



# Drought Information Statement for For East Tennessee, Southwest Virginia, and Southwest North Carolina Valid May 7, 2026

Issued By: National Weather Service Morristown, TN

Contact Information: [sr-mrx.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-mrx.webmaster@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated May 15, 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/MRX/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
  - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.
- 
- All of the NWS Morristown area remains covered by some drought category with 30% covered by D3.
  - Drought has remained the same in our area.



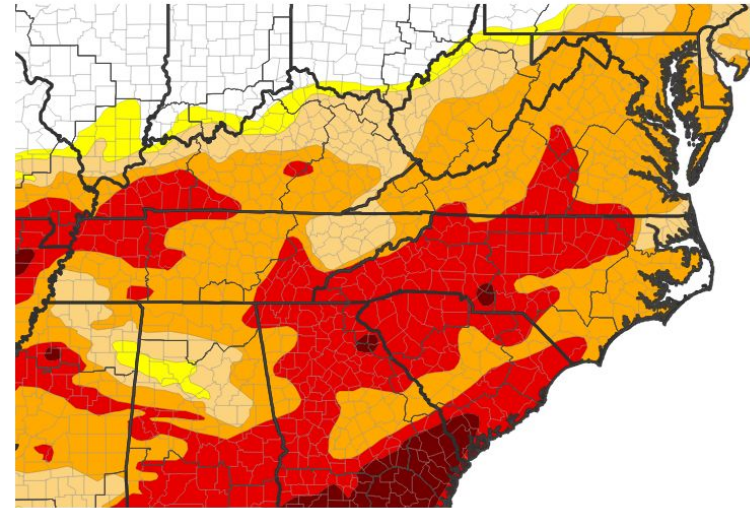


# U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for For E Tennessee, SW Virginia, and SW North Carolina

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: None.
  - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Most of southeast Tennessee, and part of the southern Valley and Cumberland Plateau
  - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Northern Cumberland Plateau, Tennessee mountains, northeast Tennessee, and southwest Virginia
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Remaining areas of East Tennessee and southwest Virginia
  - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: None

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 05/05/26



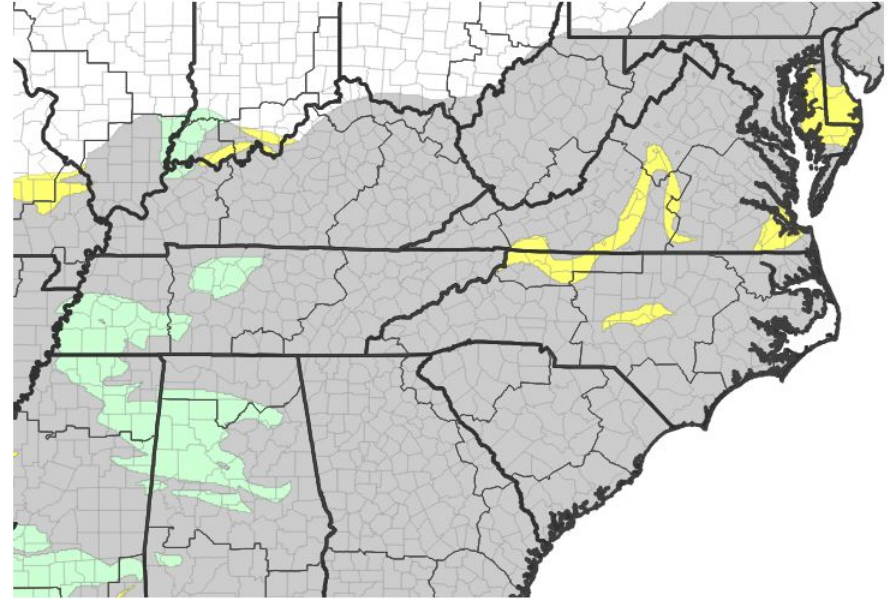


# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

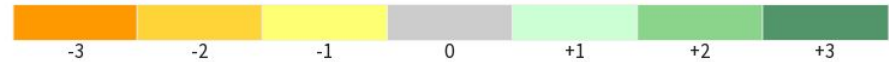
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for For E Tennessee, SW Virginia, and SW North Carolina

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought Worsened: None
  - No Change: Entire area
  - Drought Improved: None.

