



Drought Information Statement for Northeast Nevada

Valid October 5, 2026

Issued By: National Weather Service WFO Elko, NV

Contact Information: nws.elko@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated **November 9, 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/lkn/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.

- **Abnormally dry conditions continue across Nevada.**
- **Drought conditions continue across Nevada.**
- **No change to current drought status across NE Nevada.**

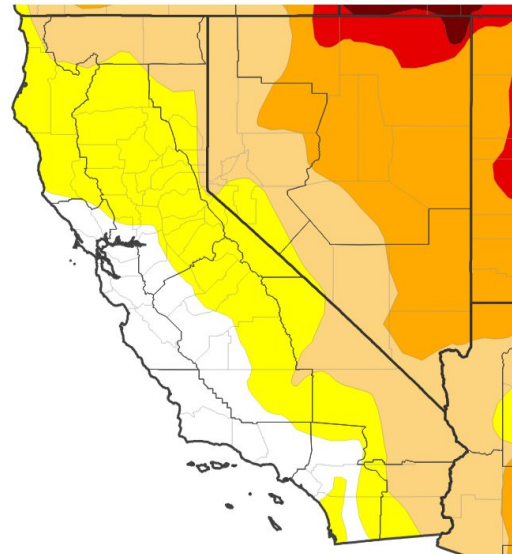


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: Far NE Elko
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: N Elko, far NE Humboldt.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: SW Elko, SE Elko, Eureka, E Humboldt, Lander, NE Nye, White Pine Counties
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: W Humboldt, SW Lander, NW Nye Counties.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Far NW Nye County.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 09/29/26



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
WFO Elko, NV

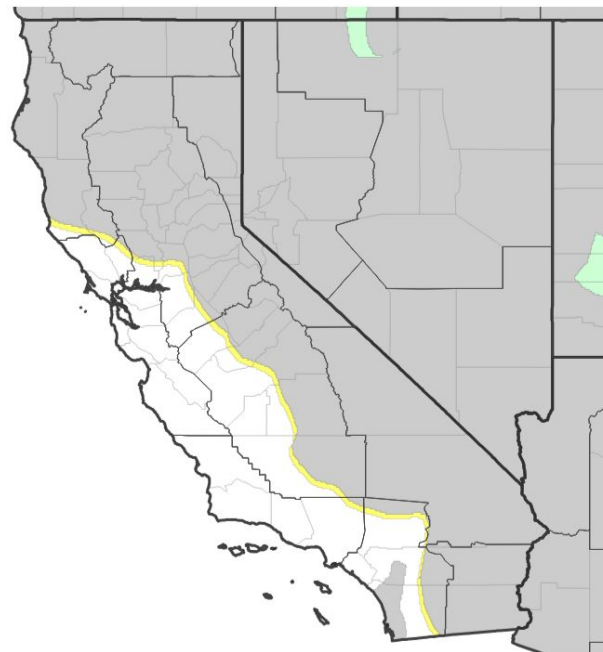


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

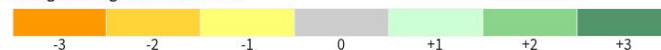
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Northeast Nevada

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - **Drought Worsened:** None.
 - **No Change:** Elko, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, N Nye, and White Pine Counties.
 - **Drought Improved:** 1 Category improvement: Portion of far NE Humboldt 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: 09/29/26



