



Drought Information Statement for Southeast TX and Southwest LA

Valid May 22, 2026

Issued By: WFO Lake Charles, LA

Contact Information:

- This product will no longer be updated unless 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.
-
- Improvements continue slowly across the area.



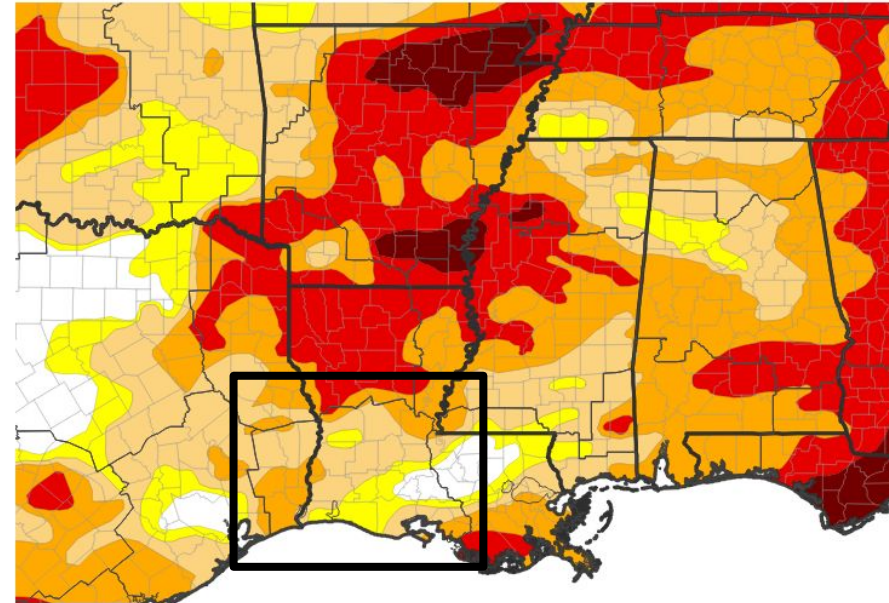


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought Intensity and Extent
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Avoyelles and St. Mary Parishes.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Avoyelles, St Mary Parishes and much of Hardin, Orange and Jefferson Counties.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Calcasieu, Beauregard, Allen, Jefferson Davis, Evangeline, Rapides, St. Landry and Vermilion Parishes. Tyler County in Texas
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Cameron and Lafayette Parishes.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 05/19/26

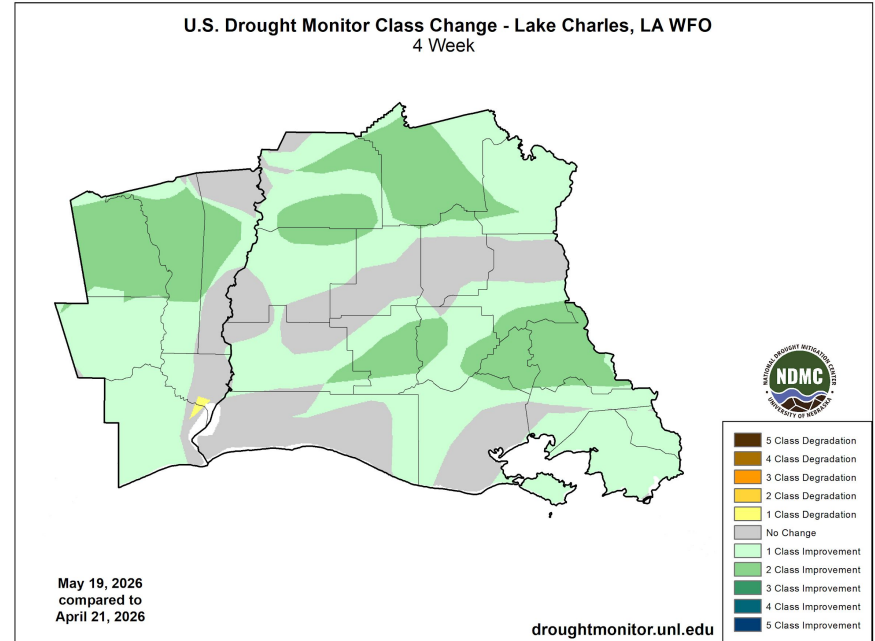




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: Across no areas over the past four weeks.
 - Drought Weakened: 1 to 2 categories across many areas with the exception of of a few locations where there was no change noted.



