



Drought Information Statement for Southern Indiana and Central Kentucky

Valid May 29, 2026

Issued By: National Weather Service WFO Louisville, KY

Contact Information: nws.louisville@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated June 5, 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.
-
- This past week's rain has resulted in much improvement
 - Extreme Drought (D3) greatly reduced to only a few locations across KY
 - Severe Drought (D2) continues across much of the southern half of Kentucky
 - Moderate Drought (D1) stretches across portions of central KY
 - Abnormally Dry (D0) across a small portion of northern and eastern Kentucky and a small portion of southern Indiana



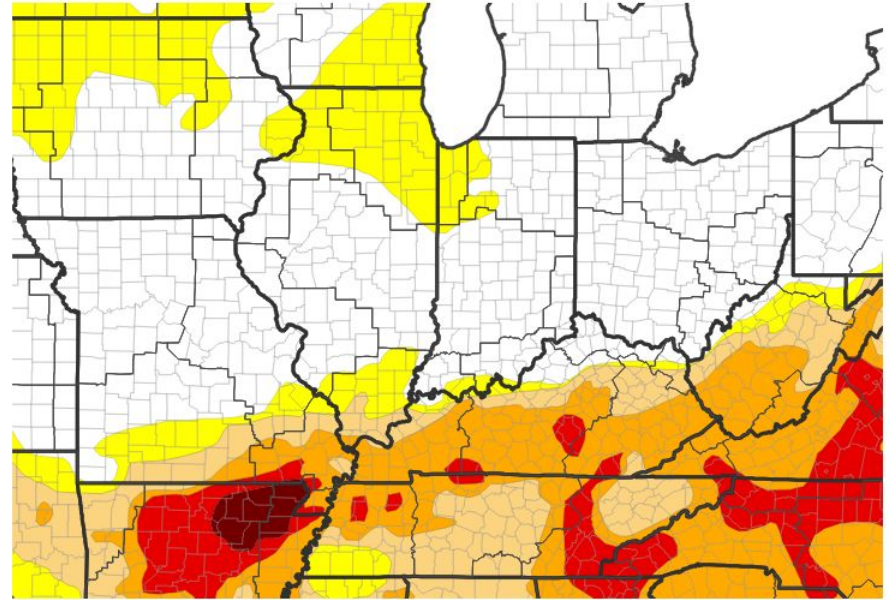


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- **NOTE: The data cutoff for Drought Monitor is each Tuesday at 8 a.m. EDT.**
- Drought Intensity and Extent
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** A few locations across Kentucky
 - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Across much of the southern half of Kentucky
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Stretching across portions of central Kentucky
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** A small portion of southern Indiana and a small portion of northern and eastern Kentucky

