



Drought Information Statement for Southeast Georgia and Southeast South Carolina

Valid April 18, 2026

Issued By: NWS Charleston, SC

Contact Information: nws.charlestonsc@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated May 1, 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/chs/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
 - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.
-
- Recent rainfall continues to be well below normal, with a near record lack of rainfall dating back to September 2025
 - Drought conditions continue to worsen, with the highest coverage of Extreme Drought (D3) across the area since 2/28/2012
 - Widespread significant rainfall is not expected over the next 7 days
 - There is an increased probability of above normal rainfall for May-June



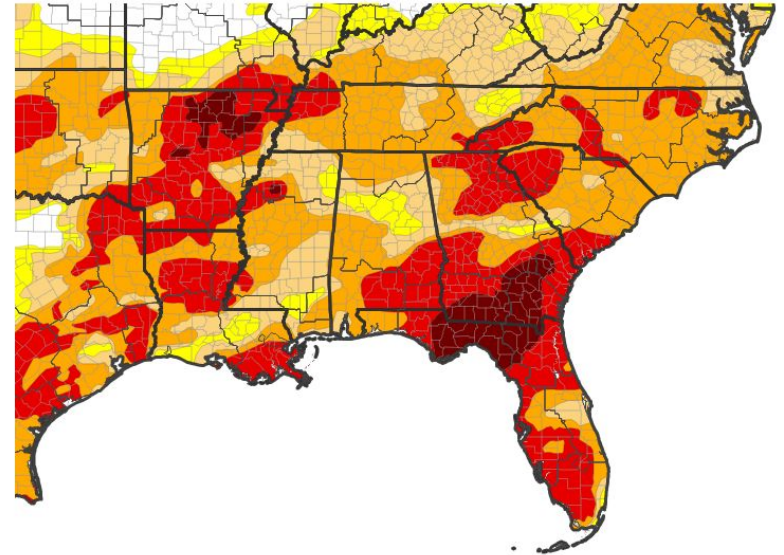


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought):**
 - Bryan, Bulloch, Candler, Evans, Liberty, Long, Tattnall
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought):**
 - GA: Bryan, Bulloch, Candler, Chatham, Effingham, Jenkins, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Screven
 - SC: Allendale, Beaufort, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, Hampton, Jasper
 - **D2 (Severe Drought):**
 - GA: Jenkins, Screven
 - SC: Allendale, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought):**
 - GA: None
 - SC: Allendale
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry):**
 - GA: None
 - SC: None

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA, NASA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 04/14/26

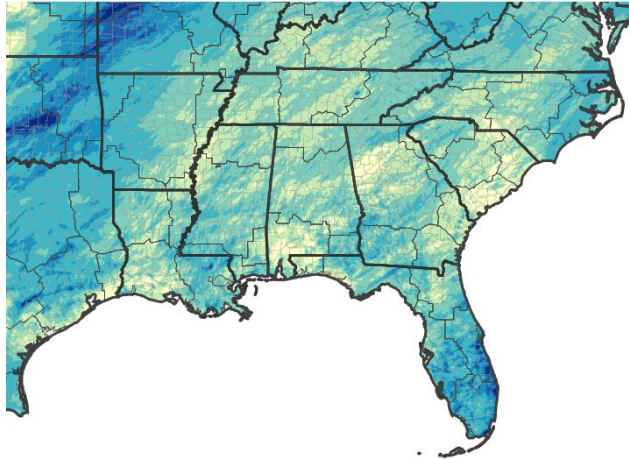




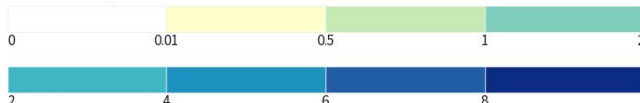
Precipitation

- Very dry conditions over the last 30 days
- The lack of rain extends back to September
- Charleston International Airport (CHS)
 - Below normal rainfall every month September 2025 through March 2026
 - 2nd driest September-March on record
 - 49% of normal rainfall, 13.31" below normal
 - Only 0.01" so far in April (through 4/17)
- Savannah International Airport (SAV)
 - Below normal rainfall every month September 2025 through March 2026
 - 3rd driest September-March on record
 - 42% of normal rainfall, 13.41" below normal
 - Only 0.06" so far in April (through 4/17)