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

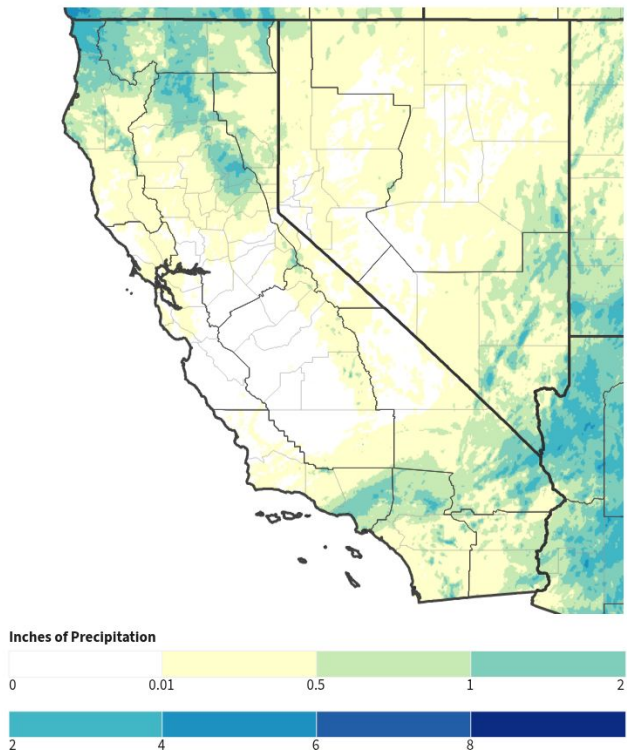
National Weather Service
WFO Elko, NV



Precipitation

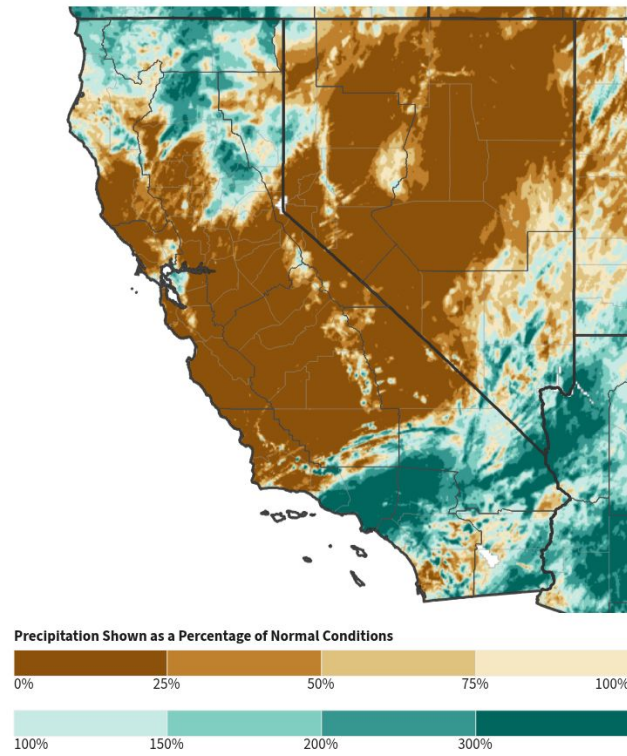
- Most of northeastern and central Nevada saw between 0% and 50% of normal rainfall. With only far SE White Pine County seeing 100% to 200% of normal precipitation.
- 30 Day precipitation estimates show that SE White Pine County saw up to 2.00"+ of rainfall, while most of northeastern and central Nevada only saw between 0.00" and 0.50" of rain.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 10/03/26

