



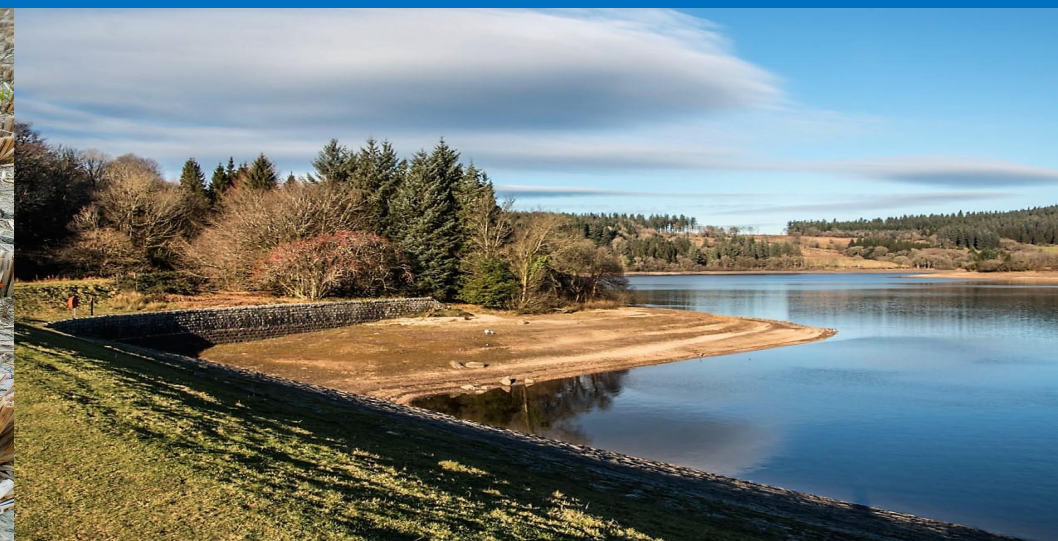
# Drought Information Statement for the Missouri Ozarks

Valid December 7, 2023

Issued By: *WFO Springfield, MO*

Contact Information: *contact.sgf@noaa.gov*

- This product will be updated January 4, 2024 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/sgf/SGFDroughtMonitor> for additional information.







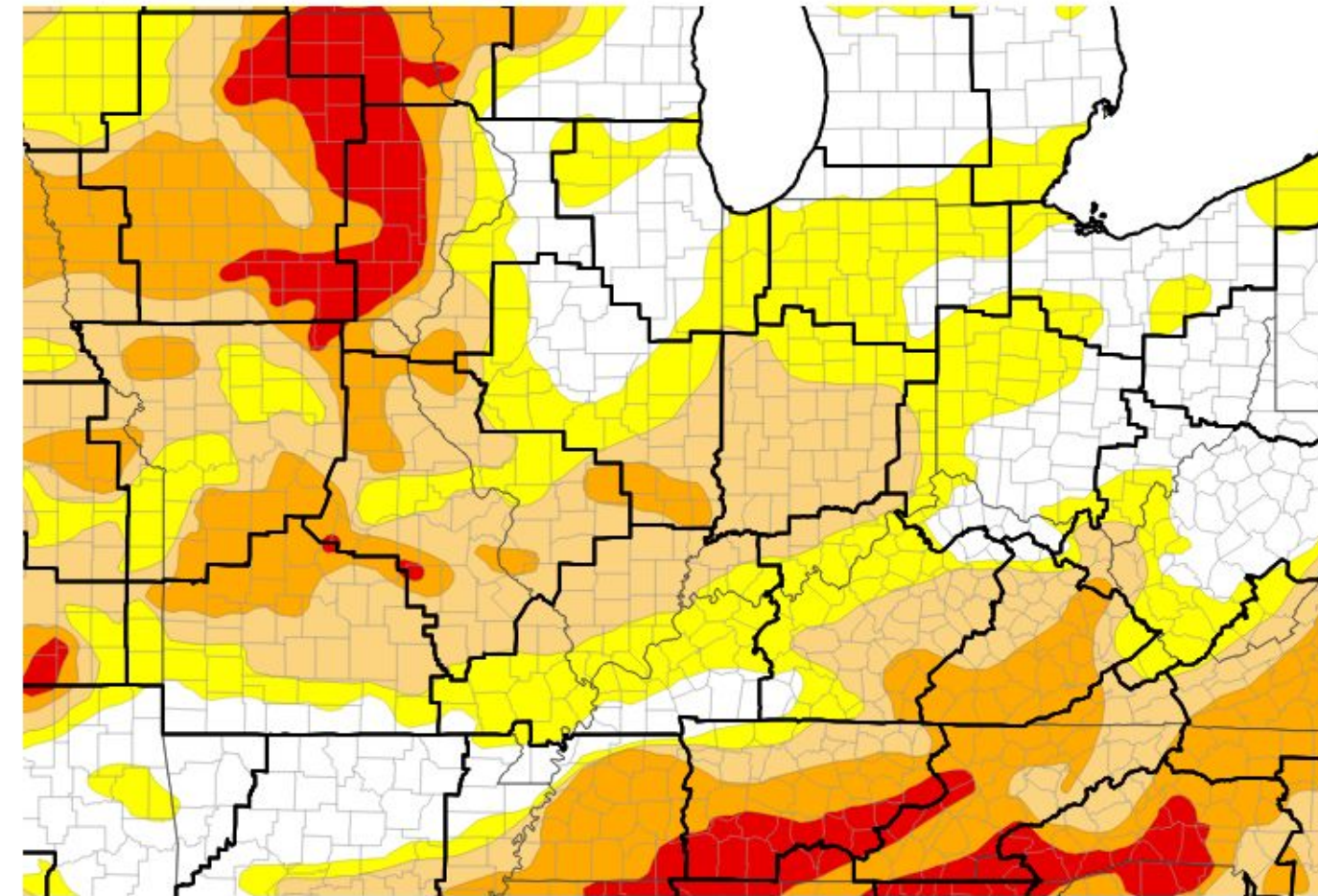
# U.S. Drought Monitor

December 7, 2023  
3:20 PM

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

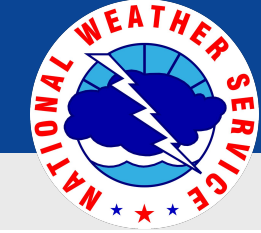
- **Drought Continues Across the Ozarks Region**
- 43% of the Midwest is in drought
- **Drought Intensity and Extent**
  - D2 (Severe Drought): All of St. Clair, Benton, Morgan, and Hickory counties in Missouri; parts of Vernon, Cedar, Polk, Dallas, Camden, Miller, Maries, Phelps, and Laclede counties in Missouri; part of Bourbon county in Kansas
  - D1 (Moderate Drought): All of Webster, Wright, Texas, Dent, Pulaski, and Shannon counties in Missouri; parts of Miller, Maries, Phelps, Camden, Laclede, Dallas, Polk, Dade, Cedar, Vernon, Barton, Douglas, and Greene counties in Missouri; parts of Bourbon county in Kansas
  - D0: (Abnormally Dry): All of Jasper, Lawrence, and Christian counties in Missouri; all of Crawford and Cherokee counties in Kansas; parts of Barton, Dade, Greene, Douglas, Ozark, Howell, and Oregon counties in Missouri; part of Bourbon county in Kansas

