



Drought Information Statement for Southeast Texas

Valid May 8, 2026

Issued By: National Weather Service Houston/Galveston, TX

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

- This is the last update for this product until drought conditions deteriorate to D3.
 - Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
 - Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/HGX/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
 - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.
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- Drought conditions have improved across Southeast Texas.
 - None of Southeast Texas is in Extreme Drought though some areas remain in Severe Drought.
 - Drought conditions are expected to improve further due to a generally wet pattern in May.



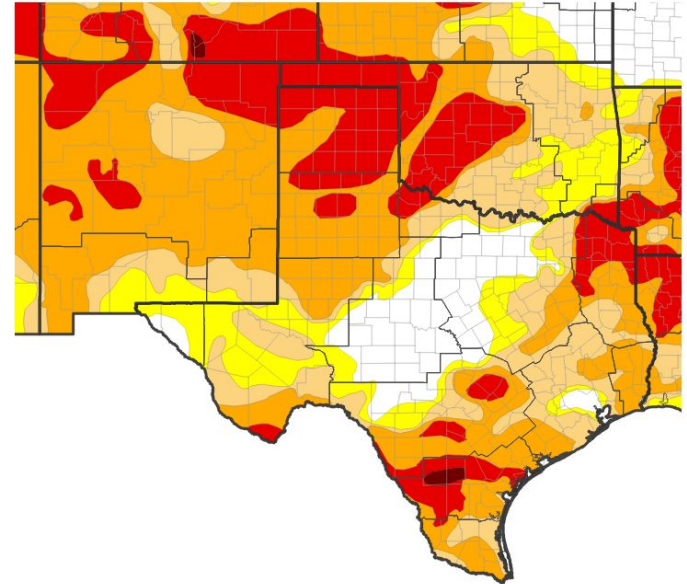


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought):** None
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** None
 - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Polk, San Jacinto, Waller, Montgomery, Liberty, Chambers, Brazoria, Colorado, Matagorda, Jackson, Wharton
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** All counties have at least D2 conditions.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** All counties have at least D2 conditions.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 05/05/26



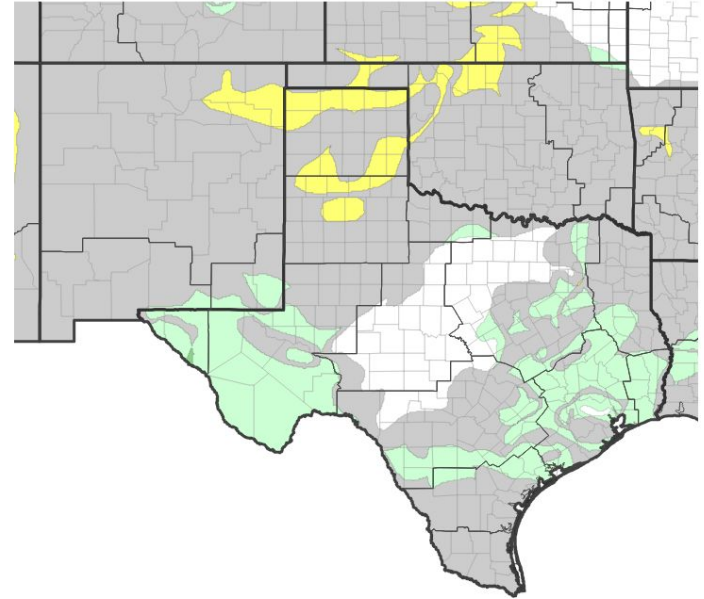


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Improved by 1 category across most of the region.

