



# Drought Information Statement for Deep South Texas

Valid February 20, 2026

Issued By: NWS Brownsville/Rio Grande Valley, TX

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- This product will be updated around March 6, 2026, 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/bro/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates

- **Exceptional Drought Conditions Have Developed Across Jim Hogg and Brooks Counties**
- **Severe to Extreme Drought Conditions Continue Expanding Across the Rio Grande Valley**



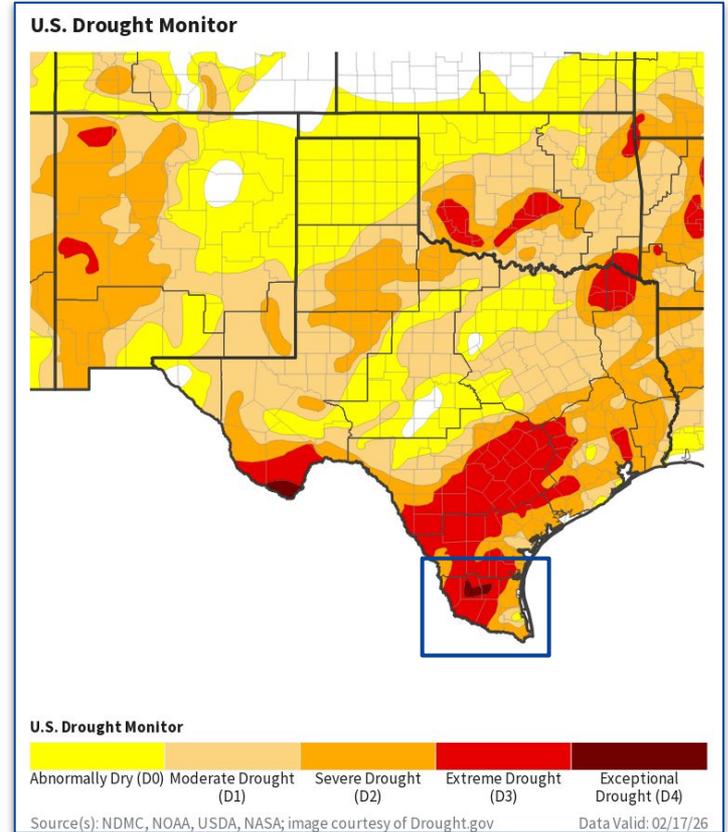


# U.S. Drought Monitor

[Latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) | [Latest Drought Monitor for Deep South Texas](#)

## Drought Intensity and Extent

- **Exceptional Drought (D4)** conditions are being observed across nearly 8% of Deep South Texas, including central portions of Jim Hogg and Brooks counties.
- **Extreme Drought (D3)** conditions are being observed across over 52% of Deep South Texas, including all of Starr, most of Zapata, Jim Hogg, Brooks, western Hidalgo, and northwestern Kenedy counties.
- **Severe Drought (D2)** conditions are being observed across over 28% of Deep South Texas, including northwestern Zapata, eastern Hidalgo, northwestern Willacy, and most of Kenedy and Cameron counties.
- **Moderate Drought (D1)** conditions are being observed across over 8% of Deep South Texas, including most of Willacy, eastern Hidalgo, and northern Cameron counties.
- **Abnormally Dry (D0)** conditions are being observed across over 2% of Deep South Texas, including southeastern Willacy and northeastern Cameron counties.



