



Drought Information Statement for North and Central Texas

Valid September 15, 2026

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

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

- This product will be updated **October 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/fwd/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
 - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.
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- Severe (D2) to Extreme (D3) drought conditions expanding across North and Central Texas with no significant rainfall occurring over the past 60 days while a record-breaking streak of triple digit heat persists.
 - Drought conditions are generally expected to persist across the entire region through the Fall.

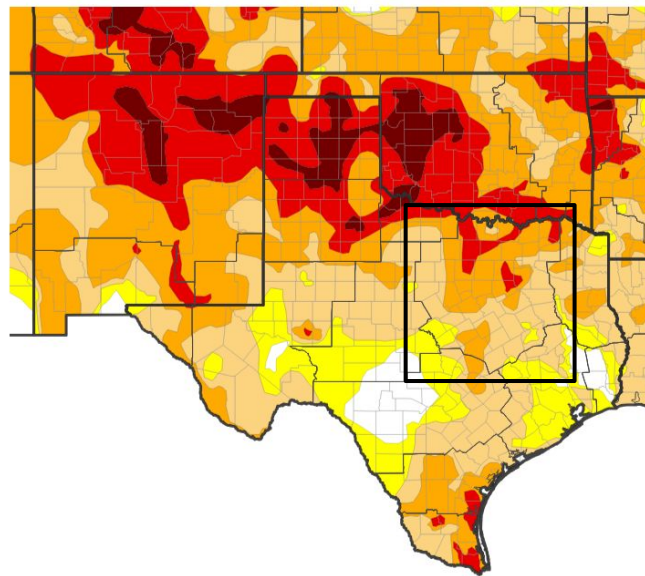


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: None
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Several areas across North TX including parts of the eastern DFW Metroplex and locations adjacent to the Red River.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Broad area of North TX, extending south/southeast through Erath, Bosque, and Navarro counties. Also spreading northward from the Hill Country into parts of Bell, Coryell, and McLennan counties.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: The remainder of North and Central TX.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Areas in Freestone, Leon, Robertson, Milam, Mills, Hamilton, Lampasas, and far western Coryell counties.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 09/08/26



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Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- **Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change:**

- **Drought Worsened:**

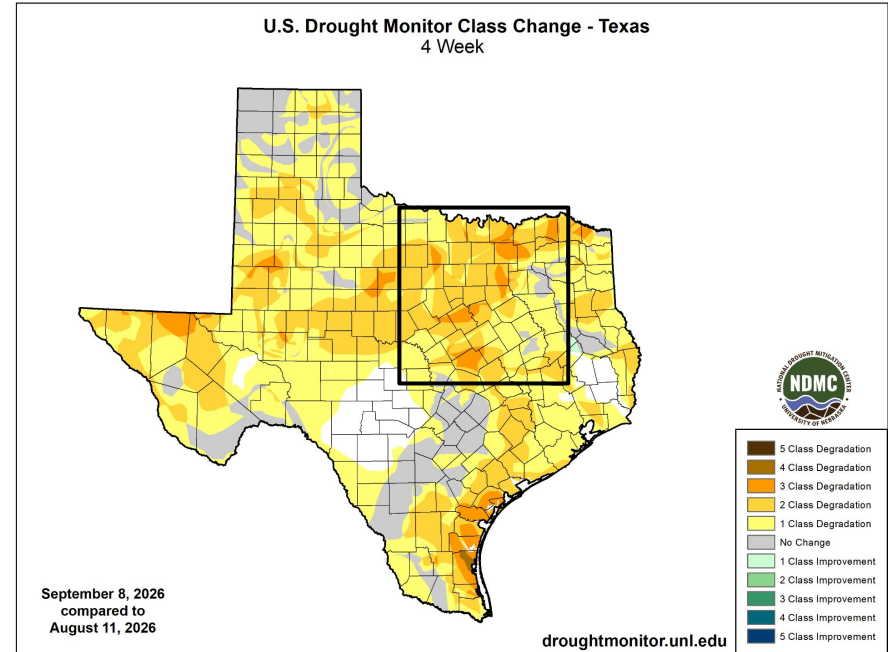
- Most of North and western Central Texas has seen a **two to three class degradation**.

- **No Change:**

- Parts of East Texas including Van Zandt, Rains, Henderson, and Anderson counties.

