



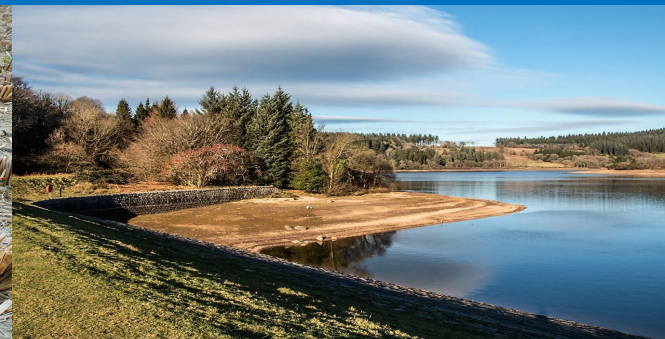
# Drought Information Statement for southeast MS, southwest AL, and the western FL Panhandle

Valid 09/28/2023

Issued By: WFO Mobile/Pensacola

Contact Information:

- This product will be updated Oct. 5, 2023 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/mob/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.



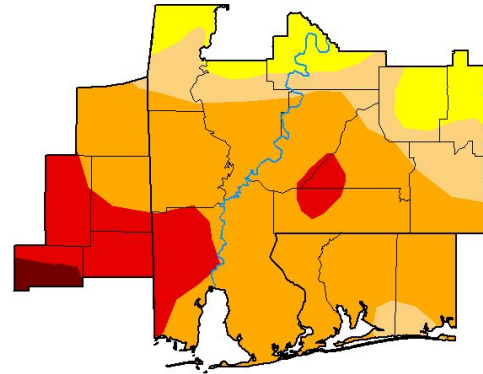


# U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for the SE US and central Gulf Coast

- Exceptional Drought Holds for Portions of the Southwest Sections of Interior Southeast Mississippi.
- Severe to Extreme Drought For Much of the Remainder of the Area.
- Drought intensity and Extent
  - D4 (Exceptional Drought): Much of Stone Co. MS.
  - D3 (Extreme Drought): Much of the southern third of interior southeast MS into much of Mobile Co. Northwest Escambia and southwest Conecuh Co's in AL.
  - D2 (Severe Drought): Much of Remainder of the Area south of US Highway 84.
  - D1 (Moderate Drought): Much of Area along and North of US Highway 84.

## U.S. Drought Monitor Mobile, AL/ Pensacola, FL WFO



**September 26, 2023**  
(Released Thursday, Sep. 28, 2023)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	0.00	100.00	89.36	74.41	16.63	1.45
<b>Last Week</b> 09-19-2023	0.00	100.00	88.06	48.04	16.62	1.45
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 06-27-2023	99.99	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-01-2023	46.95	53.05	17.97	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-27-2022	31.79	68.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 09-27-2022	31.79	68.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

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

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:  
Richard Heim  
NCEI/NOAA



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor NWS Mobile/Pensacola Forecast Area valid 8am EDT September 26th.





# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [1-week change map](#) for the SE US and central Gulf Coast

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought Worsened: Mostly southeast of I-65, southward to the I-10 corridor.
  - No Change: Northwest of I-65.

