

Drought Information Statement for Deep South Texas

Valid October 1, 2026

Issued By: NWS Brownsville/Rio Grande Valley, TX
Contact Information: sr-bro.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated around October 16th, 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

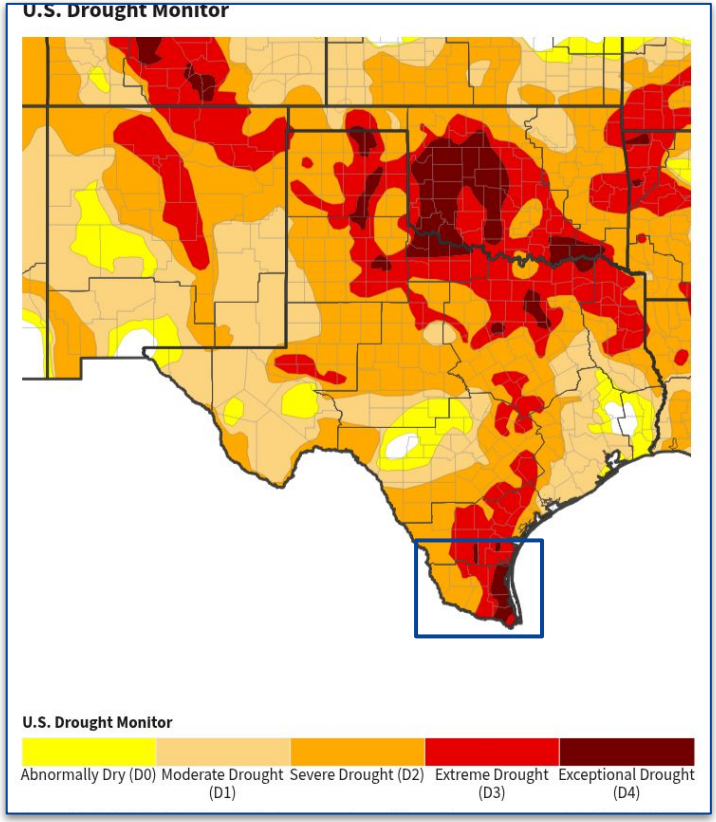
- **Severe to Exceptional Drought Conditions Have Expanded Across Deep South Texas**
- **Multiple Rounds of Beneficial Rainfall Are Expected Into Next Week**

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 now being observed across nearly 23% of Deep South Texas, including most of Kenedy, Willacy, and Cameron counties.
- **Extreme Drought (D3)** conditions are now being observed across 32% of Deep South Texas, including eastern Jim Hogg, most of Brooks, western Kenedy, western Willacy, eastern Hidalgo, and both western and eastern Cameron counties.
- **Severe Drought (D2)** conditions now being observed across the remaining over 45% of Deep South Texas, including Zapata, Starr, most of Jim Hogg, southwestern Brooks, and western Hidalgo counties.