**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: 05/05/26

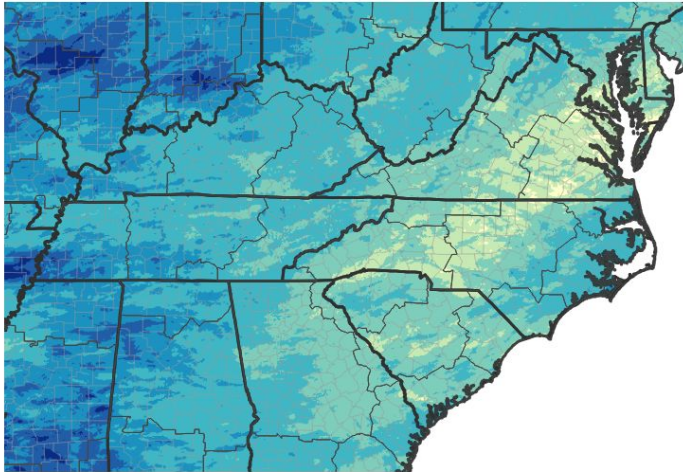




# Precipitation

- Multiple rounds of showers lead to variable precipitation across the region.
- Most places were generally around or less than 50% of normal for the last 30 days

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

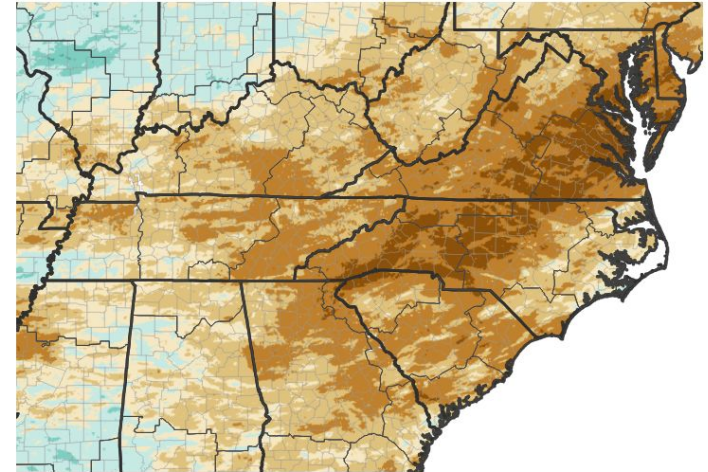


Inches of Precipitation

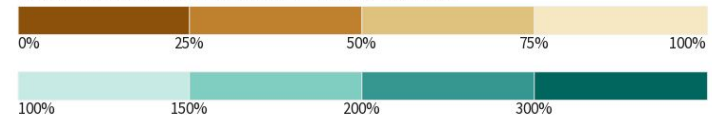


Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 05/07/26

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions



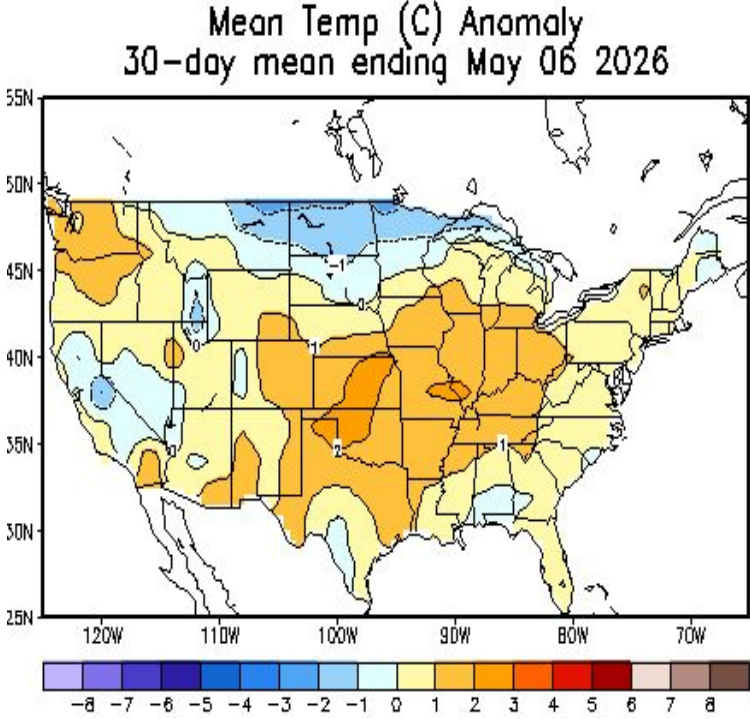
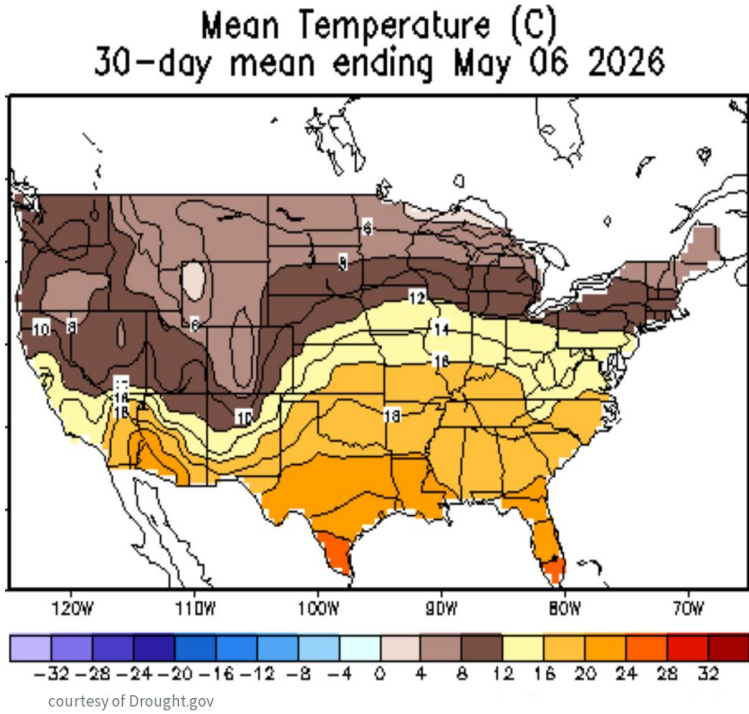
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 05/07/26





# Temperature

- Temperatures have been well above normal the past 4 weeks with below normal temperatures within the last week or so





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Stream flows are extremely below normal for the entire area.

## Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture is below the 5th percentile for most of the area

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- As we move through the late spring into early summer, fire weather concerns have decreased in comparison to recent weeks.

## Other Impacts

- Stay tuned for future updates.

## Mitigation Actions

- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information. Continue to abide by any local burning bans and regulations.





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Summarize conditions/impacts here

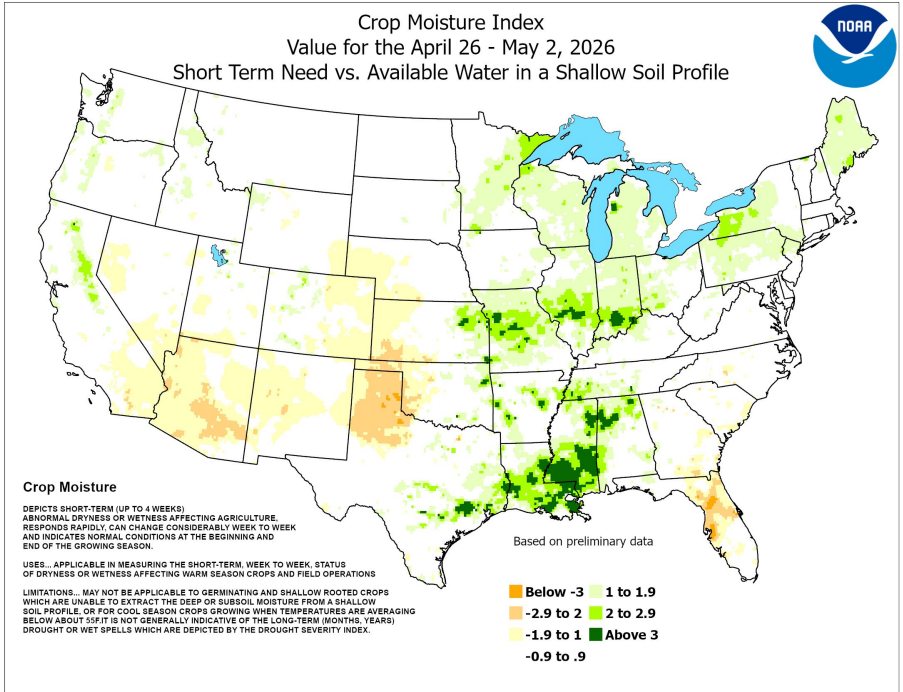
Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10 Much below normal	10-24 Below normal	25-75 Normal	76-90 Above normal	>90 Much above normal	High	Not-ranked





# Agricultural Impacts

- Very dry soil conditions continue across most of the region.

