

# February 2021 Climate Review

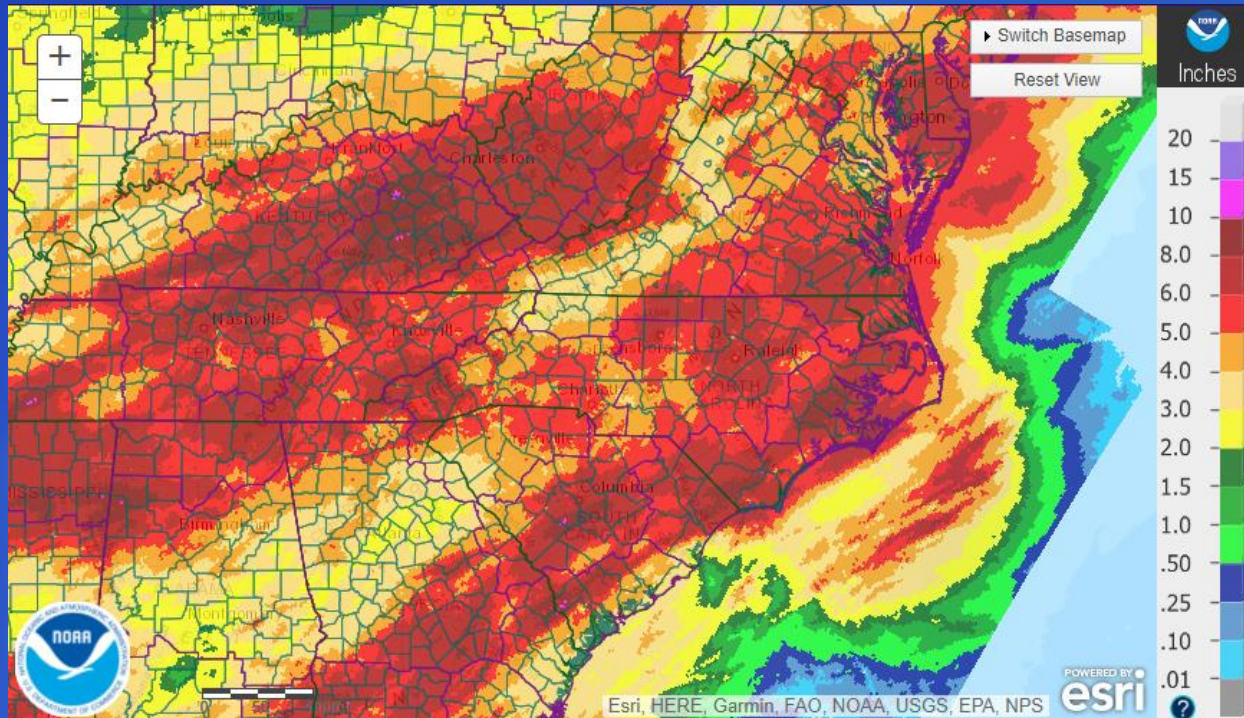
**Presented By:**

**National Weather Service**

**Newport/Morehead City, NC**



# February 2021 Highlights



Observed rainfall across the Carolinas in February 2021. Eastern NC was one of the wettest spots in the region, seeing total amounts of 6-8" with a few pockets exceeding 10". *Data from the Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service.*

