

Drought Information Statement for the Missouri Ozarks

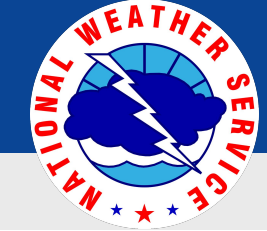
Valid August 25, 2026

Issued By: *WFO Springfield, MO*

Contact Information: *contact.sgf@noaa.gov*

- This product will be updated September, 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/sgf/SGFDroughtMonitor> for additional information.





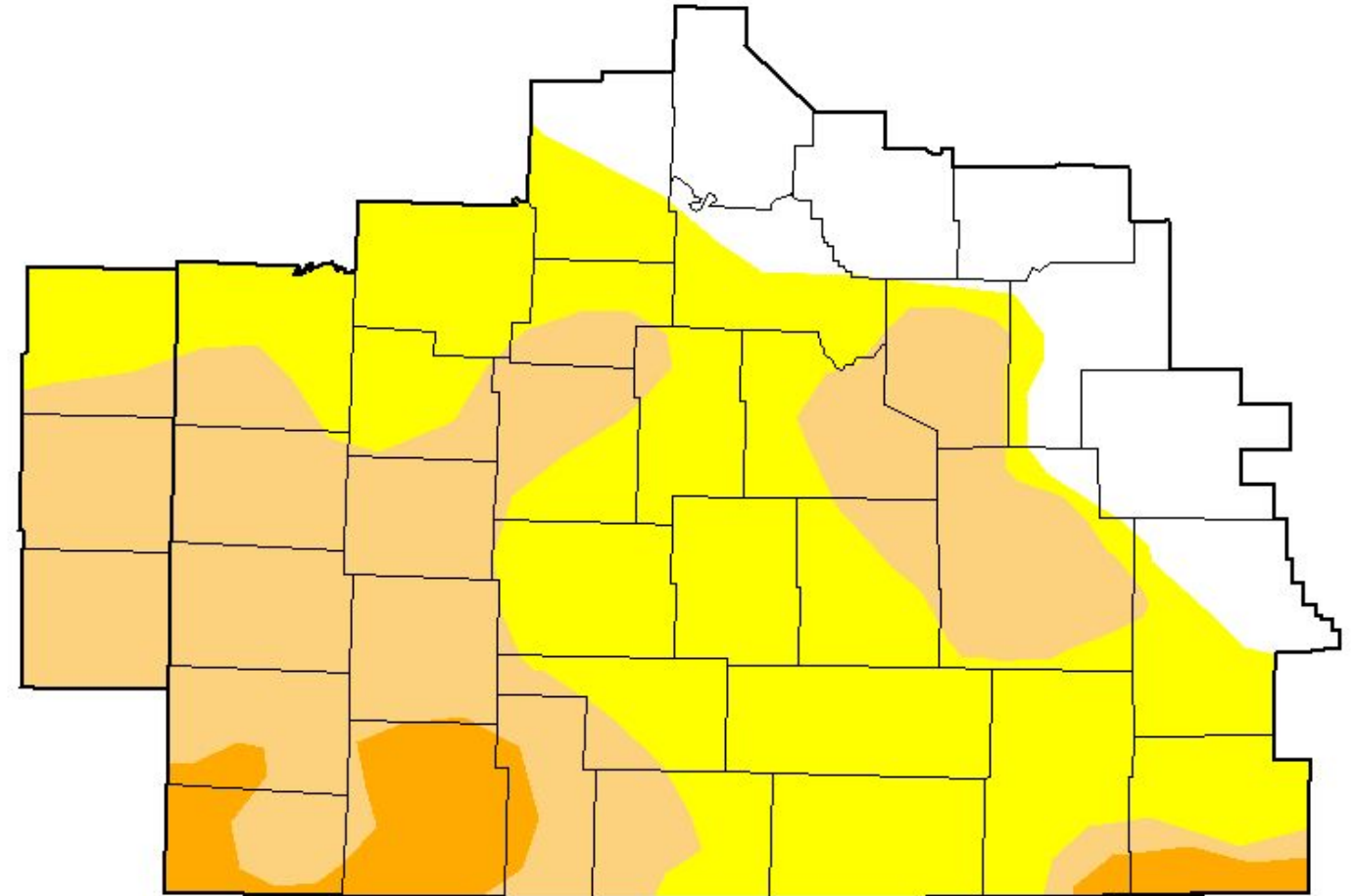
U.S. Drought Monitor

August 27, 2026

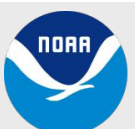
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Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Lower Midwest

- **D2 (Severe Drought)** has been reintroduced into portions of McDonald, Newton, Barry, Stone, Howell, and Oregon counties.
- **D1 (Moderate Drought)** across far southwest Missouri and southeast Kansas has expanded.
- The **D0 (Abnormally Dry)** area has also expanded slightly.

