



Drought Information Statement for South Central Texas

Valid March 5, 2026

Issued By: National Weather Service Austin/San Antonio

Contact Information: nws.sanantonio@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated April 2, 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.
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- Exceptional Drought Conditions return to parts of the service area for the first time since late October 2025.
 - Streamflows continue to trend lower with nearly all watersheds reporting less than normal percentiles.
 - Drought outlook does not bode well for improvement through the next 3 months with warmer than normal weather expected to continue.



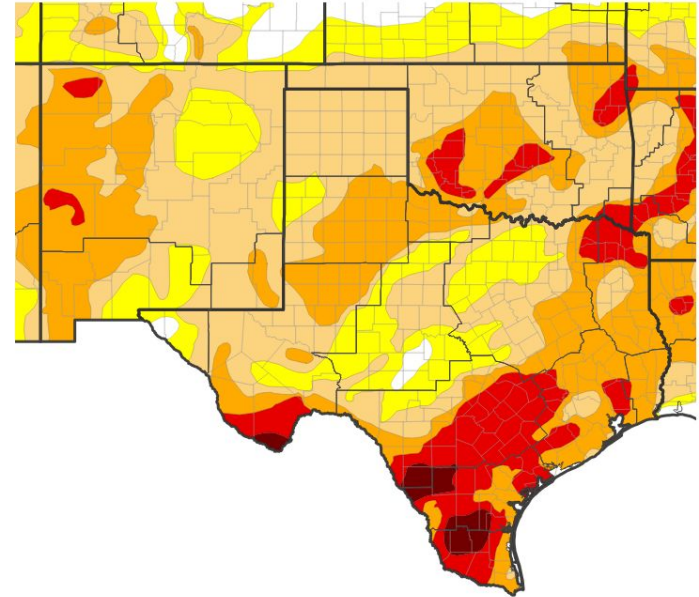


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: Covers Dimmit County.
 - Percent of Area: 4.10%
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Covers The I-35 Corridor, and much of the Coastal Plains.
 - Percent of Area: 51.95%
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Covers portions of the Hill Country, Rio Grande Plains and I-35 Corridor.
 - Percent of Area: 68.16%
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Covers portions of the Edwards Plateau and Hill Country.
 - Percent of Area: 88.15%
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Covers the Hill Country and Edwards Plateau.
 - Percent of Area: 99.98%

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 03/03/26



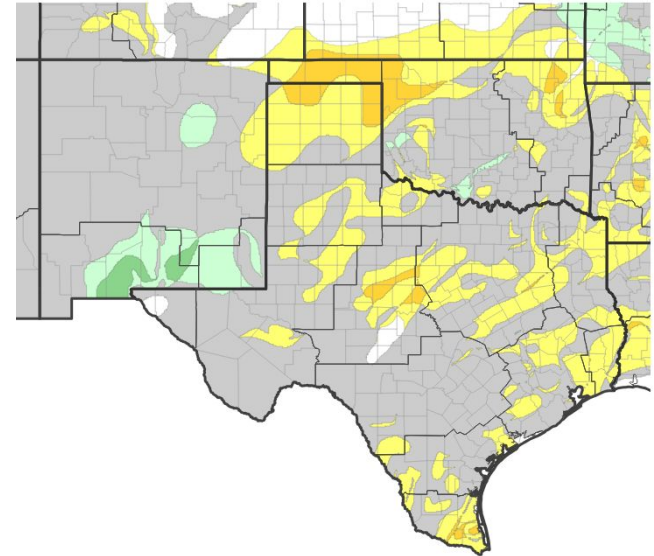


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: Dimmit County.
 - No Change: The remainder of South Central Texas.
 - Drought Improved: None

