



September 2025 Climate Summary

Greensboro

Average Temperature: 70.4° (-0.6°)
Average High Temperature: 80.3° (-0.1°)
Average Low Temperature: 60.5° (-1.0°)
Precipitation: 3.93" (-0.66")
Warmest Temperature: 89° (24th)
Coldest Temperature: 51° (9th)

Raleigh

Average Temperature: 72.1° (-0.5°)
Average High Temperature: 82.2° (-0.3°)
Average Low Temperature: 62.0° (-0.7°)
Precipitation: 1.92" (-3.23")
Warmest Temperature: 95° (24th)
Coldest Temperature: 53° (1st)

Fayetteville

Average Temperature: 73.7° (-0.5°)
Average High Temperature: 83.9° (+0.0°)
Average Low Temperature: 63.5° (-1.1°)
Precipitation: 2.48" (-2.39")
Warmest Temperature: 94° (6th, 24th, 25th)
Coldest Temperature: 57° (1st and 3rd)

Temperature

Above/Below Normal

Precipitation

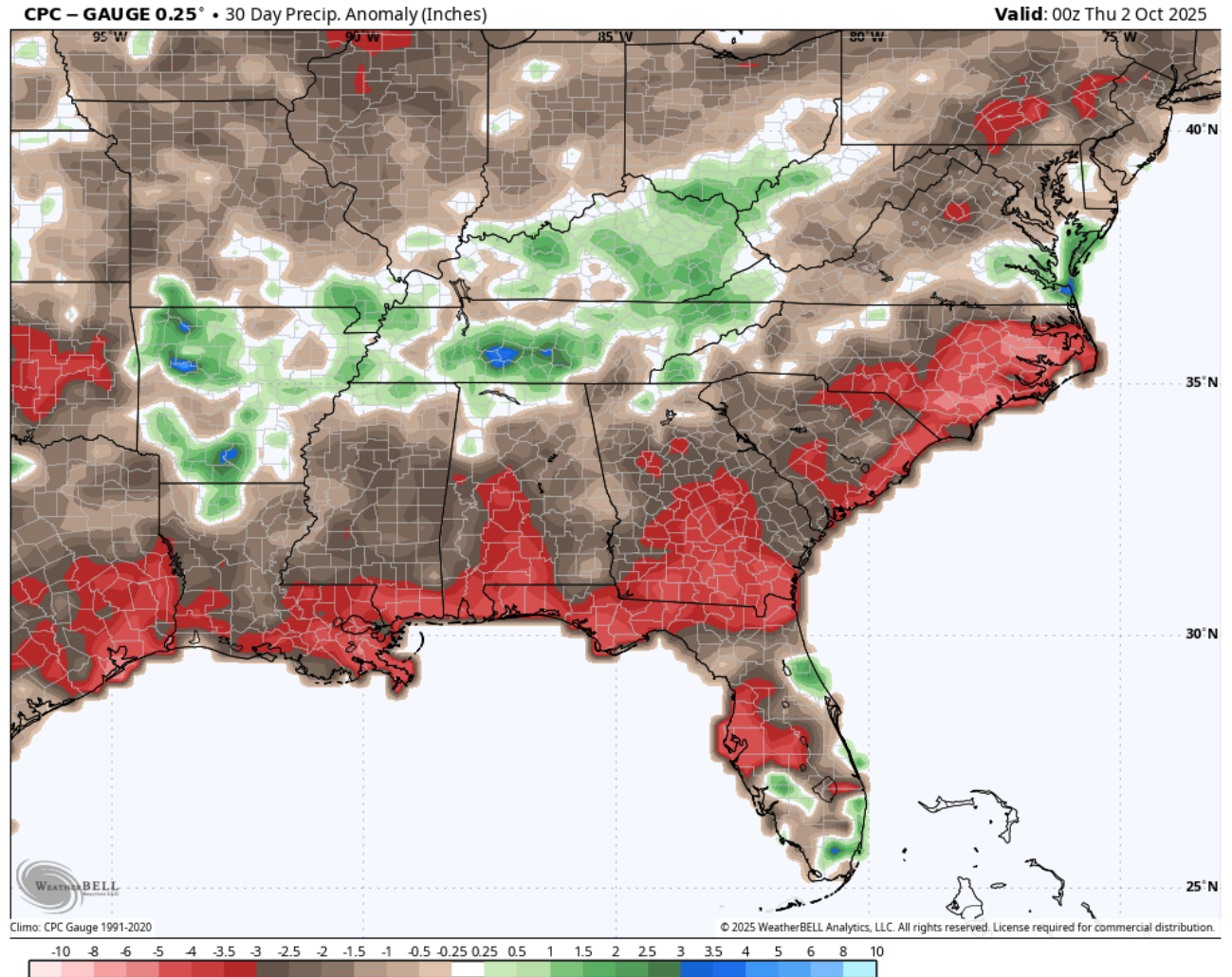
Above/Below Normal



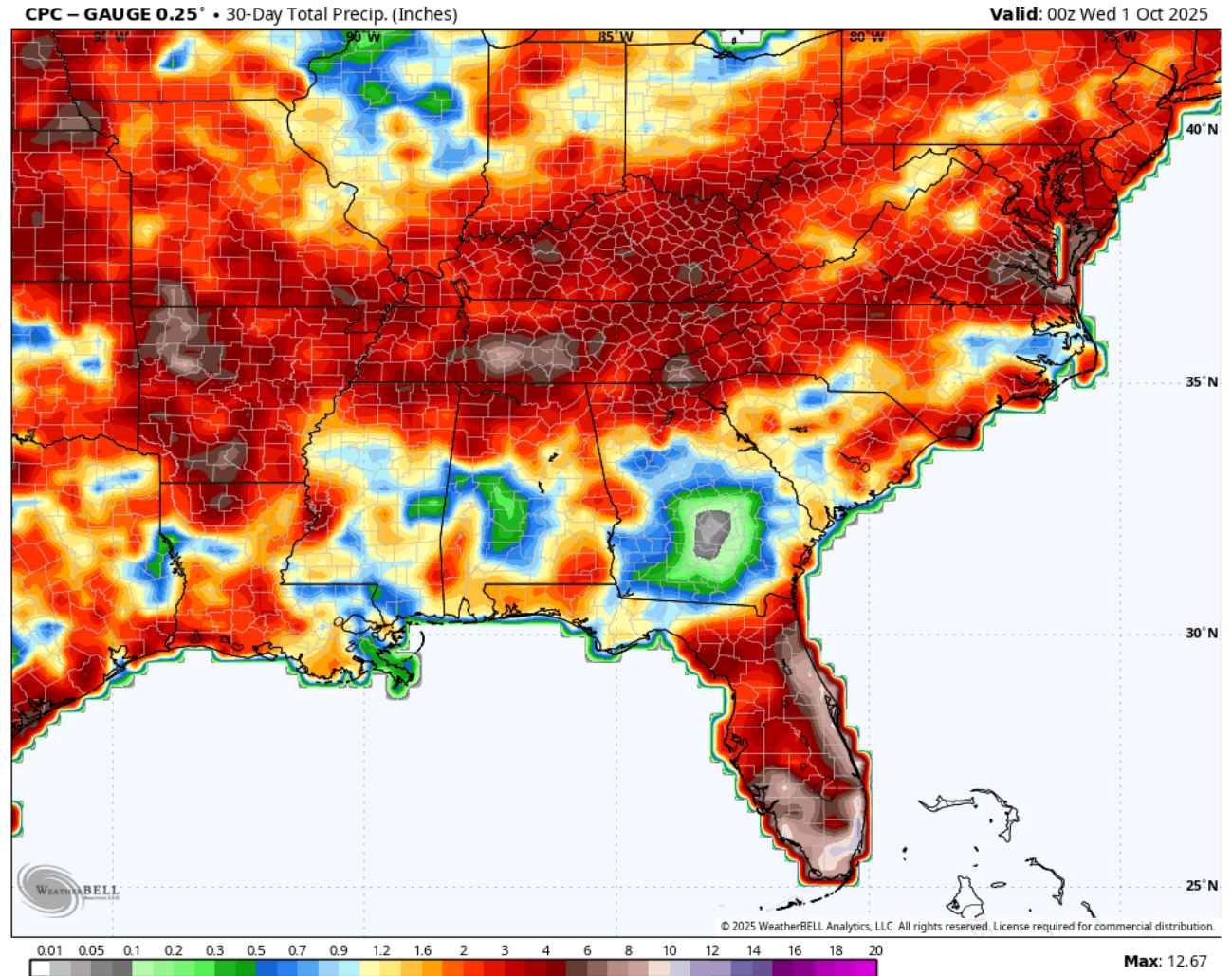
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Raleigh, NC

September 2025 was notably dry, particularly in North Carolina, as depicted in the September Rainfall Anomalies graphic. Only a few areas in the west and north of NC experienced above-normal rainfall, while red areas were exceptionally dry, experiencing 3 or more inches below normal.



