

Drought Information Statement for Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands

Valid August 13th, 2026

Issued By: WFO San Juan, PR

Contact Information: sr-sju.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated when drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/sju/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.





U.S. Drought Monitor

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

DROUGHT CONDITIONS: Extreme drought conditions persist in the Virgin Islands, and continue to expand across southern and eastern Puerto Rico. Severe Drought also covers the entire eastern third of Puerto Rico, as well as Vieques and Culebra.

Drought Intensity and Extent:

- **U.S. Virgin Islands:** Extreme Drought (**D3**) conditions.
- **Puerto Rico:** Extreme Drought (**D3**) are present along the south and eastern interior, Severe Drought (**D2**) along the east. Moderate drought (**D1**) is present along portions of the central interior, and Abnormally Dry conditions (**D0**) cover the north Central and near Hormigueros.

U.S. Drought Monitor Caribbean

August 11, 2026
(Released Thursday, Aug. 13, 2026)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	21.73	78.27	72.18	53.93	17.02	0.00
Last Week 08-04-2026	21.06	78.94	67.77	35.63	9.49	0.00
3 Months Ago 05-12-2026	90.88	9.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2026	78.70	21.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-30-2025	95.49	4.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 08-12-2025	71.95	28.05	3.77	0.00	0.00	0.00

Note: Statistics do not include areas represented by points.

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

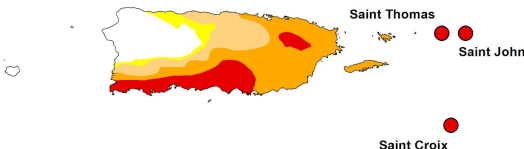


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8 AM EDT August 11th, 2026 .



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San Juan



Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands.

U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change:

- **1 to 2 Classes degradation** is observed for a big portion of Puerto Rico.
- **1 Class improvement** is observed along the north-west and north-central.

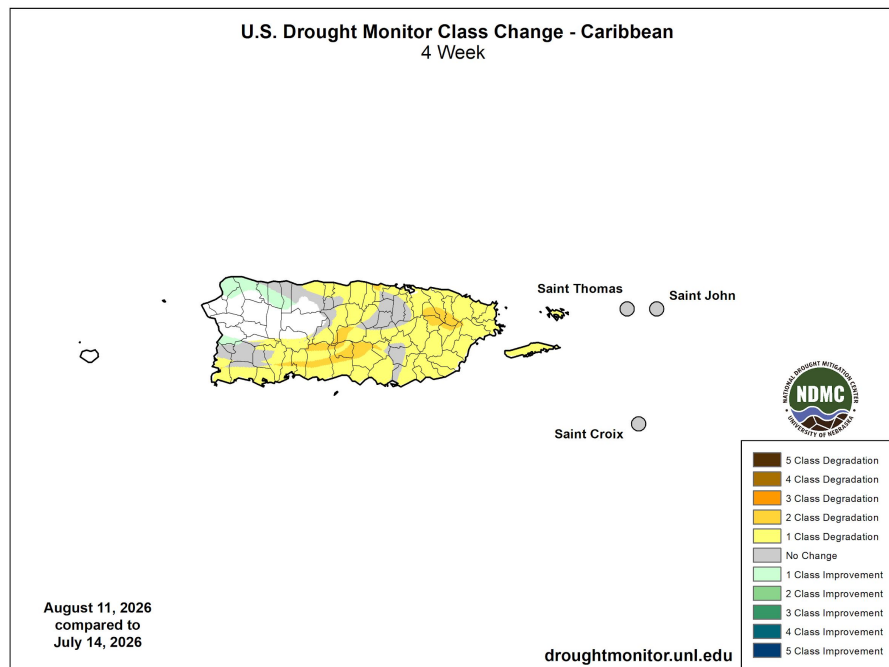


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid 8 AM AST August 11th, 2026.



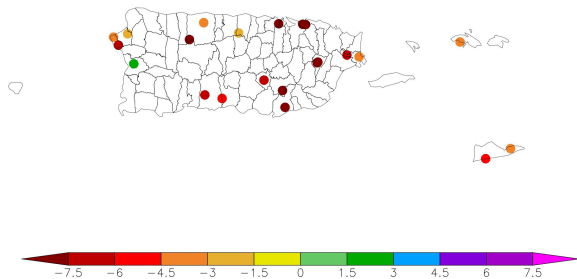


Rainfall

Link to generate the latest [ACIS Climate Maps](#)

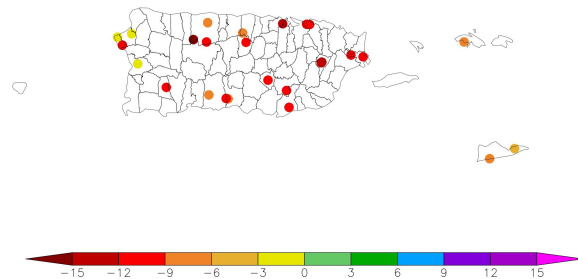
- Based on 60 and 90-days average, all COOP and CoCoRaHS stations (except Mayaguez) are showing below normal precipitation values.

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
6/14/2026 – 8/12/2026



Generated 8/13/2026 using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
5/15/2026 – 8/12/2026



ACIS Web Services Generated 8/13/2026 using provisional data.

ACIS Web Services

Image Captions:

Left - 60-day Departure of Normal Precipitation for Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands
Right - 90-day Departure of Normal Precipitation for Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands
Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center/NWS COOP Stations.





Summary of Impacts

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

Water Supply Impact

- Water interruptions are occurring along residents supplied by Lago Carraizo, including Rio Canovanas south of the dam. Lake Cidra is at operational adjustment levels. All other lakes continue to show decreasing water values, except for the lakes in the northwest. Water production is limited in the Virgin Islands, roughly consuming the same amount that it's being produced.

Agricultural Impact

- Water restrictions were imposed along the irrigation channels in the south. The lack of rain affected crops such as avocados, breadfruit, coffee, sweet pepper, and coconut. Hay and water are restricted. Unofficial reports inform that livestock and poultry deaths are increasing, particularly along the Virgin Islands. The Virgin Island Department of Agriculture ordered hay and water for livestock.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Numerous brush fire reports arrive each day. The focus of the fires is along the southern plains of Puerto Rico. These fires are affecting agricultural terrains as well. No burn order is in effect for the Virgin Islands

Mitigation Actions

- Water rationing will be implemented in the northeast. Water rationing was implemented in the south, but only for agricultural purposes. The Governor of the Virgin Islands requested a federal Drought Disaster Declaration due to the ongoing conditions.





Long-Range Outlooks

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

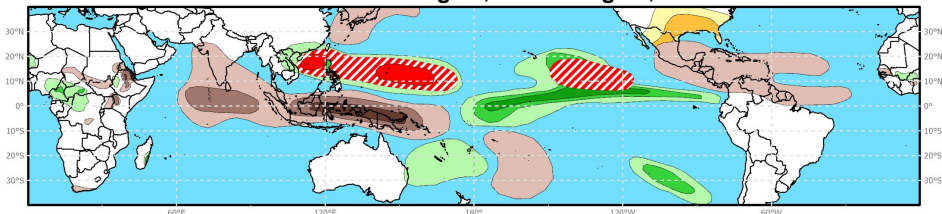


Global Tropics Hazards Outlook

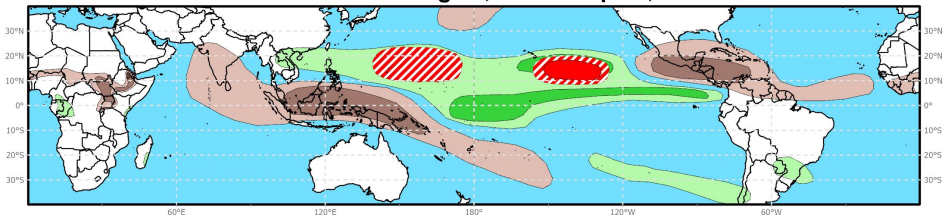
Climate Prediction Center



Week 2 - Valid: Aug 19, 2026 - Aug 25, 2026



Week 3 - Valid: Aug 26, 2026 - Sep 01, 2026



Tropical Cyclone (TC)
Formation Probability

>20% >40% >60%

Tropical Depression (TD)
or greater strength

Above-Average
Rainfall Probability

>50% >65% >80%

Weekly total rainfall in the
Upper third of the historical range

Below-Average
Rainfall Probability

>50% >65% >80%

Weekly total rainfall in the
Lower third of the historical range

Above-Average
Temperatures Probability

>50% >65% >80%

7-day mean temperatures in the
Upper third of the historical range

Below-Average
Temperatures Probability

>50% >65% >80%

7-day mean temperatures in the
Lower third of the historical range

Issued: 08/11/2026
Forecaster: Long

This product is updated once per week and targets broad scale conditions integrated over a 7-day period for US interests only.
Consult your local responsible forecast agency.

- The **Global Tropics Hazards Outlook** indicates below normal precipitation chances for the northeastern Caribbean through early September.

