



Drought Information Statement for Much of Arkansas

Valid December 13, 2024

Issued By: NWS Little Rock, AR

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

- This product will be updated January 15, 2025 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/LZK/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
-
- HEAVY RAIN IN LATE OCTOBER/EARLY NOVEMBER RESULTED IN DROUGHT RELIEF IN NORTHERN/WESTERN ARKANSAS. DROUGHT IS SLOWLY EXPANDING FARTHER SOUTH/EAST GIVEN A LACK OF RAIN.
 - DROUGHT IS EXPECTED TO PERSIST THROUGH THE WINTER MONTHS, ESPECIALLY ACROSS THE SOUTHERN COUNTIES.



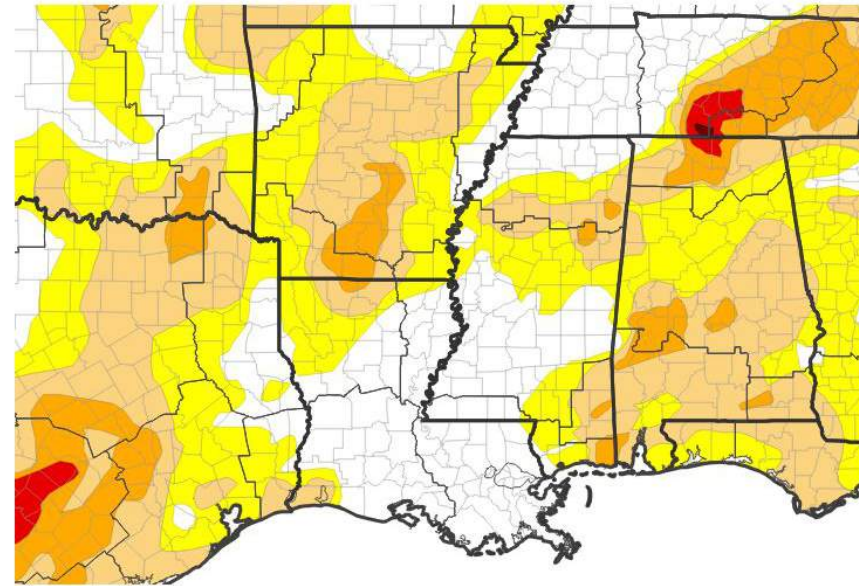


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: None.
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: None.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Multiple counties in southern and central Arkansas.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Extreme northwest and parts of southern, central, and eastern Arkansas.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Much of the state.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 12/10/24



