



# Drought Information Statement for South Central Texas

Valid January 15, 2026

Issued By: National Weather Service Austin/San Antonio

Contact Information: [nws.sanantonio@noaa.gov](mailto:nws.sanantonio@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated February 5, 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/EWX/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.

- Below normal rainfall was observed over all of the service area over the past 30 days.
- Streamflows continue to trend lower as a very dry Fall and early Winter months lead to ongoing drought.
- Drought outlook does not bode well for improvement through the next 3 months with drier and warmer than normal weather expected to continue.



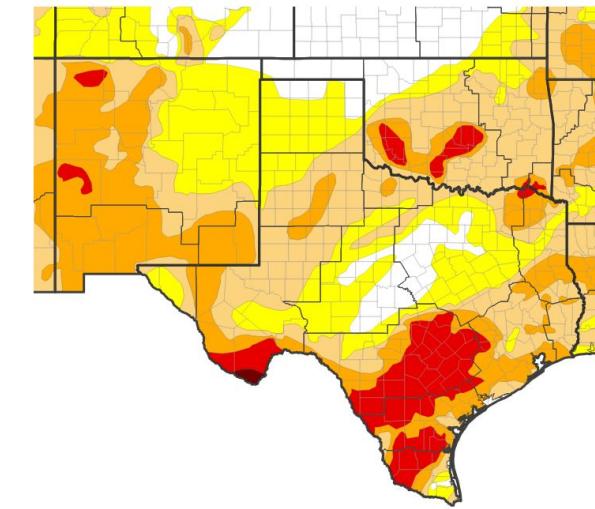


# U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: None.
    - Percent of Area: 0.00%
  - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Covers The I-35 Corridor, and much of the Coastal Plains.
    - Percent of Area: 54.26%
  - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Covers portions of the Hill Country, Rio Grande Plains and I-35 Corridor.
    - Percent of Area: 73.92%
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Covers portions of the Edwards Plateau and Hill Country.
    - Percent of Area: 89.94%
  - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Covers the Hill Country and Edwards Plateau.
    - Percent of Area: 99.86%

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 01/13/26



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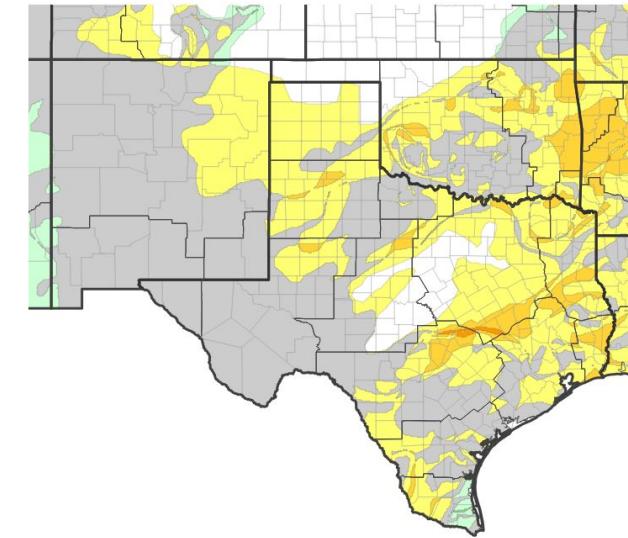


# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought Worsened: Portions of the Hill Country, I-35 Corridor, Coastal Plains, and Rio Grande Plains.
  - No Change: The Edwards Plateau
  - Drought Improved: None

U.S. Drought Monitor 4-Week Change Map



Drought Degradation



Drought Improvement



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

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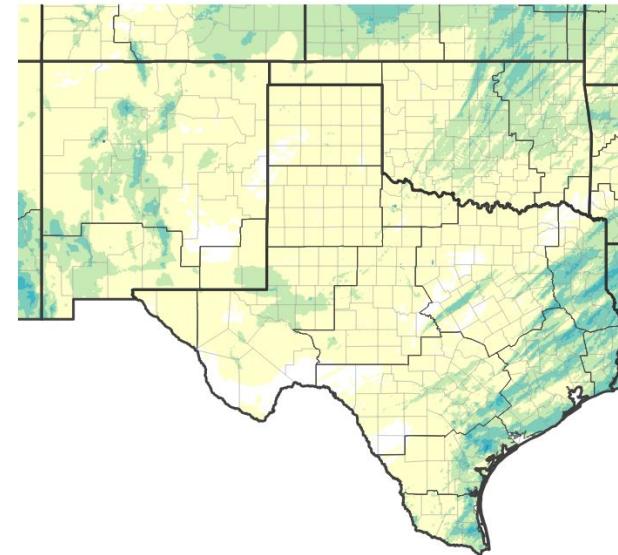