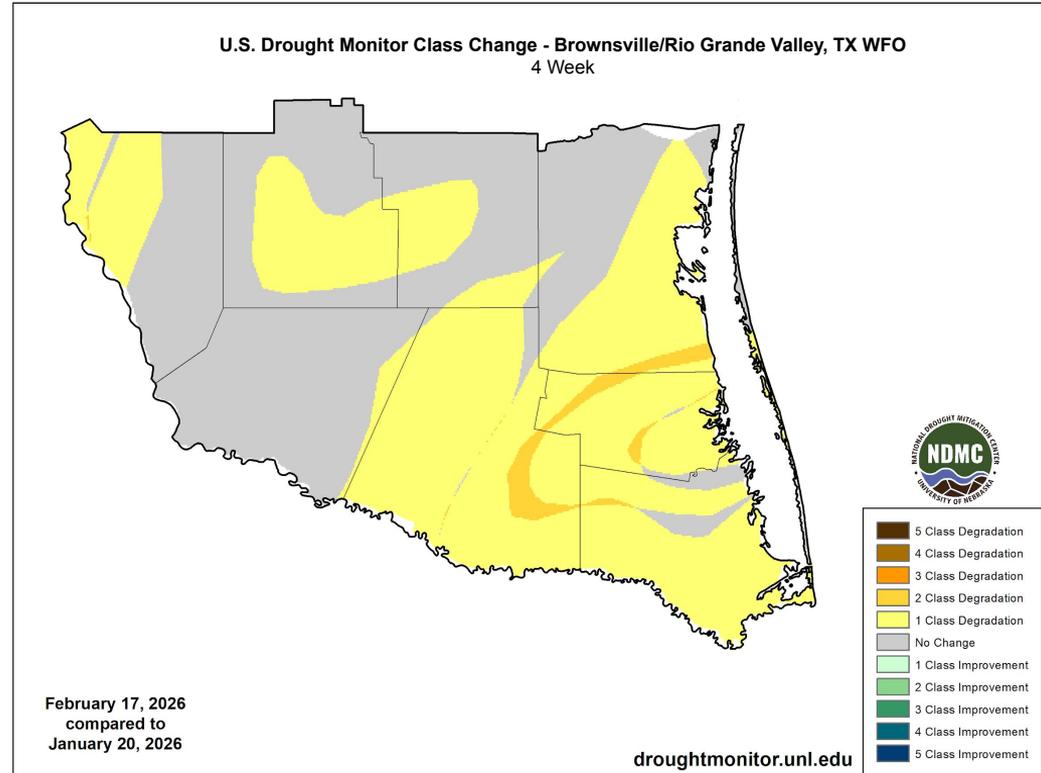


# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

[Latest U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change](#) | [Latest 4 Week Change Map for Deep South Texas](#)

## Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change

- In the past 4 weeks, there has been **no change** to drought conditions across most of Zapata, Jim Hogg, Brooks, and Starr counties, as well as portions of northwestern Kenedy, southeastern Willacy, and northeastern Cameron counties.
- In the past 4 weeks, there has been a **1 class degradation** across northwestern Zapata, central Jim Hogg and Brooks counties, as well as most of Hidalgo, Kenedy, Willacy, and Cameron counties.
- In the past 4 weeks, there has been a **2 class degradation** across portions of eastern Hidalgo, southeastern Kenedy, northwestern and central Willacy, and western Cameron counties.

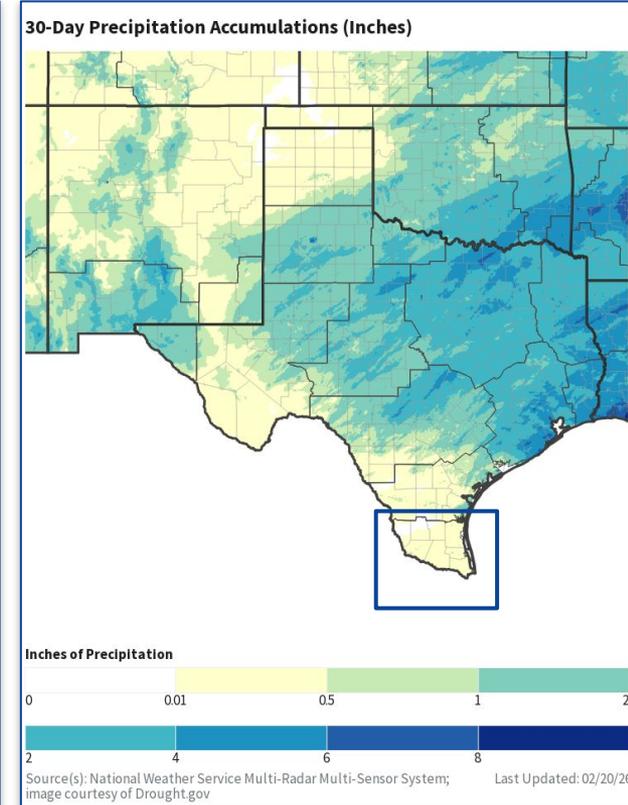
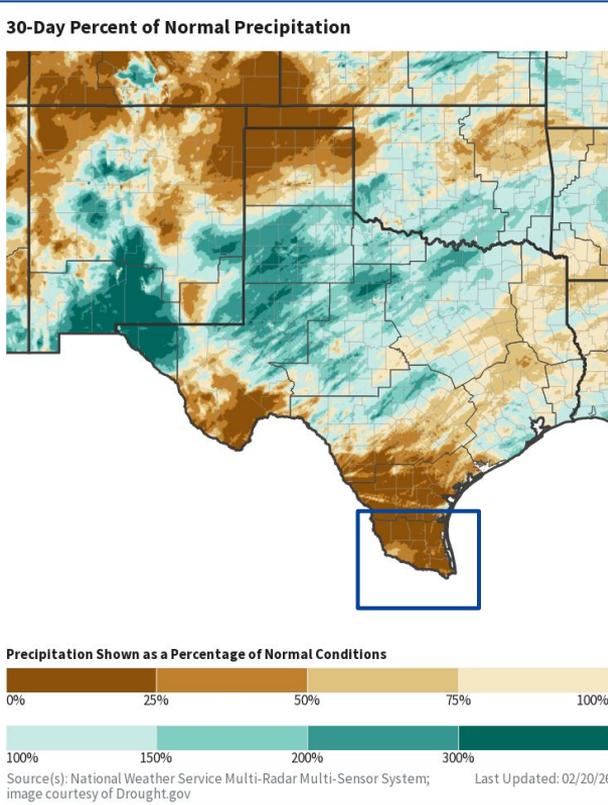




