



Drought Information Statement

for southeast Ohio, northeast Kentucky, southwest Virginia, and much of West Virginia

Valid October 9, 2025

Issued By: NWS Charleston, WV

Contact Information: rlx.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated by Friday October 17, 2025
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/RLX/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.

- Extreme drought continues across the mountains





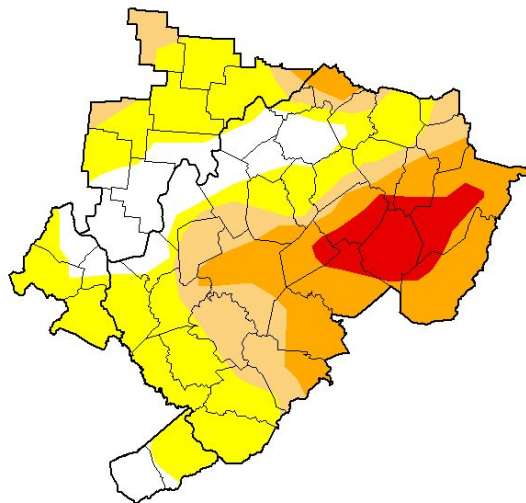
Current Drought Conditions

Latest Drought Monitor

Main Takeaways

- **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: None
- **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: No change
- **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Slight expansion southeast WV
- **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: No change
- **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: No change

U.S. Drought Monitor Charleston, WV WFO



October 7, 2025

(Released Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	16.98	83.02	44.93	28.00	7.46	0.00
Last Week 09-30-2025	16.98	83.02	44.93	26.20	7.46	0.00
3 Months Ago 07-08-2025	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-07-2025	90.22	9.78	1.72	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2024	6.96	93.04	84.92	68.72	44.92	12.11
One Year Ago 10-08-2024	10.16	89.84	81.26	64.56	44.30	12.11

Intensity

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate 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>

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droughtmonitor.unl.edu



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

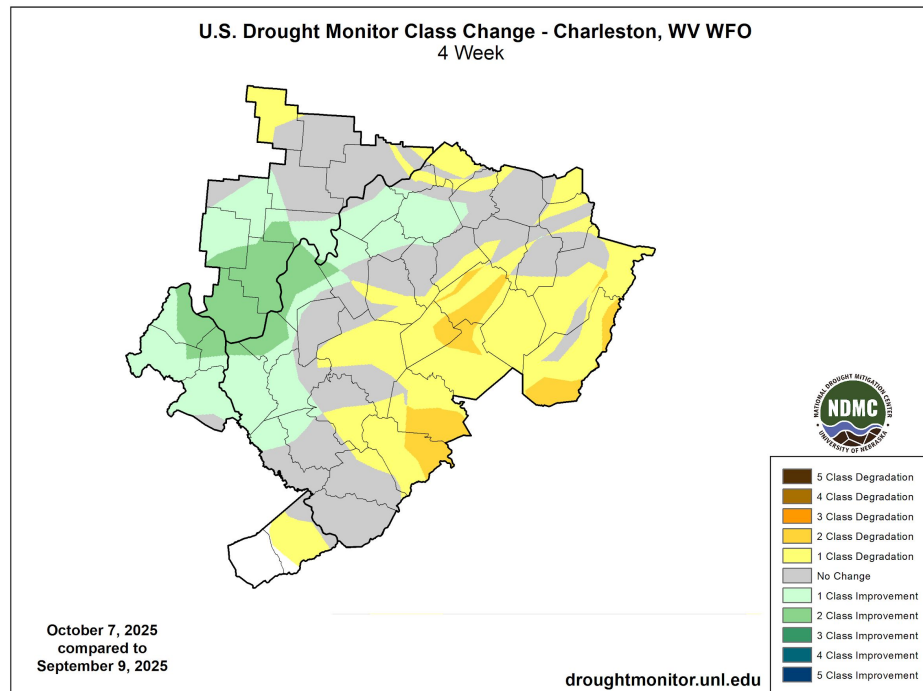
National Weather Service
Charleston, WV



Current Drought Conditions

Latest Drought Monitor 4-Week Change

- **Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change**
 - **Drought Worsened:** WV mountains and adjacent foothill counties
 - **No Change:** Small portion of southeast OH, central and southern WV
 - **Drought Improved:** Areas along OH River including all of northeast KY, large portion of southeast OH, and far western WV



