

# Drought Information Statement for Eastern Washington and North Idaho

## Valid April 9, 2026

Issued By: National Weather Service Spokane, WA

Contact Information: [w-otx.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:w-otx.webmaster@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated late April 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/OTX/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
  - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.
- Drought conditions persist across the Inland Northwest
    - Snowpack deficits are a significant contributor to the current drought conditions.
    - **Washington State has declared a [drought emergency](#) for the entire state due to snowpack deficits.**
    - Severe drought conditions continue to be observed in southeastern Washington and the southern Idaho Panhandle.



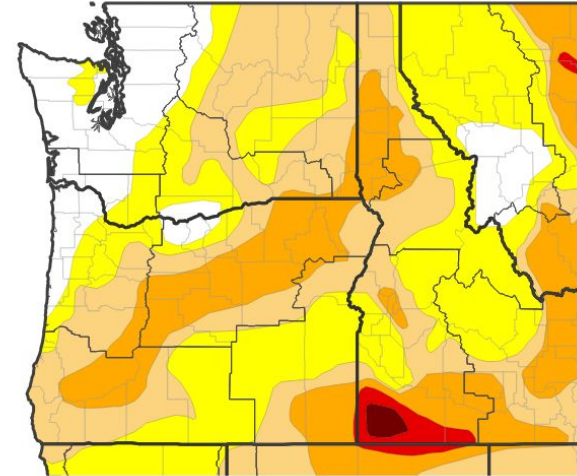


# U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Eastern Washington and North Idaho

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: 15% Central/South Idaho Panhandle and SE Washington.
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: 57% Central Panhandle mountains, Washington Palouse, Okanogan highlands, Upper Columbia Basin, Waterville Plateau, Okanogan valley, and northern mountains.
  - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: 24% most of the inland northwest not in another category.
  - No drought: 4% near the Cascade crest.

## U.S. Drought Monitor



## U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 04/07/26

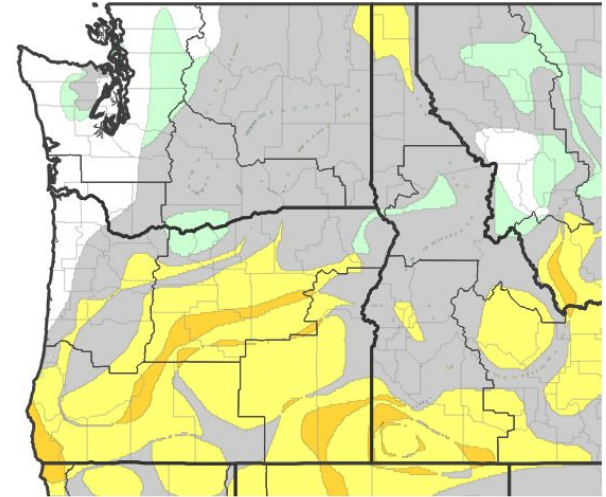


# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Eastern Washington and North Idaho

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change:
  - Drought Worsened: Northern Idaho Panhandle
  - Drought Improvements: Improvements seen near the crest of the Central Cascades.

U.S. Drought Monitor 4-Week Change Map



Drought Degradation



Drought Improvement



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

Data Valid: 04/07/26

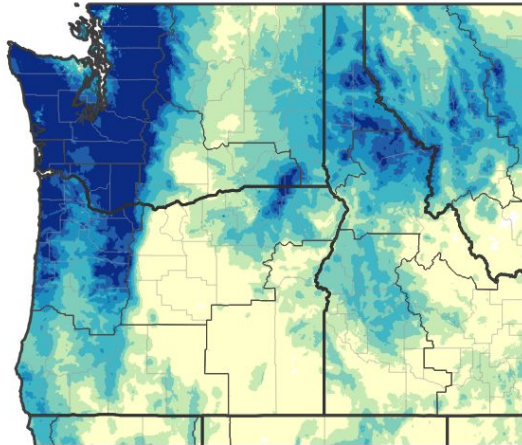




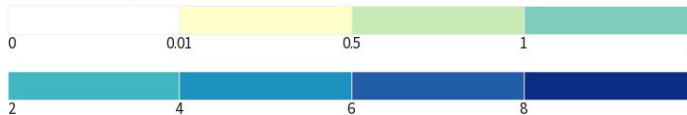
# Precipitation

- Last 30 days has been drier than normal in north central WA near the Canadian border, and some areas in central WA.
- Last 30 days has been wetter than normal for the Palouse, and most of the Idaho Panhandle.