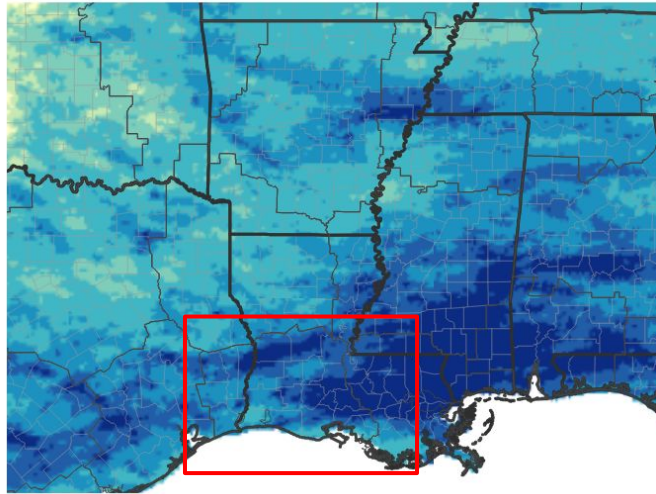


Precipitation

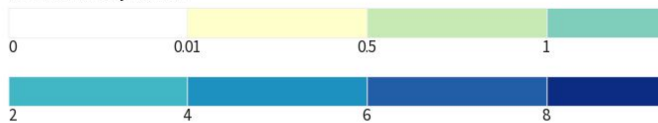
For the past 30 days

- Rainfall over the past 30 days is running above normal over most of the area with the exception of a few areas in Southwest Louisiana where drier than normal conditions were noted.

NWPS 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)

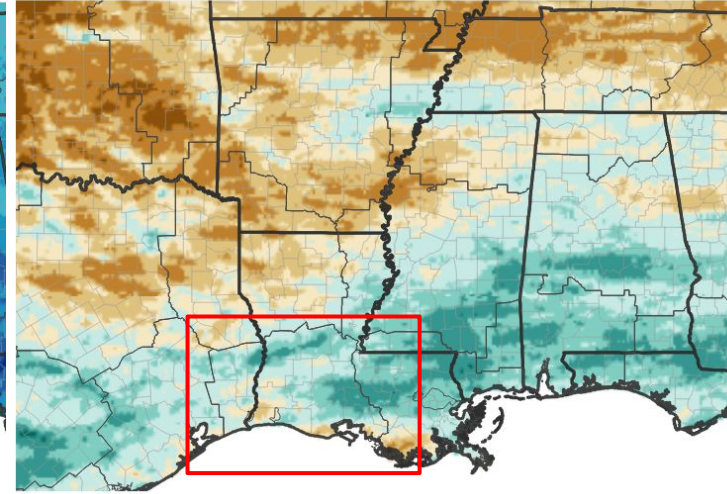


Inches of Precipitation

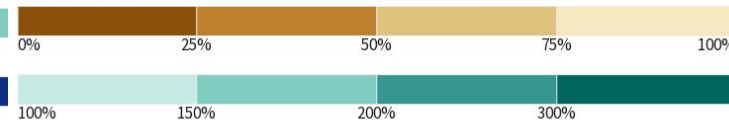


Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov

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: 05/20/26



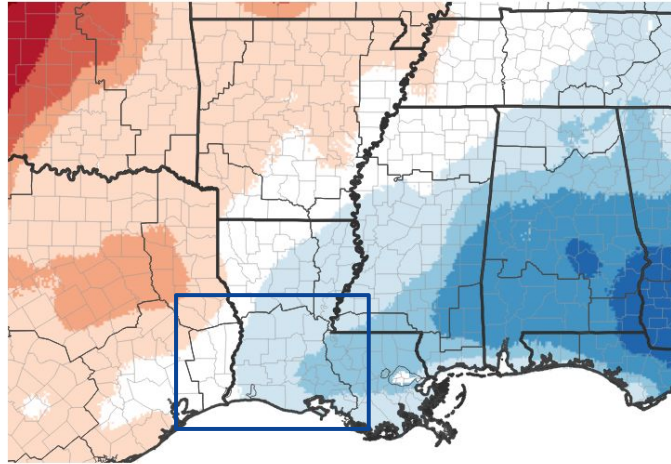


Temperature

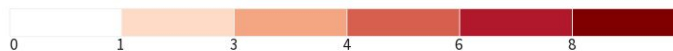
Link to [Southern Regional Climate Center](#)