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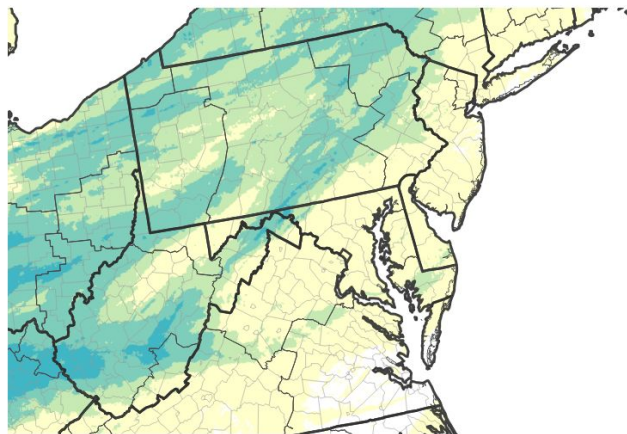
Observed Precipitation

Latest 7-Day Rainfall and 30-Day Percent of Normal Rainfall

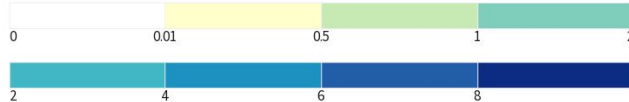
Main Takeaways

- A general 1 to 2 inches of rain fell
 - I-79 corridor mostly missed out
- Above normal rainfall now across northeast KY, southern OH, and western WV
 - Pronounced deficits remain across the WV mountains

7-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



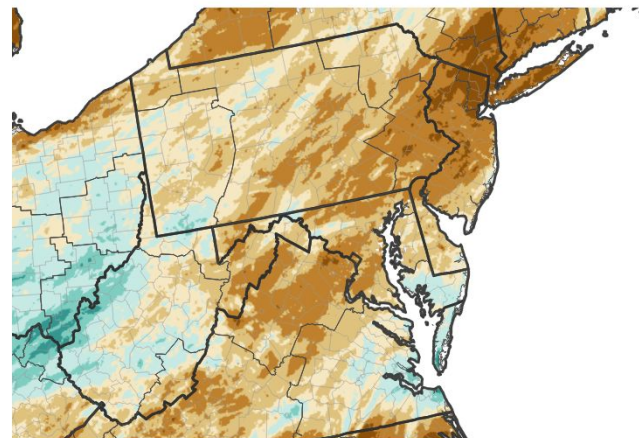
Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 10/09/25

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

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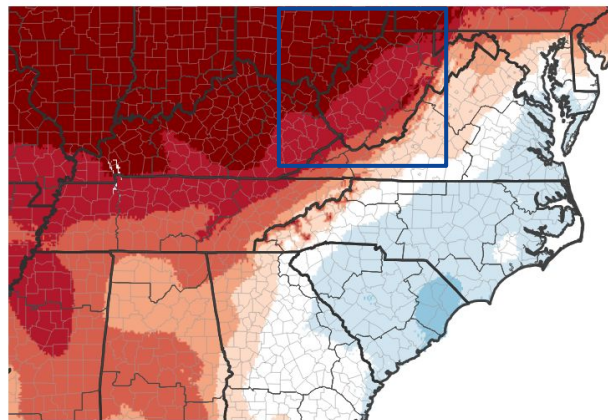
Observed Temperature