### 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



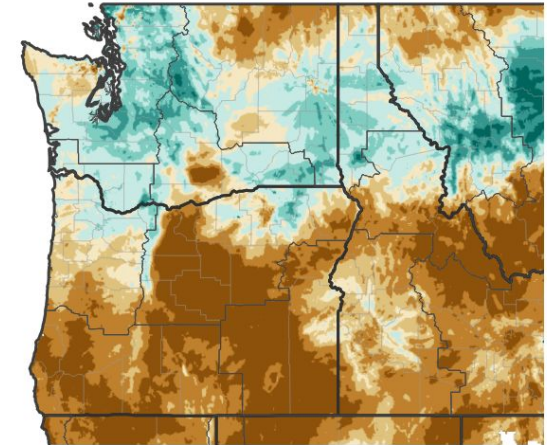
Inches of Precipitation



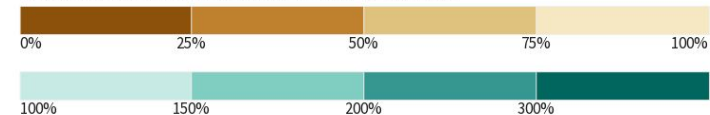
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 04/09/26

### 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: 04/09/26

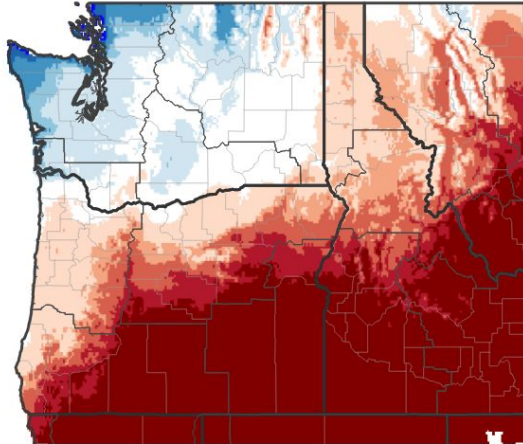




# Temperature

- Over the last week temperatures have ranged from 6 degrees below normal to 6 degrees above normal.
- In the last 30 days temperatures have been near normal to 8 degrees warmer than normal.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



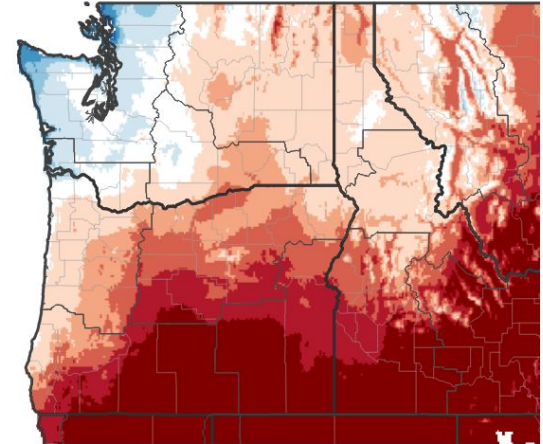
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



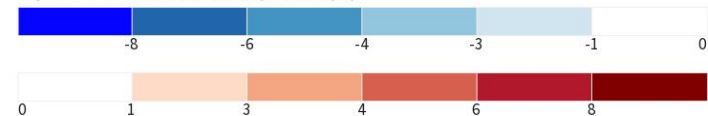
Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 03/31/26

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: 03/31/26





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Water supply outlook remains below normal eastern third of Washington and north Idaho ([NWS NWRFC](#)).
- Water supply outlook is more optimistic for central Washington.

## Agricultural Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

## Other Impacts

- The snow deficit will likely lead to deteriorating water supply conditions over the summer.
- Washington State has declared a [drought emergency](#) for the entire state due to snowpack deficits.

## Mitigation Actions

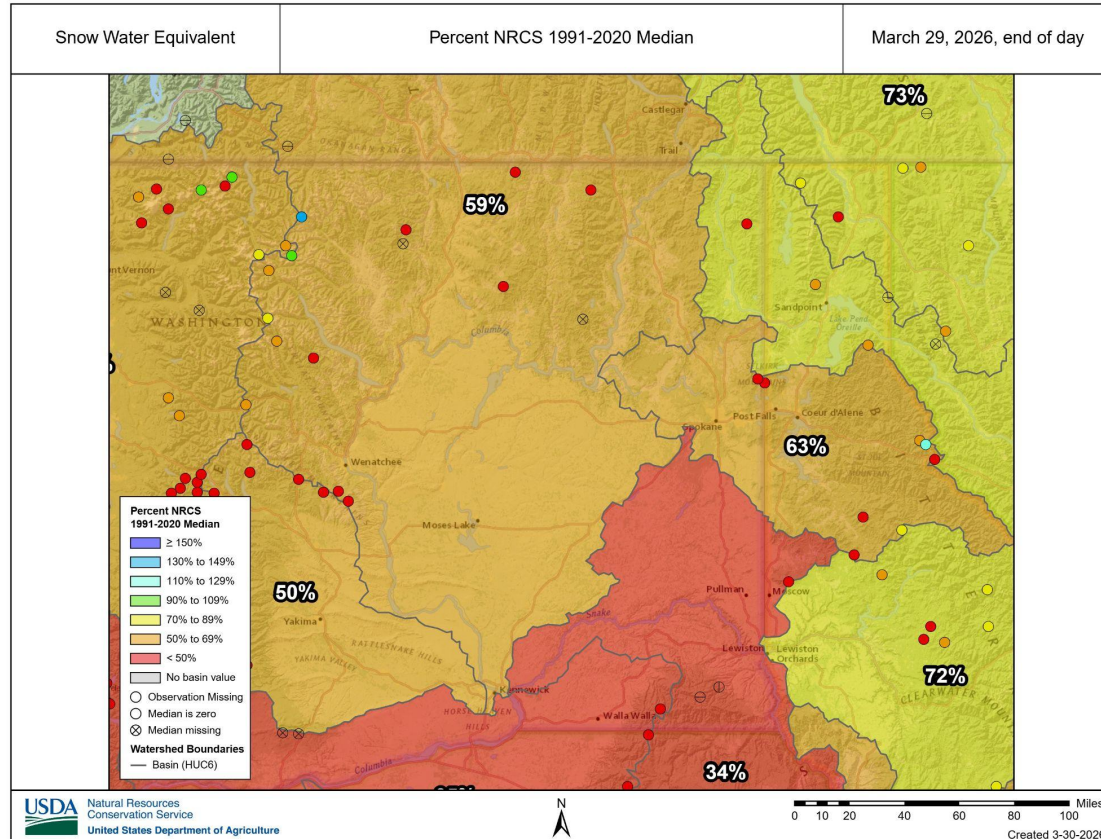
- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Snow Water Equivalent is well below normal across the region.
- Elevations above 5000 feet are closer to normal compared to lower elevations (especially the north Cascades).