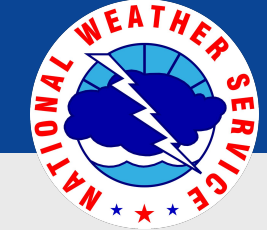


Drought Monitor valid 8/25/2026



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

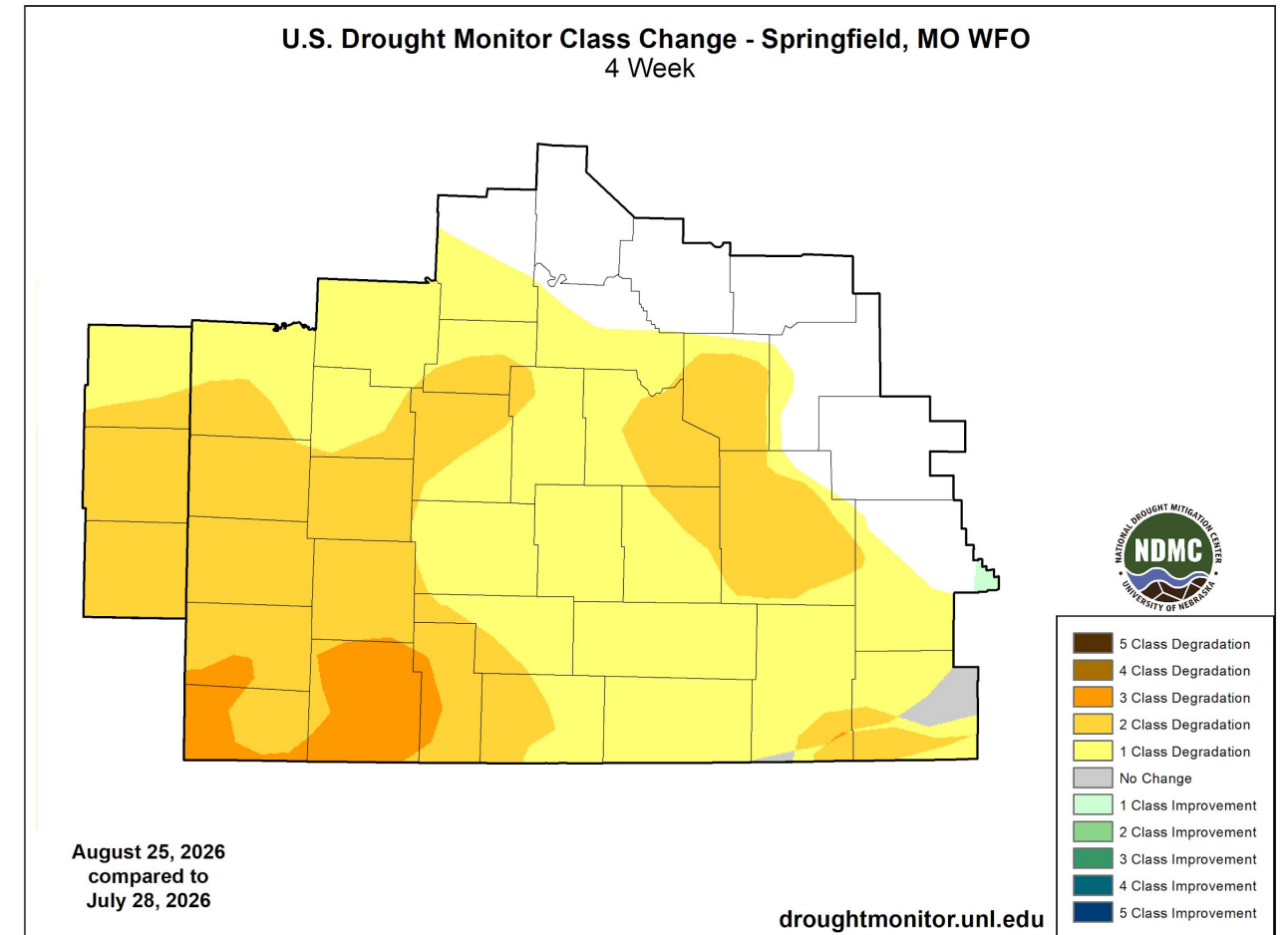
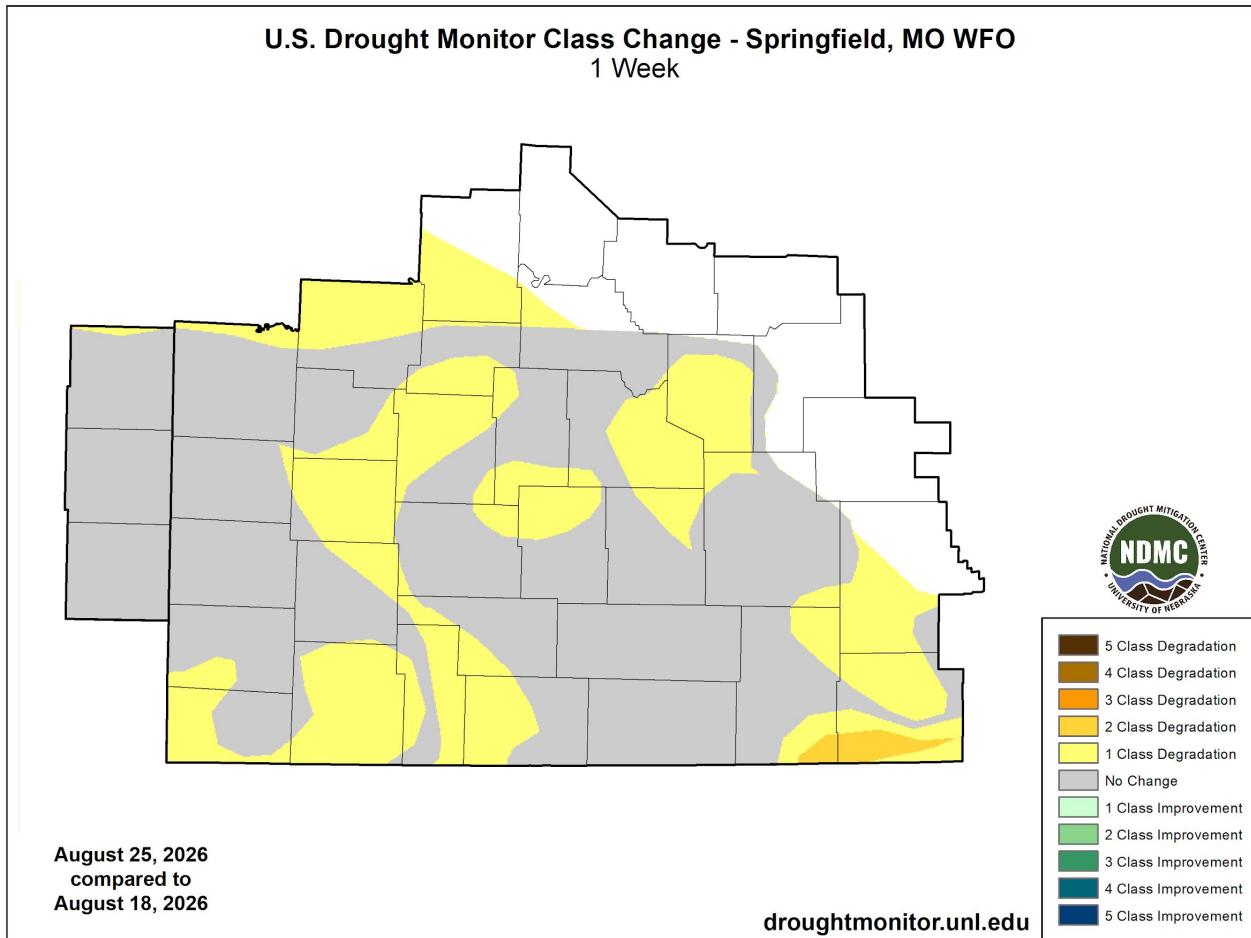
**National Weather Service
Springfield, MO**



Recent Change in Drought Intensity

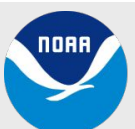
August 27, 2026
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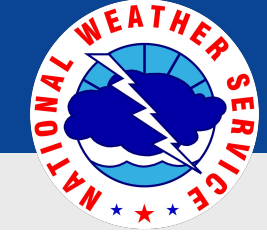
Link to [Recent Change Maps](#)



Main Takeaways

- Drought monitor category has either degraded or remained the same over the last four weeks; almost no improvement has been noted.
- Portions of southern Howell and Oregon counties degraded by two categories in one week and are now in D2 drought.