- **Drought Improved:**

- None



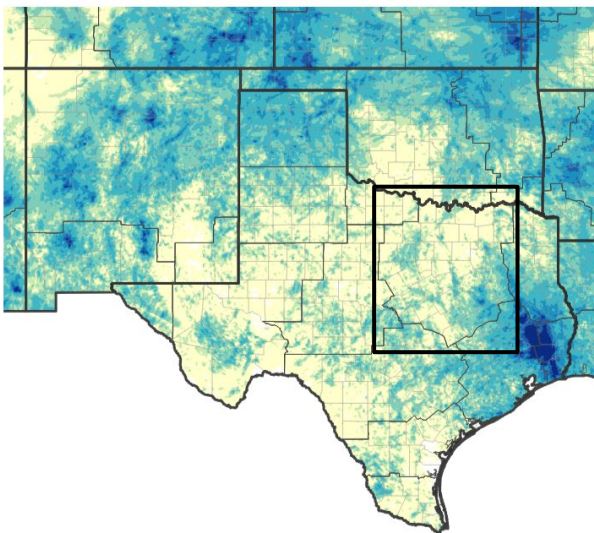


Precipitation

Last 30 Days

- Over the last 30 days (ending at 7 am CDT September 14, 2026), **rainfall totals range from 0" to 1.5"**, with only parts of eastern Central Texas including the Brazos Valley seeing totals exceed 2".
- This corresponds to **<50% of normal for most of the region**, with much of North Texas and western Central Texas around 25% of normal or less.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

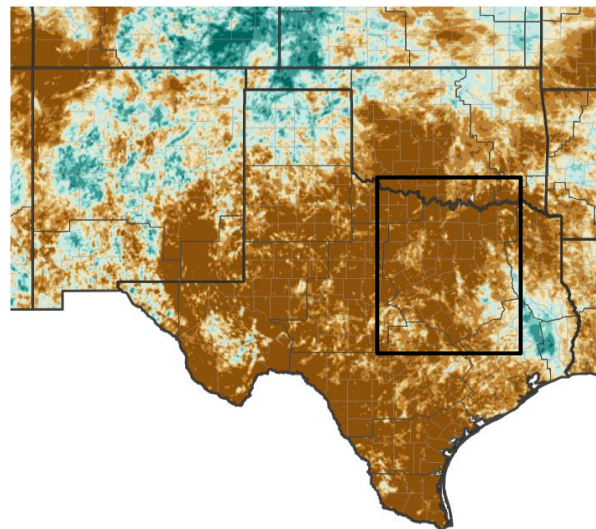


Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 09/15/26

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: 09/15/26



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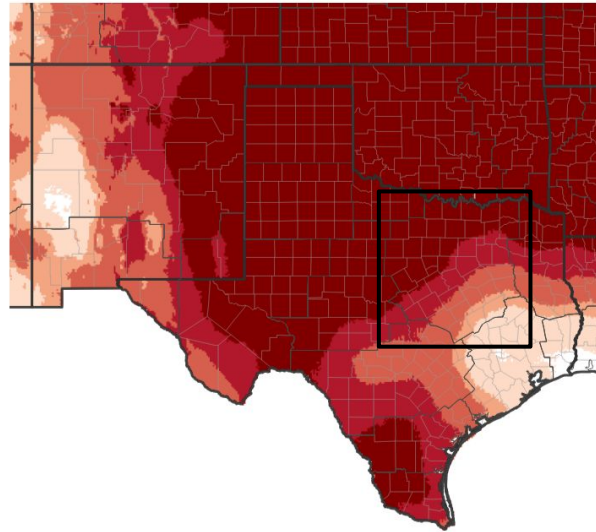
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Temperature

- Over the **last 7 days**, temperatures were **on average around 6-10°F above normal** across most of the region. The only exception was in Southeast Texas into eastern Central Texas where temperatures have been **<6°F above normal** in response to enhanced sea breeze activity.
- Max temperatures over the **last 30 days** have shown the same well-above normal spatial distribution.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly

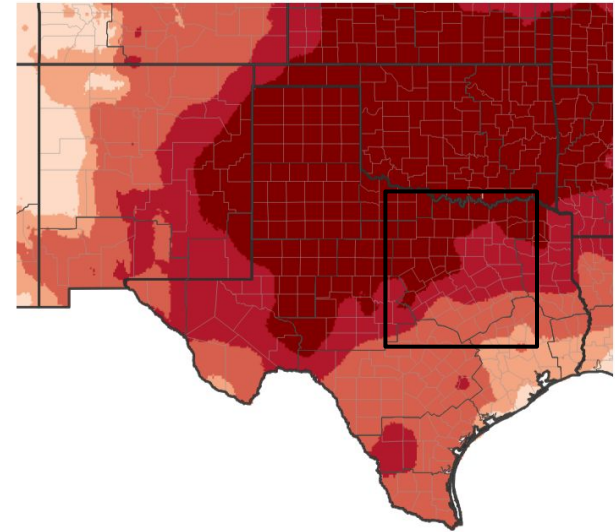


Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)

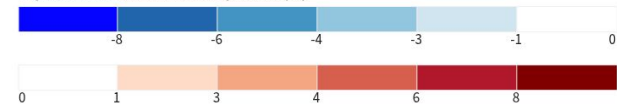


Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 09/10/26

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: 09/10/26





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Area reservoir levels are continuing to fall below normal in the absence of widespread rainfall.