# Precipitation

## National Water Prediction Services

- Over the past 30 days, Zapata, Jim Hogg, Brooks, Starr, and most of Hidalgo, Kenedy, Willacy, and Cameron counties have received between 0-25% of normal rainfall, with central Willacy and portions of Hidalgo, Kenedy, and Cameron counties receiving between 10-75% of normal rainfall.
- Over the past 90 days, most of Deep South Texas has received between 25-75% of normal rainfall, with portions of northern Zapata, eastern Hidalgo, southern Willacy, and northern Cameron receiving between 75-200% of normal rainfall.



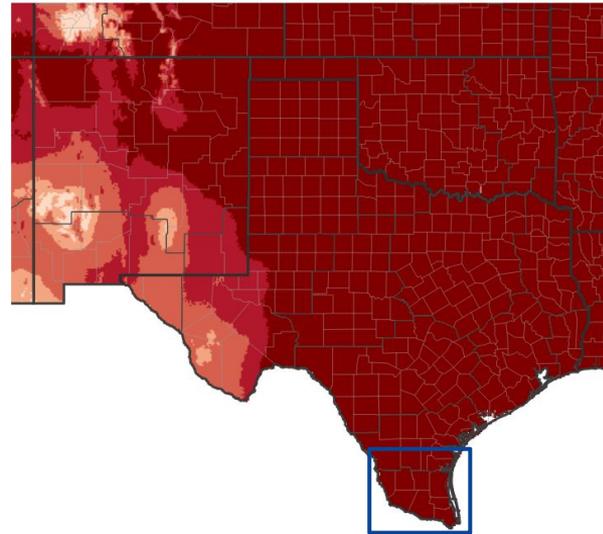


# Temperature

Daily Climate Summary: [BRO](#) | [HRL](#) | [MFE](#)

- [Average Maximum Temperatures](#) over the past 30 days across Deep South Texas have still ranged **above normal**, 75 degrees and above.
- [Average Minimum Temperatures](#) over the past 30 days across Deep South Texas have ranged generally **near to slightly below normal** between 40-60 degrees.
- Overall, temperatures remain well above normal through Friday, February 27, with a brief round of near normal highs Sunday and Monday and below normal lows Monday morning.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



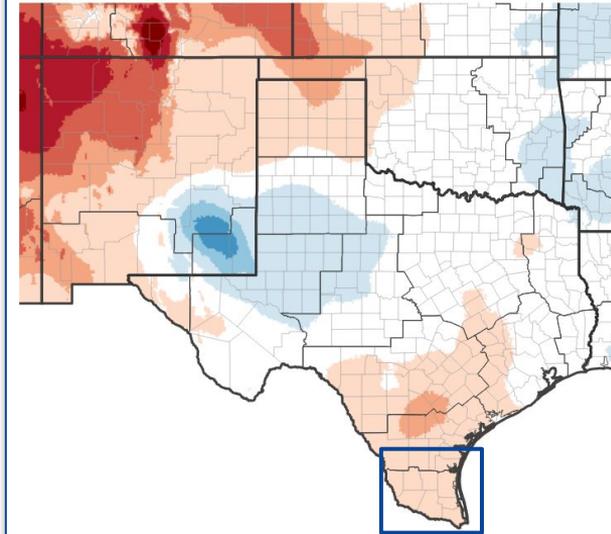
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 02/16/26

