



Drought Information Statement for Southeast TX and Southwest LA

Valid October 22, 2026

Issued By: WFO Lake Charles, LA

Contact Information:

- This product will be updated October 29, 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/LCH/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 persisted or worsened after another week of little to no rainfall. Extreme (D3) drought has developed in parts of central and southwest Louisiana.
 - No significant rainfall is expected in the next week.

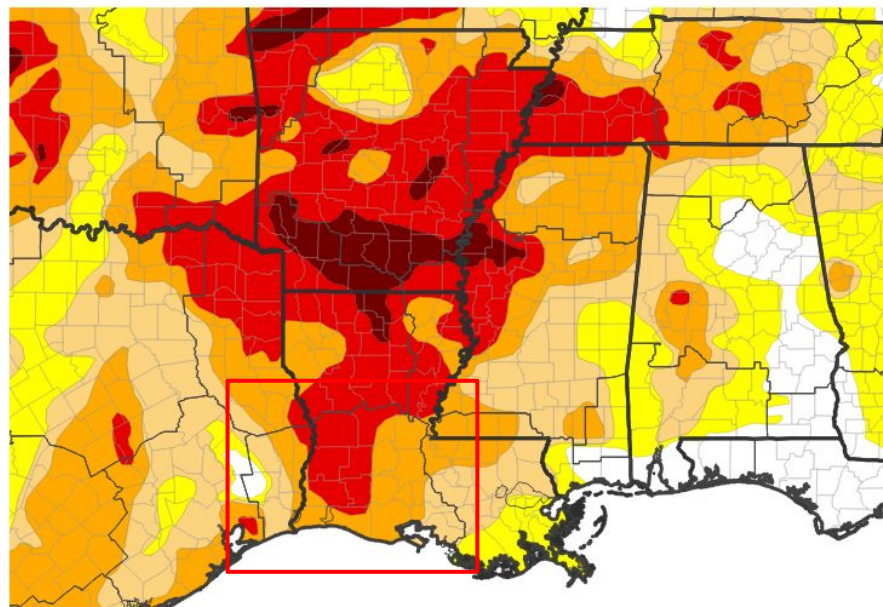


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought Intensity and Extent
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Vernon, Rapides, Beauregard, Allen, Calcasieu, and Jefferson Davis Parish; Newton County
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Avoyelles, Evangeline, St. Landry, Acadia, Lafayette, St. Martin, Cameron, Vermilion, and Iberia Parish; Jasper and Orange County
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: St. Mary Parish; Tyler, Hardin, and Jefferson Counties

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 10/20/26



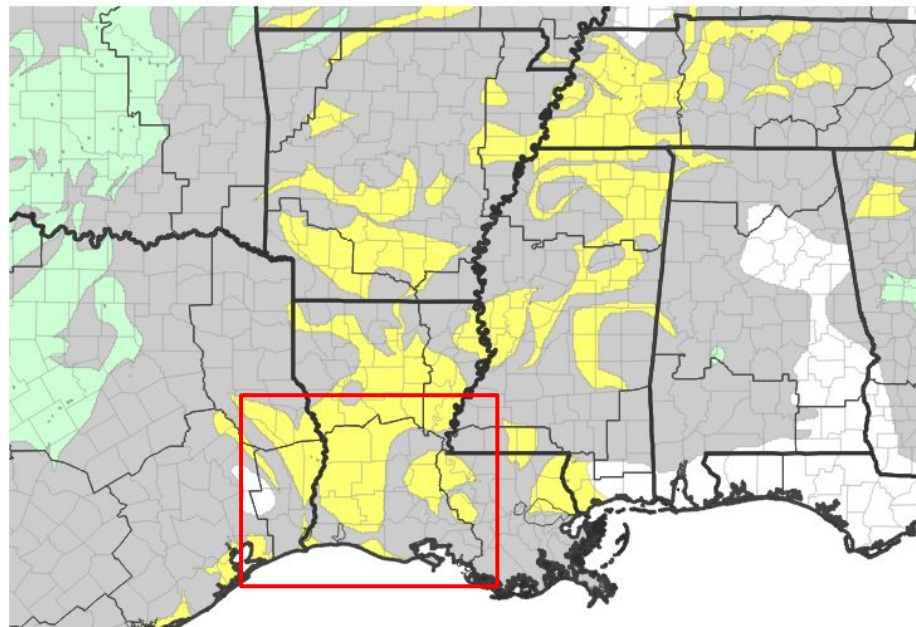


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [1-week change map](#)

