



Drought Information Statement for South Texas

Valid September 5, 2026

Issued By: National Weather Service Corpus Christi, TX

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

- This product will be updated October 7, 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/crp/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.

- Early August inflows into Lake Corpus Christi significantly improved the overall combined capacity (above 40%) allowing many Coastal Bend municipalities to drop from Stage 3 water restrictions down to Stage 1.
- Moderate and Severe Drought (D1-D2) has spread across much of the Coastal Plains and portions of the Brush Country.
- Drought conditions are expected to persist across much of South Texas through November.
- Most of South Texas only has a forecast for less than wetting rain, though locations along the coast and into the Victoria Crossroads forecast to receive under 0.5 inches in the next seven days.
- Near-normal chances for precipitation and above-normal temperatures in September.



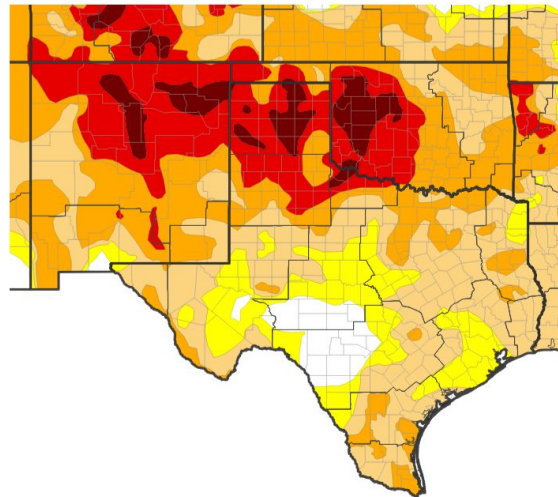


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: None
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: None
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Most of Nueces, McMullen, and portions of Webb, Duval, Kleberg, Jim Wells, and San Patricio Counties.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Most of La Salle, Live Oak, Bee, San Patricio, Refugio, Aransas, Calhoun, Jim Wells, and portions of Webb, Kleberg, Duval, Goliad, and Victoria Counties.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 09/01/26

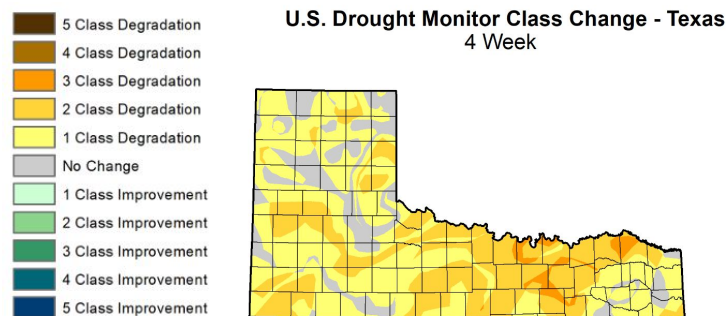




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: 1 to 2 class degradation observed across much of the coastal plains and across the state.
 - Drought Improved: Nowhere throughout Texas
 - No Change: Portions of the Brush Country