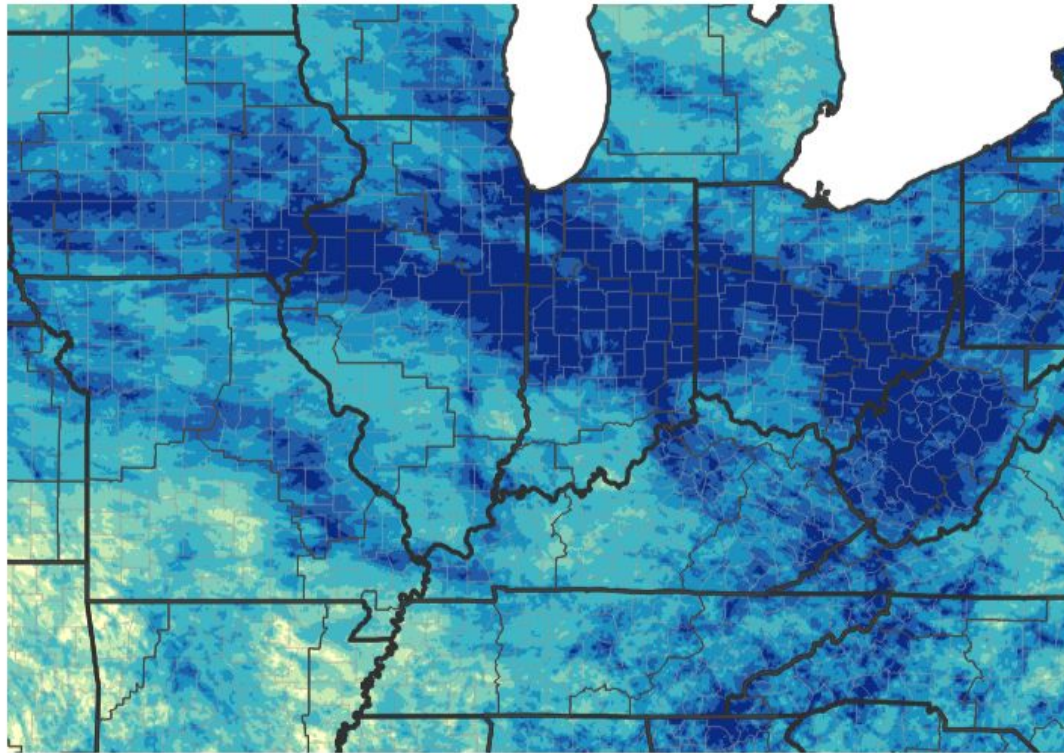




Precipitation

August 27, 2026
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30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

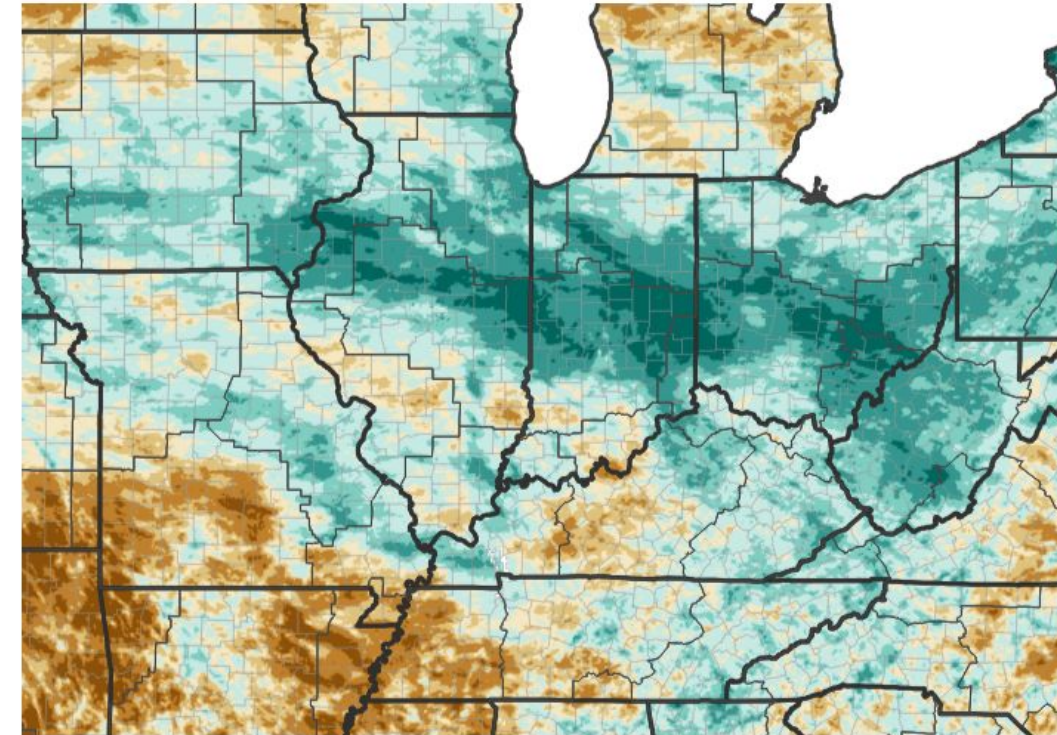


Inches of Precipitation

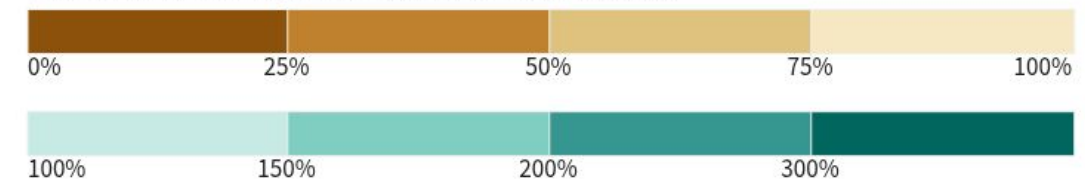


Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; Last Updated: 08/27/26

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



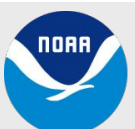
Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions

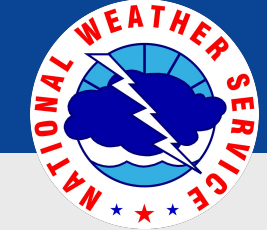


Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 08/27/26

Main Takeaways

- Most locations across southwest Missouri and southeast Kansas have received less than 4 inches of rain over the last 30 days, with some locations receiving less than an inch.
- Most locations received less than 75% of normal precipitation, with the notable exception of central Missouri and the eastern Ozarks.





Summary of Impacts

August 27, 2026

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- The USGS National Water Dashboard depicts streamflows are normal (25th-75th percentile) to below normal (10th-24th percentile) across most of the area.

Agricultural Impacts

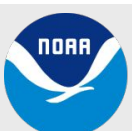
- Condition Monitoring Observer Reports (CMORs): A handful of reports in the D2 drought area suggest the severe agricultural impacts are more localized; loss to crop yield, earlier harvest, supplemental pasture feeding required.
- Another cluster of reports in the eastern Ozarks suggest ponds drying up. Heat is taking a toll on cattle.

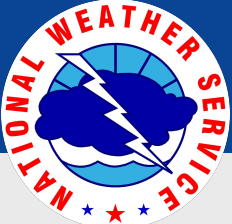
Fire Hazard Impacts

- A modest increase in fire activity—largely in the D1 and D2 area—suggesting an early start to the fire season.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.





Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

August 27, 2026
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Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

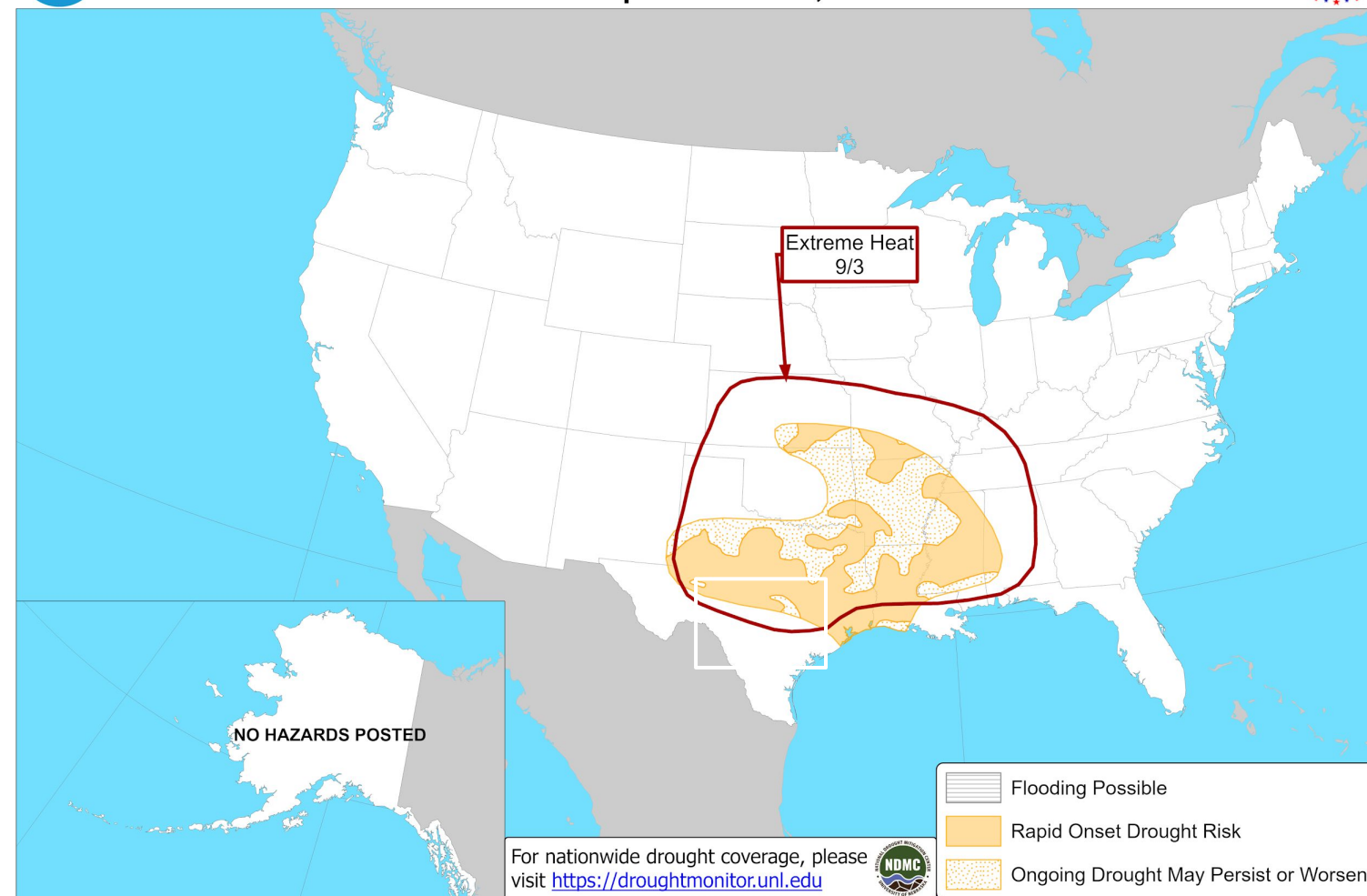
Main Takeaways

- The Climate Prediction Center outlines much of southwest Missouri and southeast Kansas in a risk for **rapid onset drought** and **extreme heat** in the September 3-9 period.



Days 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook

Valid: September 3 - 9, 2026



Climate Prediction Center

Released: August 26, 2026 3:00 PM EDT

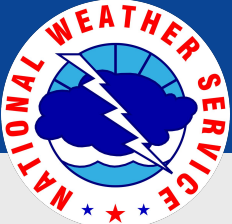
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8 to 14 Day Outlooks

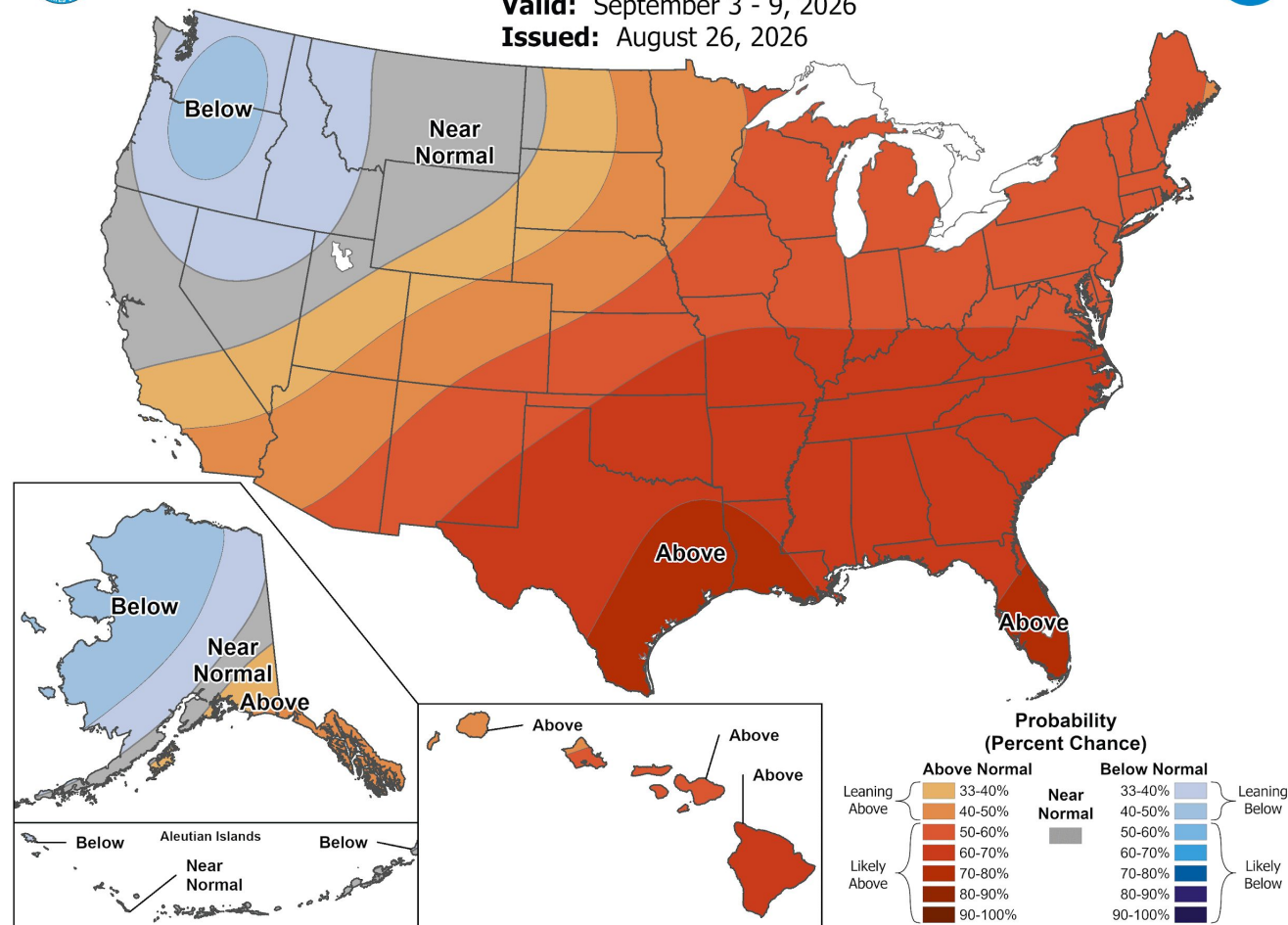
August 27, 2026
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The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)