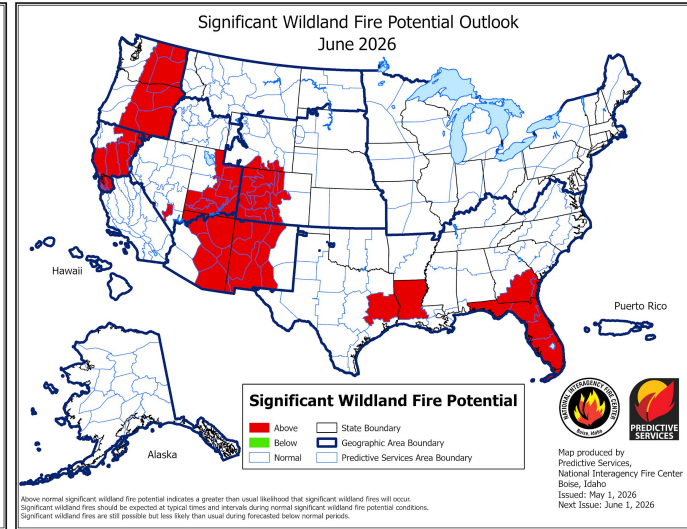
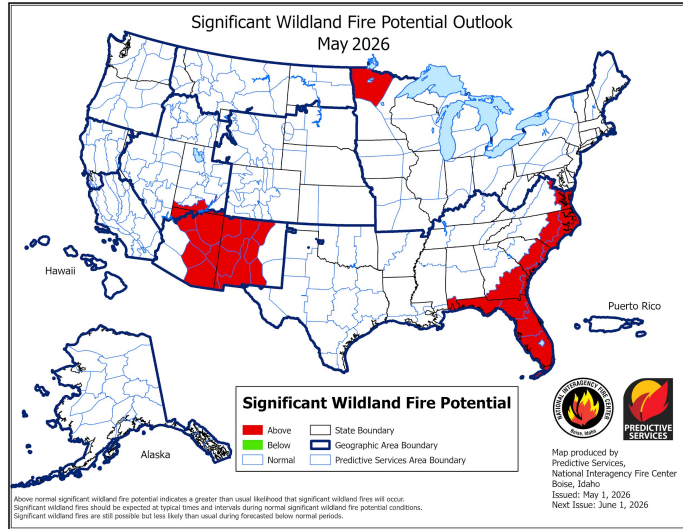