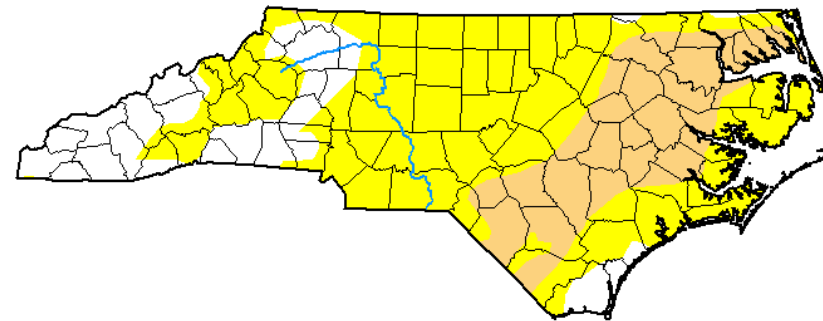
The figure to the right, illustrating September rainfall totals, shows much of central NC received only 2 to 3 inches of rain, with slightly higher amounts (3 to 4 inches) in the NW Piedmont and only 1 to 2 inches or less across the Coastal Plain.



U.S. Drought Monitor
North Carolina

September 30, 2025
(Released Thursday, Oct. 2, 2025)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

The dryness was also indicated in the latest The U.S. Drought Monitor for NC as of the end of September 2025. Note the abnormally dry to moderate drought conditions, with the driest areas in the Coastal Plain.



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:

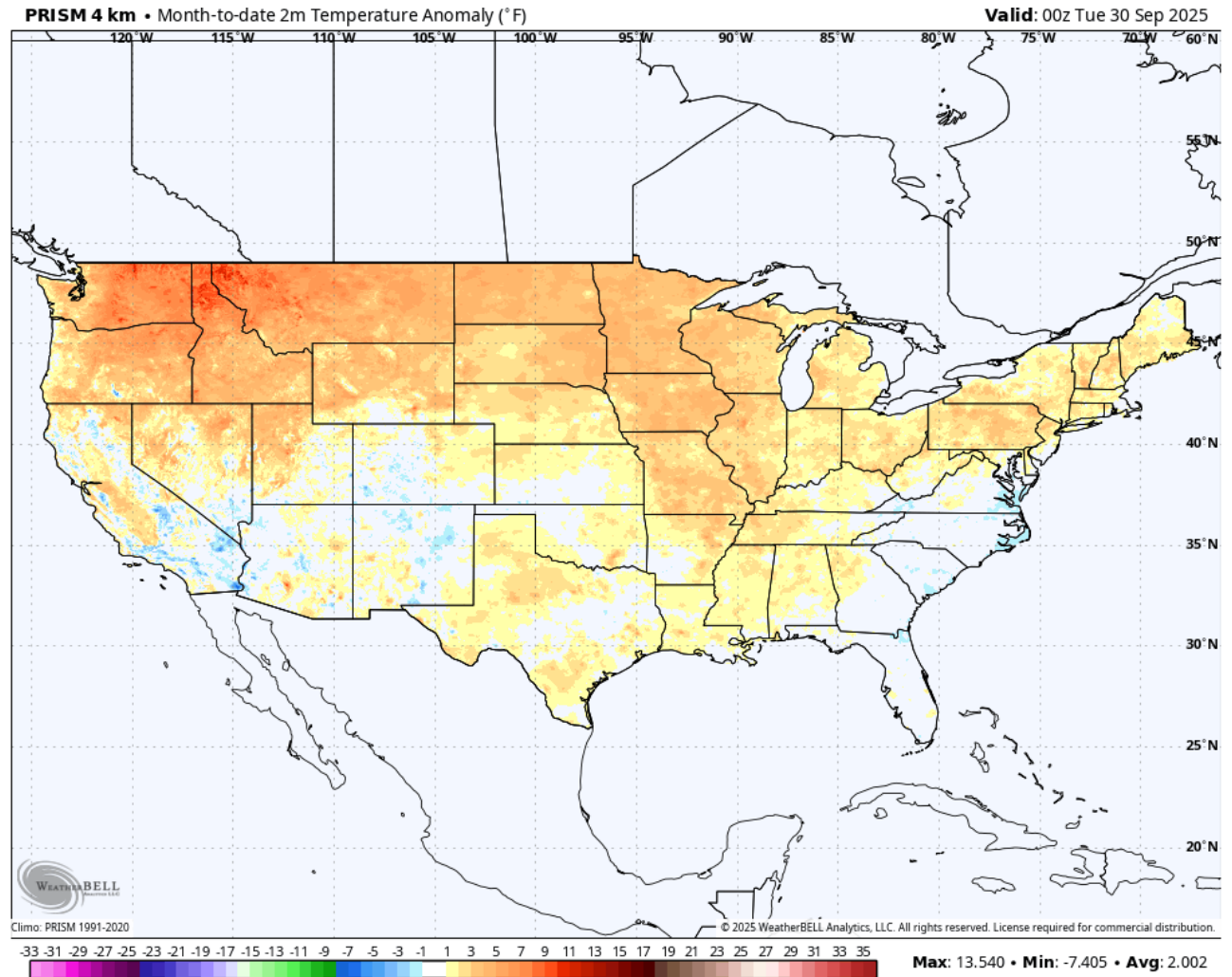
Curtis Riganti
National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