Agricultural Impacts

- Recent dry conditions have led to significant impacts to livestock and agriculture.
 - [Agriculture and Livestock Impacts](#)
 - [Crop & Weather Report from Texas A&M Agrilife](#).
- Soil moisture remains below normal (< 30th percentile) for all areas except for eastern Central Texas (generally S of I-20 and E of I-35/45). See CPC Daily Soil Moisture Rankings [here](#).
- Drought has had a significant impact on ponds and pastures across the Southern Plains. Ranchers have reported pastures providing little or no feed, animal stress/mortality, and impacts to water supply requiring mandatory conservation.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- [Outdoor Burn Bans](#) are in effect for 45 of the 46 counties in our forecast area.

Mitigation Actions

- See the complete list of [Texas Public Water Systems Limiting Water Use to Avoid Shortages](#)
- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.

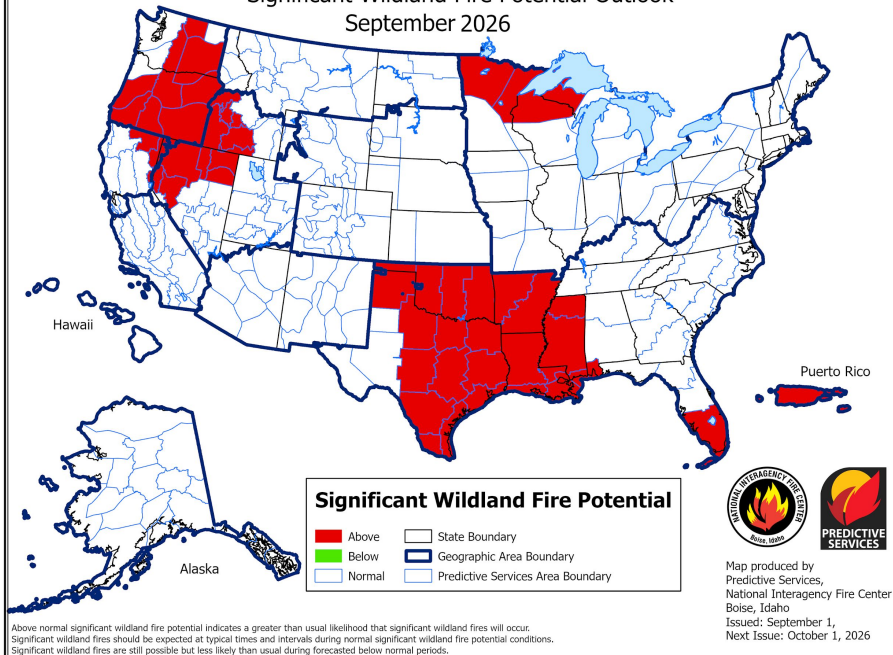




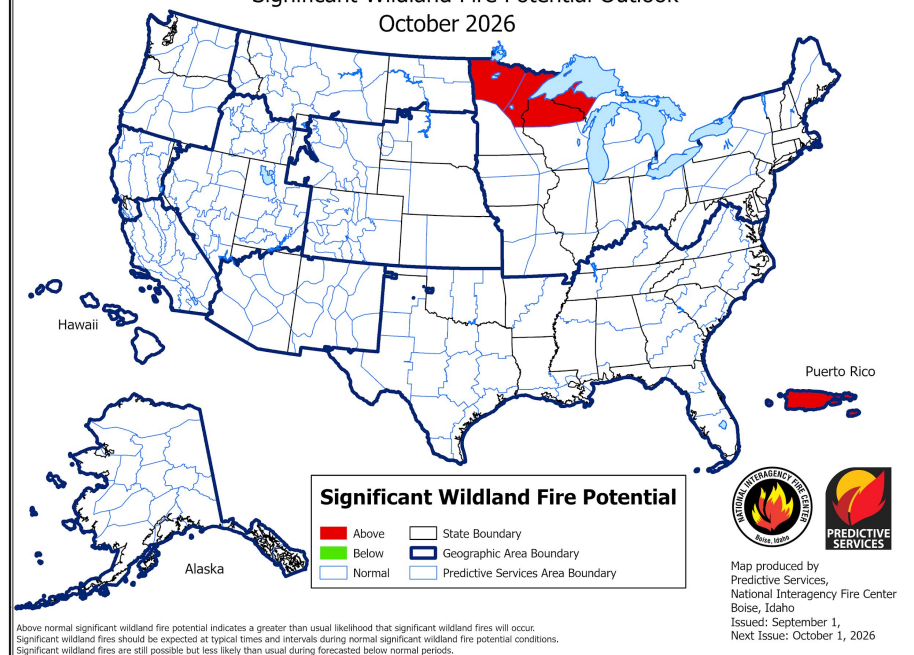
Fire Hazard Impacts

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

Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook
September 2026



Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook
October 2026



Expanding Extreme (D3) drought conditions across the region signal the likely persistence of above normal fire potential across much of the Southern Plains through the end of the month.



