



Drought Information Statement for North and Central Texas

Valid March 25, 2026

Issued By: National Weather Service Fort Worth/Dallas, TX

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

- This product will be updated **April 15, 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/fwd/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
 - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.
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- Severe to Extreme drought conditions persist over parts of northeast and Central TX, with recent rainfall offering no relief, but slowing further expansion of existing drought.
 - Drought conditions are expected to persist across the region through the rest of spring.



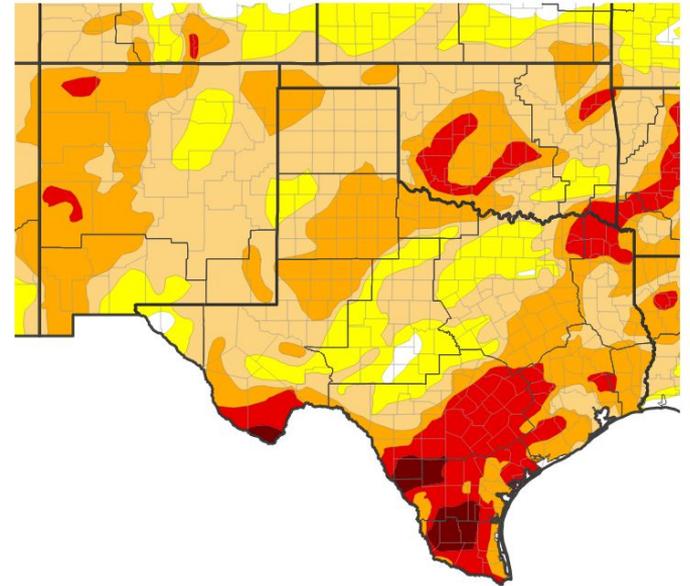


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought):** None
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** Eastern and central Lamar, Delta, and Hopkins counties with a small area spreading into far southern Milam county.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Western Lamar, Delta, and Hopkins counties. Most of eastern Central Texas including Waco.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Most of western Central Texas and the Big Country. Several areas along the Red River, and a few areas across eastern North Texas.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** Large areas across central and western North Texas including most of the DFW Metroplex.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 03/17/26

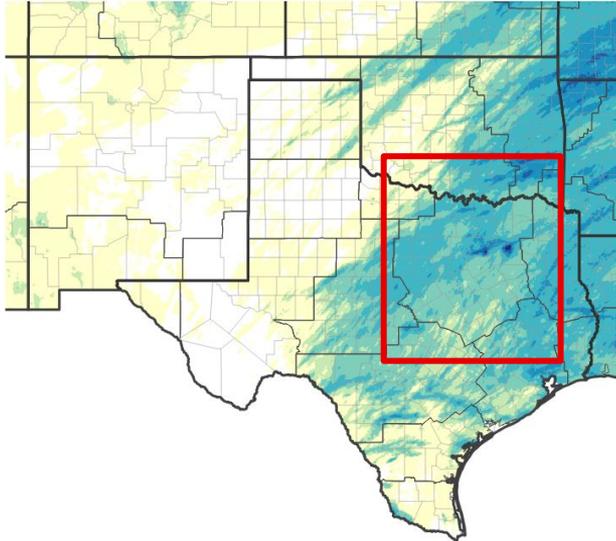




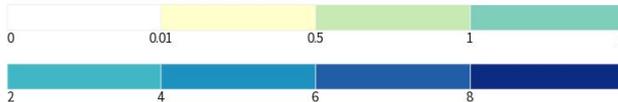
Precipitation

- The rainfall that has fallen over the last 30 days has done little for the growing precip deficit.
- The most beneficial rainfall (2+ inches) fell primarily over North Texas.
- Most of Central Texas and parts of far eastern North Texas received only 25-50% of normal rainfall between late February and mid March.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

