Fire Management Briefing

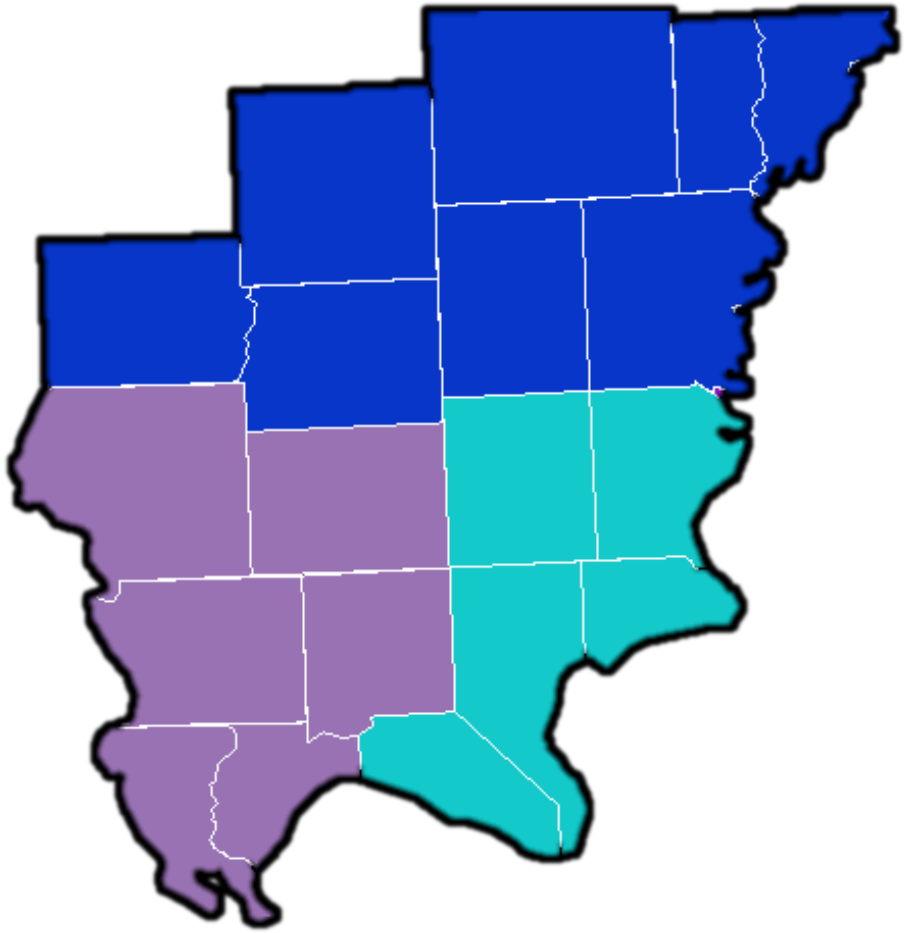
4/30/2026
8:10 AM

NWS-Paducah

The forecast for this briefing was coordinated with NWS Paducah, NWS St. Louis and NWS Lincoln.

For more detailed information, daily forecasts, and other questions, visit your local NWS office website or feel free to reach out to us any time, day or night.

- **NWS Paducah (PAH):** 270-744-0321
- **NWS St. Louis (LSX):** 636-447-1876
- **NWS Lincoln (ILX):** 217-732-7489



Bottom Lines Up Front

4/30/2026
8:10 AM

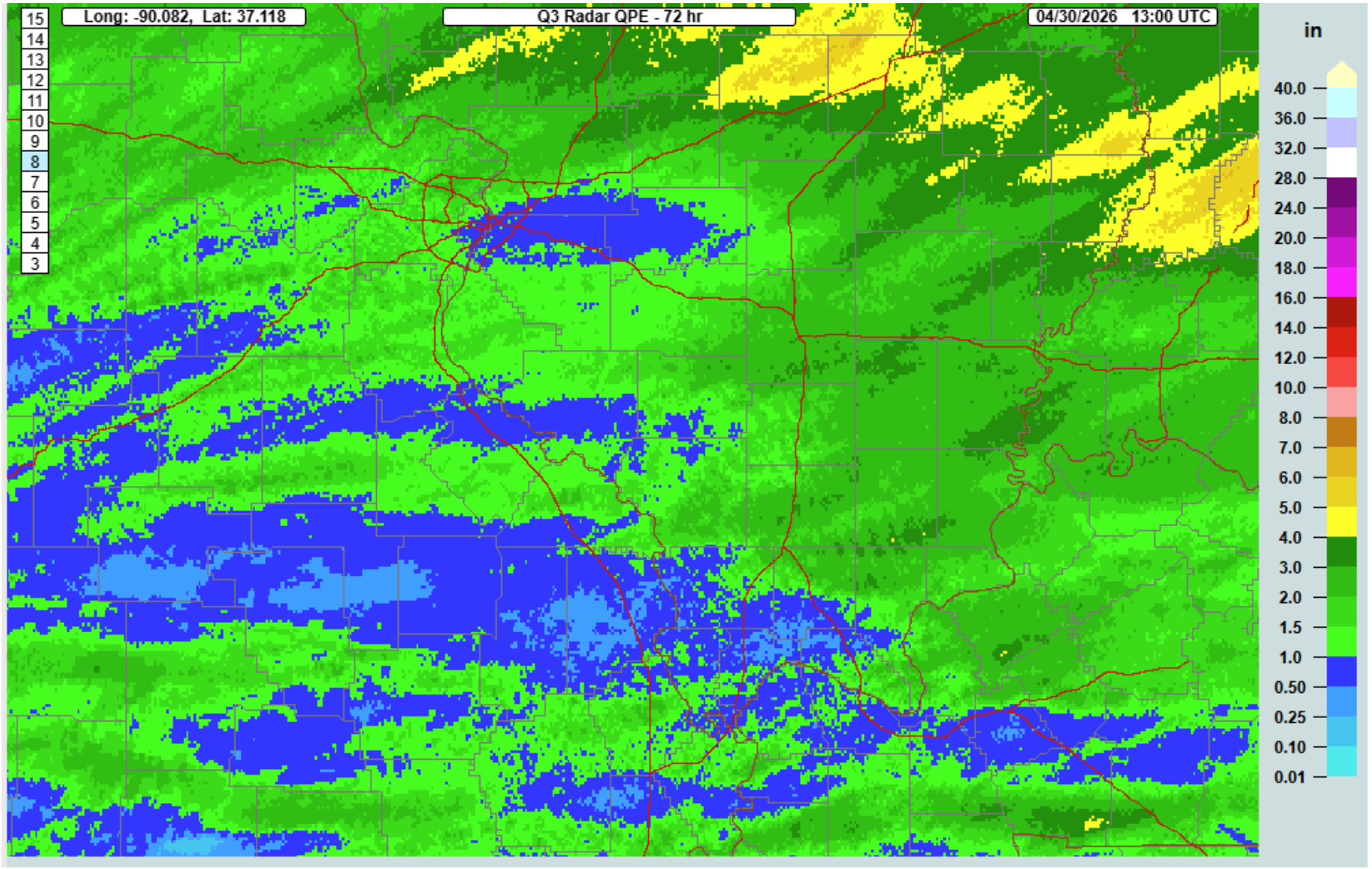
NWS-Paducah

- **Wetting Rains**
  - Light showers tonight likely will only amount to a few hundreths at best. Another wave on Saturday will also be quite light, generally under a tenth of an inch.
  - Wet pattern returns Tuesday and Wednesday next week (current forecast rainfall totals 1 to 1.5”)
- **Wind Highlights**
  - Light northerly winds today (5 mph) increase some Friday and Saturday (10 mph)
  - Winds become southwesterly Sunday through Wednesday. They also increase with gusts of at least 20-25 mph Monday and Tuesday (possibly higher).
- **RH Highlights**
  - Driest conditions over the next week will be today through Monday with RH’s ranging from 30-40% most of the time. May have some values a bit under 30% today though.
  - RH values trend higher (50% and up) Tuesday and Wednesday.
- **Outlooks**
  - 8-14 Day: Decent signal for below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation.