U.S. Drought Monitor 4-Week Change Map



Drought Degradation



Drought Improvement



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

Data Valid: 02/24/26



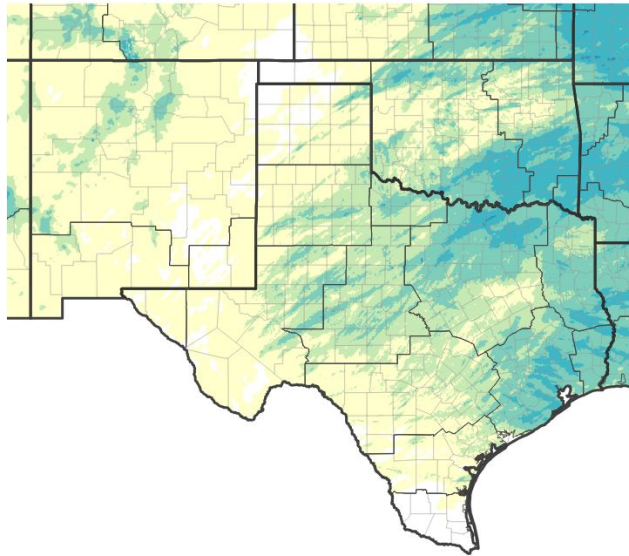


Precipitation

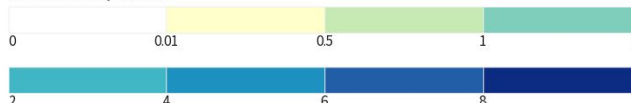
Links to the latest [Precipitation Accumulation](#) and [Percent of Normal](#) over the past 30 days

- The entire service area saw below normal rainfall over the past 30 days.
 - Large area of less than 25 percent of normal rainfall.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



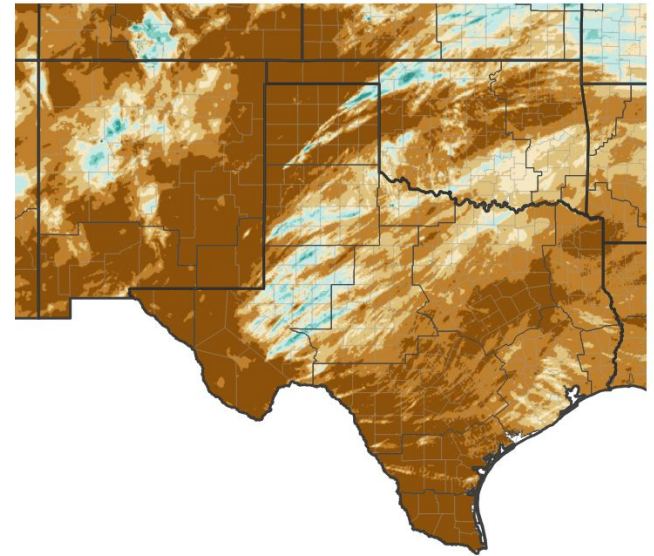
Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 03/05/26

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: 03/05/26





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 below to much below normal percentile. ([USGS](#))
- Isolated watersheds in the I-35 corridor and Coastal Plains fall within the normal percentile. ([USGS](#))
- Storage in area reservoirs remain low at Medina, Canyon Lake, and Amistad.
- See next page for more details.

Agricultural Impacts

- Please see the latest [Crop & Weather Report](#) from Texas A&M Agrilife.
- Crop moisture index values show normal condition over the region. ([NWS Climate Prediction Center](#))

Fire Hazard Impacts

- The Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook calls for above normal fire potential in March.
- ([National Interagency Coordination Center](#))
- See Fire Hazard page for more details.

Mitigation Actions

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





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- The majority of streamflows across the service area fall within the below to much below normal percentile.
- Isolated watersheds in the I-35 corridor and Coastal Plains, and Hill Country fall within the near to above normal category.

| Reservoir | Pool Elevation | Current Elevation | Percent Full |
|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Amistad | 1117.00 feet | 1049.84 feet | 31.6% |
| Lake Austin | 492.9 feet | 492.25 feet | 96.4% |
| Lake Buchanan | 1020.00 feet | 1017.87 feet | 94.5% |
| Canyon Lake | 909.00 feet | 887.45 feet | 60% |
| Georgetown Lake | 791.00 feet | 783.37 feet | 75.8% |
| Granger Lake | 504.00 feet | 504.28 feet | 100% |
| Lake LBJ | 825.00 feet | 824.71 feet | 98.3% |
| Lake Marble Falls | 738.00 feet | 736.45 feet | 95.6% |
| Medina Lake | 1064.2 feet | 977.84 feet | 4.2% |
| Lake Travis | 681.00 feet | 665.80 feet | 76.1% |

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

as
of Mar 5, 2026:
10 day average: 626.9
Historical Monthly Average: 667.3
Departure from Average: -41

