



Drought Information Statement for Central Alabama

Valid March 12, 2026

Issued By: NWS Birmingham, AL

Contact Information: 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.



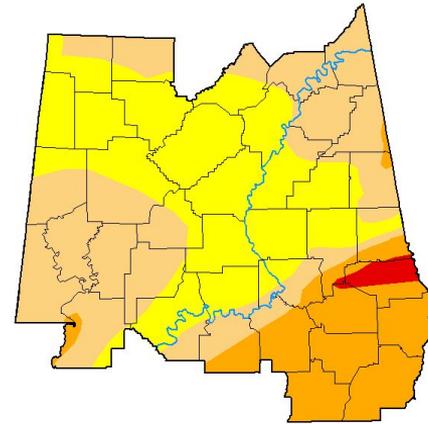


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - D4 Exceptional Drought: None.
 - D3 and D2 Extreme/Severe Drought: Includes several counties in the southeast part of the state.
 - D1 and D0 Moderate Drought/Abnormally Dry: Includes the rest of central Alabama.

U.S. Drought Monitor Birmingham, AL WFO



March 10, 2026
(Released Thursday, Mar. 12, 2026)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	0.00	41.57	38.20	18.83	1.40	0.00
Last Week 03-03-2026	0.00	38.38	50.63	9.59	1.40	0.00
3 Months Ago 12-09-2025	8.60	17.36	57.96	12.13	3.95	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 09-30-2025	0.24	48.37	31.68	17.41	2.30	0.00
One Year Ago 03-11-2025	39.14	53.77	7.09	0.00	0.00	0.00

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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CPC/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid March 10, 2026





Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: Mainly in the northern and western locations of the area.
 - No Change and Drought Improvement: About half of the area experienced no change with a small area of one category improvement in the southeast.

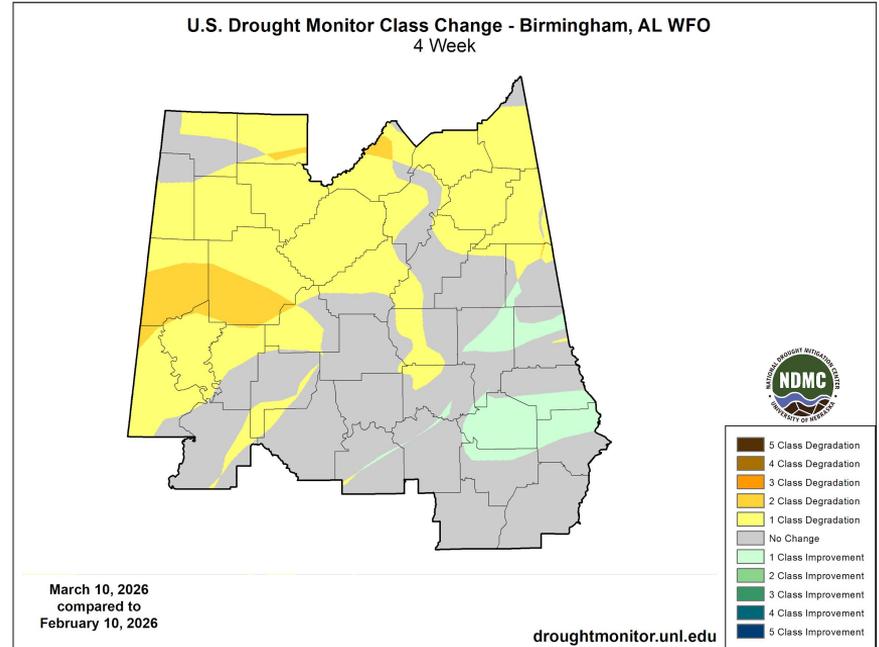


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid March 10, 2026



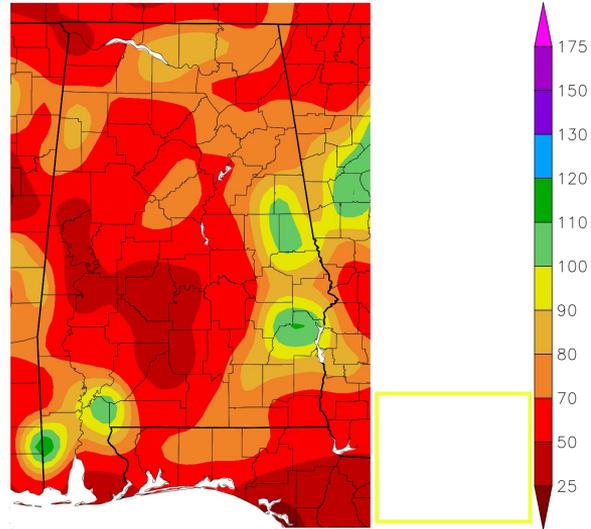


Precipitation

Last 30 days

- Dry conditions persist across much of the deep south over the past 30 days.
- There have been some pockets of replenishing rain, but overall, rainfall estimates are running at about half the normal amount for the past 30 days.
- March's average weekly rainfall should be around 1.45 inches with monthly totals averaging around 5.50 to 6 inches.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
2/10/2026 – 3/11/2026



/12/2026 using provisional data.

