



# Drought Information Statement for Central Alabama

Valid January 29, 2026

Issued By: NWS Birmingham, AL

Contact Information: [sr-bmx.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-bmx.webmaster@noaa.gov)

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



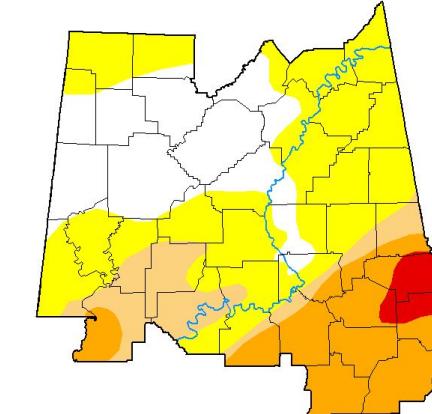


# U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - D4 Exceptional Drought: None.
  - D3 Extreme Drought: A small area in the east central part of the state..
  - D2 and D1 Severe/Moderate Drought: Mainly in the southwest corner of the area but also includes locations around Demopolis and Selma.
  - D0 Abnormally Dry: Most of central Alabama is either considered abnormally dry or completely free of drought conditions. This is a significant change to previous updates.

*U.S. Drought Monitor*  
Birmingham, AL WFO



January 27, 2026  
(Released Thursday, Jan. 29, 2026)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	25.80	42.01	11.00	18.19	2.99	0.00
Last Week 01-20-2026	0.00	48.63	30.18	16.14	5.04	0.00
3 Months Ago 10-20-2025	1.66	23.43	33.57	33.95	7.40	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2026	0.00	2.87	61.33	31.85	3.95	0.00
Start of Water Year 08-30-2025	0.24	48.37	31.68	17.41	2.30	0.00
One Year Ago 01-01-2025	35.97	29.18	29.04	5.81	0.00	0.00

Intensity:	D2 Severe Drought	D3 Extreme Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought
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>

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CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid January 27, 2026



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# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for central Alabama

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought Worsened: Only in southeast locations of the area.
  - No Change and Drought Improvement: Most of the area either experienced no change or a one category drought improvement.

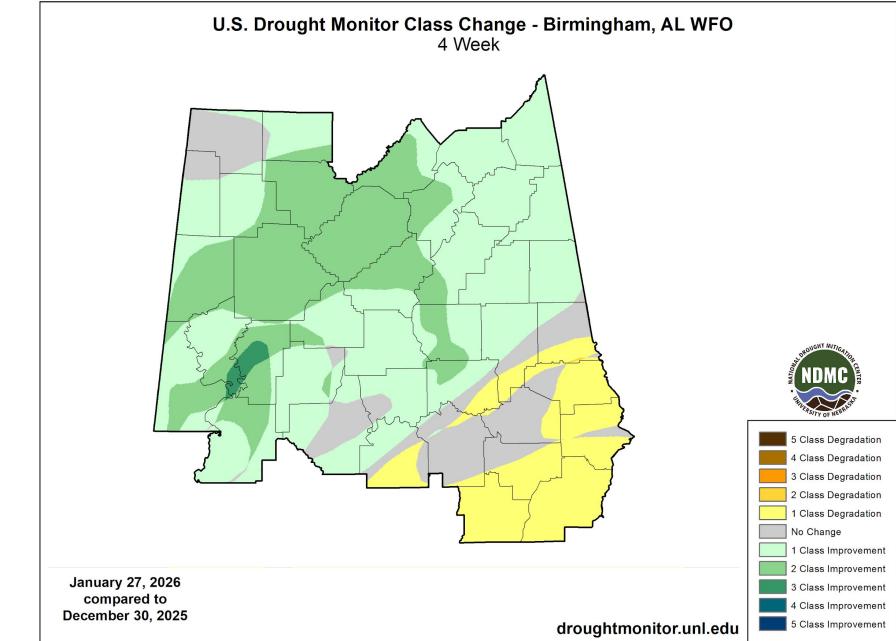


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid January 27, 2026



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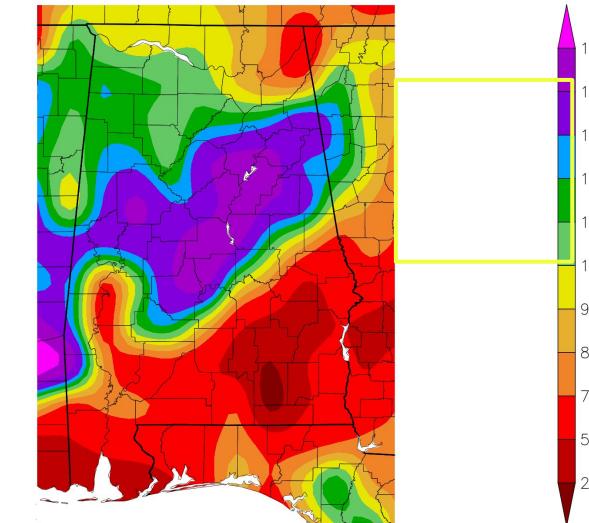