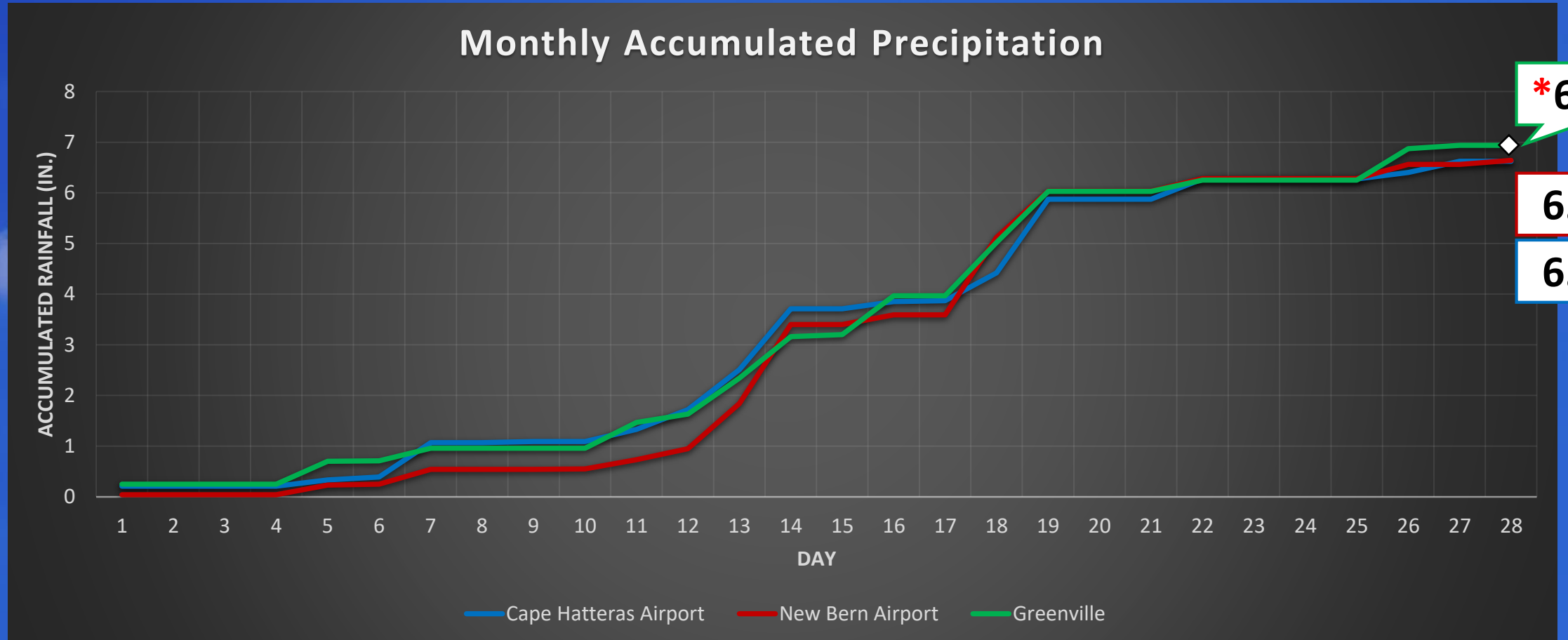
**Flooded February:** Eastern NC found itself trapped under a very active and wet pattern for the month, with a fairly widespread 6 to 8 inches of rain in the period. The rain resulted in swelling rivers; at one point 13 separate warnings were in effect for river flooding.

The Morehead City WFO recorded 8.59" of rain, making this February the 3<sup>rd</sup> wettest since the facility opened in 1996.

## Monthly Rankings

	Average Temp	Total Rainfall
Hatteras	58 <sup>th</sup> Warmest	16 <sup>th</sup> Wettest
New Bern	30 <sup>th</sup> Coolest	9 <sup>th</sup> Wettest