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



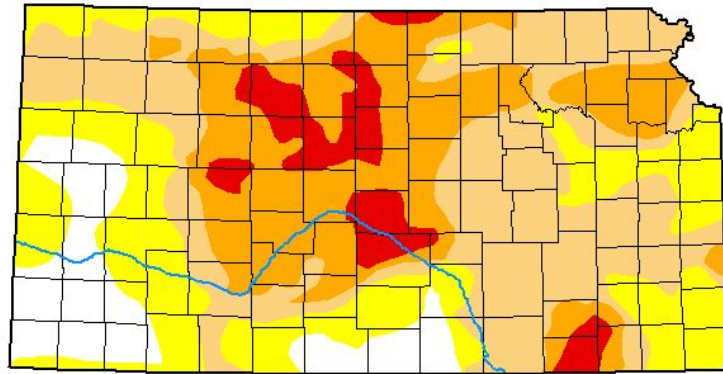


# State Drought Monitor

December 7, 2023  
3:20 PM

[Link to Recent Change Maps](#)

## U.S. Drought Monitor Kansas



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

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	10.59	89.41	64.12	30.48	6.99	0.00
Last Week 11-28-2023	10.19	89.81	68.40	42.51	7.63	0.00
3 Months Ago 09-05-2023	16.23	83.77	69.84	48.25	20.41	1.65
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2023	0.53	99.47	84.47	68.86	57.02	36.85
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	18.61	81.39	64.30	45.56	20.60	1.65
One Year Ago 12-06-2022	0.00	100.00	86.01	68.66	57.31	35.90

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>

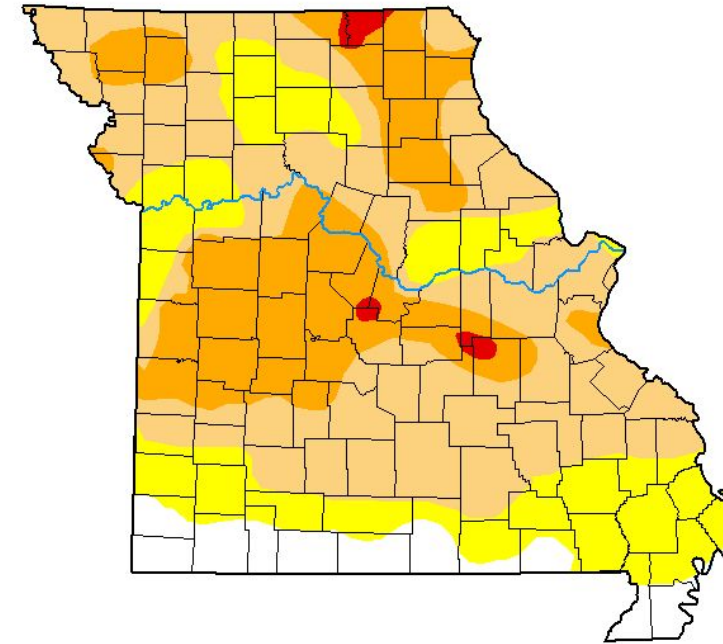
Author:

David Simeral  
Western Regional Climate Center



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

## U.S. Drought Monitor Missouri



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

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	8.12	91.88	68.26	24.68	0.97	0.00
Last Week 11-28-2023	13.70	86.30	66.47	24.32	0.91	0.00
3 Months Ago 09-05-2023	22.12	77.88	53.00	25.27	8.53	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2023	50.31	49.69	12.51	1.61	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	18.08	81.92	54.87	27.22	9.04	0.00
One Year Ago 12-06-2022	18.86	81.14	40.12	8.89	0.48	0.00

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](http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

### Main Takeaways

- Bourbon, Cherokee, and Crawford counties in Kansas abnormally dry to severe drought
- Along MO/AR border is mostly drought-free
- Abnormally dry conditions getting progressively drier into central MO