# Precipitation

Last 30 days

- Dry conditions persist across much of the deep south over the past 30 days.
- The recent heavy rainfall event did allow for many locations in central Alabama to temporarily catch up with rainfall deficits. Most other locations are still below average for the past month.
- January's average weekly rainfall should be around 1.25 inches with monthly totals averaging around 5 inches.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
12/30/2025 – 1/28/2026



/29/2026 using provisional data.

ACIS V

Image Captions:

Map - [Departure from normal map for Alabama](#)

Data over the past 30 days ending Jan 15, 2026



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# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows have fluctuated greatly due to recent rainfall. Many locations are in the normal range but continue an overall decline. Some of the southeast counties continue to experience extremely low flows.

## Agricultural Impacts

- No updates from the USDA have been reported.

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- There are no fire weather impacts at this time.

## Other Impacts

- None

## Drought Mitigation Actions

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



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# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Scattered light rainfall is expected through February 6th. This is not enough to improve the drought conditions in place across the area and some decline in the drought status will be possible for parts of the area.

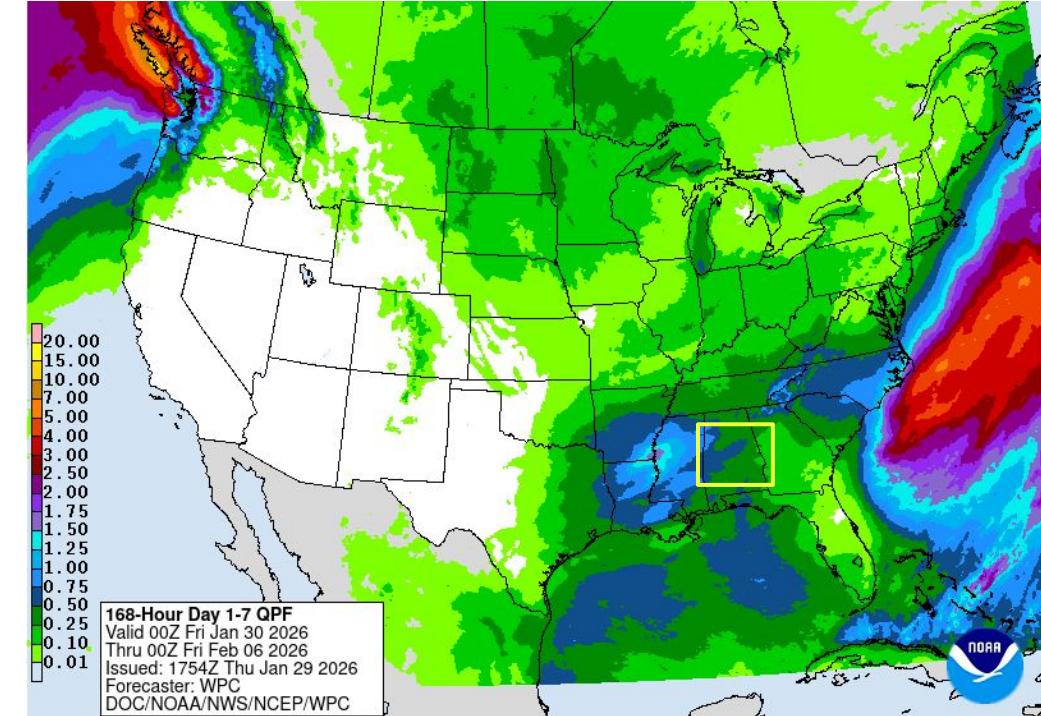


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid through February 6th.



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# Medium-Range Outlooks

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

- The seasonal outlook for the next 3 month period is calling for a higher chance of above average temperatures.
- Rainfall probabilities during this same time-frame lend to a near average to slightly below average pattern.
- If this pattern verifies, it would lend towards potential improvement across the north and persistent or worsening drought conditions in the south.