# February 2021 Rainfall

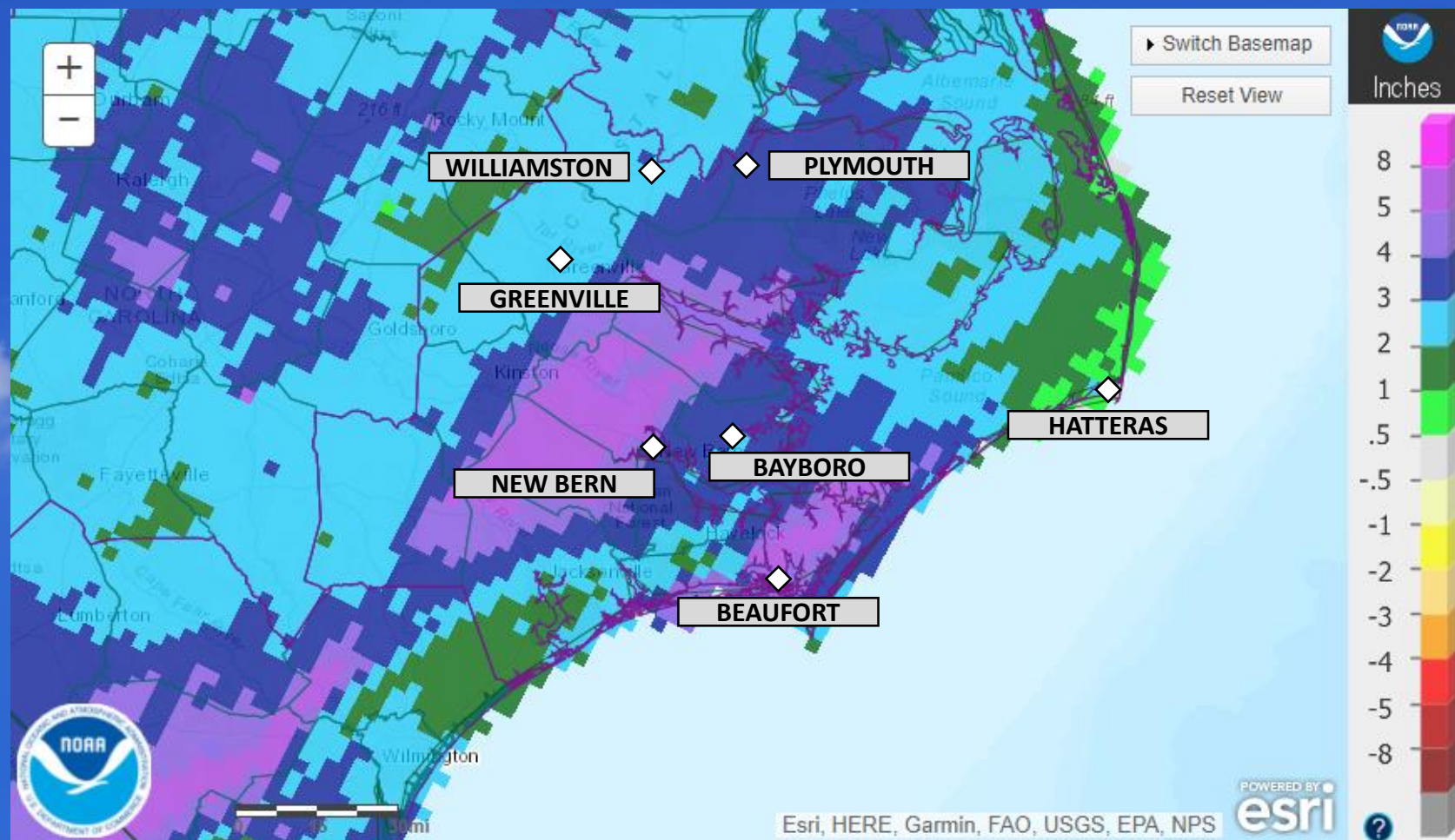


*White diamonds denote missing 24-hour precipitation report. Asterisk denotes total with missing data.*

# February 2021 Rainfall vs. Climate Normal

	Observed (In.)	Normal	Difference
Beaufort	7.89	3.20	▲ 4.69
Hatteras	6.62	4.02	▲ 2.60
New Bern	6.64	3.66	▲ 2.98
<b>Greenville</b>	6.94	3.35	▲ 3.59
Williamston	10.35	3.15	▲ 7.20
Plymouth	8.01	3.30	▲ 4.71
Bayboro	8.08	3.21	▲ 4.87

Red sites have missing data



February 2021 Precipitation: Departure from Normal  
 Analysis from the Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service