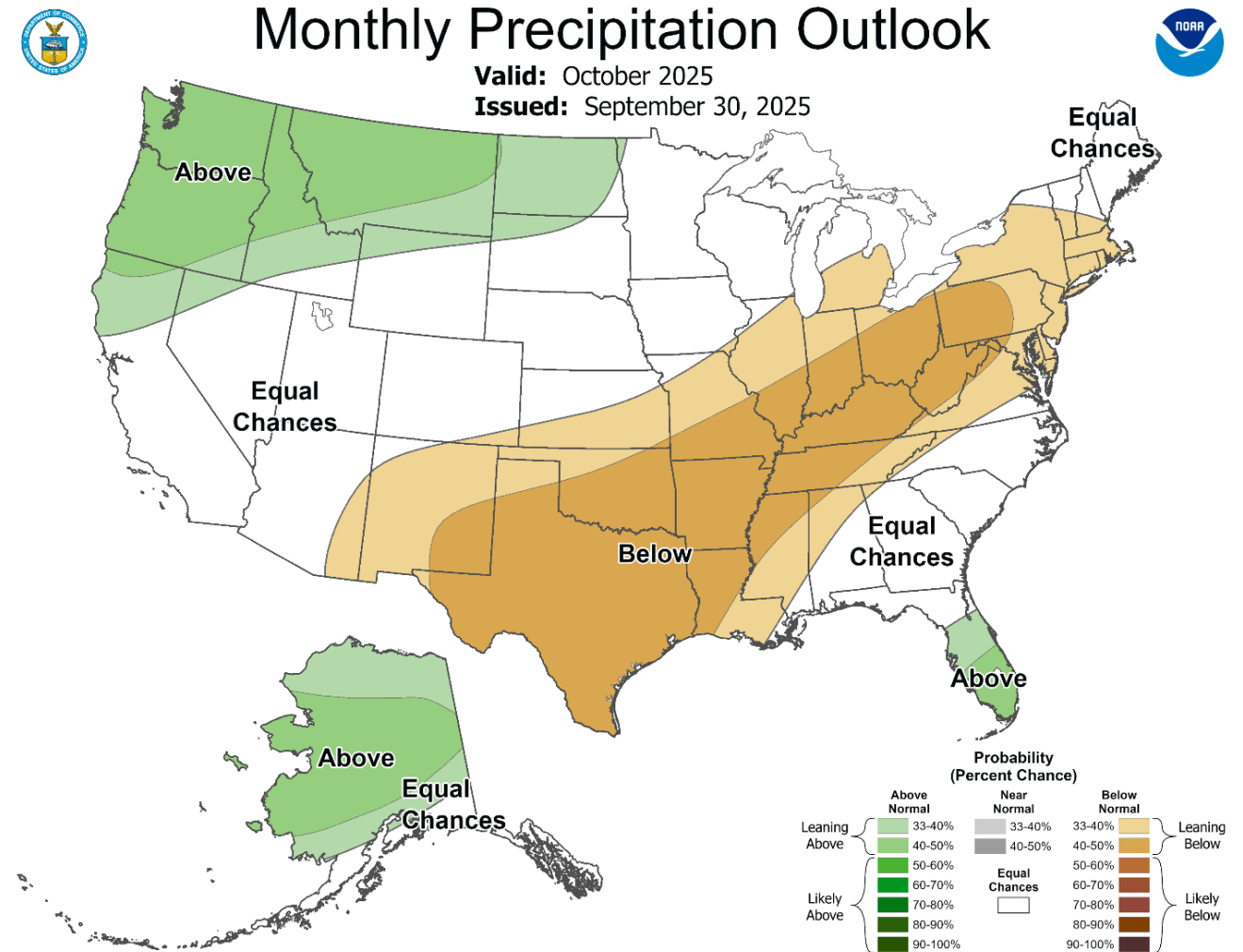
North Carolina experienced a relatively cool September, especially when compared to the rest of the United States. The Average September temperature anomalies graphic shows that NC ended the month with temperatures very close to the 30-year averages (white areas). Greensboro, Raleigh, and Fayetteville all ended the month around half a degree cooler than normal.