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: Vernon, Rapides, Avoyelles, Beauregard, Allen, St. Landry, Calcasieu, Jefferson Davis, and St. Martin Parish; Hardin, Jasper, Newton, and Orange County
 - No Change: Evangeline, Acadia, Lafayette, Vermilion, and St. Mary Parish; Hardin and Jefferson County

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: 10/20/26



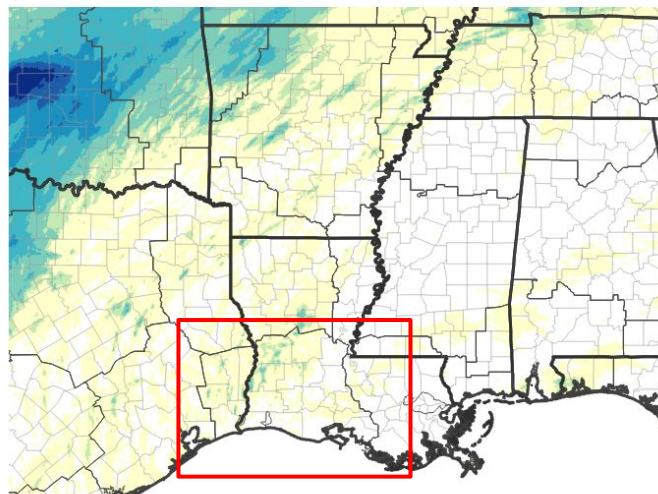


Precipitation

For the past 7 days

- Most of the area observed no rainfall over the past week. A few showers brought some light rain to portions of southeast Texas and central and southwest Louisiana, but amounts were not significant.

7-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



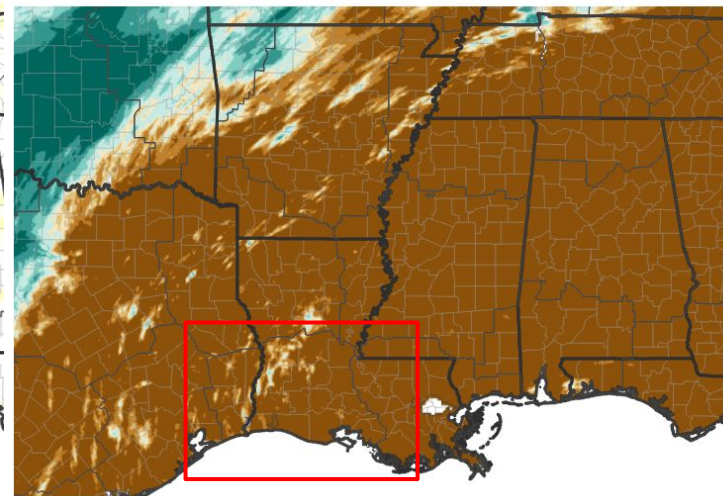
Inches of Precipitation



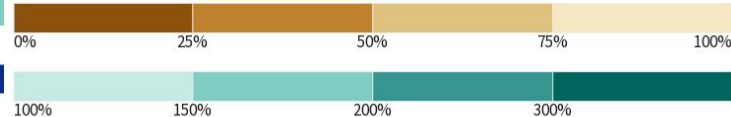
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System;
image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated:

7-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

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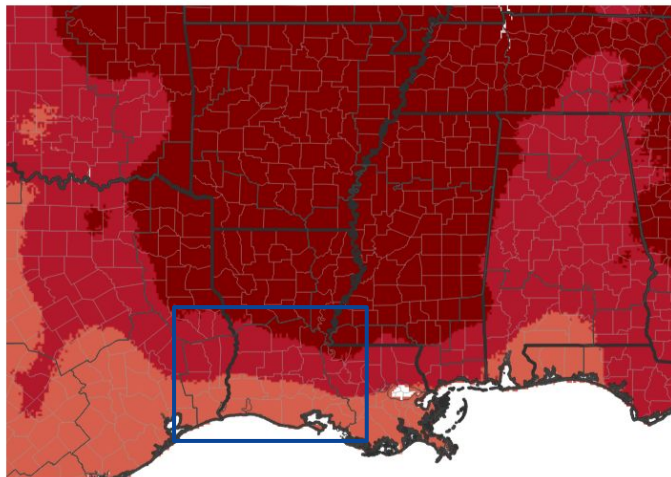


