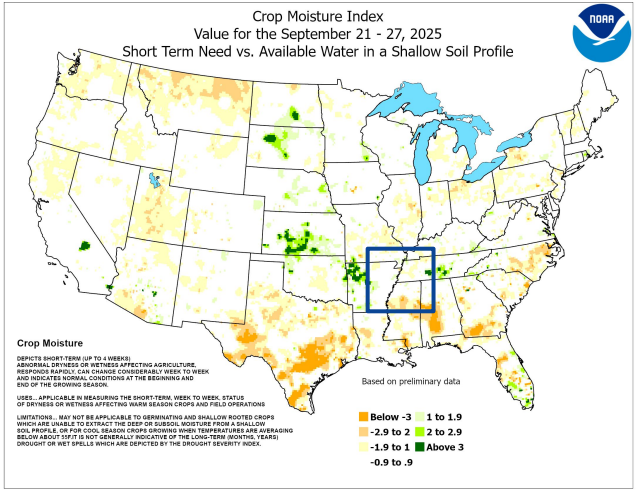
Image caption: USGS Streamflow

- The **Mississippi River at Memphis** is currently experiencing near normal flow. The extended river forecasts shows a slight rise in water levels before returning below low water thresholds.
- The Tennessee River feeds into the Mississippi River and is experiencing normal flow at Savannah, TN, and Kentucky Lake.

Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture anomalies are below normal across the Mid-South (20th percentile).
- The crop moisture index is near normal to slightly below normal across the Mid-South.

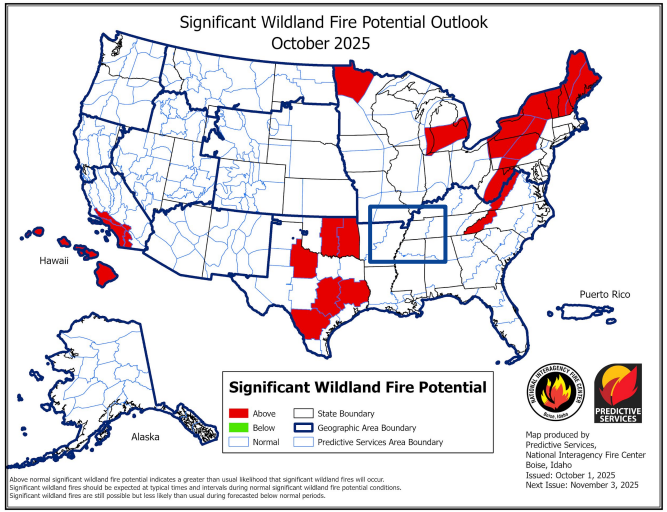


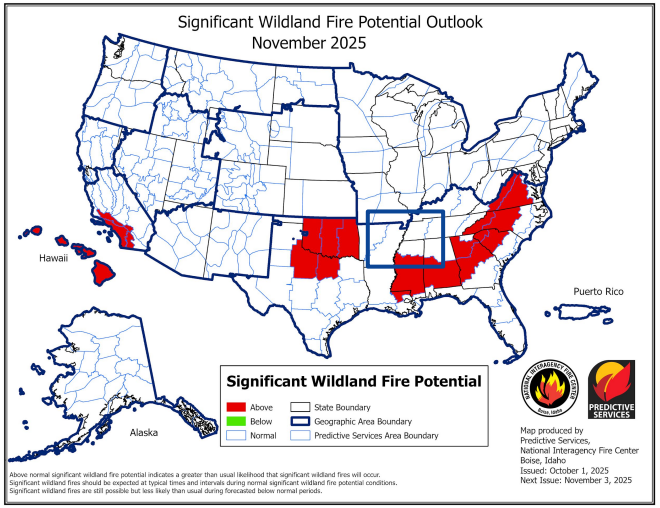


Fire Hazard Impacts

Link to Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center.