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service  
Springfield, MO



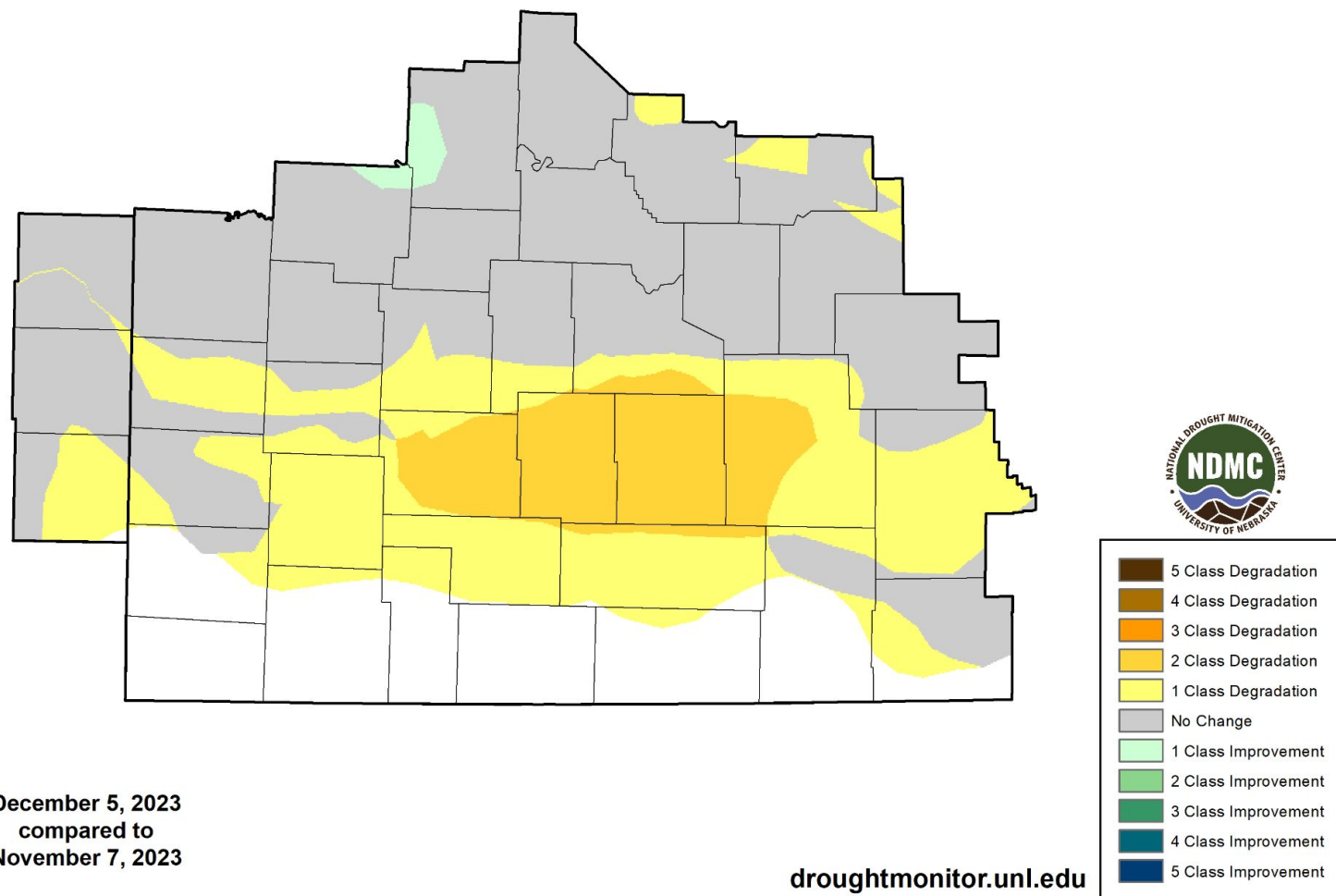


# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

December 7, 2023  
3:20 PM

[Link to Recent Change Maps](#)

U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - Springfield, MO WFO  
4 Week



## Main Takeaways

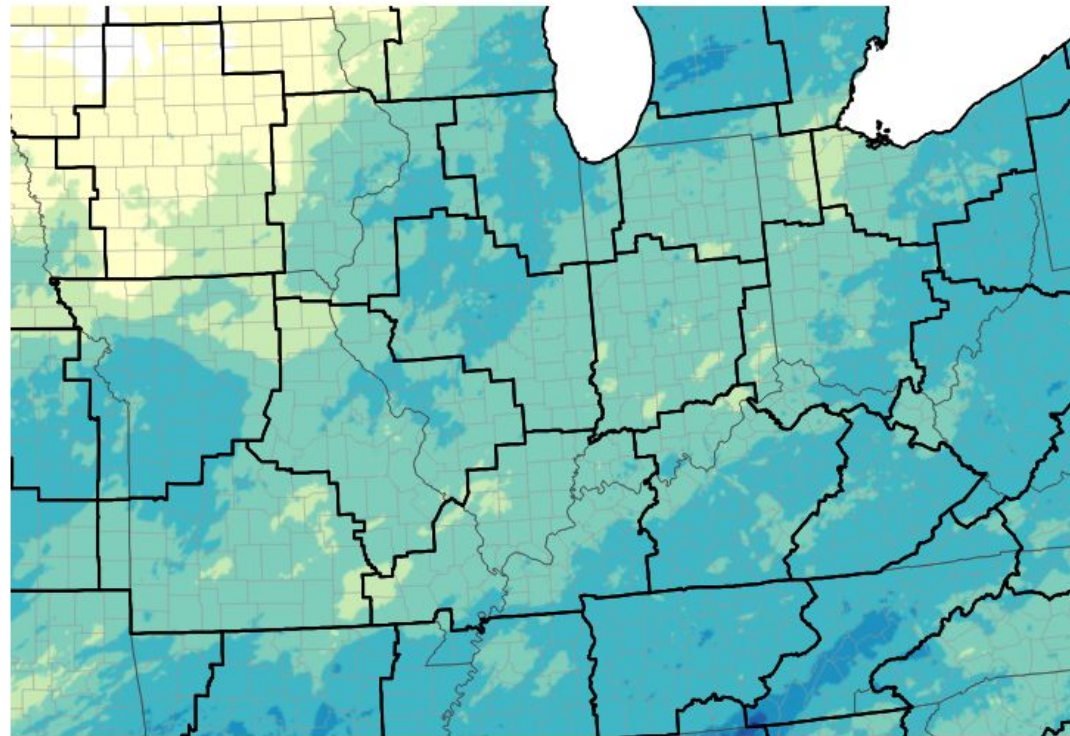
- Drought worsened over the last month in the center portion of the CWA
  - Drought conditions in Greene, Webster, Wright, and Texas counties in MO degraded by 2 classes
- Some areas that were not in drought on November 7 degraded to abnormally dry conditions
- Northern portion of the CWA mostly saw no change in conditions



# Precipitation

December 7, 2023  
3:20 PM

### 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



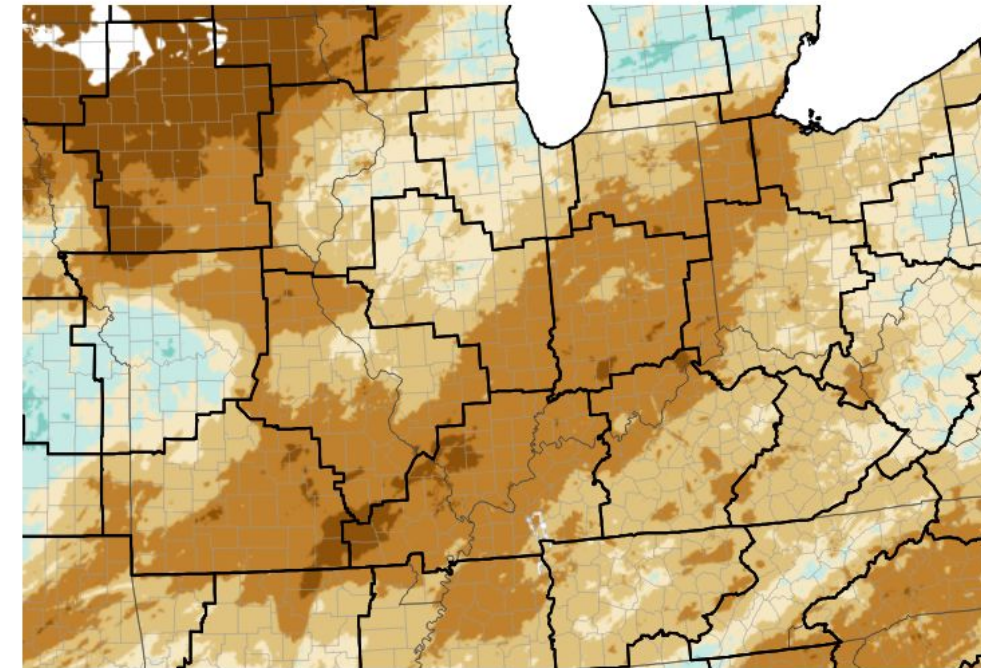
Inches of Precipitation



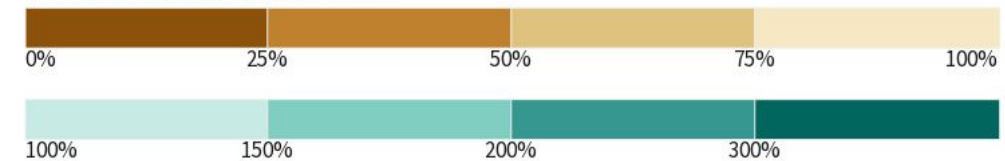
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System;  
image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 12/07/23