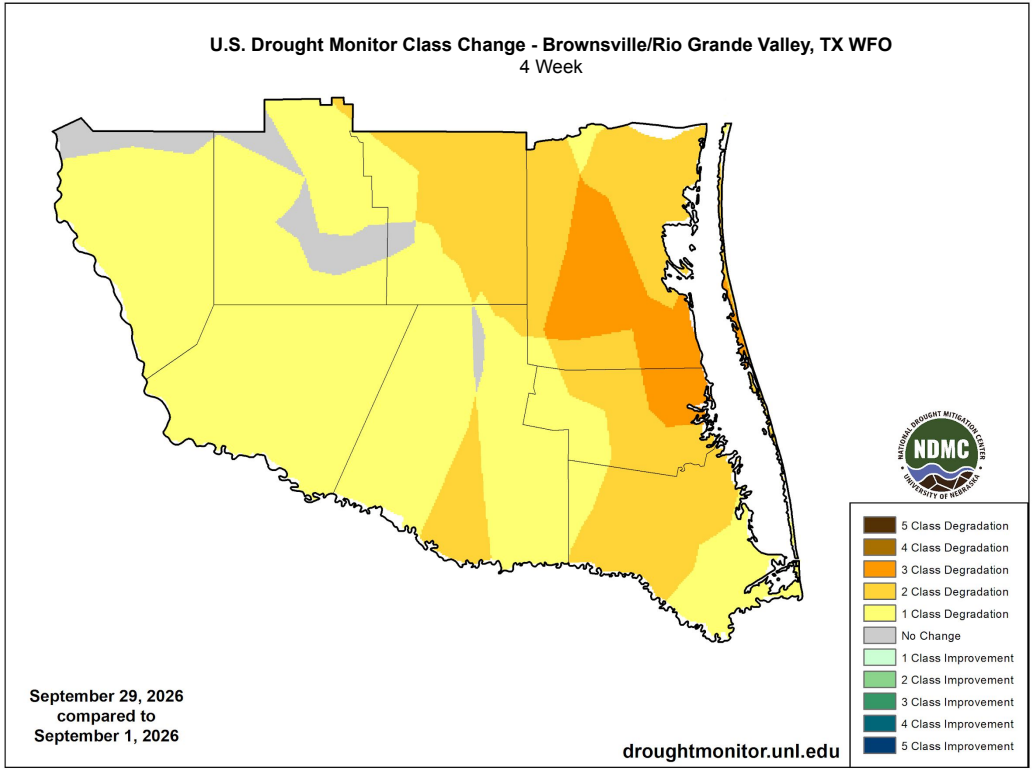


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Latest U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change | Latest 4 Week Change Map for Deep South Texas

Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change

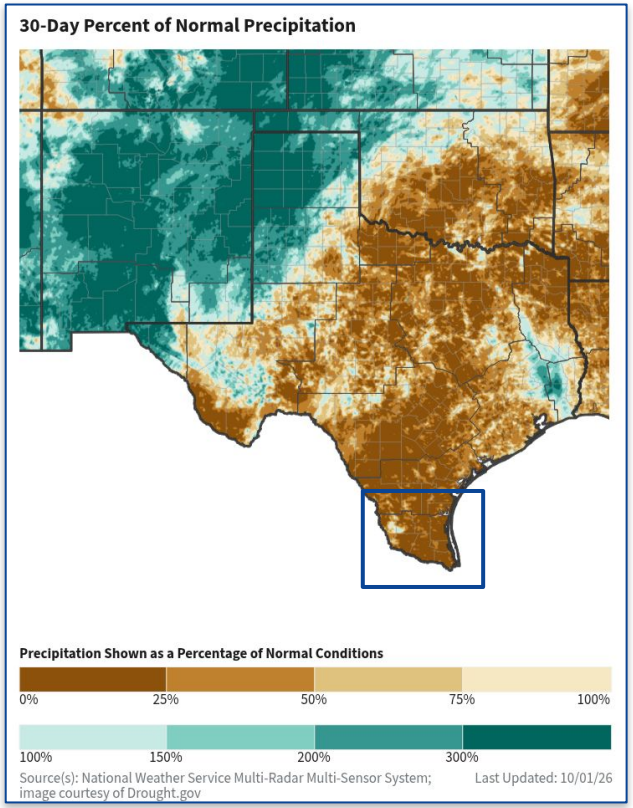
- In the past 4 weeks, there has been a **3 class degradation** across most of Kenedy and northeastern Willacy counties.
- In the past 4 weeks, there has been a **2 class degradation** across most of Brooks, the remainder of Kenedy, south-central Hidalgo, central to southern Willacy, and central Cameron counties.
- In the past 4 weeks, there has been a **1 class degradation** across most of Zapata, most of Jim Hogg, all of Starr, western Brooks, most of Hidalgo, western Willacy, and both western and eastern Cameron counties.