Precipitation Across Southern Illinois

4/30/2026
8:10 AM

Radar Precipitation Estimates Over the Last 72 Hours

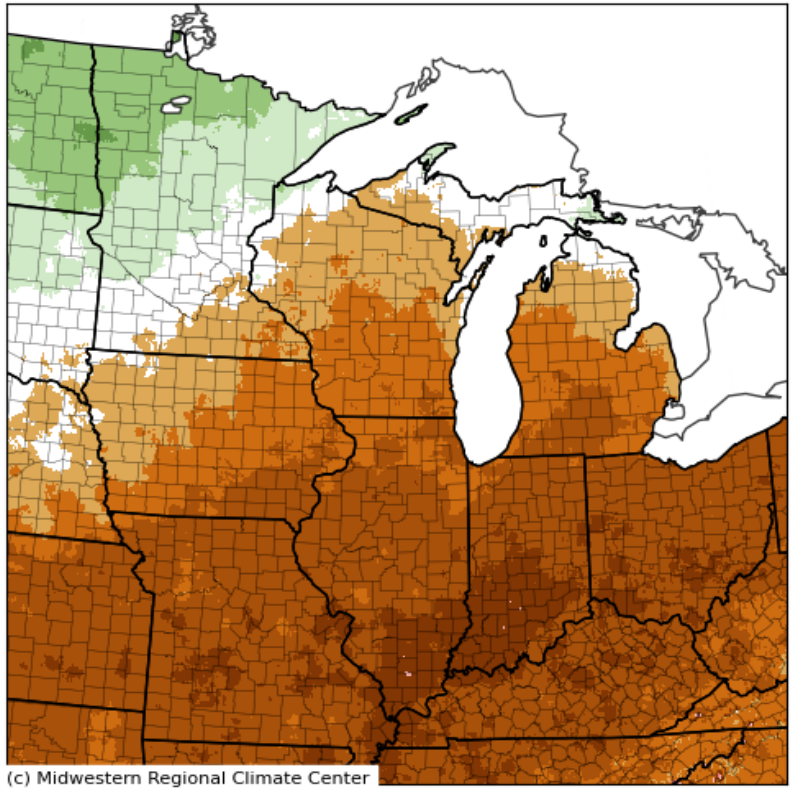


Precipitation/Temperature Departure

4/30/2026
8:10 AM

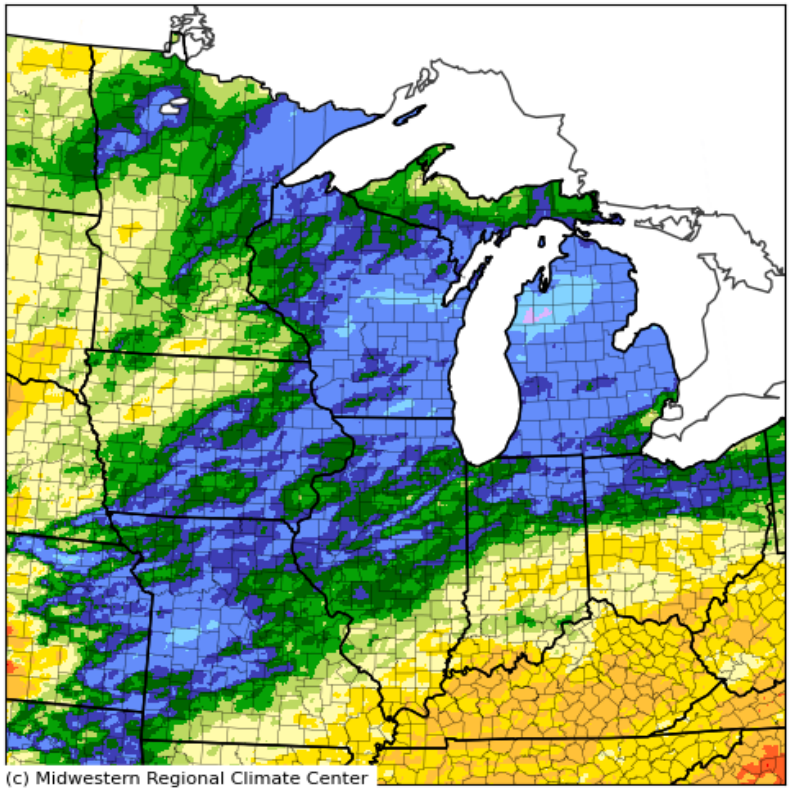
Last 30 Days

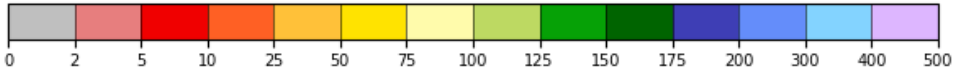
Average Temperature (°F):
Departure from 1991-2020 Normals
March 31, 2026 to April 29, 2026



Source: PRISM Weather Data
Generated on: Thu Apr 30, 2026 08:01:02 EDT

Accumulated Precipitation:
Percent of 1991-2020 Normals
March 31, 2026 to April 29, 2026





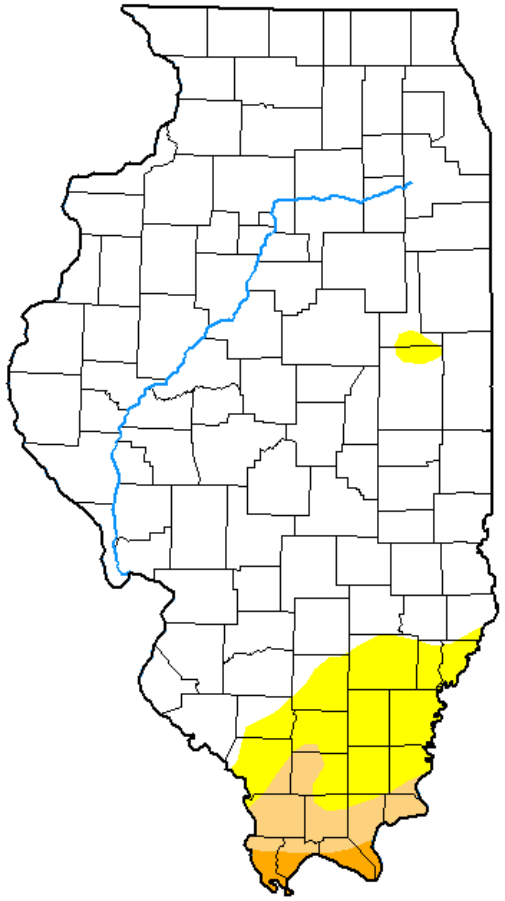
Source: PRISM Weather Data and NCEI Normals: 1991-2020
Generated on: Thu Apr 30, 2026 08:01:41 EDT

Current Drought Monitor

4/30/2026
8:10 AM

Note: This product is updated once per week on Thursday morning, and is valid for the Tuesday prior to its issuance.

U.S. Drought Monitor
Illinois



April 28, 2026
(Released Thursday, Apr. 30, 2026)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	87.44	12.56	4.09	0.87	0.00	0.00
Last Week 04-21-2026	79.79	20.21	8.55	0.25	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 01-27-2026	6.94	93.06	63.80	16.75	5.40	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-06-2026	2.05	97.95	74.75	19.79	5.40	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-30-2025	0.00	100.00	73.95	27.73	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 04-29-2025	67.23	32.77	5.73	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme 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:
Brad Rippey
U.S. Department of Agriculture