Latest 7 and 30-Day Temperature Anomaly

Main Takeaways

- Max temperatures 4 to 8 degrees above normal over the last week

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



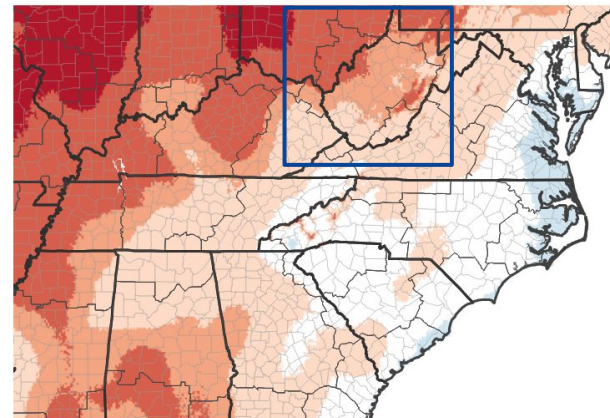
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



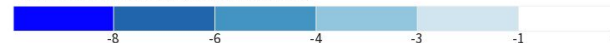
Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 10/05/25

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: 10/05/25





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- 7-day average streamflows have improved significantly over the past few days due to recent rains ([USGS](#))
- Low water levels in creeks and streams in August and early September have led to an outbreak of Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) in the deer population in southeast OH and western WV (Broadcast and print media, [OH DNR](#), [WV DNR](#))
 - Often fatal for affected deer
 - Exacerbated during drought conditions that occur after a wet beginning to summer
 - Improvement not expected until first frost/freeze
- Groundwater monitoring wells continue slow decline, especially in the D2/D3 areas ([USGS](#))

Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture slightly improved due to recent rains ([NIDIS](#))
- Pumpkin crop yields greatly reduced in Greenbrier Valley (Farm Service Agency)
- Supplemental hay feeding and hauling of water reported amongst livestock producers ([Drought Impact Reporter](#), [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports](#))
 - Early cattle sales reported (Farm Service Agency)

