



# Drought Information Statement for Southern Indiana and Central Kentucky

## Valid April 28, 2026

Issued By: National Weather Service WFO Louisville, KY

Contact Information: [nws.louisville@noaa.gov](mailto:nws.louisville@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated May 8, 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/LMK/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
  - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.
- 
- Extreme Drought (D3) expanded across southwest KY and introduced in a small portion of central KY
  - Severe Drought (D2) expanded across central KY
  - Moderate Drought (D1) slightly reduced across north central KY
  - Improvements in drought status across northern KY and southern IN



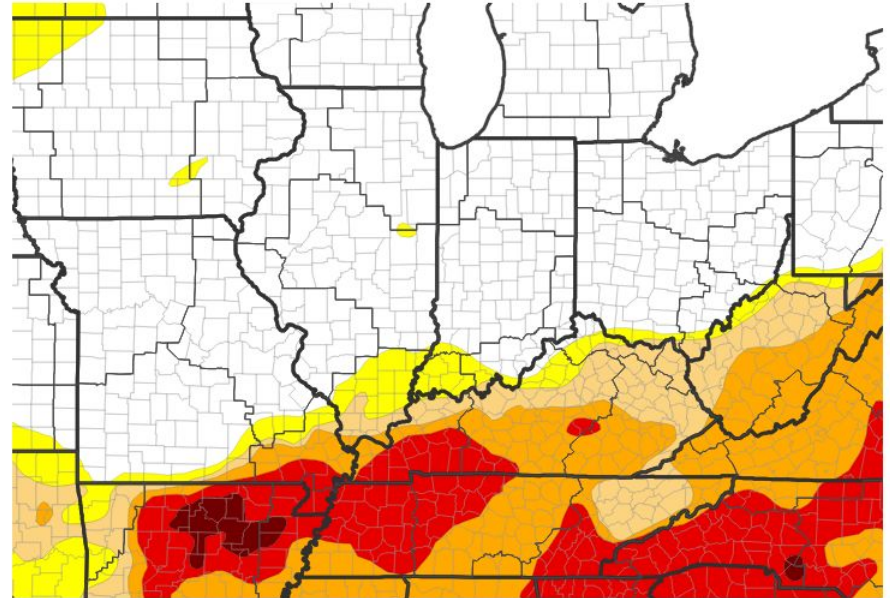


# U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Southern Indiana and Central Kentucky

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Southwest KY and a small portion of central KY
  - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Most of the southern half of KY
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Most of Kentucky and a small portion of southwest Indiana
  - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Southern Indiana and a small portion of northern Kentucky