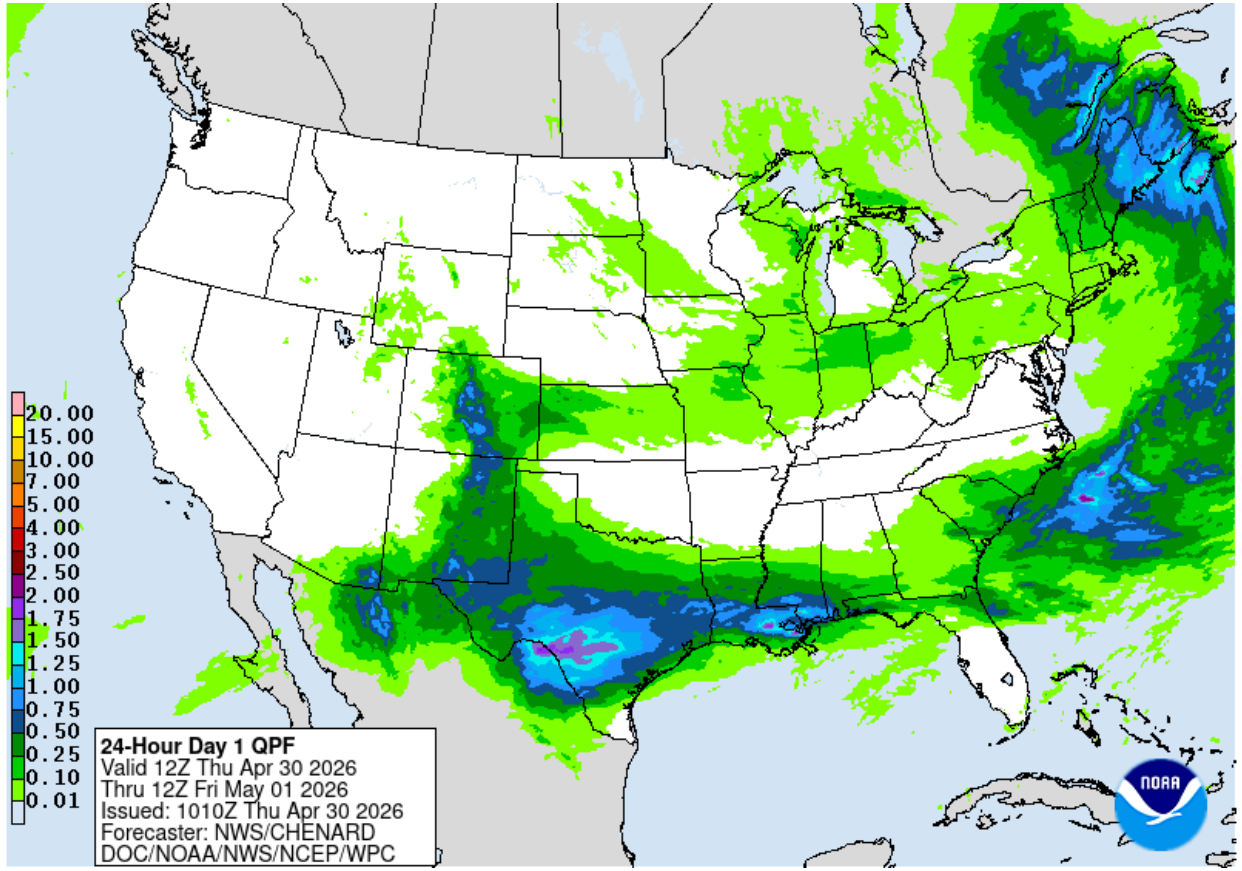
droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Precipitation Forecast