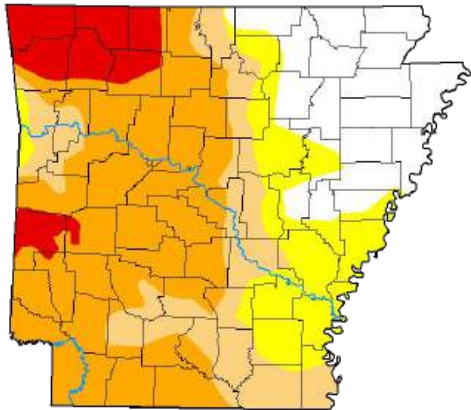


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

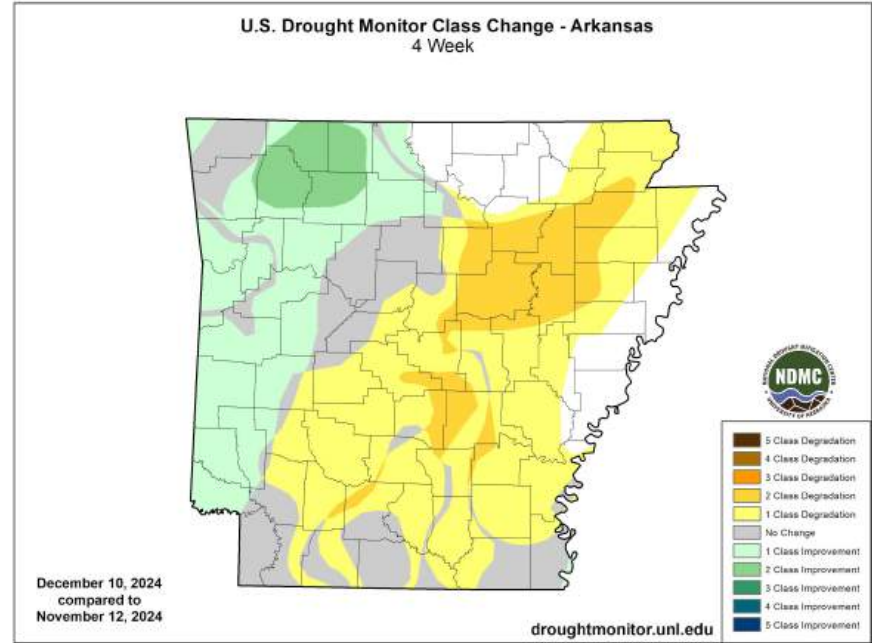
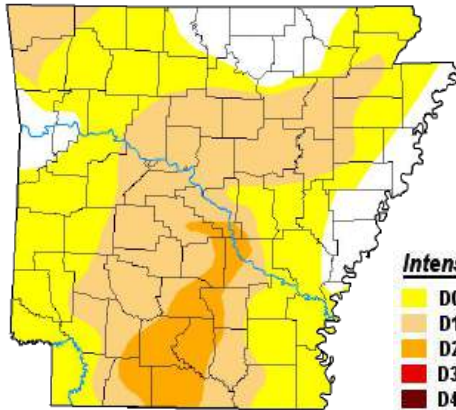
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Arkansas

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Due to heavy rain in late October and early November, drought classifications have generally improved across northern and western Arkansas.
 - Drought is slowly expanding and worsening in areas farther south and east given a lack of rain.

Oct 29



Dec 10



Intensity:

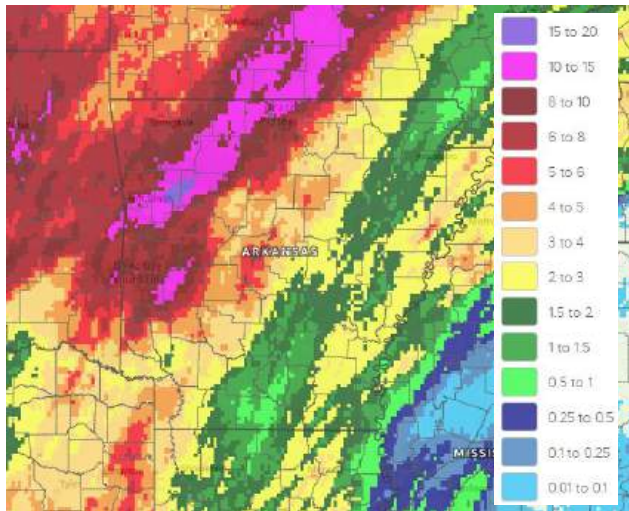
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional



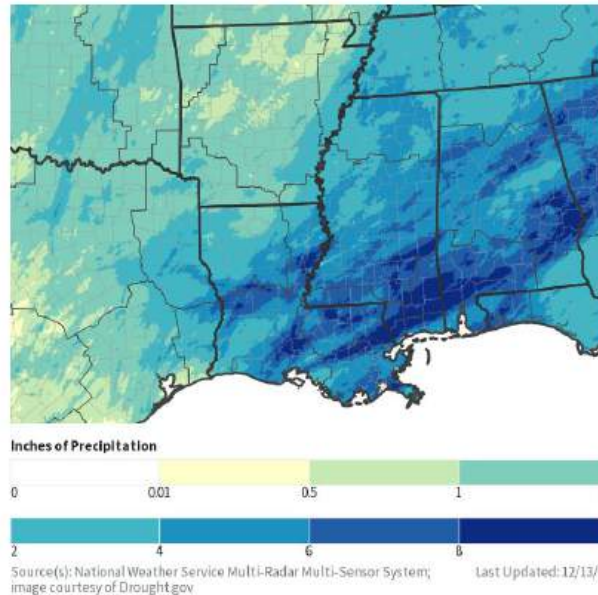


Precipitation (Part 1)