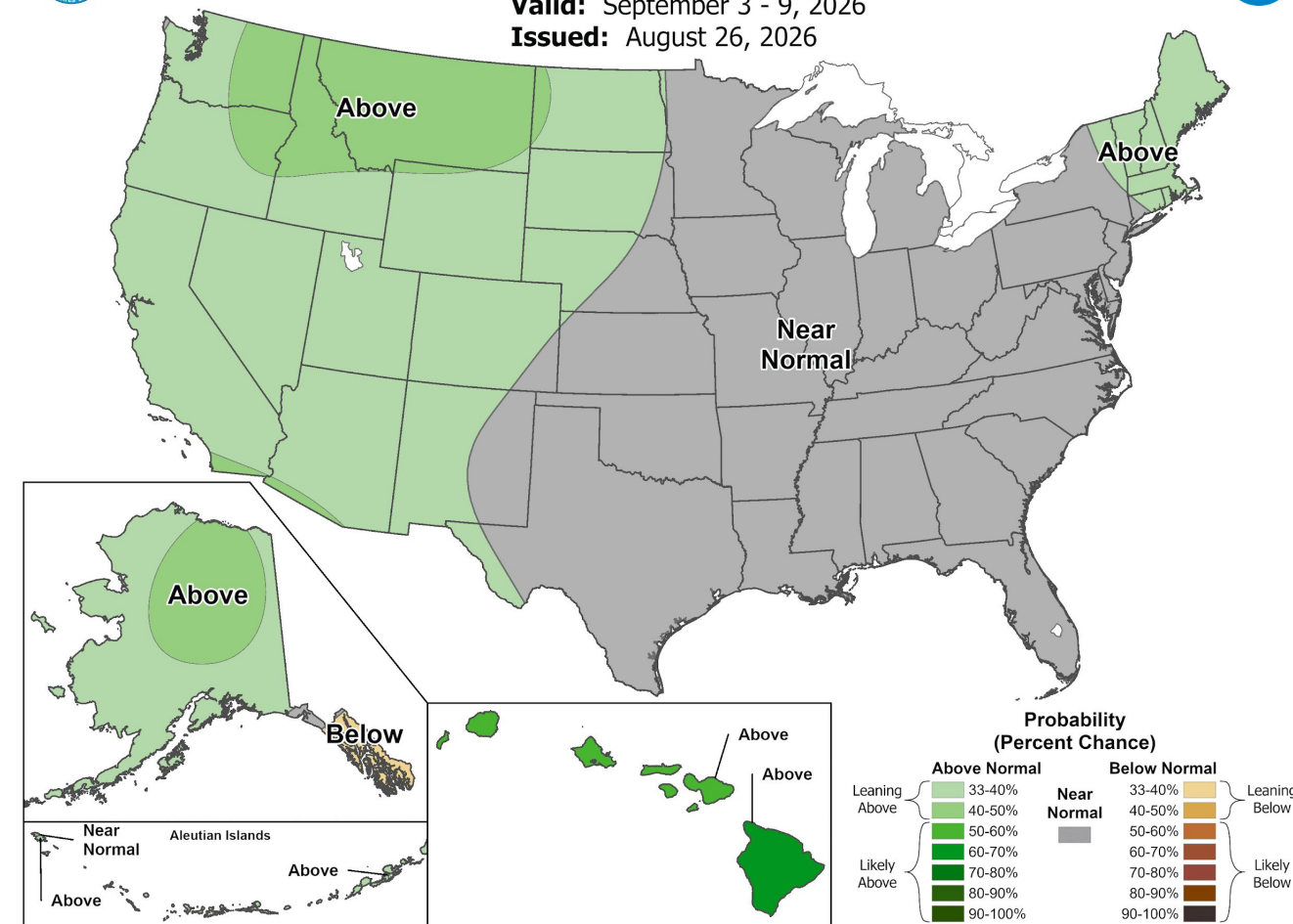
8-14 Day Temperature Outlook

Valid: September 3 - 9, 2026
Issued: August 26, 2026



8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: September 3 - 9, 2026
Issued: August 26, 2026



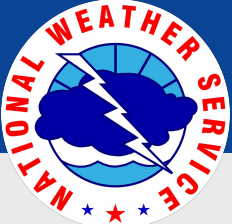
Main Takeaways

- Above-normal temperatures and near-normal precipitation are favored in the Sep 3-9 period.