### 30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System;  
image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 12/07/23

## Main Takeaways

- Majority of the CWA saw 0-75% of the normal precipitation accumulations in the last 30 days
- Precipitation deficiencies increased progressively from NW to SE
- Most of the CWA saw 1-2 inches of precipitation



National Oceanic and  
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service  
Springfield, MO





# 8 to 14 Day Outlooks

December 7, 2023  
3:20 PM

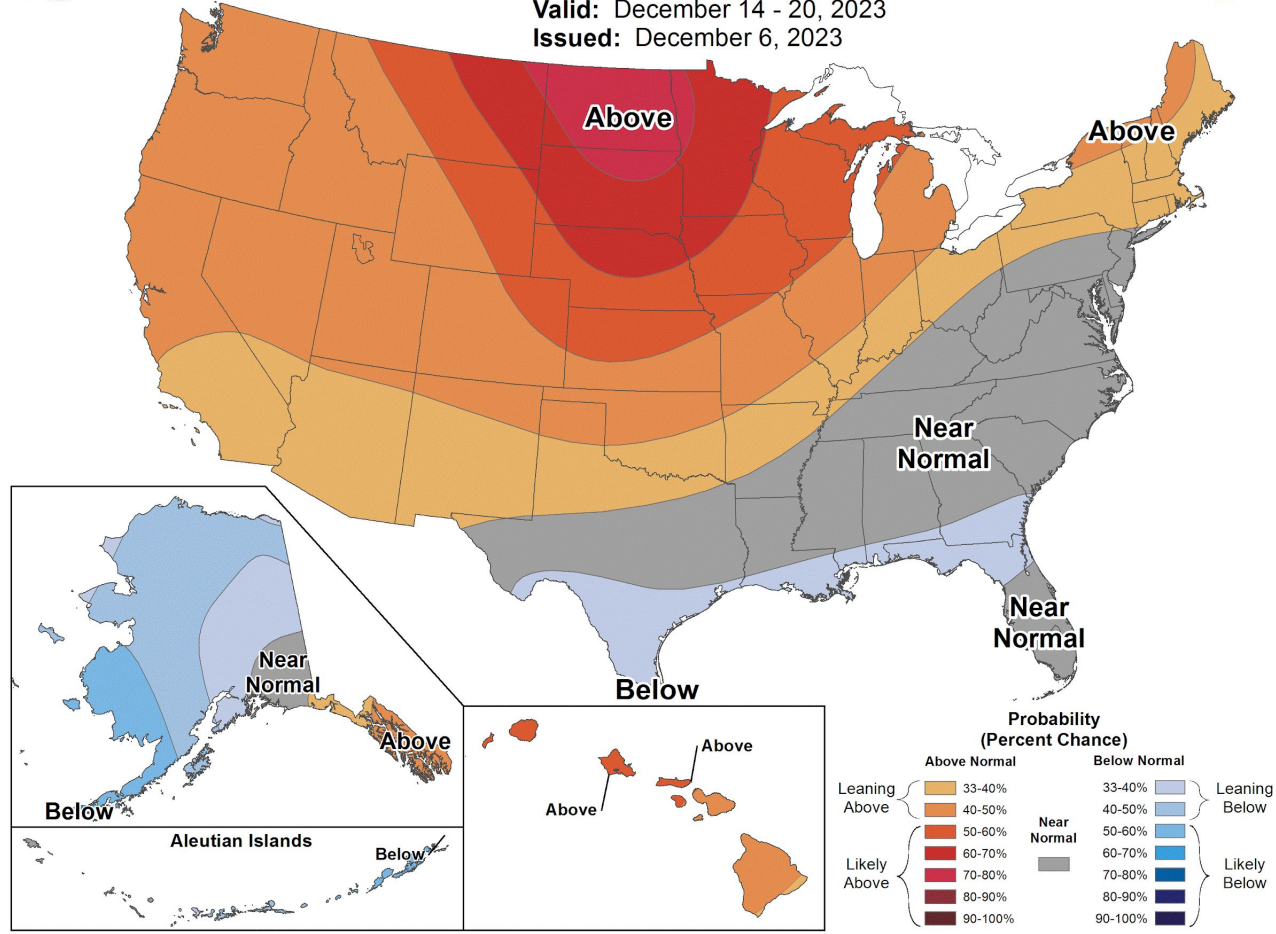
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)