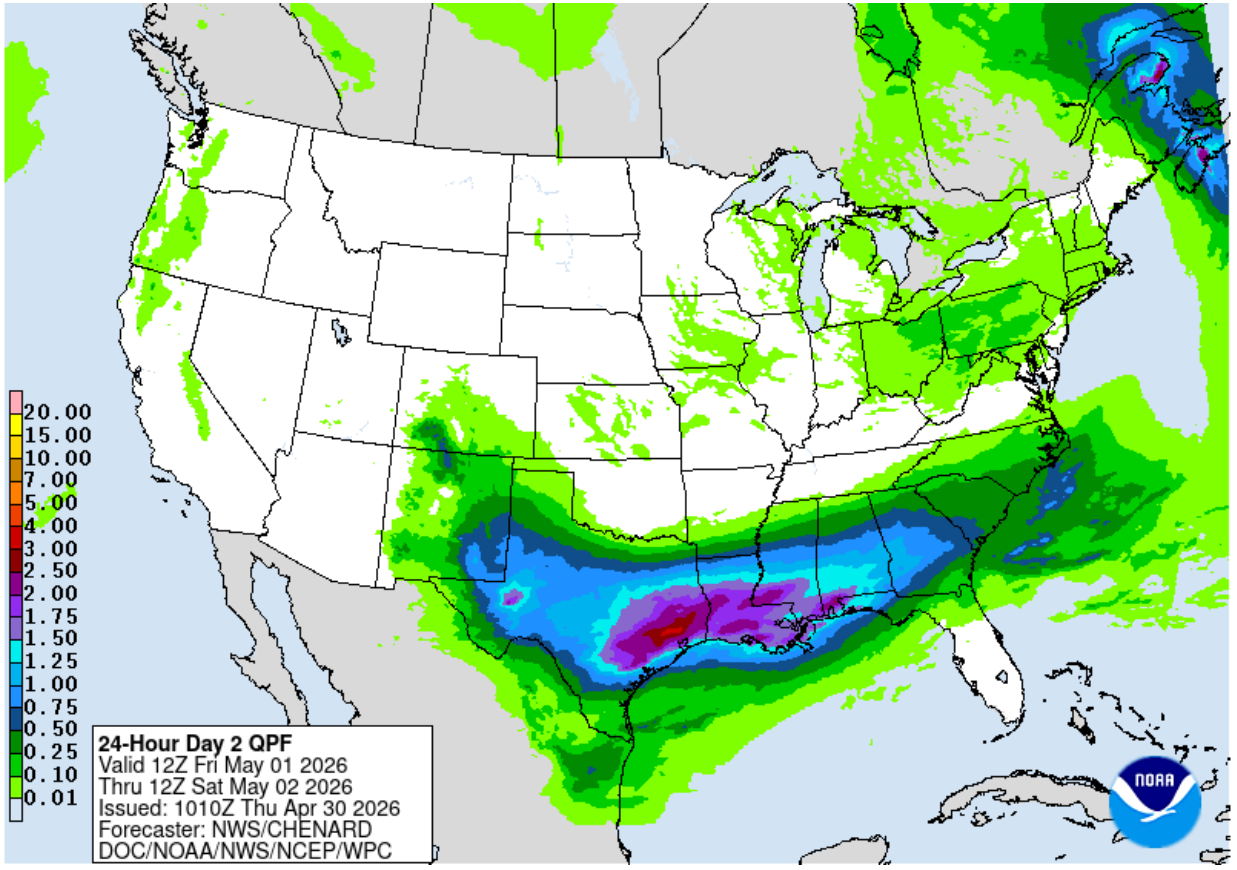
4/30/2026
8:10 AM

Including Ice/Snow/Sleet

Today and Tonight



Friday and Friday Night

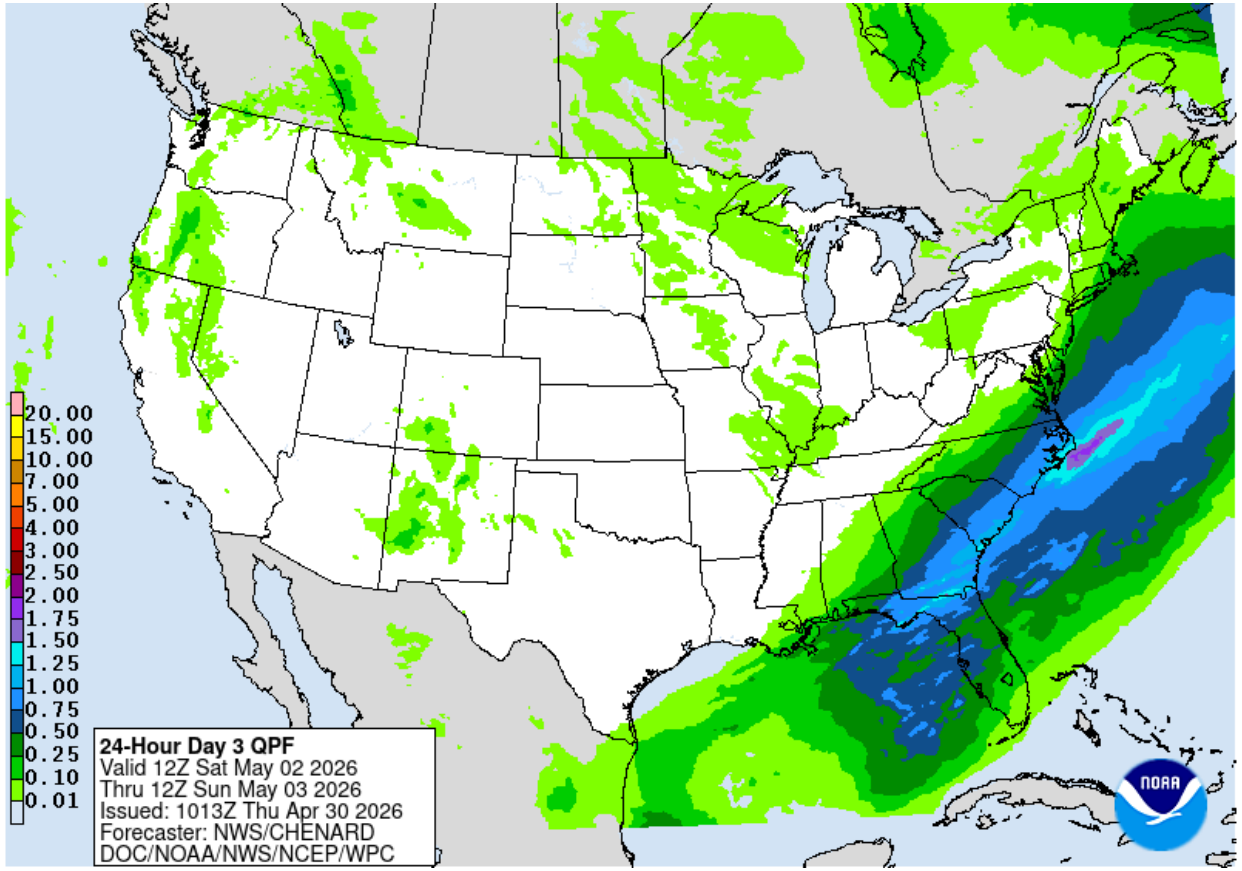


Precipitation Forecast

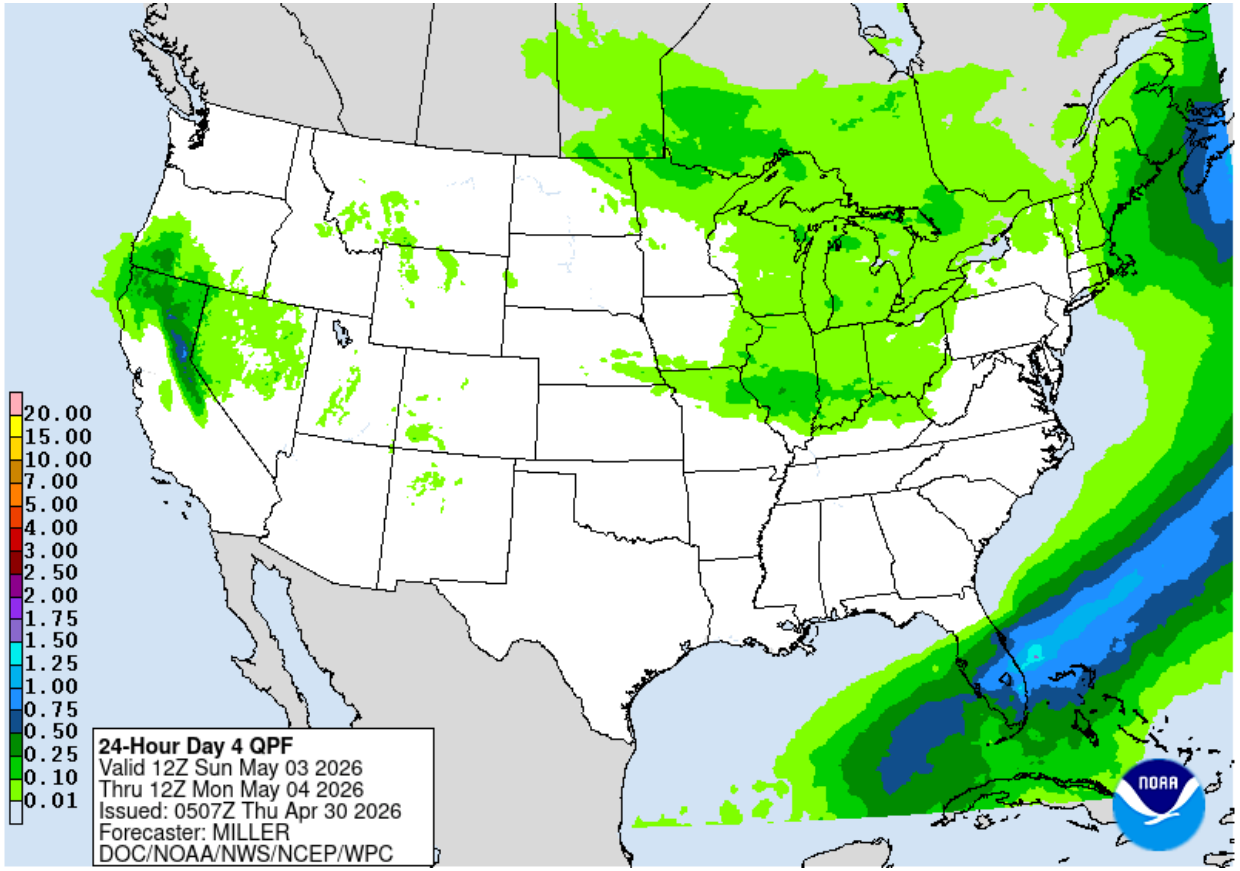
4/30/2026
8:10 AM

Including Ice/Snow/Sleet

Saturday and Saturday Night



Sunday and Sunday Night

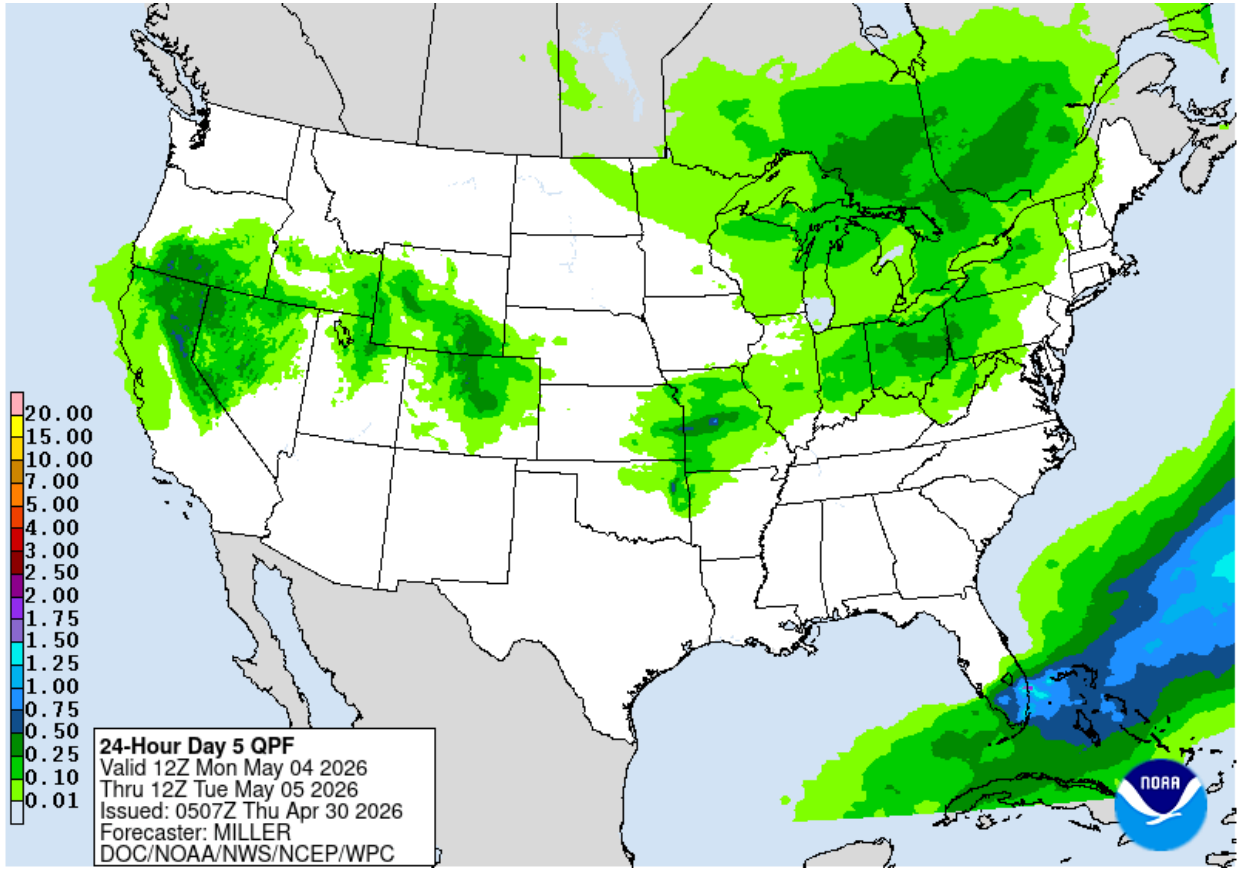


Precipitation Forecast

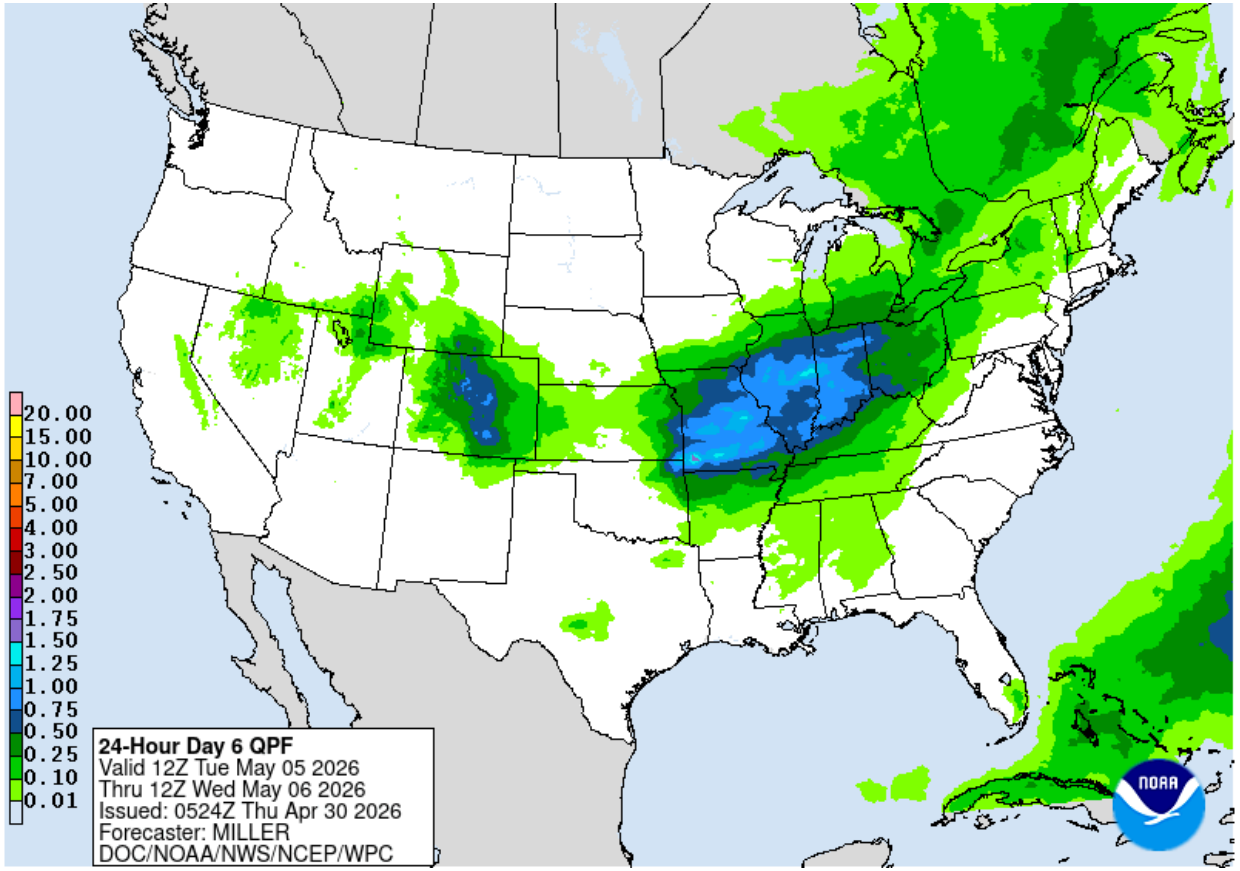
4/30/2026
8:10 AM

Including Ice/Snow/Sleet

Monday and Monday Night



Tuesday and Tuesday Night

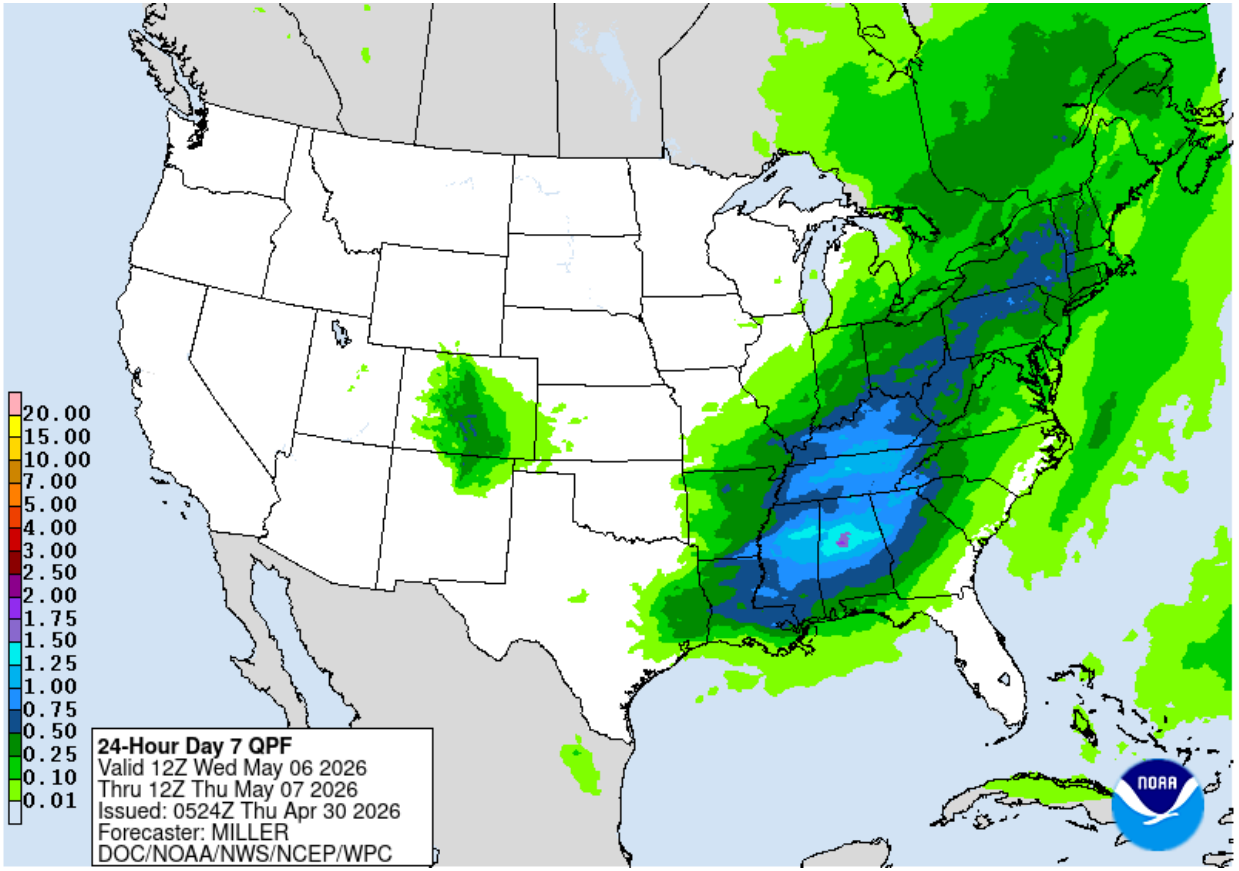


Precipitation Forecast

4/30/2026
8:10 AM

Including Ice/Snow/Sleet

Wednesday and Wednesday Night



NFDRS Point Forecasts

4/30/2026
8:10 AM

Crab Orchard

Marion, IL Weekly Summary	Thu Apr 30	Fri May 1	Sat May 2	Sun May 3	Mon May 4	Tue May 5	Wed May 6	Thu May 7
Max Temp, °F	67	62	62	71	80	76	72	70
Min Temp, °F	49	47	42	39	55	58	58	50
Max RH, %	68	83	82	92	72	87	93	89
Min RH, %	30	36	38	32	36	48	53	35
Max Dewpoint, °F	39	43	37	43	52	56	56	51
Min Dewpoint, °F	34	35	36	36	44	52	52	41
Max Wind, mph	5	7	7	10	16	16	15	14
Min Wind, mph	1	2	2	1	9	10	9	7
Max Wind Gust, time/dir.	12 PM ↙	1 PM ↓	2 PM ↘	9 PM ↑	2 PM ↗	3 PM ↗	12 AM ↑	2 PM ↘
Max Wind Gust, mph	9	16	16	20	24	26	24	22
Max Prob. of Precip., %	9	22	9	13	40	67	67	32
Max Cloud Cover, %	65	54	52	6	35	63	61	46
Min Cloud Cover, %	2	27	3	1	1	35	46	22
Max Prob. of Thunder, %	3	6	9	13	18	26	26	-