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



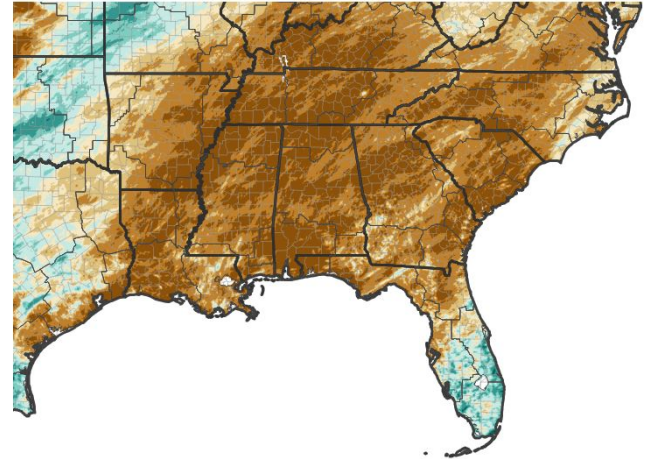
Inches of Precipitation



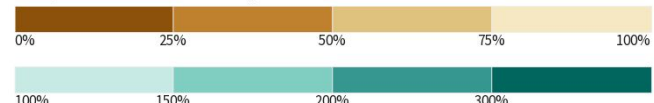
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 04/17/26

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions



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

Last Updated: 04/17/26





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- No impacts recently reported

Agricultural Impacts

- On 4/17, a farmer in Allendale County reported they can't plant corn in fields that aren't irrigated because of inadequate soil moisture. Even in fields with irrigation, they only irrigate just enough to plant. They also reported irrigation ponds were extremely low.
- On 4/10, a UGA Extension Agent in Candler County reported ponds are almost dry and farmers are having to fill ponds with wells before irrigation can take place. Range conditions are very poor and provide little or no feed. Winter forages have quit growing and they are feeding hay when they should be grazing their best forages.
- On 4/10, a UGA Extension Agent in Evans County reported extreme degree of loss to yield potential with near or complete crop failure.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- South Carolina Forestry Commission issued a State Forester's Burning Ban on 4/17 for all counties which is in effect until further notice.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

Mitigation Actions

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

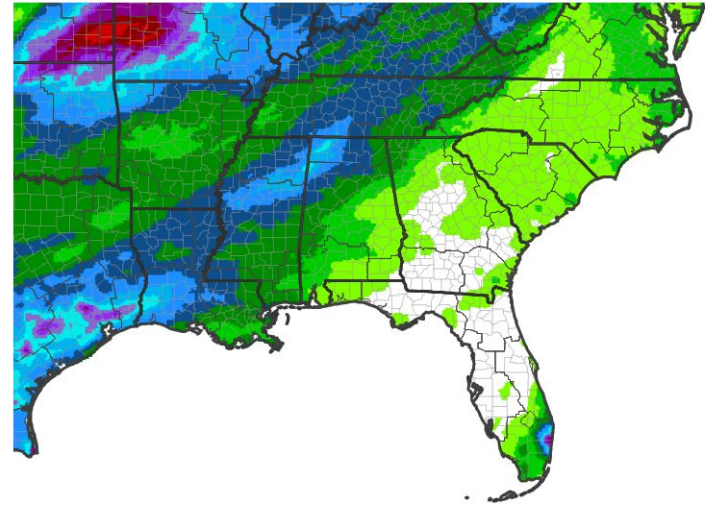




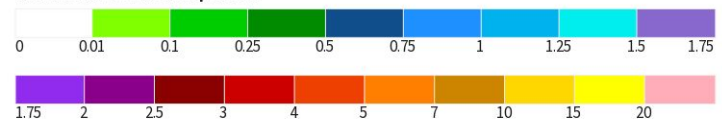
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Widespread significant rainfall is not expected to impact southeast GA and southeast SC over the next 7 days
- A few showers will be possible with a front passing through on Sunday (4/19)

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for April 17, 2026–April 24, 2026