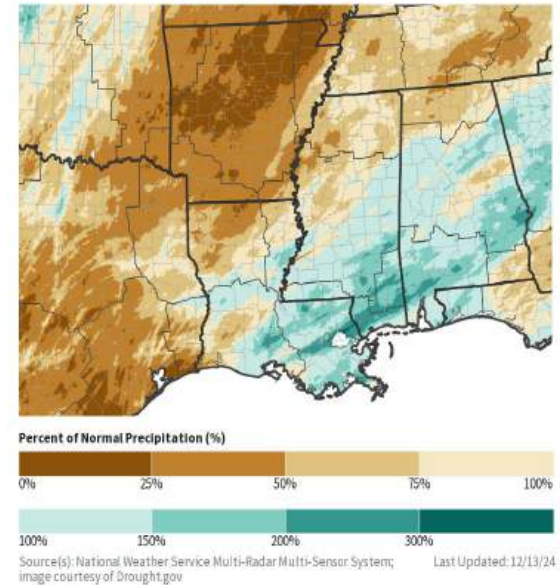
- After over ten inches of rain dumped in northern/western Arkansas from October 31st to November 5th (below), precipitation has been well below average in the last thirty days (right).



30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation





Precipitation (Part 2)

- Since October 1st (through December 11th), there is a surplus of rain across northern and western Arkansas. This is not the case farther south/east, with precipitation deficits over six inches in some areas.

<i>Precipitation in 2024 (October 1 Through December 11)</i>				
Site	Amount	Normal	+/-	% of Normal
Fayetteville (NW AR)	10.85	9.24	+1.61	117%
Harrison (NC AR)	17.10	8.88	+8.22	193%
Jonesboro (NE AR)	3.29	9.84	-6.55	33%
Fort Smith (WC AR)	12.47	9.54	+2.93	131%
Little Rock (C AR)	5.55	11.06	-5.51	50%
West Memphis (EC AR)	5.63	10.18	-4.55	55%
Texarkana (SW AR)	7.09	10.40	-3.31	68%
El Dorado (SC AR)	4.02	10.34	-6.32	39%
Pine Bluff (SE AR)	2.78	7.41	-5.77	38%



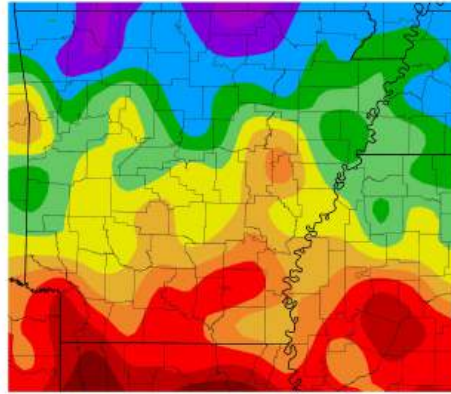


Temperature

[Link to HPRCC](#)

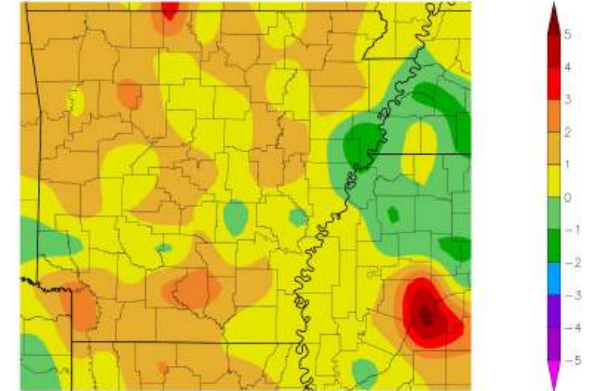
- In general, temperatures have been a little above average (by a degree or two) in the last thirty days. Some below average readings have been noted in the far east (along the Mississippi River).

Temperature (F)
11/13/2024 - 12/12/2024



Generated 12/13/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
11/13/2024 - 12/12/2024



NOAA Regional Climate Center Generated 12/13/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Center





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Because there has not been much rain from mid-November into mid-December (through the 13th), streamflow is below to well below average across Arkansas.

Agricultural Impacts

- The growing season has ended, but ground water is slowly declining statewide. In general, soil moisture is close to normal, but a little subpar in portions of southern, central, and eastern Arkansas.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Currently, there wildfire danger is low, and there are no burn bans.

Other Impacts

- There are no other impacts to report at this time.