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 05/26/26



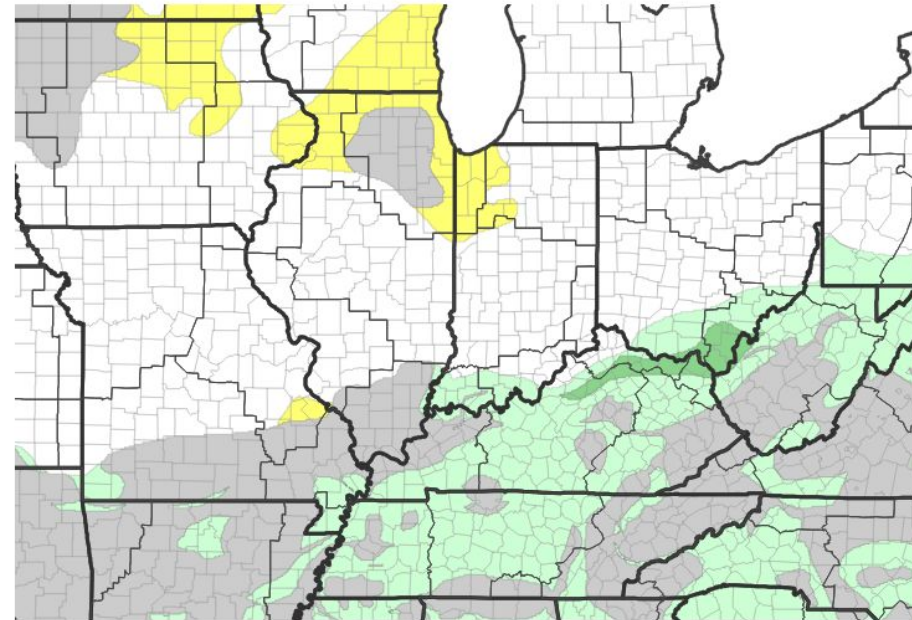


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

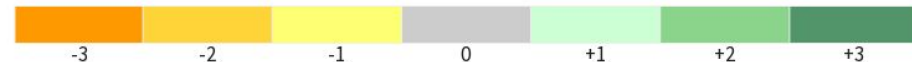
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Southern Indiana and Central Kentucky

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change
 - No change across portions of western and eastern Kentucky
 - One class improvement over much of central Kentucky and southern Indiana
 - Two class improvement across a portion of northern Kentucky

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



Drought Change Since Last Week



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

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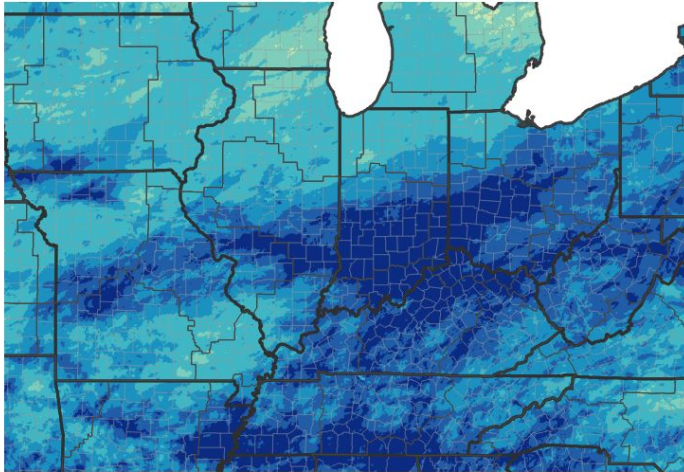




Precipitation

- Over the past 30 days, most of the region received approximately 3 to 8+ inches of rain, with southern Indiana receiving the higher amounts.
- Most of Kentucky and southern Indiana experienced 100 to 200+ percent of normal precipitation.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



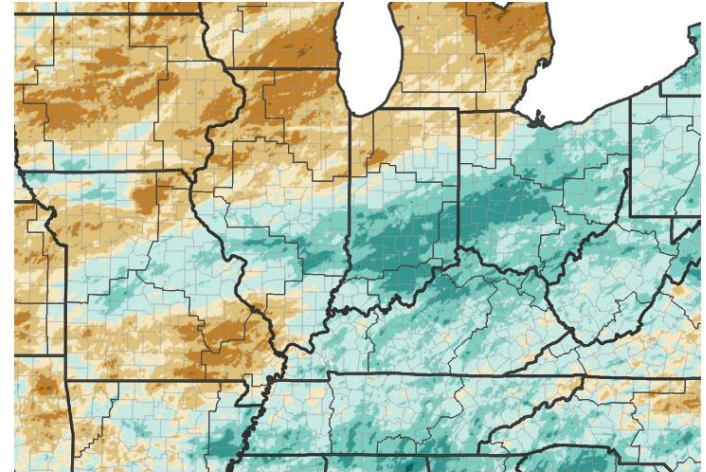
Inches of Precipitation



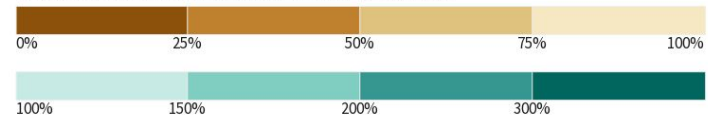
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 05/29/26

