



Drought Information Statement for the Quad State Region

Valid April 16, 2026

Issued By: WFO Paducah, Kentucky

Contact Information: nws.paducah@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/pah/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- A continuation of our dry pattern which began late summer/fall last year has continued through the winter and into early spring. Severe to Extreme drought is in place across a large chunk of our region.
- Portions of our area have experienced one of their top 5 driest periods on record since December 1st, including Paducah witnessing their driest Dec 1st - April 15th on record.



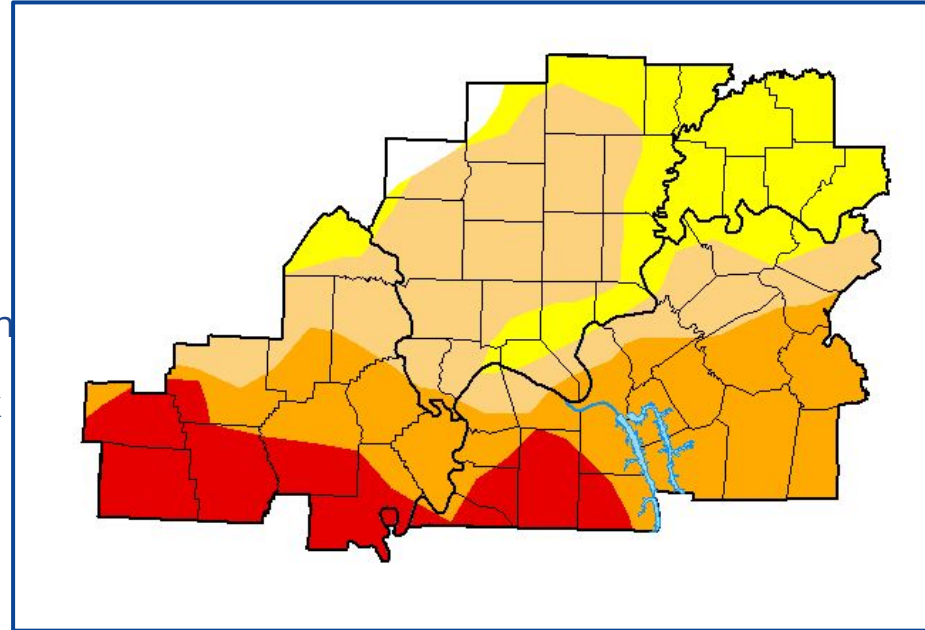


U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for southeast MO, southern IL, southwest IN, and west KY

- Drought conditions have deteriorated across portions of our region this month.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** Southern portions of southeast MO and far southwest KY (16% of our service area)
 - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Covers additional portions of southeast MO and much of western KY (45% of the area in at least D2 drought).
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Covers a large chunk of southern Illinois along with small parts of west KY and southeast MO. (77% of our region is in at least D1 drought)
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** Covers the rest of our region except small parts of Perry and Jefferson County in Illinois (99% of our area is in at least D0)