## U.S. Drought Monitor



## U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 04/28/26



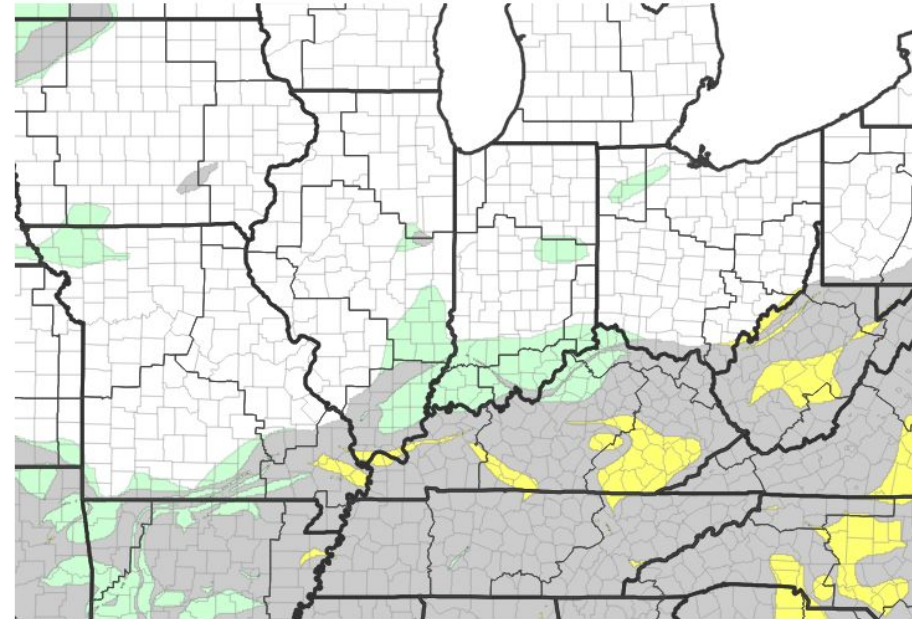


# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

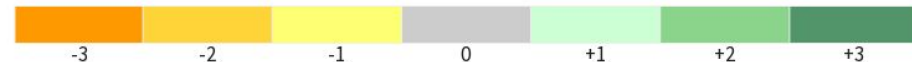
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Southern Indiana and Central Kentucky

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought Worsened: Across small portions of western, south central, and eastern KY and southern Indiana
  - No Change: Across a large portion of Kentucky
  - Drought Improved: Across portions of southern Indiana and northern KY

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: 04/28/26

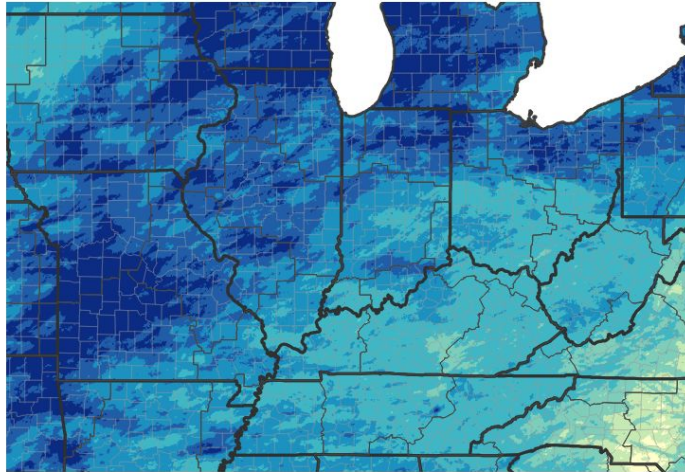




# Precipitation

- Over the past 30 days, approximately 2 to 8 inches of rain fell across southern IN and KY.
- Most of these 30 day rainfall totals fall in the 25 to 75 percent range of normal precipitation

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



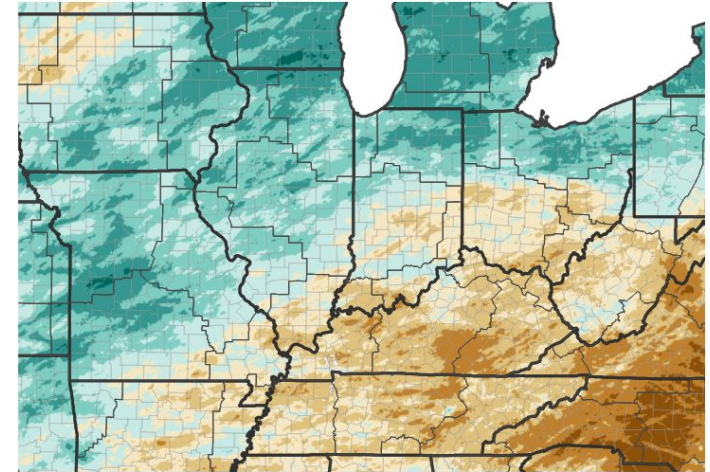
Inches of Precipitation



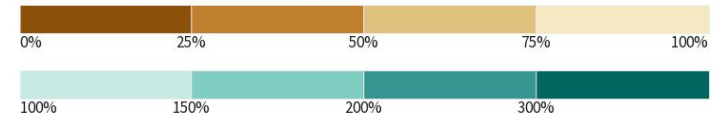
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 05/01/26