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



Drought Change Since Last Week



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

Data Valid: 05/05/26

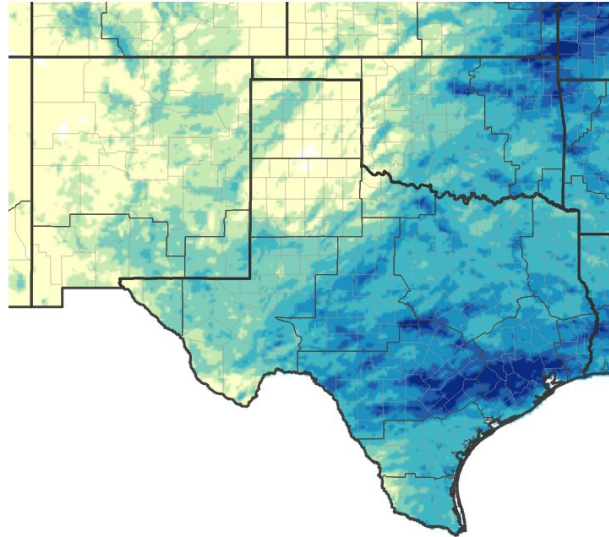




Precipitation

- Rainfall amounts across SE Texas over the last 30 days ranged from 2-4" in our northern counties to 4-8" in our central and southern counties and 2-5" near the immediate coast.
- Overall near to above normal rainfall over the last 30 days. The highest anomalies occurred roughly near the I-10 corridor where rainfall totals were ~200% of normal.

NWPS 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)



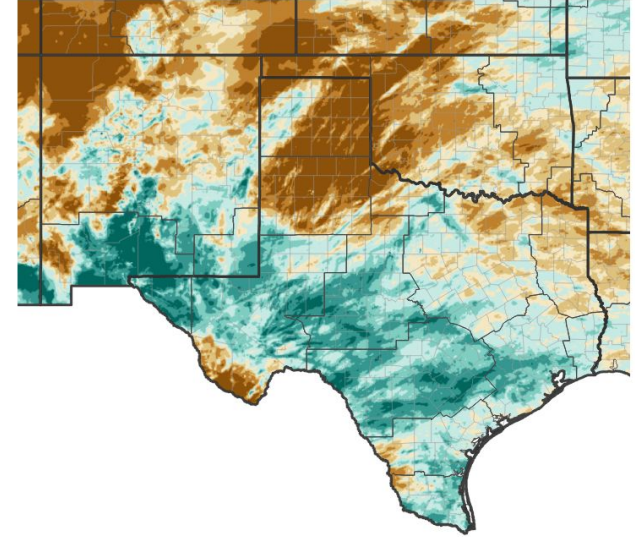
Inches of Precipitation



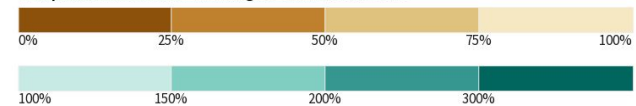
Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 05/05/26

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: 05/07/26

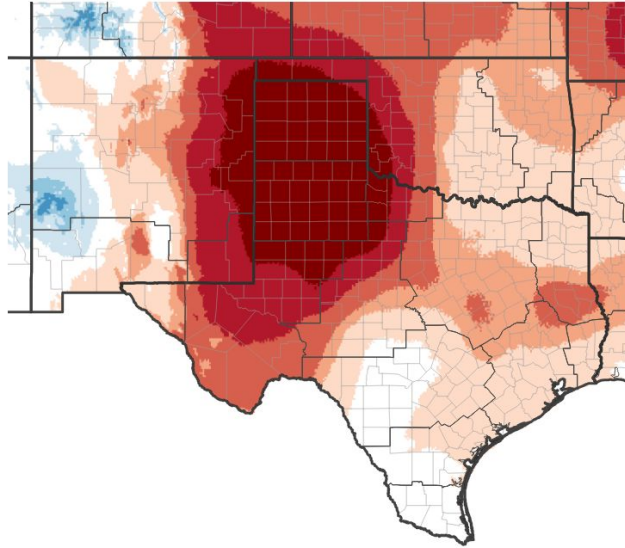




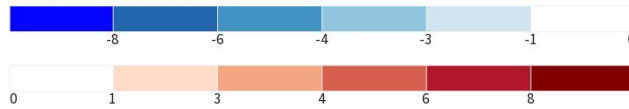
Temperature

- The average temperatures over the last week have been ~1-3° above normal with ~3-6° above normal in our northernmost counties.
- April average temperatures were ~1-3° above normal for most of the area with ~3-4° above normal in our northern counties.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly

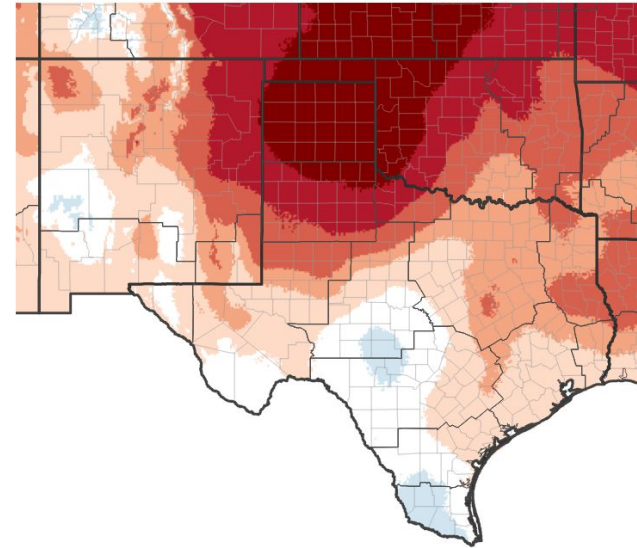


Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)

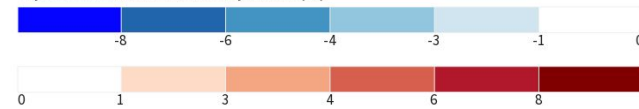


Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 04/29/26

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: 04/29/26





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows are generally near normal across southeast Texas.

Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture is very low for much of the region with -160+ mm soil moisture anomalies.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- No Outdoor Burn Bans are in the effect.
- June features an above normal Wildland Fire Potential north of I-10.

Reservoir Levels (as of May 8, 2026):

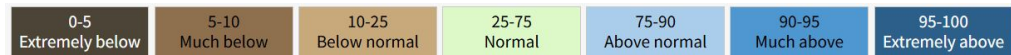
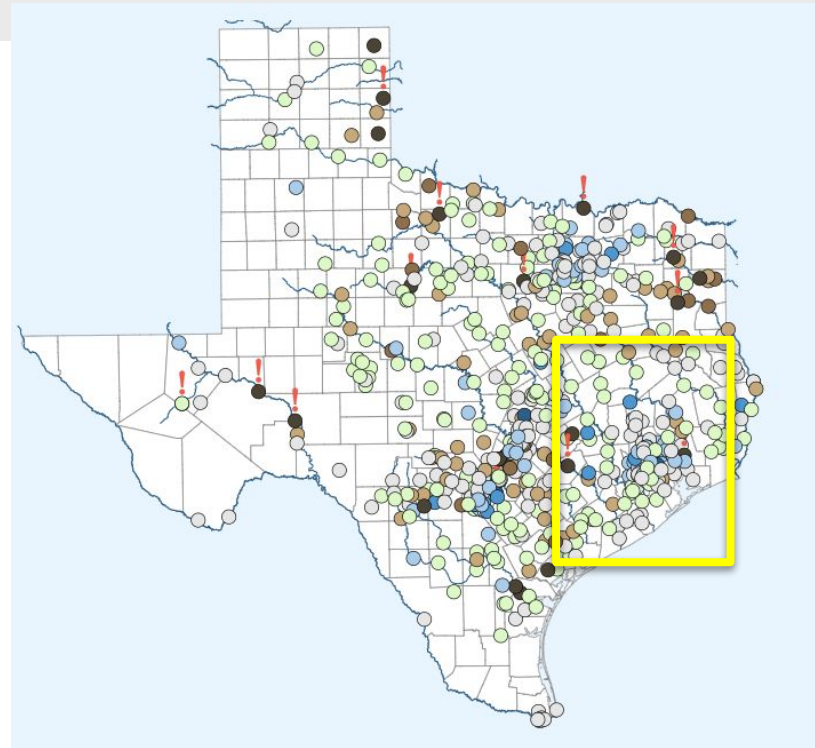
- Somerville Lake: 84.6%
- Lake Conroe: 96.7%
- Houston County Lake: 100.0%
- Livingston Reservoir: 100.0%
- Lake Texana: 77.7%
- Lake Houston: 100.0%
- Gibbons Creek Reservoir: 99.4%