A core of warmth, with many areas 5+ degrees above normal, stretched from the Pacific Northwest through the upper Midwest into the Great Lakes. Missoula, Montana, within the core of warmth, averaged a remarkable 6.7 degrees above normal, with an average September temperature of 64.2 degrees.

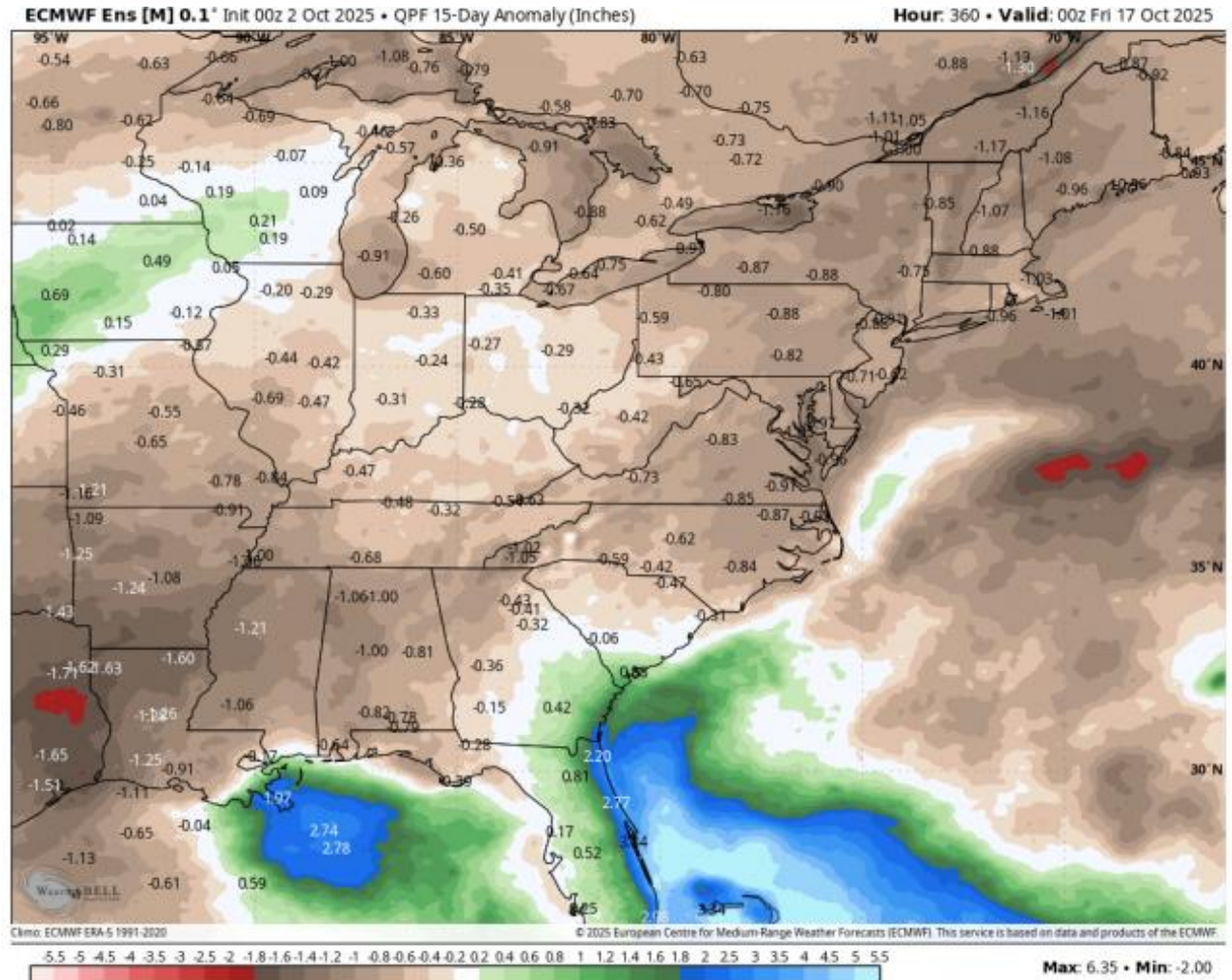


Outlook for October 2025

The CPC forecast probabilities for October indicate a higher likelihood of dryness (40 to 50 percent probabilities) extending from Texas northeast to Pennsylvania. Slightly higher probabilities of wetness (up to 50 percent) are forecasted for the Pacific Northwest and South Florida. North Carolina is projected to have generally equal chances of below, above, or near-normal rainfall.

