



Drought Information Statement for The Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles

Valid September, 19, 2023

Issued By: WFO Amarillo TX

Contact Information: sr-ama.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated October, 19, 2023 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/ama/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.





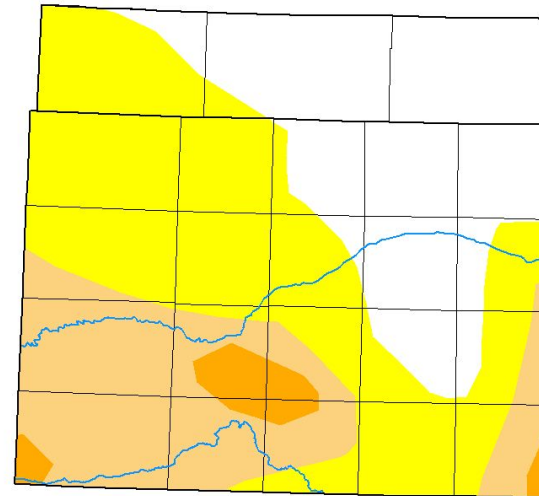
U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for WFO Amarillo

- Western and southern areas in the combined Oklahoma and Texas Panhandles continue to see below normal rainfall heading into Fall.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - D4 (Exceptional Drought): None
 - D3 (Extreme Drought): None
 - D2 (Severe Drought): Potter, Randall, Carson, Armstrong, Deaf Smith, and Collingsworth County
 - D1 (Moderate Drought): Hartley, Oldham, Deaf Smith, Randall, Carson, Armstrong, Hemphill, Wheeler, and Collingsworth County
 - D0: (Abnormally Dry): Cimarron, Dallam, Hartley, Sherman, Moore, Hutchinson, Carson, Armstrong, Gray, Donley, Hemphill, Wheeler, and Collingsworth County

U.S. Drought Monitor Amarillo, TX WFO

September 12, 2023
(Released Thursday, Sep. 14, 2023)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



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>.

Author:

Brad Pugh
CPC/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am EDT September 12th.





Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for CONUS

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: The southwestern half of the combined Oklahoma and Texas Panhandles has seen a one to two category degradation over the last month.
 - No Change: The northeastern and eastern zones in the combined Panhandles have mostly stayed unchanged.
 - Drought Improved: None

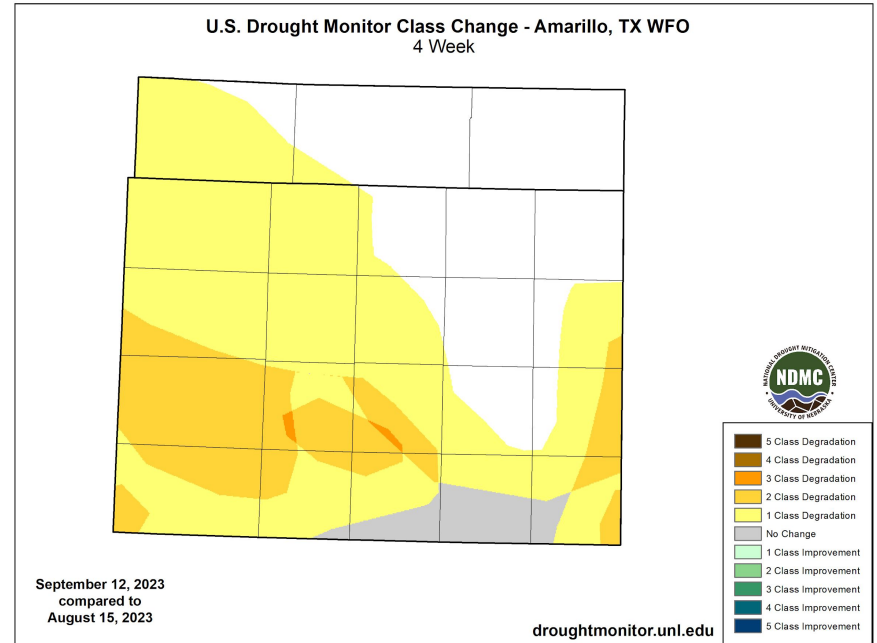


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid 8am EDT September 12th.