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflows are near normal for most of southeast Texas.



No estimate available
Location has less than 20 years of daily data

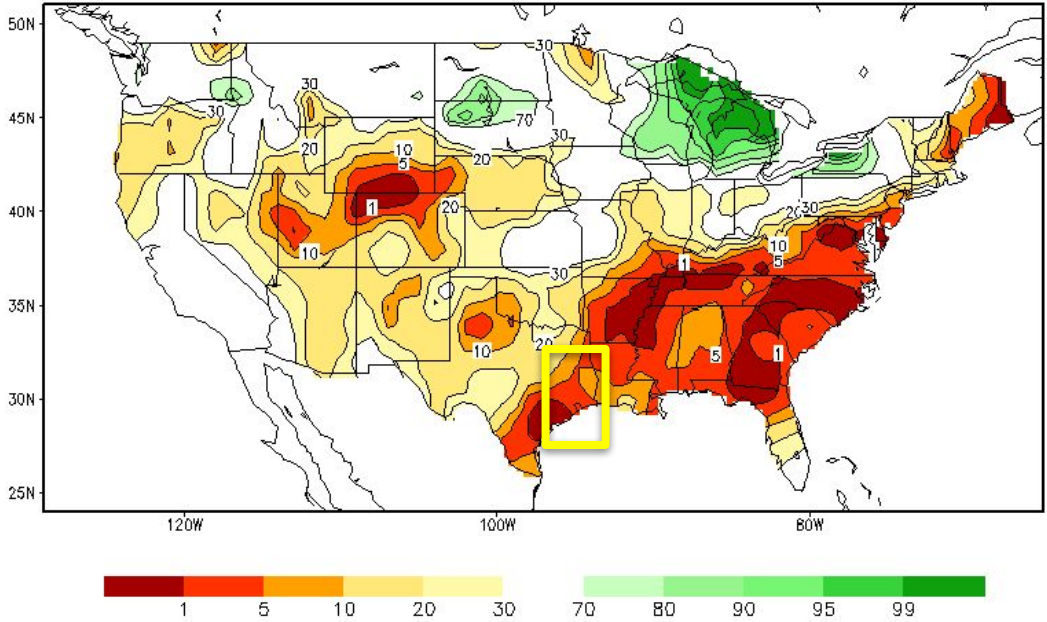




Agricultural Impacts

- April soil moisture featured modest improvement compared to March, but still remain very low. Soil moisture rankings generally remained between the 1st and 5th percentile. Southwest portions of the area continued to be less than the 1st percentile.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
APR, 2026

