



Drought Information Statement for Southeast TX and Southwest LA

Valid April 24, 2026

Issued By: WFO Lake Charles, LA

Contact Information:

- This product will be updated May 8th, 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/LCH/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
 - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.
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- **ONLY MINOR ADJUSTMENTS MADE TO DROUGHT CONDITONS THIS WEEK.**

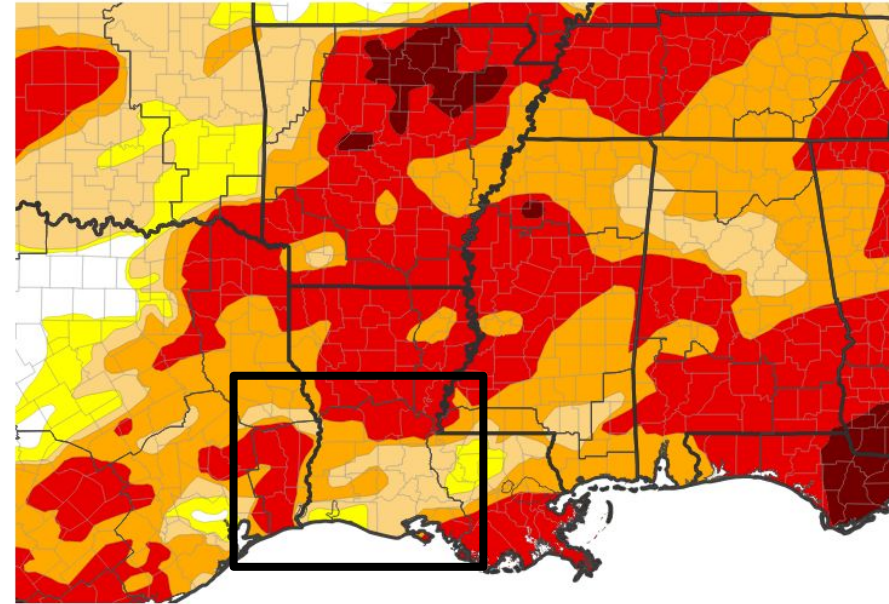


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought Intensity and Extent
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Rapides and Avoyelles, Northern Vernon and Lower St. Mary Parishes in Louisiana. Jefferson, Jasper, Newton, Hardin, Orange and Tyler Counties in Texas.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Calcasieu, Beauregard, Northwest Allen, Southern Vernon, Jefferson Davis and Northern St. Mary Parishes.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Much of Allen, Evangeline, St. Landry, Acadia, Iberia, Lafayette, Vermilion, St. Martin and Small portions of Cameron.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Cameron Parish.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA, NASA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 04/21/26



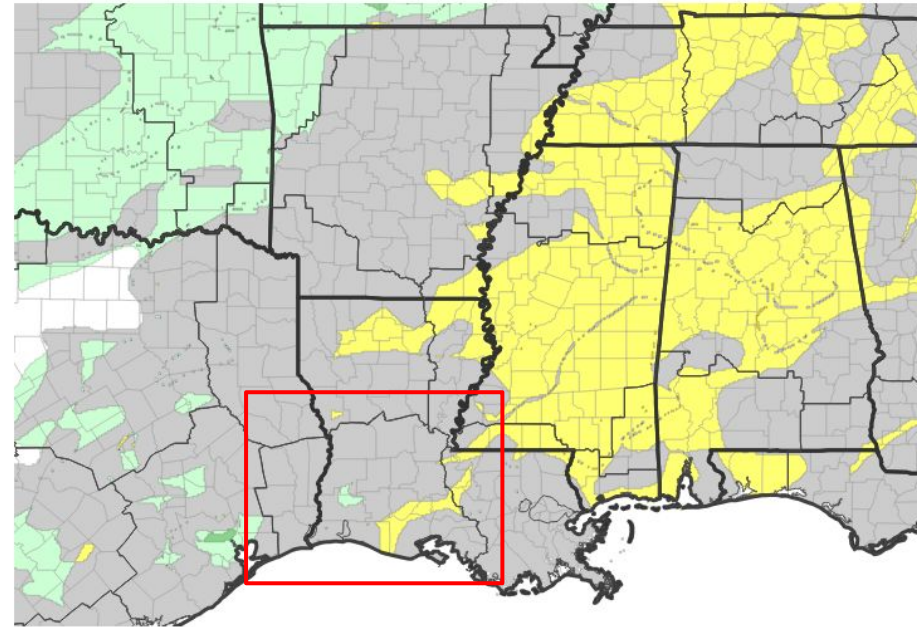


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

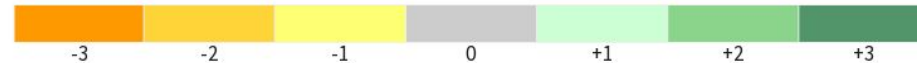
Link to the latest [1-week change map](#)

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: Vermilion, Lower Acadia, Lafayette and St. Martin Parish.
 - No Change: Southeast Texas and Central Louisiana.
 - Drought Improved: over Southeast Beauregard and North Central Calcasieu Parishes.

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



Drought Change Since Last Week



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA, NASA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 04/21/26



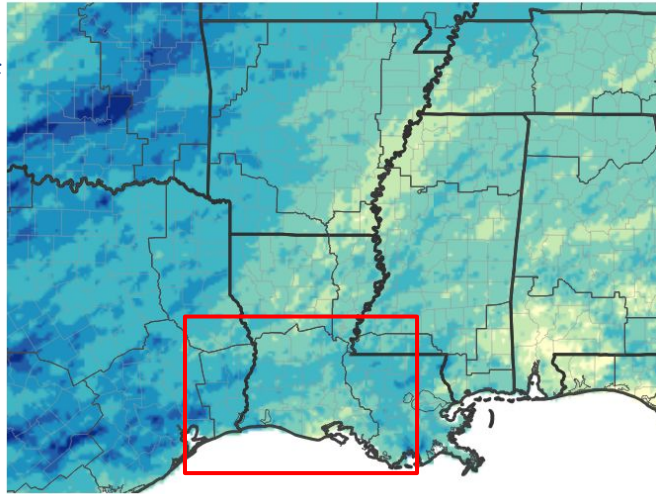


Precipitation

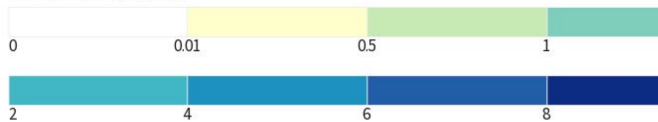
For the past 30 days

- Rainfall over the past 30 days is running 25 to around 50 percent of normal across the entire area with the exception of near normal precipitation near BA Steinhagen Lake and northwestern Hardin County over the past 30 days.

NWPS 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)