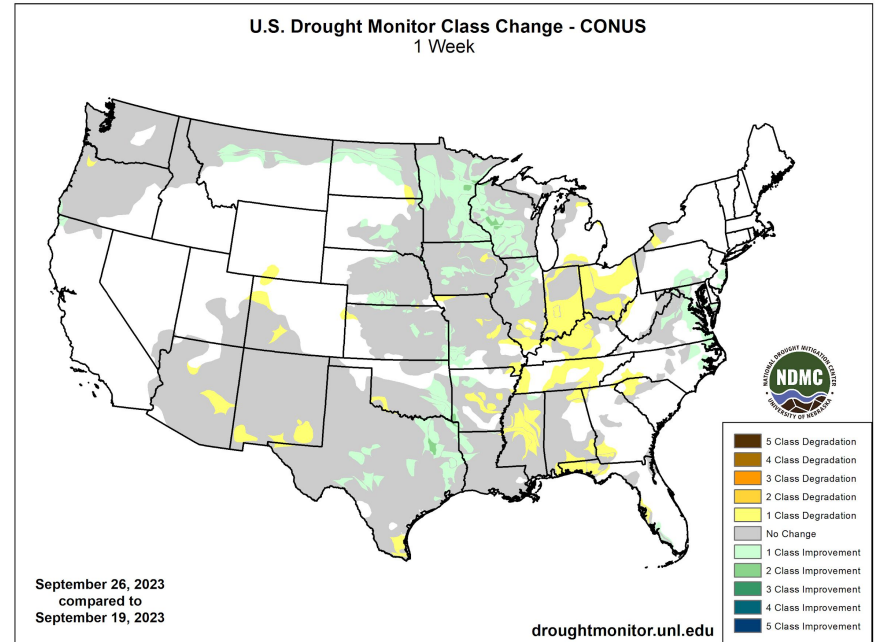


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 1-week change map valid 8am EDT September 26th.



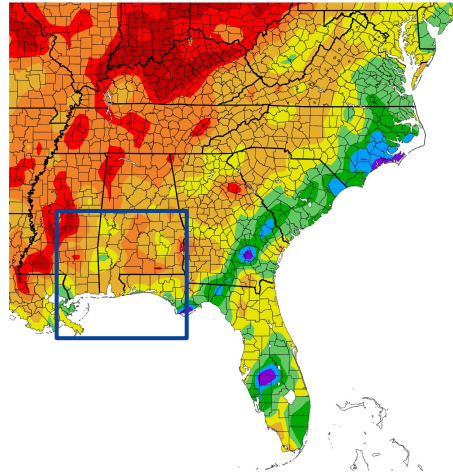


# Precipitation

## Table of Accumulated Rainfall (Inches) from Select Locations - Period: August 1 to September 27, 2023

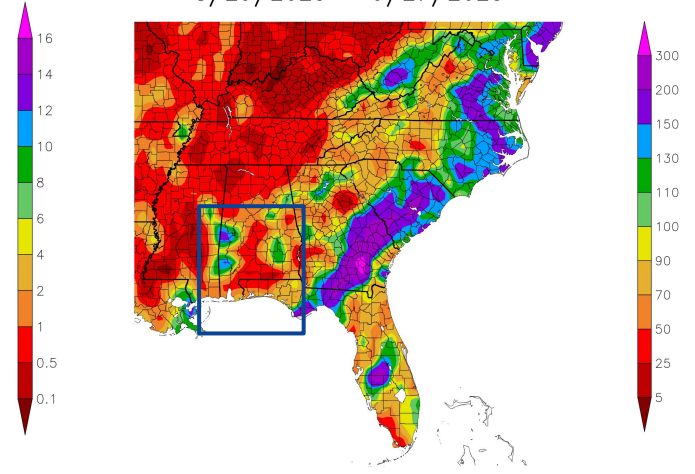
Station	Observed	Normal	Departure
Brewton AL 3NNE (COOP)	2.32*	12.92	-10.60
Niceville FL (COOP)	6.99	15.72	-8.73
Fairhope AL 2NE (COOP)	4.81	13.36	-8.55
Atmore AL (COOP)	1.93	10.46	-8.53
Beaumont MS (COOP)	1.51*	9.49	-7.98
Pensacola FL (ASOS)	6.05	13.70	-7.65
Bay Minette AL (COOP)	6.28	13.93	-7.65
Pensacola FL 7NNE (COOP)	5.20	12.45	-7.25
Evergreen AL (ASOS)	2.43*	9.52	-7.09
Crestview FL (ASOS)	4.19	11.16	-6.97
Mobile AL (ASOS)	4.92	11.83	-6.91
Dauphin Island AL (COOP)	4.56	10.98	-6.42
Leakesville MS 6WSW (COOP)	4.64	9.40	-4.76
Downtown Mobile AL (ASOS)	6.79	11.35	-4.56
Waynesboro MS 2W (COOP)	4.75	8.24	-3.49

Precipitation (in)  
8/29/2023 – 9/27/2023



Generated 9/28/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
8/29/2023 – 9/27/2023



NOAA Regional Climate Centers 23 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions:  
Left - The box inset shows the central Gulf Coast region at mostly 2 to 6 inches for the period.  
Right - The box inset shows areas southeast of I-65 generally 5 to 50% of Normal for the period.

Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.  
Data over the past 30 days ending September 27, 2023

\* Indicates Record Lowest Amount Recorded for Period



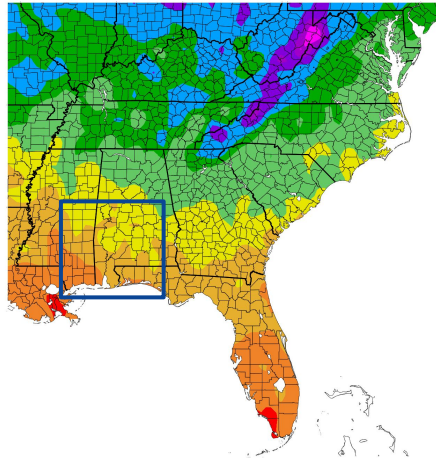




# Temperature

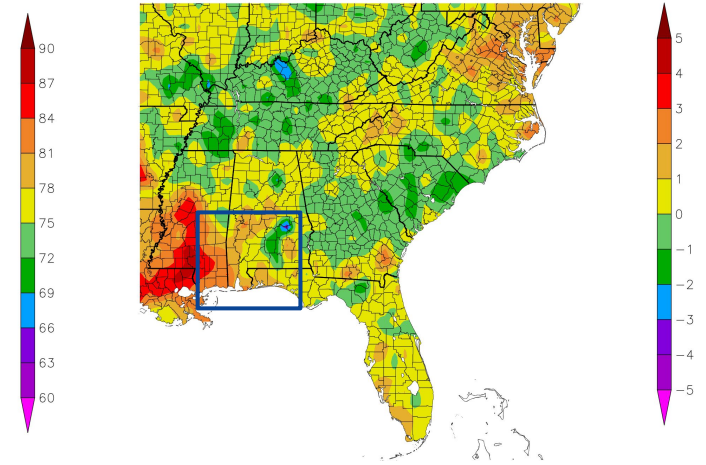
- With persistent dryness comes above normal temperatures with past 30 days average temperatures coming in above normal over the coastal plain.
- Of note, average temperatures came in highest, ranging 2 to 5° above normal, over southern MS.

Temperature (F)  
8/29/2023 – 9/27/2023



Generated 9/28/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
8/29/2023 – 9/27/2023



NOAA Regional Climate Centers <sup>023</sup> at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

### Image Captions:

Left - The inset box shows the Central Gulf Coast ranging in the upper 70's/lower 80's for average temperatures

Right - The box shows the western half of local area mostly 2 to 5° above normal

Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.

Data over the past 30 days ending September 27, 2023





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Recent rains over interior southeast MS has resulted in improved stream flows/stages over many local streams/rivers. However, many local streams/rivers over southwest AL/western Florida have shown some degradation in flow and stage remaining at below or much below normal levels. This can lead to hazards and increased difficulty in safe navigation of recreational boating and commercial waterway needs.

## Agricultural Impacts

- Crop condition in the driest of areas remains very poor and pasture lands provide little to no livestock feed. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- The risk of wildfire remains above normal over southeast Mississippi and southwest Alabama.

## Societal Impacts

- Increase in air-borne allergens likely to create problems for respiratory sensitive groups.

## Mitigation Actions

- Water conservation techniques are strongly encouraged in drought areas. Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information. Local water restriction ordinances may be in place.