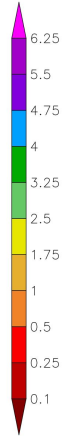
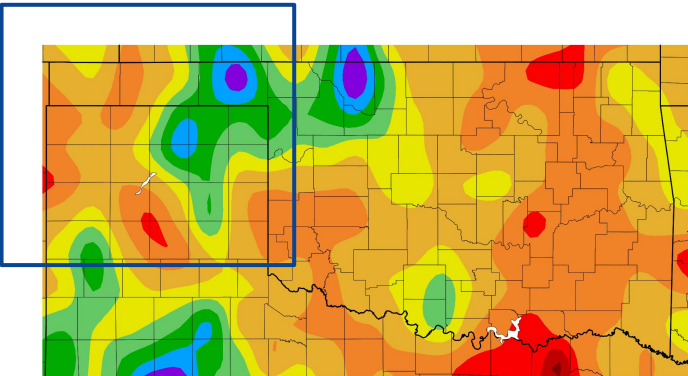




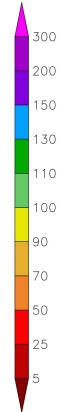
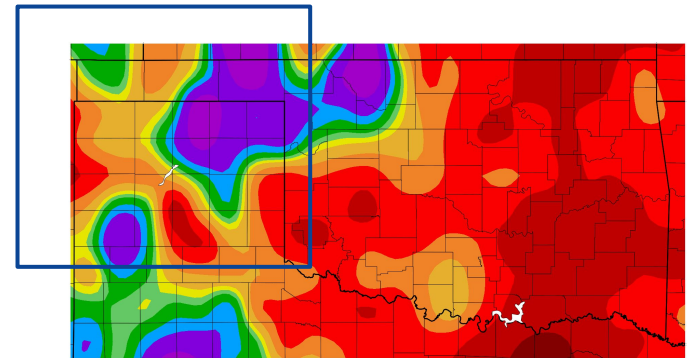
Precipitation

- The south-central and southeastern TX Panhandle continue to see below normal rainfall, as well as the western combined OK/TX Panhandles.

Precipitation (in)
8/20/2023 – 9/18/2023



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
8/20/2023 – 9/18/2023



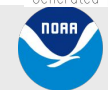
Generated 9/19/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions:
Left - Precipitation Amount for the Oklahoma and Texas Panhandles
Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation for the Oklahoma and Texas Panhandles
Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending September, 18, 2023

Generated 9/19/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

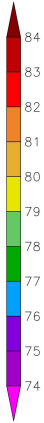
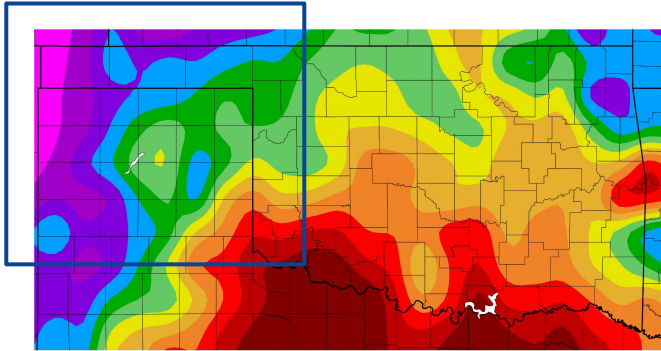




Temperature

- Over the last 30 days much of the combined Oklahoma and Texas Panhandles saw temperatures 2 to 4 degrees F above normal.