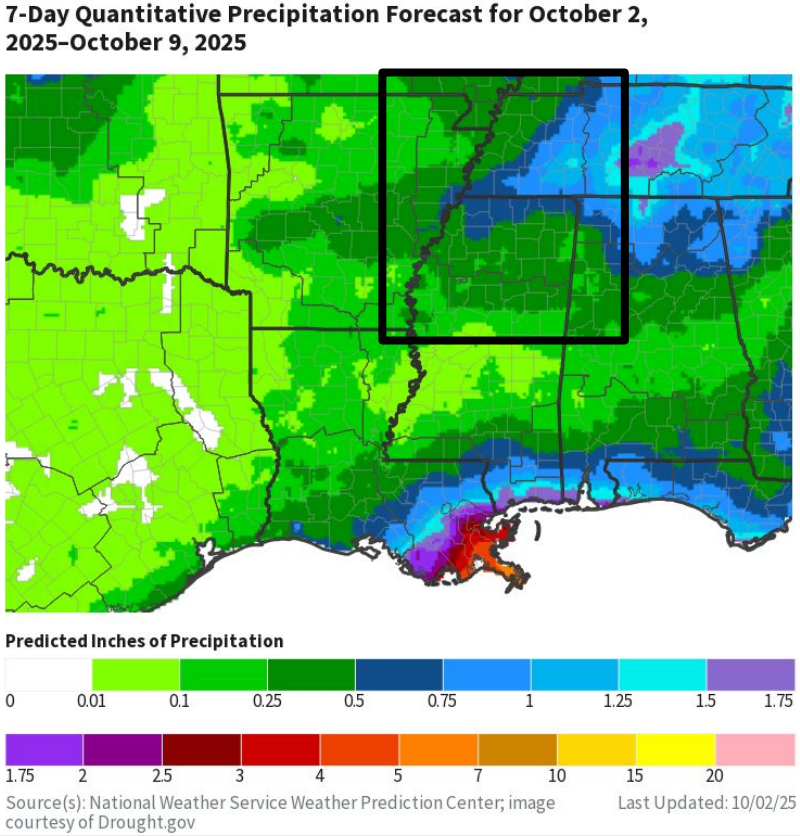
- Normal wildland fire is expected for the entire Mid-South for October and November.
- Burn Bans currently in effect:
  - Arkansas: None
  - Missouri: None
  - Mississippi: Lee
  - Tennessee: None





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Forecast precipitation over the next week is generally 0.25-1.25 inches. Lesser and higher amounts of 0.1 and 1.75 inches respectively could occur.

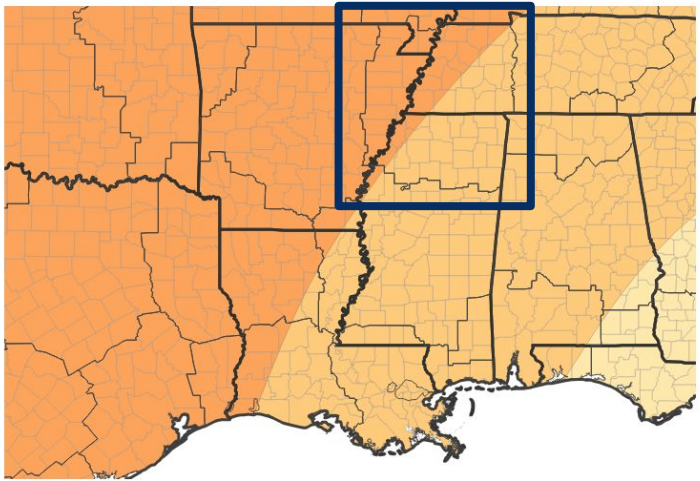


Long-Range Outlooks

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage]

- The Mid-South is leaning above normal (40-60%) for temperatures for October.
- The Mid-South is leaning below normal (33-50%) for precipitation for October.