September 1, 2026
compared to
August 4, 2026

droughtmonitor.unl.edu



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Corpus Christi, TX

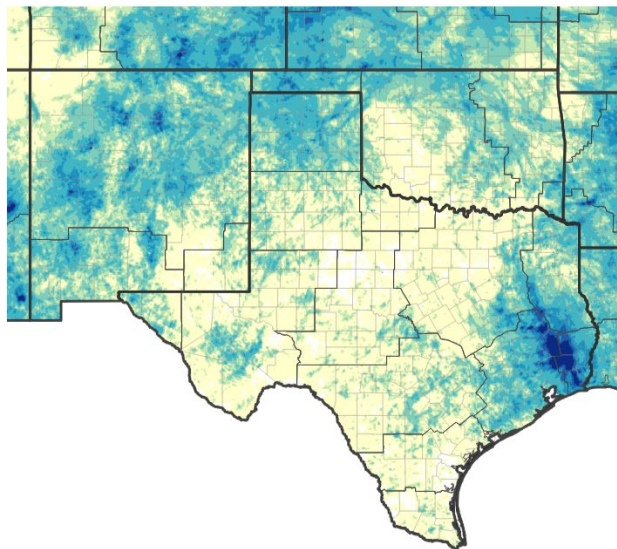


Precipitation

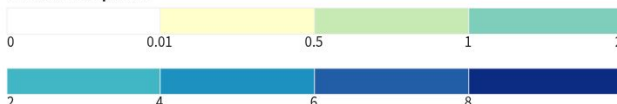
Much of South Texas received less than 0.5" of rainfall over the past 30 days. However, there were isolated areas in the northern Brush Country and Victoria Crossroads where 1-2 inches of rainfall fell.

Most of South Texas was well below normal for precipitation during the month of July, with specific areas mentioned above near normal.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



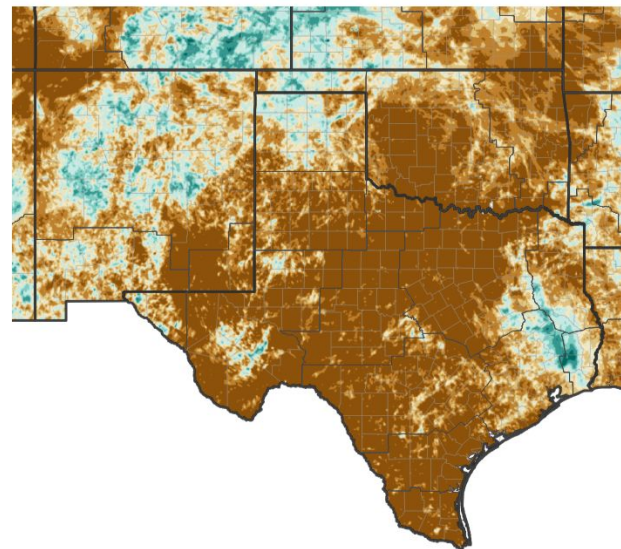
Inches of Precipitation



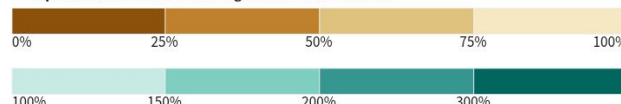
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 09/05/26

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: 09/05/26



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Corpus Christi, TX

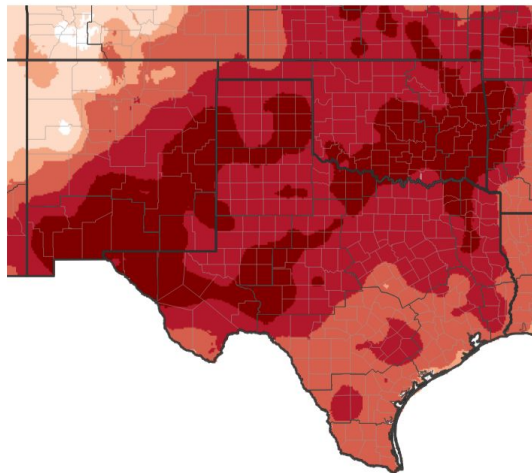


Temperature

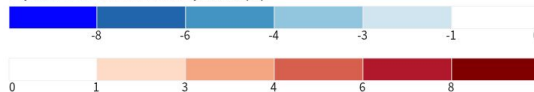
Over the last week, temperatures have been generally 4-6°F above normal across South Texas with a up to 6-8°F above normal in the Brush Country.