- Temperatures have been running near to below normal across the area.
- Normal to slightly below normal temperatures have been noted the previous 30 days.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



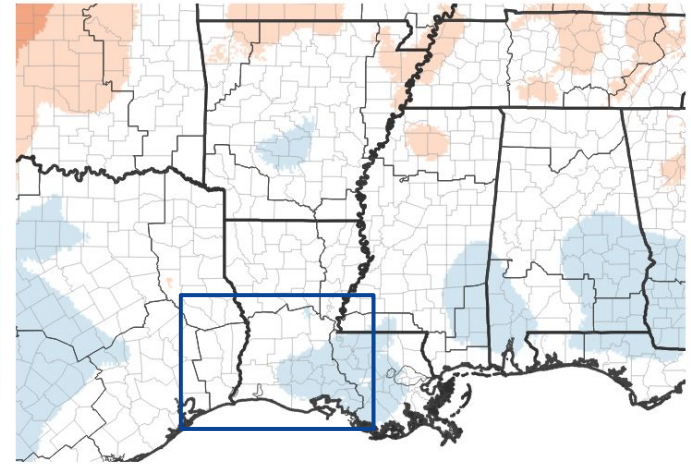
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



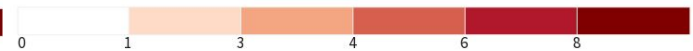
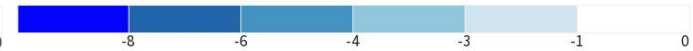
Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 05/16/26

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: 05/16/26





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Stream flows are normal across the area with the exception of the lower Neches River which is slightly below normal

Agricultural Impacts

- None noted.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- None noted.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

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

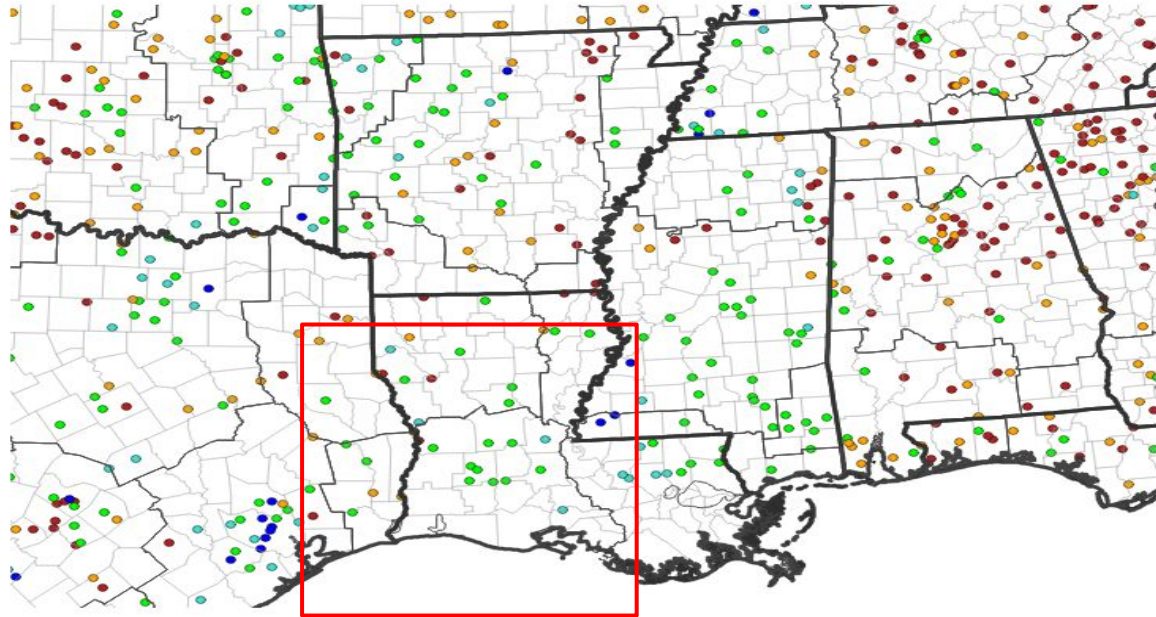




Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Below to much below normal flows are observed on most river basins especially in Central Louisiana.