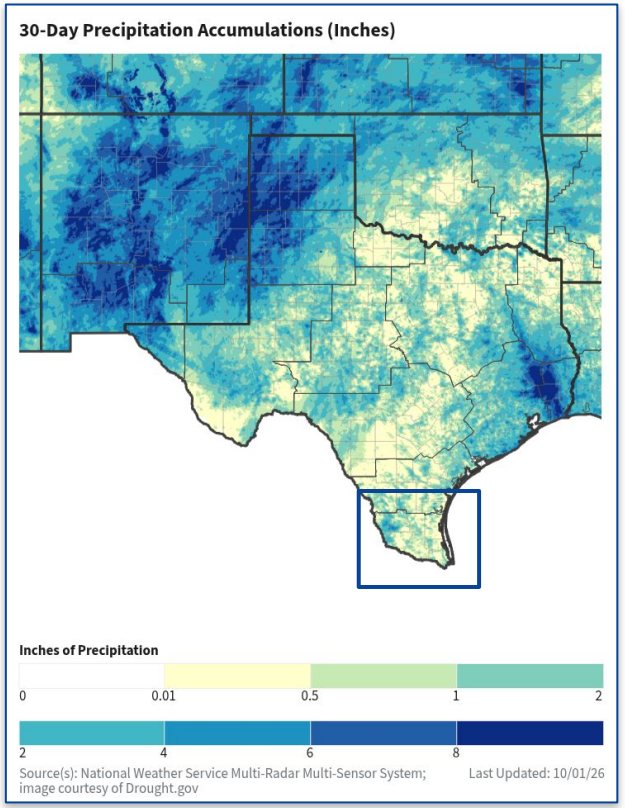


Precipitation

National Water Prediction Services

- Over the past 30 days, most of Deep South Texas has received between 10-25% of normal rainfall, with portions of central to southern Zapata and southwestern Jim Hogg counties receiving between 75-200% of normal rainfall.
- Over the past 90 days, most of Deep South Texas has received between 25-50% of normal rainfall, with portions of Zapata, western Jim Hogg, and southwestern Brooks receiving between 75-110% of normal rainfall.

