



Drought Information Statement for Central Alabama

Valid December 8, 2023

Issued By: NWS Birmingham, AL

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

- This product will be updated by January 8, 2024 or as 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

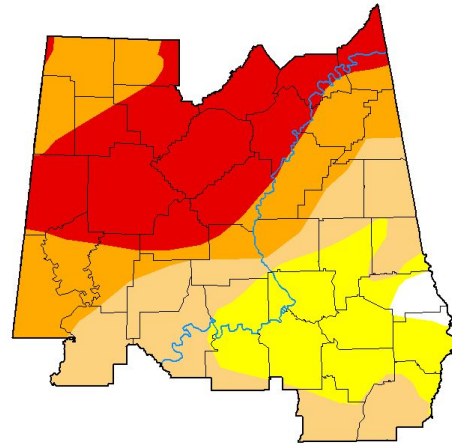
Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for central Alabama

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - D4 Exceptional Drought: None.
 - D3 Extreme Drought: Now covers much of the area between Pickens and Cherokee Counties and includes Tuscaloosa, Birmingham and Gadsden.
 - D2 Severe Drought: Continues across much of the area and includes Anniston, Hamilton, Livingston and Demopolis.
 - D1 includes Selma, Ashland and Troy.
 - D0 includes much of the I-85 corridor and surrounding area. .

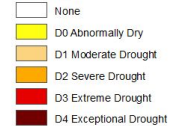
- Overall precipitation trend the next 2 weeks is for normal to below normal rainfall
 - The pattern has changed to more of a typical winter set up for Alabama but the systems we are looking are typically fast moving and will only allow for slow drought improvement.

U.S. Drought Monitor Birmingham, AL WFO

December 5, 2023
(Released Thursday, Dec. 7, 2023)
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Intensity:



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>

Author:

David Simeral
Western Regional Climate Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 9 am CDT Dec 5, 2023.





Precipitation

Last 30 days

- Scattered showers moved through much of the area over the last 30 days providing for some general improvements.
- Much of the area remains below normal over this period.
- Average weekly rainfall for the month of December should be around 1 to 1.25 inches.

December 08, 2023 30-Day Departure Precipitation

Created on: December 08, 2023 - 19:03 UTC

Valid on: December 08, 2023 12:00 UTC

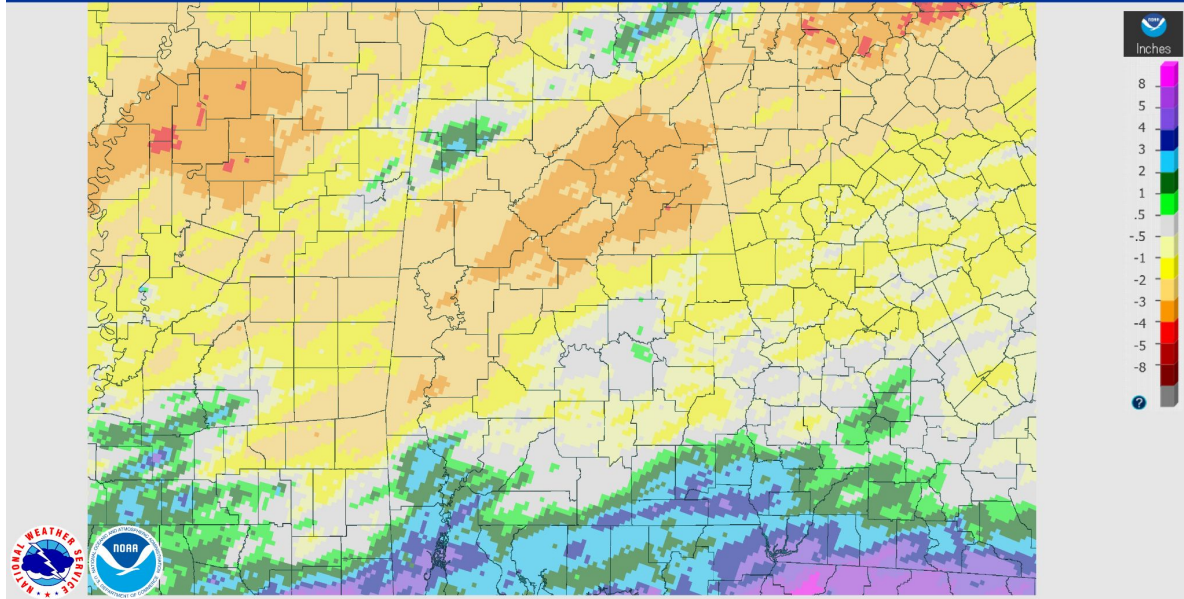


Image Captions:

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

Data Courtesy Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service (AHPS)

Data over the past 30 days ending December 8, 2023



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Birmingham, AL



Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows remain below to much below normal across most basins in the region. See next slide for more details

Agricultural Impacts

- Please see the latest [Crop Report](#) from the USDA.
- Overall, crop and cattle conditions stabilized or improved slightly by the end of December.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Wildfire activity has diminished through late November and early December.

Other Impacts

- None

Drought Mitigation Actions

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





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflows over the past 7 days show a mix normal to much below normal. Any recent increase in streamflows is expected to be temporary as waterways have not been replenished from rainfall over the past week.
- Click the link the right for a full map and legend to the image provided.

Thursday, December 07, 2023

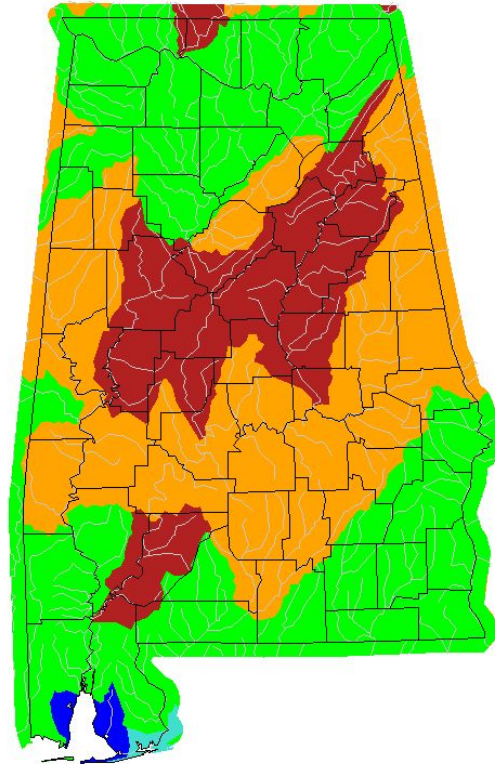


Figure Caption: [USGS 7 day streamflows for Alabama](#), valid Dec 7, 2023





Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- [Keetch Byram Drought Index values](#) are averaging between 300 to 500 across the entire area. This is an improvement from previous weeks.
- Wildland fire activity has been near normal past week, and outlooks suggest this will continue through December.