## 8-14 Day Temperature Outlook



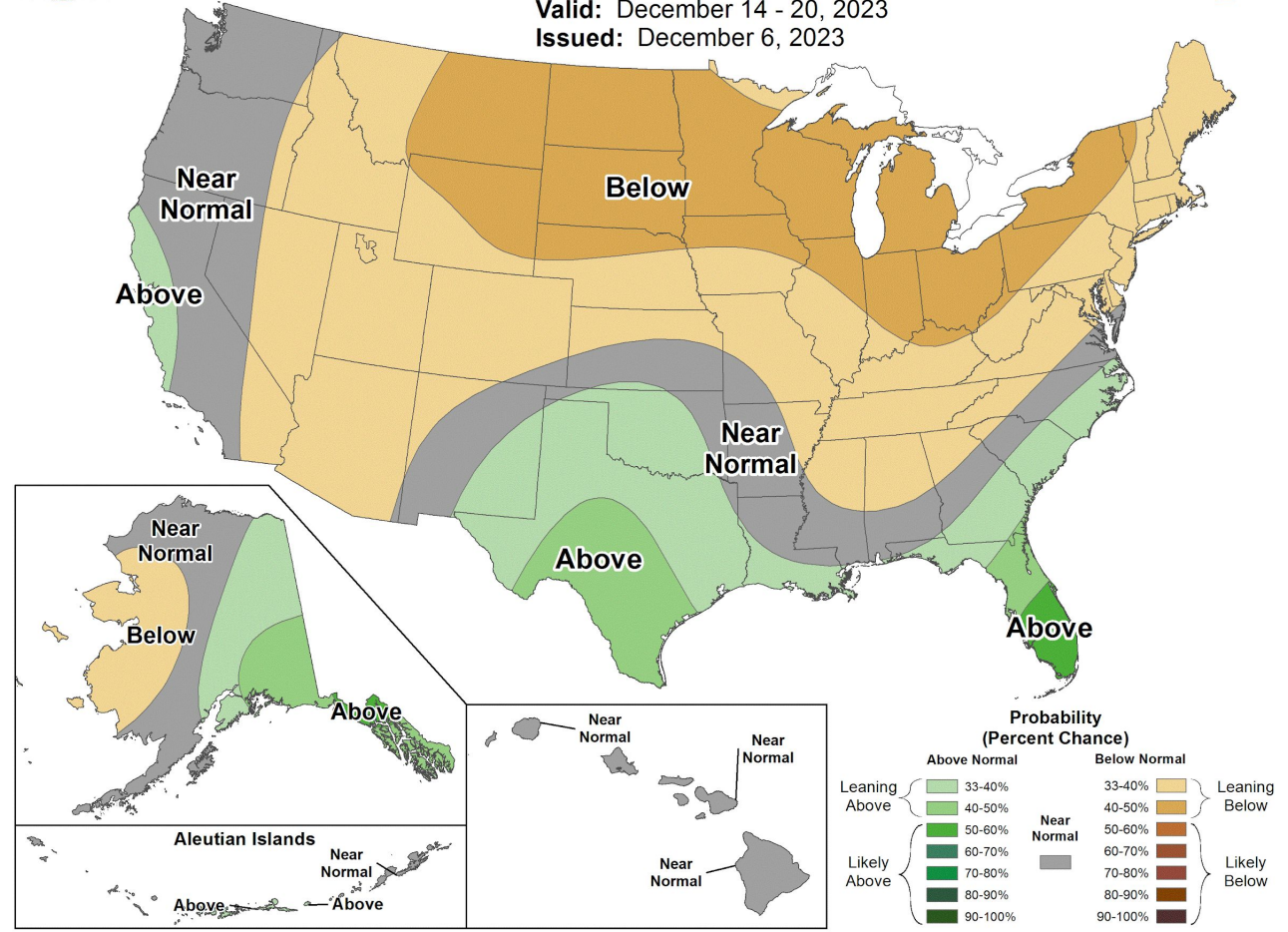
Valid: December 14 - 20, 2023  
Issued: December 6, 2023



## 8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook



Valid: December 14 - 20, 2023  
Issued: December 6, 2023



### Main Takeaways

- Above normal temperatures and near normal to slightly below average precipitation favored through mid-December.







# Monthly Outlooks

December 7, 2023  
3:20 PM

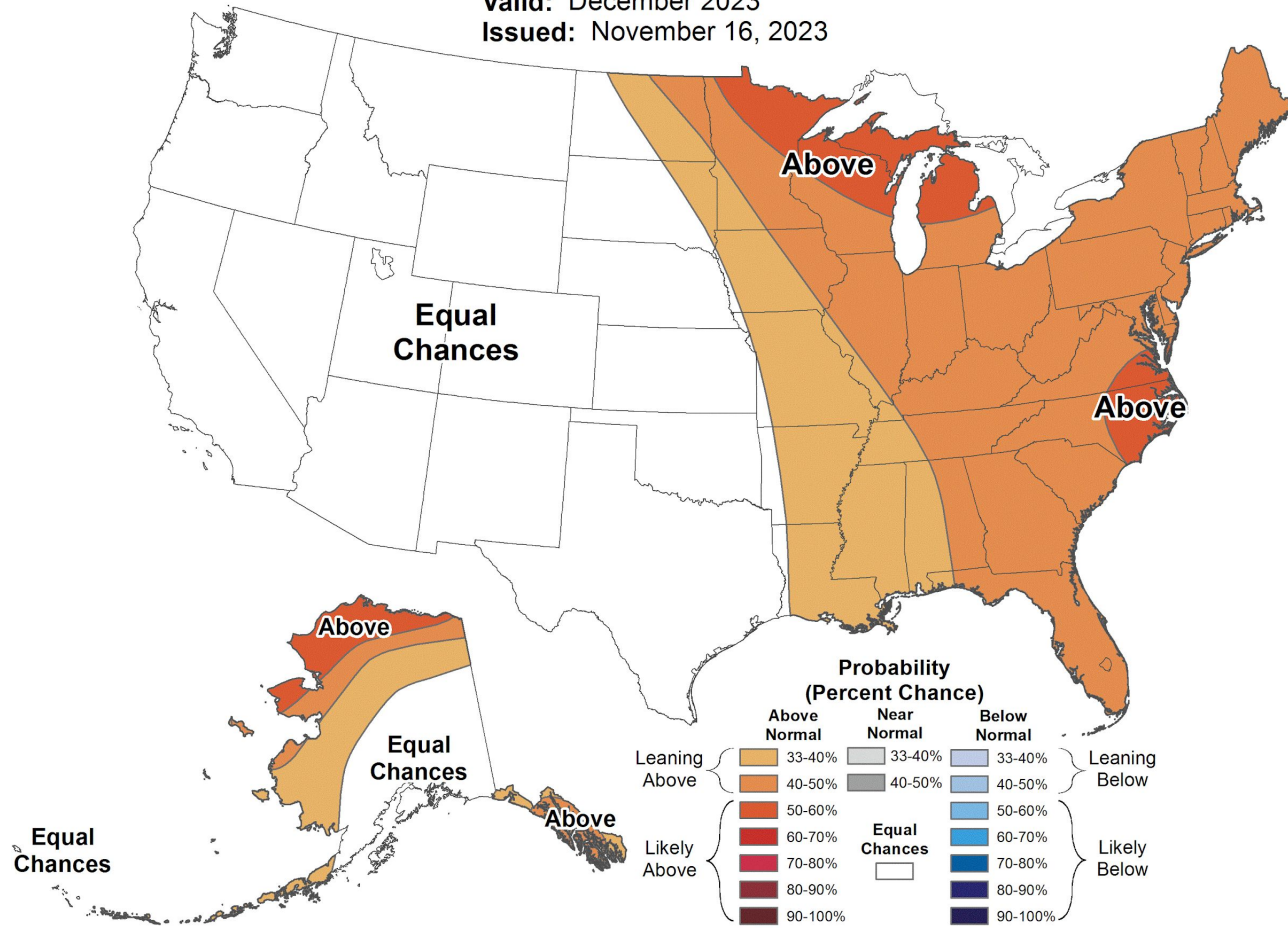
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)