U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 04/07/26

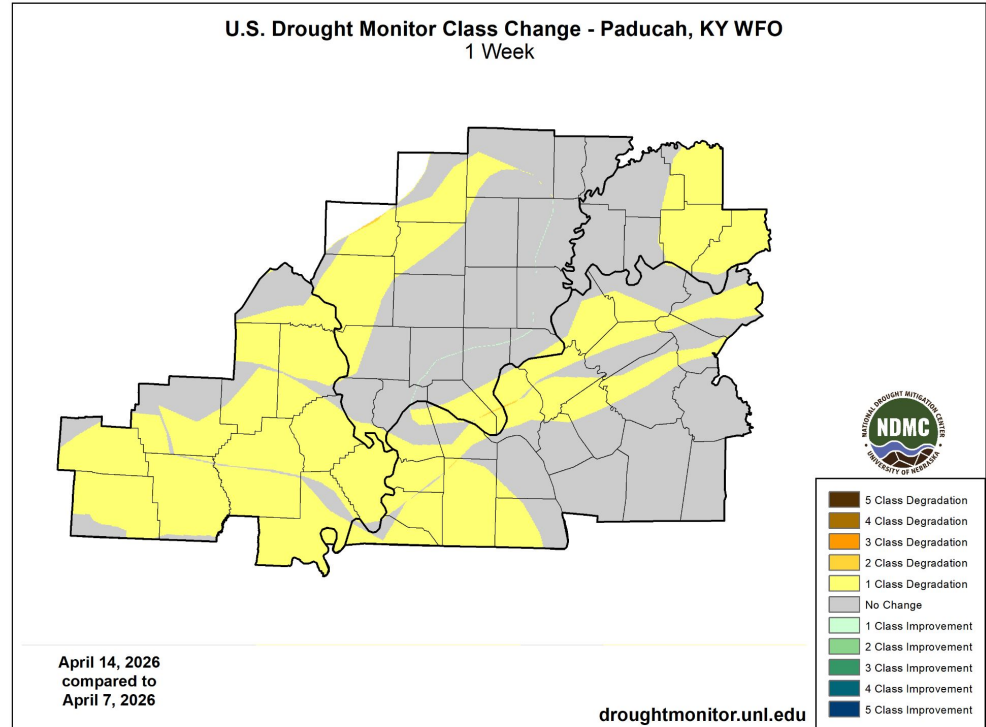




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for southeast MO, southern IL, southwest IN, and west KY

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change
 - **Drought Improved:** None
 - **Drought Worsened:** Much of southeast MO, along with portions of southern IL, western KY, and southwest IN.



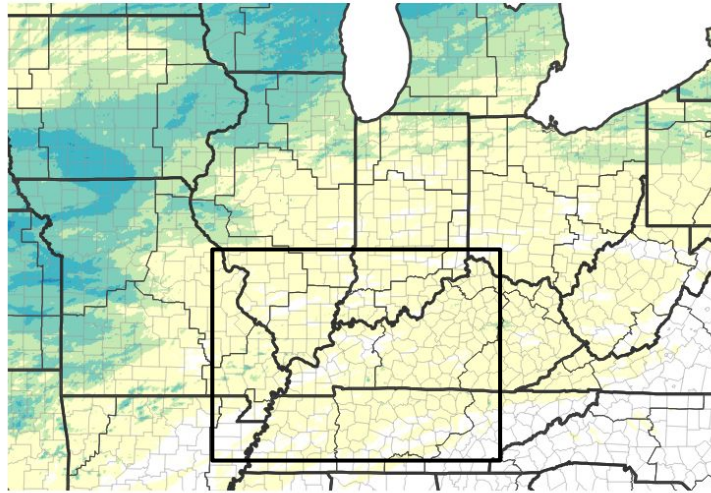


Precipitation

Last 7 Days Total and Percent of Normal

- Much of our region received very little measurable rain across the past week. The exception is northwestern portions of the region (parts of southeast MO and southwest IL) which received amounts ranging from 0.25" to 0.75".