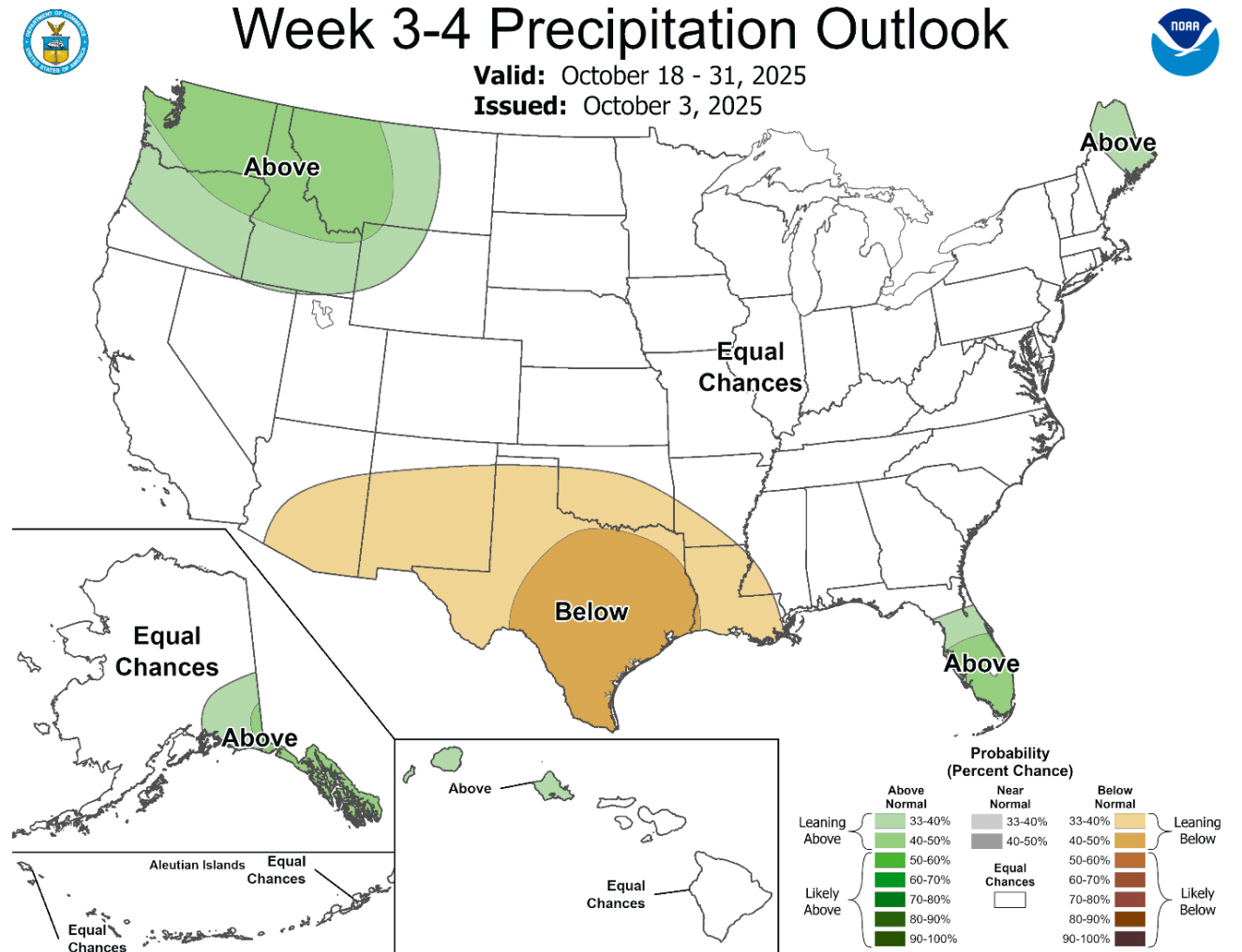


Splitting the October outlook into the first and second halves of the month, the ECMWF ensemble forecasts rainfall anomalies of possibly 0.5 to nearly 1 inch BELOW average over NC through mid-October. Given that the two-week average for our region is typically 1.25 to 1.5 inches, we may only see half of that if these projections hold.