## Monthly Temperature Outlook



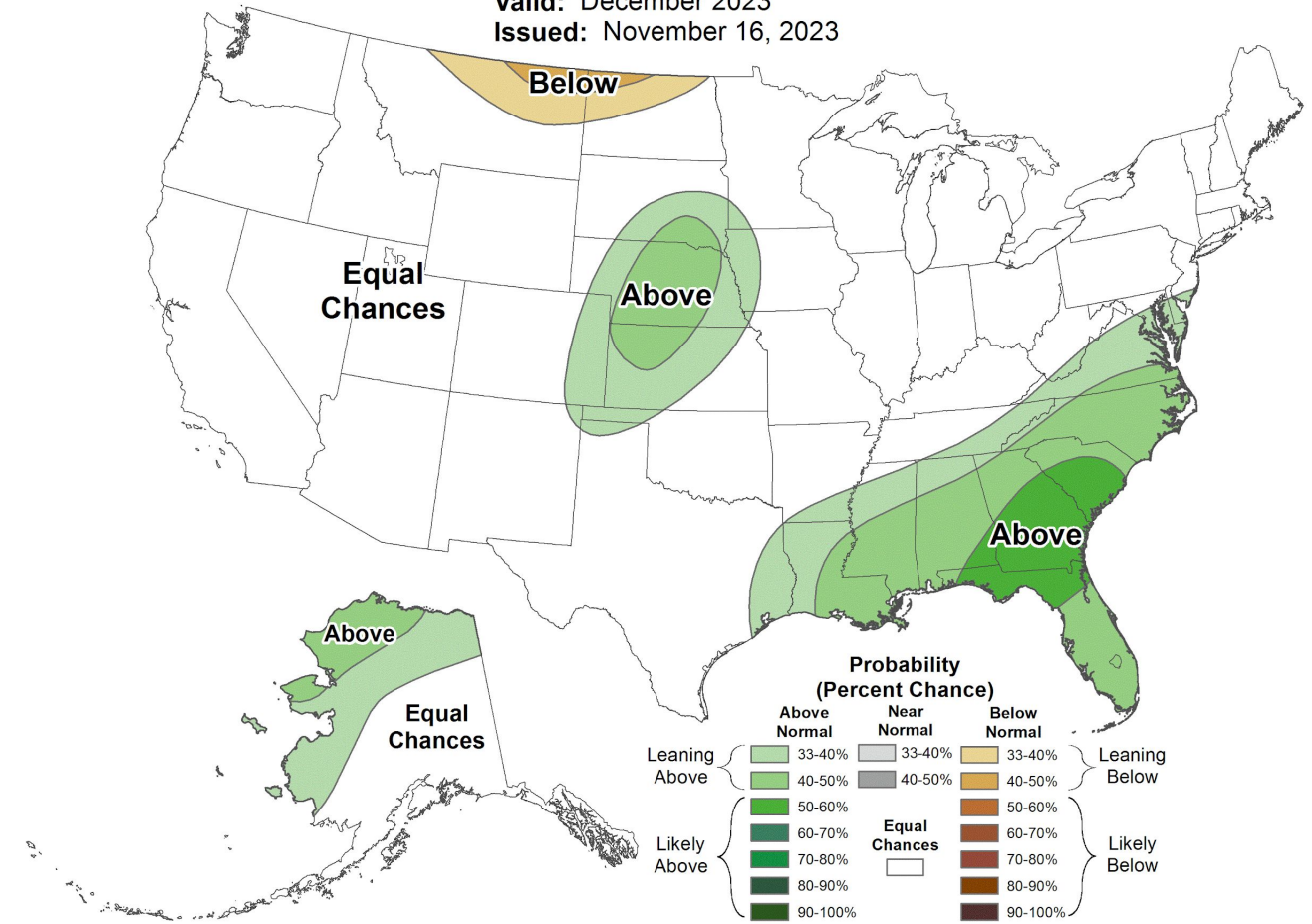
Valid: December 2023  
Issued: November 16, 2023



## Monthly Precipitation Outlook



Valid: December 2023  
Issued: November 16, 2023



### Main Takeaways

- The pattern is leaning towards above normal temperatures and equal chances for below/above normal precipitation for December.
- A strong El Niño pattern has developed in the Pacific Ocean, which typically favors warmer and drier winters in the Ozarks.







# Seasonal Outlooks

December 7, 2023  
3:20 PM

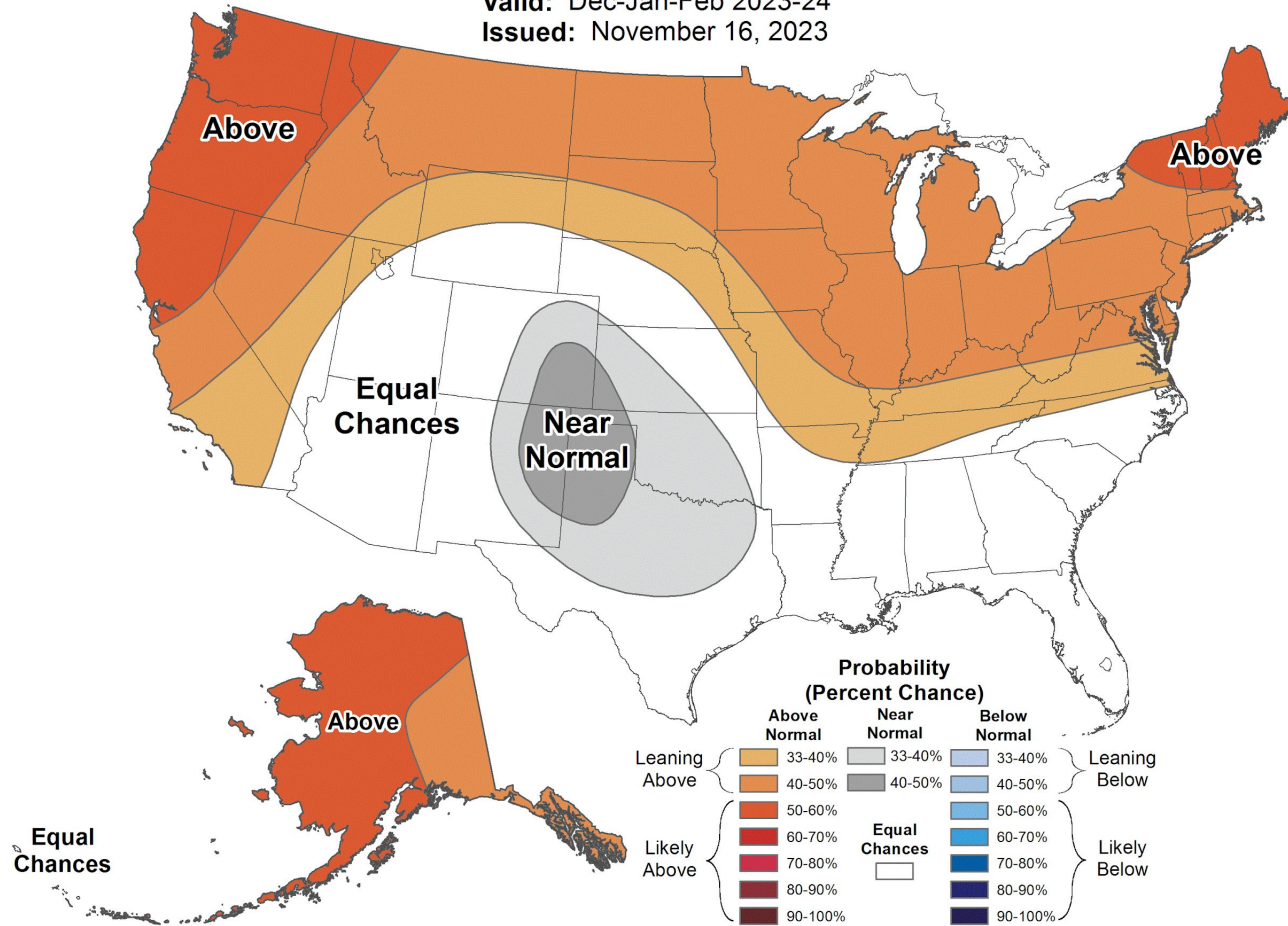
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)