Table caption: [TWDB Reservoir](#) conditions as of March 5, 2026

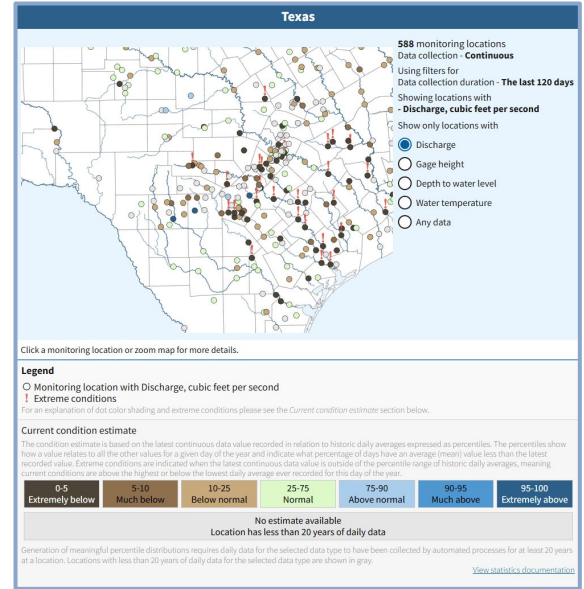


Figure Caption: Daily historical percentile discharge, valid Mar 5, 2026.

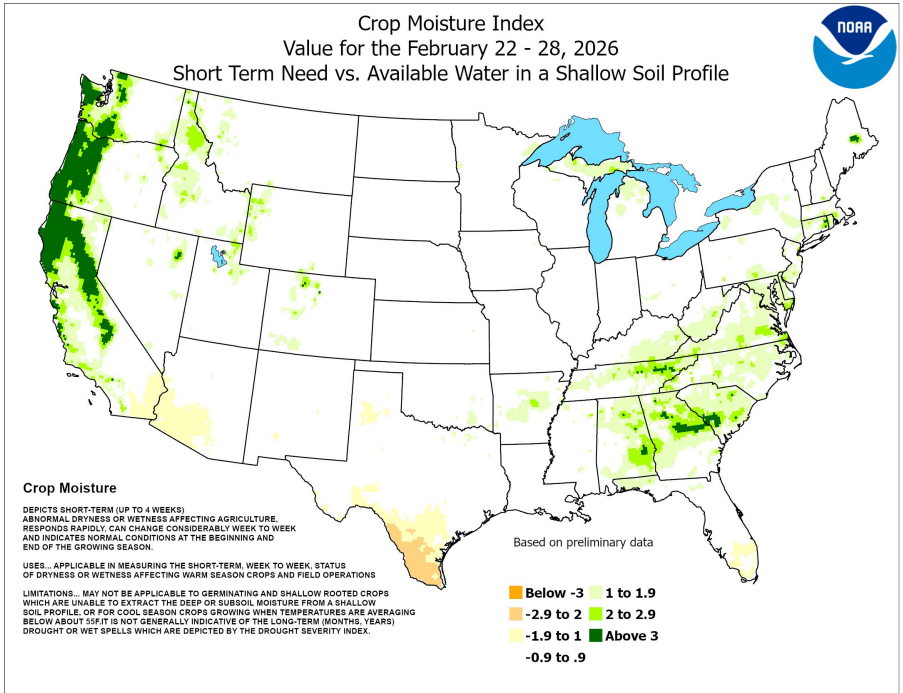




Agricultural Impacts

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

- Crop moisture index values show near to below normal conditions, particularly over the Rio Grande Plains.

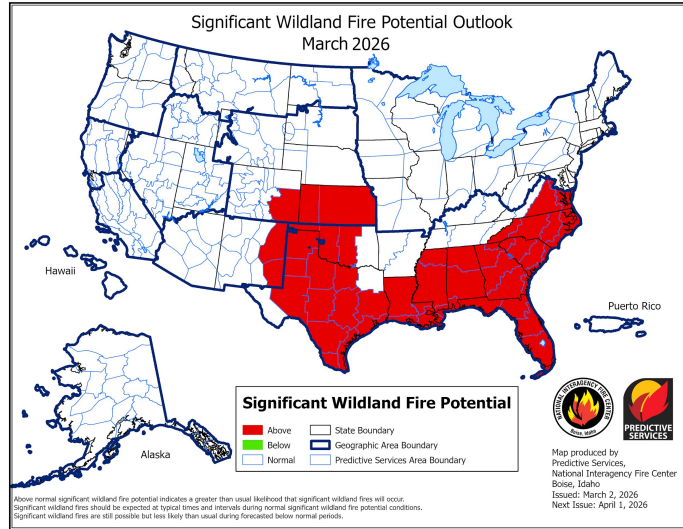




Fire Hazard Impacts

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.
 - Portions of the Hill Country are the sole areas with KBDI values below 400.
- The Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook calls for above normal fire potential in March.



Burn bans remain for 29 of our 33 counties as of March 5, 2026. Latest County Burn Ban map available [here](#).