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

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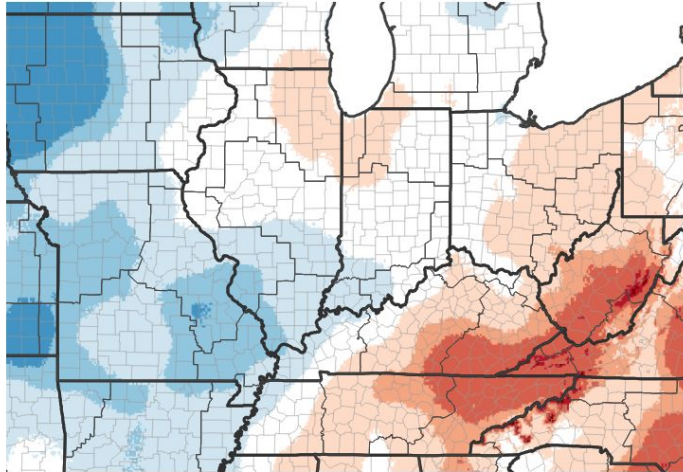




Temperature

- Over the past 7 days, much of central and eastern Kentucky saw 1 to 6 degrees above normal temps, while southern Indiana and western Kentucky experienced normal to slightly below normal temperatures.
- 30-Day temperatures were mostly normal, with slightly cooler temperatures in southern Indiana and portions of northern Kentucky.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



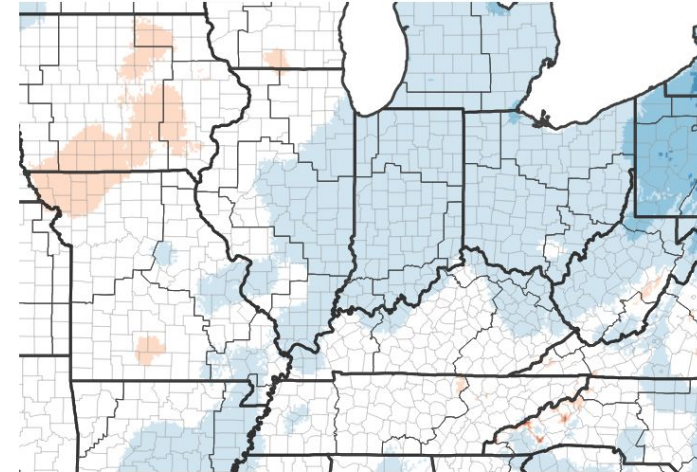
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



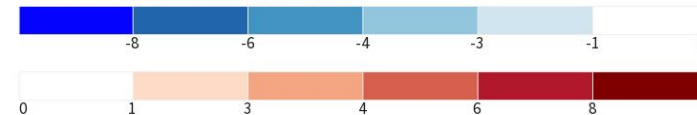
Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 05/25/26

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: 05/25/26





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Most streams, farm ponds and reservoirs saw significant improvements due to the plentiful rainfall this past week. South eastern parts of Kentucky saw the least amount of rainfall and water level improvements. Still most streams were at or above normal flow over the past 7 days with many large reservoirs recovering to near normal or slightly below normal summer pool as of 5/29.

Agricultural Impacts

- The US Crop Report shows 42% of topsoil and 46% of subsoil in Kentucky rated as short to very short.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- There is no wildfire activity or impacts over central Kentucky or southern Indiana at this time (National Interagency Fire Center).

Other Impacts

- From 5/22 thru 5/28, KY averaged 3.49" of precipitation, 2.42" above normal. Since Jan 1st, the state has averaged 16.25", 5.38" below normal. (MRCC)





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

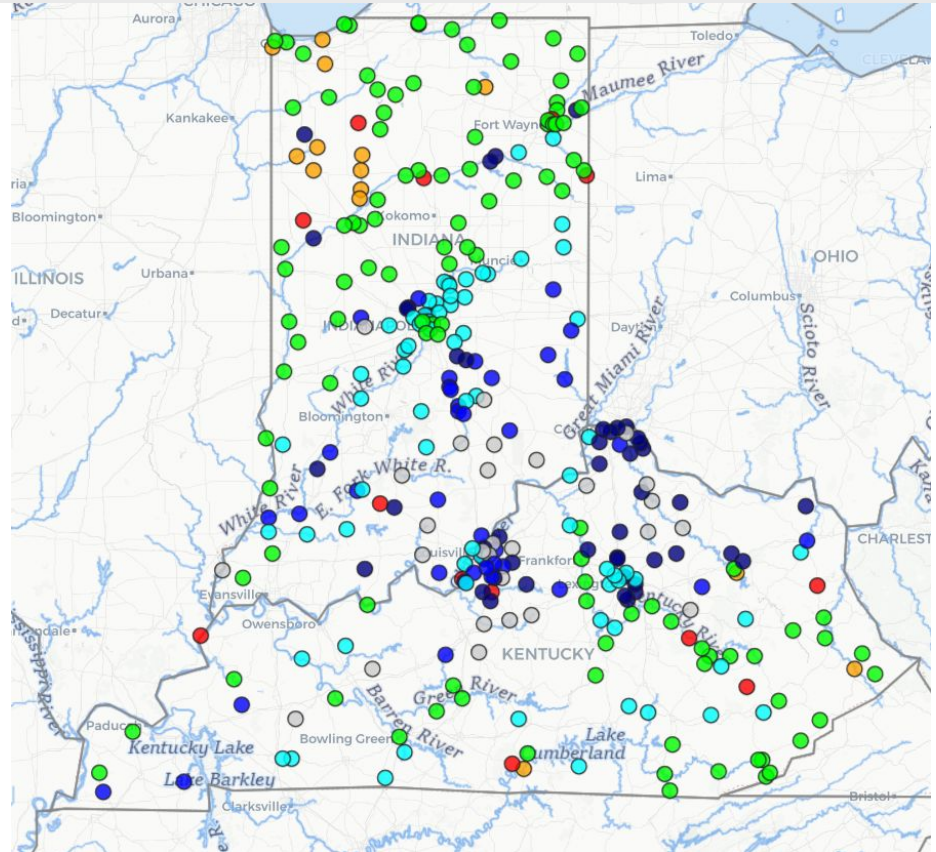
7 Day Average Streamflow

- Many streams are experiencing normal to above normal flow across Kentucky.
- Much above normal flows exist from north central KY into southern Indiana.

Current 7-Day Average Streamflow Category

Valid: May 8, 2026 — May 14, 2026

- All-time low for this day
- Much below normal
- Below normal
- Normal
- Above normal
- Much above normal
- All-time high for this day
- Not Ranked
- No Data

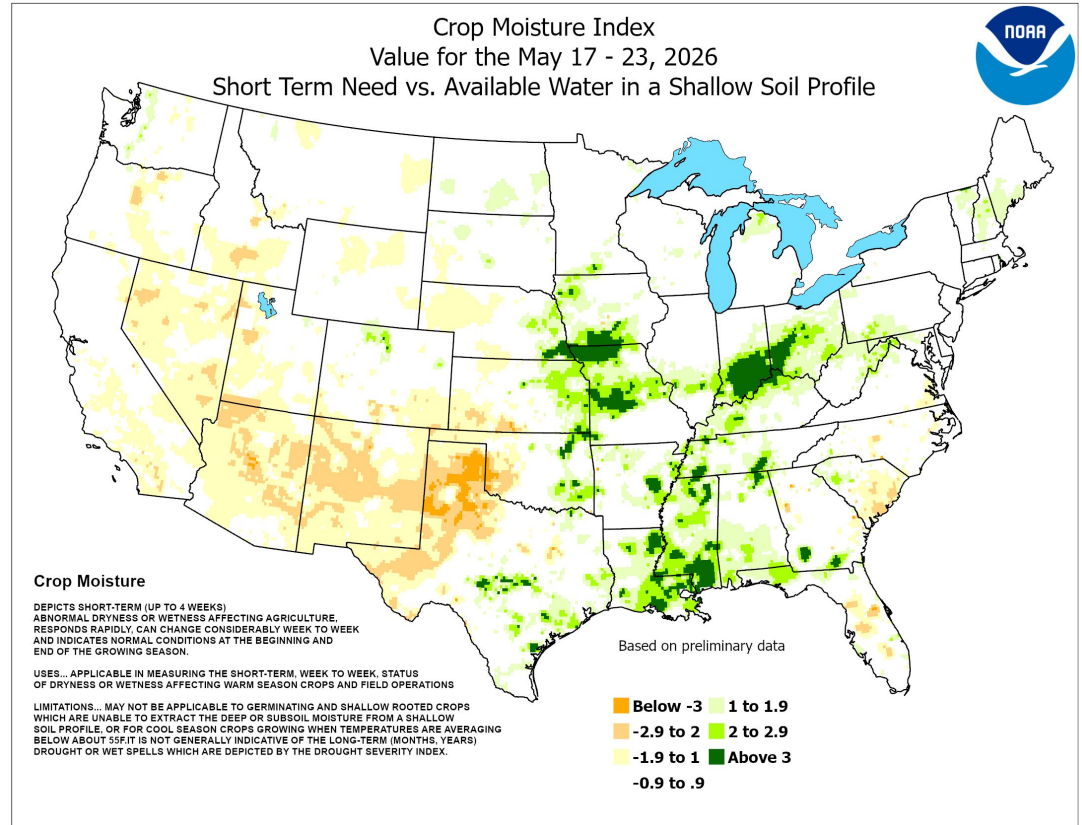




Agricultural Impacts

Source: National Crop Bulletin

- The US Crop Report shows 42 percent of topsoil is short to very short for Kentucky.
- The US Crop Report shows 11 percent of topsoil is short to very short for Indiana.
- The Crop Moisture Index is above 3 and in good condition for southern Indiana and portions of northern Kentucky.
- Recent wet conditions have resulted in water supply improvements for most farm ponds and small water supply reservoirs.

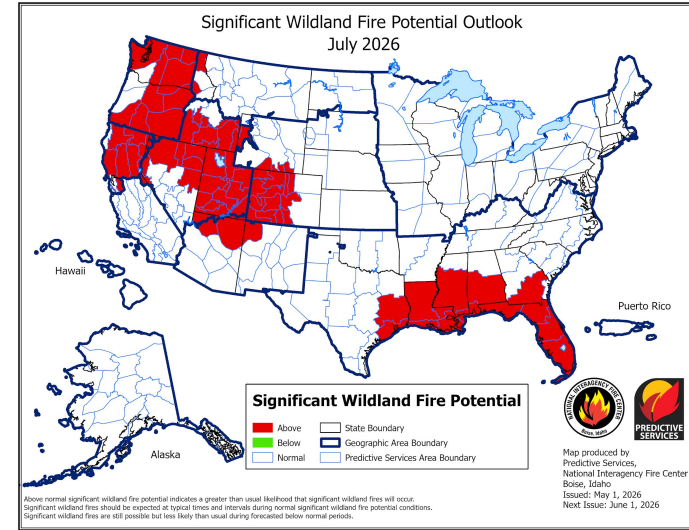
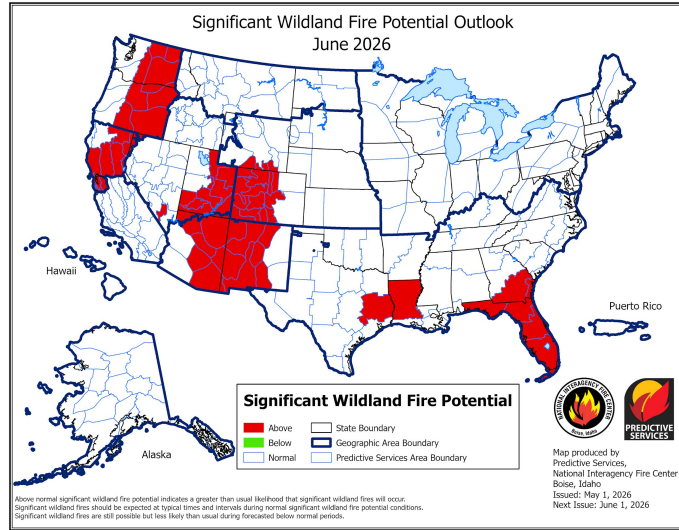




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- As of now, no significant wildfire potential exists through July.
- There are currently no burn bans reported for any counties in Indiana or Kentucky as of 5/29/2026.

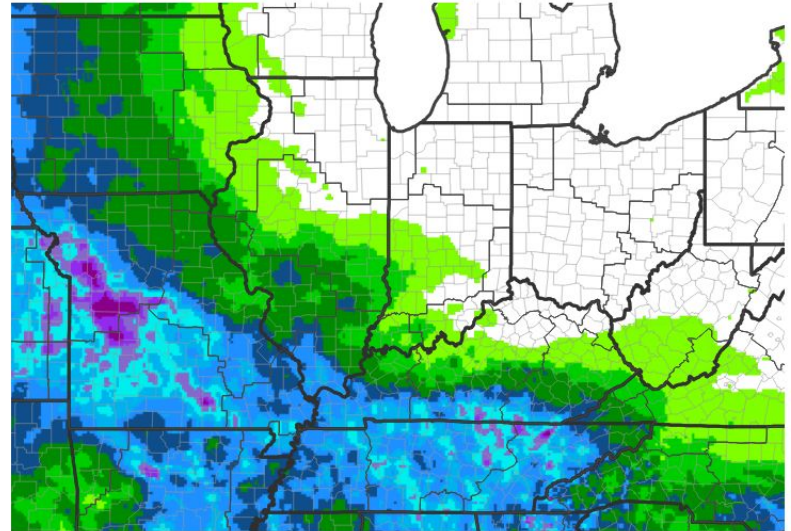




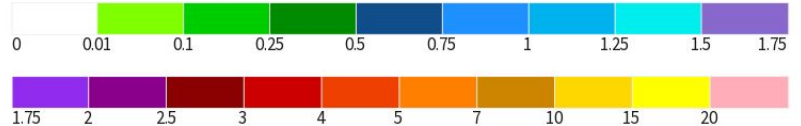
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- A much drier forecast is in store over the next 7 days.
- Chances of showers and thunderstorms will continue over the weekend mainly over western and southern Kentucky.
- Estimate forecast rainfall amounts over the next week range from a hundredth over southern Indiana to upwards of a 1.75 inches across southern Kentucky.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for May 29, 2026–June 5, 2026



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 05/29/26





8-14 Day Significant Hazards Outlook

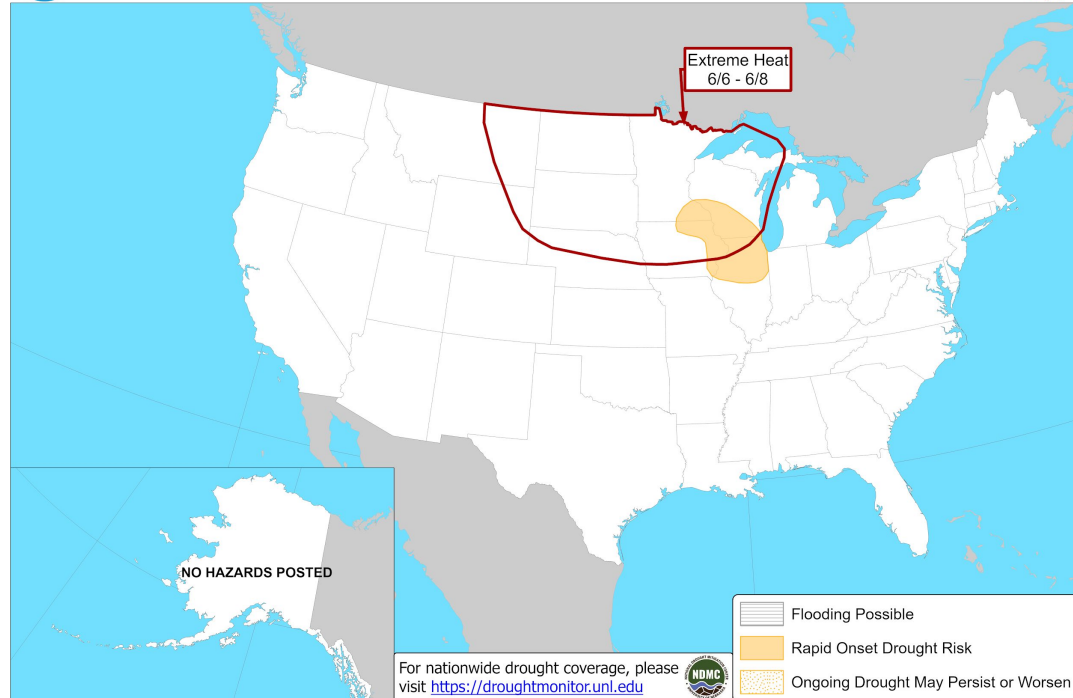
Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- No major hazards are expected



Days 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook

Valid: June 5 - 11, 2026



Climate Prediction Center

Released: May 28, 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 June.
- There is a 33 to 50 percent chance of the region seeing above normal temperatures throughout the month of June.

Monthly Precipitation Outlook for June 1, 2026–June 30, 2026



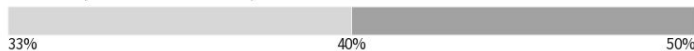
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



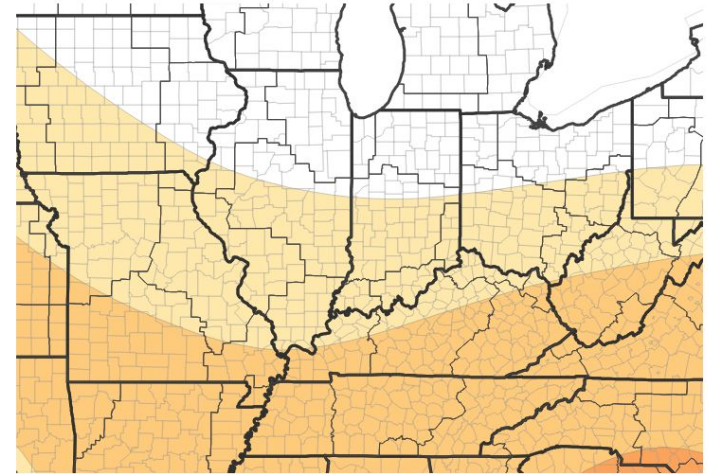
Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 05/21/26

Monthly Temperature Outlook for June 1, 2026–June 30, 2026



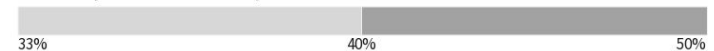
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

Last Updated: 05/21/26



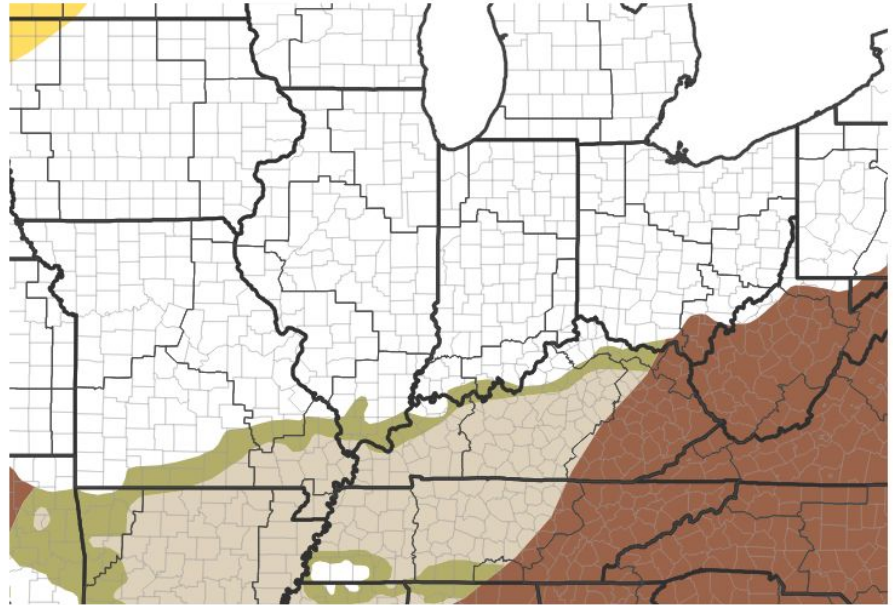


Drought Outlook

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

- With only a few chances of rain over the next week, drought conditions will likely persist.
- However, some drought improvements are possible over the next week for those that receive significant rainfall totals especially over southern and western portions of KY.
- The Seasonal Drought Outlook (May-Aug) calls for improving or ending drought conditions across much of KY.

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](#)



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