30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 02/16/26





# Summary of Impacts

[View or Submit: Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) | [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows remain below normal into late February.
- Texas water share values have remained below 35% at Amistad and around 20% at Falcon Lake.

## Agricultural Impacts

- Please see the latest [Crop and Weather Report](#) from Texas A&M AgriLife.
- Soil moistures are well below normal across all of Deep South Texas and the Rio Grande Valley, especially across the brush country, with slightly below normal crop moistures.

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- Above normal wildland fire activity is expected across all of Deep South Texas through March, with near normal wildland fire activity returning April through May.
- Burn bans remain in effect for all of Deep South Texas except Kenedy and Cameron counties.

## Mitigation Actions

- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.
- [TCEQ Known Municipality Restrictions](#).





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

[Current Amistad Reservoir Data](#) | [Current Falcon Lake Reservoir Data](#)

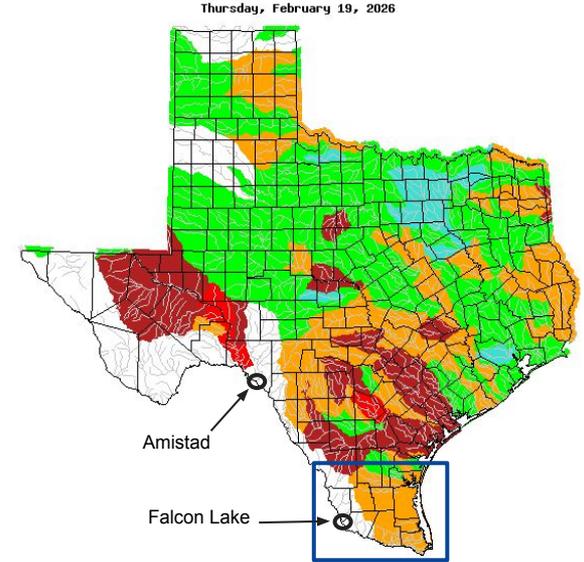
- Streamflows over the past 7 days have remained **below normal** due to a lack of beneficial rainfall across South and Deep South Texas.
- Most of the streamflow across Deep South Texas is **between the 10th and 24th percentile** for this time of year (orange shading on the map).
- Texas water share values have remained below 35% at Amistad and around 20% at Falcon Lake.

Reservoir	Pool Elevation* (ft)	Current Elevation* (ft)	Percent Full*
Amistad	1117.00	1051.69	33.2%
Falcon Lake	301.20	256.92	20.6%

Percent Full*	1 Month Ago	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Amistad	34.7%	34.7%	26.2%
Falcon Lake	19.2%	15.1%	15.9%

\* = Current Texas Water Share



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

Captions:

Left: [TWDB Reservoir](#) conditions as of February 20, 2026

Right: [USGS 7 Day Streamflows for Texas](#) valid February 19, 2026



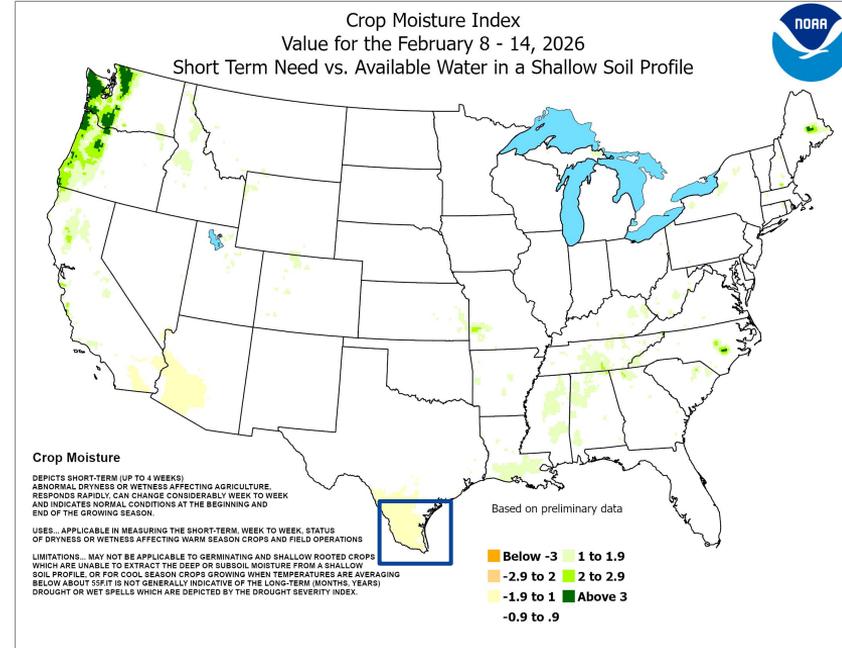
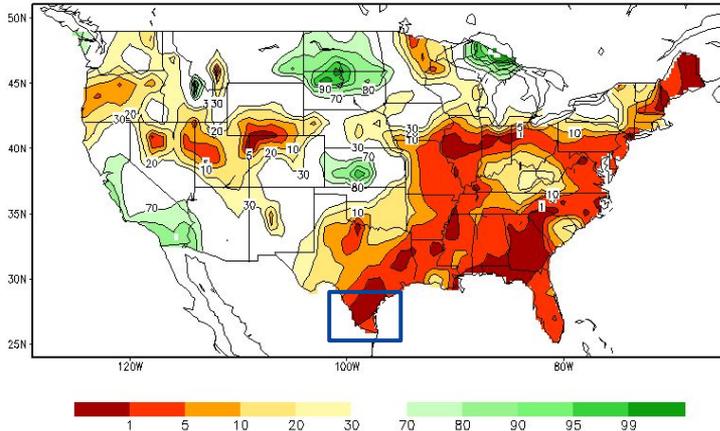


# Agricultural Impacts

[Latest Crop and Weather Report from Texas A&M AgriLife](#) | [Climate Prediction Center \(CPC\) Drought Page](#)

- Soil moistures are well below normal across all of Deep South Texas and the Rio Grande Valley, especially across the brush country.
- Crop moisture indices are slightly below normal across Deep South Texas and the Rio Grande Valley.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile  
FEB 19, 2026



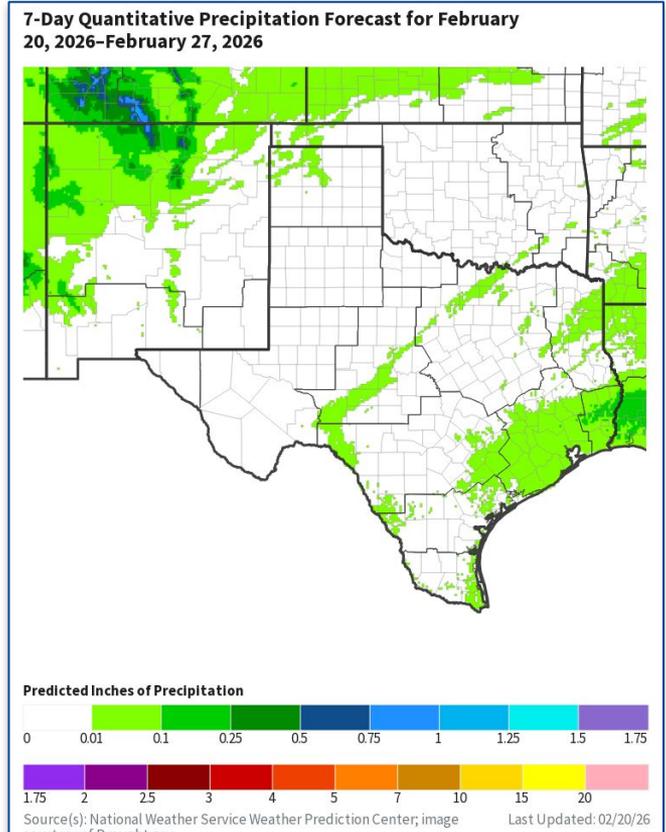




# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

[CPC 6-10 Day Precipitation Outlook](#) | [WPC Precipitation Forecasts](#)

- Generally dry weather is expected across Deep South Texas through next week, with most model guidance remaining fairly dry into early March.
- There is a very low 5-15% chance of a shower or sprinkle along the frontal passage Saturday, with a trace to one tenth of an inch of rainfall, mainly along the coast.
- Overall, there is low to medium (33-50%) probability of **below normal rainfall** through Sunday, March 1st across most of Deep South Texas and the Rio Grande Valley.