1-Day Average Streamflow Conditions



Streamflow Conditions



Source(s): U.S. Geological Survey; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 05/20/26

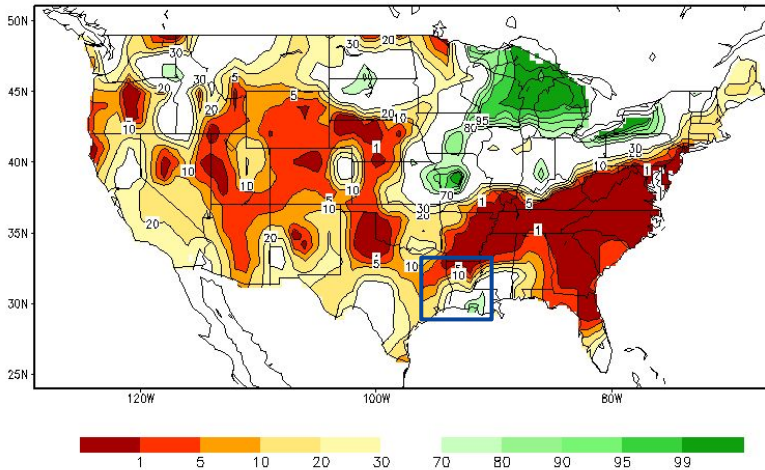




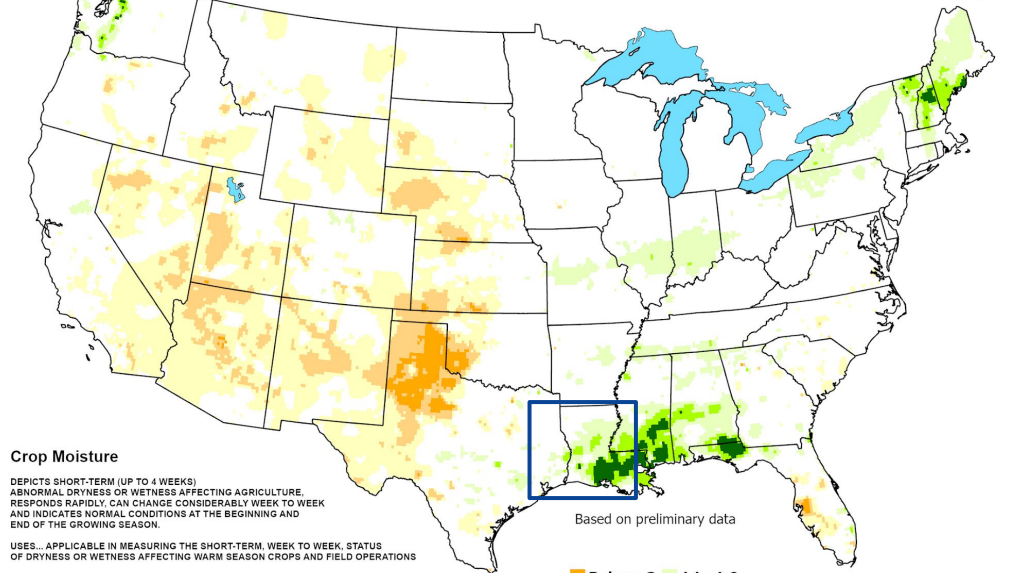
Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture is now getting to near normal across the area with shallow short term soil moisture slightly above to much above normal in Louisiana.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
MAY 20, 2026



Crop Moisture Index
Value for the May 10 - 16, 2026
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile



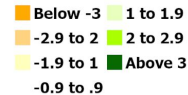
Crop Moisture

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





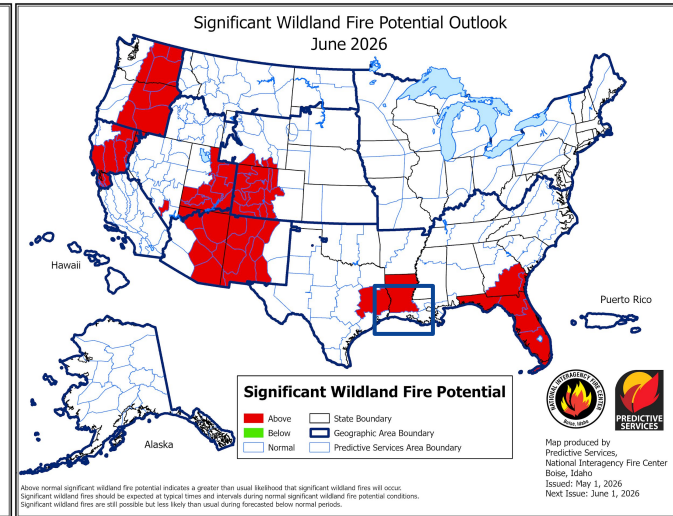
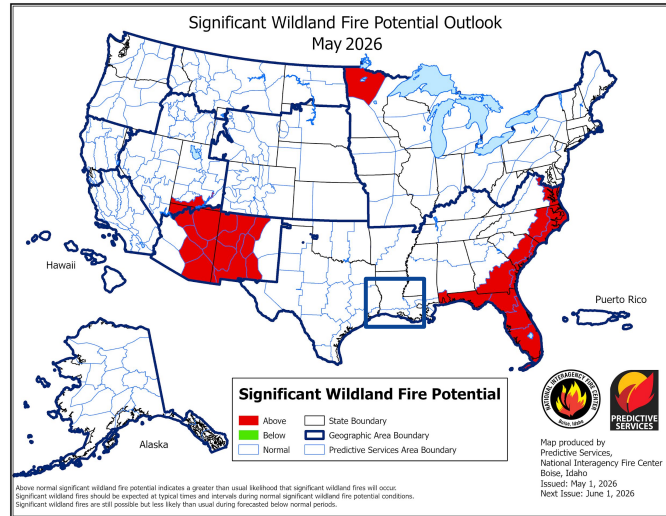
Fire Hazard Impacts

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 May and increase some in June.

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

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

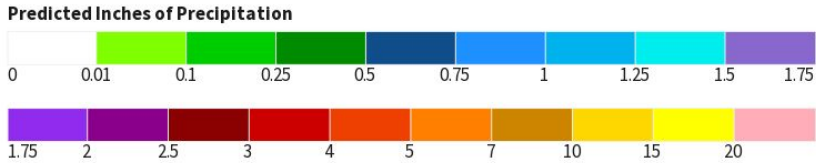
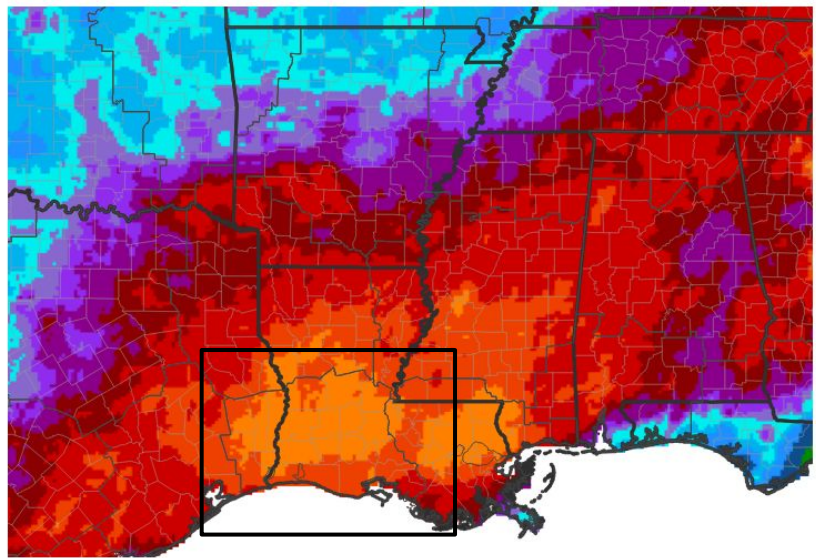




Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Rainfall amounts are expected to range from four to 7 inches across the area this week.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for May 22, 2026–May 29, 2026



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 05/22/26

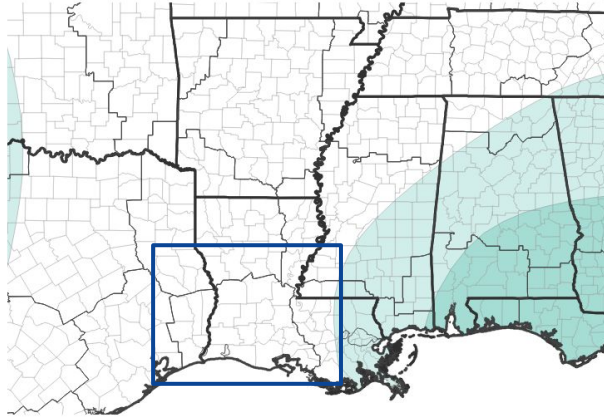


Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Rainfall is expected to be near normal for the month of June with temperatures above normal.

Monthly Precipitation Outlook for June 1, 2026–June 30, 2026



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



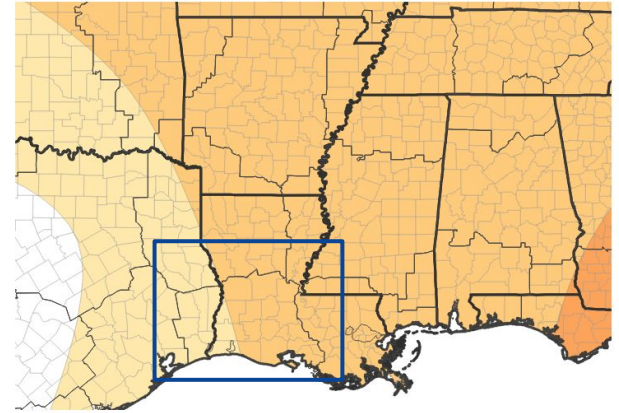
Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



Monthly Temperature Outlook for June 1, 2026–June 30, 2026



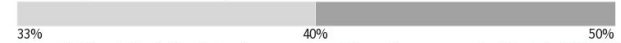
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

Last Updated: 05/31/26



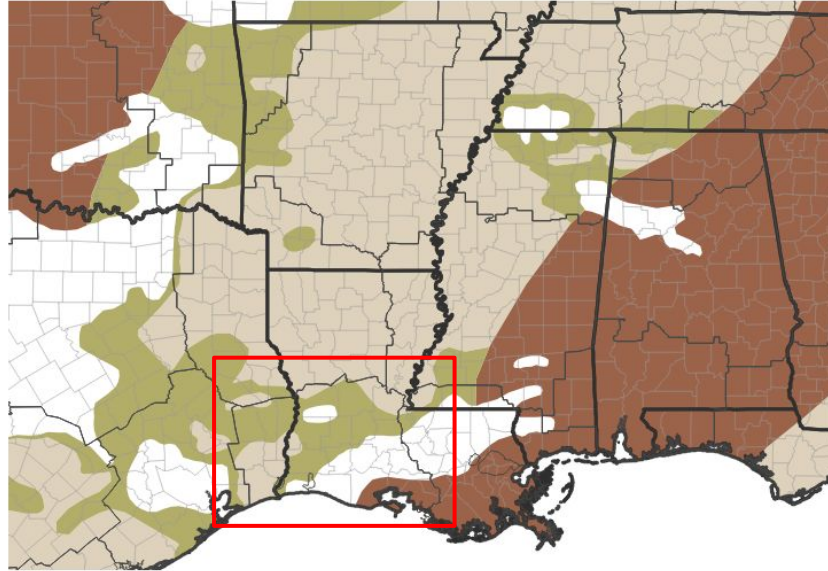


Drought Outlook

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 much of the area with the exception of coastal South Central Louisiana.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for May 21, 2026–August 31, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 05/21/26

Links to the latest:

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