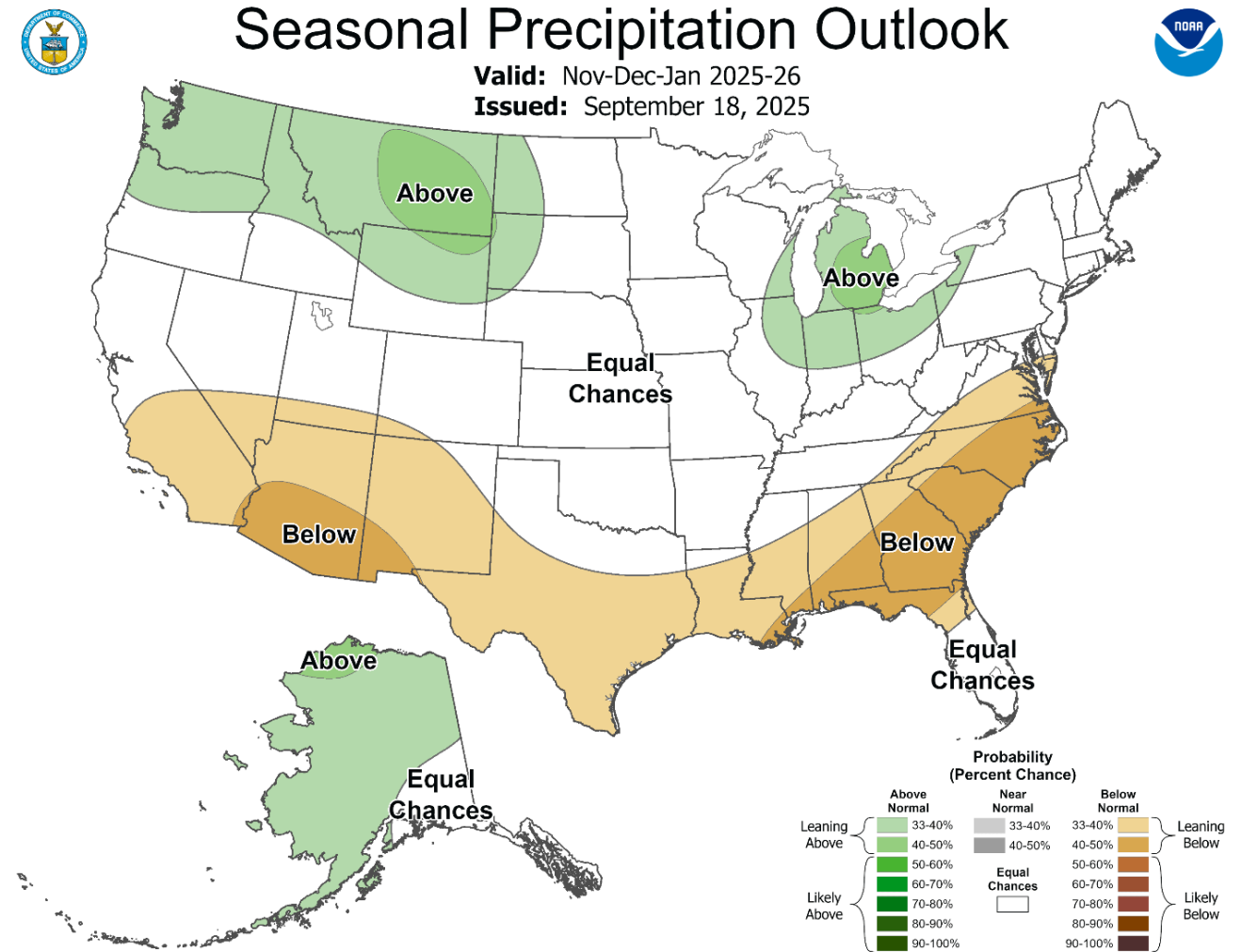
The CPC 3-4 Week Precipitation Outlook, issued October 3, 2025, for the last two weeks of the month, suggests higher probabilities of dryness in Texas and wetness in Florida. For NC, there are equal chances of above or below normal rainfall for our region. This suggests a potential uptick in rainfall during the latter half of the month, though probabilities of heavy rain or significant wetness are currently low.

Since October is typically our second driest month in much of NC, it is reasonable to expect relatively light rainfall events unless a significant pattern change occurs, which is not currently favored through much of October. Even if we reach our October averages, there will still be considerable dryness. October rainfall averages include: 3.10 inches at Greensboro, 3.23 inches at Raleigh, and 3.37 inches Fayetteville.