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 10/03/26



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

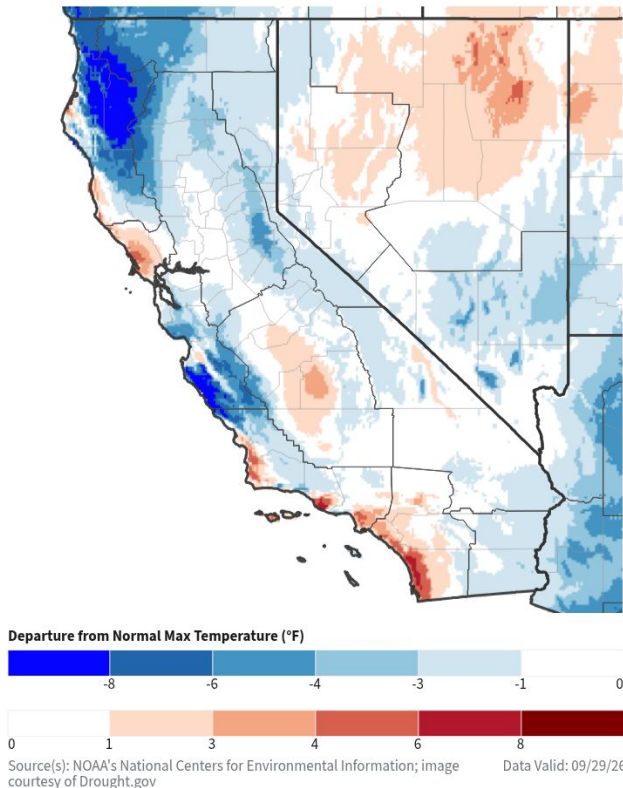
National Weather Service
WFO Elko, NV



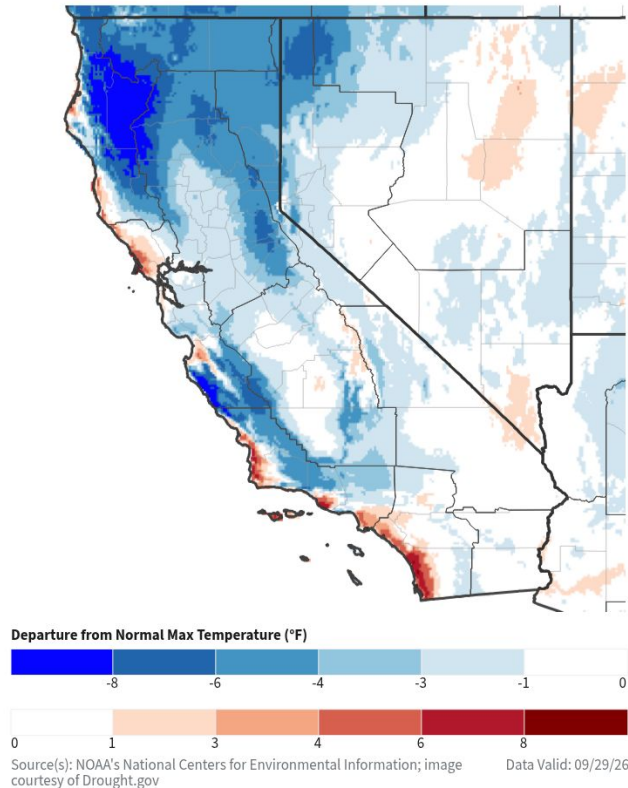
Temperature

- Temperature departures for the last 7 days (center) show maximum temperatures ranged above normal for most of NE Nevada. While western Humboldt, SE White Pine, and NE Nye Counties saw below normal temperatures.
- 30 day departures (right) shows Humboldt, N Nye, and E White Pine Counties saw below normal temperatures. Whereas Elko, Eureka, Lander, NW Nye, and NW White Pine Counties saw a mix of near normal to above normal temperatures.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



30-Day Temperature Anomaly





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Most streams and rivers are below average, to much below average for Nevada due to continued hydrologic drought. Recent August rains have managed to bring six stations up to normal streamflows for the period across parts of Elko, Humboldt, and White Pine Counties.

Agricultural Impacts

- A Dry September has stopped recent improvements in short term soil moisture profiles for northern and central NV. Mixed results exist in soil moisture profiles, SPoRT-LIS Crop moisture shows above normal conditions. Crop-CASMA shows below normal moisture for much of Nevada, but above normal in W Humboldt and E White Pine Counties. Reports from ranchers across north and central Nevada show natural river/stream and some pump water sources dry, with import and hauling of stock water at near record levels. Crops have been, and are still showing drought stress. Ranchers have needed to run pivot irrigation systems early and often this season. Areas noted the early appearance of pests affecting crops and pasture animals due to dry conditions. Rangelands across Elko county are the driest they have been in years with not enough water in the Humboldt River to meet irrigation demands.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fire Season began early this year, on May 4th 2026. Fuel moisture status for most FW zones in NE Nevada (424, 426, 427, 437, 438, 469, and 470) are Red - Critical. Recent rains helped FW zone 425 improve to Green (not critical). Fire Weather conditions are near normal across Nevada, with fire restrictions in place.