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Monthly Outlooks

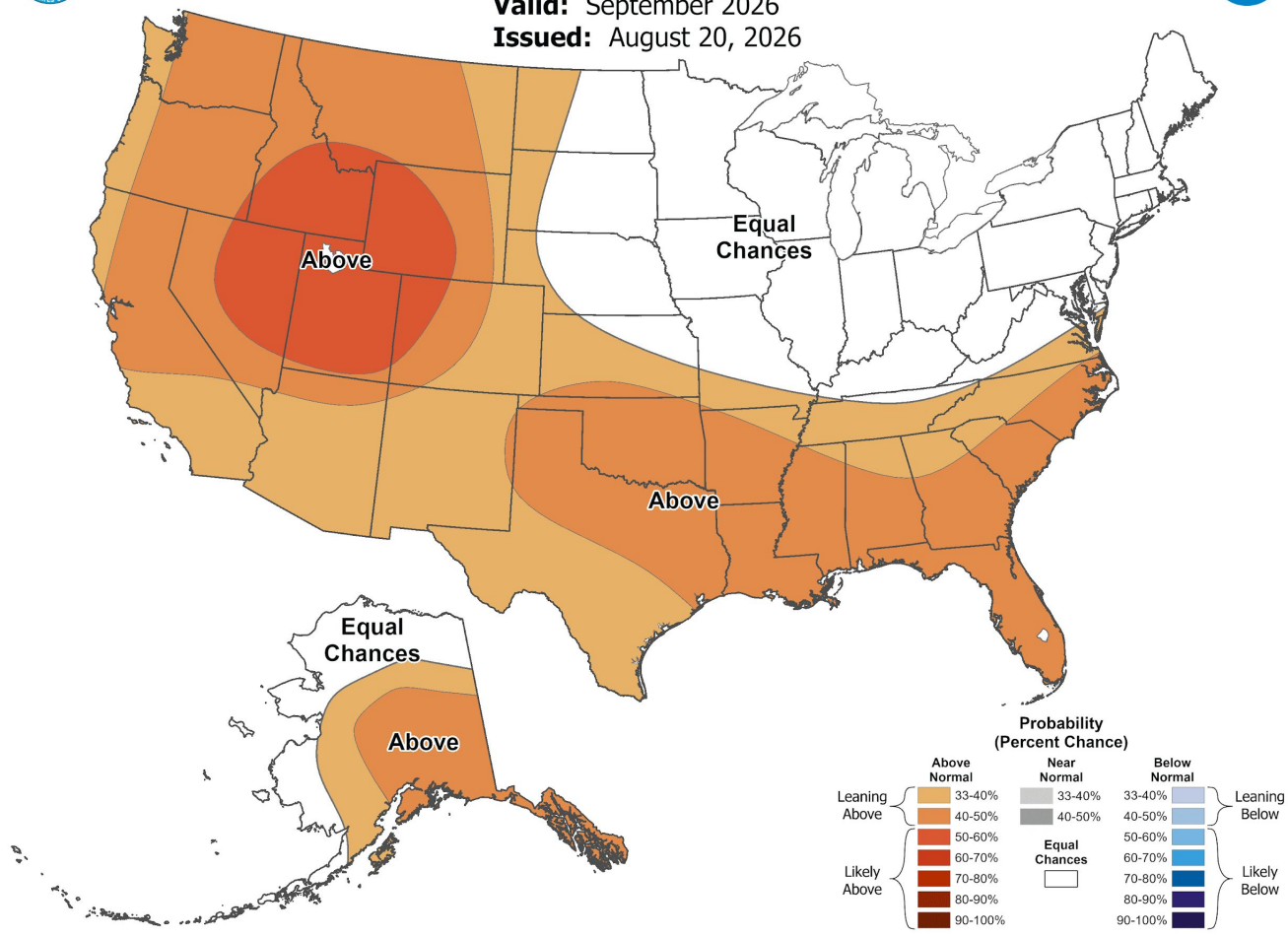
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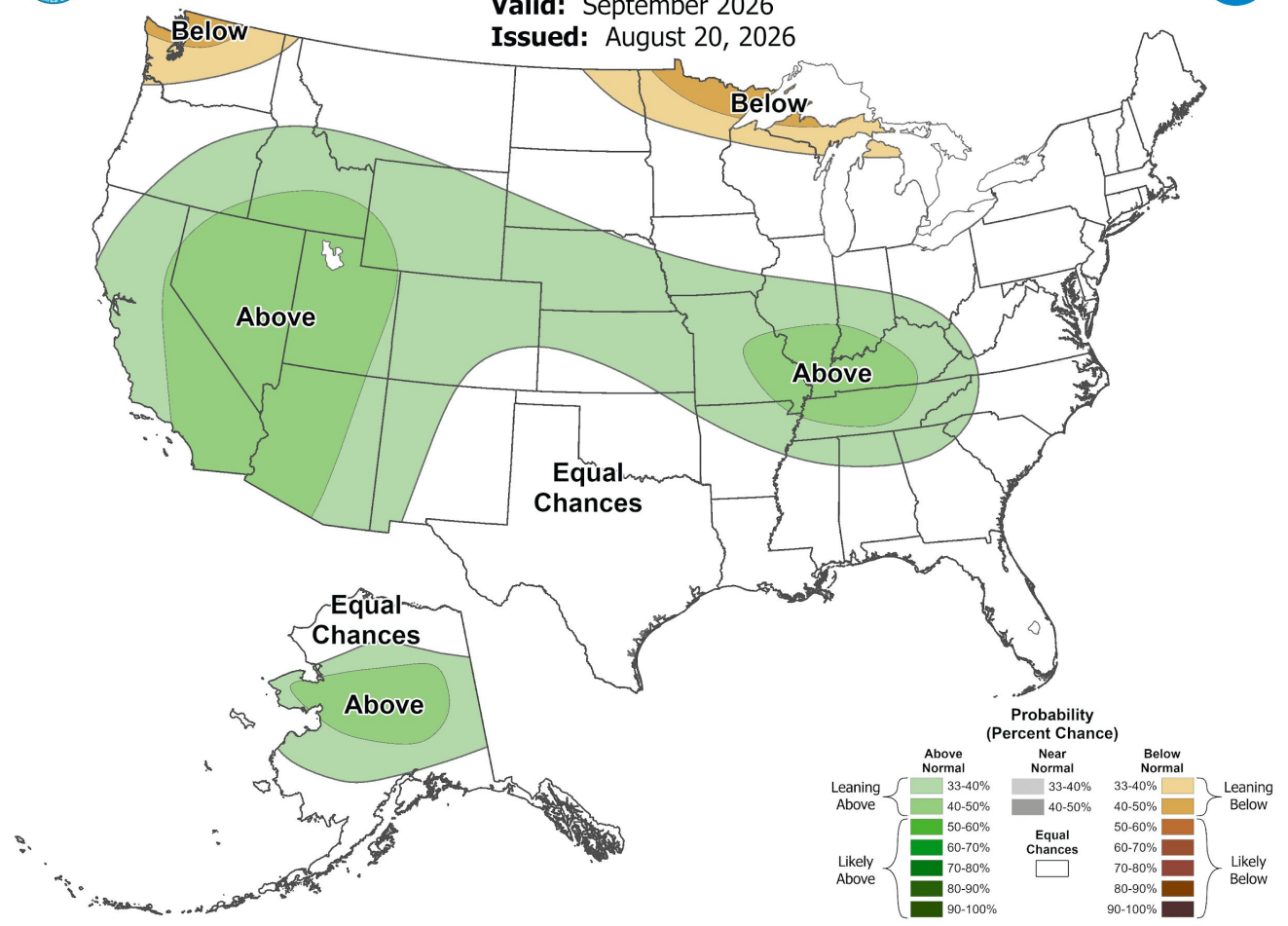
Monthly Temperature Outlook

Valid: September 2026
Issued: August 20, 2026



Monthly Precipitation Outlook

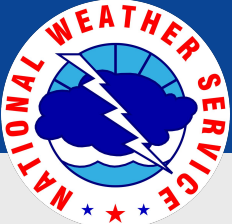
Valid: September 2026
Issued: August 20, 2026



Main Takeaways

- Slight signal for above average temperatures and precipitation for the month of September.