## Seasonal Temperature Outlook



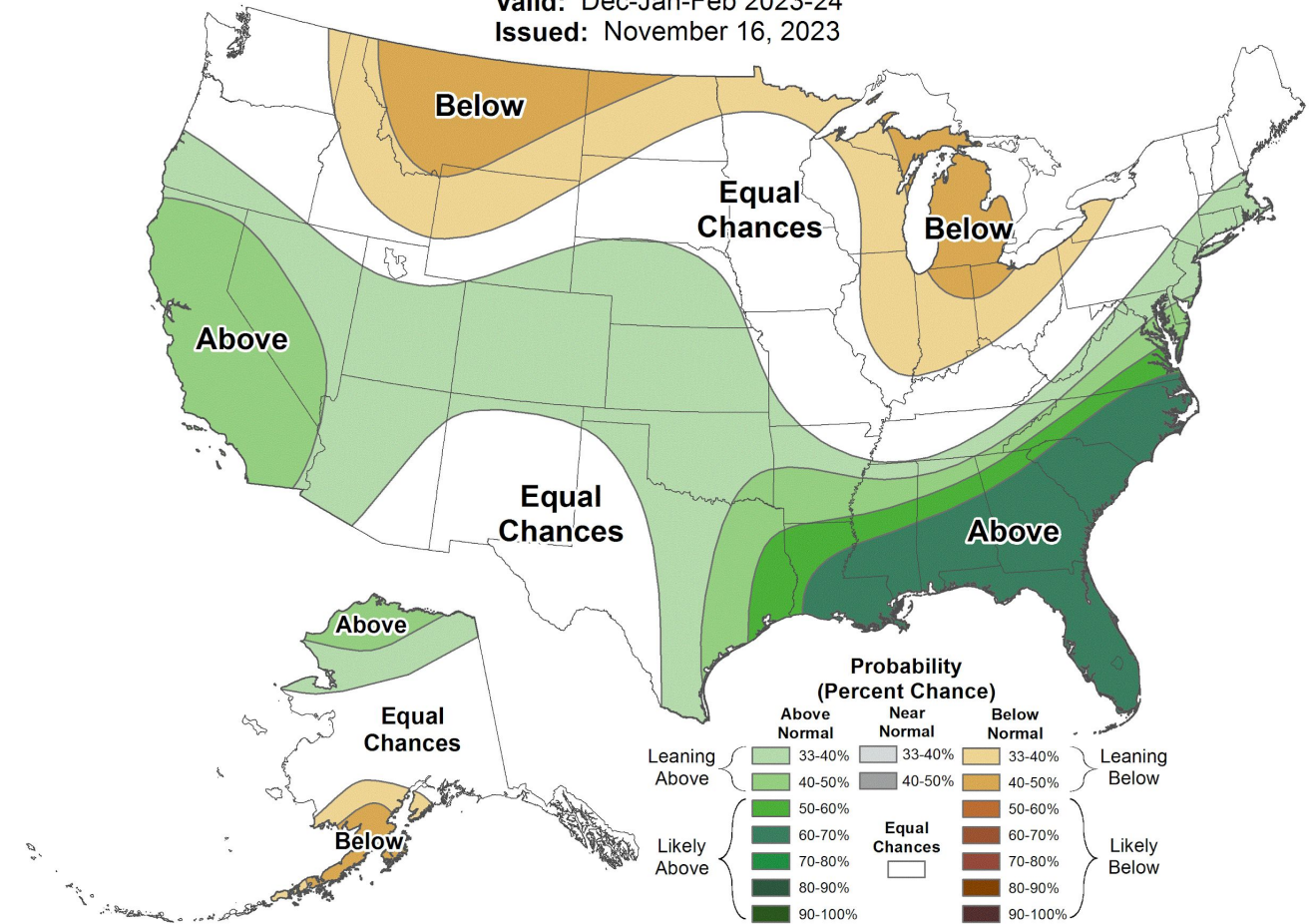
Valid: Dec-Jan-Feb 2023-24  
Issued: November 16, 2023



## Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



Valid: Dec-Jan-Feb 2023-24  
Issued: November 16, 2023



### Main Takeaways

- Signal trending slightly above normal for temperatures and equal chances of above/below average precipitation in the majority of the area for the next three months.
- A strong El Niño pattern has developed in the Pacific Ocean, which typically favors warmer and drier winters in the Ozarks.