# Precipitation

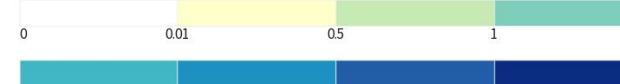
Links to the latest [Precipitation Accumulation](#) and [Percent of Normal](#) over the past 30 days

- All of the service area saw well below normal rainfall in the past 30 days.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



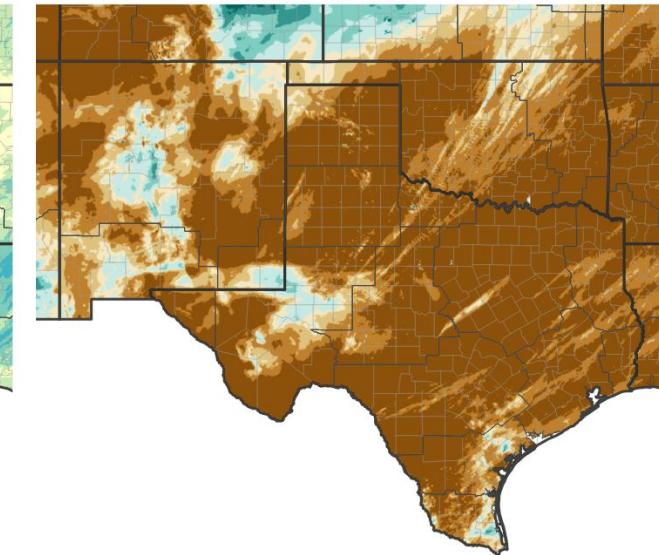
Inches of Precipitation



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

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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: 01/15/26





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- The majority of streamflows across the service area fall within the Normal to Much Below Normal range ([USGS](#))
- Storage remains near all time lows at Medina, with Canyon Lake and Amistad remaining below normal.
- See next page for more details.

## Agricultural Impacts

- Please see the latest [Crop & Weather Report](#) from Texas A&M AgriLife.
- Soil moistures across the service area are shown in the below normal range as of January 2026. ([NWS Climate Prediction Center](#))

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- Above normal wildland fire danger is expected for the months of January and February with continued dryness expected. ([National Interagency Coordination Center](#))
- See Fire Hazard page for more details.

## Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

## Mitigation Actions

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



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# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- The majority of streamflows across the service area fall within the Normal to below normal percentile.
- Several watersheds along the I-35 corridor and Coastal Plains fall within the below normal to much below normal percentile.

Additional data:

[Edwards Aquifer, Bexar Index Well J-17](#)

as

of Jan 15, 2026:

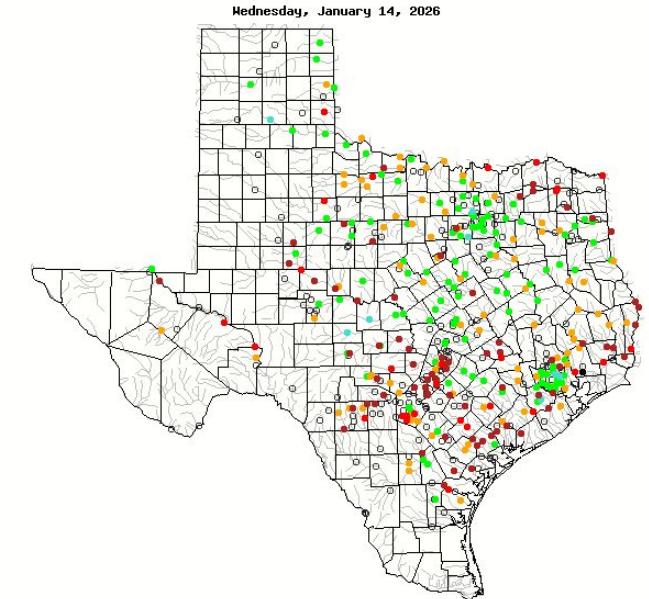
10 day average: 628.7

Historical Monthly Average: 668.0

Departure from Average: -39.5

Reservoir	Pool Elevation	Current Elevation	Percent Full
Amistad	1117.00 feet	1053.40 feet	35.1%
Lake Austin	492.9 feet	492.05 feet	95.1%
Lake Buchanan	1020.00 feet	1017.80 feet	94.4%
Canyon Lake	909.00 feet	888.27 feet	61.3%
Georgetown Lake	791.00 feet	781.93 feet	71.7%
Granger Lake	504.00 feet	503.49 feet	96%
Lake LBJ	825.00 feet	824.73 feet	98.5%
Lake Marble Falls	738.00 feet	736.22 feet	93.8%
Medina Lake	1064.2 feet	979.16 feet	4.6%
Lake Travis	681.00 feet	667.14 feet	78%