7-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

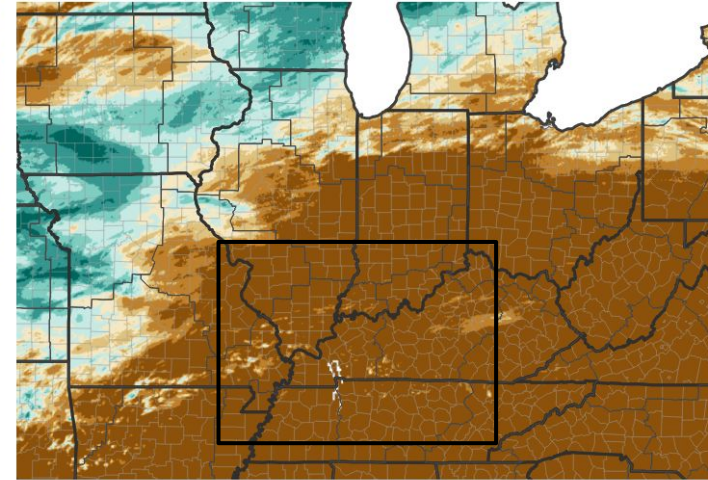


Inches of Precipitation

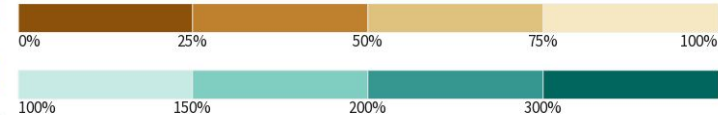


Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; Last Updated: 04/15/26

7-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: 04/15/26



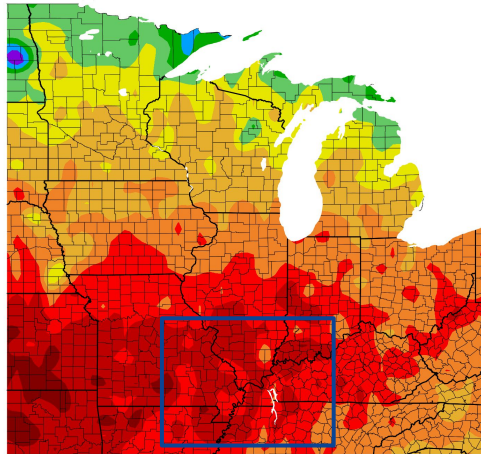


Temperature

Last 30 Day Average and Departure

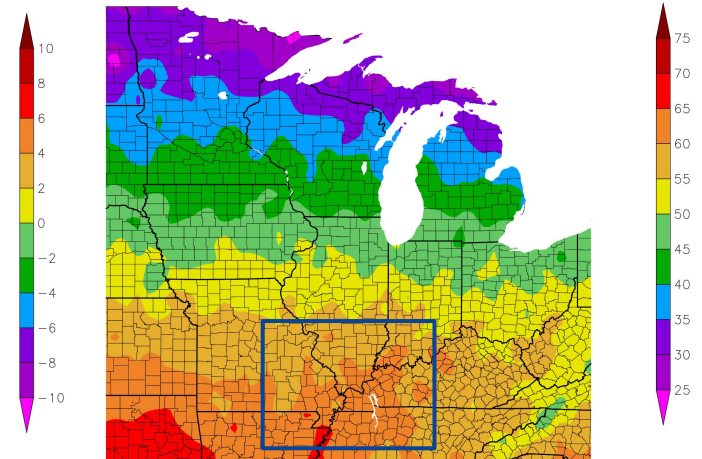
- Temperatures were well above normal for the month of March, with most of the area witnessing one of our top 5 warmest March's on record.
- The abnormal warmth continued into the first couple weeks of April. Paducah is experiencing their warmest start to April on record (April 1-15)

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
3/17/2026 - 4/15/2026



Generated 4/16/2026 using provisional data.

Temperature (F)
3/17/2026 - 4/15/2026



ACIS Web Services⁰²⁶ using provisional data.

ACIS Web Services





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- 14 day streamflows, according to USGS data, are running in the 10th to 25th percentile across portions of southeast MO, southern IL, and western KY. A few sites continue to run below the 10th percentile.

Agricultural Impacts

- Limited Ag impacts so far aside from very low farm pond levels. Planting is ahead of schedule due to the dry conditions. Ag impacts will likely increase rapidly if we don't receive notable rainfall over the coming weeks.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

- There are no known impacts at this time.