ACIS V

Image Captions:

Map - [Departure from normal map for Alabama](#)
Data over the past 30 days ending March 11, 2026





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows as of Tuesday, March 10th, were generally running well below normal for this time of the year.

Agricultural Impacts

- In January, the USDA designated 19 Alabama counties as primary natural disaster areas due to the drought conditions impacting row-crop yields and forage availability. Several of these primary counties are in central and southeastern portions of Central Alabama with contiguous counties including most of Central Alabama.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- There has been an increased amount of wildfire activity across Central Alabama so far this year. Currently, all fires are contained as of this issuance.

Other Impacts

- None

Drought Mitigation Actions

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





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- The next seven days will be relatively dry across the area. There will be a frontal system move through late Sunday, the 15th, that will bring around a half inch of additional precipitation. After Sunday, it is expected to remain dry through much of mid March.

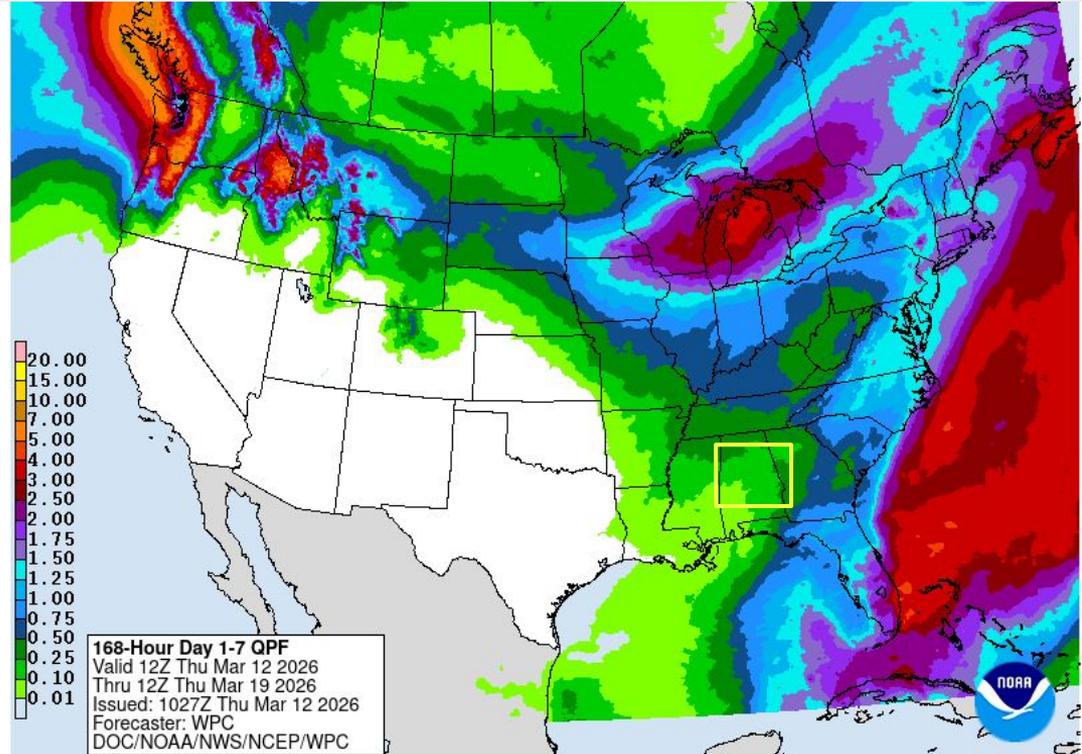


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid through March 19th.





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 medium chances of above average temperatures.
- Rainfall probabilities during this same time-frame are calling for equal chances of above or below normal rainfall.
- If this pattern verifies, it would lend towards persisting drought conditions.

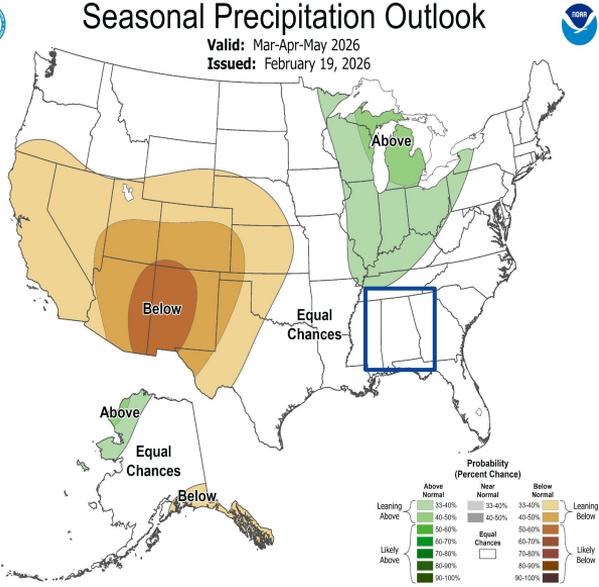
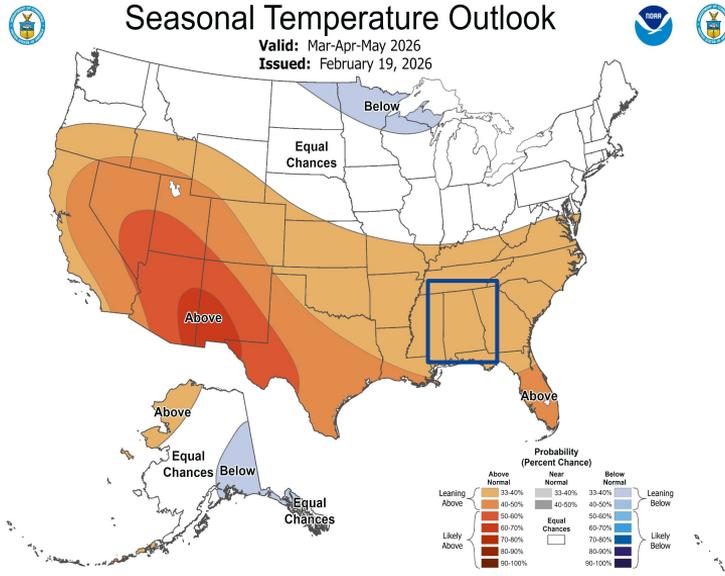


Image Captions:
 Left - Seasonal temperature outlook ending June 1
 Right - Seasonal precipitation outlook ending June 1



Drought Outlook

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

- The latest seasonal outlook released by the CPC and valid through the end of May shows no some improvement gradually occurring across parts of the area with drought expected to persist in the southeast.

2026–May 31, 2026

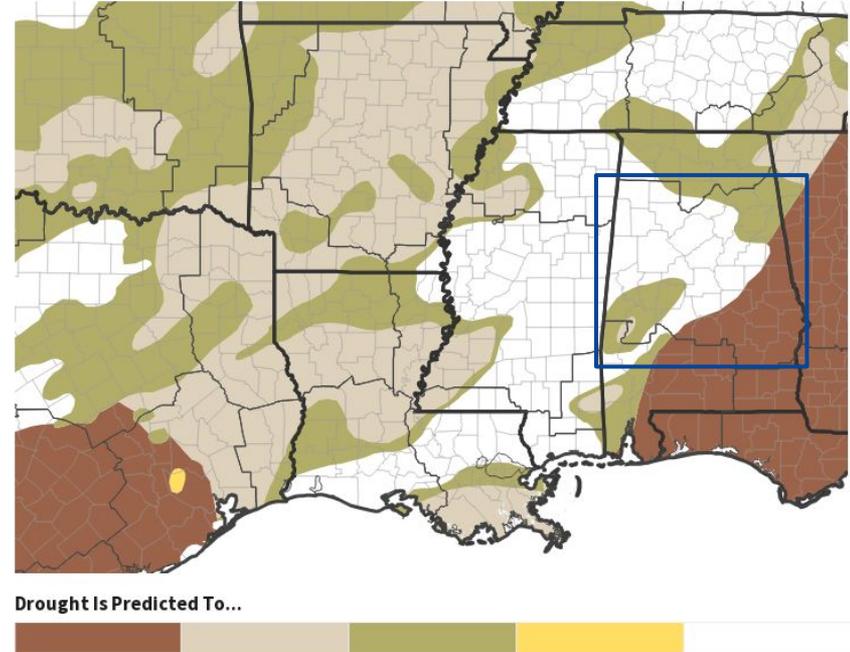


Image Caption:
CPC Seasonal Drought Outlook Released February, 2026 and valid now through May 2026.

Links to the latest:

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

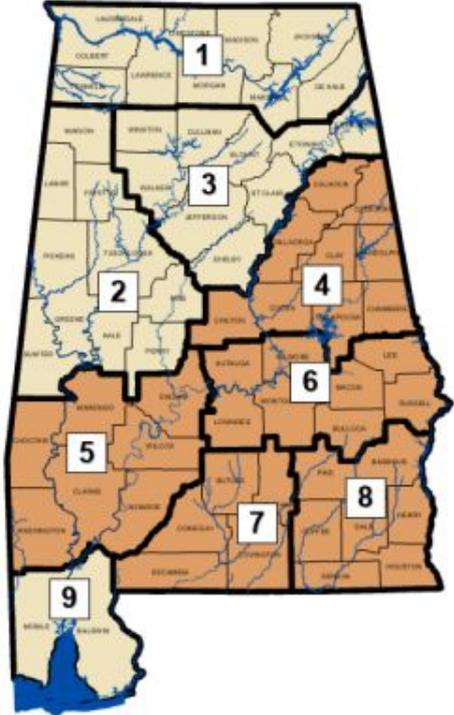




State Drought Declaration

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

- The latest Alabama Drought declaration released on March 5th has placed much of the southern and eastern counties in a warning with watches throughout the rest of the state.



Legend
No Drought Declaration
Advisory
Watch
Warning
Emergency

Significant precipitation deficits have led to worsening drought conditions across most of the State. Drought Regions 1, 2, 3 and 9 have been downgraded to the Watch level and Region 4 and a portion of Region 5 have been downgraded to the Warning level. 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.