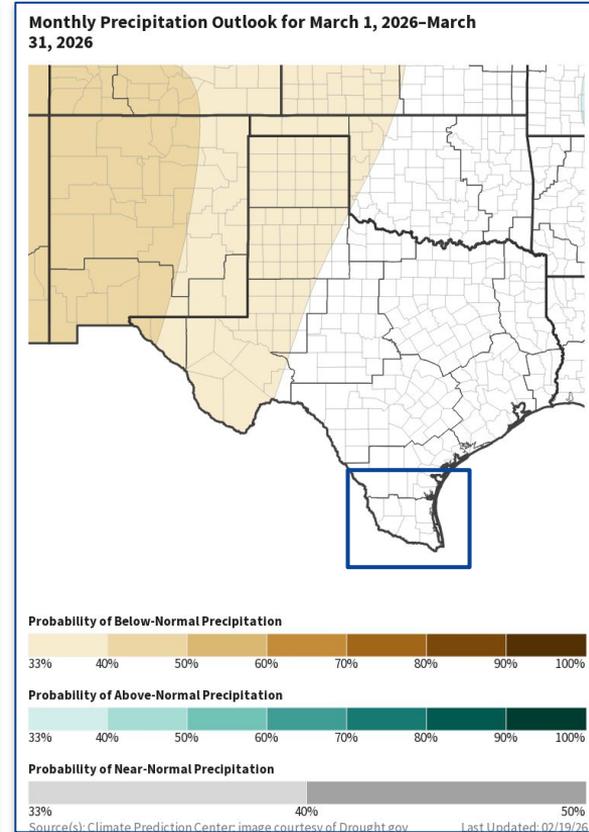
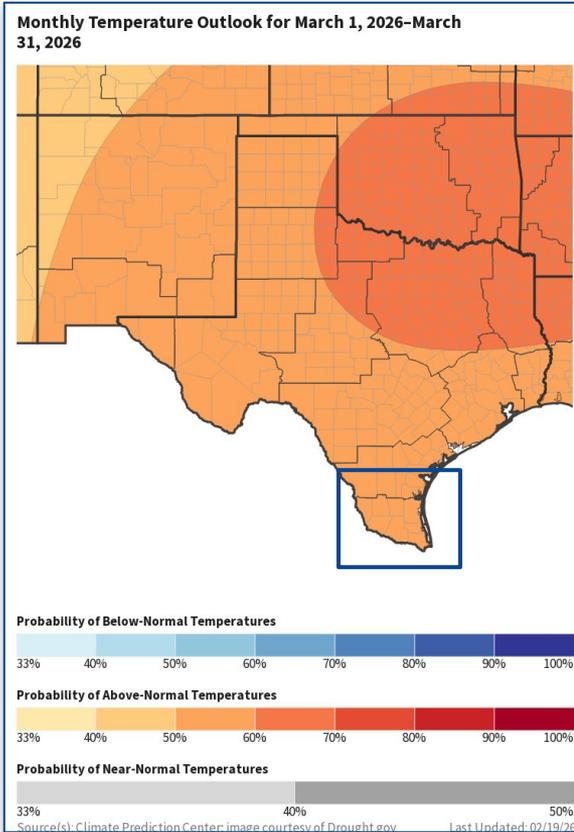




# Long-Range Outlooks

[CPC Seasonal Temperature Outlook](#) | [CPC Seasonal Precipitation Outlook](#)

- There is a **medium to likely (50-60%) chance of above normal temperatures** through March.
- There is an **equal chance of above or below normal rainfall** across Deep South Texas through March.
- Through May 2026, there is a **medium (40-50%) chance of above normal temperatures** and an **equal chance of above normal or below normal rainfall** across Deep South Texas.





# Drought Outlook

[Climate Prediction Center](#) | [Monthly Drought Outlook](#) | [Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

- Drought is expected to persist across most of Deep South Texas through May, 2026