Table caption: [TWDB Reservoir](#) conditions as of Jan 15, 2026



Explanation - Percentile classes							
●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	Much above normal	High
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal			Not-ranked

Figure Caption: [USGS 7 day streamflows for Texas](#), valid Jan 14, 2026.



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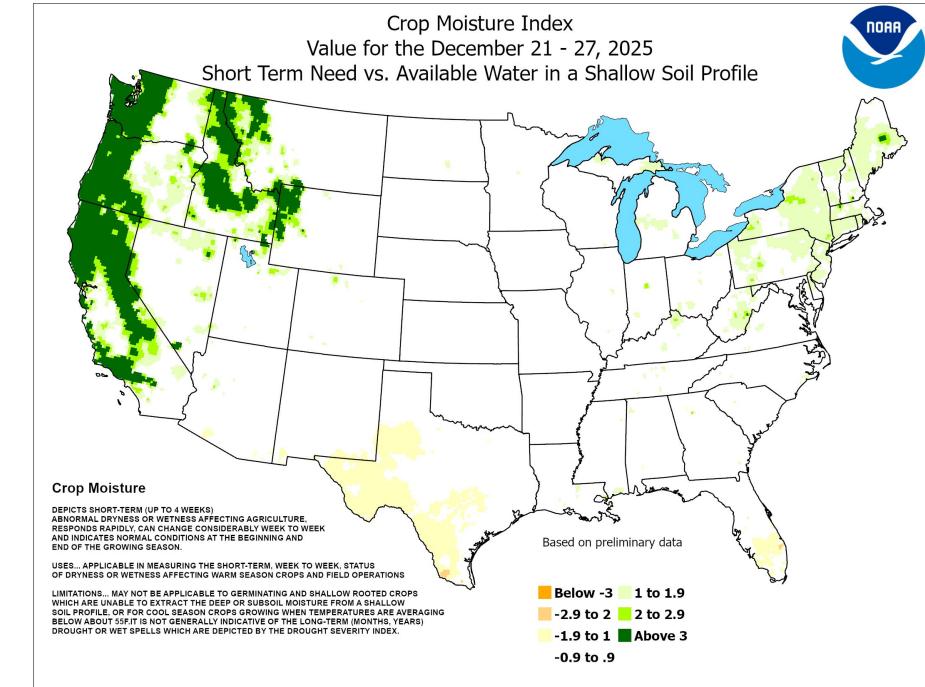
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# Agricultural Impacts

Links to the latest [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#).

- Crop moisture index values show dry conditions with the lack of recent rainfall over the region.



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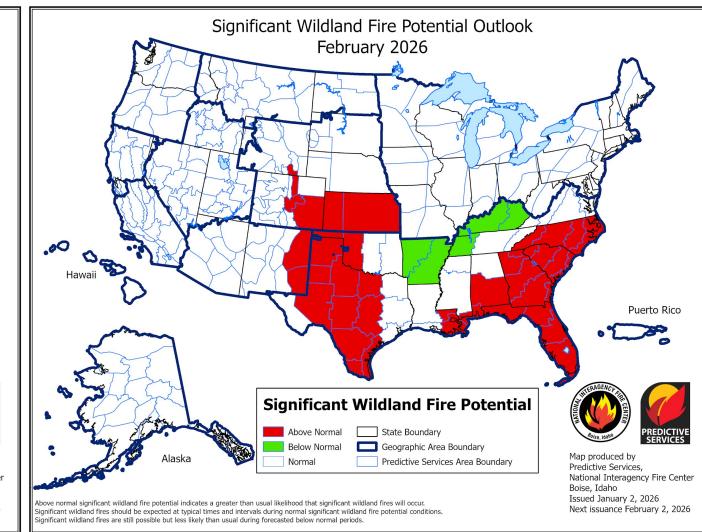
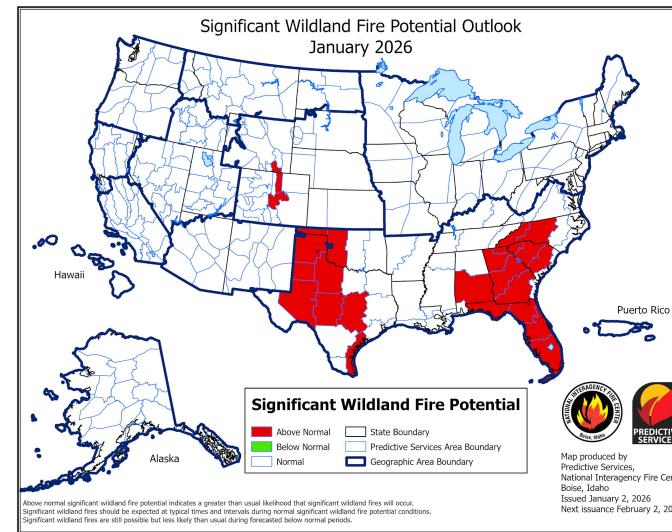
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# Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Keetch Byram  
Drought Index values of 500-800 are noted for much of the region.
- The Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook calls for above normal fire potential in January and February.