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: 05/01/26

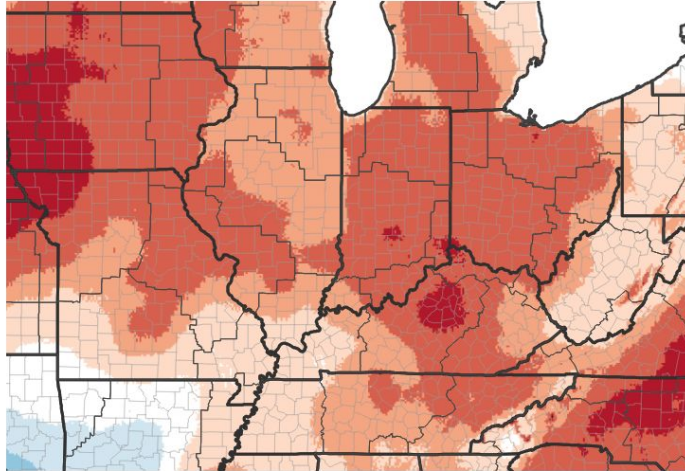




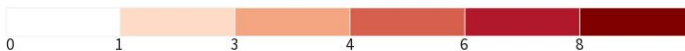
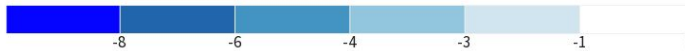
# Temperature

- Over the past 7 days, most locations across southern Indiana and central Kentucky experienced 4 to 8 degrees above normal temperatures
- Over the past 30 days, the region experienced 6+ degrees above normal temperatures

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



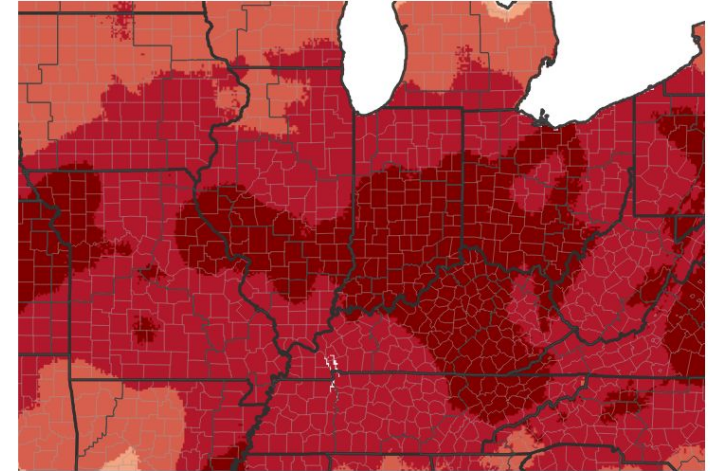
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



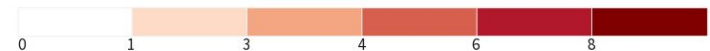
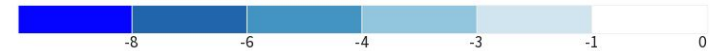
Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 04/27/26

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: 04/27/26





# Summary of Impacts

Sources: University of Kentucky Agriculture Department and Kentucky Division of Water

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Most of Kentucky is in Hydrologic Drought. USGS gage stations show numerous streams and rivers at the lowest recorded level for this time of year.

## Agricultural Impacts

- The US Crop Report shows 45% of topsoil and 45% of subsoil in Kentucky rated as short to very short. This is an improvement of 19% for topsoil and 18% for subsoil.

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- Wildfire activity remains elevated though there are no known impacts over central Kentucky at this time.