Image Caption: Global Tropics Hazards Outlook for August 19-September 01, 2026.



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Long-Range Outlooks

The latest three-months precipitation outlook can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- In the **North American Multi-Model Ensemble (NMME)**, favors much **BELOW** normal precipitation for the period of August-September-October 2026 (> 70% chance).

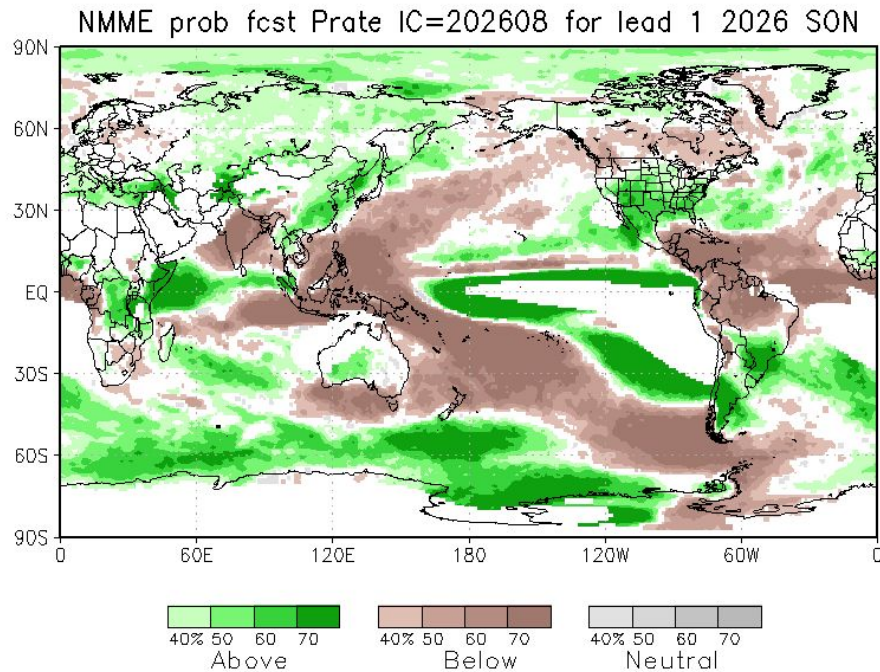


Image Caption: NMME precipitation forecast issued for September-November 2026.





Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov)

U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for August 2026
Released July 31, 2026

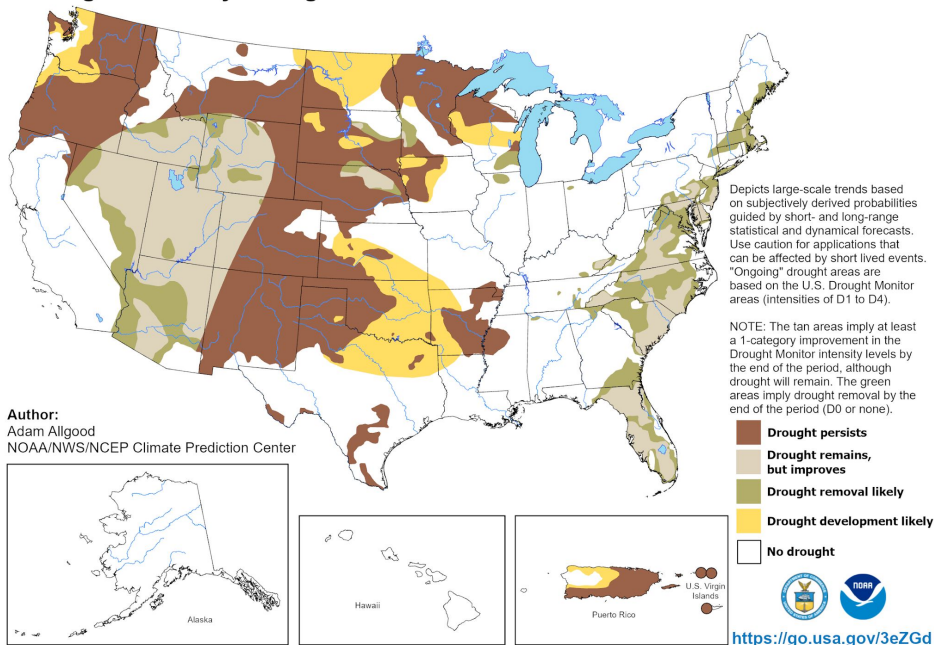


Image Caption: U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook valid for August 2026.

- Based on the latest forecast, drought conditions are expected to persist along the Virgin Islands, eastern and southern Puerto Rico.
- Drought may also develop in other portions of the interior and northwest.



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