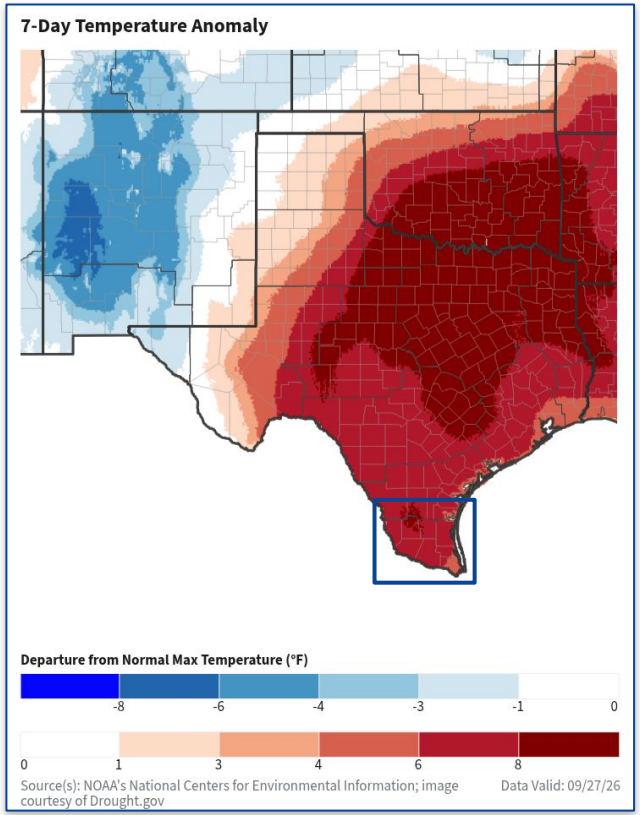


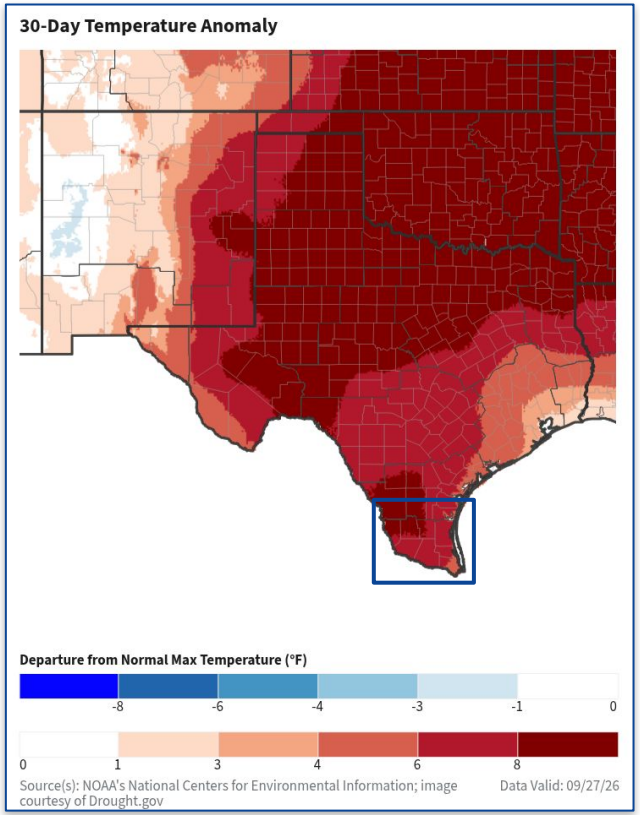


Temperature

Daily Climate Summary: BRO | HRL | MFE

- Average Maximum Temperatures over the past 30 days across Deep South Texas have ranged **above normal,** at generally 95-100+ degrees.
- Average Minimum Temperatures over the past 30 days across Deep South Texas have ranged generally **near to slightly normal,** between 75-80 degrees.
- Overall, high and low temperatures are expected to drop **below normal** across Deep South Texas due to heavy rain and cloud cover late this week and a cold front this weekend into early next week.





Summary of Impacts

View or Submit: Condition Monitoring Observer Reports (CMOR) | Drought Impacts Reporter

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows across South and Deep South Texas have dropped to below and well-below normal due to the lack of rainfall through September, but are expected to rise to well-above normal by early next week due to an ongoing rain event.
- Texas water share values have improved to 39.1% at Amistad and have fallen to 19.6% at Falcon Lake.

Agricultural Impacts

- Please see the latest Crop and Weather Report from Texas A&M AgriLife.
- Soil moistures and crop moisture indices are being reported as well-below normal across most of Deep South Texas, especially across the Rio Grande Valley.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Above normal wildland fire potential is expected across all of Deep South Texas through the remainder of September, with near normal wildland fire potential October through December.
- Burn bans remain in effect for all of Deep South Texas except for 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

USGS National Water Dashboard | Current Amistad Reservoir Data | Current Falcon Lake Reservoir Data

- Streamflows across South and Deep South Texas have dropped to **below and well-below normal** due to the lack of rainfall through September, but are expected to rise to well-above normal by early next week due to an ongoing rain event.
- Texas water share values have improved to 39.1% at Amistad.
- Texas water share values have fallen to 19.6% at Falcon Lake.

Reservoir	Pool Elevation* (ft)	Current Elevation* (ft)	Percent Full*
Amistad	1117.00	1056.78	39.1%
Falcon Lake	301.20	260.10	19.6%

Percent Full*	1 Month Ago	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Amistad	39.2%	29.6%	35.8%
Falcon Lake	22.6%	25.5%	16.7%

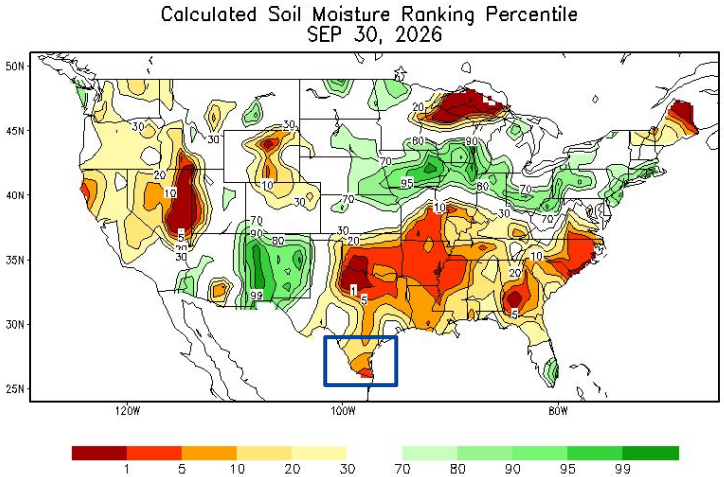
TWDB Reservoir conditions as of October 1, 2026