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 04/17/26



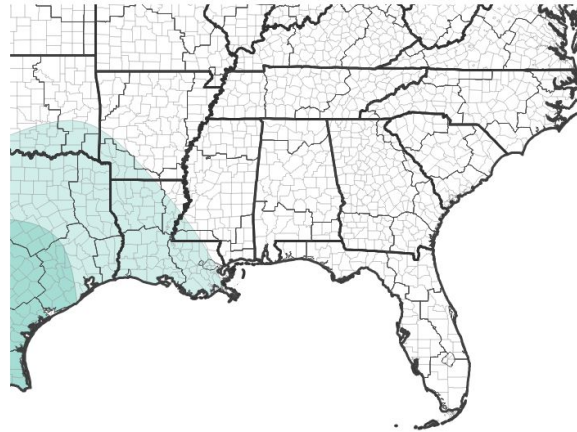


Long-Range Outlooks

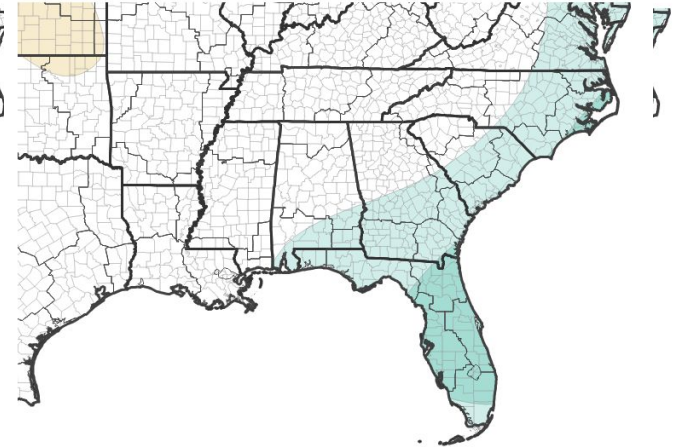
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- For the month of May, equal chances of above normal, near normal, or below normal rainfall
- For the May-July time period, an increased probability of above normal rainfall across southeast GA/SC

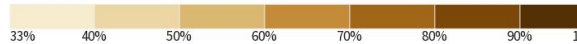
Monthly Precipitation Outlook for May 1, 2026–May 31, 2026



Seasonal (3-Month) Precipitation Outlook for May 1, 2026–July 31, 2026



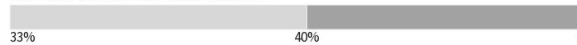
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 04/16/26

Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 04/16/26



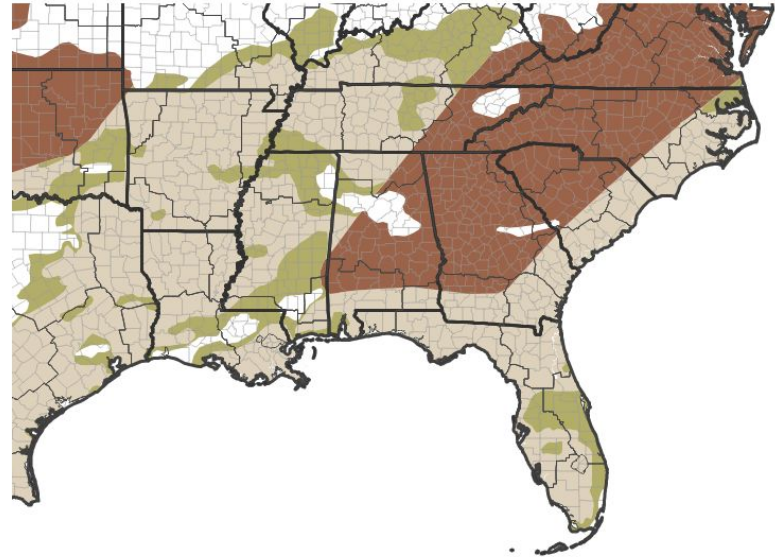


Drought Outlook

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

- There is potential for drought conditions to improve along the coast over the next 3 months
- This is primarily due to an increased probability of above normal rainfall across the May-July time period

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for April 16, 2026–July 31, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 04/16/26

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
Charleston, SC