

Drought Information Statement for the Mid-South

Valid 01/12/2024

Issued By: NWS Memphis, TN

Contact Information: sr-meg.wx@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated January 25, 2024, 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/meg/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.



**National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration**

U.S. Department of Commerce



U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for the Mid-South

- DROUGHT CONDITIONS WORSEN
- Drought intensity and extent
 - D4 (Exceptional Drought): Continuing in north MS and introduced into a small swath in southern TN.
 - D3 (Extreme Drought): Continuing in north MS and a most of west TN.
 - D2 (Severe Drought): Continuing in east-central AR, extreme northwest MS, and portions of West TN.
 - D1 (Moderate Drought): A swath in east-central AR and West TN, and the MO Bootheel.
 - D0 (Abnormally Dry): A small swath in northeast AR.

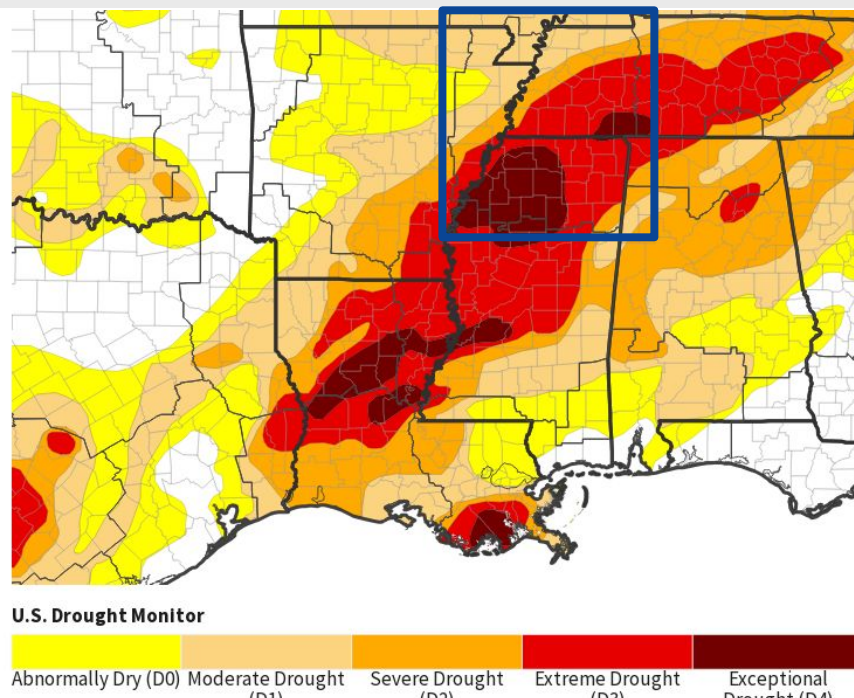


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 7am EST January, 9, 2024





Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for the Mid-South

- One-Week Drought Monitor Class Change
 - No change: Most of the Mid-South.
 - Drought worsened: a portion in northeast Arkansas and the Missouri Bootheel.
 - Drought improved: a small swath in west Tennessee and a small swath in north Mississippi.