# Wettest and Driest Februarys

	Cape Hatteras	Year Observed	New Bern	Year Observed
Wettest	8.66"	1944	9.39"	1983
2 <sup>nd</sup> Wettest	8.45"	1983	9.06"	1982
3 <sup>rd</sup> Wettest	8.24"	2016	7.45"	1964
4 <sup>th</sup> Wettest	8.13"	1998	7.31"	2016
5 <sup>th</sup> Wettest	8.07"	1899	6.96"	1972

	Cape Hatteras	Year Observed	New Bern	Year Observed
5 <sup>th</sup> Driest	1.23"	1950	1.68"	1986
4 <sup>th</sup> Driest	1.06"	1991	1.66"	1950
3 <sup>rd</sup> Driest	1.01"	1955	1.54"	2006
2 <sup>nd</sup> Driest	0.88"	1911	1.35"	2018
Driest	0.73"	1930	1.28"	1977

# Average Temperatures: February 2021

	Average High	Normal High	Difference	Average Low	Normal Low	Difference
Beaufort	54.2	55.4	▼ 1.2	40.4	38.7	▲ 1.7
Hatteras	53.1	53.5	▼ 0.4	42.0	40.0	▲ 2.0
New Bern	54.6	57.9	▼ 3.3	37.0	36.1	▲ 0.9
Greenville	51.4	56.3	▼ 4.9	35.1	34.3	▲ 0.8
Kinston	52.4	60.1	▼ 7.7	34.4	36.7	▼ 2.3
Williamston	51.1	54.8	▼ 3.7	34.6	32.9	▲ 1.7
Plymouth	52.9	57.2	▼ 4.3	35.4	35.0	▲ 0.4
Bayboro	55.2	58.0	▼ 2.8	38.8	34.6	▲ 4.2

Red sites have missing data

# Warmest and Coolest Februarys By Avg. Temp

	Cape Hatteras	Year Observed	New Bern	Year Observed
Warmest	57.2°	2019	55.6°	2018
2 <sup>nd</sup> Warmest	55.6°	2018	54.0°	1990
3 <sup>rd</sup> Warmest	55.6°	2017	53.6°	2017
4 <sup>th</sup> Warmest	54.4°	1990	53.1°	1976
5 <sup>th</sup> Warmest	54.3°	1927	52.5°	1949

	Cape Hatteras	Year Observed	New Bern	Year Observed
5 <sup>th</sup> Coolest	38.6°	1968	39.5°	1958
4 <sup>th</sup> Coolest	38.4°	1905	39.2°	1963
3 <sup>rd</sup> Coolest	38.4°	2015	38.9°	2015
2 <sup>nd</sup> Coolest	36.5°	1895	37.5°	1968
Coolest	35.7°	1978	37.3°	1978

# Temperature Extremes: February 2021

	Max High	Date Obs.	Min Low	Date Obs.
Beaufort	70	28 <sup>th</sup>	28	21 <sup>st</sup>
Hatteras	69	28 <sup>th</sup>	30	21 <sup>st</sup>
New Bern	81	28 <sup>th</sup>	25	4 <sup>th</sup>
Greenville	73	24 <sup>th</sup>	26	4 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup>
Kinston	74	28 <sup>th</sup>	24	4 <sup>th</sup>
Williamston	72	25 <sup>th</sup>	25	1 <sup>st</sup>
Plymouth	70	24 <sup>th</sup> , 28 <sup>th</sup>	26	21-22 <sup>nd</sup>
Bayboro	77	28 <sup>th</sup>	31	8-9 <sup>th</sup> , 21-22 <sup>nd</sup>

Red sites have missing data



# Drought Monitor: North Carolina



**February 23, 2021**  
 (Released Thursday, Feb. 25, 2021)  
 Valid 7 a.m. EST

*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> <i>02-16-2021</i>	99.68	0.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> <i>11-24-2020</i>	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> <i>12-29-2020</i>	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> <i>09-29-2020</i>	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> <i>02-25-2020</i>	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>*