# Fire Hazard Impacts

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

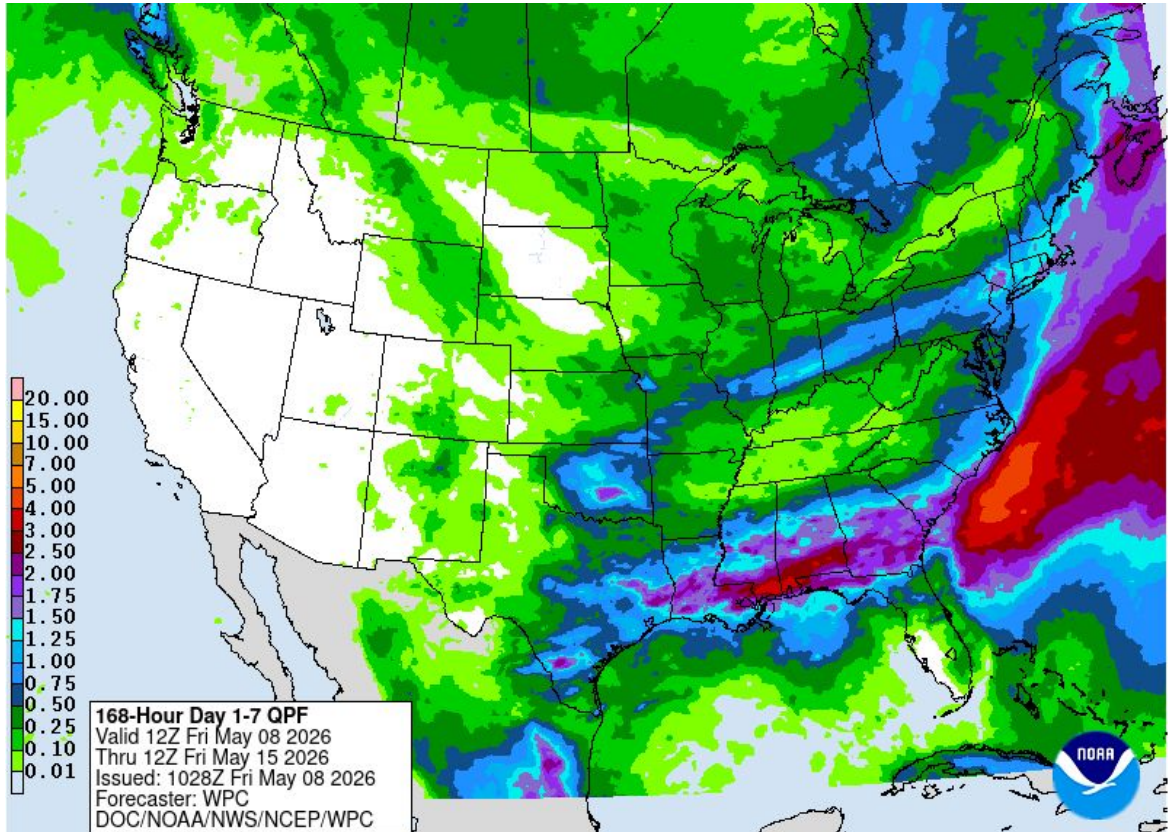
- Latest TN Burn Ban map available [here.](#)
- Latest VA Burn Ban map available [here.](#)
- Latest NC Burn Ban information available [here.](#)





# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Chances for rain return later this weekend into early next week, but coverage is expected to be a lot more limited in our area than places to the south and east
- Most places are forecast to get 0.25" or less





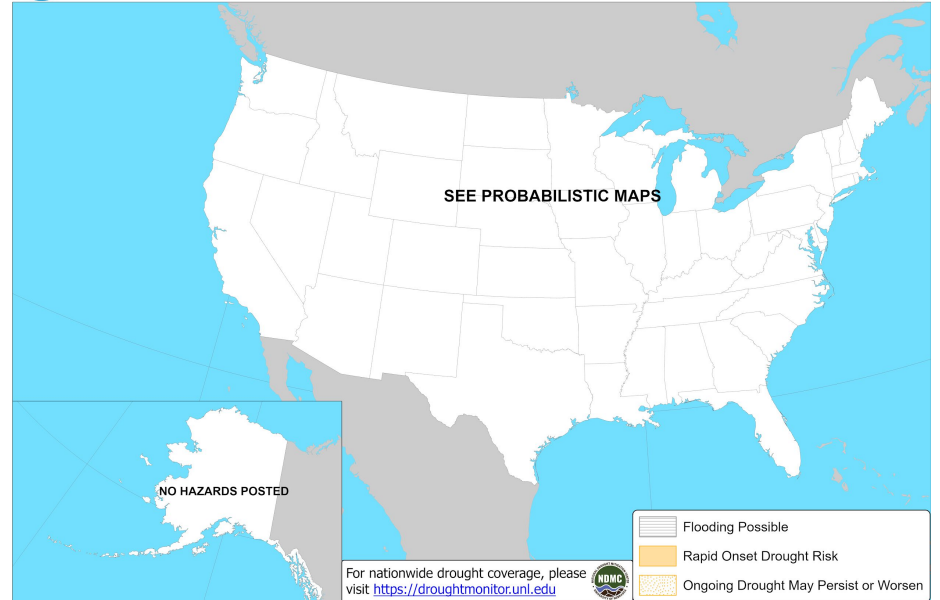
# Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

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

- No strong signal for any hazards in our region



Days 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook  
Valid: May 15 - 21, 2026



