



Drought Information Statement for the Missouri Ozarks

Valid December 11, 2025

Issued By: *WFO Springfield, MO*

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

- This product will be updated by January 8, 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/sgf/SGFDroughtMonitor> for additional information.





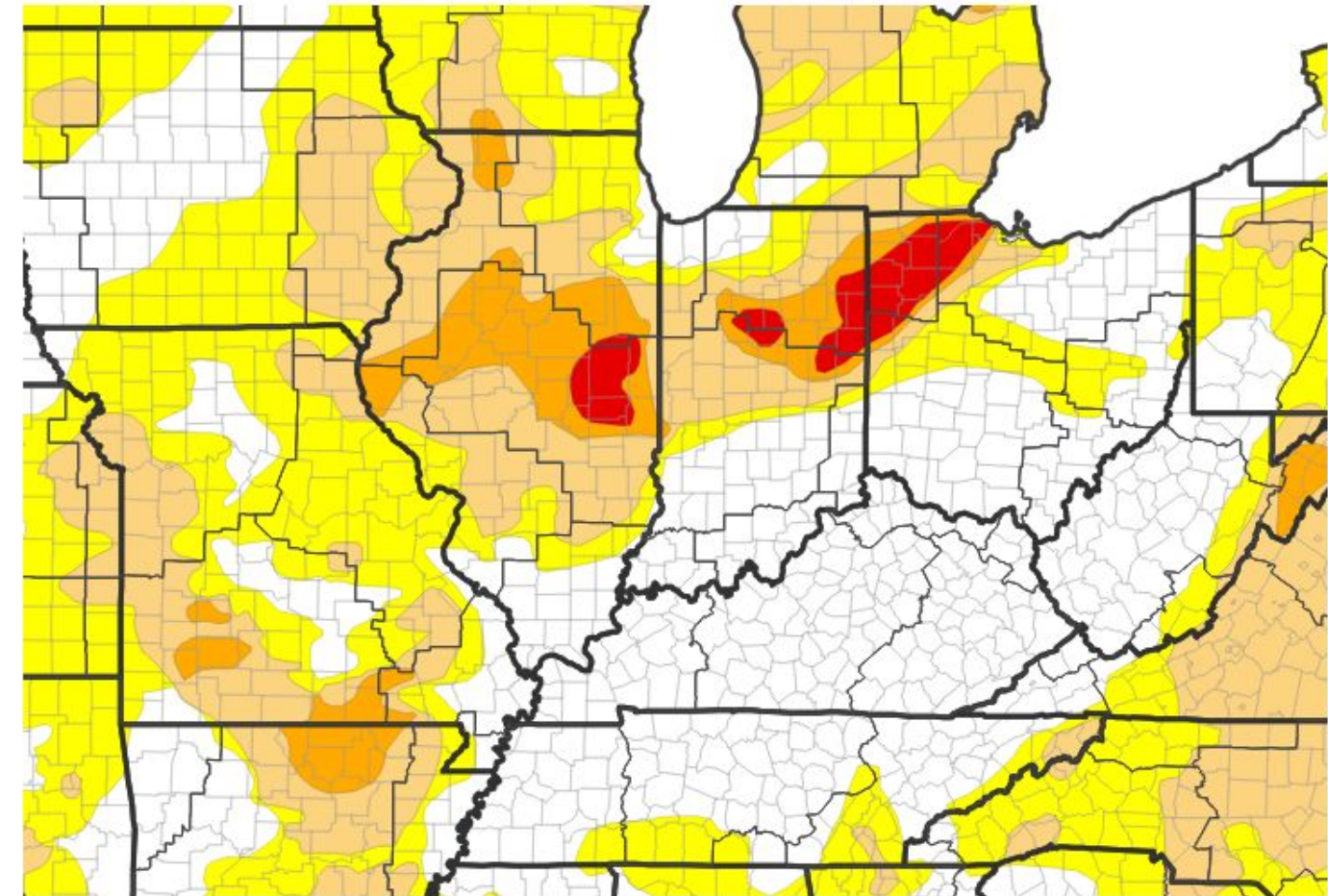
Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Lower Midwest

- **Drought Persists Across the Ozarks Region**

- **Drought Intensity and Extent**

- D2 (Severe Drought): Cedar, Polk, Dade, Lawrence, Greene, Webster, Howell, Oregon, and Shannon Counties in Missouri.
- D1 (Moderate Drought): Bourbon County in Kansas. Vernon, Barton, Jasper, St. Clair, Cedar, Dade, Lawrence, Barry, Morgan, Cedar, Hickory, Dade, Lawrence, Barry, Maries, Polk, Dallas, Webster, Texas, Christian, Stone, Taney, Ozark, Douglas, Howell, Oregon, Shannon Counties in Missouri.
- D0: (Abnormally Dry): Crawford and Cherokee Counties in Kansas. Vernon, Barton, Jasper, Newton, McDonald, Barry, Stone, St. Clair, Benton, Hickory, Dallas, Laclede, Morgan, Miller, Maries, Phelps, Webster, Wright, Texas, Dent, Douglas, Howell, and Shannon Counties in Missouri.