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

Select River/Stream Points at Below Normal Levels - Valid 8AM September 28, 2023

River/Stream Point	Discharge(cfs)	Stage(ft)	%Class, Rating
Cyprus Creek near Janice MS	9	5.69	17, Below Normal
Big Creek at Co. Rd 63 near Wilmer AL	15	1.56	14, Below Normal
Chickasaw Creek near Kushla AL	40	2.67	5, Much Below Normal
Styx River near Elsanor AL	118	1.70	7, Much Below Normal
Pine Barren Creek near Snow Hill AL	22	2.16	7, Much Below Normal
Alabama River at Claiborne L&D	5130	34.80	12, Below Normal
Sepulga River near McKenzie AL	22	2.71	10, Below Normal
Blackwater River near Bradley AL	25	0.71	4, Much Below Normal
Eleven Mile Creek near West Pensacola FL	28	4.87	8, Much Below Normal
Perdido River at Barrineau Park FL	226	1.27	4, Much Below Normal
Shoal River near Crestview FL	299	2.44	2, Much Below Normal
Yellow River at Milligan FL	212	0.58	7, Much Below Normal

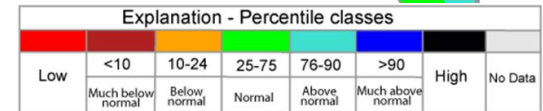
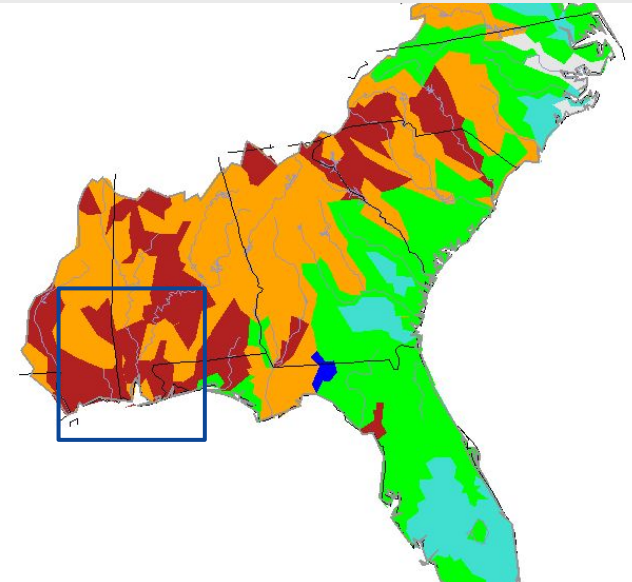


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid 09/28/2023. Box Inset - Below to much below normal stream/river flow persists over the central Gulf Coast.

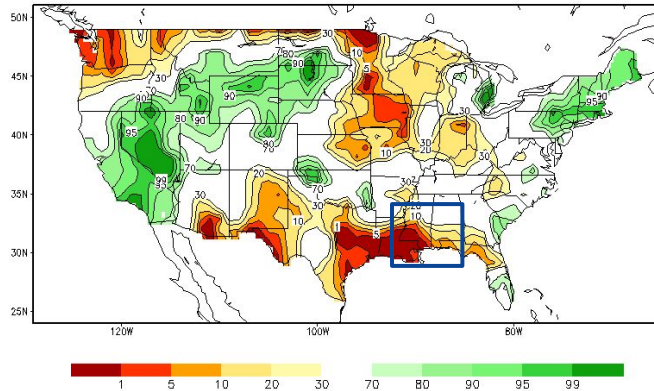




# Agricultural Impacts

- Crop condition in the driest of areas is very poor. Crop disease elevated. Pasture lands provide little to no livestock feed. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Leading to very poor crop conditions is the parched sub-soil moisture makeup.
- The latest state-wide top soil moisture metrics vs 5 year means (Depth 6", courtesy of USDA 09/24/23).
  - MS: 75% Dry (Avg: 43%).
  - AL: 53% Dry (Avg: 36.2%).
  - FL: 31% Dry (Avg: 17.8%).