Burn bans remain for 25 of our 33 counties as of Jan 15, 2026. Latest County Burn Ban map available [here](#).



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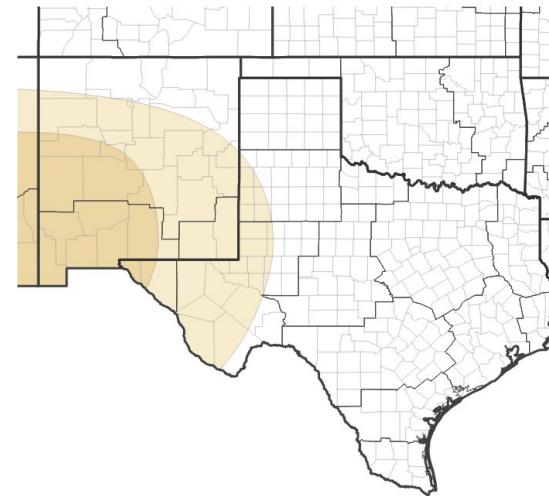


# Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Equal chances for above, below, or near normal precipitation is seen across all of South Central Texas for January.

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



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



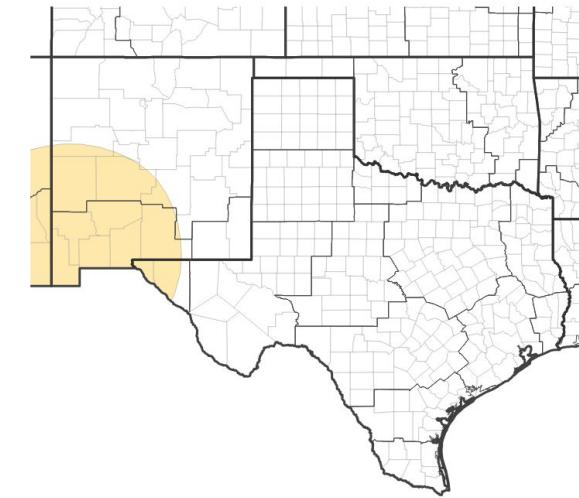
Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

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Monthly Temperature Outlook for January 1, 2026–January 31, 2026



Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

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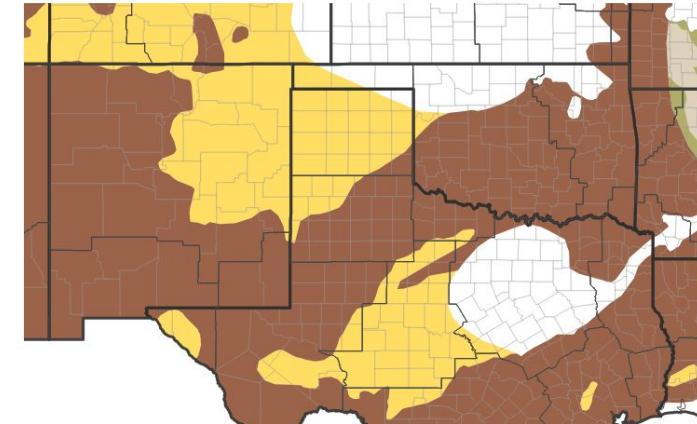


# Drought Outlook

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

- The three month drought outlook shows drought persisting for many and developing for the remainder of the service area.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for January 15, 2026–April 30, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

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Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



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