U.S. Drought Monitor



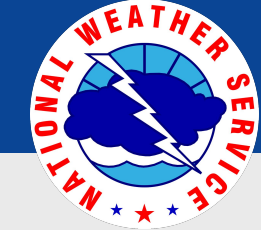
U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 12/10/25



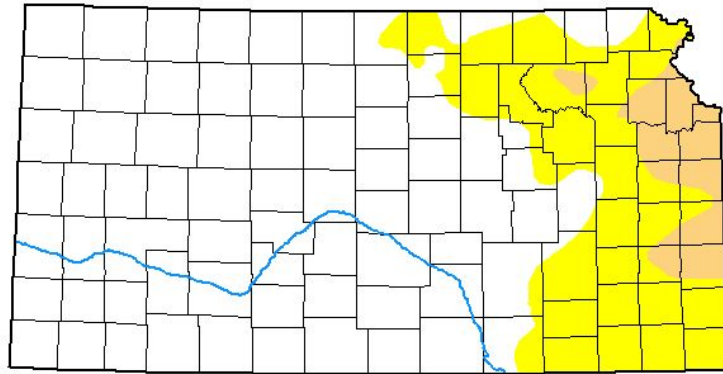


State Drought Monitor

December 11, 2025
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[Link to Recent Change Maps](#)

U.S. Drought Monitor Kansas



December 9, 2025
(Released Thursday, Dec. 11, 2025)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	72.64	27.36	5.40	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 12-02-2025	75.64	24.36	5.40	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 09-09-2025	79.79	20.21	1.94	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-07-2025	35.20	64.80	24.63	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-30-2025	81.75	18.25	5.09	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 12-10-2024	33.38	66.62	28.94	0.00	0.00	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>

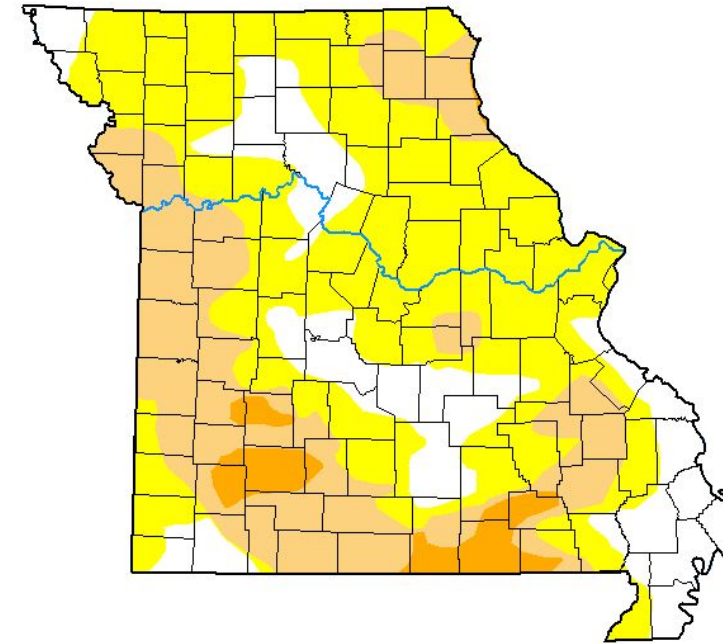
Author:

Lindsay Johnson
National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

U.S. Drought Monitor Missouri



December 9, 2025
(Released Thursday, Dec. 11, 2025)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	20.17	79.83	30.49	4.58	0.00	0.00
Last Week 12-02-2025	23.67	76.33	31.88	4.58	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 09-09-2025	5.87	94.13	45.62	17.04	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-07-2025	69.71	30.29	11.75	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-30-2025	6.56	93.44	63.57	22.18	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 12-10-2024	39.07	60.93	28.63	0.00	0.00	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:

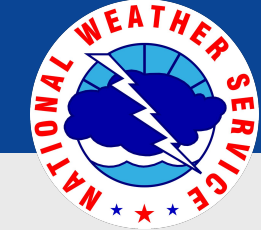
Lindsay Johnson
National Drought Mitigation Center