Max Mixing Height, ft	6378	7381	6410	-	-	-	-	-
Min Mixing Height, ft	447	0	111	-	-	-	-	-
Max Vent. Rate, kt-ft	53	96	83	-	-	-	-	-
Min Vent. Rate, kt-ft	2	0	1	-	-	-	-	-

Latest Forecast

Dixon Springs

Simpson, IL Weekly Summary	Thu Apr 30	Fri May 1	Sat May 2	Sun May 3	Mon May 4	Tue May 5	Wed May 6	Thu May 7
Max Temp, °F	66	64	61	69	77	75	71	68
Min Temp, °F	49	48	43	39	53	58	58	51
Max RH, %	63	77	76	92	77	83	93	89
Min RH, %	33	35	42	35	40	52	59	40
Max Dewpoint, °F	40	43	38	43	52	57	57	52
Min Dewpoint, °F	33	36	35	36	43	52	52	43
Max Wind, mph	6	7	7	8	12	12	9	9
Min Wind, mph	0	1	1	1	6	6	6	5
Max Wind Gust, time/dir.	10 AM ↙	1 PM ↓	1 PM ↘	2 PM ↗	2 PM ↗	12 PM ↑	12 AM ↑	2 PM ↘
Max Wind Gust, mph	10	16	15	16	24	25	22	22
Max Prob. of Precip., %	5	15	9	8	37	63	67	35
Max Cloud Cover, %	66	61	57	6	35	62	63	57
Min Cloud Cover, %	2	26	2	0	2	35	54	20
Max Prob. of Thunder, %	4	4	9	8	15	25	28	-
Max Mixing Height, ft	6512	7722	5566	-	-	-	-	-
Min Mixing Height, ft	395	0	157	-	-	-	-	-
Max Vent. Rate, kt-ft	65	108	61	-	-	-	-	-
Min Vent. Rate, kt-ft	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-

Latest Forecast

NFDRS Point Forecasts

4/30/2026
8:10 AM

Bean Ridge

Thebes, IL Weekly Summary	Thu Apr 30	Fri May 1	Sat May 2	Sun May 3	Mon May 4	Tue May 5	Wed May 6	Thu May 7
Max Temp, °F	67	65	63	70	79	76	72	69
Min Temp, °F	50	50	45	41	54	59	59	51
Max RH, %	61	77	73	85	74	83	90	86
Min RH, %	29	34	38	33	38	50	55	37
Max Dewpoint, °F	39	43	38	43	52	57	57	51