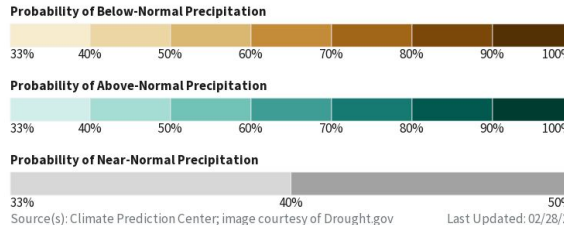
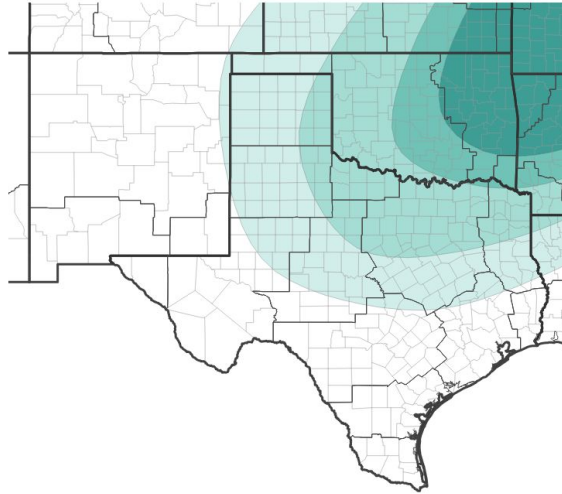


Long-Range Outlooks

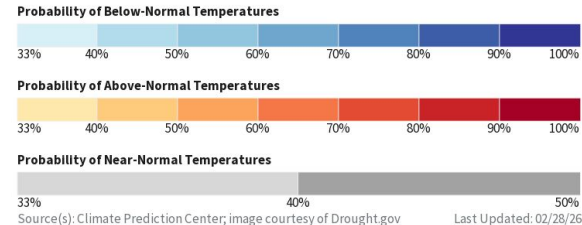
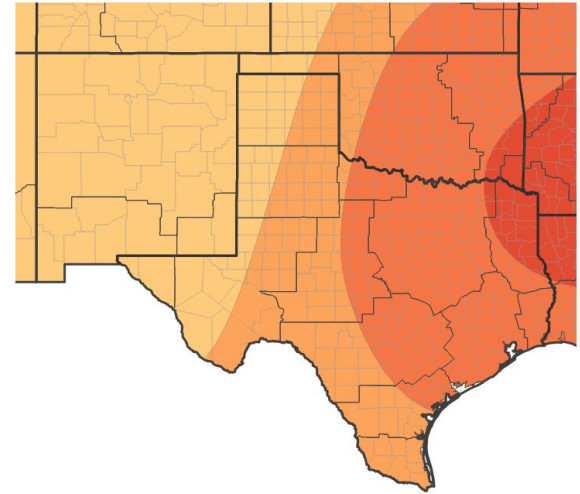
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Much of the area has equal chances for above, below, or near normal precipitation for March.
 - Portions of the Hill Country lean towards above normal precipitation.
- The entire area is shown to lean towards above normal for temperatures for the month of March.

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



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



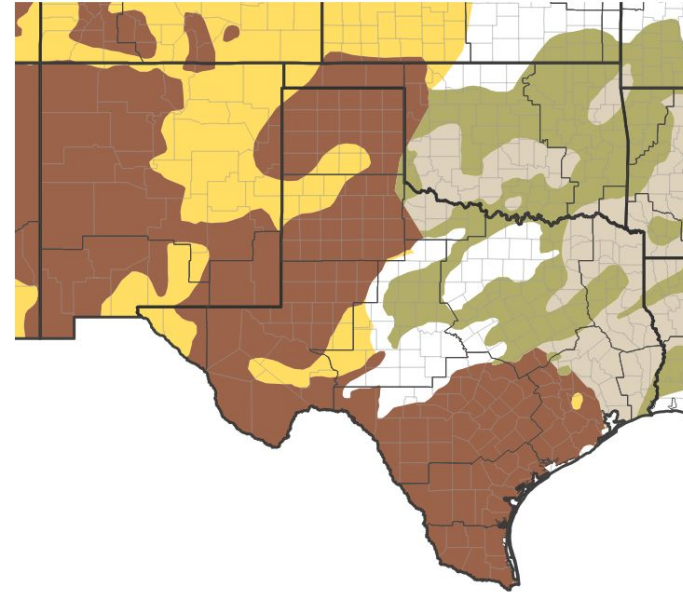


Drought Outlook

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

- The three month drought outlook shows drought persisting for much of the area with drought ending for a portion of Williamson County.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for February 28, 2026–May 31, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 02/28/26

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
Austin/San Antonio