Over the last 30 days, temperatures have been 1-6°F above normal across South Texas.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly

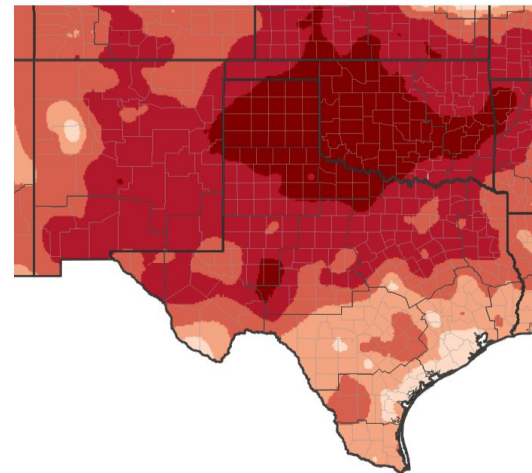


Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)

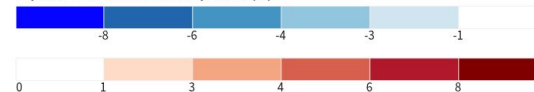


Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 09/01/26

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: 09/01/26





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Water restrictions are being lessened across the Coastal Bend as reservoir level increases and inflow into Lake Corpus Christi nears conservation elevation stage.
- Currently, the combined storage levels of Lake Corpus Christi and Choke Canyon are sitting at 41.3 percent as of Sep 5th compared to 39.5 percent one month ago. Lake Corpus Christi is currently at 88.3% and Choke Canyon is at 23.1%.

Agricultural Impacts (<https://agrilifetoday.tamu.edu/2026/09/01/pecan-production-prices-up-in-texas-as-disease-dry-weather-loom/>)

- Coastal Bend: Hot, dry conditions persisted, and crop, range and pasture conditions continued to deteriorate, though some areas caught rain during the week. Topsoil and subsoil moisture were very short to adequate. Late planted sorghum, corn and cotton were very inconsistent, with some fields complete failures while others held their own. Cotton harvest advanced across the district and was winding down in places, with one area expecting to finish within days and others looking at weeks remaining if the weather holds. Late-planted acres received their first shot of defoliant, and plants were slow to defoliate. Late planting, heat stress and inadequate stands left bolls slow to mature and open. Some cotton showed damage and reduced quality from the flooding rains earlier in the growing season. Corn and rice harvests neared completion. Pasture and rangeland conditions were very poor to good, and livestock conditions were fair to excellent. Hay baling was slow with little growth in the heat, and producers were hoping for a fall rain to get one more cutting. Pasture mealybug infestations were heavy in much of the district, and forage producers were consulting on control recommendations. Fall calves were hitting the ground and looked good, and livestock were still finding decent forage. Pecan trees continued to shed nuts.
- South: Temperatures climbed above 100 degrees throughout the week with no measurable rainfall across most of the district. Isolated thunderstorms crossed parts of the district without producing measurable accumulation and nighttime temperatures began to ease. Topsoil and subsoil moisture were very short to adequate. Dry fuel raised grass fire risk, particularly where standing grass had gone ungrazed, and multiple wildfire incidents were reported. Much of the Lower Rio Grande Valley remained in severe drought, and some areas were approaching extreme conditions. Most of the cotton crop had been harvested. A few late-planted fields were being defoliated and were days from picking, while cotton bolls were opening and harvest continued elsewhere. Sorghum harvest was underway and peanuts progressed under irrigation. Sesame harvest continued, and producers who finished row crops moved on to field preparation and tillage. Citrus orchards and hay meadows were irrigated where water was available. Livestock, pasture and rangeland conditions were very poor to good. Producers stepped up livestock diet supplementation with hay and cubes, hauled water to livestock and wildlife. Hay sold for \$65 to \$100 per round bale depending on quality. Cattle prices declined and appeared to be stabilizing, with 500-pound steers averaging \$4.65 per pound in May at \$3.25 per pound this week at one market. Producers were early weaning calves as needed. Herds were culled hard, and volumes offered locally were well below average. Pasture mealybug management and New World screwworm monitoring continued. Fall beef calving was underway. Hunters were arriving ahead of the Sept. 1 dove season opener.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