Min Dewpoint, °F	33	35	36	36	42	51	51	42
Max Wind, mph	3	6	6	9	15	17	15	12
Min Wind, mph	1	2	2	1	9	10	9	8
Max Wind Gust, time/dir.	10 AM ↙	12 PM ↓	12 PM ↘	7 PM ↗	3 PM ↗	3 PM ↗	12 AM ↑	2 PM ↘
Max Wind Gust, mph	7	13	12	14	20	23	20	16
Max Prob. of Precip., %	6	15	8	5	20	62	64	31
Max Cloud Cover, %	68	61	60	6	34	66	65	47
Min Cloud Cover, %	1	26	2	1	1	31	47	22
Max Prob. of Thunder, %	3	5	8	5	15	26	28	-
Max Mixing Height, ft	6195	7440	7241	-	-	-	-	-
Min Mixing Height, ft	238	0	0	-	-	-	-	-
Max Vent. Rate, kt-ft	54	97	87	-	-	-	-	-
Min Vent. Rate, kt-ft	1	0	0	-	-	-	-	-

Latest Forecast

LBL

Dexter, KY Weekly Summary	Thu Apr 30	Fri May 1	Sat May 2	Sun May 3	Mon May 4	Tue May 5	Wed May 6	Thu May 7
Max Temp, °F	65	66	62	68	76	75	72	69
Min Temp, °F	50	49	45	42	54	59	60	54
Max RH, %	66	80	76	96	72	83	93	90
Min RH, %	34	38	39	37	45	56	61	42
Max Dewpoint, °F	41	45	40	44	53	60	60	55
Min Dewpoint, °F	35	39	37	40	44	51	55	44
Max Wind, mph	6	6	7	5	10	10	9	8
Min Wind, mph	1	1	2	1	6	7	6	5
Max Wind Gust, time/dir.	11 AM ↙	1 PM ↓	1 PM ↘	11 PM ↗	12 PM ↗	11 AM ↗	10 AM ↗	1 PM ↘
Max Wind Gust, mph	13	14	14	13	21	22	22	20
Max Prob. of Precip., %	4	10	10	3	26	58	64	45
Max Cloud Cover, %	70	75	75	4	27	64	64	55
Min Cloud Cover, %	1	30	4	1	1	27	54	13
Max Prob. of Thunder, %	0	4	10	3	11	20	30	-
Max Mixing Height, ft	5407	6479	5905	-	-	-	-	-
Min Mixing Height, ft	341	0	215	-	-	-	-	-
Max Vent. Rate, kt-ft	71	78	53	-	-	-	-	-
Min Vent. Rate, kt-ft	1	0	2	-	-	-	-	-