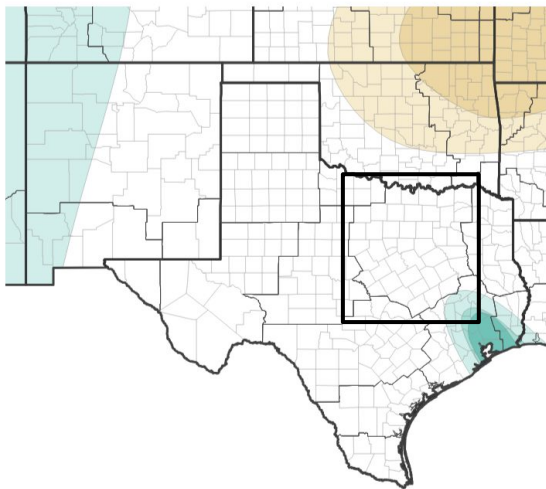


Long-Range Outlooks

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

- There is no clear signal for precipitation being above or below normal across North and Central Texas through the end of the month.
- There is approximately a 50-60% probability of above-normal temperatures during the rest of the month of September.

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



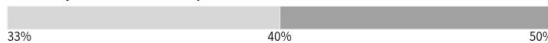
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



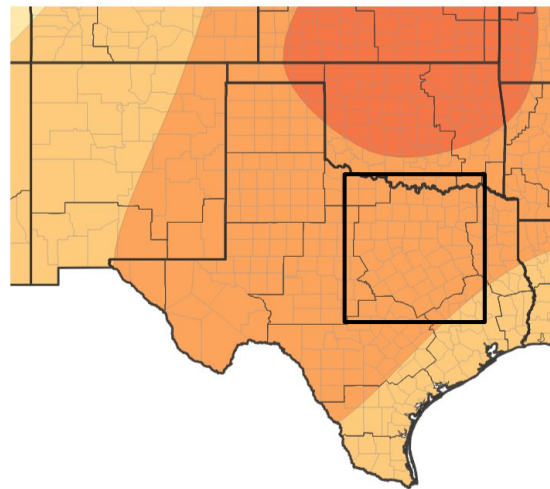
Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



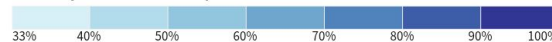
Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 08/31/26

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



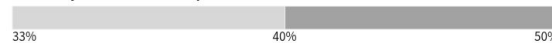
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

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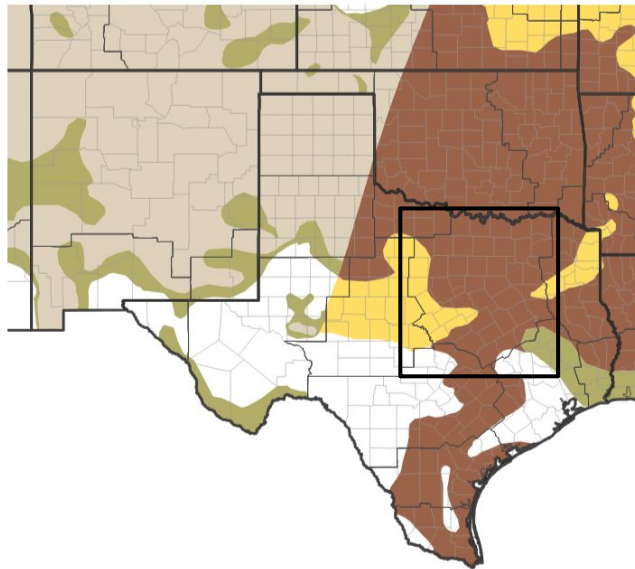


Drought Outlook

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

In the absence of a clear signal for widespread wetting rainfall, the current seasonal outlook (September through November) indicates that **drought conditions are expected to develop or persist region-wide through the fall.**

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](#)



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