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile  
SEP 27, 2023



Crop Moisture Index by Division  
Weekly Value for Period Ending SEP 23, 2023  
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

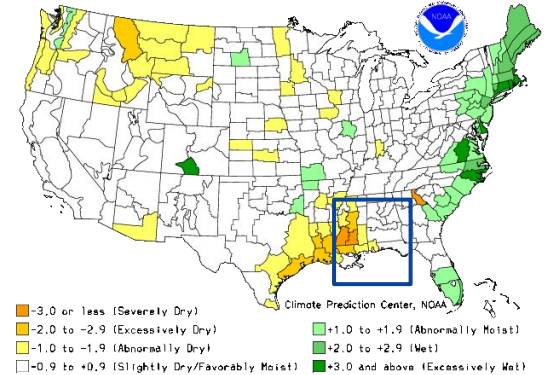


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid September 27, 2023

Right: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending Sep 23, 2023







# Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Decayed timber and very dry underbrush in area forests along with dry grasslands pose an above normal risk for significant wildfire potential over southeast Mississippi and southwest Alabama.
- To view the seven day significant fire potential maps, please refer to the link above.

Latest Burn Bans and/or Advisories By State:

[Mississippi](#)

[Alabama](#)

[Florida](#)

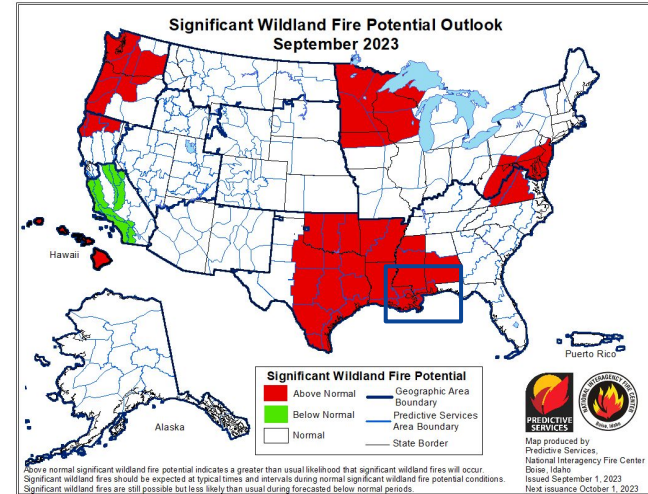


Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook](#) for September 2023  
Note: Image updates are the first of each month or the first work day of each month.





# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Much needed rainfall over the central Gulf still looks to be elusive along the central Gulf coast through next week.
- The bulk of the rains look to be focused out over the Gulf.