## Other Impacts

- The state averaged 1.67" of precipitation over the past week, 0.45" above normal. Since Jan 1st, the state has averaged 10.46", 6.55" below normal. (MRCC)

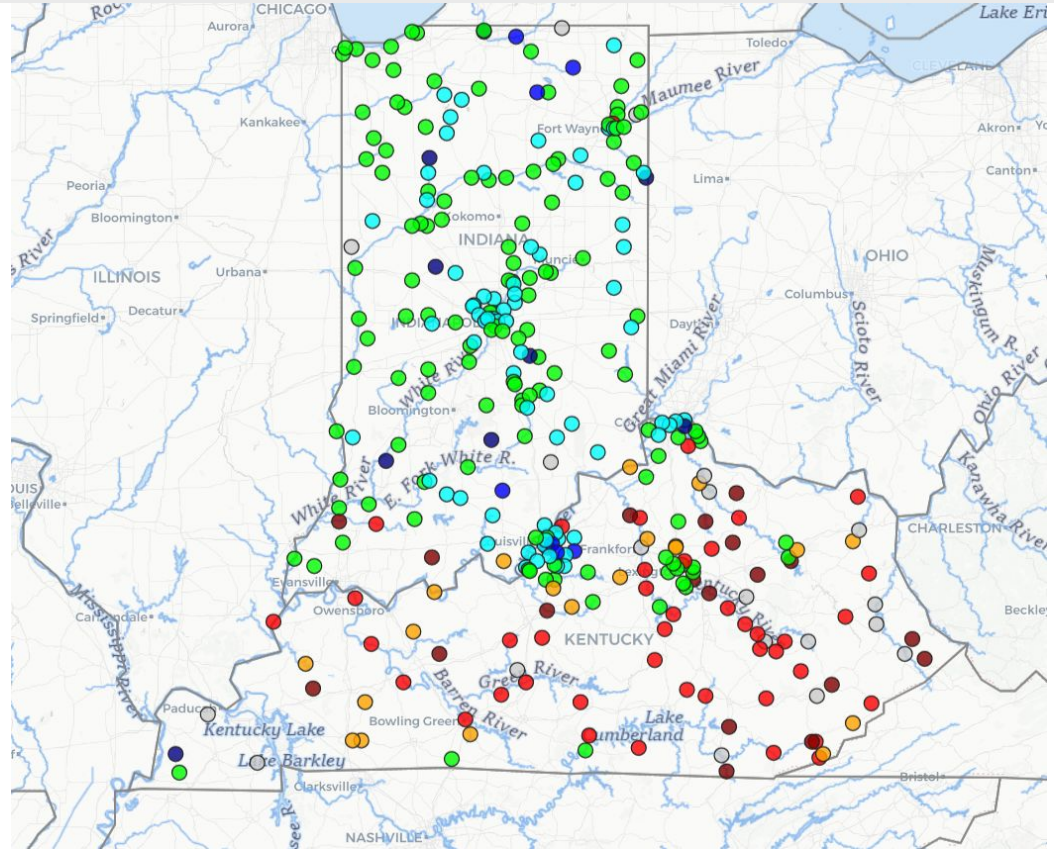




# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

## 7 Day Average Streamflow

- Much Below Normal to Very Low Streamflow in south central and east central Kentucky
- Below Normal to Above Normal Streamflow in north central Kentucky and southern Indiana



Explanation - Percentile classes

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





# Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- As of now, no significant wildfire potential exists through May.
- There are currently no burn bans reported for any counties in Indiana or Kentucky as of 5/1/2026.