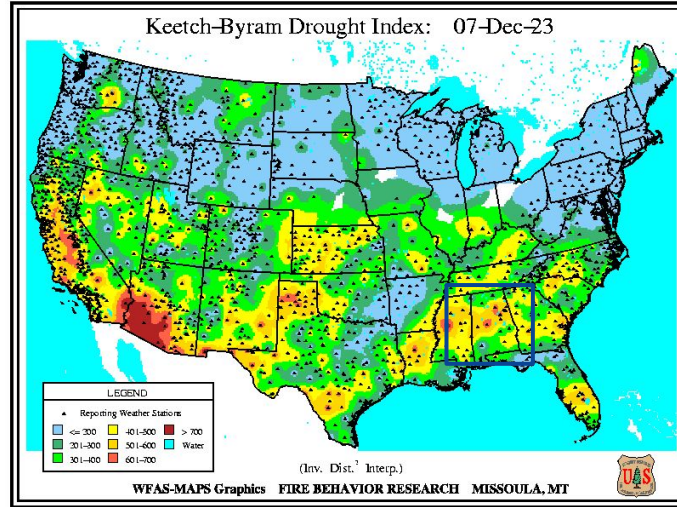


Image caption: National KBDI image released December 7th

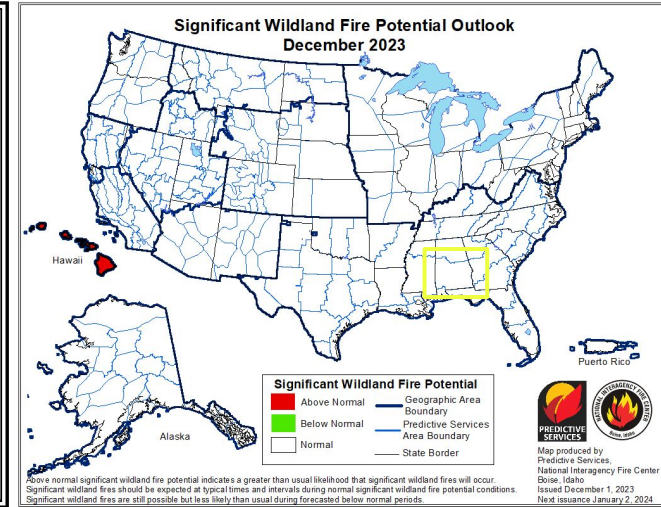


Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook](#) for December 2023





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Rainfall amounts over the next 7 days are expected to be around 1 inch. This would be the typical average rainfall for central Alabama and would be beneficial in keeping the drought from worsening.

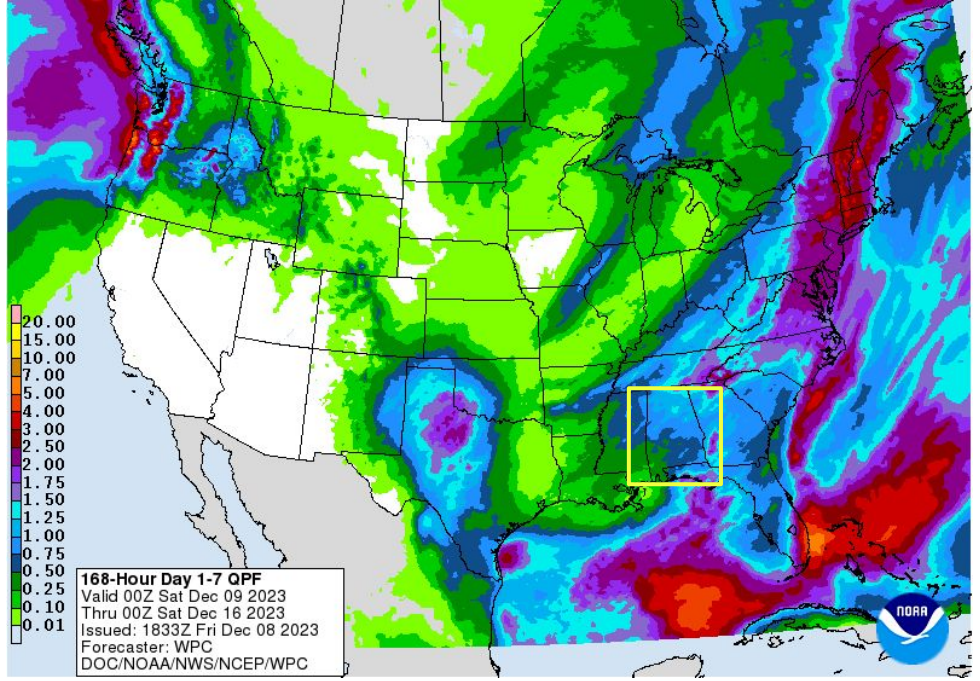


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid Dec 8th to Thursday Dec 15th.



Long-Range Outlooks

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

- The outlook over the next 6 to 10 days will call for near normal temperatures across the area. This will generally help prevent the spread of drought conditions.
- Rainfall amounts are expected to be near normal to slightly below normal over the next 6 to 10 days.