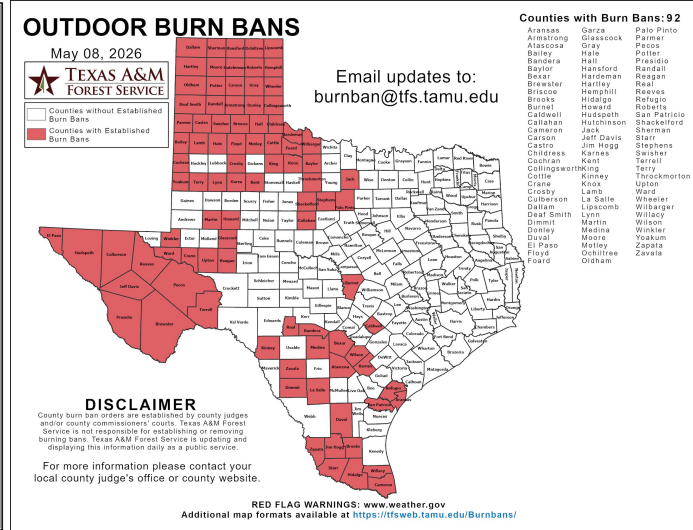
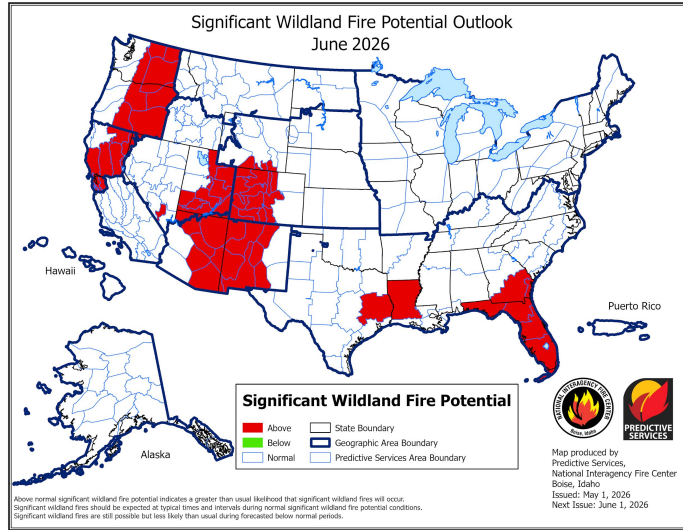




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- June outlook features above normal Wildland Fire Potential for southeast Texas, primarily north of I-10.
- As of 5/8/2026, There are no Outdoor Burn Bans in our CWA.

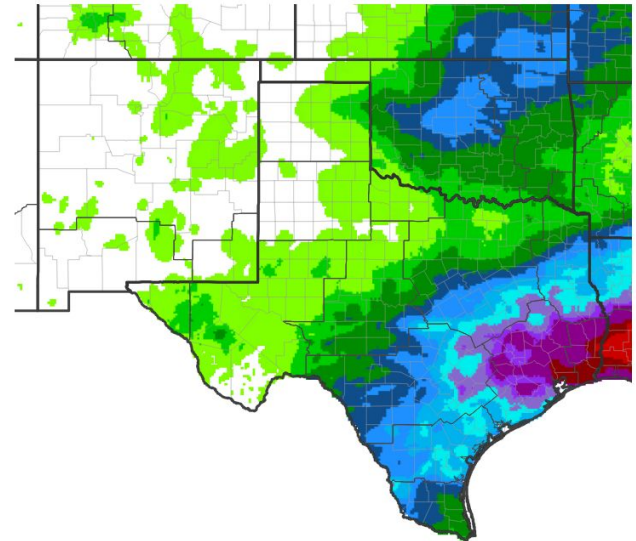




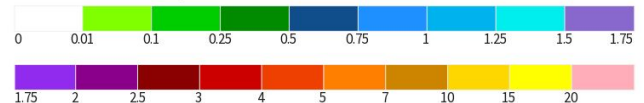
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- General 7-day rainfall totals of 1-3 inches are expected.
- Locally heavier totals are likely.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for May 7, 2026–May 14, 2026