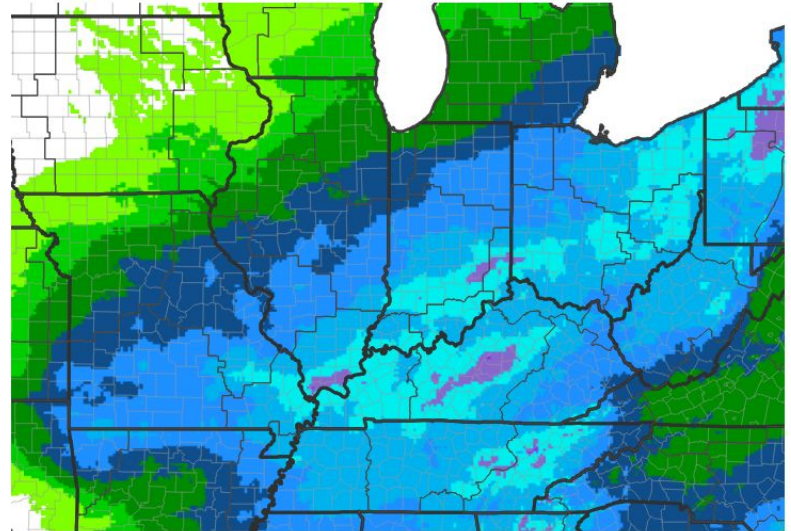




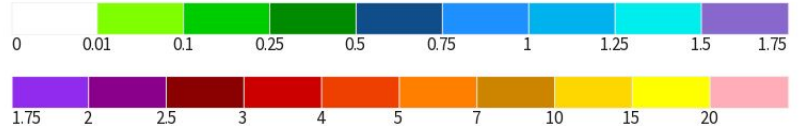
# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- High pressure dominates the region this weekend resulting in dry and cooler than normal temperatures.
- An active pattern sets up early this week, with rain chances Monday thru Thursday.
- Rainfall totals over the next week range from 0.50 to 1.50 inches.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for May 1, 2026–May 8, 2026



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 05/01/26





# 8-14 Day Significant Hazards Outlook

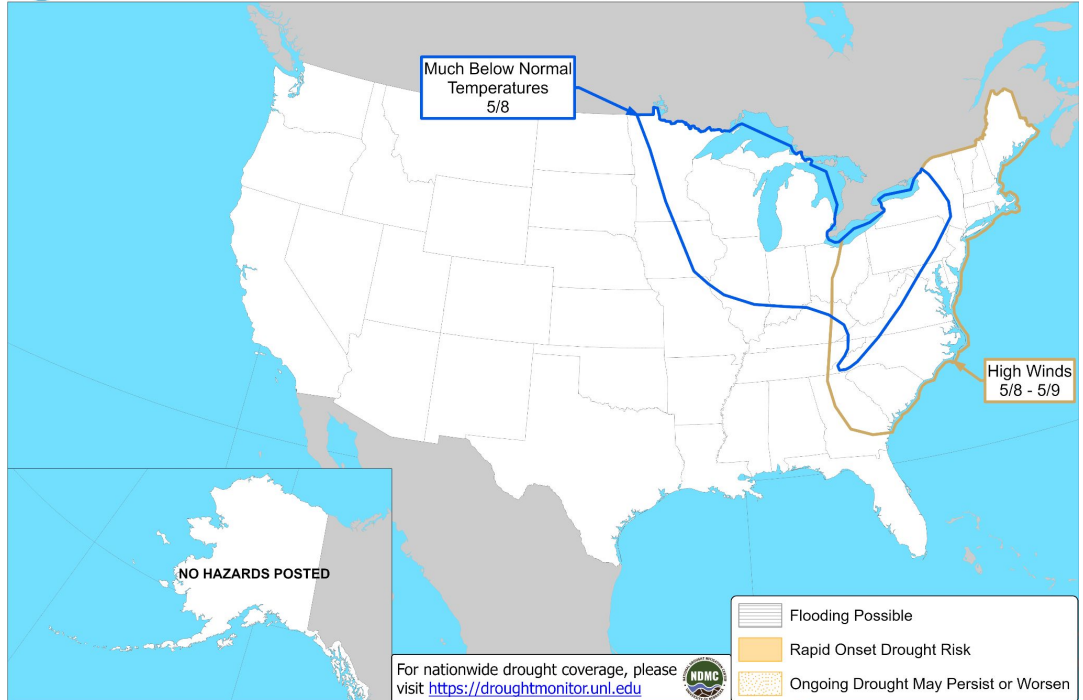
Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- Much Below Normal Temperatures are possible across portions of northern and eastern KY and southern Indiana on 5/8.
- High winds are also possible across eastern KY on 5/8 - 5/9.