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Main Takeaways

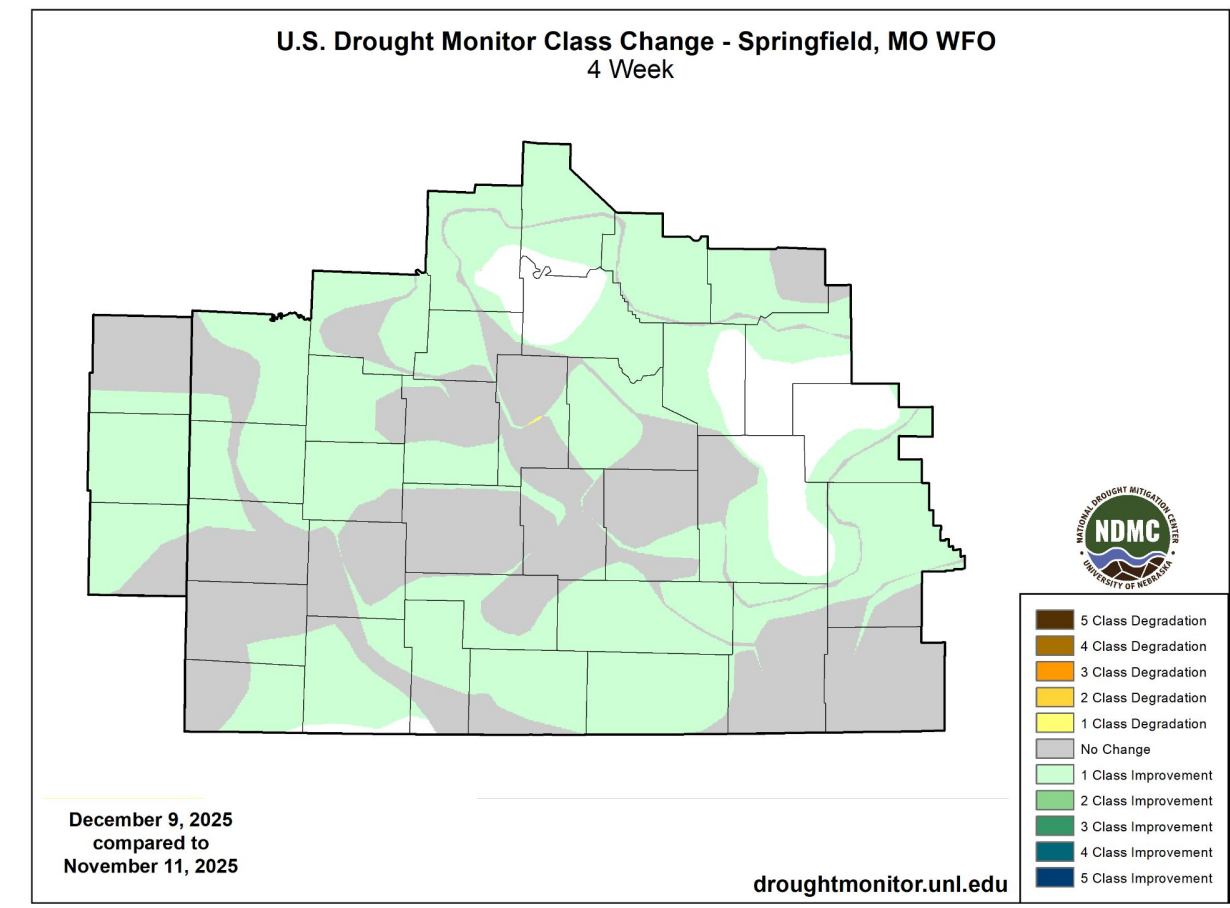
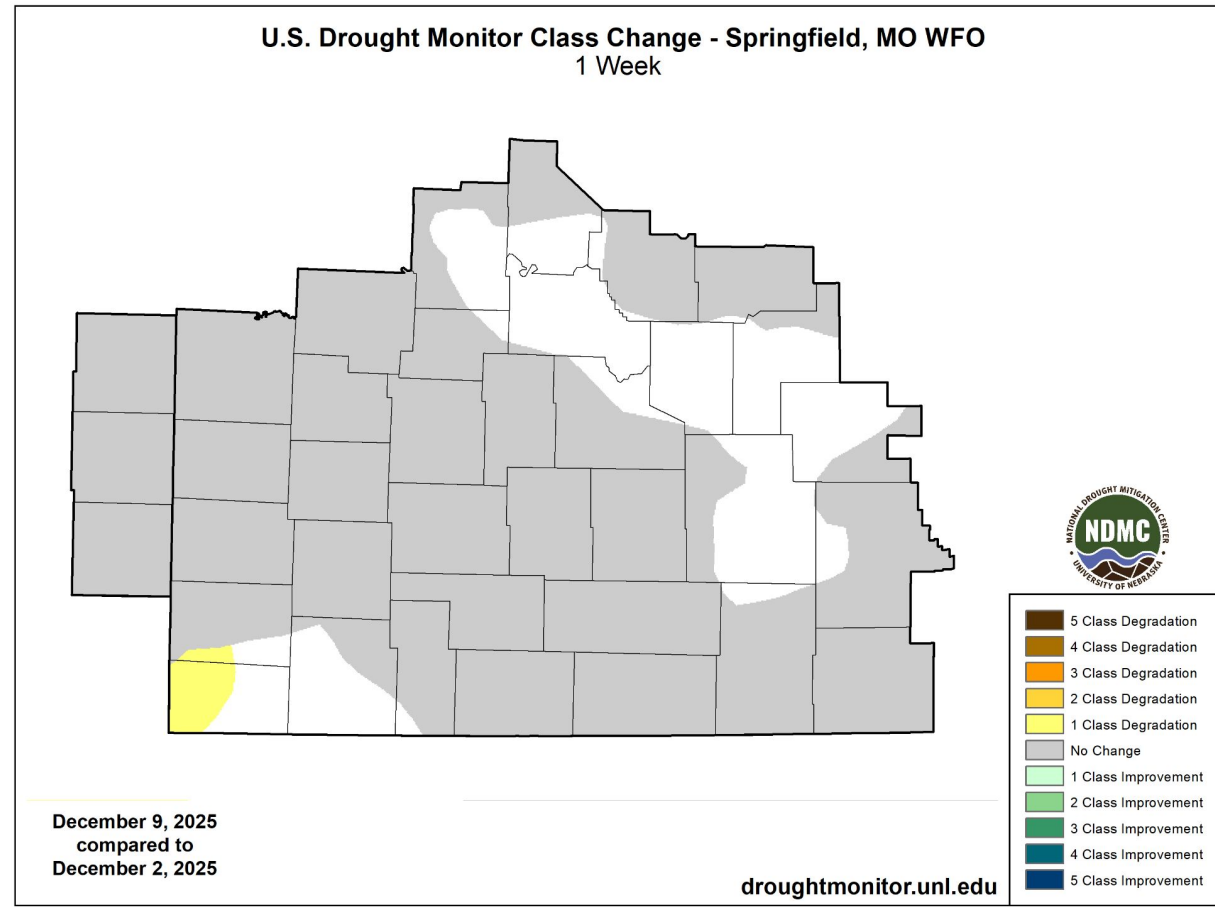
- Drought has improved across some portions of the Missouri Ozarks but still persist for many locations.
- Drought conditions persist across southeast Kansas.



Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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Link to [Recent Change Maps](#)



Main Takeaways

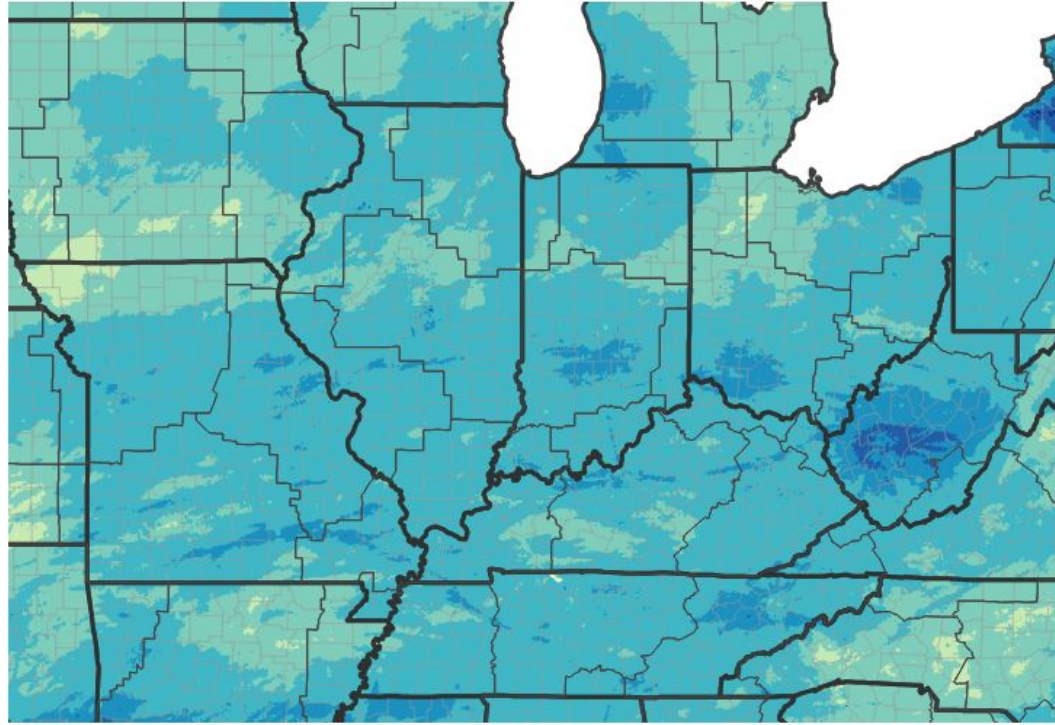
- Drought conditions have remained unchanged or improved 1 category for many locations across the area over the last 4 weeks.
- Little to no change has occurred in the last week outside of an addition of D0 to McDonald and Newton Counties in Missouri.



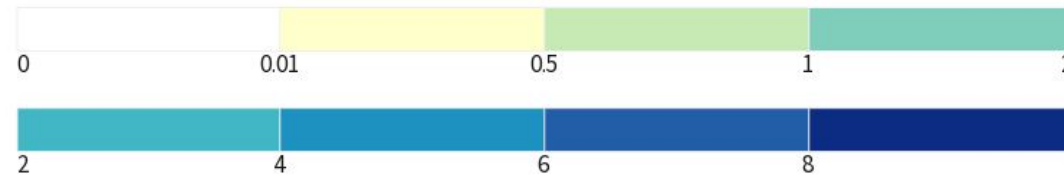
Precipitation

December 11, 2025
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30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

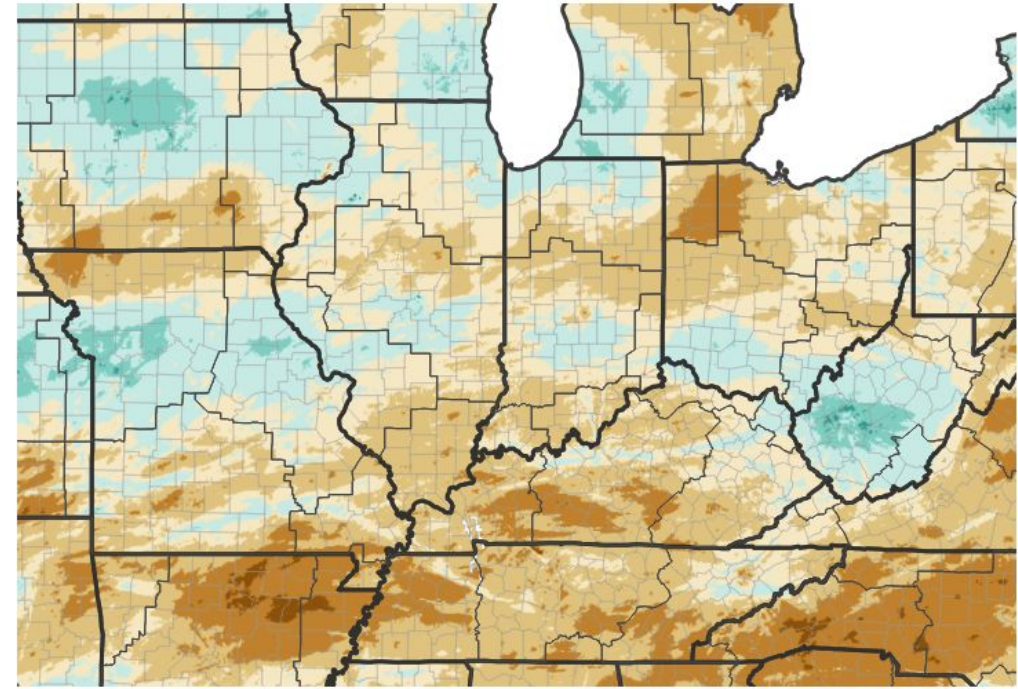


Inches of Precipitation

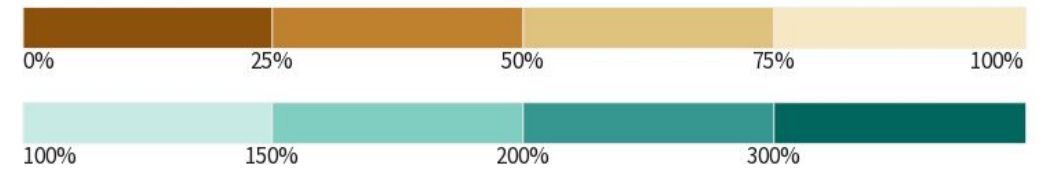


Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 12/11/25

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions

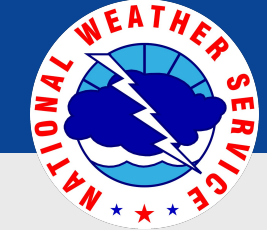


Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 12/11/25

Main Takeaways

- Precipitation has been below normal across much of the area over the last 30 days.





Summary of Impacts

December 11, 2025
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Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

Hydrologic Impacts

- A number of locations continue to see below normal streamflows, with reports of small creeks, streams, and ponds nearly dried up with large cracks in soil.

Agricultural Impacts

- Condition Monitoring Observer Reports (CMORs) from the last 7 days indicate severely dry conditions over the D1 and D2 areas.
 - Supplementing feed and feeding hay early (since August for some) with dead grass and little to no regrowth
 - Lack of water for livestock requiring water hauling, reduced water quality where water remains
 - Decreased stock weights, animal stress and livestock mortality, and farmers selling livestock to reduce hay and water consumption
 - Early crop harvests, crop stress and failures, reduced crop yields, increases in invasive insects, erosion (no-till practices not helping), inability to plant fall forage for lack of moisture
 - Farmers report: "Severe drought going into winter is devastating to my farm."

Fire Hazard Impacts

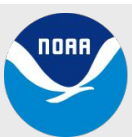
- Increased risk of fires this winter fire season due to below normal precipitation, above normal temperatures, and dry soils.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation actions

- The Missouri Drought Alert issued by the Governor has been extended through April 1, 2026.
- The Missouri Department of Agriculture has an AgriStress Helpline at 833-897-2474.
- More information is available at muext.us/PSCFarmRanch.

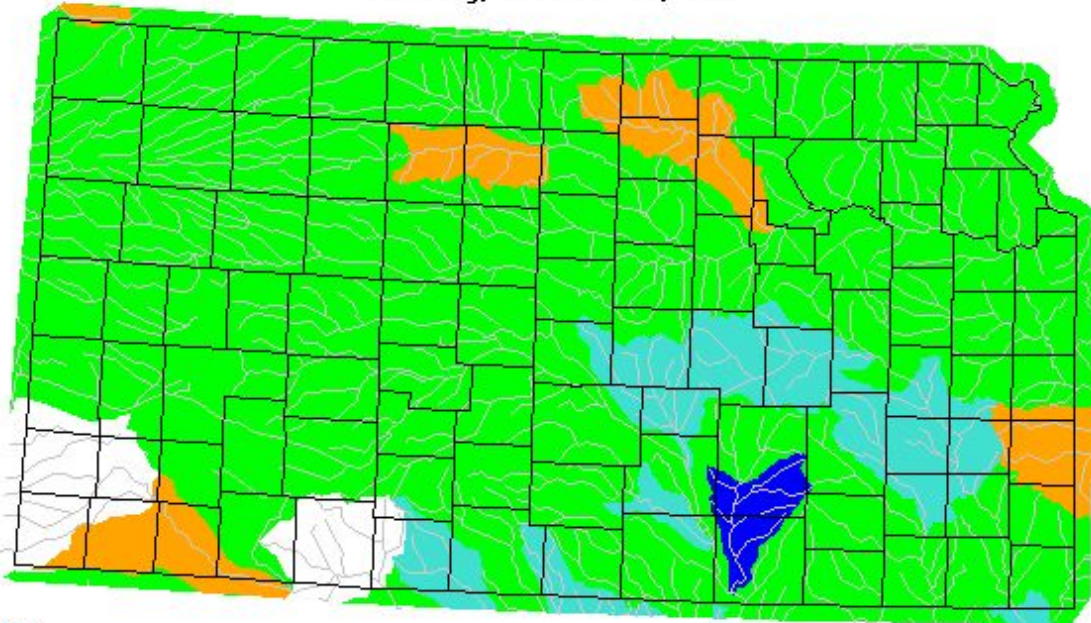




Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

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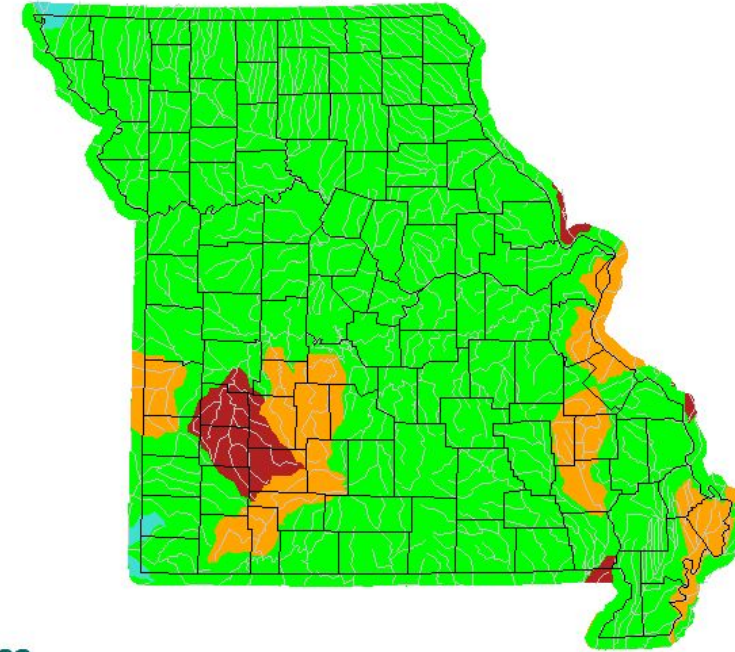
Hednesday, December 10, 2025



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 - Kansas.](#)

Hednesday, December 10, 2025



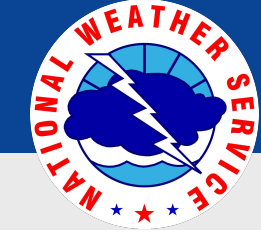
Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

Image Caption: : [USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map - Missouri.](#)

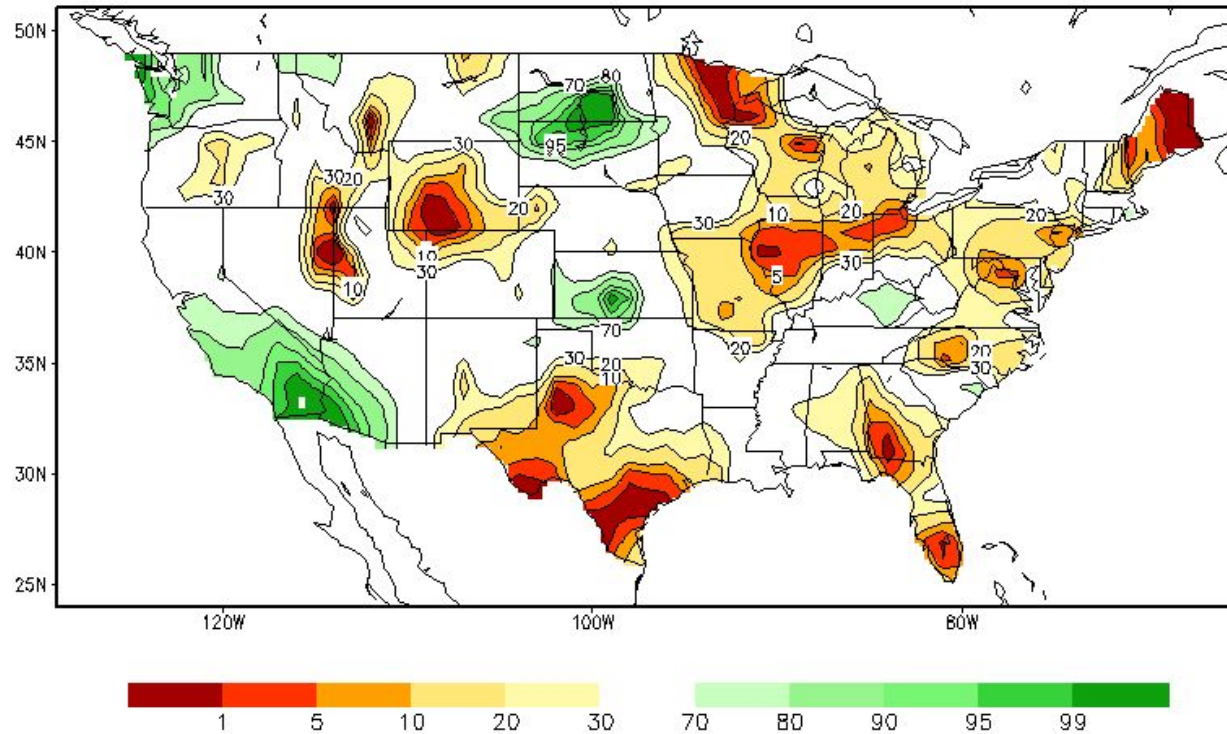
Main Takeaways

- Streamflow percentiles over the past 7 days were below normal across portions of southeast KS into southwest MO.