Fire Hazard Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

Other Impacts

- Beeville Amends Stage 4 Water Restrictions (08/27/26)
(<https://www.beevilletx.gov/news/post/11198/>)
- Corpus Christi, Portland, Aransas Pass, Mathis under stage 1 water restrictions
(<https://www.corpuschristitx.gov/news/posts/city-manager-peter-zanoni-declares-stage-1-water-restrictions/>)
- Kingsville under stage 2 water restrictions (https://stwa.org/news-detail?item_id=42820)
- Laredo under stage 2 water restrictions (<https://laredoutilities.com/water-conservation-program/>)
- Victoria under stage 1 water restrictions
(<https://www.victoriatx.gov/m/NewsFlash/Home/Detail/2222>)
- Other South Texas communities under restrictions can be found [here](#)

Mitigation Actions

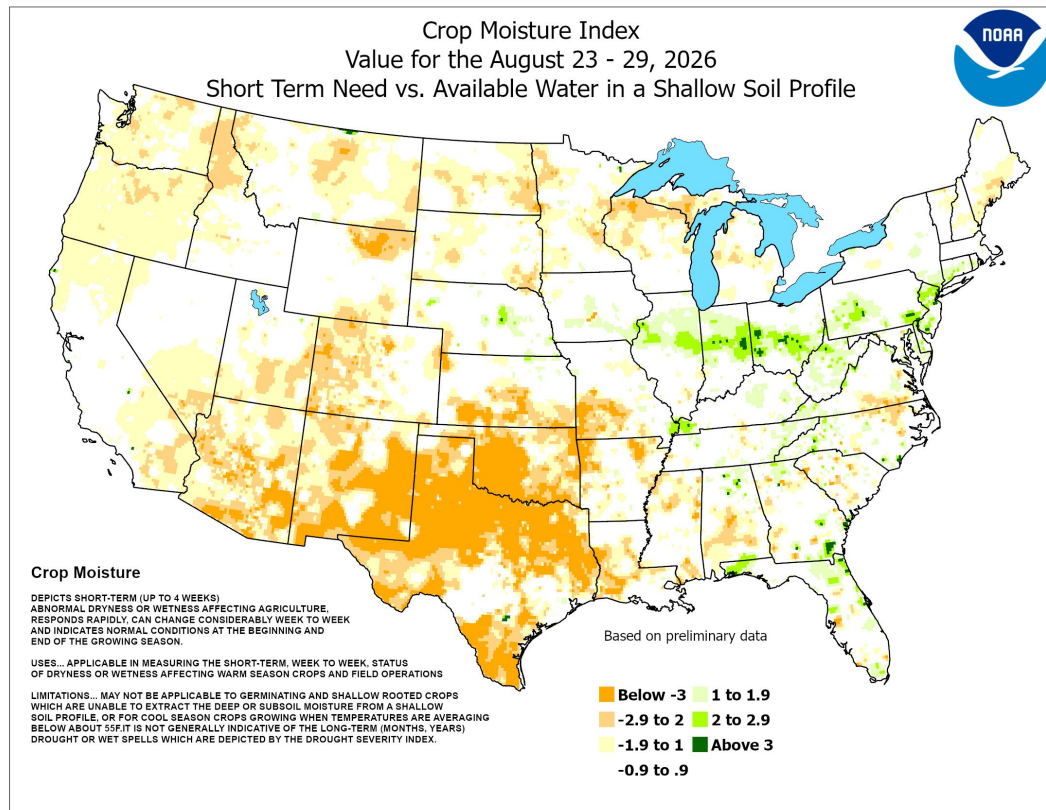
- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.





Agricultural Impacts

- Crop Moisture Index for most of South Texas ranges from -2 to below -3.