Latest Forecast

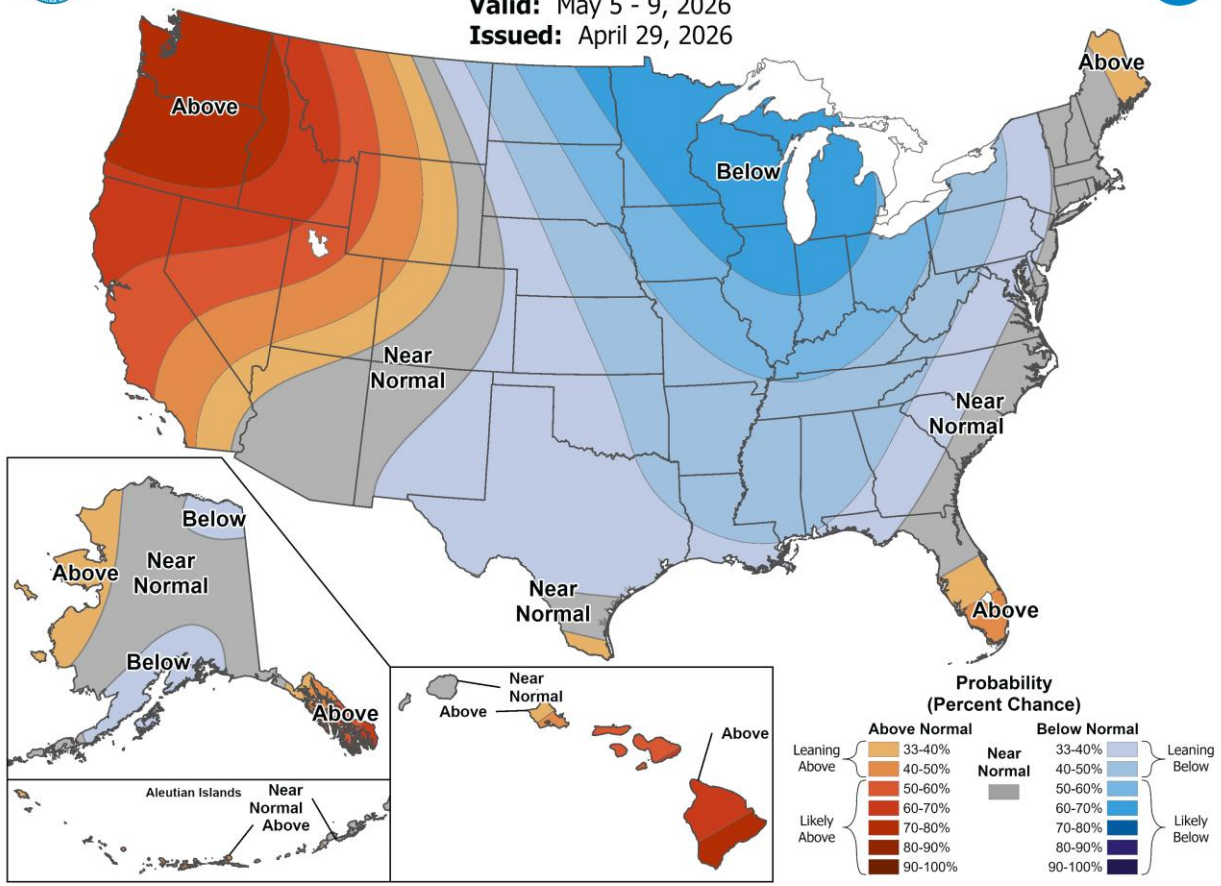
Climate Prediction Center Outlooks

4/30/2026
8:10 AM

6-10 Day Outlooks

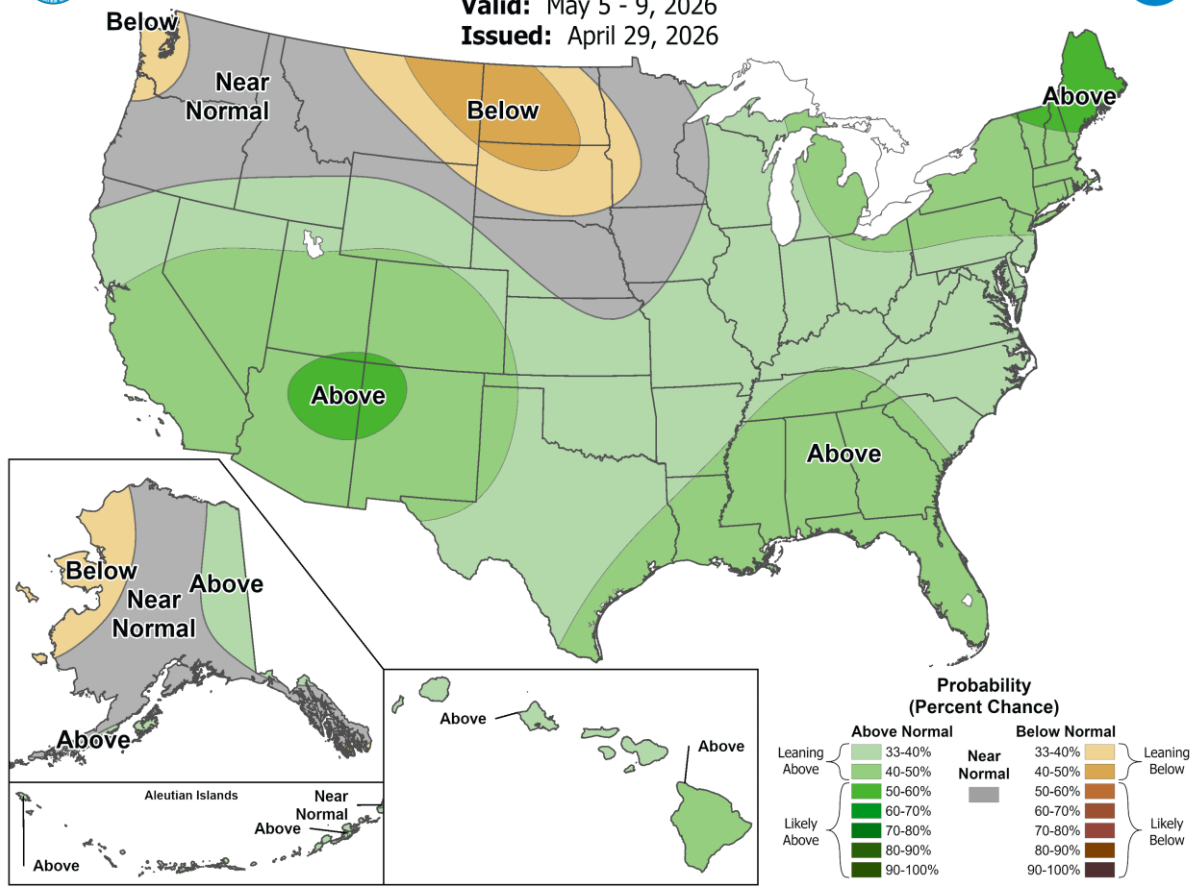
6-10 Day Temperature Outlook

Valid: May 5 - 9, 2026
Issued: April 29, 2026



6-10 Day Precipitation Outlook

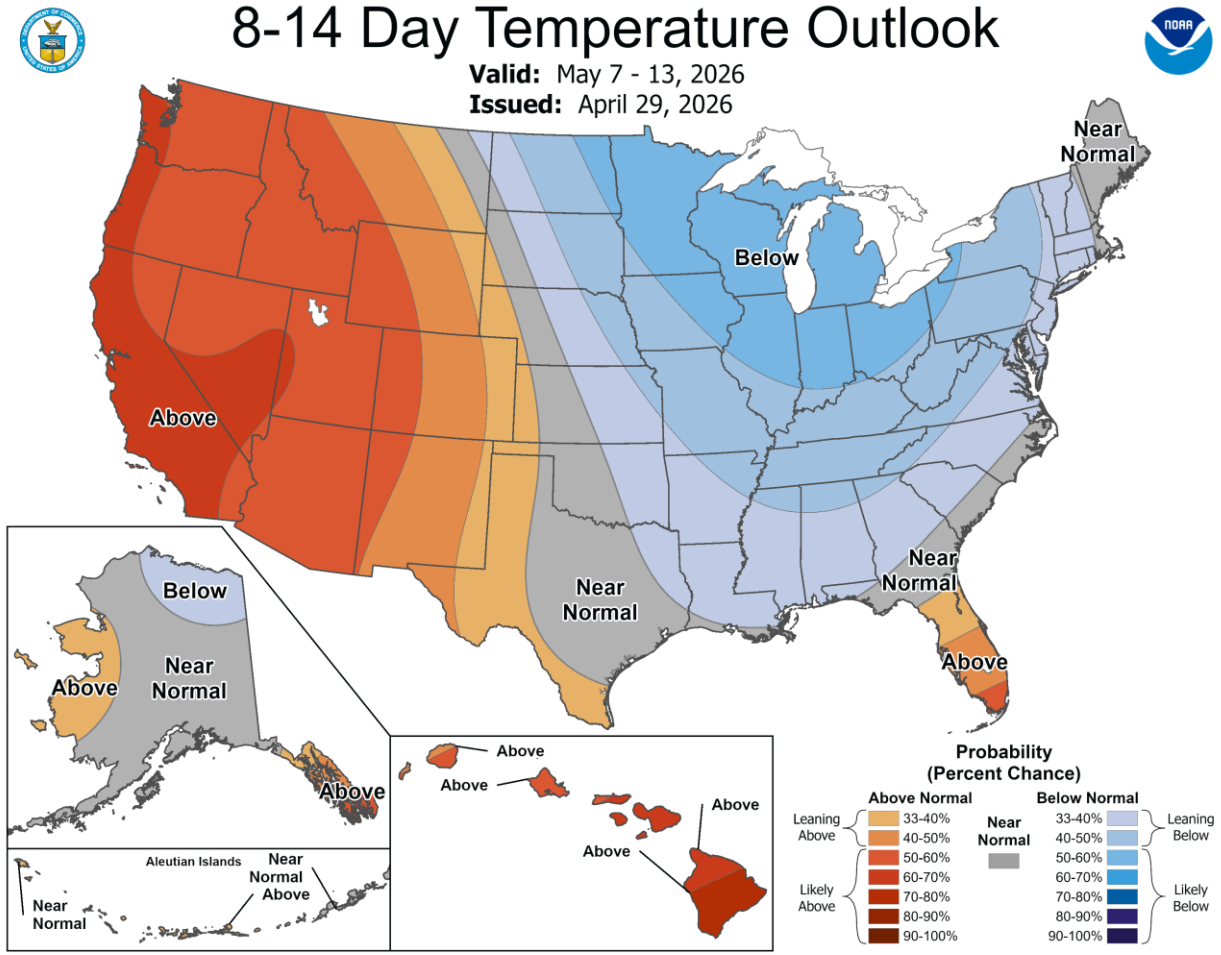
Valid: May 5 - 9, 2026
Issued: April 29, 2026