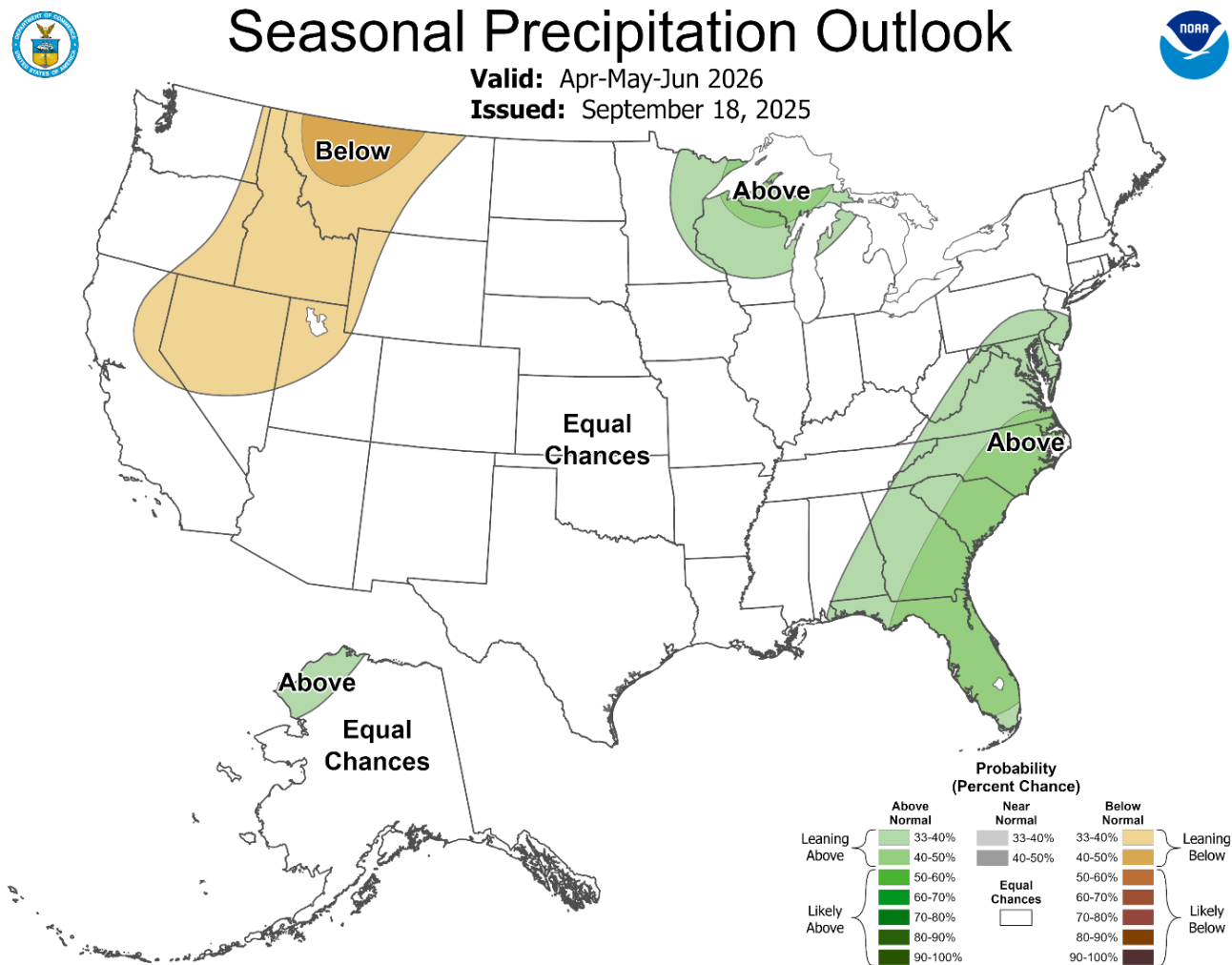


Outlook through June 2026

This outlook suggests that dryness may very well prevail and potentially expand this winter. The November through January precipitation outlook leans toward dryness in the Southeast. A weak La Niña that becomes neutral and recent yearly trends are noted as contributing factors to this forecast.



Just in case this raises concerns about a long-term drought developing, the CPC outlooks for spring and summer 2026 trend wetter weather for our region! This refers to the latest late Spring and early Summer outlook for April through June 2026.



Happy Fall, and we will update our "First Freeze" forecast in the coming weeks as colder air arrives. Until then, here is an interactive map courtesy of the North Carolina State Climate Office that displays the average first freeze dates in NC.