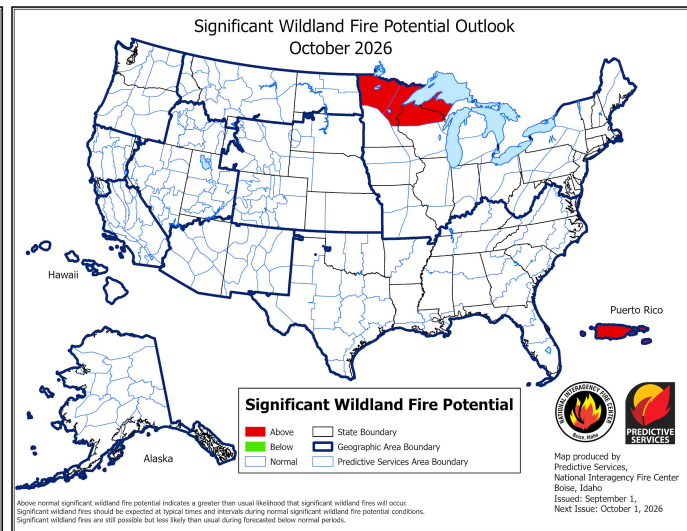
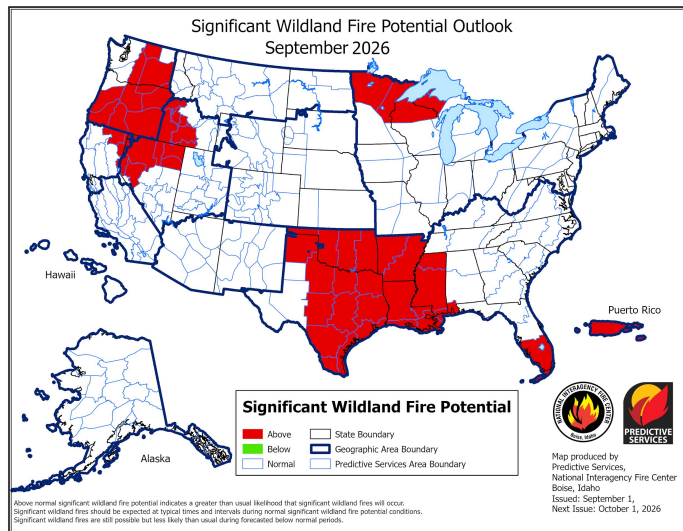




Fire Hazard Impacts

Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#).

- The Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook for September is forecast to be above normal across along the Coastal Bend, and normal for all of South Texas in October.

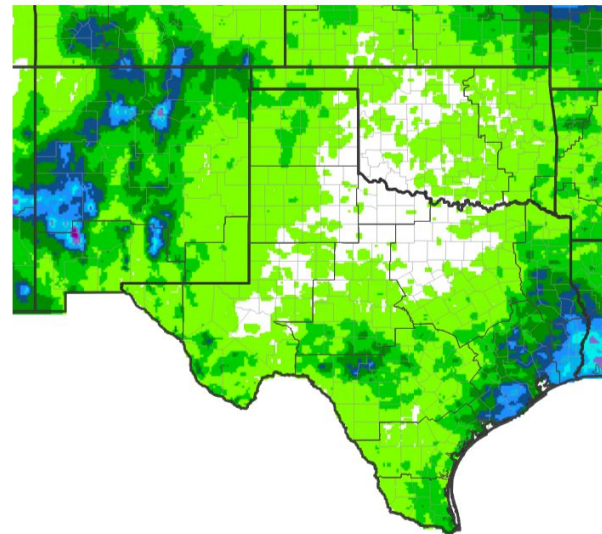




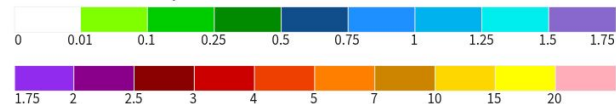
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Most of South Texas will see less than a wetting rain (0.1 inches) with locations closest to the coastline and the Victoria Crossroads seeing up to 0.5 inches of rainfall through September 12th.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for September 5, 2026–September 12, 2026



