



Drought Information Statement for Southeastern NC and Northeastern SC

Valid May 22, 2026

Issued By: National Weather Service Wilmington, NC

Contact Information: ilm.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated June 19, 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/ilm/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.

- SEVERE TO EXTREME DROUGHT PERSISTS OVER THE AREA



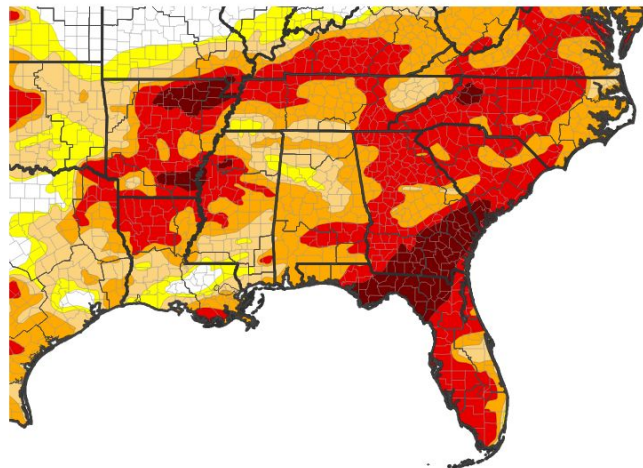


U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Southeastern NC and Northeastern SC

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: none
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Georgetown, Williamsburg, Horry, Marion, Darlington, Marlboro, Columbus counties
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Florence, Dillon, Robeson, Bladen, Pender, New Hanover, and Brunswick counties
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: none
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: none

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 05/19/26

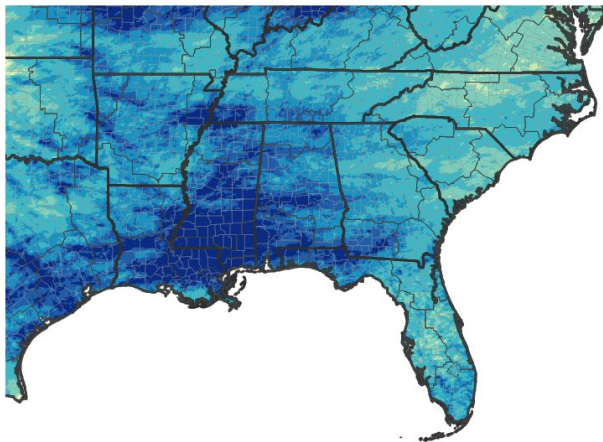




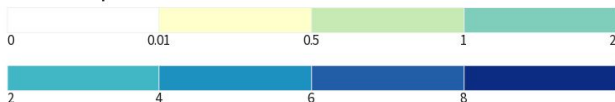
Precipitation

- Rainfall totals over the past 30 days have run 40 to 80 percent of normal. The largest negative departures are present over eastern South Carolina.
- Six-month rainfall totals are only 50 to 60 percent of normal, or 7 to 10 inches below normal.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

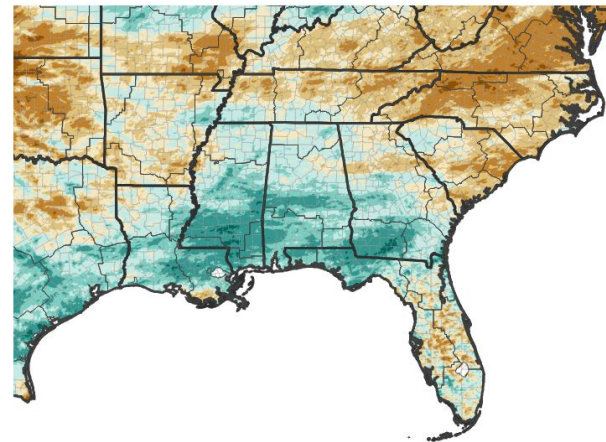


Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 05/22/26

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: 05/22/26





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Many local rivers are at the lowest stage and flow on record for this time of year. Voluntary water conservation measures are in place in Myrtle Beach and Georgetown.

Agricultural Impacts

- Condition Monitoring Observer Reports show the drought is impacting corn germination and growth in Florence County, SC.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Burn bans issued by local and state governments earlier in the month have been lifted due to recent rainfall.

Other Impacts

- Reports indicate ponds are three feet below normal in Georgetown County, SC. Local news reports exposed tree stumps and debris are causing problems for power boats in the Pee Dee river.

Mitigation Actions

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



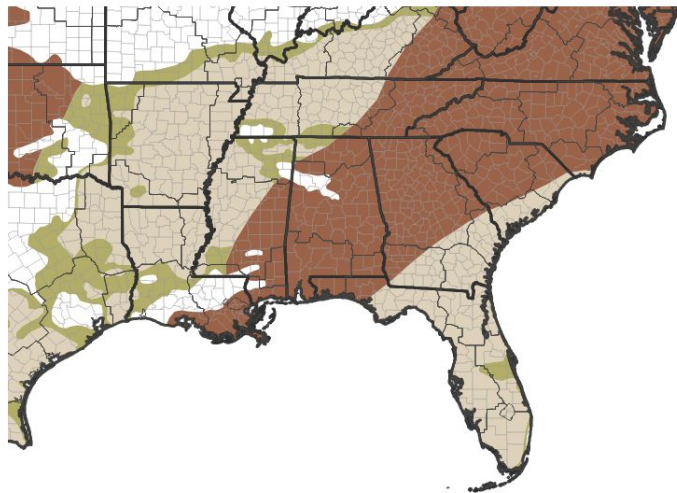


Drought Outlook

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

- Through August, rainfall could lead to improving drought conditions near the immediate coast, but inland areas should continue to experience drought.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for May 21, 2026–August 31, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 05/21/26

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
Wilmington, NC