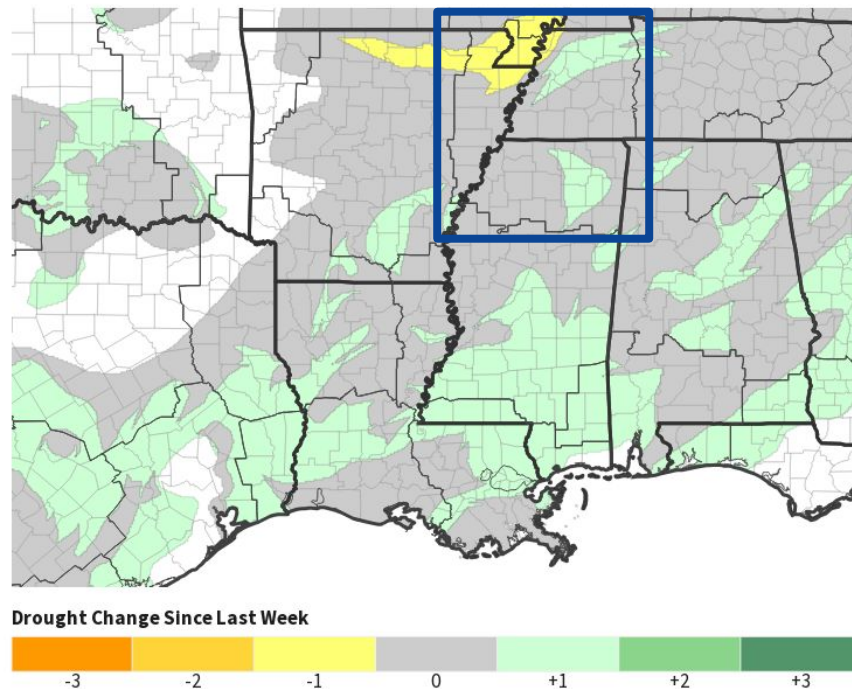


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 1-week change map valid 7 a.m. EST January 9, 2024

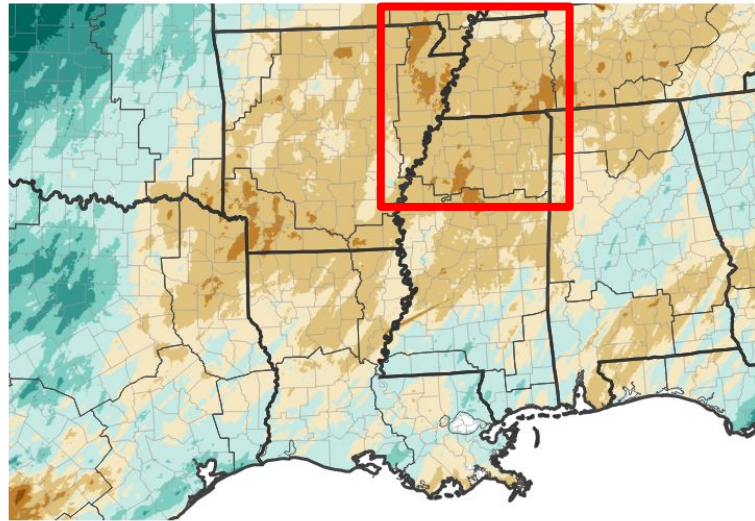




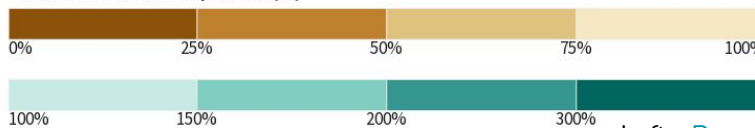
Precipitation

Over the past 30 days from the [High Plains Regional Climate Center](#)

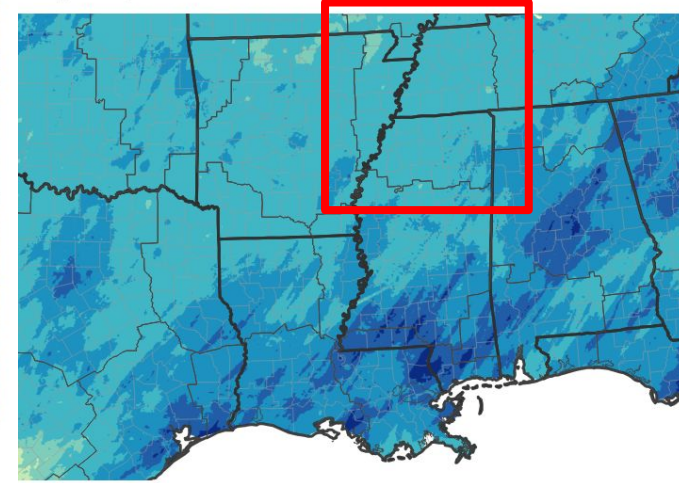
- Precipitation totals generally ranged from 1-2" across the Mid-South. The amount of precipitation received was welcomed, but was still below normal resulting in little change to the ongoing drought.
- The Mid-South experienced **well-below** normal precipitation over the last 30 days.



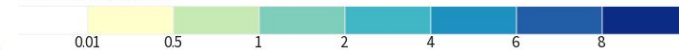
Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



30-day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)



inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System Last Updated: 01/12/24

Left - [Percent of Normal Precipitation for NWS-Southern Region East](#)

Right - [Precipitation for NWS- Southern Region East](#)

Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.