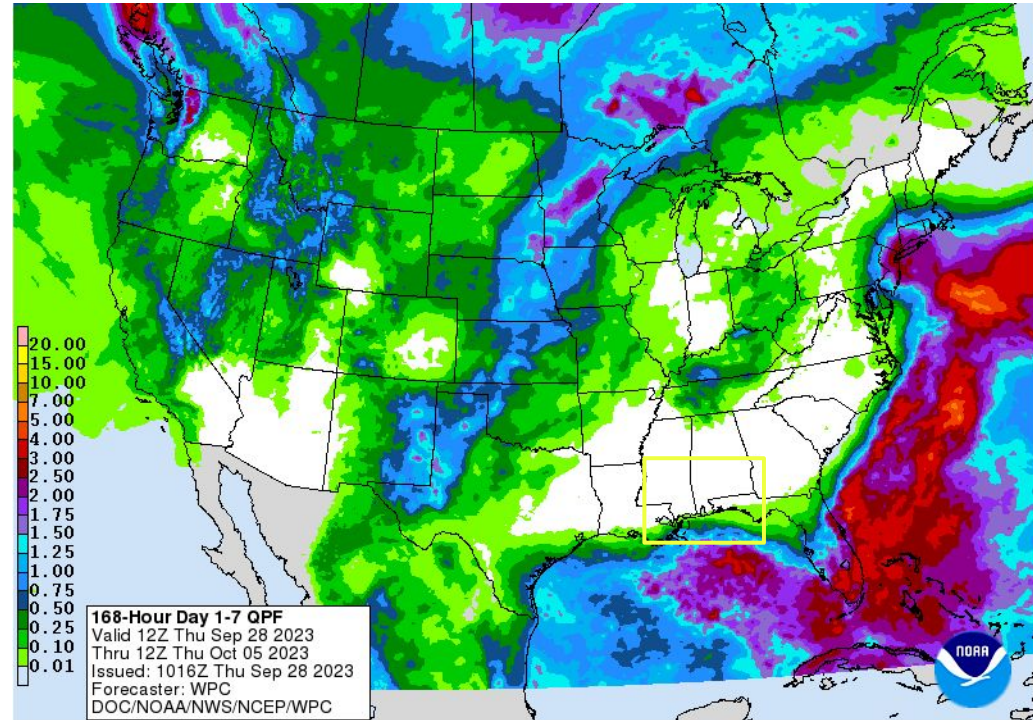


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid Thursday September 28 to Thursday October 5, 2023 shows bulk of rains south, out over the Gulf.





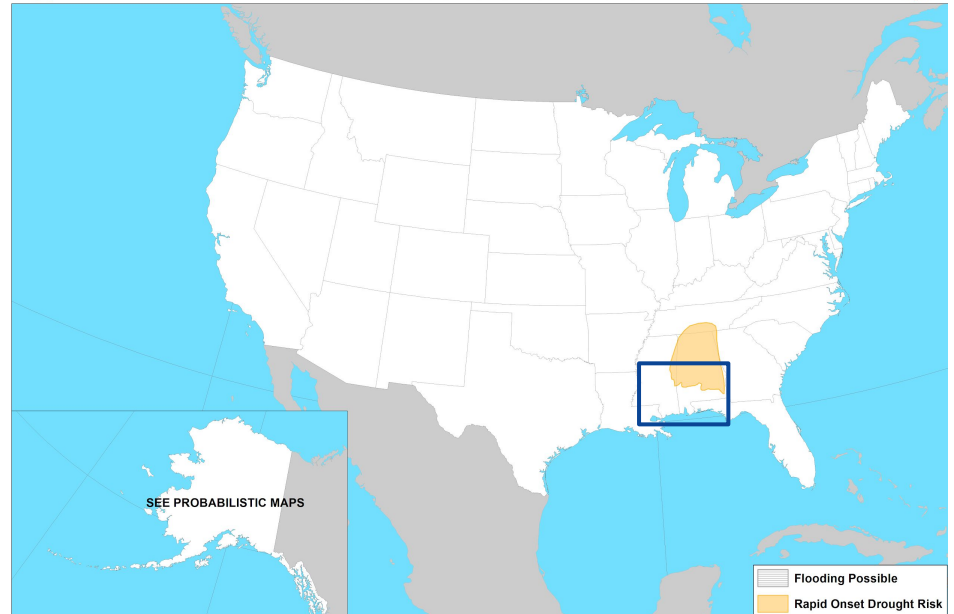
# Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

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

- Rapid onset drought is outlooked for central and northern Alabama going into the first half of October.



Day 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook  
Valid: 10/05/2023-10/11/2023



Climate Prediction Center  
Made: 09/27/2023 3PM EDT

Follow us:   
[www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov)

Image Caption:  
[Days 8 to 14 U.S. Hazards Outlook](#) Valid Oct. 5 to 11, 2023.





# Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Temperatures are favored to lean above normal through the close of the 2023, while the potential of above normal precipitation is favored from the Mid-Atlantic, Southeast US to the central Gulf coast.