Seasonal Outlooks

August 27, 2026

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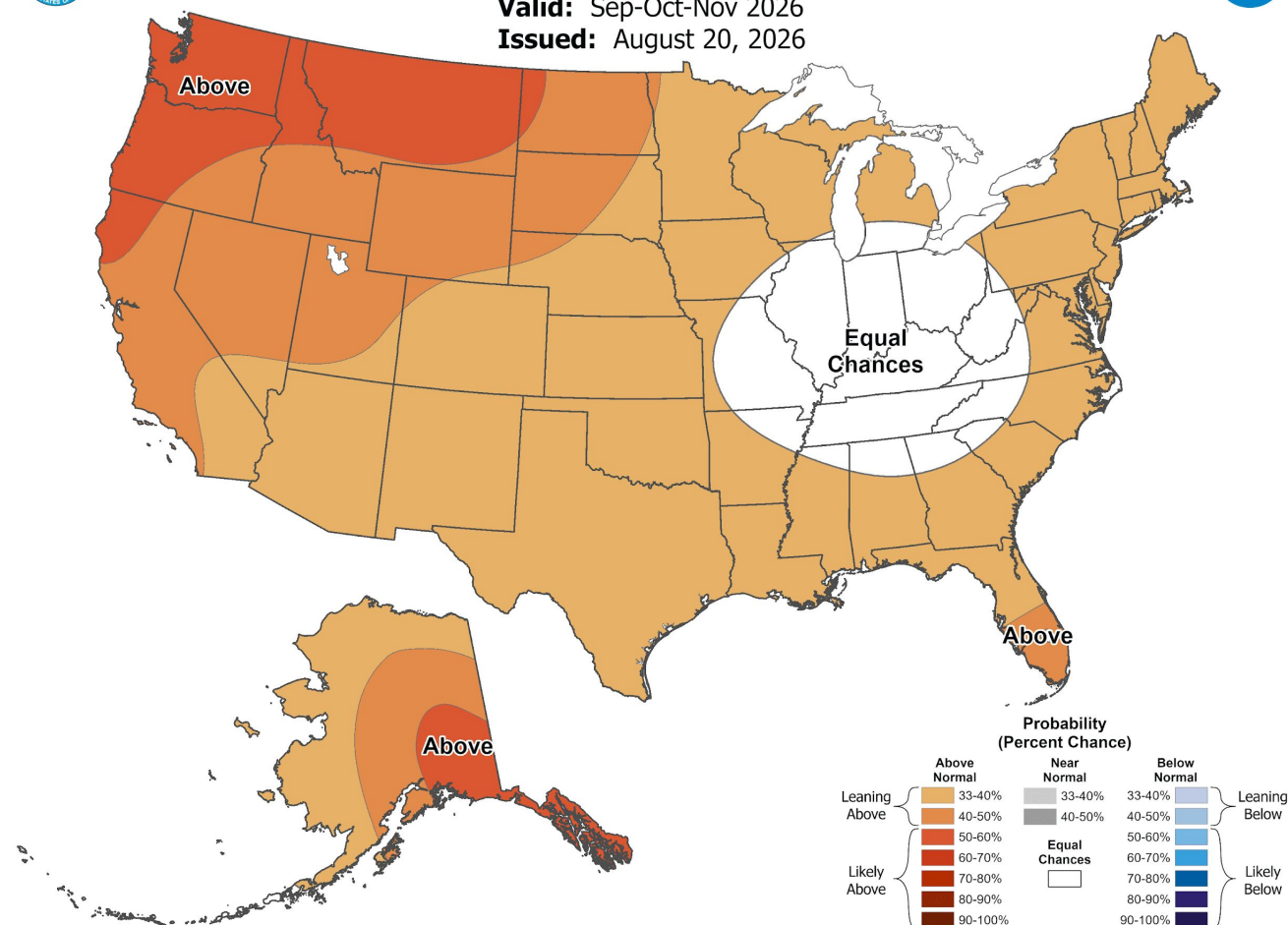
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)



Seasonal Temperature Outlook

Valid: Sep-Oct-Nov 2026

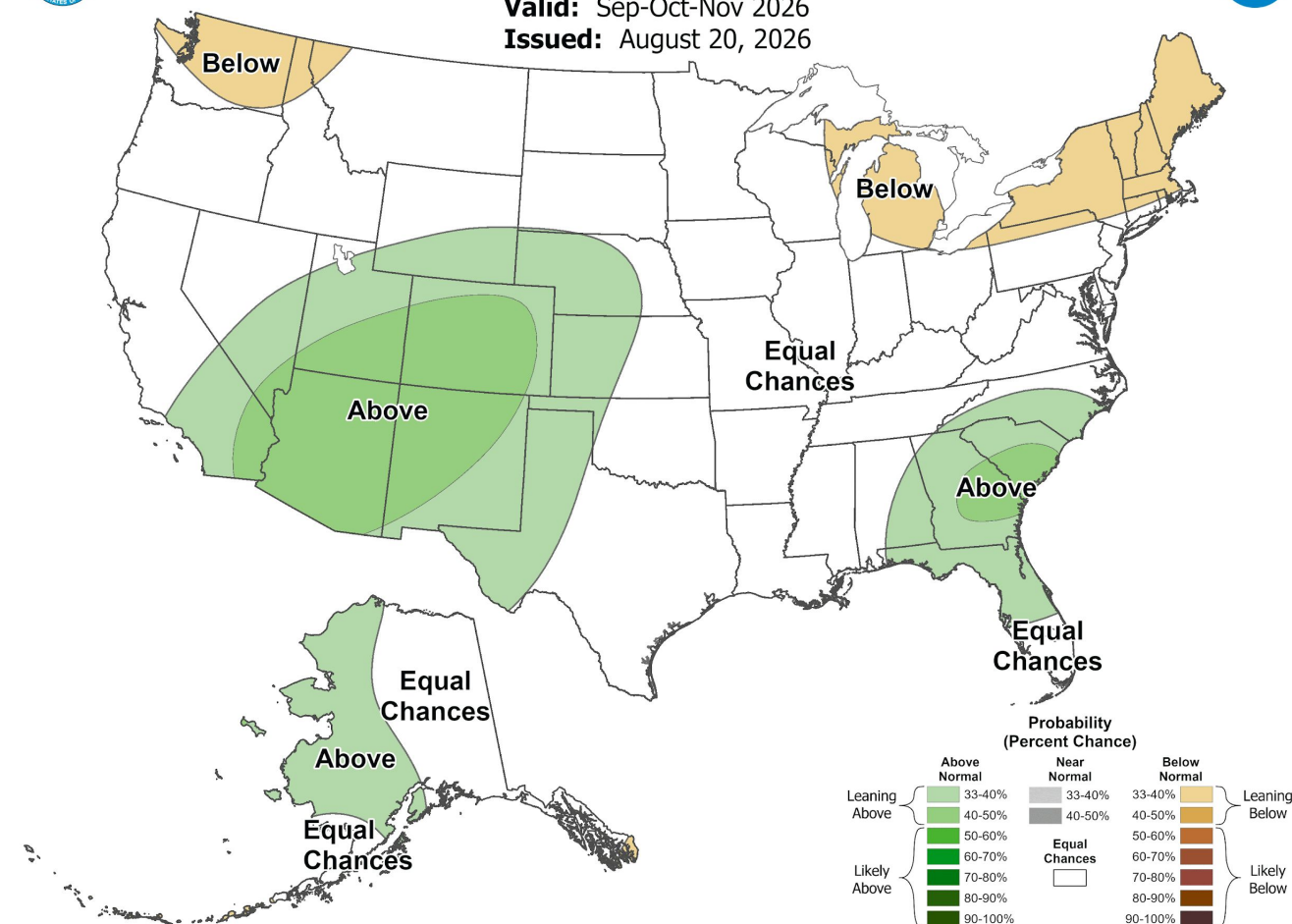
Issued: August 20, 2026



Seasonal Precipitation Outlook

Valid: Sep-Oct-Nov 2026

Issued: August 20, 2026



Main Takeaways

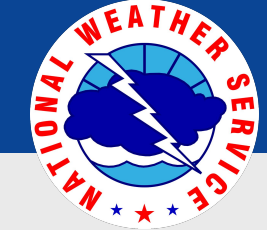
- Nearly equal chances for below, near, and above normal temperatures and precipitation.