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 09/05/26



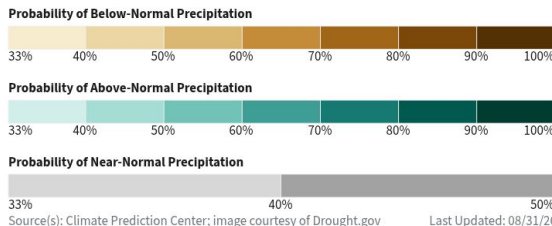
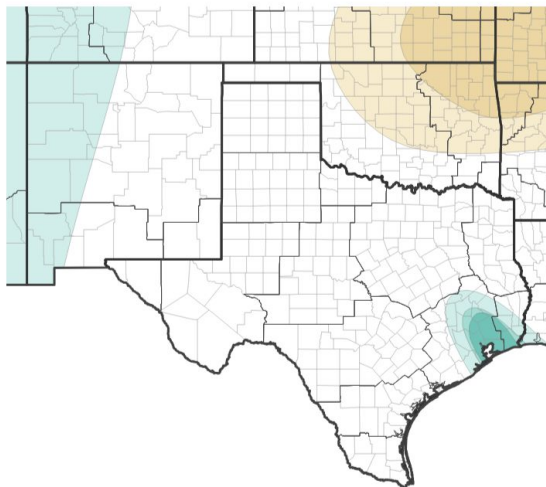


Long-Range Outlooks

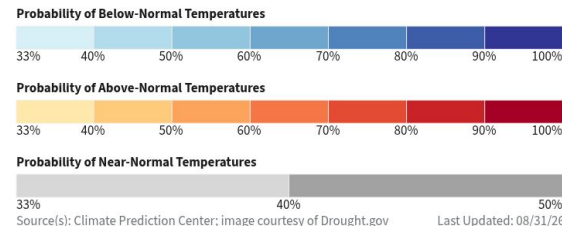
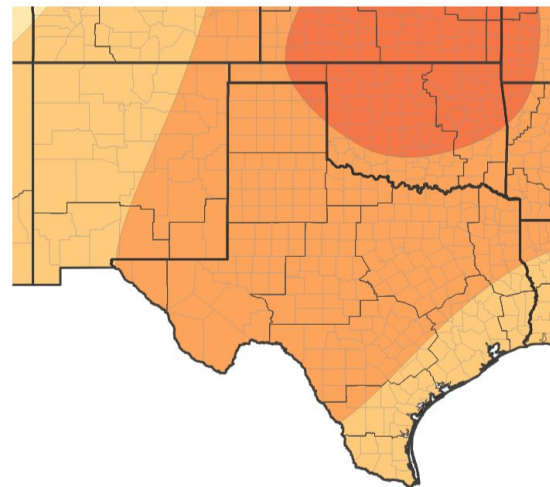
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Precipitation outlook for September across all of South Texas has near-normal chances for precipitation.
- Temperatures outlook for September across all of South Texas has a 40-60% chance of having above-normal temperatures

Monthly Precipitation Outlook for September 1,
2026–September 30, 2026



Monthly Temperature Outlook for September 1,
2026–September 30, 2026



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Corpus Christi, TX

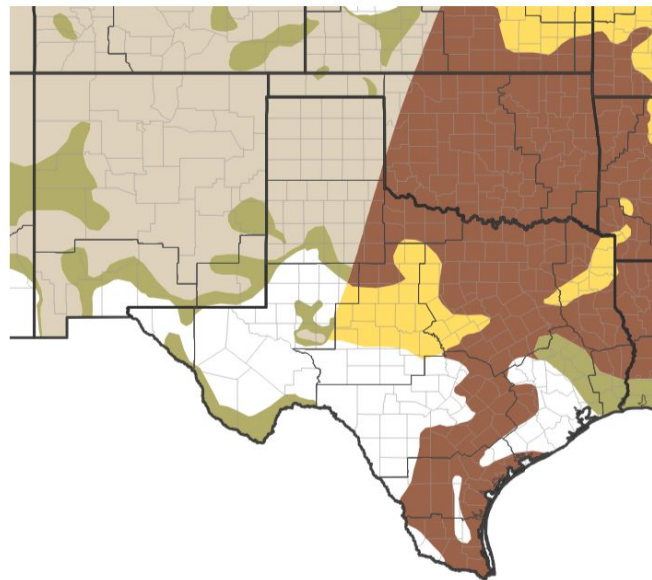


Drought Outlook

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

- Drought across South Texas is forecast to persist through November.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for August 31, 2026–November 30, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 08/31/26

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
Corpus Christi, TX