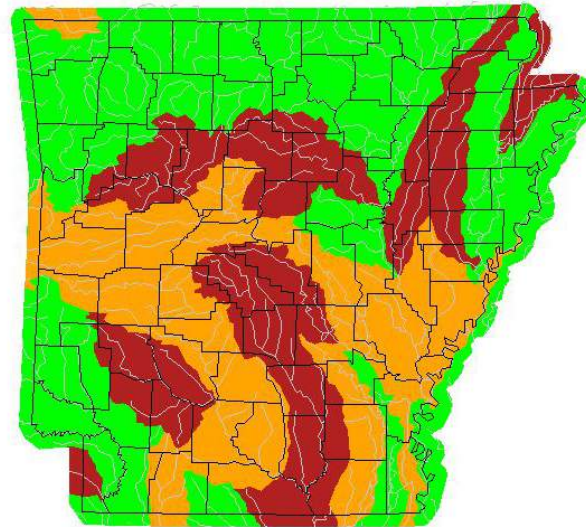




Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflow in many tributaries is at/below the 25th percentile (lower to much lower than average). Percentiles under 10 percent are noted in parts of southern, central, and eastern Arkansas.

Thursday, December 12, 2024



USGS

Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid 10/17/2024.

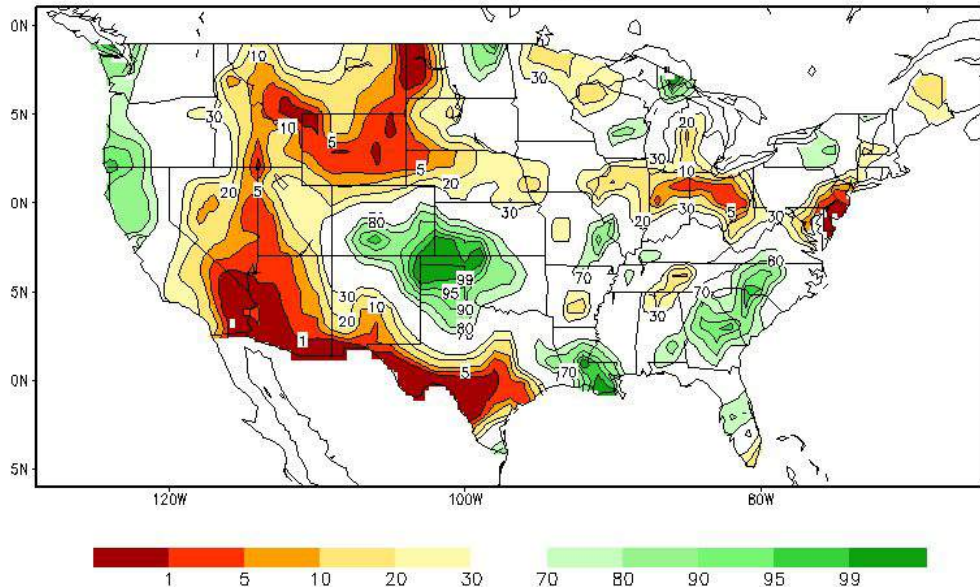




Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture is pretty close to normal statewide (the 30th to 70th percentile), but a little below normal across the southern, central, and eastern counties.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
DEC 12, 2024



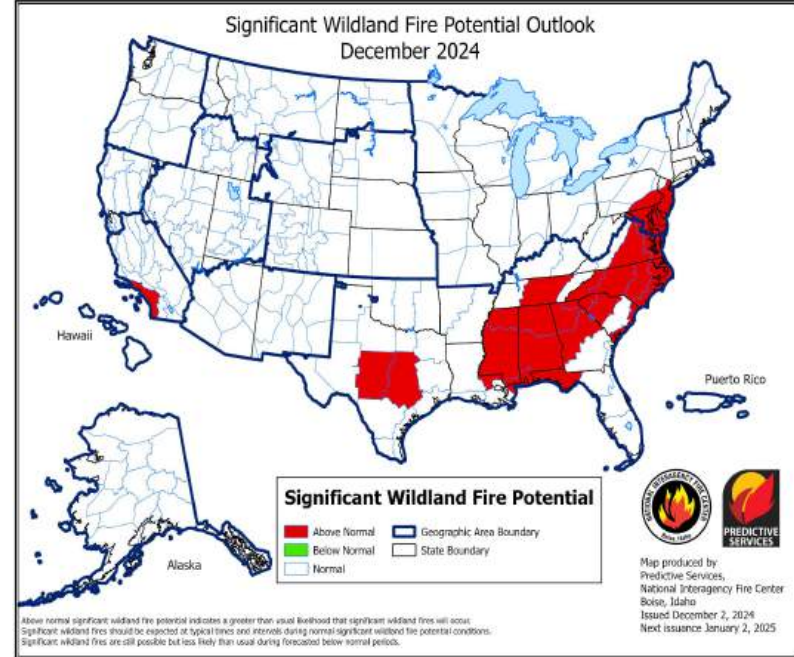


Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- There is low wildfire danger and no burn bans in Arkansas.
- The significant wildland fire potential is classified as normal, although an above normal potential exists in neighboring states to the south/east.