Other Impacts

- Snow Season will start in November, but there is potential for early fall systems in October.

Mitigation Actions

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

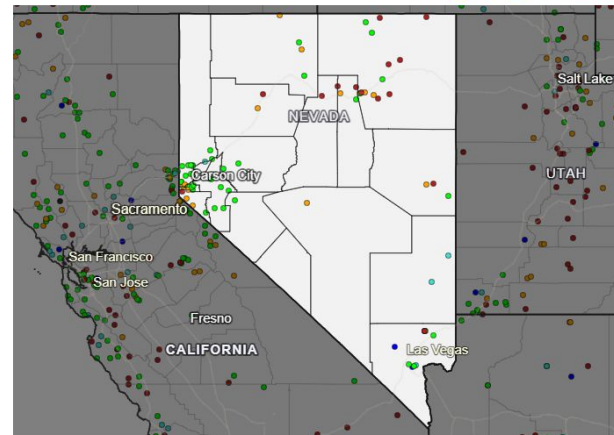




Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflow averages for the period show that August rains barely made it into streamflow averages as only six basins are showing normal percentile (25-75) streamflows for NE Nevada.
- All other basins are seeing a mix of below normal streamflow conditions in the 10-24 percentile class, or much below average streamflow (< 10).

1-Day Average Streamflow Conditions



Streamflow Conditions



Source(s): U.S. Geological Survey
Data Valid: 10/03/26

Drought.gov

Explanation - Percentile classes

Low	<10 Much below normal	10-24 Below normal	25-75 Normal	76-90 Above normal	>90 Much above normal	High	Not-ranked

Image: USGS 1 day average streamflow



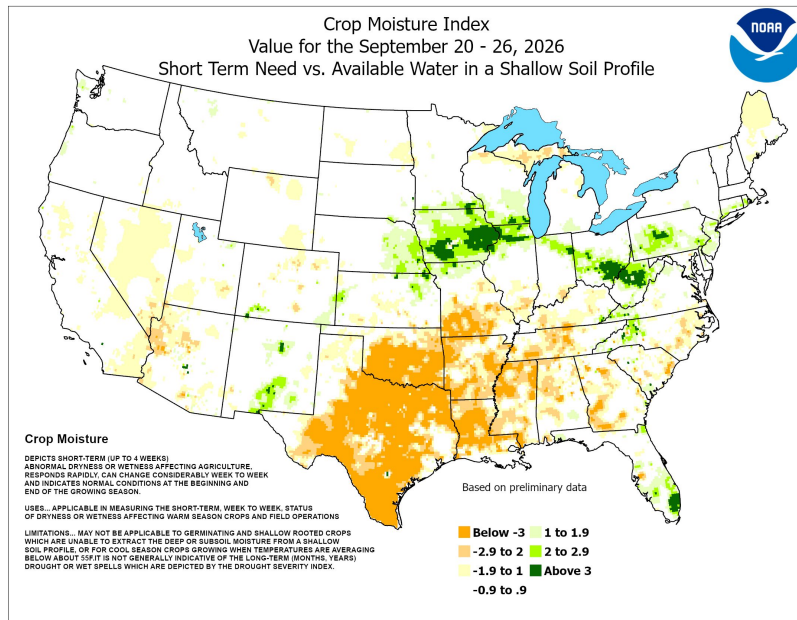
**National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration**
U.S. Department of Commerce

**National Weather Service
WFO Elko, NV**



Agricultural Impacts

- Calculated soil moisture trends are a mix of below normal, near to normal, and above for this time of year across most of central and eastern Nevada.
- Crop moisture index for NV shows normal to below normal conditions. SPOrT-LIS soil moisture profiles, (not shown) across most of northern and central Nevada now resides above average. However other indicators show continued/intensifying deficits (GRACE, Crop-CASMA).
- Deeper root zone soil moisture profiles show a mix deficits and surpluses across Nevada. Vegetation indices (wild/crop conditions-not shown) still shows moderate to severe drought stress.