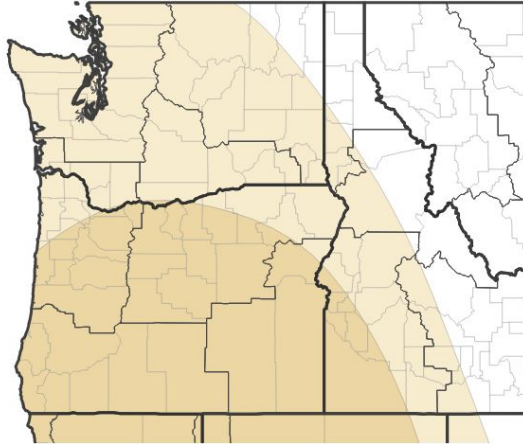


# Long-Range Outlooks

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

- For April, precipitation is expected to be near normal to slightly below normal (33-40% chance)
- Temperatures are expected to be slightly above normal (33-50% chance)

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



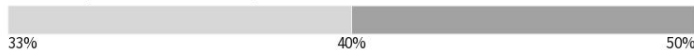
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation

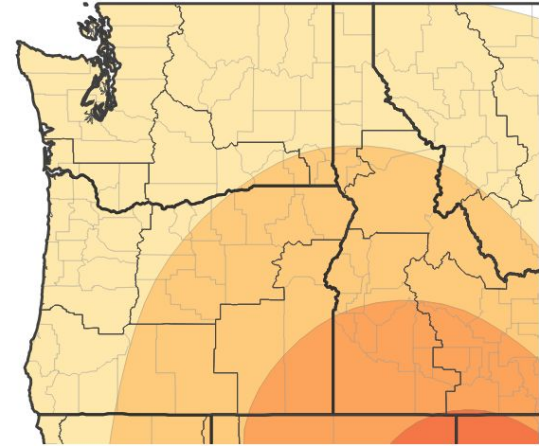


Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 03/31/26

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



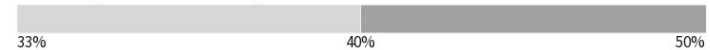
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 03/31/26



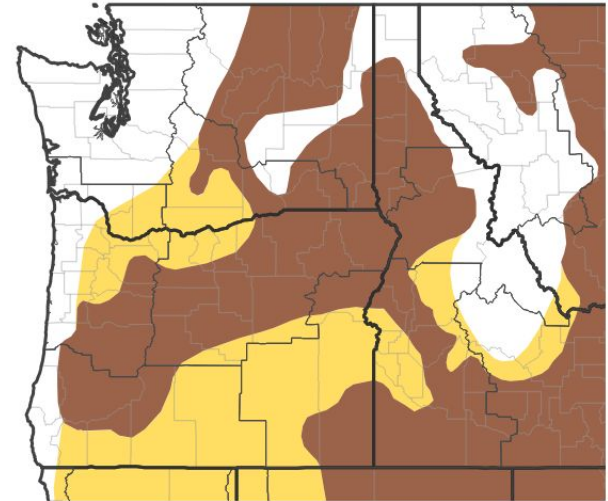


# Drought Outlook

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

- Drought conditions are expected to persist for portions of central Washington, southeast Washington, central and southern ID Panhandle through the end of June.

**Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for March 31, 2026–June 30, 2026**



**Drought Is Predicted To...**



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

Last Updated: 03/31/26

Links to the latest:

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