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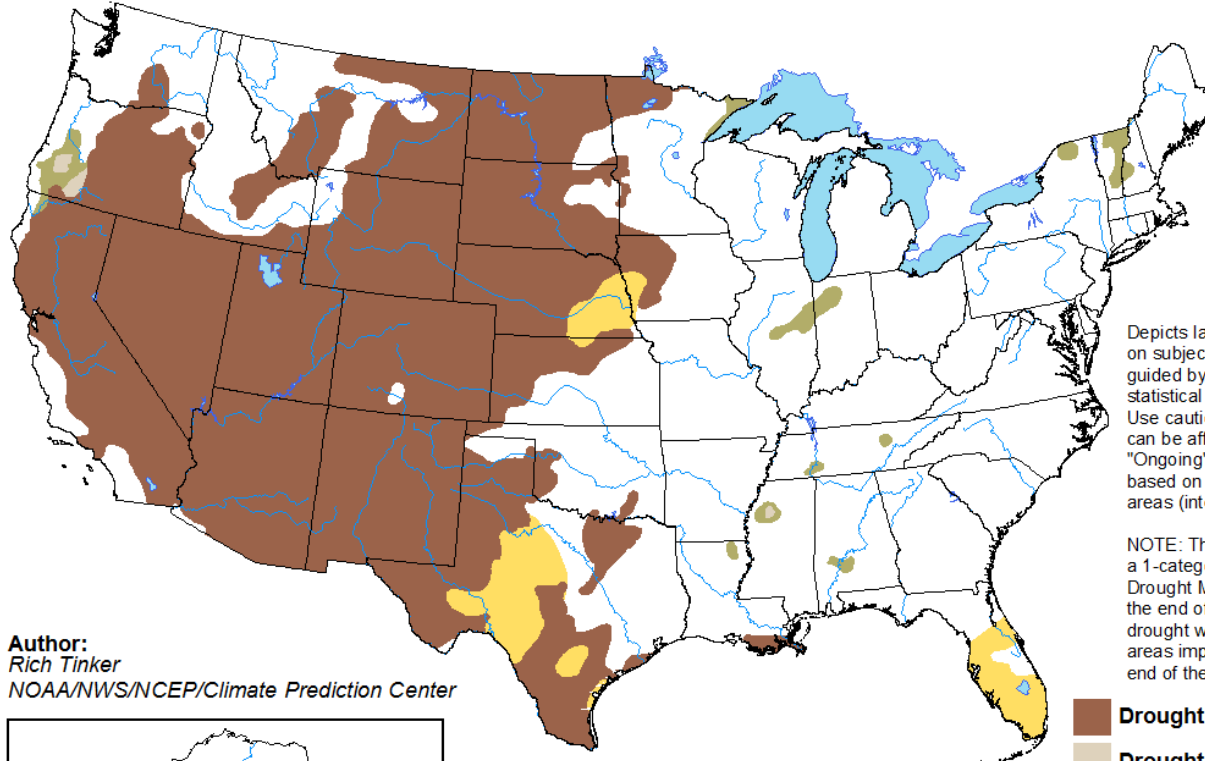


[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

# Monthly Drought Outlook

## U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

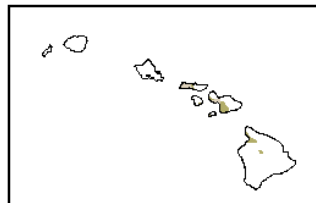
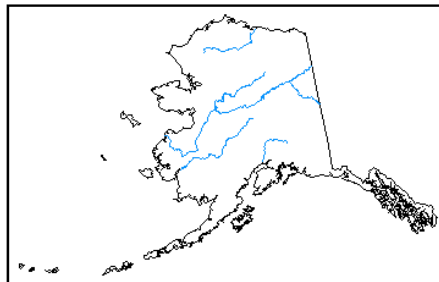
Valid for March 2021  
Released February 28, 2021







Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

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-  Drought persists
-  Drought remains but improves
-  Drought removal likely
-  Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/3eZGd>