Data over the past 30 days ending January 11, 2024

Image Captions:



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National Weather Service
Memphis, TN

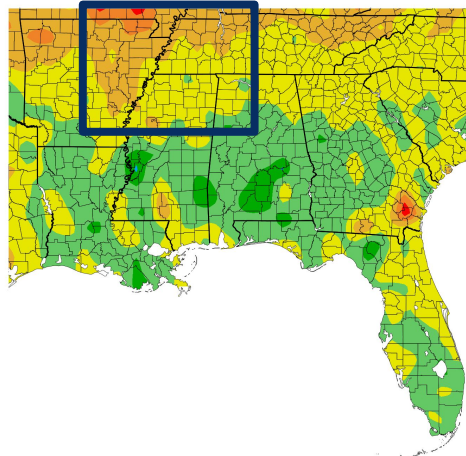


Temperature

Data over the past 30 days from the [High Plains Regional Climate Center](#)

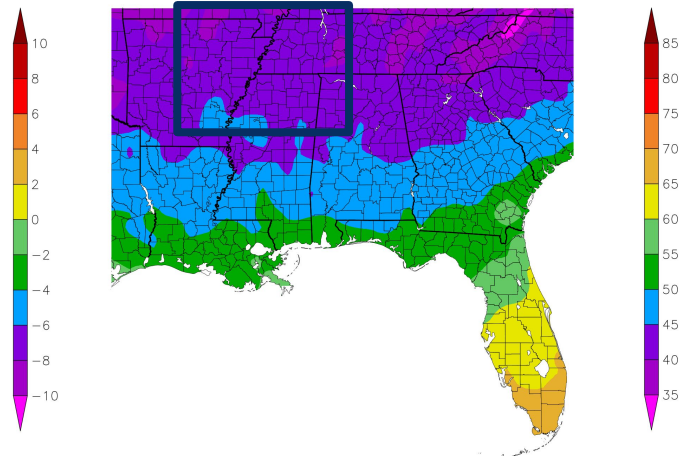
- Average temperatures have generally ranged from 40-50 degrees across the region over the last 30 days.
- Average temperatures ranged from near normal to 6 degrees above normal in far northeast Arkansas.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
12/13/2023 – 1/11/2024



Generated 1/12/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Temperature (F)
12/13/2023 – 1/11/2024



NOAA Regional Climate Centers 24 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions:

Left - [Departure from Normal Temperature](#)

Right - [Average Temperature](#)

Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending January 11, 2024

National Weather Service
Memphis, TN



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Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- The Mississippi River at Memphis remains below low-water threshold values. The extended river forecast shows an increase in water due to snowmelt across the Northern Plains.

Agricultural Impacts

- Pastures are providing marginal feed; supplemental feeding required across portions of north MS and West TN.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Normal wildland fire activity has been observed this month across the Mid-South. Normal wildland fire activity is expected to continue into February.

Other Impacts

- There are no known additional impacts at this time.