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fire danger low

Mitigation Actions

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





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

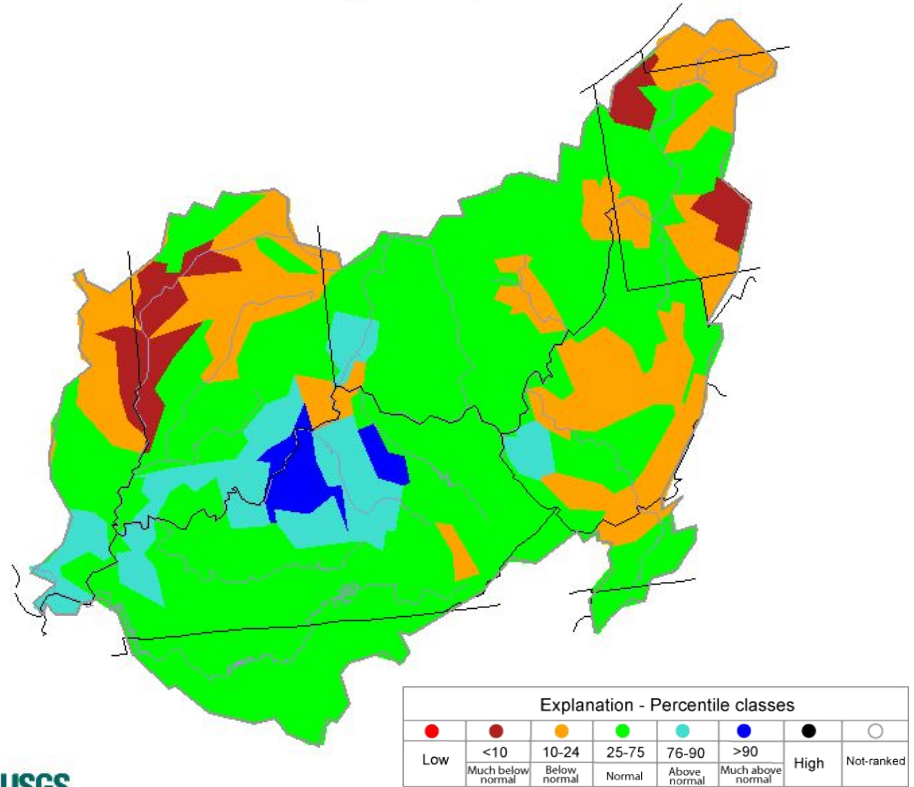
Main Takeaways

- Streamflows have improved significantly over the past 2 weeks
 - Still below normal across some basins
- Groundwater wells continue to slowly decline compared to October normals
- Many reservoirs are beginning draw down to winter pool

Impacts

- Hauling of water reported from livestock producers
- Outbreak of Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) in the deer population in southeast OH and western WV
 - Often fatal for affected deer
 - Exacerbated during drought conditions that occur after a wet beginning to summer

Wednesday, October 08, 2025





Agricultural Impacts

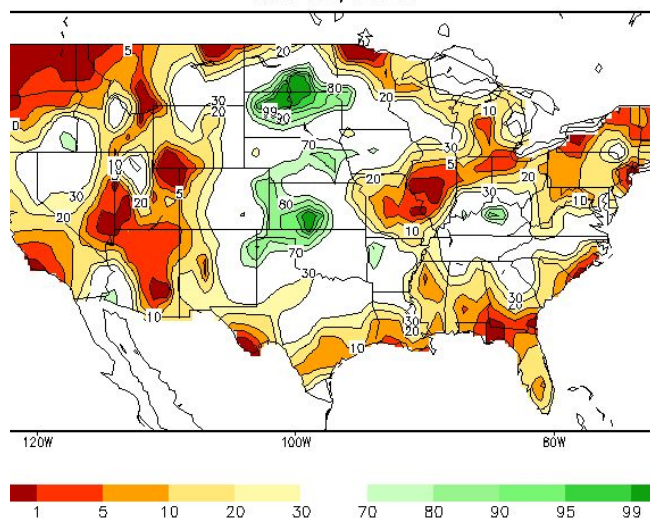
Main Takeaways

- Topsoil improving in southeast OH, northeast KY, and western WV
- Tree canopy stress noted in many areas with early leaf drop observed over the past several weeks
- Reports of irrigation wells drying up in the mountains

Impacts

- Hay shortage remains with supplemental feeding needed for livestock producers
- Pumpkin yields considerably lower in Greenbrier Valley
- Some reports of relocation of cattle and early sales due to drought
- Many reports of hauling of water for livestock

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
OCT 08, 2025



USDA Crop Progress and Condition Weekly Reports

[West Virginia](#)
[Virginia](#)

[Ohio](#)
[Kentucky](#)