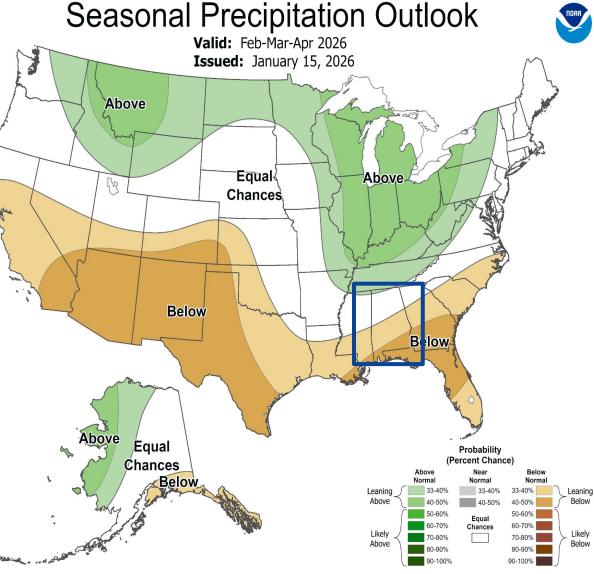
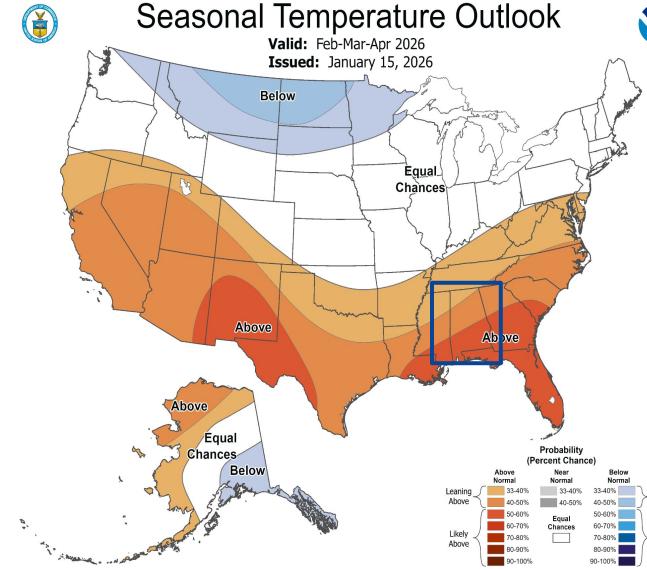


Image Captions:

Left - Seasonal temperature outlook ending May 1

Right - Seasonal precipitation outlook ending May 1



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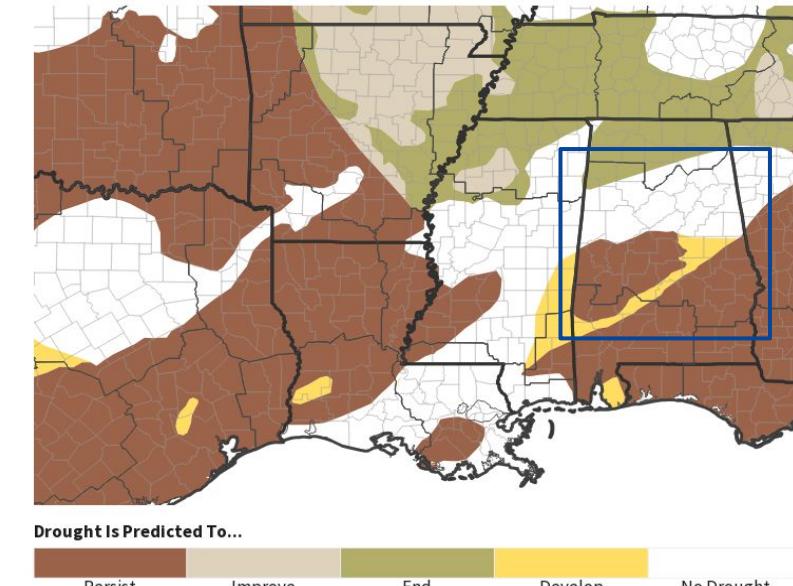


# Drought Outlook

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

- The latest seasonal outlook released by the CPC on January 15th shows no areas of improvement across our southern counties with some potential improvement across the north.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for January 15, 2026–April 30, 2026



Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)  
[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

Image Caption:

CPC Seasonal Drought Outlook Released January, 2026 and valid now through April 2026.



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# State Drought Declaration

The latest information on the state declaration can be found [HERE](#)

- The latest Alabama Drought declaration released on January 9th has placed much of the southern counties in a warning with advisories and watches throughout the rest of the state.



Legend	
No Drought Declaration	Yellow
Advisory	Light Tan
Watch	Medium Tan
Warning	Dark Tan
Emergency	Red

Precipitation deficits have led to expanding drought conditions across the state, nearly every drought region has experienced a degradation of drought conditions. OWR will continue monitoring our water resources and update this Declaration as needed.

Water managers and public water system customers are encouraged to follow their local water system's recommendations regarding water use. All water users should make prudent decisions on their water use to protect available resources.