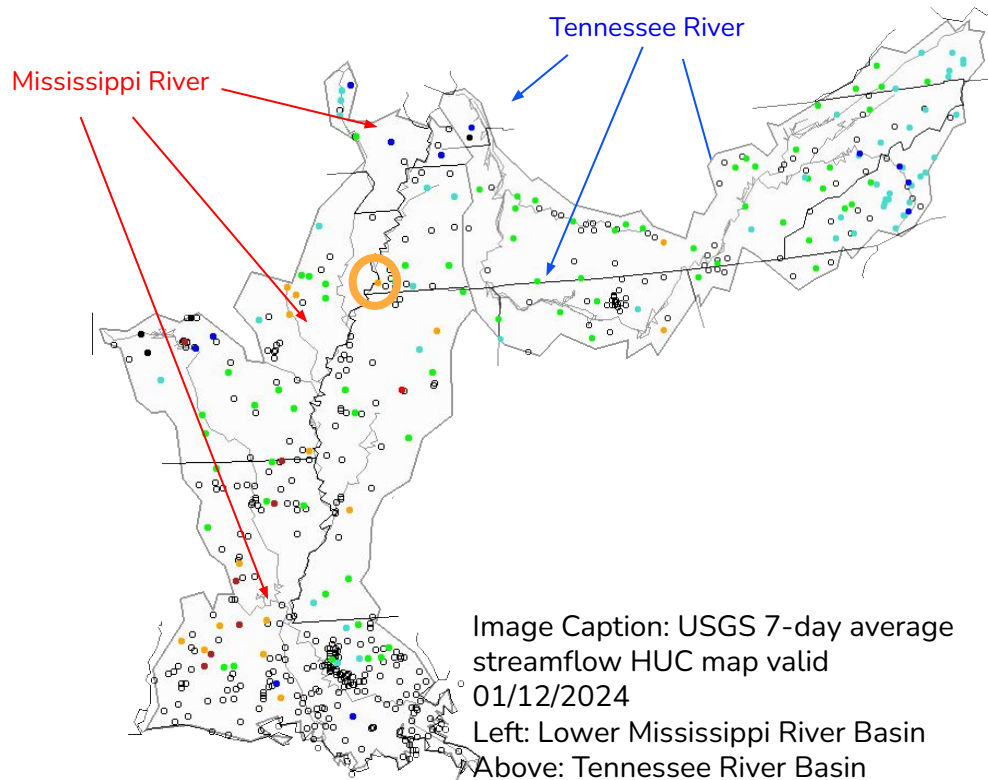
Mitigation Actions

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





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts



- The **Mississippi River at Memphis** is below low water threshold values. The extended river forecast depicts the river will rise due to upstream snowmelt.
- The Tennessee River feeds into the Mississippi River, and is also experiencing near to below normal water levels.





Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture is roughly 10% of normal (or lower) across the entire Mid-South.
- Crop yield has been negatively affected in a few areas in northwest MS. There is a small area of abnormally moist soil in eastern AR.
- Pastures in northwest MS and West TN are producing less feed for cattle than normal and require supplemental feeding.

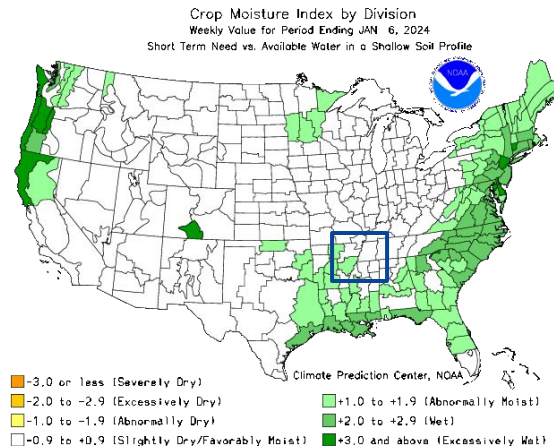
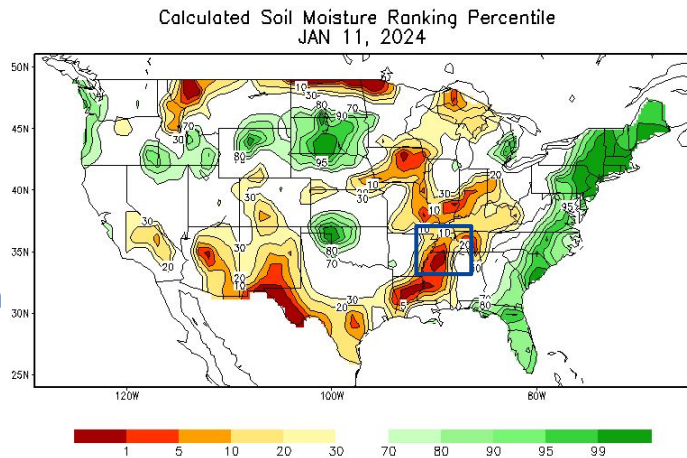


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid January 11, 2024

Right: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending January 6, 2024





Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Normal to above normal wildland fire potential is expected for the Mid-South during January.
- Burn Bans currently in effect for:
 - [Arkansas](#): None.
 - [Missouri](#): None.
 - [Mississippi](#): None.
 - [Tennessee](#): None.