Fire Hazard Impacts

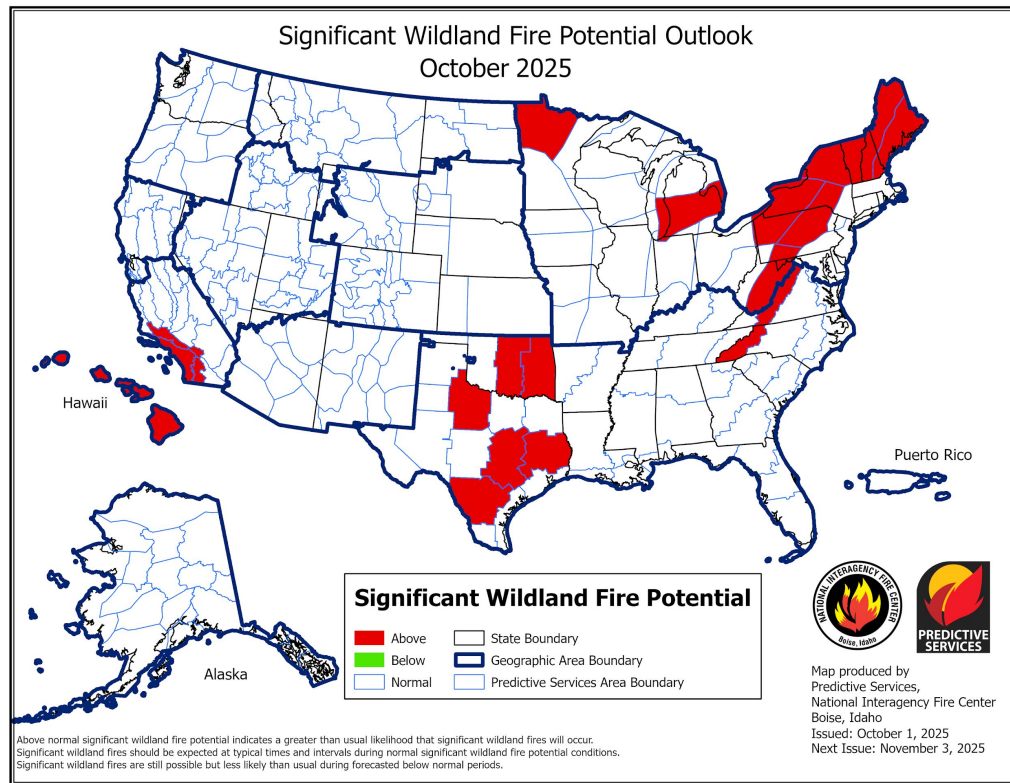
Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#).

Main Takeaways

- Significant wildfire outlook is now above normal for October for WV mountains

Impacts

- Extreme drought conditions across the mountains may lead to increased brush fire activity over the next several weeks
- Danger will be maximized during afternoons which are warm with low relative humidity and wind



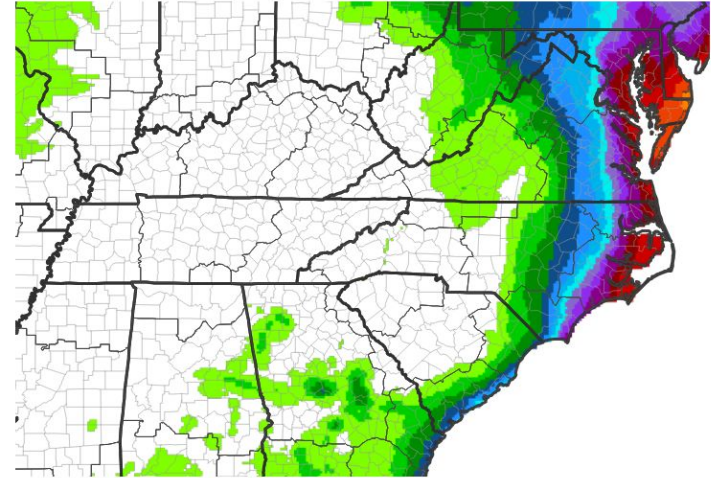


7 Day Precipitation Forecast

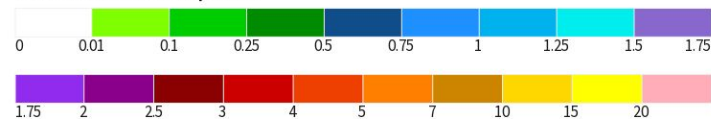
Next 7 days:

- High pressure dominates through Saturday with chilly mornings and seasonal afternoons
- Coastal system will spread some rain westward into the parts of the northern lowlands Saturday night and Sunday
 - Dry elsewhere
- Slow moderation in temperatures next week with dry weather expected

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for October 9, 2025–October 16, 2025