Temperature

Link to [Southern Regional Climate Center](#)

- Above-normal temperatures over the past month have allowed for increased evaporation and worsening of drought conditions.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



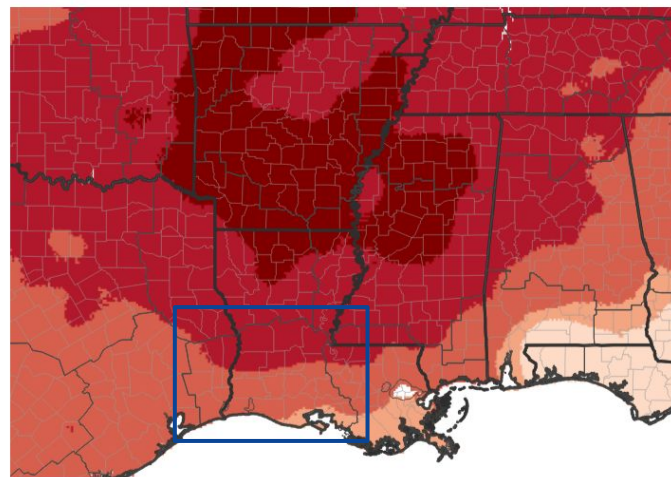
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



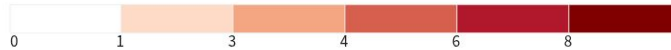
Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 10/17/26

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: 10/17/26



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Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- A majority of streamflows are below normal across the area.

Agricultural Impacts

- The following agricultural impact reports were received:
 - “The grass in my pastures is dry and brown. I lost a hay crop to lack of rain. I normally get 3 cuttings of bermuda then purchase stocket calves to graze until it frosts. I only got 2 this yr. The water level in 3 ft low with no livestock drinking. I have been using stock tanks with city watet for the livestock. The only grass left is in the bottom next to a creek.”

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Burn bans are in effect for Vernon, Rapides, Beauregard, Allen, Evangeline, St. Landry, Calcasieu, Jefferson Davis, Acadia, Cameron, and Vermilion Parish in Louisiana, and Tyler, Jasper, and Newton County in Texas.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

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

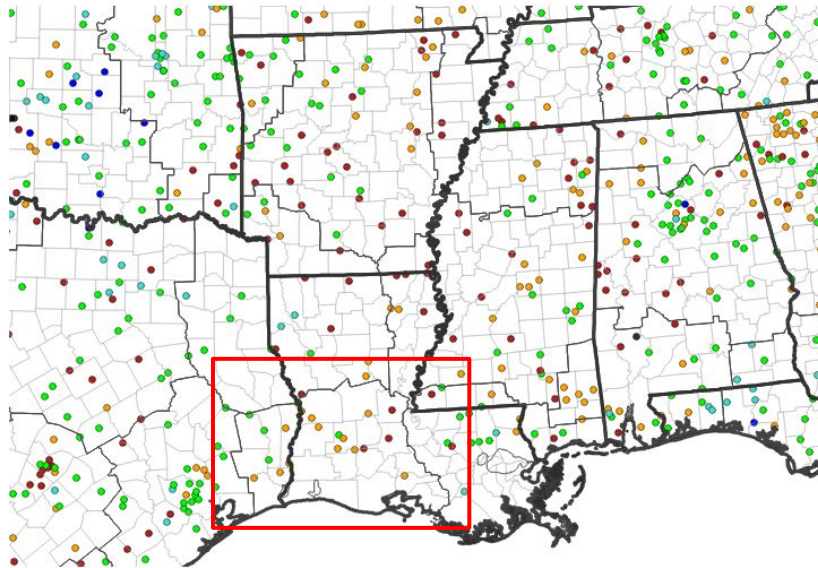




Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Below normal streamflows are noted across much of the area, with the exception of the Neches River basin where flows remain closer to normal.