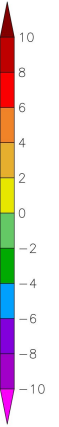
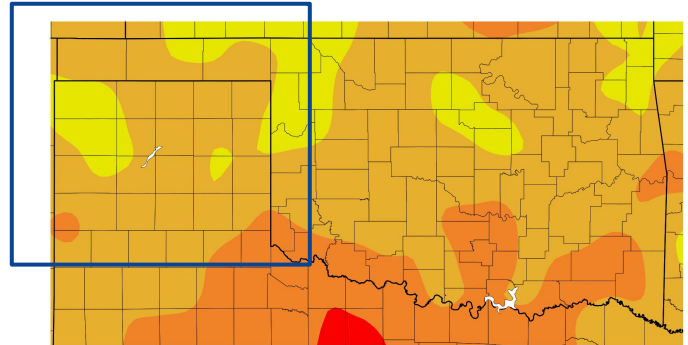
Temperature (F)
8/20/2023 - 9/18/2023



Generated 9/19/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
8/20/2023 - 9/18/2023



Generated 9/19/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions:
Left - Average Temperature
Right - Departure from Normal Temperature
Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending September 18th, 2023





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Agricultural Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Prolonged heat and dry air could lead to potential fire risks in a matter of a week.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

- None reported.

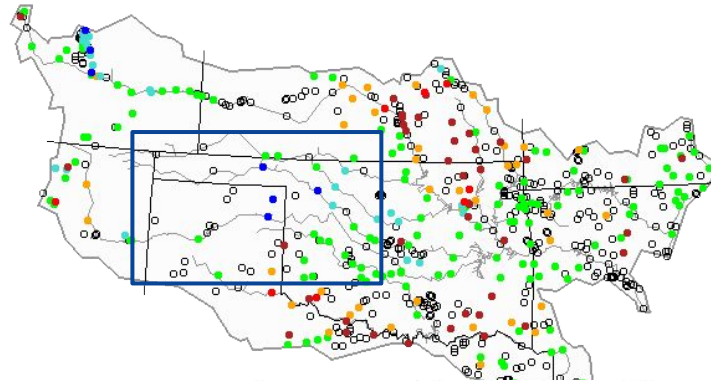




Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflow remains near normal to above normal for the majority of the combined Oklahoma and Texas Panhandles.

Tuesday, September 19, 2023 15:30ET



Explanation - Percentile classes						
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

USGS

Image Caption: Map of real-time streamflow compared to historical streamflow for the day of the year (Arkansas-White-Red) Valid for September 19th, 2023





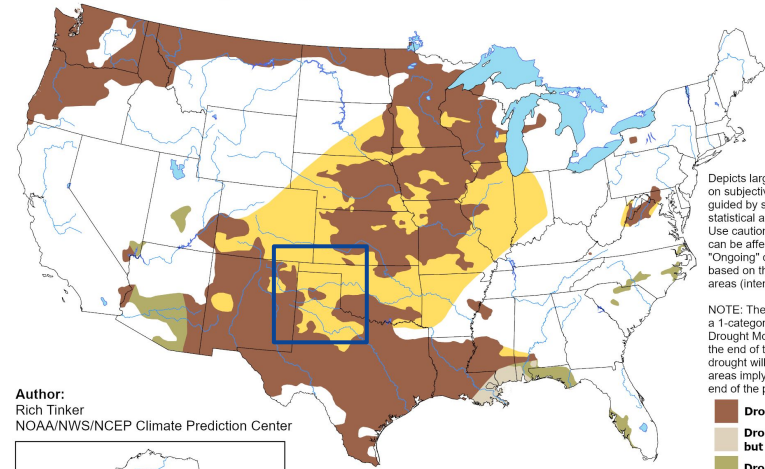
Drought Outlook

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

- Current conditions as well as expected weather patterns in the near future, has portions of the combined Oklahoma and Texas Panhandles already in drought or drought development is expected.

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

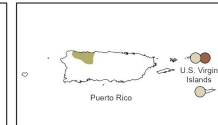
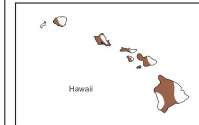
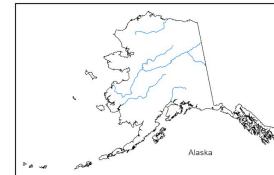
Valid for September 2023
Released August 31, 2023



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).

Author:
Rich Tinker
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center



- Drought persists
- Drought remains, but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely
- No drought



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

Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook Released August 31, 2023 valid for September 2023

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Amarillo, Texas