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 10/09/25





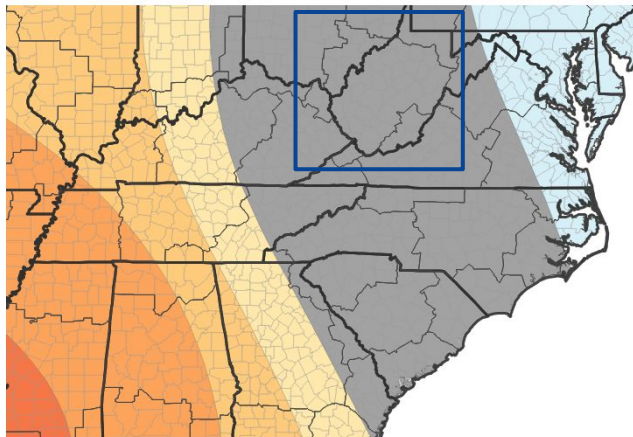
8-14 Day Outlook

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

Main Takeaways

- Near normal temperatures favored with below normal precipitation

8-14 Day Temperature Outlook for October 16, 2025–October 22, 2025



Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures

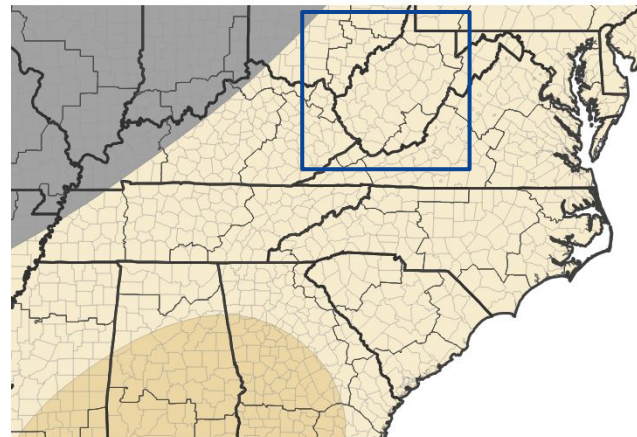


■ Near-Normal Conditions

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

Last Updated: 10/08/25

8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook for October 16, 2025–October 22, 2025



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



■ Near-Normal Conditions

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

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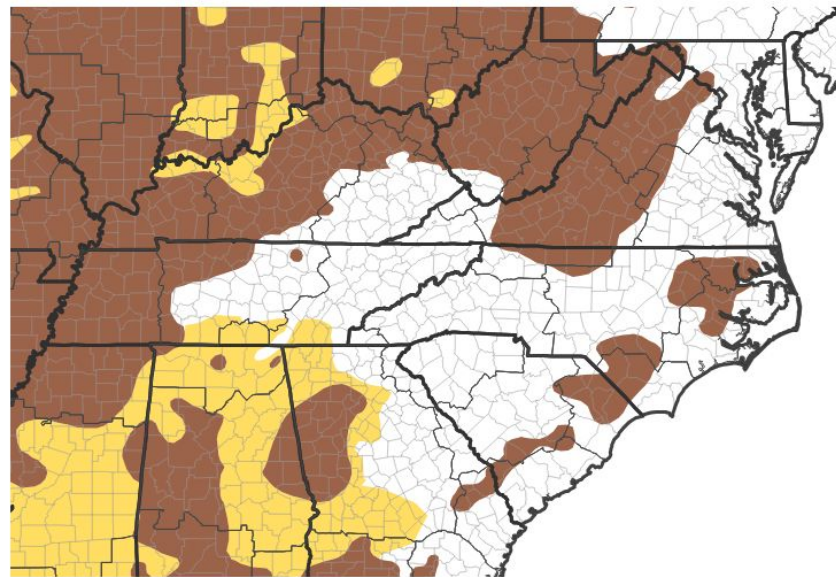
Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook

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

Main Takeaways

- Favors drought lingering across most areas through the Fall season

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for October 9,
2025–January 31, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 09/30/25