1-Day Average Streamflow Conditions



Streamflow Conditions



Source(s): U.S. Geological Survey; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 10/21/26

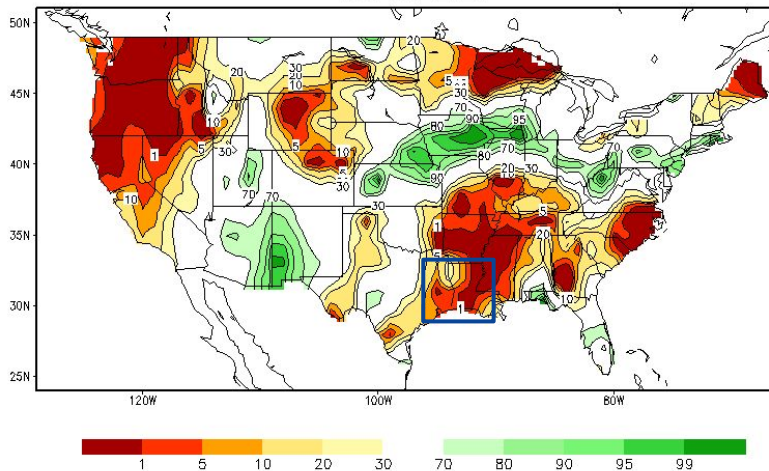




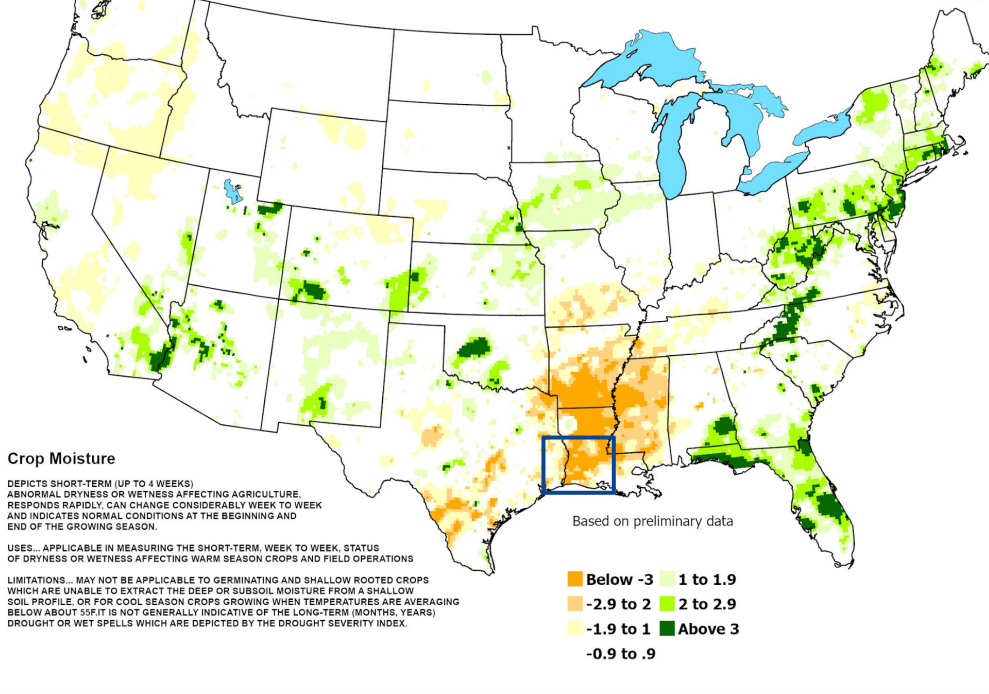
Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture is well below normal across the area.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
OCT 21, 2026



Crop Moisture Index
Value for the October 11 - 17, 2026
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile





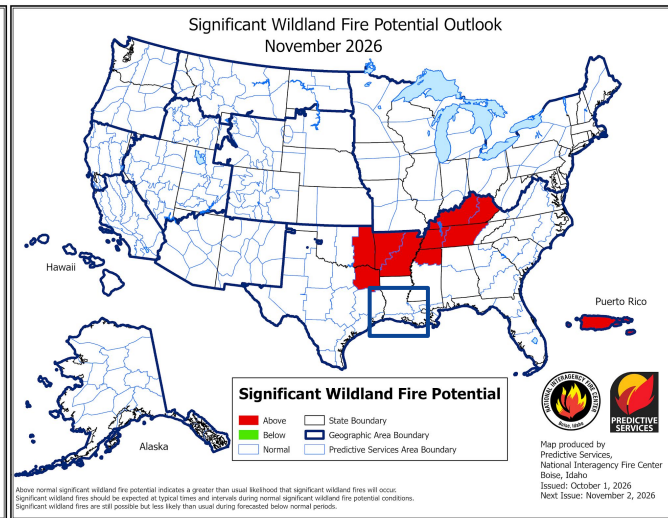
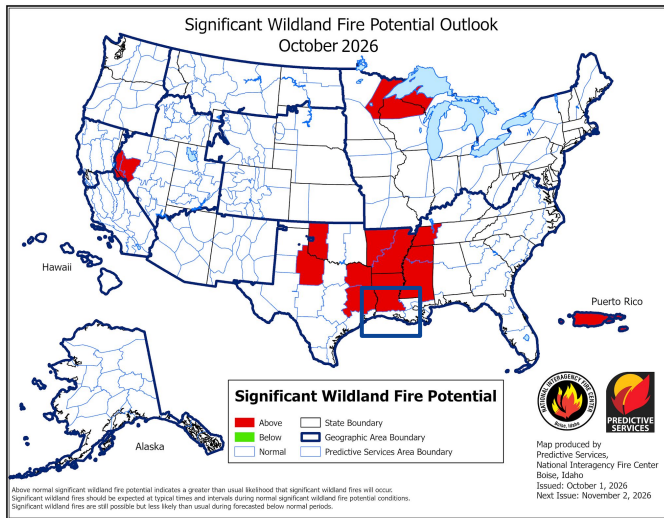
Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Most of central and southwest Louisiana and southeast Texas are outlooked for above-normal significant wildland fire potential through October.

Latest TX Burn Ban map available [here](#).

Latest LA Burn Ban map available [here](#).

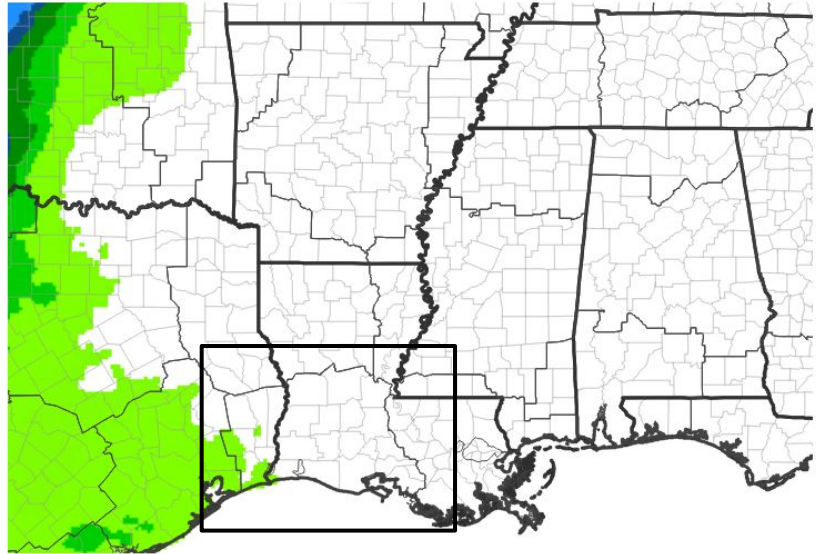




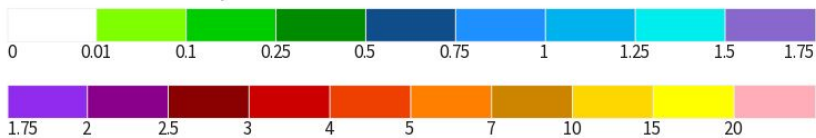
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- No measurable rainfall is expected over the next seven days across the entire area.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for October 22, 2026–October 29, 2026



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 10/22/26



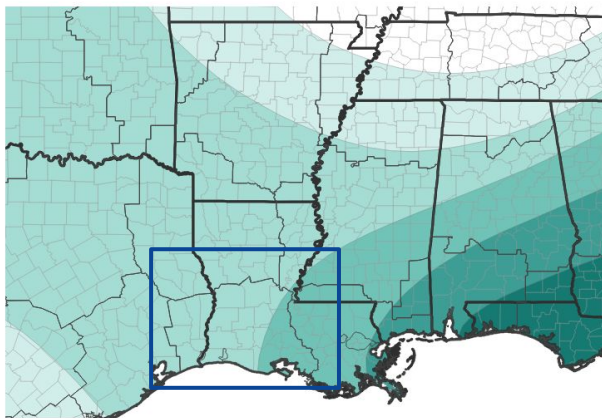


Long-Range Outlooks

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

- The long-range outlook has higher probabilities of above-normal precipitation (40-60% chance) over the next 3 months. Near-normal temperatures are favored during this period.

Seasonal (3-Month) Precipitation Outlook for November 1, 2026–January 31, 2027



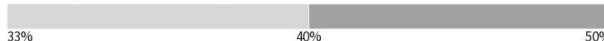
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



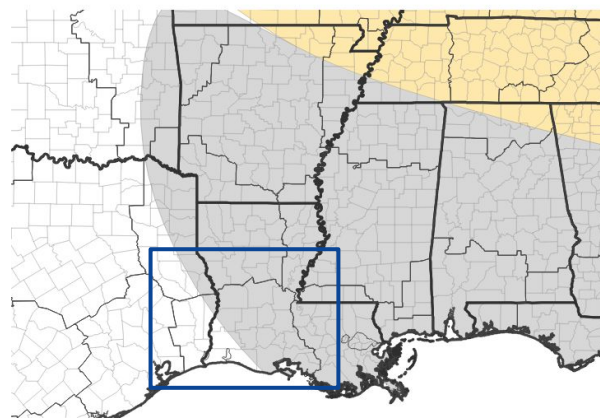
Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



Seasonal (3-Month) Temperature Outlook for November 1, 2026–January 31, 2027



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: 10/15/26



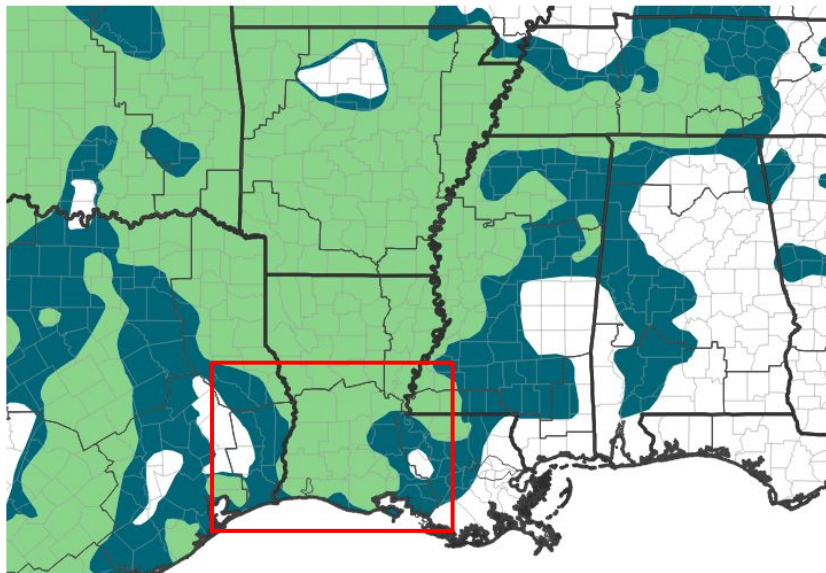


Drought Outlook

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

- Drought conditions are expected to improve across the area over the next three months, with full drought removal expected for southeast Texas and south-central Louisiana.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for October 15, 2026–January 31, 2027



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 10/15/26

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



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