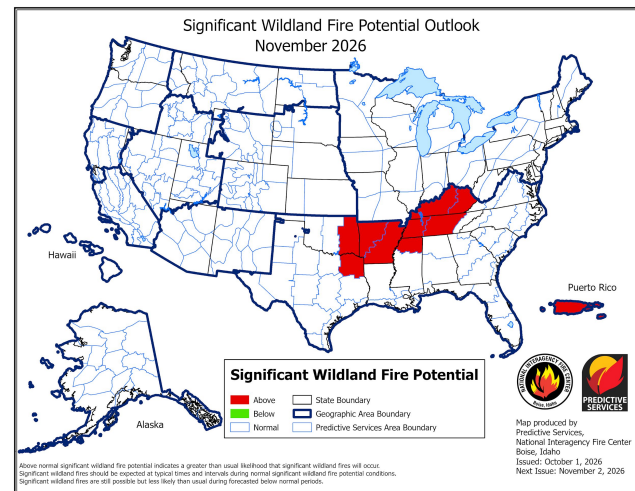
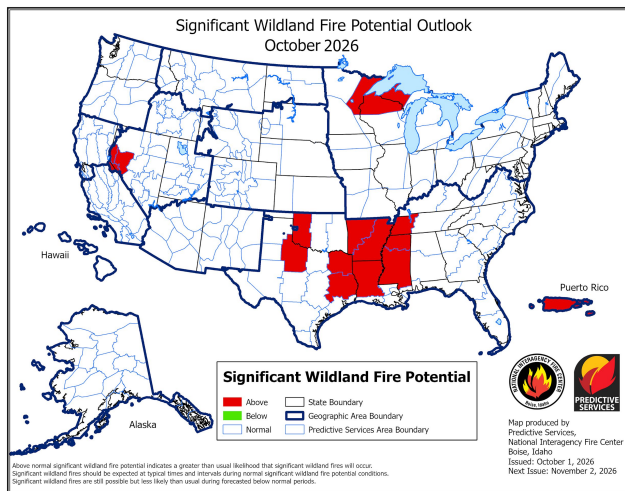
Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Near normal fire weather hazards exist for northern and western Nevada
- Fire weather zone fuels are critical, with the exception of zone 425 (green), with active fire restrictions are still in effect.
- There has been significant uptick in wildfires within the forecast area over the last several months.
- Significant Wildland Fire Potential for the rest of October is forecast to be normal for parts of W NV, and N NV.
- Significant Wildland Fire Potential for November, and December (not shown) is forecast to be near normal for N Nevada.

An Interactive Fire Restrictions Map for Nevada can be found at:

<https://www.nevadafireinfo.org/restrictions>



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

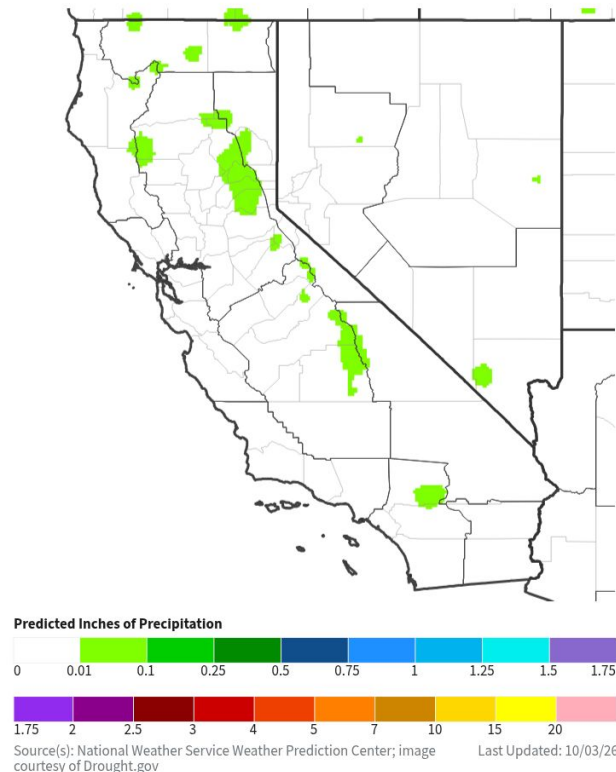
National Weather Service
WFO Elko, NV



Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Wetting precipitation ($PP < 0.10''$) is not expected for most of Nevada for the next 7 days through mid October.
- Extended 8-14 Day Outlook:
There is a 33% to 40% chance for above normal precipitation for S central, and Southern Nevada. As well as a 33% to 40% chance for below normal precipitation for far NW Nevada(not shown). Elsewhere, equal chances for above or below normal precipitation will be possible.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for October 3, 2026–October 10, 2026





Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

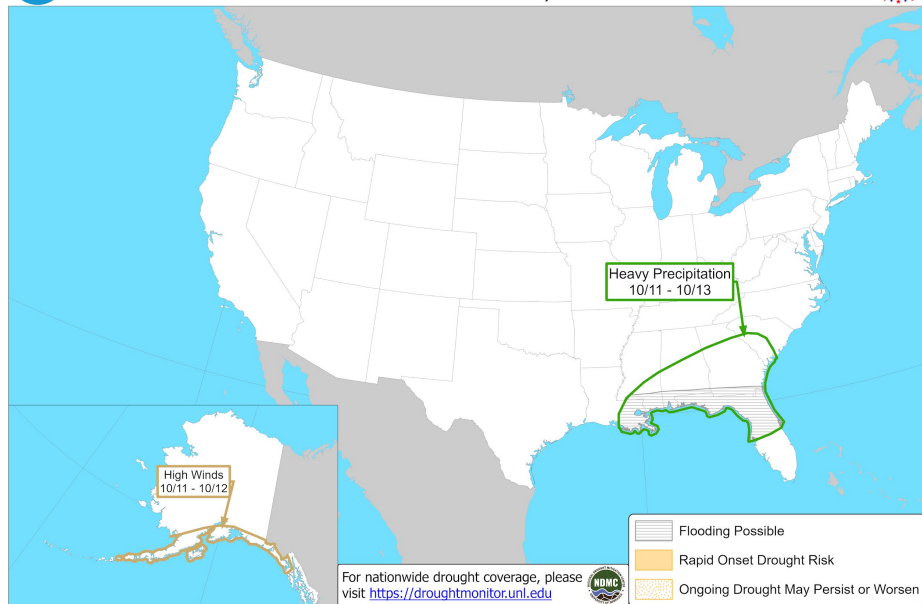
Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- Rapid onset drought is not expected, although drought and abnormally dry conditions persist across Nevada.
- Other hazards such as extreme heat, heavy precipitation (snow/rain), strong winds, or severe flooding are not expected across Nevada for the period.



Days 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook

Valid: October 11 - 17, 2026



Climate Prediction Center

Released: October 3, 2026 3:00 PM EDT

Follow us:

www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
WFO Elko, NV

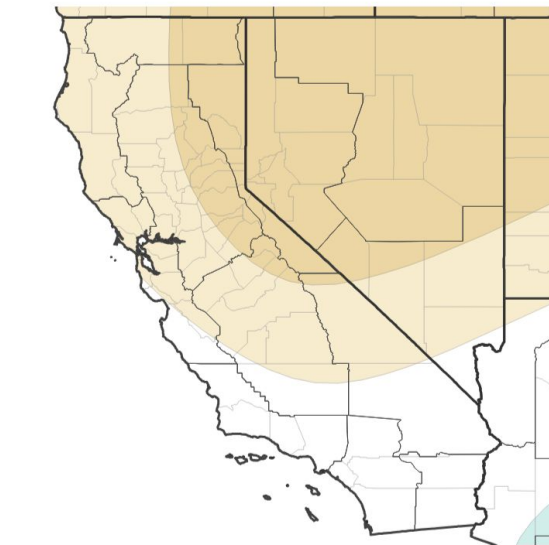


Long-Range Outlooks

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

- The Monthly Precipitation Outlook for Nevada forecasts a 40% to 50% chance for below normal precipitation for northern and central NV.
- The Monthly Temperature Outlook for Nevada indicates a 33%-40% chance for above normal temperatures for eastern NV. A 40%-50% chance for above normal temperatures is possible for western NV.
- Seasonal outlooks (Oct/Nov/Dec) - (not shown) favor equal chance for above, or below normal precipitation for most of Nevada. Temperature wise there is a 33% to 40% chance for above normal temperatures for far eastern Nevada, while a 40% to 50% chance for above normal temperatures for the rest of Nevada.

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



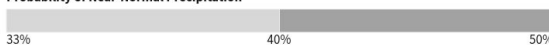
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



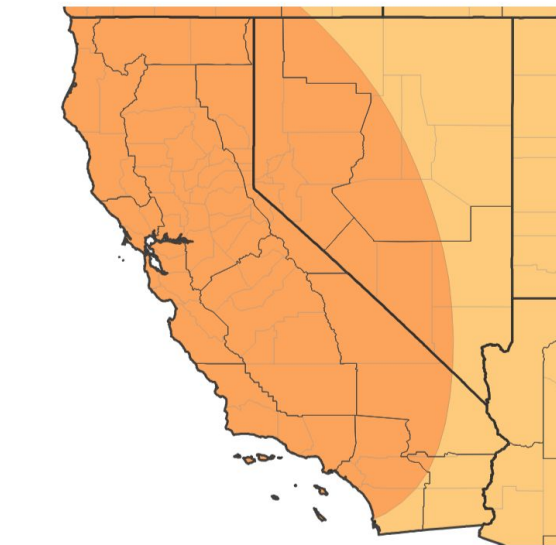
Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



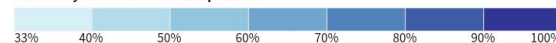
Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 09/30/26

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



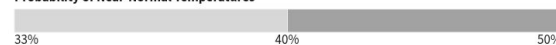
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

Last Updated: 09/30/26



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
WFO Elko, NV

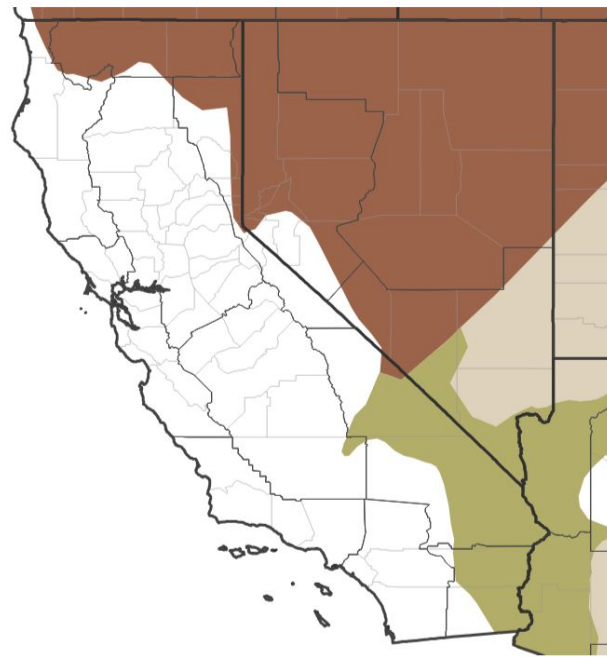


Drought Outlook

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

- Monthly drought outlook (not shown) shows that drought conditions are expected to persist for most of Nevada..
- Seasonal drought outlook shows that drought conditions are favored to Persist for northern and central Nevada, with only a small portion of SE White Pine County seeing a chance for drought conditions to improve.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for September 30, 2026–December 31, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 09/30/26

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
WFO Elko, NV