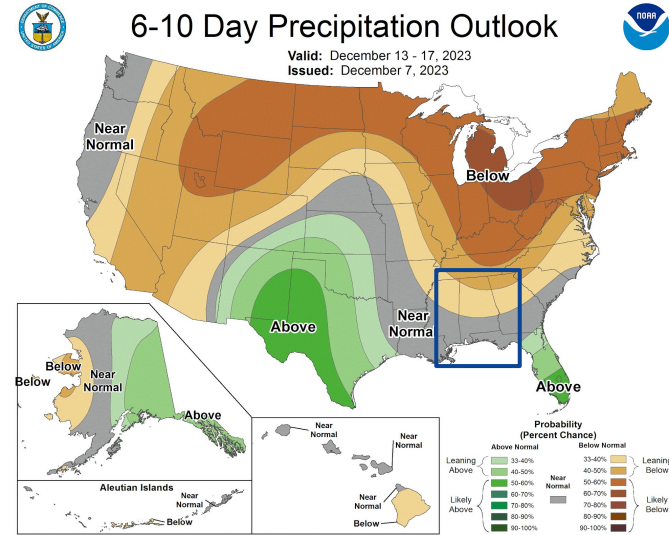
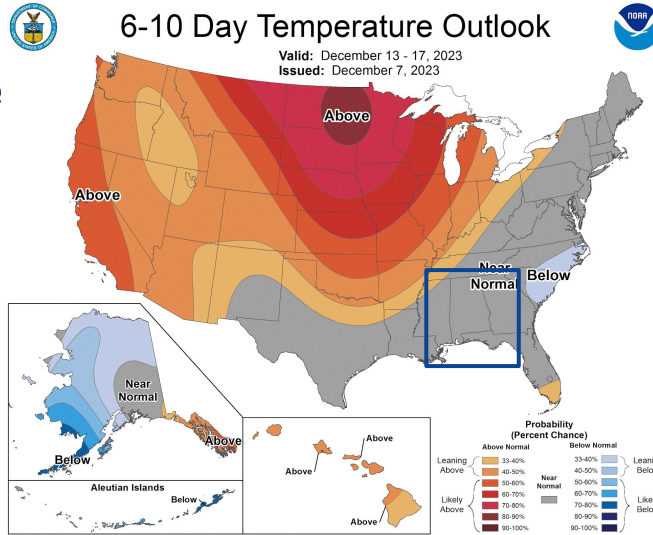


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center 6 to 10 day Temperature Outlook.](#)

Right - [Climate Prediction Center 6 to 10 day Precipitation Outlook.](#)





Drought Outlook

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

- Drought is expected to improve across the entire area by the end of December.
- Drought removal is expected over some parts of the area.

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

Valid for December 2023
Released November 30, 2023

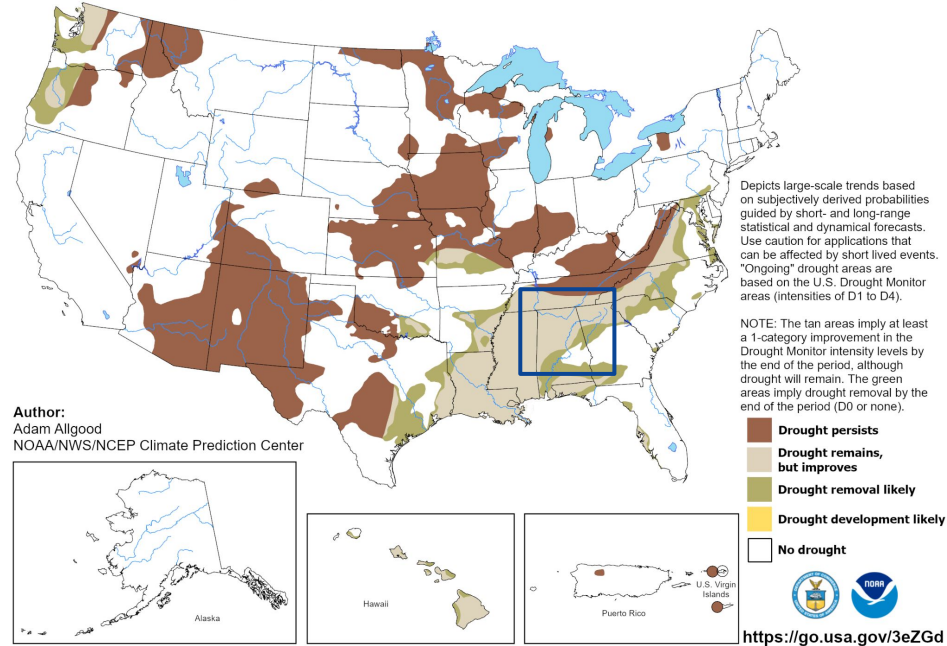


Image Caption:
CPC Monthly Drought Outlook Released November 30, 2023 and valid now through December 2023

Links to the latest:

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