Monthly Temperature Outlook for October 1, 2025–October 31, 2025



Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures

33% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures

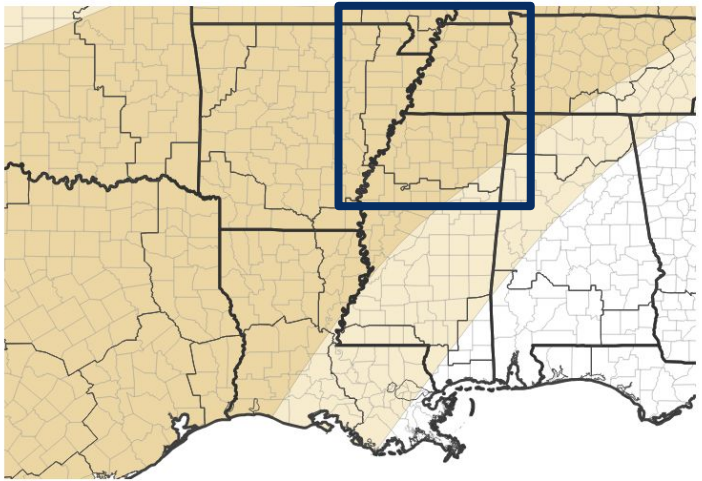
33% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures

33% 40% 50%

Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 09/30/25

Monthly Precipitation Outlook for October 1, 2025–October 31, 2025



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation

33% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation

33% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation

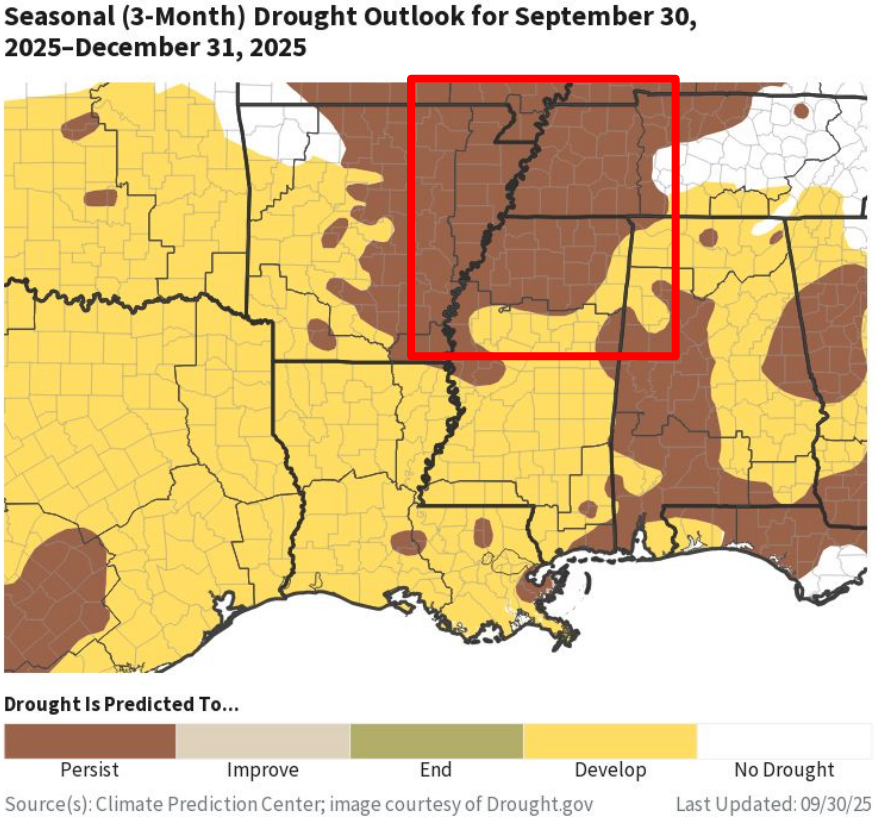
33% 40% 50%

Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 09/30/25

Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

- Drought conditions are expected to develop and/or persist across the Mid-South through November.



Links to the latest:
Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook