



Drought Information Statement for Southern Indiana and Central Kentucky

Valid October 2, 2025

Issued By: WFO Louisville KY

Contact Information: nws.louisville@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated once a month or more frequently 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.
-
- The October 2 Drought Monitor update reduced the area of Severe Drought (D2) and Moderate Drought (D1) across central Kentucky and southern Indiana as widespread rainfall occurred September 21-25.
 - A return of dry weather over the past week, continuing through this weekend, will likely lead to a resumed worsening of drought conditions.

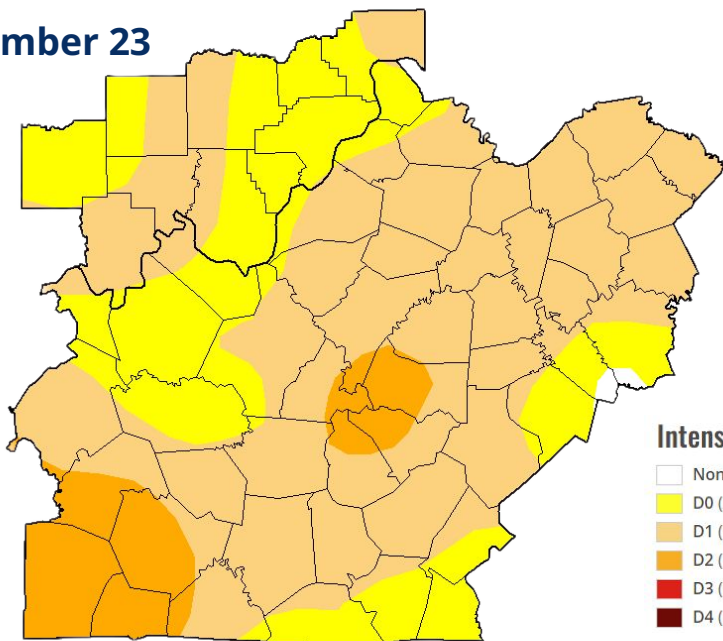




U.S. Drought Monitor

U.S. Drought Monitor: Two Week Comparison

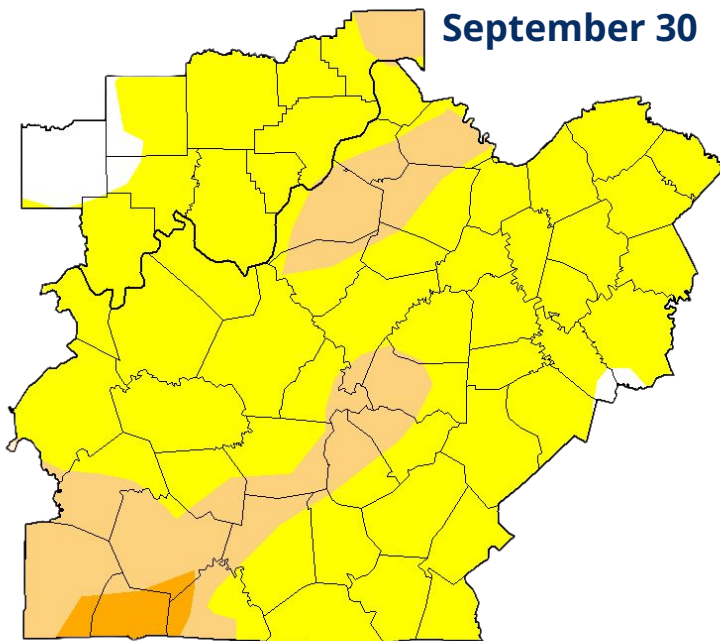
September 23



Intensity

- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)

September 30



Week	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4
2025-09-30	3.22	96.78	20.26	1.90
2025-09-23	0.33	99.67	70.96	10.33





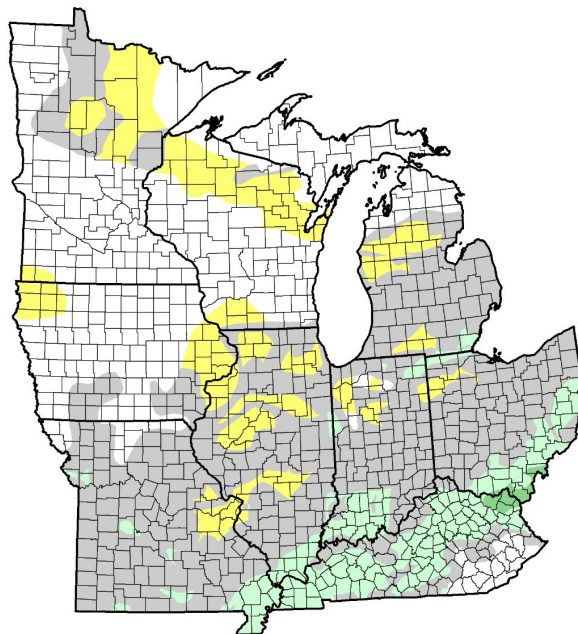
Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [class change maps](#) for the U.S.

Widespread improvements of 1 drought class were observed across southern Indiana and central Kentucky.

Areas which saw less rain saw no change in drought classification

U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - Midwest Climate Region
1 Week



- 5 Class Degradation
- 4 Class Degradation
- 3 Class Degradation
- 2 Class Degradation
- 1 Class Degradation
- No Change
- 1 Class Improvement
- 2 Class Improvement
- 3 Class Improvement
- 4 Class Improvement
- 5 Class Improvement

droughtmonitor.unl.edu



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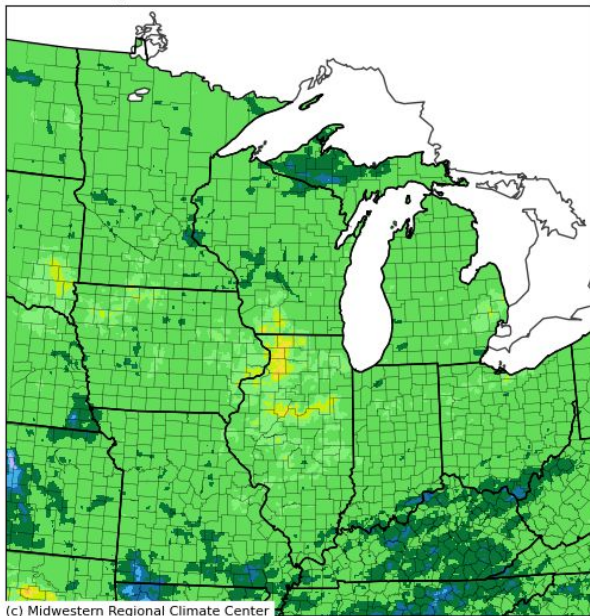


30-Day Precipitation

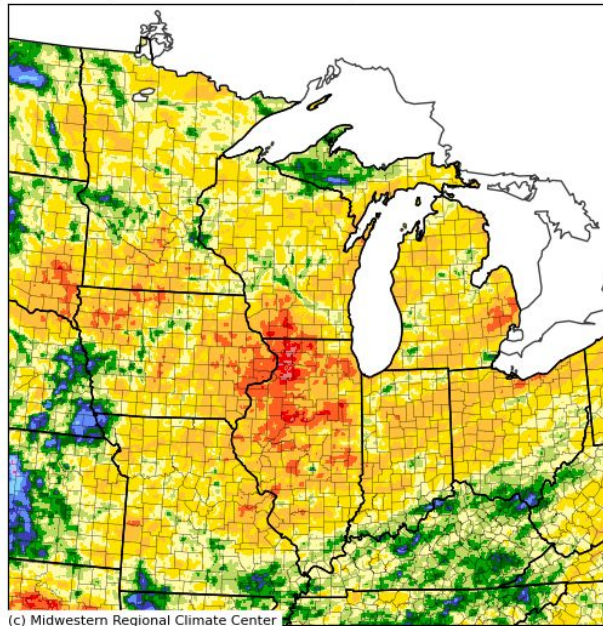
Precipitation totals and departures from normal

- Swaths of 2 to 5 inches of rain during the period September 21-25 resulted in many areas across central Kentucky and southern Indiana ending up with near or above normal precipitation for September.
- However, areas which saw lesser precipitation totals last week remained below normal for the month.

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
September 02, 2025 to October 01, 2025



Accumulated Precipitation: Percent of 1991-2020 Normals
September 01, 2025 to September 30, 2025



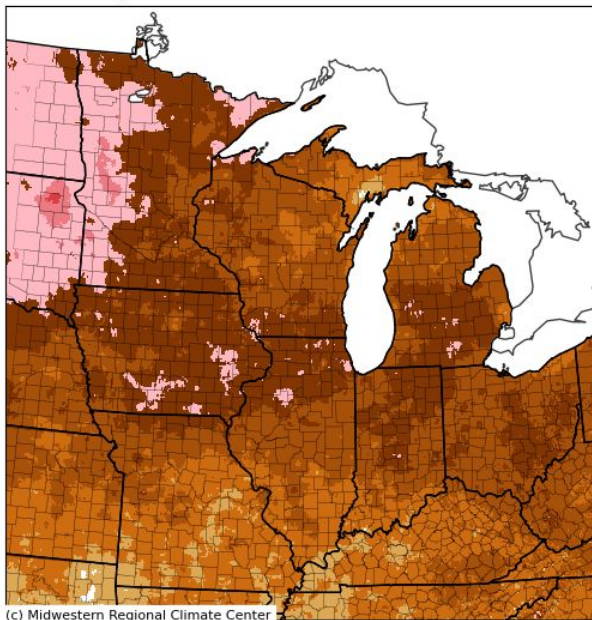


Temperature

Temperature Anomalies

- While above normal temperatures were present across the region during most of September, temperatures have been even more anomalously warm over the past week.

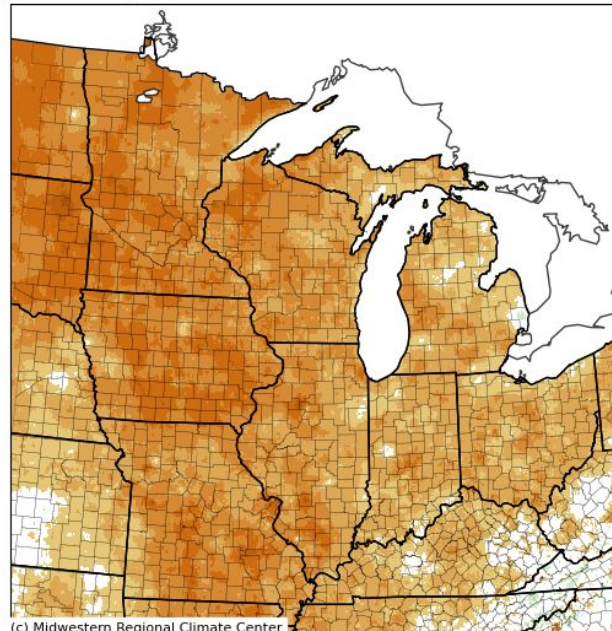
Average Temperature: Departure from 1991-2020 Normals
September 25, 2025 to October 01, 2025



(c) Midwestern Regional Climate Center



Average Temperature: Departure from 1991-2020 Normals
September 02, 2025 to October 01, 2025



(c) Midwestern Regional Climate Center





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- While many streamflows remain normal, there are a few USGS gauges showing below-normal flows in central Kentucky and southern Indiana.

Agricultural Impacts

- Current crop report depicts 45% of topsoil and 58% of subsoil in Kentucky rated as short or very short for soil moisture. This is an improvement of 37% for topsoil and 27% for subsoil over the past week.
- Crop and pasture conditions remained steady or slightly improved. According to the USDA Crop Report, 47% of corn and 31% of soybeans were rated as good to excellent. Pasture conditions reported at 21% as being good or excellent. *Source: KY Division of Water*

Fire Hazard Impacts

- 3 central Kentucky counties have burn bans in place.

Other Impacts

- None at this time.

Mitigation Actions

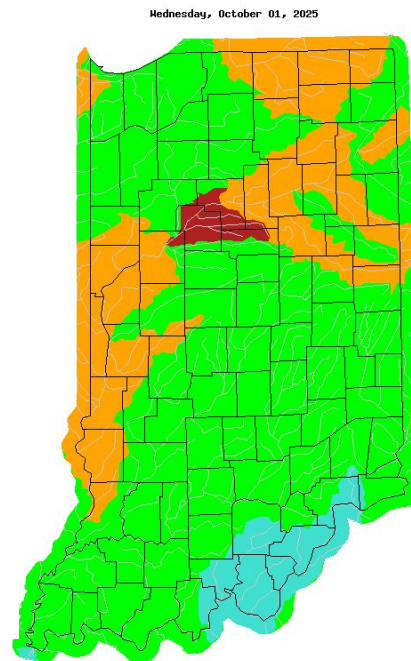
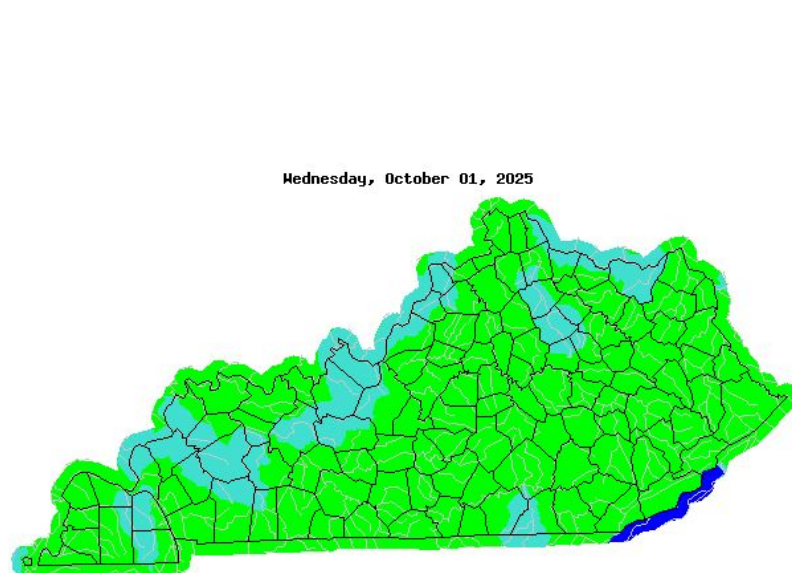
- None at this time.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Most streams across central Kentucky and southern Indiana are experiencing near normal flows in the wake of last week's rainfall



Explanation - Percentile classes

Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		



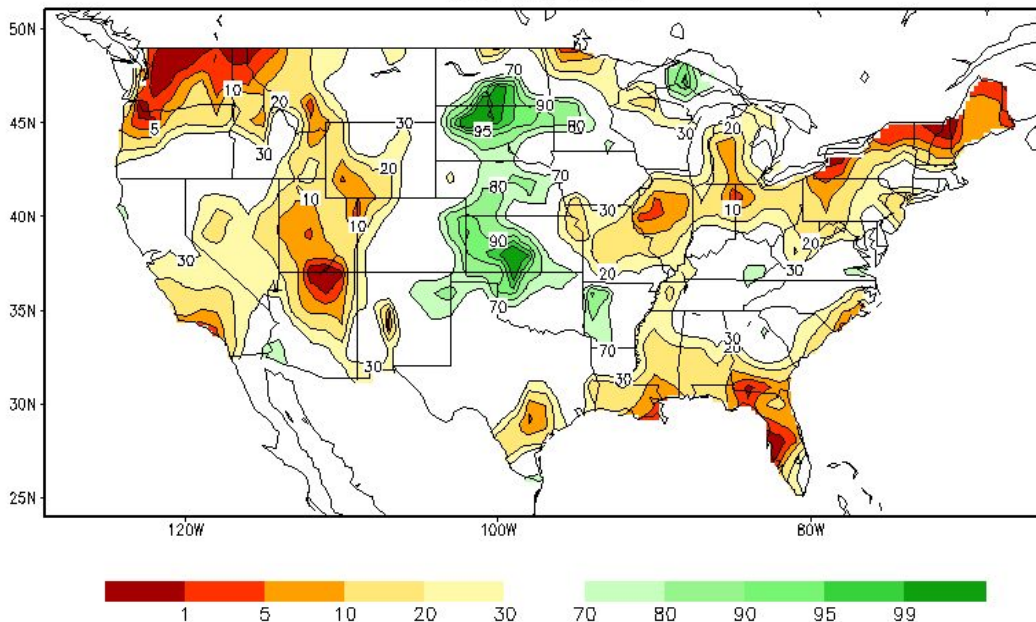


Agricultural Impacts

<https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/soilmst/img/curr.w.rank.daily.gif>

- Soil Moisture values are near normal across much of central Kentucky and southern Indiana
- Soil Moisture is below normal across much of the Midwest and mid-Mississippi Valley

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
OCT 01, 2025



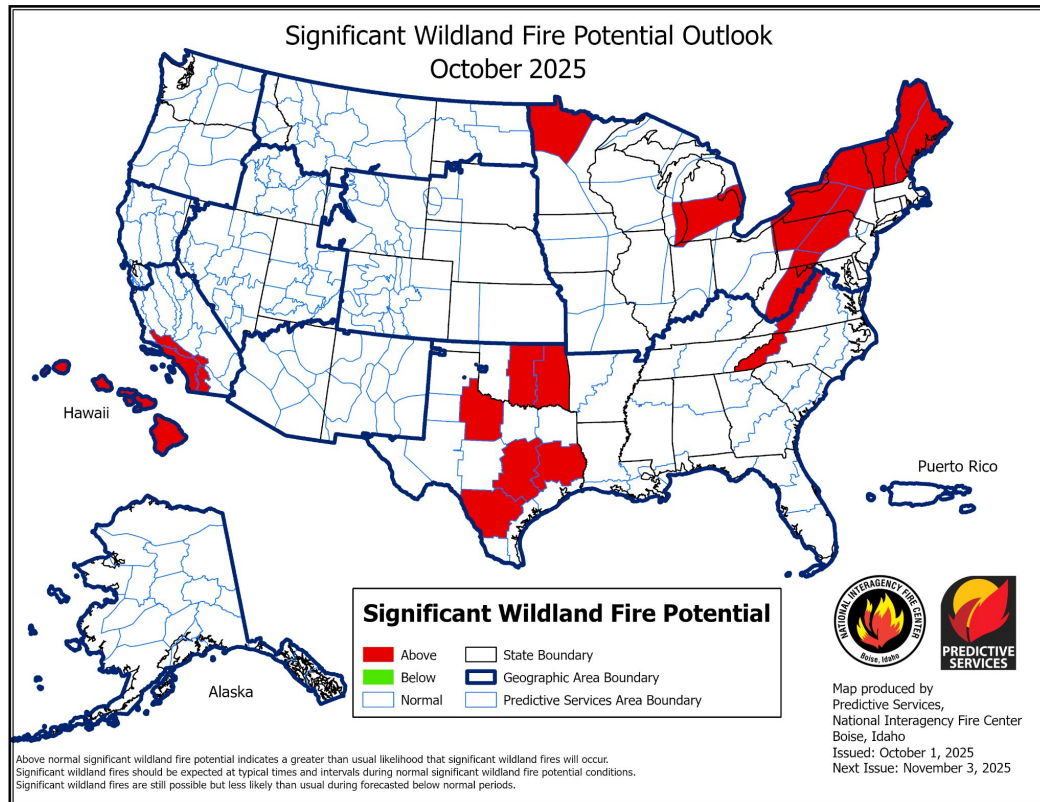


Fire Hazard Impacts

<https://www.nifc.gov/nicc/predictive-services/outlooks>

- In central Kentucky, the following counties have instituted a burn ban*:
 - Bourbon, Clark, LaRue
- All counties in southern Indiana have removed their respective burn bans*

*As of 10/02/25



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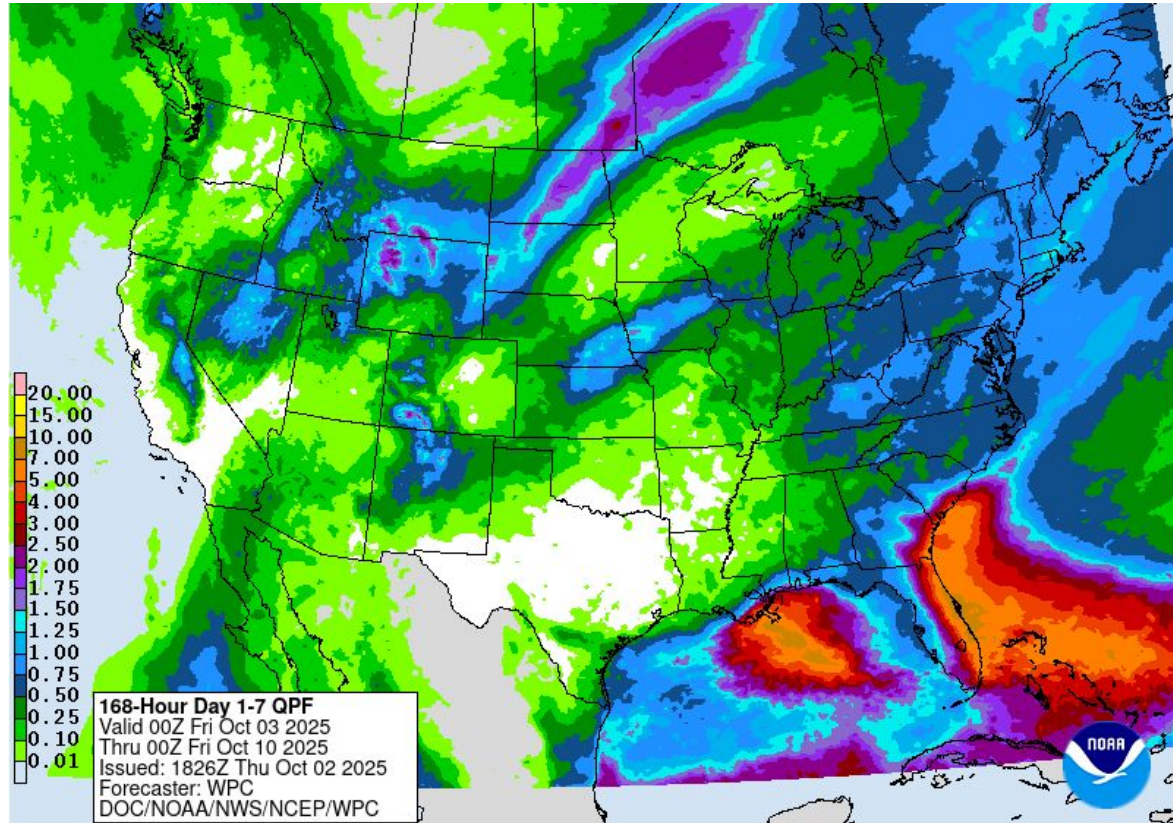
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Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

WPC

- Mostly dry weather is expected through the upcoming weekend as high pressure over the eastern US dominates
- A cold front approaching from the northwest early-to-mid next week will re-introduce precipitation chances across the region, though overall rainfall amounts are expected to be light



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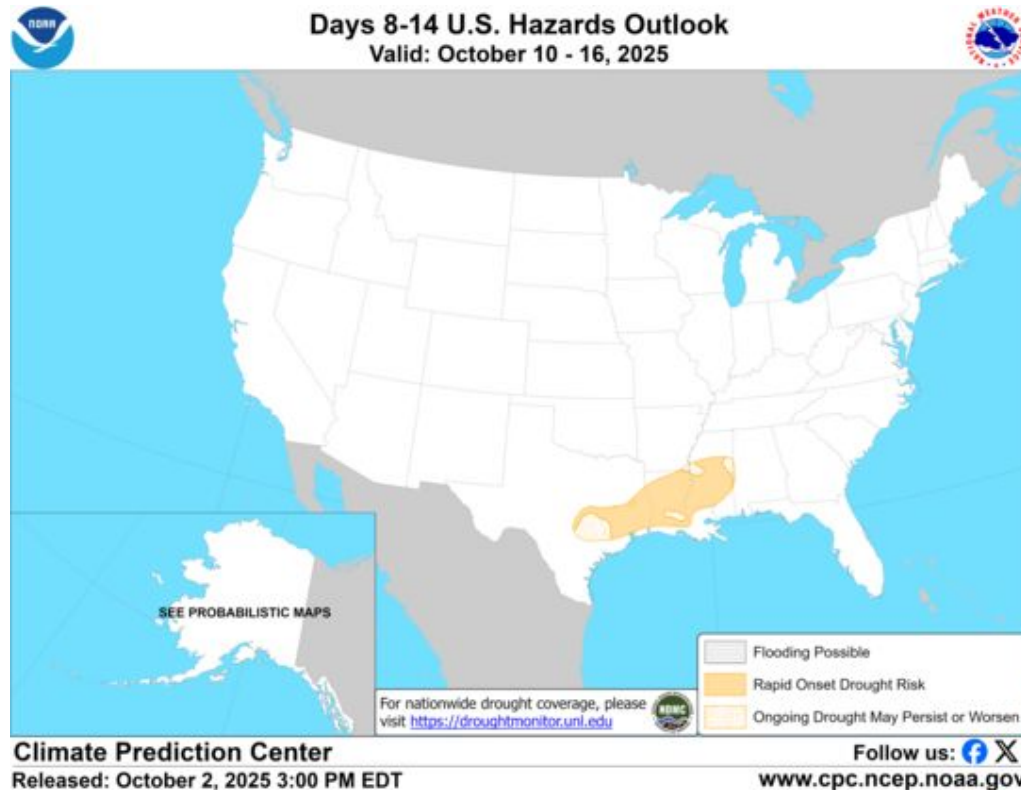
National Weather Service
WFO Louisville, KY



Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

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

- No hazards are outlooked for the middle Ohio Valley for the period October 10-16.
- Drought may rapidly develop in east Texas and across the lower Mississippi Valley.





October Temperature Outlook

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

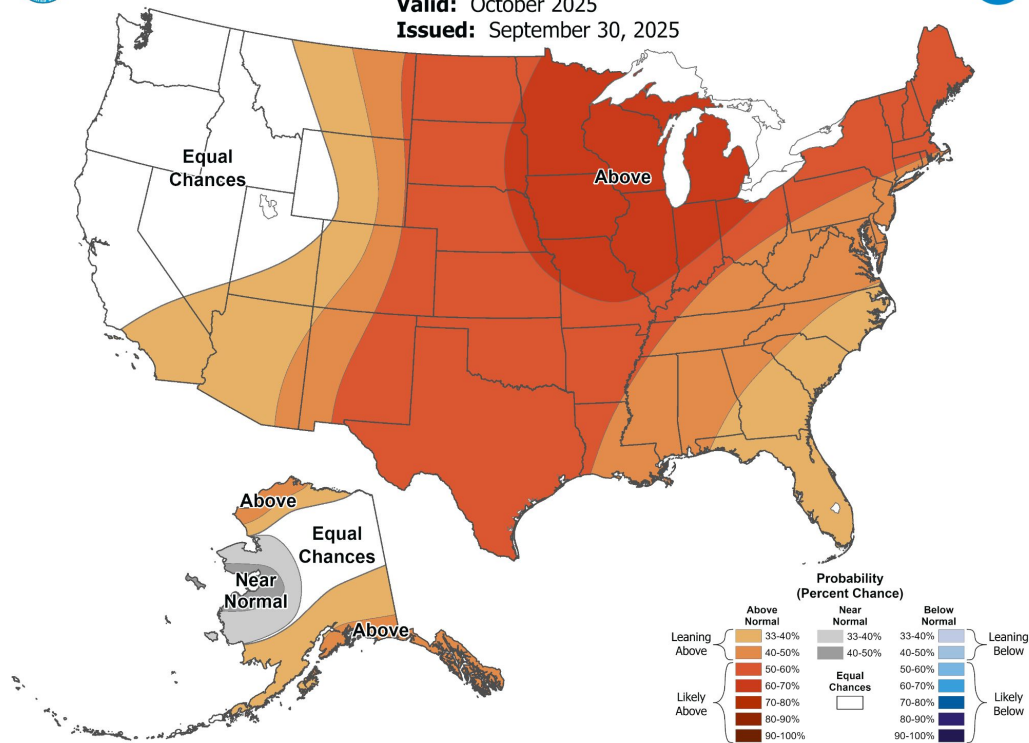
- There is a greater likelihood of above normal temperatures across the Ohio Valley during the month of October.
 - Caveat: This outlook may be influenced by high confidence in above normal temperatures over the next 7-10 days



Monthly Temperature Outlook

Valid: October 2025

Issued: September 30, 2025



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October Precipitation Outlook

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

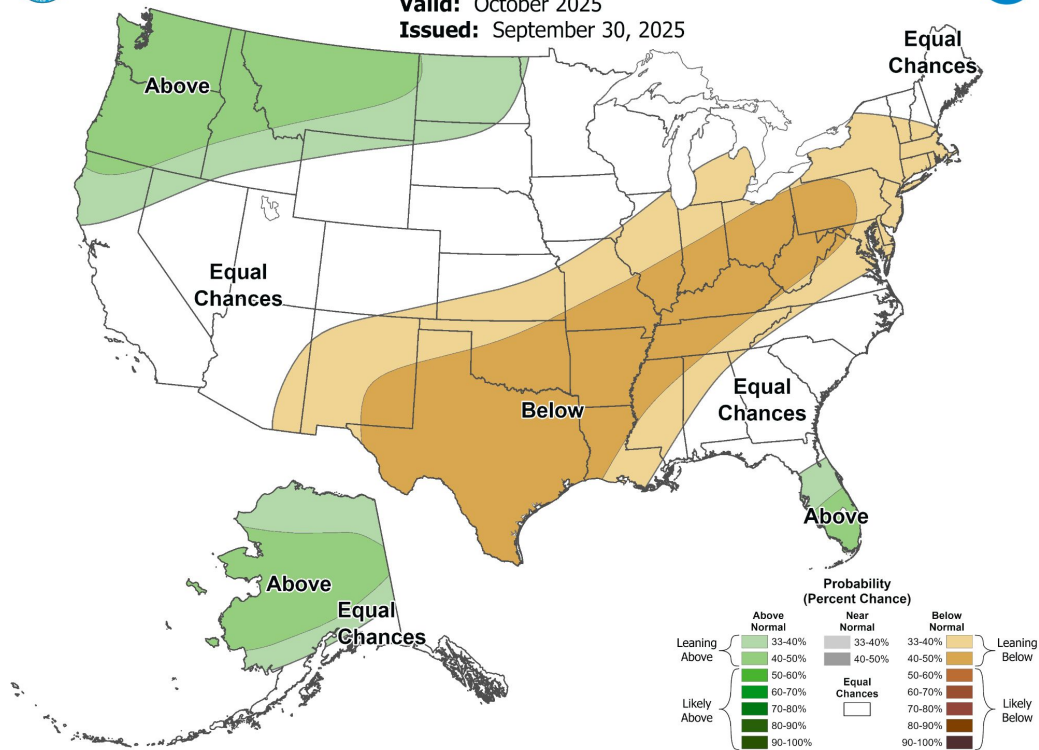
- There is a greater likelihood of below normal precipitation across the Ohio Valley during the month of October.



Monthly Precipitation Outlook

Valid: October 2025

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Drought Outlook

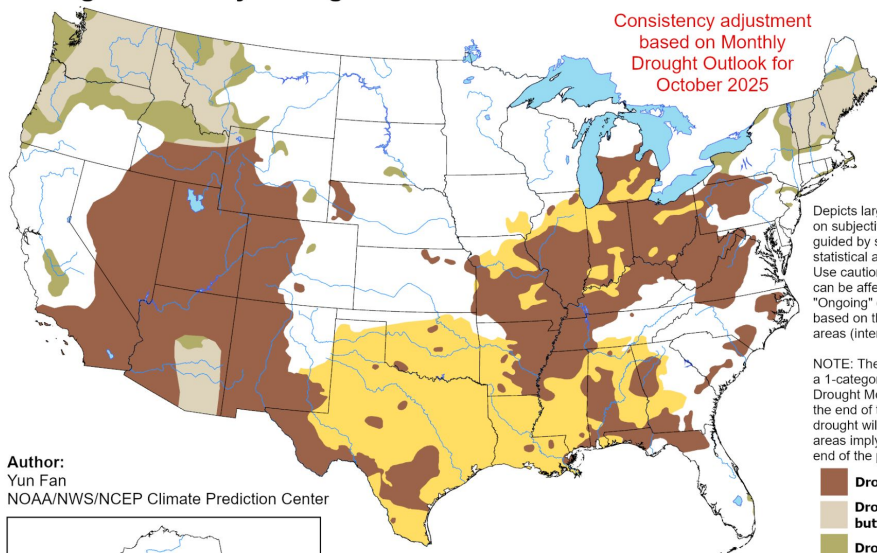
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Drought conditions are expected to persist or develop across much of the region over the next three months.
- The next Seasonal Drought Outlook will be issued on October 16th.

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for October 1 - December 31, 2025
Released September 30, 2025

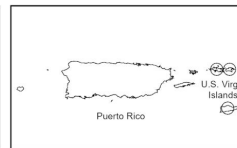
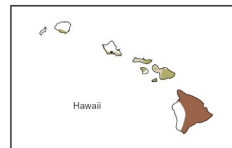
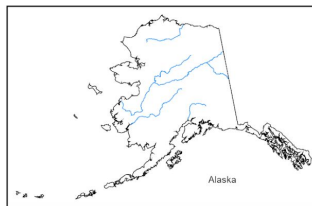
Consistency adjustment
based on Monthly
Drought Outlook for
October 2025



Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

Author:
Yun Fan
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center



- Drought persists
- Drought remains, but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely
- No drought



<https://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)
[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



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