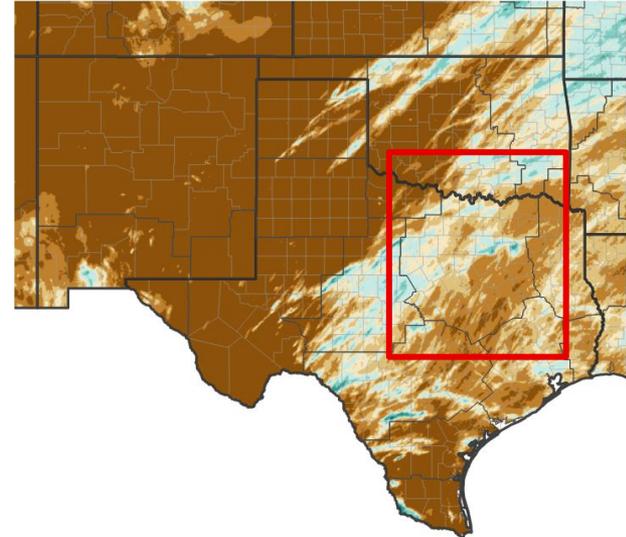


Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 03/23/26

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: 03/23/26

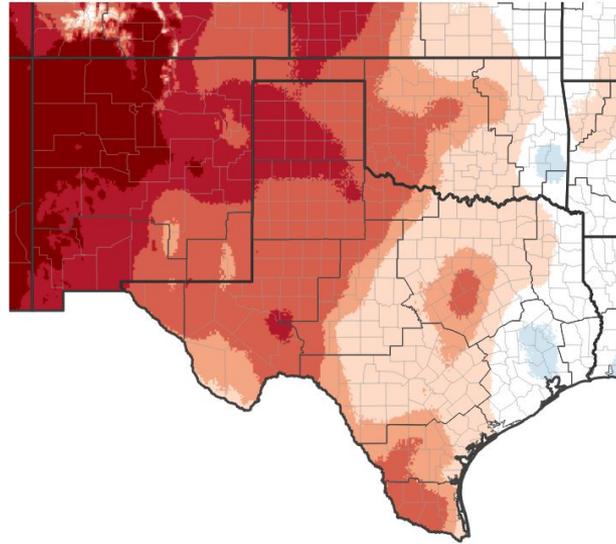




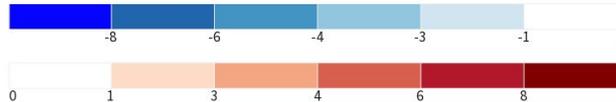
Temperature

- Over the **last 7 days**, temperatures were on average around 1-3°F above normal across most of the region. The only exception was in and around the Waco area where record-breaking heat pushed temperatures to 3-6°F above normal.
- Max temperatures over the **last 30 days** were well above-normal (8°F or more) regionwide.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



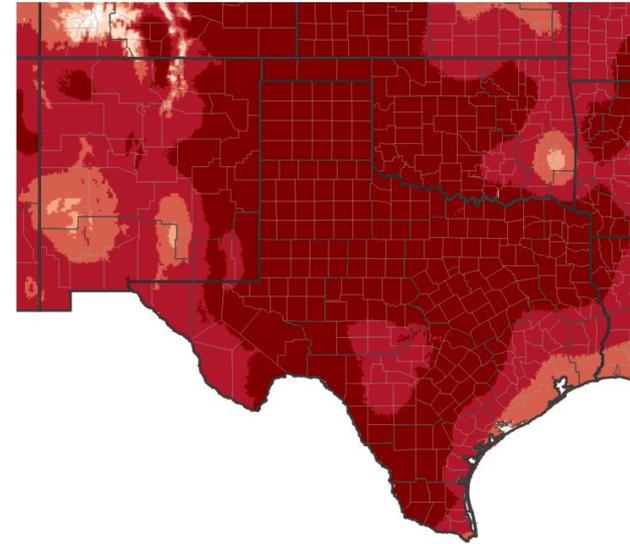
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