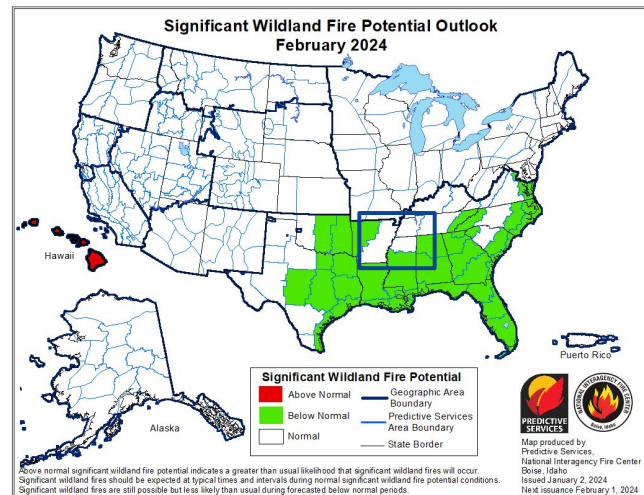
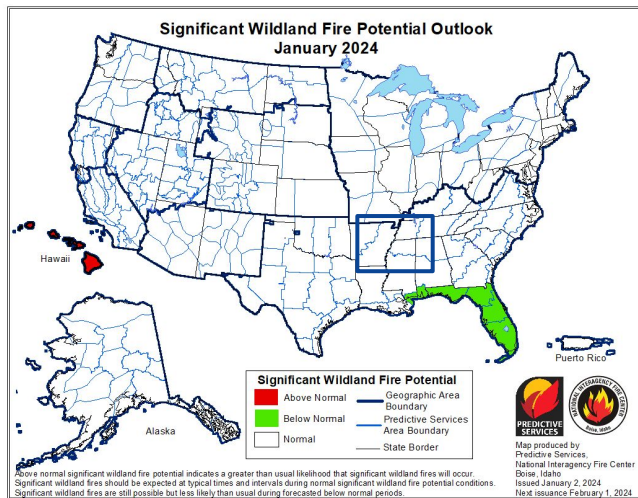


Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook](#) for January 2024.



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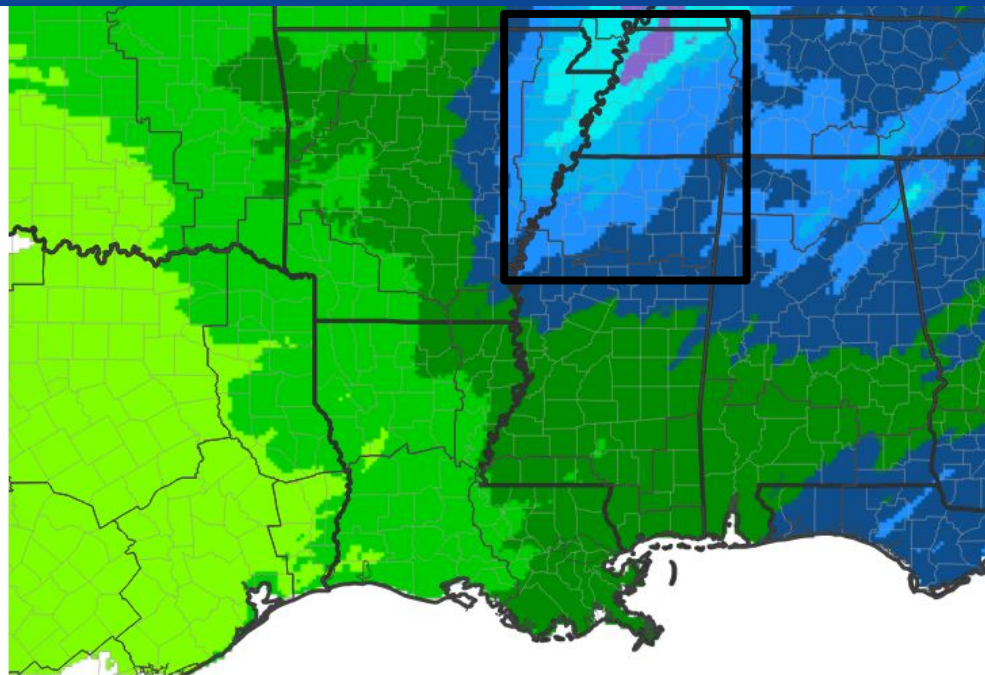
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Memphis, TN



Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Precipitation ranges from 0.50-2" across the Mid-South.
- Highest forecast precipitation amounts (QPF) look to fall on Sunday 1/14 into Monday 1/15 as snow.