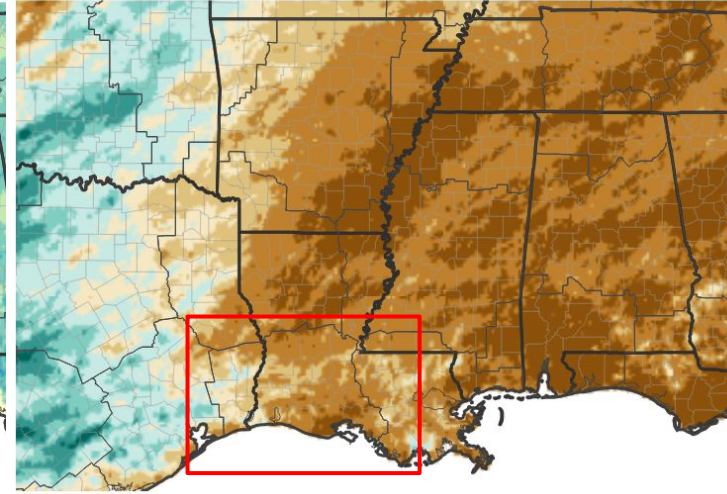


Inches of Precipitation

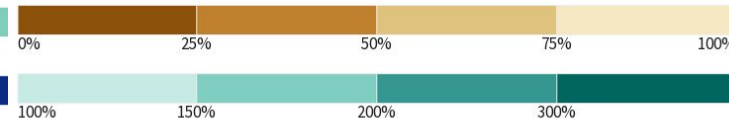


Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov

30-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal



Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions



Data Valid: Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 04/22/26



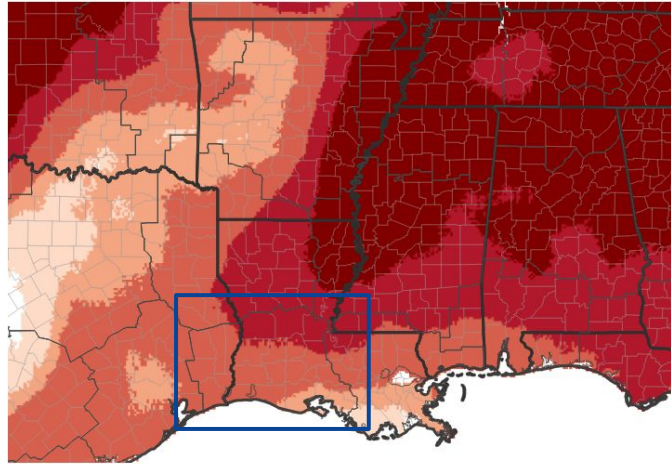


Temperature

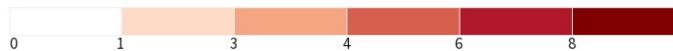
Link to [Southern Regional Climate Center](#)

- Temperatures have been above normal area wide across the region the past week.
- Above normal temperatures have been noted the previous 30 days.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



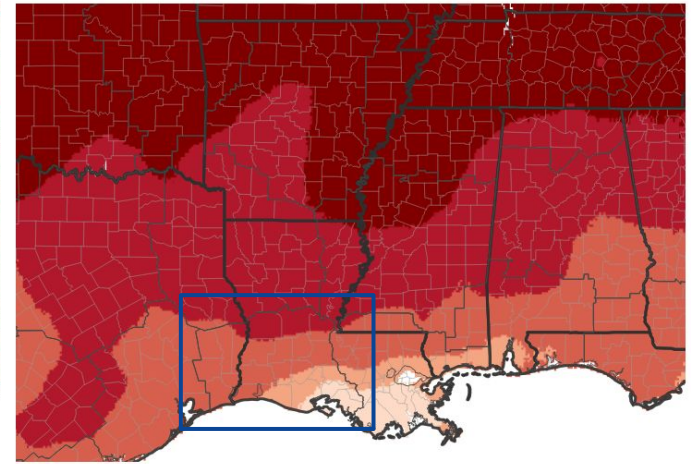
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



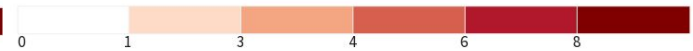
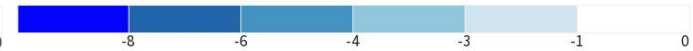
Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 04/19/26

30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 04/19/26





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Observed river flows are below to much below normal in all rivers.

Agricultural Impacts

- Several Parishes dry to very dry conditions.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Recent fire activity has lessened with the onset of green up, increased humidity, and increasing fuel moisture in the short term.
- All burn bans have been lifted.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

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

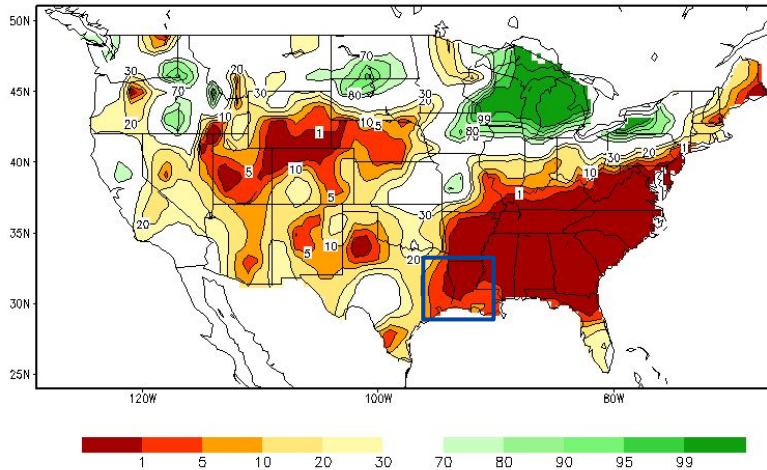




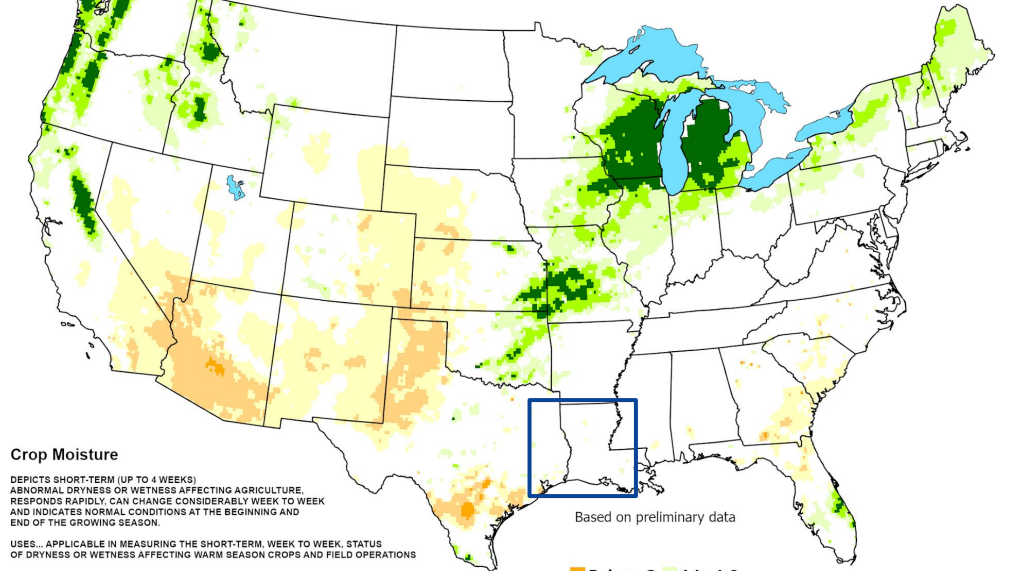
Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture is below normal across the area with shallow short term soil moisture near normal.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
APR 22, 2026



Crop Moisture Index
Value for the April 12 - 18, 2026
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile



Crop Moisture

DEPICTS SHORT-TERM (UP TO 4 WEEKS) ABNORMAL DRYNESS OR WETNESS AFFECTING AGRICULTURE. RESPONDS RAPIDLY CAN CHANGE CONSIDERABLY WEEK TO WEEK AND INDICATES NORMAL CONDITIONS AT THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE GROWING SEASON.

USES... APPLICABLE IN MEASURING THE SHORT-TERM, WEEK TO WEEK, STATUS OF DRYNESS OR WETNESS AFFECTING WARM SEASON CROPS AND FIELD OPERATIONS

LIMITATIONS... MAY NOT BE APPLICABLE TO GERMINATING AND SHALLOW ROOTED CROPS WHICH ARE UNABLE TO EXTRACT THE DEEP OR SUBSOIL MOISTURE FROM A SHALLOW SOIL PROFILE OR FOR COOL SEASON CROPS GROWING WHEN TEMPERATURES ARE AVERAGING BELOW ABOUT 50°F IT IS NOT GENERALLY INDICATIVE OF THE LONG-TERM (MONTHS, YEARS) DROUGHT OR WET SPELLS WHICH ARE DEPICTED BY THE DROUGHT SEVERITY INDEX.

Based on preliminary data

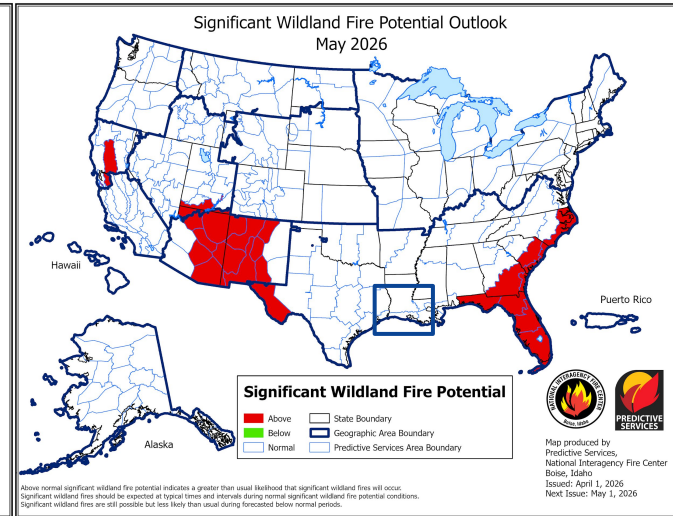
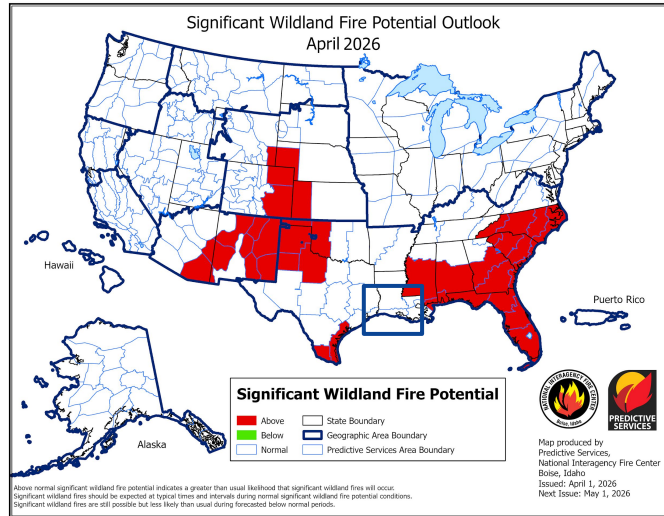




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- No Burn Bans are in effect.
- Wildfire conditions are expected to remain near normal in April and May.



Latest TX Burn Ban map available [here.](#)

Latest LA Burn Ban map available [here.](#)

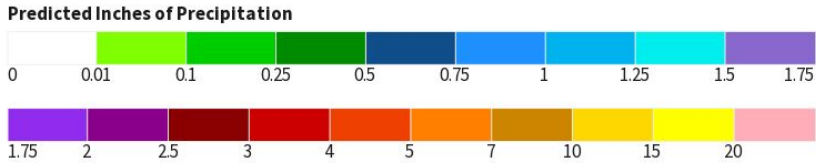
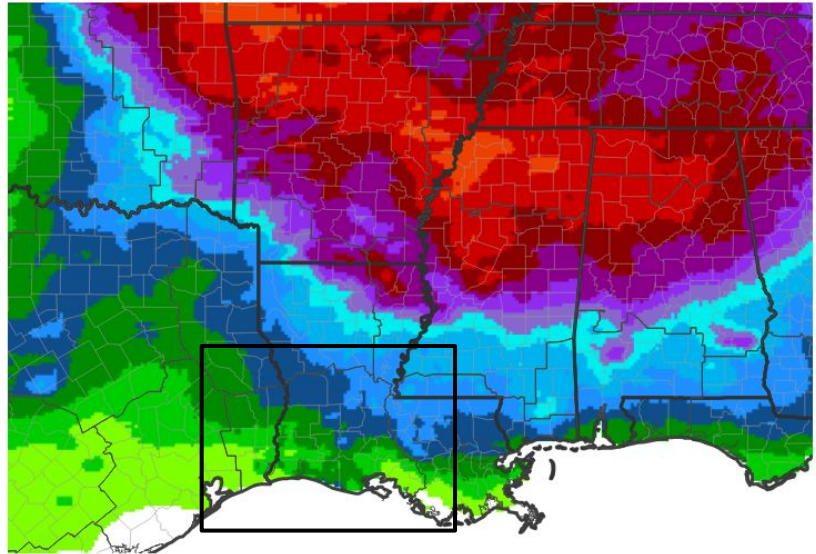




Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- A large range in rainfall amounts are expected this week with amounts ranging from near one tenth across Southeast Texas to as much as 1 inch across Central Louisiana.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for April 23, 2026–April 30, 2026



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 04/23/26

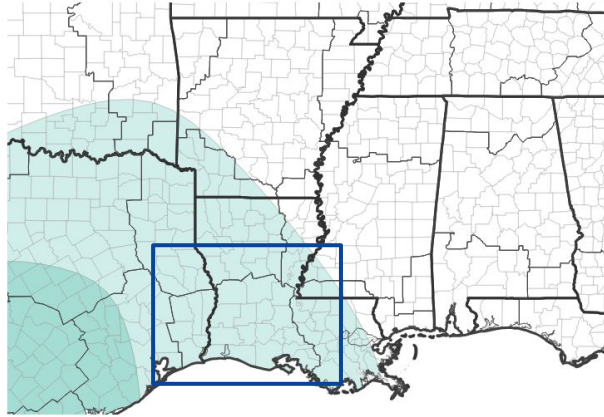


Long-Range Outlooks

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

- There are greater chances for the month of May to be above normal for rainfall and temperature.

Monthly Precipitation Outlook for May 1, 2026–May 31, 2026



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



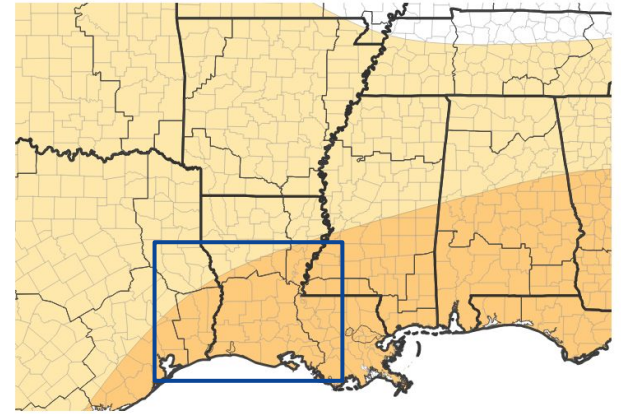
Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



Monthly Temperature Outlook for May 1, 2026–May 31, 2026



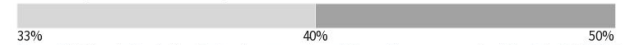
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center (map courtesy of Drought.gov) Last Updated: 04/16/26



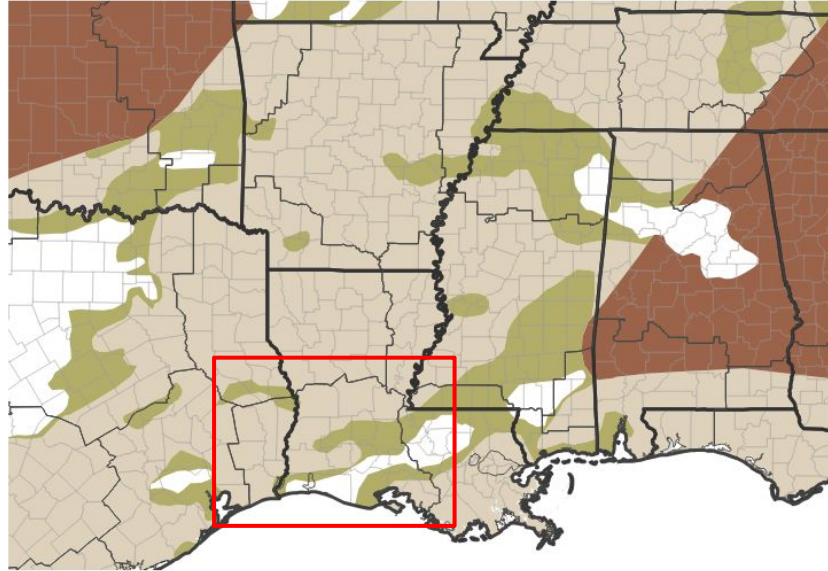


Drought Outlook

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

- Seasonal precipitation amounts are likely to remain near normal, which will assist in drought conditions improving or ending across the area.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for April 16, 2026–July 31, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center: image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 04/16/26

Links to the latest:

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