## Days 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook

Valid: May 8 - 14, 2026



Climate Prediction Center

Released: April 30, 2026 3:00 PM EDT

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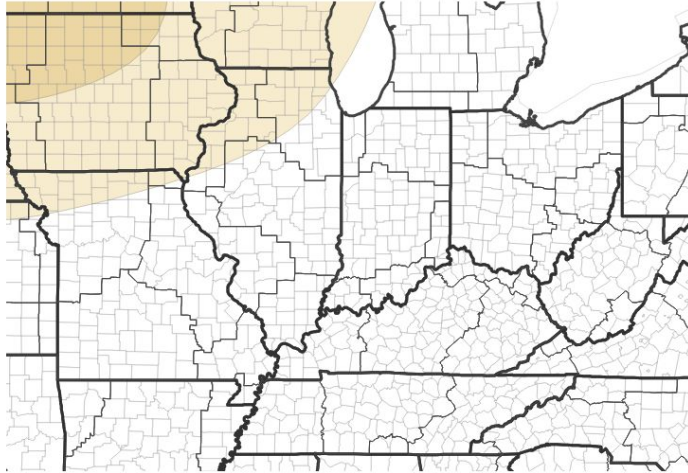


# Long-Range Outlooks

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

- There is roughly equal chances of seeing above/below normal precipitation for the month of May.
- There is a 33 to 40 percent chance of the region seeing below normal temperatures throughout the month of May.

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



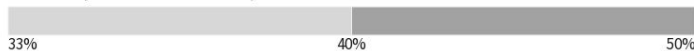
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



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



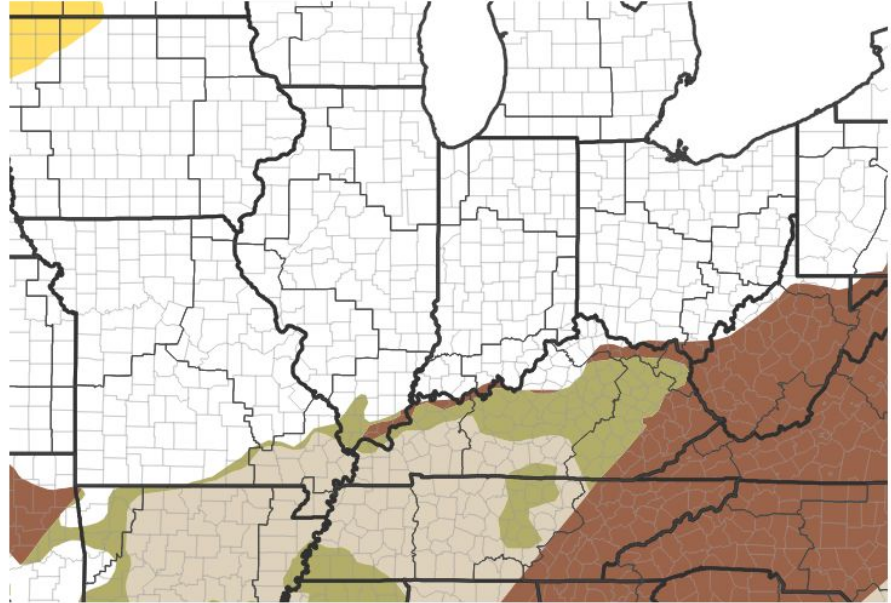


# Drought Outlook

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

- A fairly active weather pattern over the next 1-2 weeks looks to bring beneficial rain to the area.
- These rains along with cooler than normal temperatures should keep drought from becoming worse in some areas over the next few weeks.
- The Seasonal Drought Outlook (April-July) calls for improving or ending drought conditions across much of KY.

## 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](#)



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