Predicted Inches of Precipitation

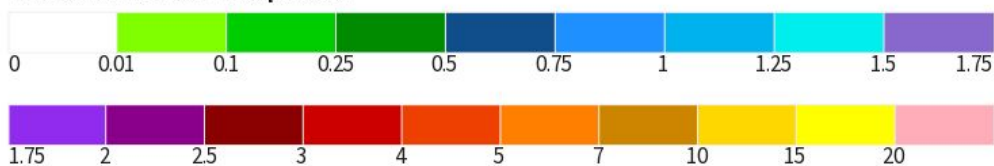


Image Caption: National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center courtesy of drought.gov ; 7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast Valid January 12, 2024 through January 19, 2024





U.S. Hazards Outlook

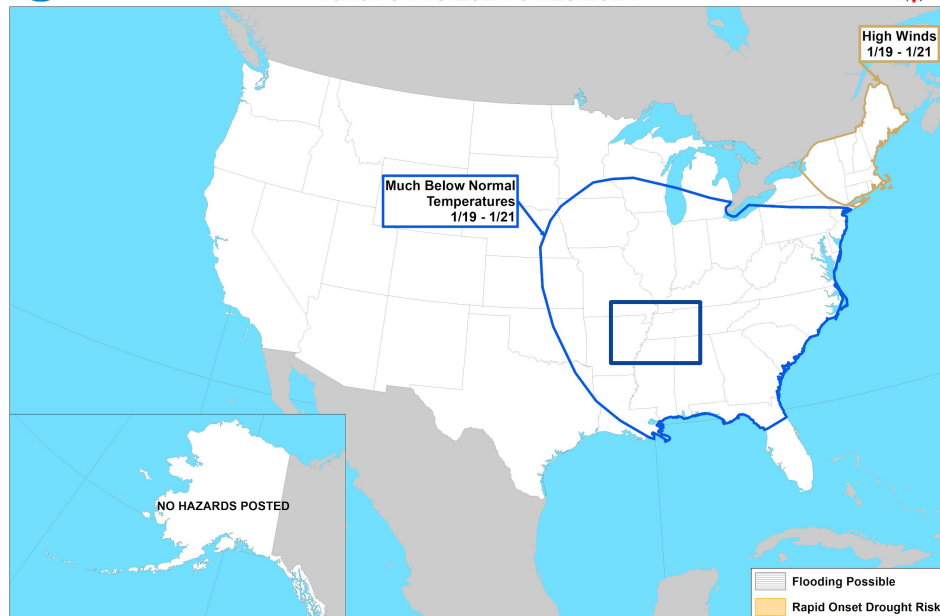
Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- There is a potential for much below normal temperatures for a large portion of the United States from 1/19-1/21.



Day 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook

Valid: 01/19/2024-01/25/2024



Climate Prediction Center

Made: 01/11/2024 3PM EST

Follow us: [f](#) [X](#)

www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov

Image Caption:

[Days 8 to 14 U.S. Hazards Outlook](#) Valid Month 1/19/2024 through 1/25/2024.



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Long-Range Outlooks

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

- The entire Mid-South has equal chances of experiencing above or below normal temperatures in January.
- There is a 33-50% chance that January precipitation across north MS will be above normal.
- In summary, January is trending wetter than normal, but could be above or below normal temperatures.