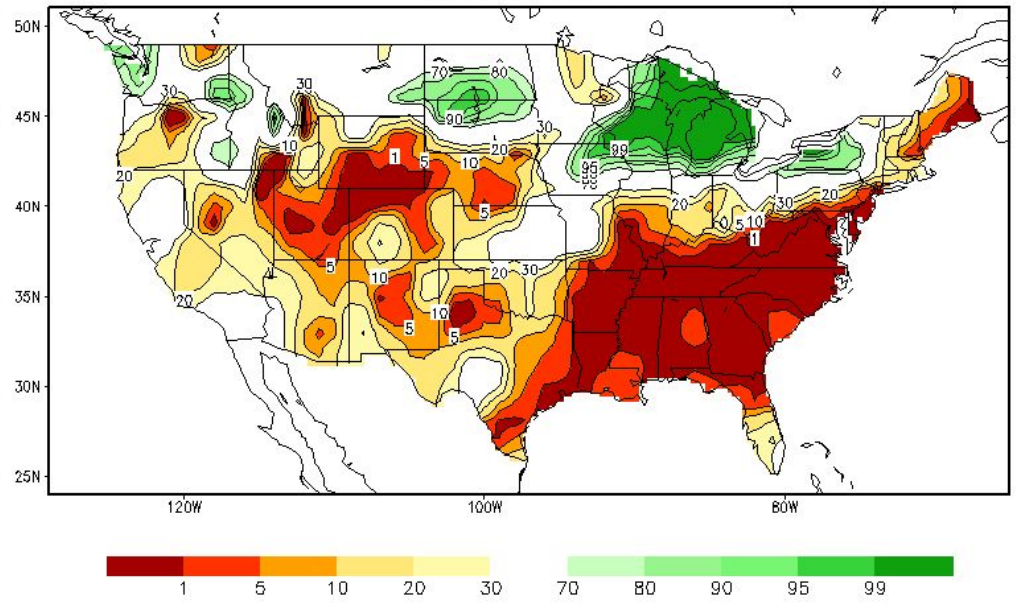




Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture continues to deteriorate and is very low across much of our region and a large part of the southeastern U.S.

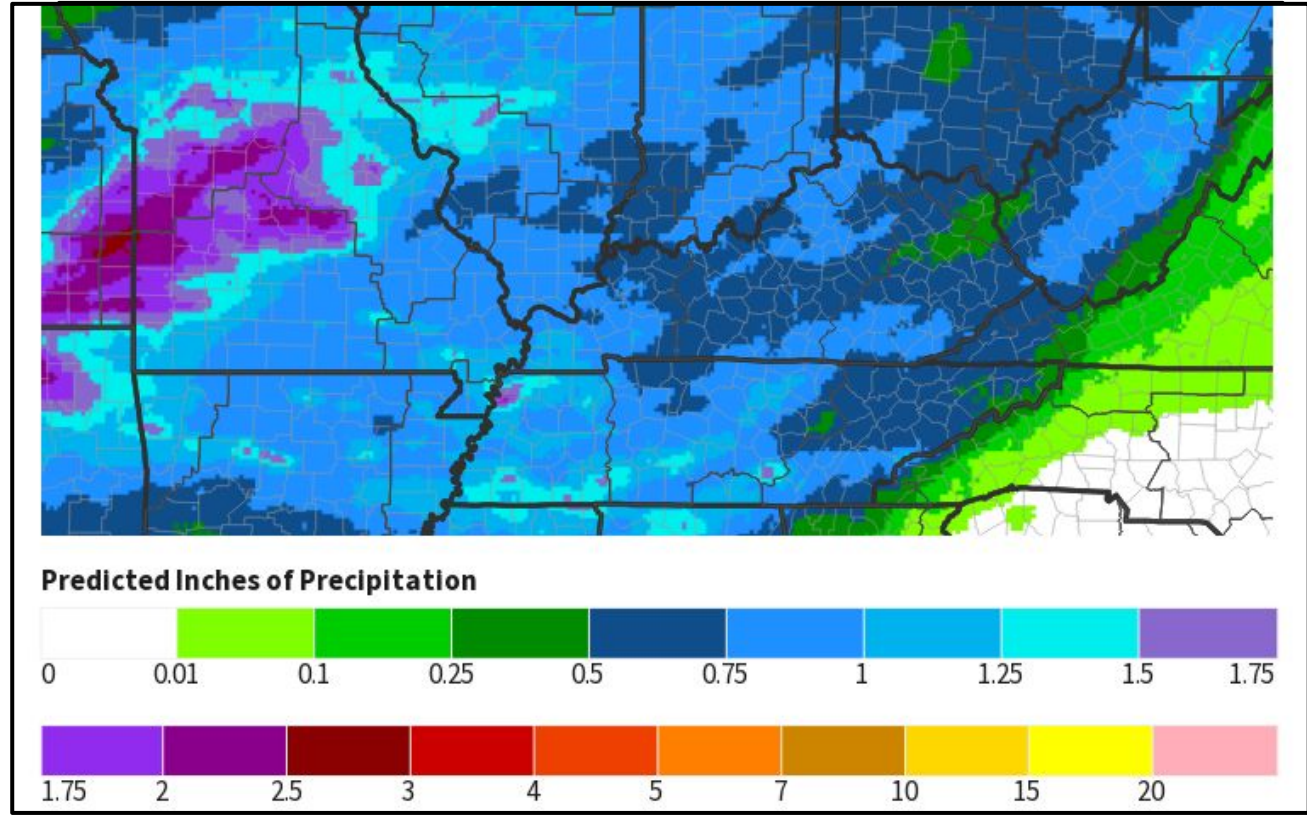
Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
APR 15, 2026