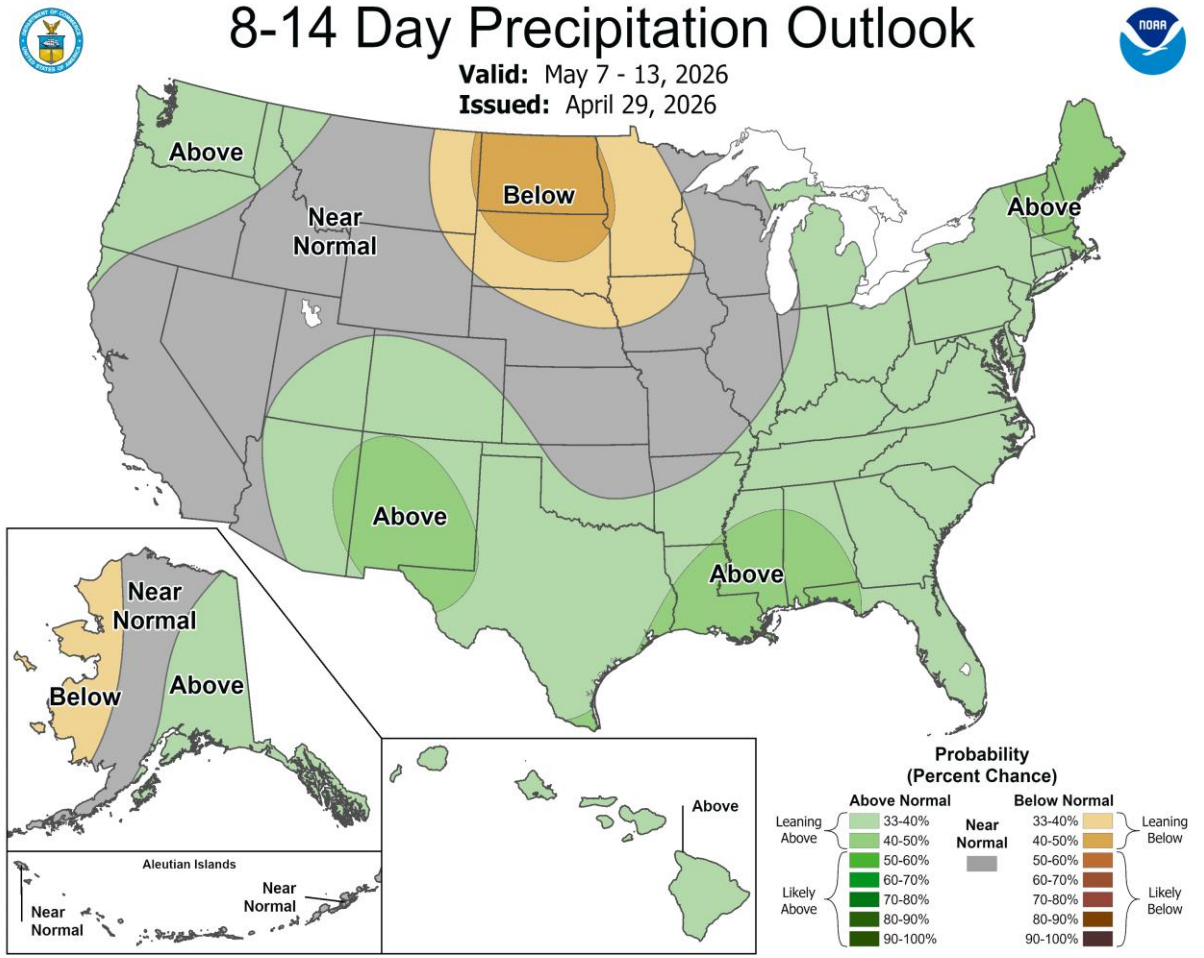


Climate Prediction Center Outlooks

4/30/2026
8:10 AM

8-14 Day Outlooks



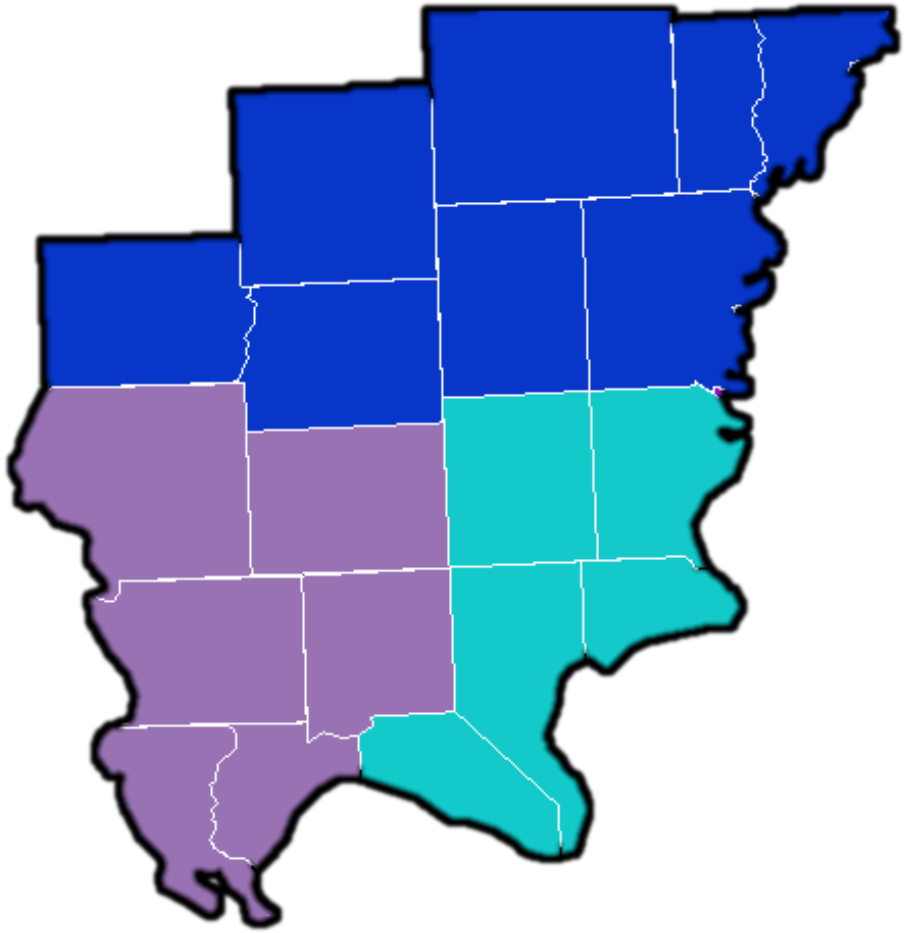


Questions?

For more detailed information, daily forecasts, and other questions, visit your local NWS office website or feel free to reach out to us any time, day or night.

Join NWSChat and our dedicated #wfo-paducah-ky-fire-weather channel!

Have a meteorologist in your pocket to

- **Ask weather questions.**
- **Discuss fuels with NWS Paducah Meteorologists.**
- **Send pictures or video of ongoing hazards.**

Signing up is free and takes just a few minutes!