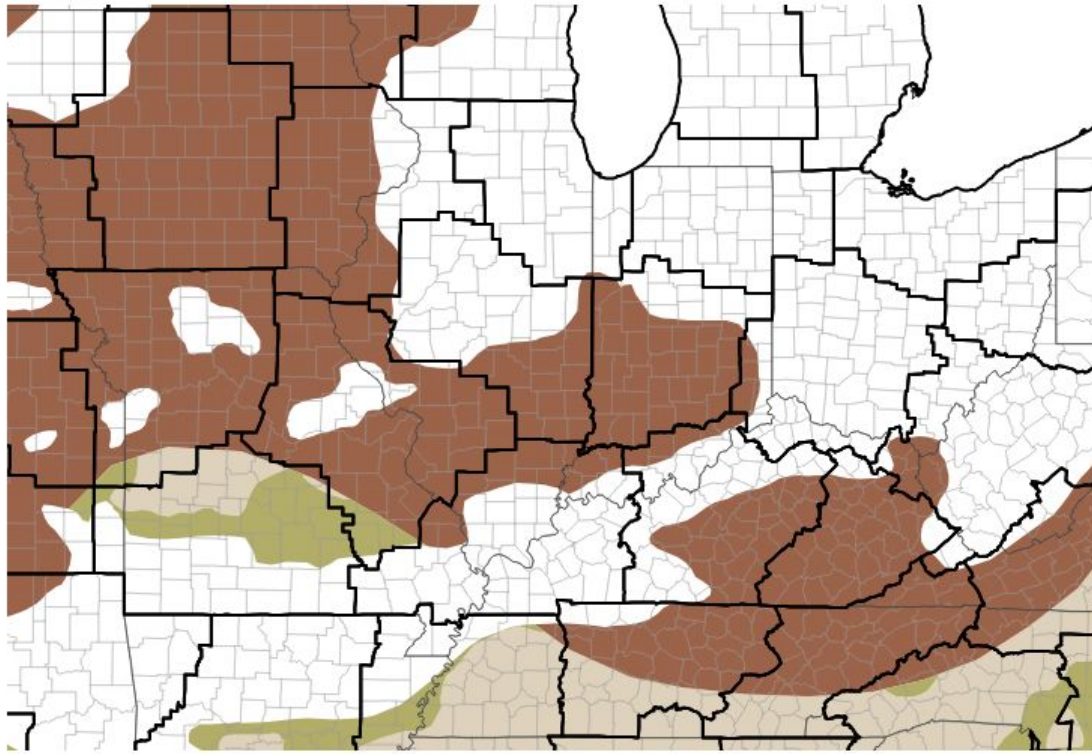


# Drought Outlook

December 7, 2023  
3:20 PM

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

## 1-Month Drought Outlook



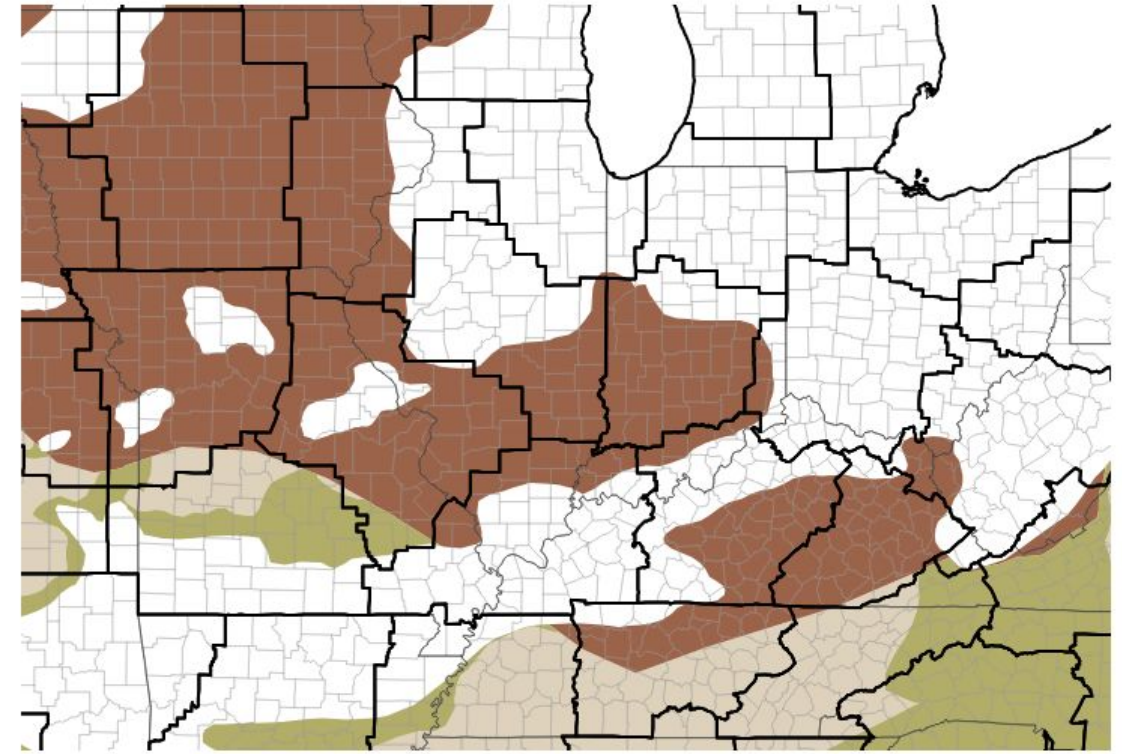
Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Data Valid: 11/30/23

## Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Data Valid: 11/30/23

## Main Takeaways

- Models favored a wet start to December, leading to this outlook favoring drought improvement. This expectation underperformed in our area, with the most recent 8-14 Day Outlook favoring drier short-term conditions, suggesting drought persistence.
- A strong El Niño pattern has developed in the Pacific Ocean, which typically favors warmer and drier winters in the Ozarks.







## For Additional Information

- [NWS Springfield Webpage](#) | [IDSS Point Forecasts](#)
- [NWS Springfield Drought Monitor Resources](#)
- [Graphical Hazardous Weather Outlook](#)
- [Missouri Drought Monitor](#) | [Kansas Drought Monitor](#)
- [Drought Monitor Archive](#)
- [CPC Drought Information](#)
- [National Integrated Drought Information System \(NIDIS\)](#)
- [National Drought Mitigation Center \(NDMC\)](#)
- [Missouri USGS Streamflows](#) | [Kansas USGS Streamflows](#)
- [Drought Safety](#)

## Drought Impacts



### Agriculture

Farms, ranches, and grazing lands suffer, and increases the cost of their products



### Public Health

A decrease of water can lead to an increase of illness, disease, mortality rates, and adverse mental health



### Ecosystems

Harms fish, wildlife, and plants, as well as the benefits these ecosystems provide



### Wildfire Management

Dry, hot, and windy weather combined with dried out vegetation can lead to more large-scale wildfires



### Manufacturing

Interruptions in the water supply can result in a reduction of productivity or closure of facilities



### Energy

Production of all types of energy requires water, and drought can severely impact energy systems and prices



## During a Drought be Vigilant

Conserve Water

Practice Fire Prevention

Follow Directions from Local Officials

Trinity Lake, CA, dry lakebed during California Drought, 2014. Photo: USGS