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Rainfall amounts over the next week are forecast to range from 0.50" to 1" in many areas, with locally higher amounts possible.

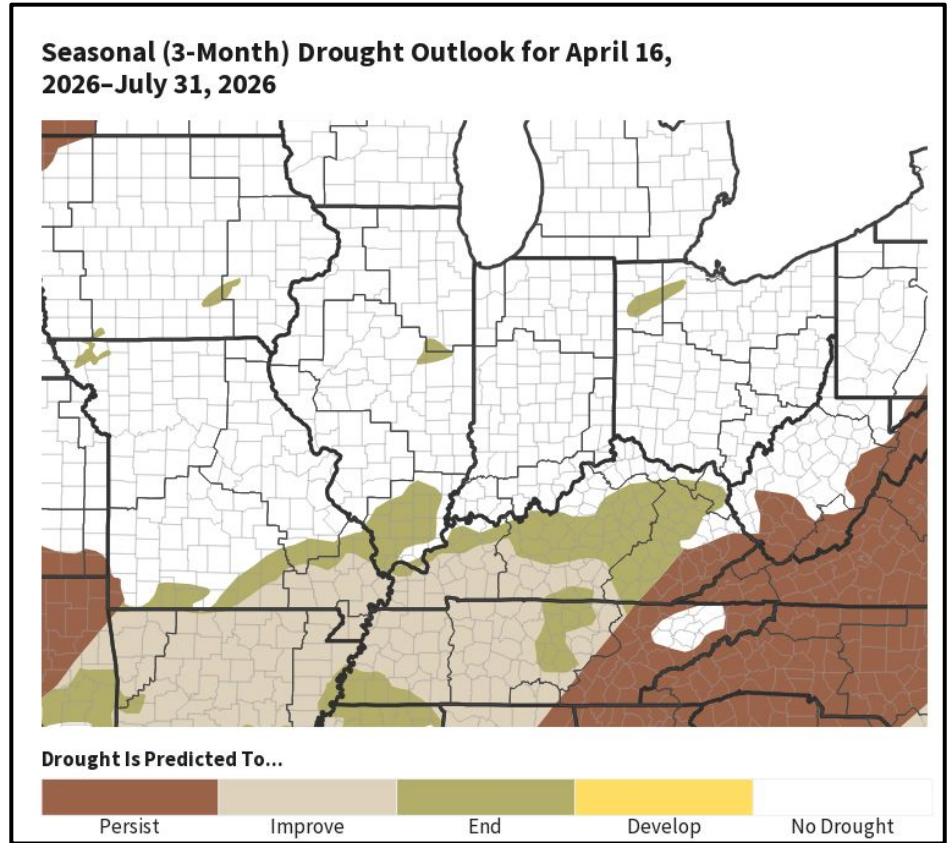




Drought Outlook

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

- Drought may improve across the region over the next couple of months, but may not disappear completely.



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
Paducah, KY