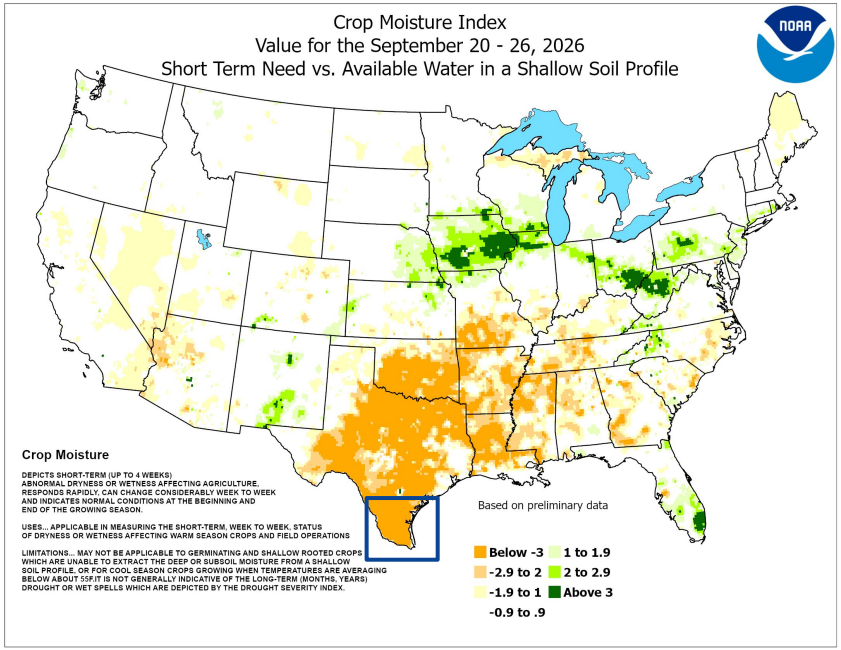
* = Current Texas Water Share

Agricultural Impacts

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

- Soil moistures are being reported as well-below normal across Deep South Texas, especially across the Rio Grande Valley.
- Crop moisture indices continue to be well-below normal across Deep South Texas and the Rio Grande Valley.