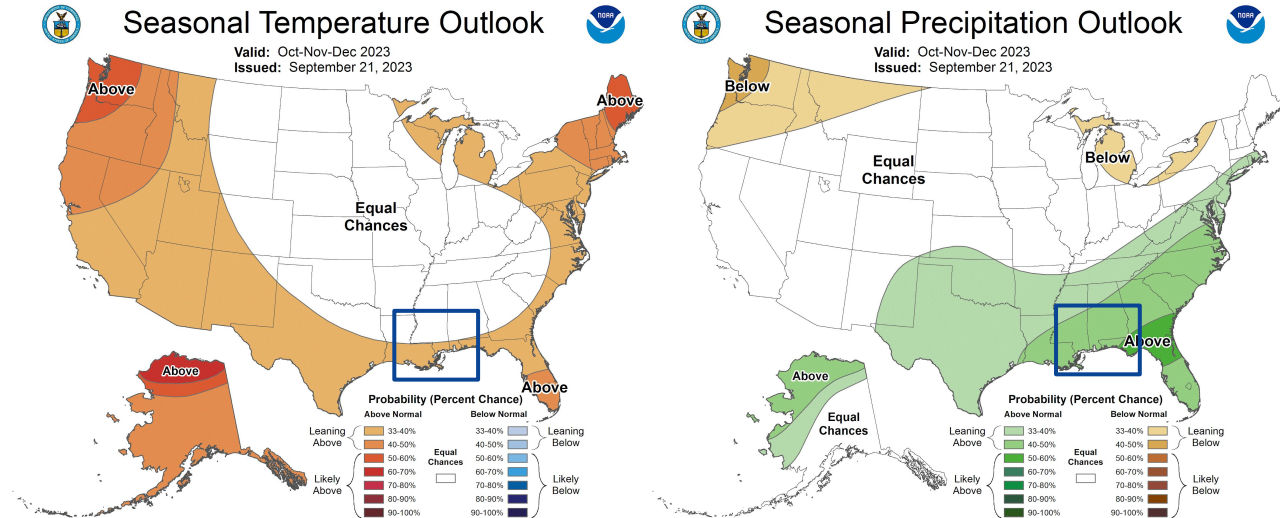


Image Captions:

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

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

Valid October-November-December 2023







# Drought Outlook

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

- Drought is favored to hold over southern Mississippi and southwest AL but may show some improvement over the next few months. To the east, the seasonal outlook suggests that drought removal will be likely over southern AL and the western FL Panhandle.

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

Valid for September 21 - December 31, 2023  
Released September 21, 2023

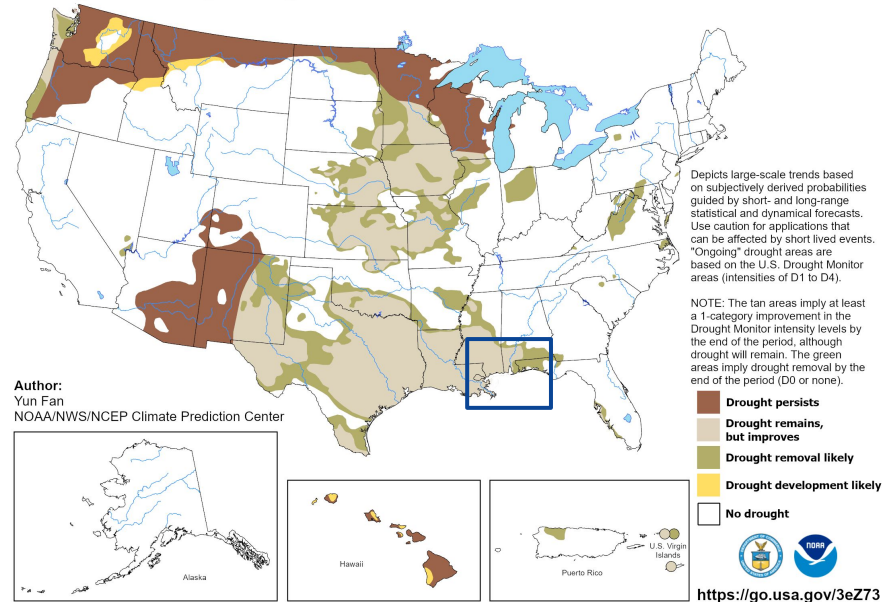


Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook Released September 21, 2023 valid through December 2023

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  
Mobile/Pensacola