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 05/07/26





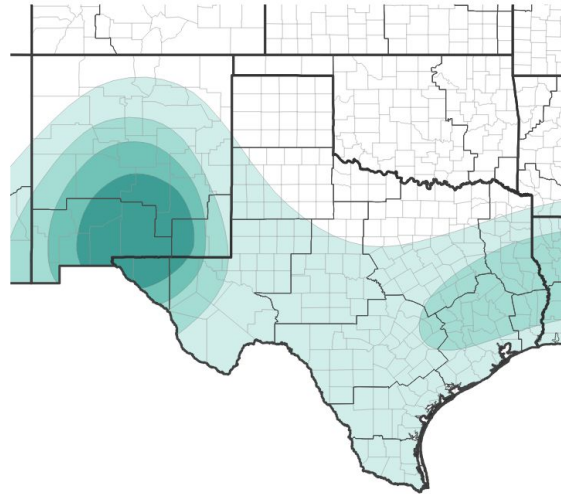
Long-Range Outlooks

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

For the month of May:

- Temperatures are expected to be near normal.
- Rainfall is expected to be 33-40% above normal south of I-10, and 40-50% above normal north of I-10.

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



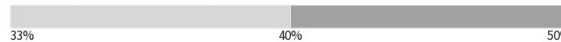
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation

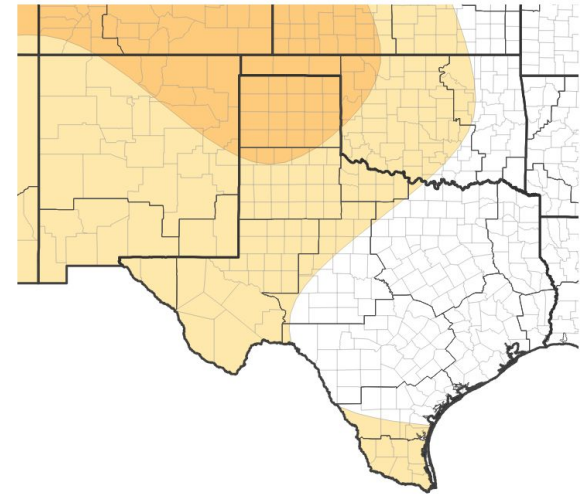


Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 04/30/26

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



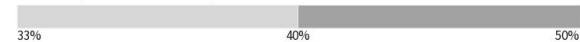
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 04/30/26



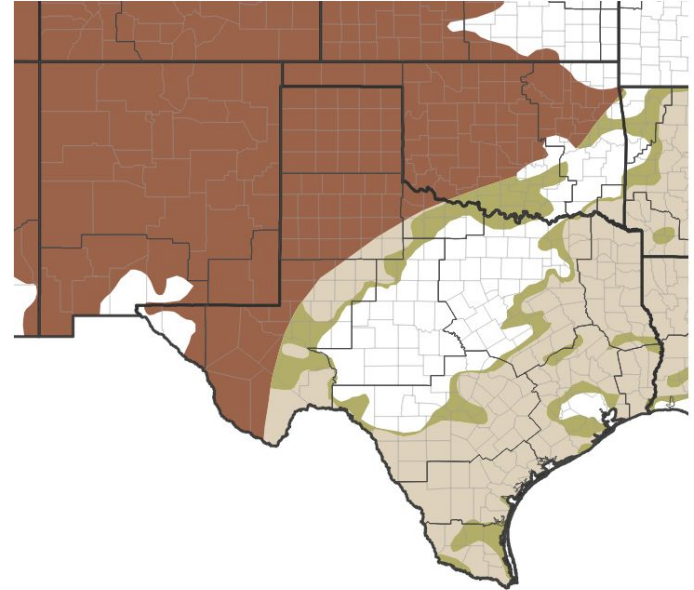


Drought Outlook

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

- The CPC is expecting drought conditions to improve across Southeast Texas. Drought conditions are ending in the vicinity of the Houston Metro. Drought conditions are expected to end in Madison County and portions of Houston County.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for April 30, 2026–July 31, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 04/30/26

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
Houston/Galveston, TX