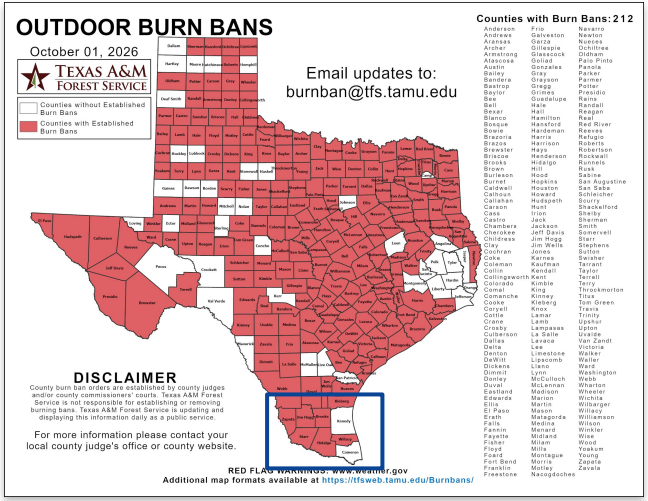


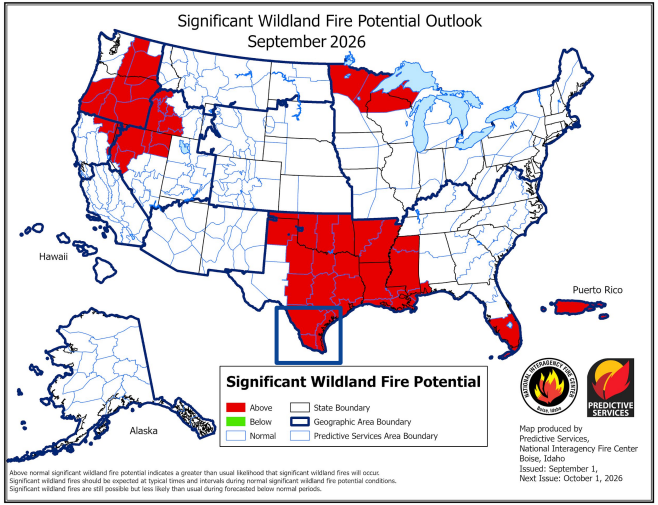


Fire Hazard Impacts

National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) Wildfire Potential Outlooks

- Keetch-Byram Drought Index values generally range from 600-800 across Deep South Texas, with values across central Zapata, southwestern Jim Hogg, and southeastern Starr counties ranging between 300-500.
- Above normal wildland fire potential is expected across all of Deep South Texas through the remainder of September, with near normal wildland fire potential October through December.
- Burn bans are in effect for all of Deep South Texas, except for Kenedy and Cameron counties.





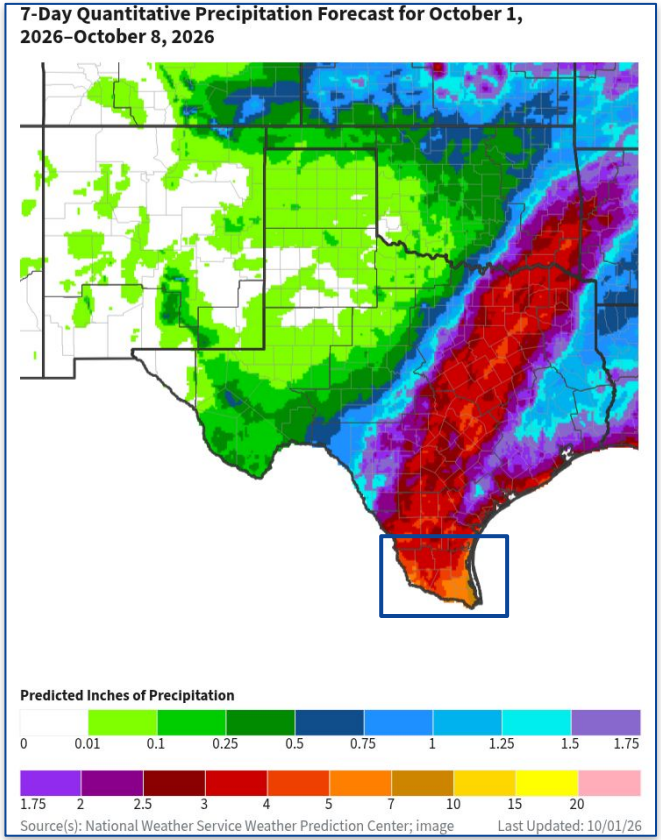
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

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

- A significant pattern change is ongoing across Deep South Texas with an upper level low, slow-moving frontal boundary, and deep tropical moisture combining with humid southeasterly flow off the Gulf to bring multiple rounds of mostly beneficial rainfall to the region through the weekend. By Sunday, a surface low and coastal trough set up to continue rain chances across the coastal counties into mid-late next week.

- Total estimated rainfall across Deep South Texas may range from 3 to 7 inches by Thursday, October 8, 2026, with a few locations potentially near 10 inches where any heavier rainfall persists over the next week.