Latest AR Consolidated Burn Ban and Wildfire Danger map available [here.](#)

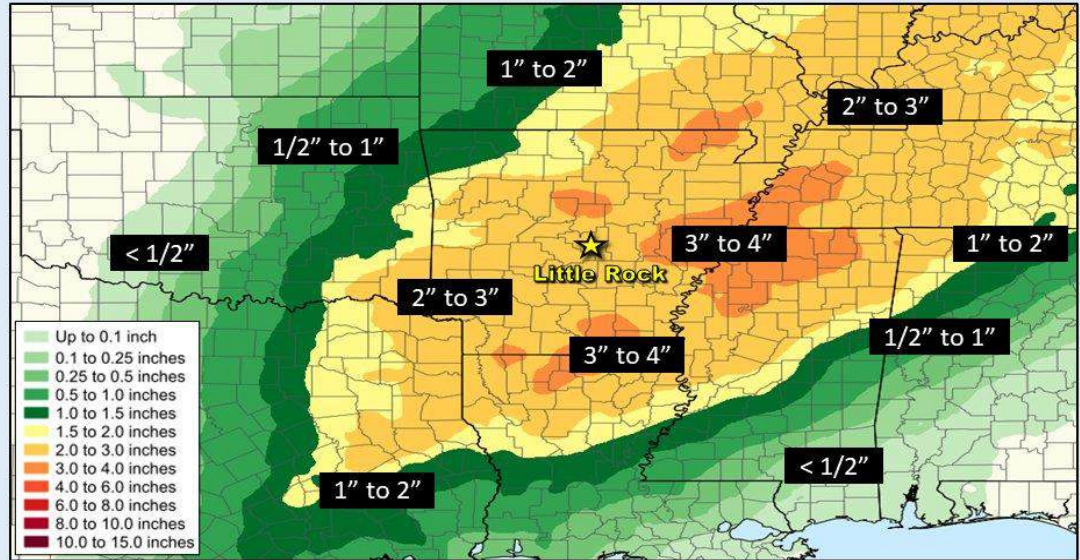




Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Several rounds of beneficial rain are expected from December 13th through the 19th. Areas that need rain the most (southern, central, and eastern Arkansas) could receive two to more than three inch amounts.

Expected Precipitation (Through 6 am CST Dec 19th) Weather Forecast Office Little Rock, AR
Issued Dec 12, 2024 7:45 AM CST



Several rounds of rain are expected in the next seven days. Through early Thursday (December 19th), widespread two to three inch amounts are in the forecast across Arkansas. Local totals over three inches are possible in central and eastern sections of the state.