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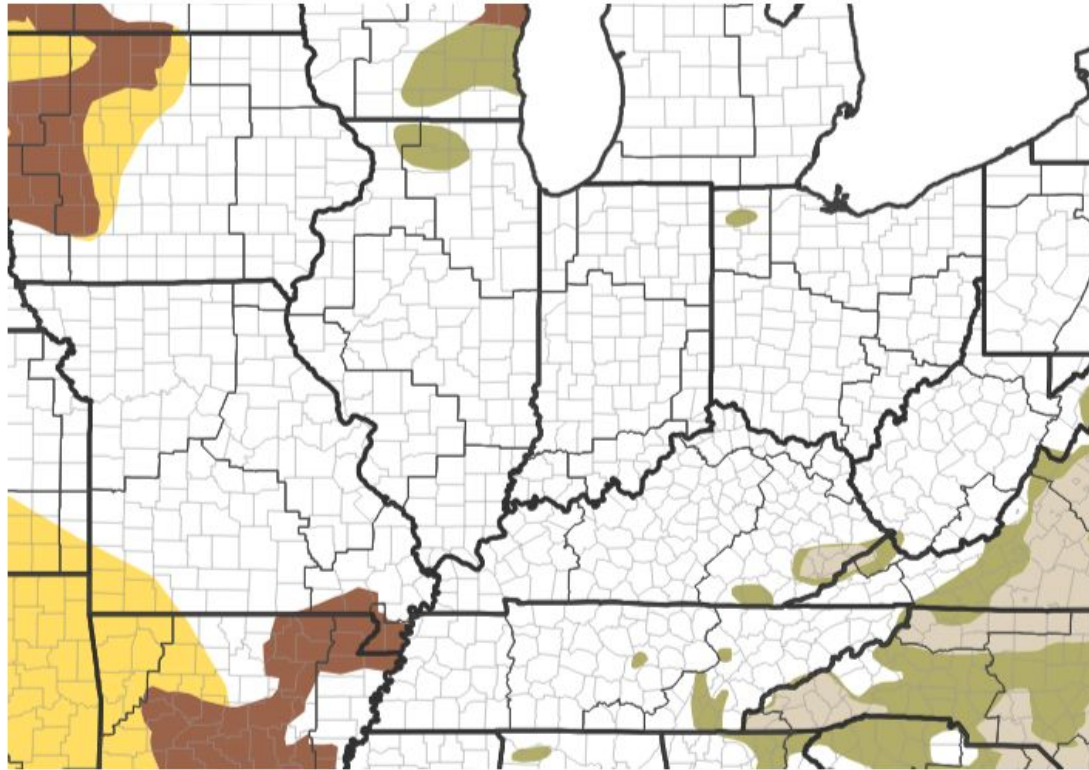


Drought Outlook

August 27, 2026
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[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#) | [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

1-Month Drought Outlook for August 1, 2026–August 31, 2026

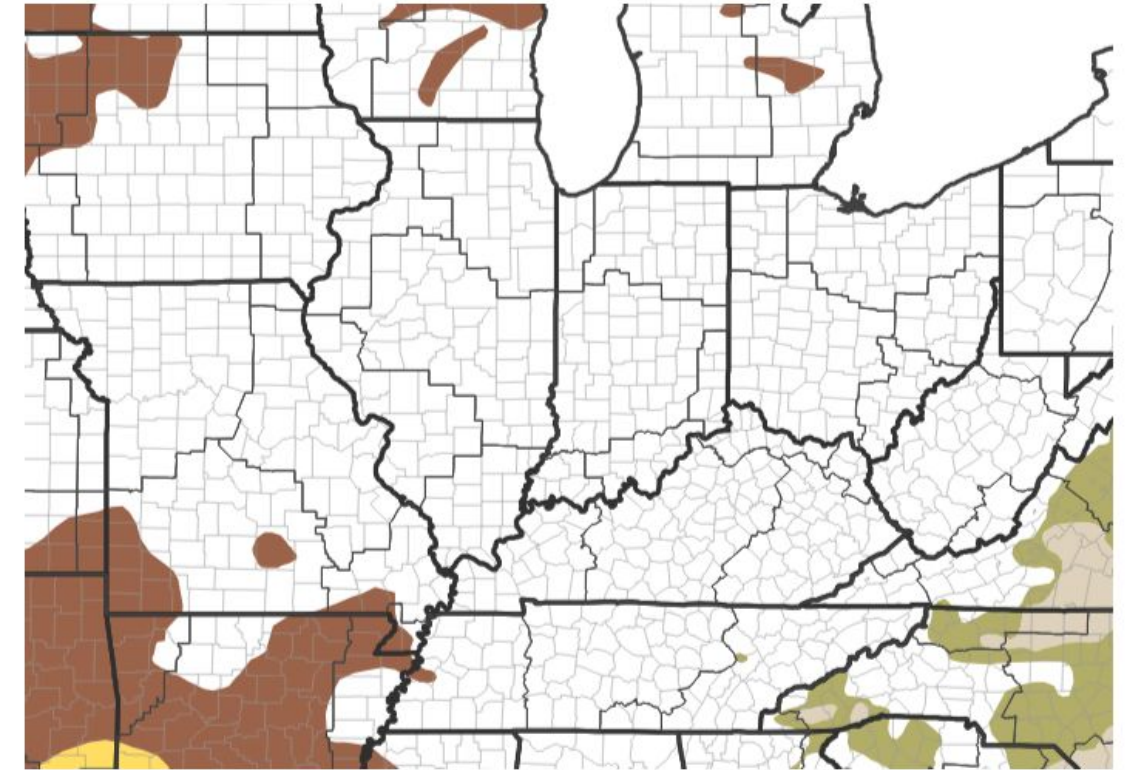


Drought Is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 07/31/26

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for August 20, 2026–November 30, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...

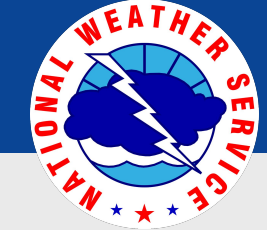


Source(s): Climate Prediction Center image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 08/20/26

Main Takeaways

- Drought is forecast to develop or persist over the next 1 to 3 months.





For Additional Information

- [NWS Springfield Webpage](#) | [IDSS Point Forecasts](#)
- [NWS Springfield Drought Monitor Resources](#)
- [Graphical Hazardous Weather Outlook](#)
- [Missouri Drought Monitor](#) | [Kansas Drought Monitor](#)
- [Drought Monitor Archive](#)
- [CPC Drought Information](#)
- [National Integrated Drought Information System \(NIDIS\)](#)
- [National Drought Mitigation Center \(NDMC\)](#)
- [Missouri USGS Streamflows](#) | [Kansas USGS Streamflows](#)
- [Drought Safety](#)

Drought Impacts



Agriculture

Farms, ranches, and grazing lands suffer, and increases the cost of their products



Public Health

A decrease of water can lead to an increase of illness, disease, mortality rates, and adverse mental health



Ecosystems

Harms fish, wildlife, and plants, as well as the benefits these ecosystems provide



Wildfire Management

Dry, hot, and windy weather combined with dried out vegetation can lead to more large-scale wildfires



Manufacturing

Interruptions in the water supply can result in a reduction of productivity or closure of facilities



Energy

Production of all types of energy requires water, and drought can severely impact energy systems and prices



During a Drought be Vigilant

Conserve Water

Practice Fire Prevention

Follow Directions from Local Officials

Trinity Lake, CA, dry lakebed during California Drought, 2014. Photo: USGS