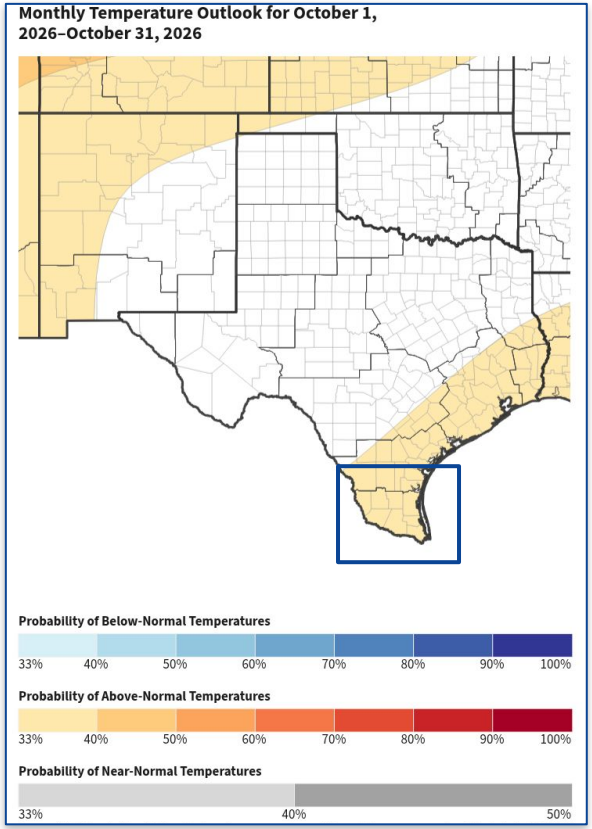
- Overall, there is a **medium to likely (50-60%) chance of above normal rainfall** across Deep South Texas through Saturday, October 10th.

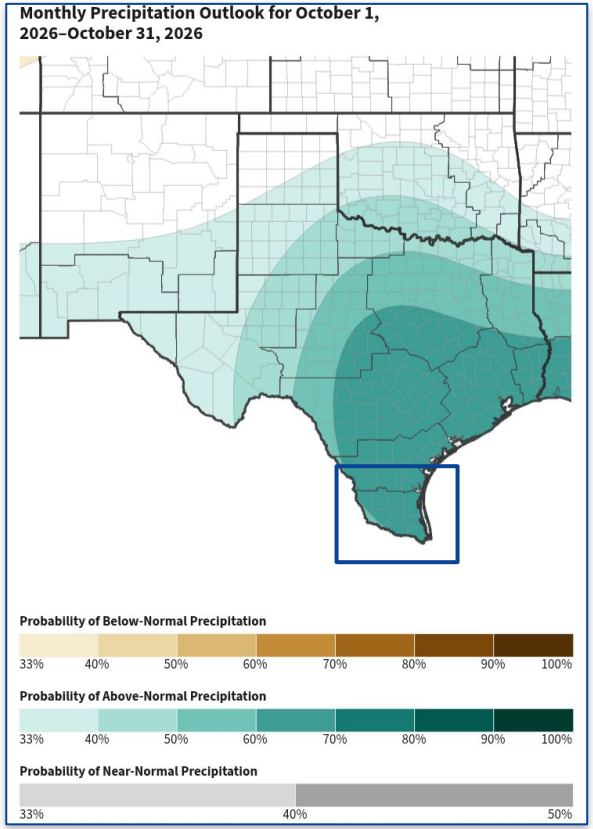


Long-Range Outlooks

CPC Seasonal Temperature Outlook | CPC Seasonal Precipitation Outlook

- There is a **medium (33-40%) chance of above normal temperatures** across Deep South Texas through October.
- There is **a likely (60-70%) chance of above normal rainfall** across Deep South Texas through October.
- Through December, there is **an equal chance of above or below normal temperatures** and a **medium (40-50%) chance of above normal rainfall** across Deep South Texas.





Drought Outlook

Climate Prediction Center | Monthly Drought Outlook | Seasonal Drought Outlook

- **Drought is expected to improve** through October across most of Deep South Texas, including all of Cameron, Willacy, Kenedy, Brooks, Hidalgo, most of Starr, most of Jim Hogg, and northern Zapata counties.
- **Drought is expected to end** through October across most of Zapata, southwestern Jim Hogg, and western Starr counties.
- Through December: **drought is expected to end** across most of Zapata, southern Jim Hogg, Starr, and western Hidalgo counties **and improve** across the remainder of Deep South Texas.