Climate Prediction Center

Released: May 7, 2026 3:00 PM EDT

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
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National Weather Service  
Morristown, TN

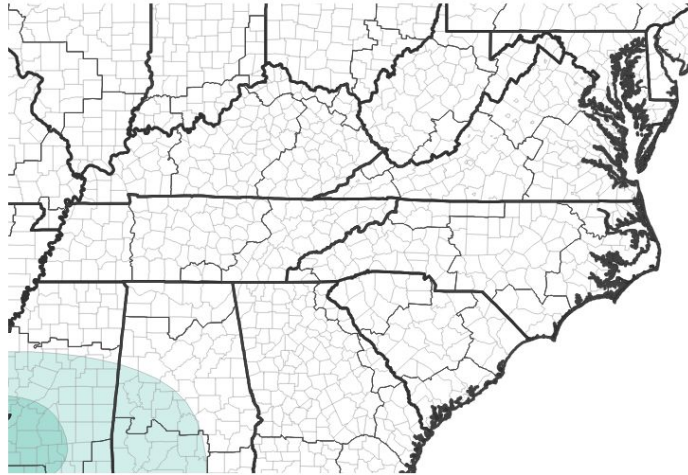


# Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Slight signal for below normal temperatures in the month of May.
- No notable signal with regard to precipitation chances for the month of May.

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



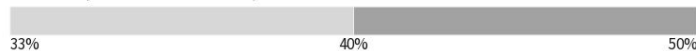
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



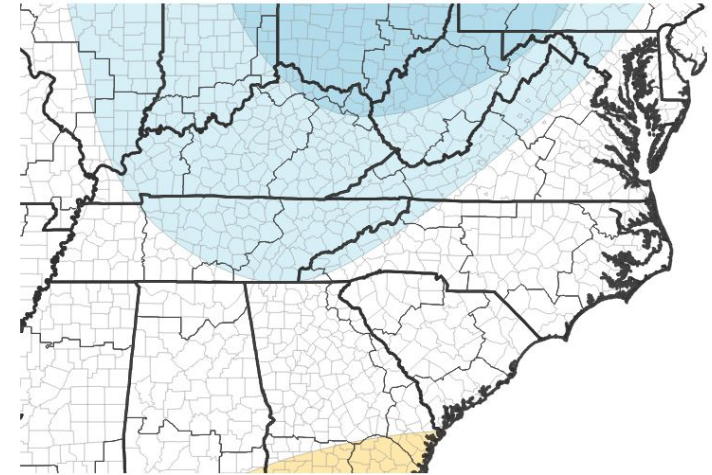
Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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



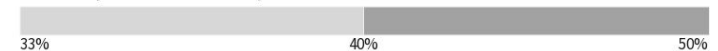
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



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



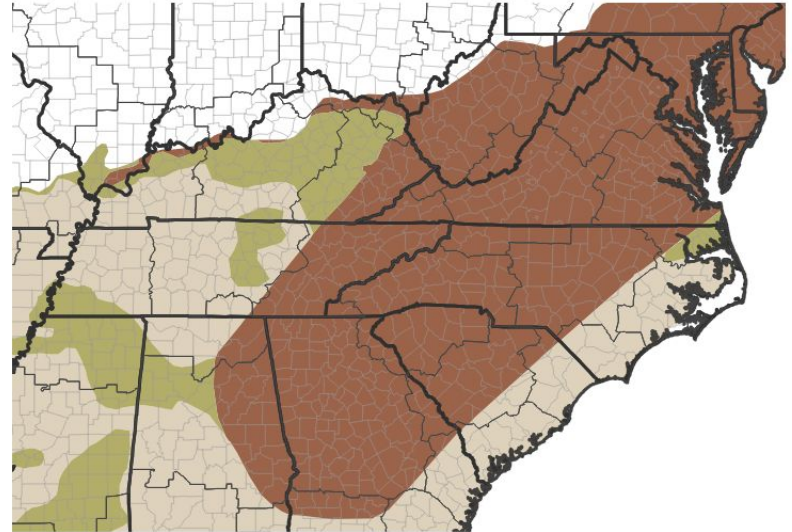


# Drought Outlook

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

- Drought conditions are expected to persist across most of the area with some improvements possible along far western areas

**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](#)