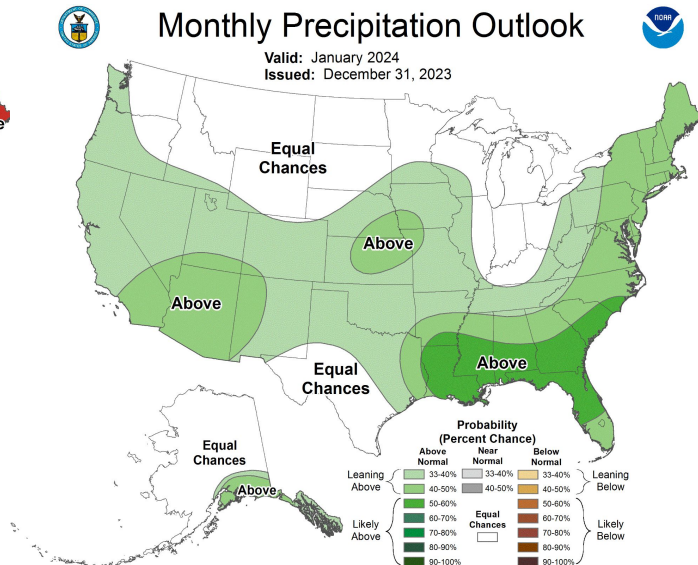
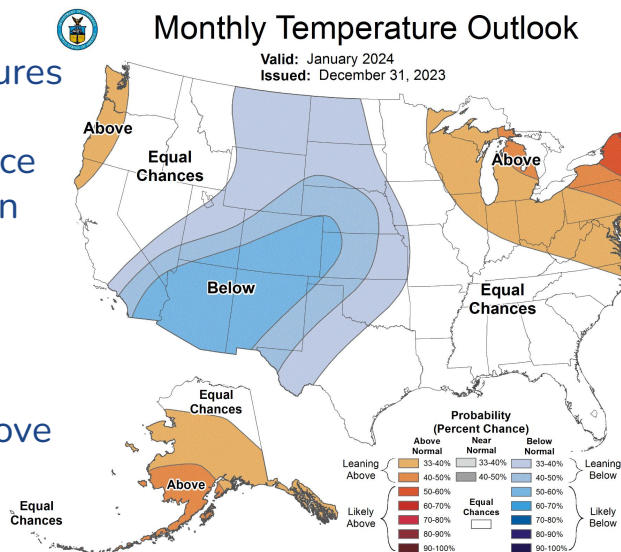


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook](#)

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook](#)

Valid January 2024



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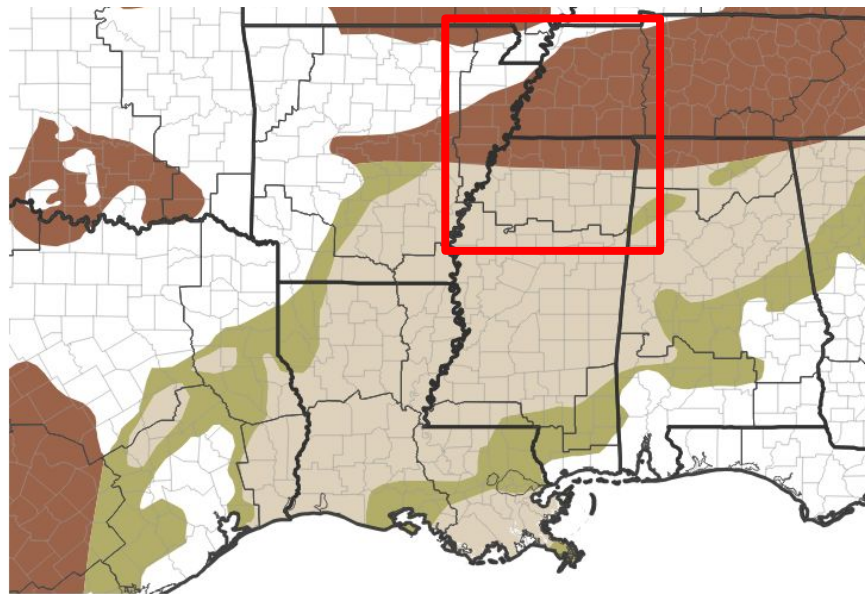
National Weather Service
Memphis, TN



Drought Outlook

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

- Drought conditions are expected to improve across a large portion of the Mid-South.
- A small swath along Interstate-40 in northeast Arkansas and West Tennessee will likely end their drought conditions.



Drought Is Predicted To...



Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook Released
12/31/2023 valid for 01/2024

Links to the latest:

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



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