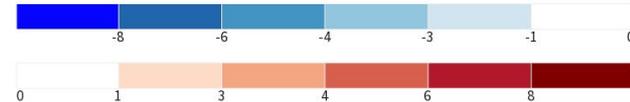
Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 03/19/26

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: 03/19/26





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- See the complete list of [Texas Public Water Systems Limiting Water Use to Avoid Shortages](#)
- Parts of North Texas saw rainfall in early March that broke daily records, improved soil moisture, and enhanced runoff into area reservoirs. However, streamflows across area creeks and rivers continue to range from slightly below to much below normal (<10th percentile) amid the recent rain-free pattern.

Agricultural Impacts

- See the latest [Crop & Weather Report from Texas A&M Agrilife](#).
- Soil moisture remains below normal (<20th percentile). See CPC Daily Soil Moisture Rankings [here](#).

Fire Hazard Impacts

- [Outdoor Burn Bans](#) are in effect for several counties in western North and Central Texas and a few additional counties in East Texas.

Mitigation Actions

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



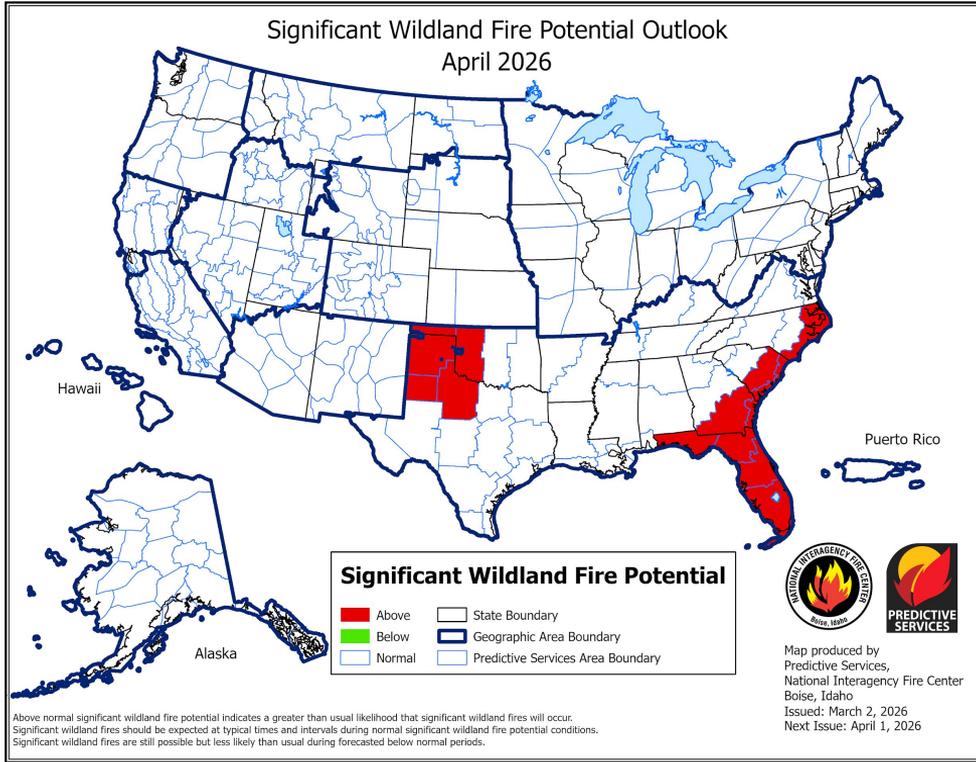


Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- **Western North & Central TX Burn Bans:**
 - Montague, Jack, Palo Pinto, Stephens, Eastland, Mills, Coryell, Bell, Milam, and Somervell Counties.
- **Eastern Texas Burn Bans:**
 - Navarro, Kaufman, Van Zandt, and Anderson Counties.

The Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook calls for above normal fire potential to persist across parts of western North Texas through April.



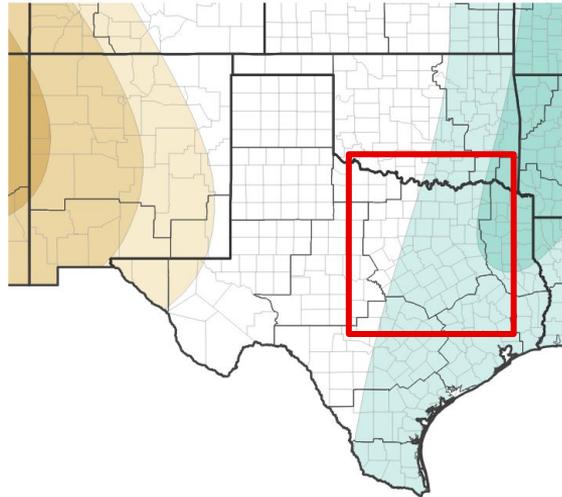


Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Precipitation is leaning towards (~30% probability) above-normal in April for most areas along and east of I-35, while likely remaining closer to normal further west of I-35.
- There is approximately a 40-50% probability of above-normal temperatures during the month of April.

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



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation

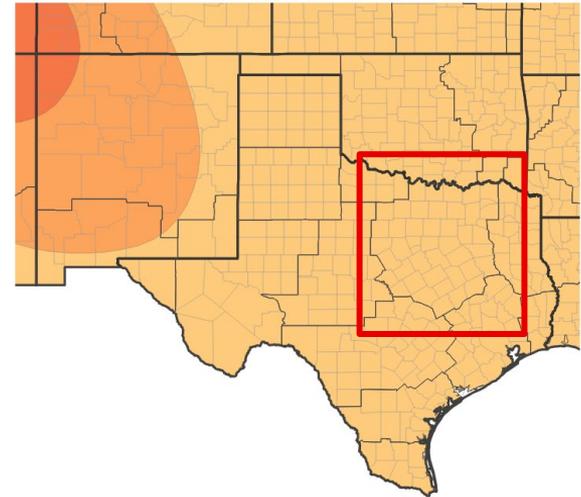


Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 03/19/26

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



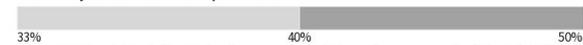
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 03/19/26



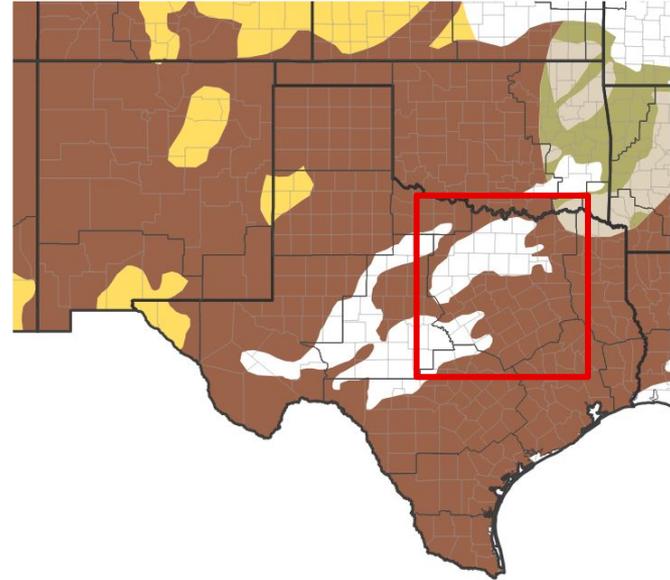


Drought Outlook

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

Drought conditions are currently expected to persist through the rest of the season and into early summer.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for March 19, 2026–June 30, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 03/19/26

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
Fort Worth/Dallas, TX