NWSLittle Rock

weather.gov/lzk

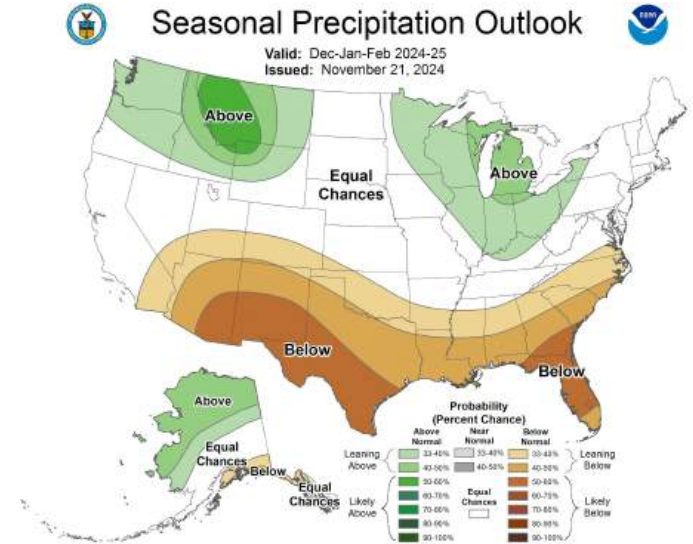
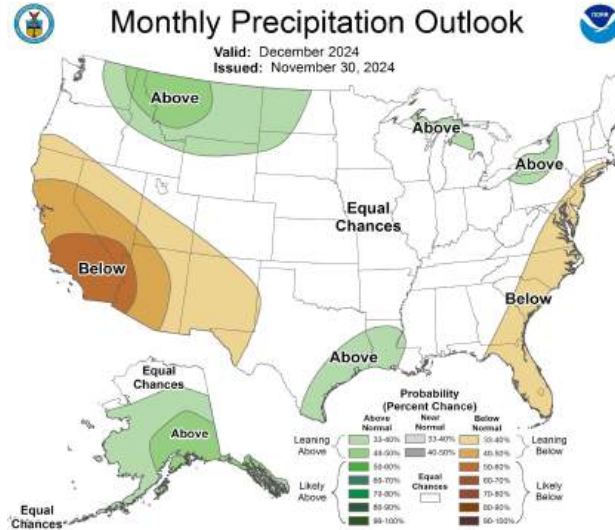




Long-Range Outlooks

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

- While there will be periodic precipitation, monthly and seasonal outlooks signal an overall drier than usual scenario through the winter, especially in southern Arkansas.





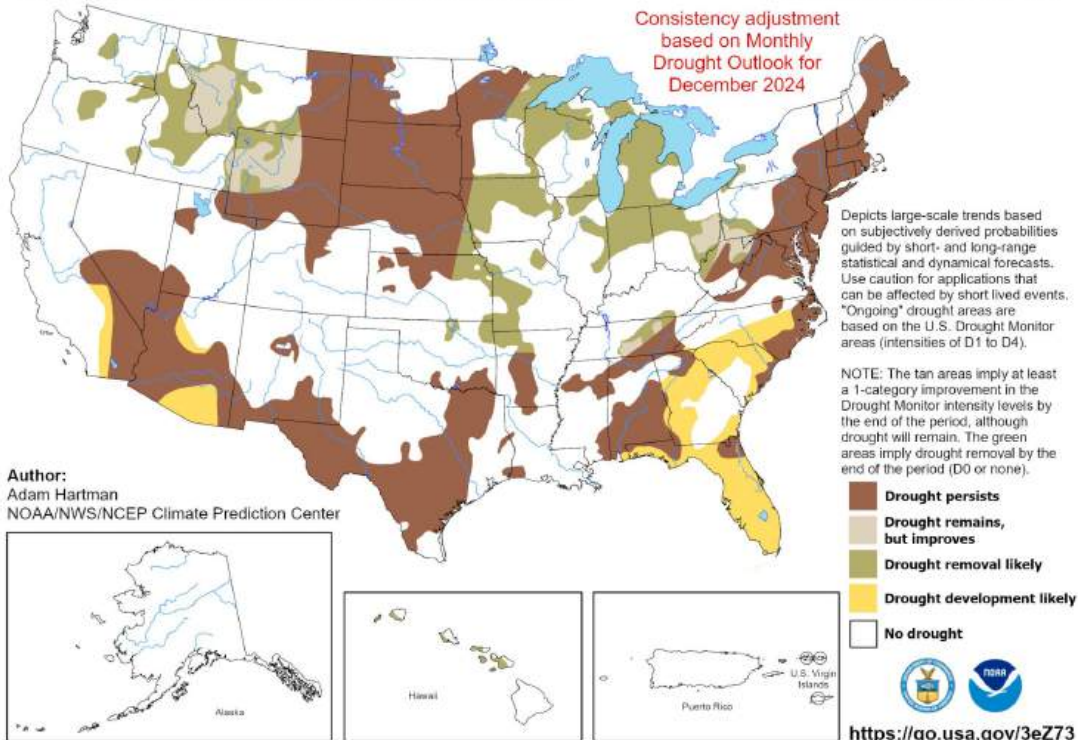
Drought Outlook

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

- If the seasonal rainfall forecast pans out, there may be drought relief in places, but amounts may not be sufficient enough for drought removal. Drought is most likely to linger or possibly worsen across the southern counties.

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Valid for December 1, 2024 - February 28, 2025
Released November 30, 2024



Links to the latest:

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