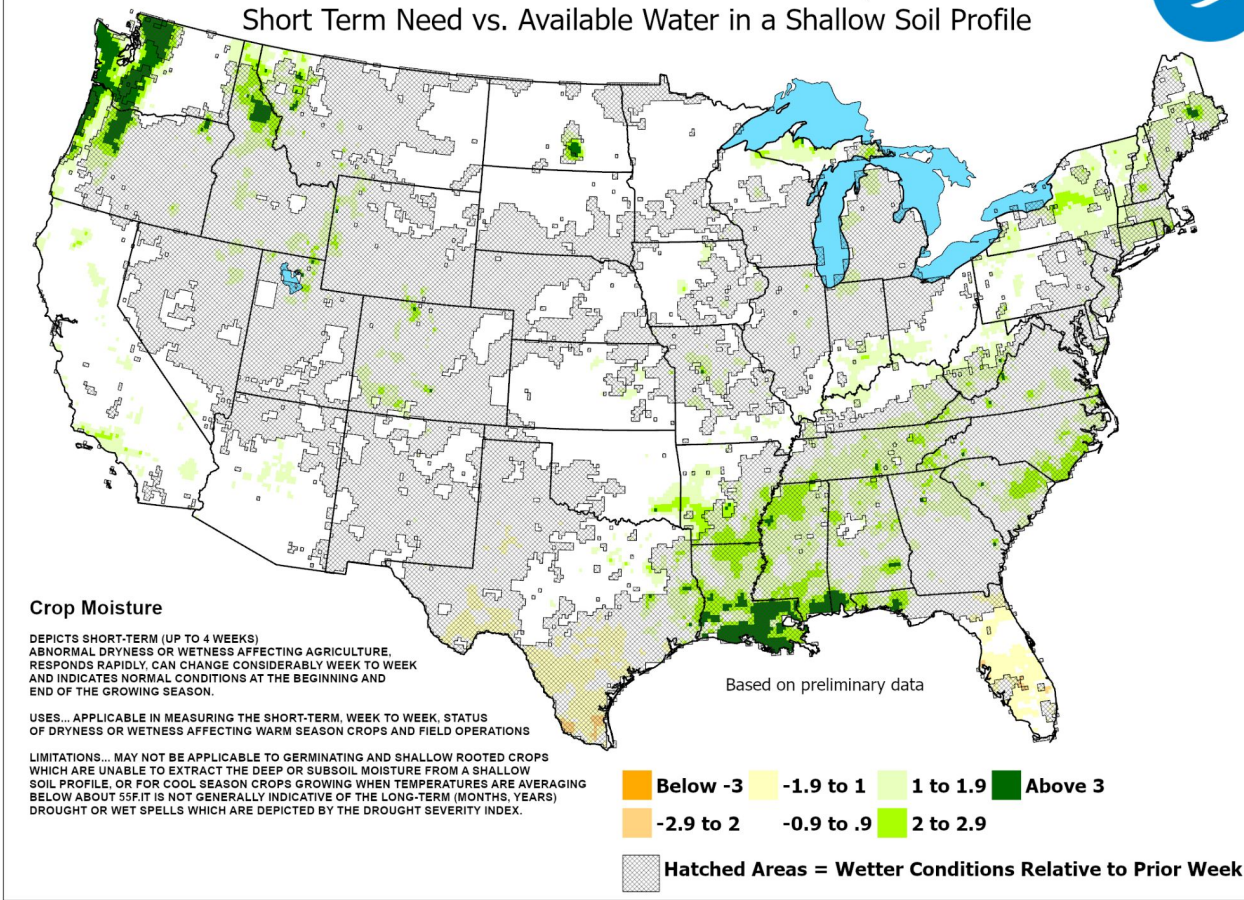




Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile DEC 09, 2025



Crop Moisture Index Value for the November 30 - December 6, 2025 Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile



Main Takeaways

- December 9th soil moisture was below average across much of the area.
- Crop Moisture Index from November 30th - December 6th was slightly above normal in a few locations.





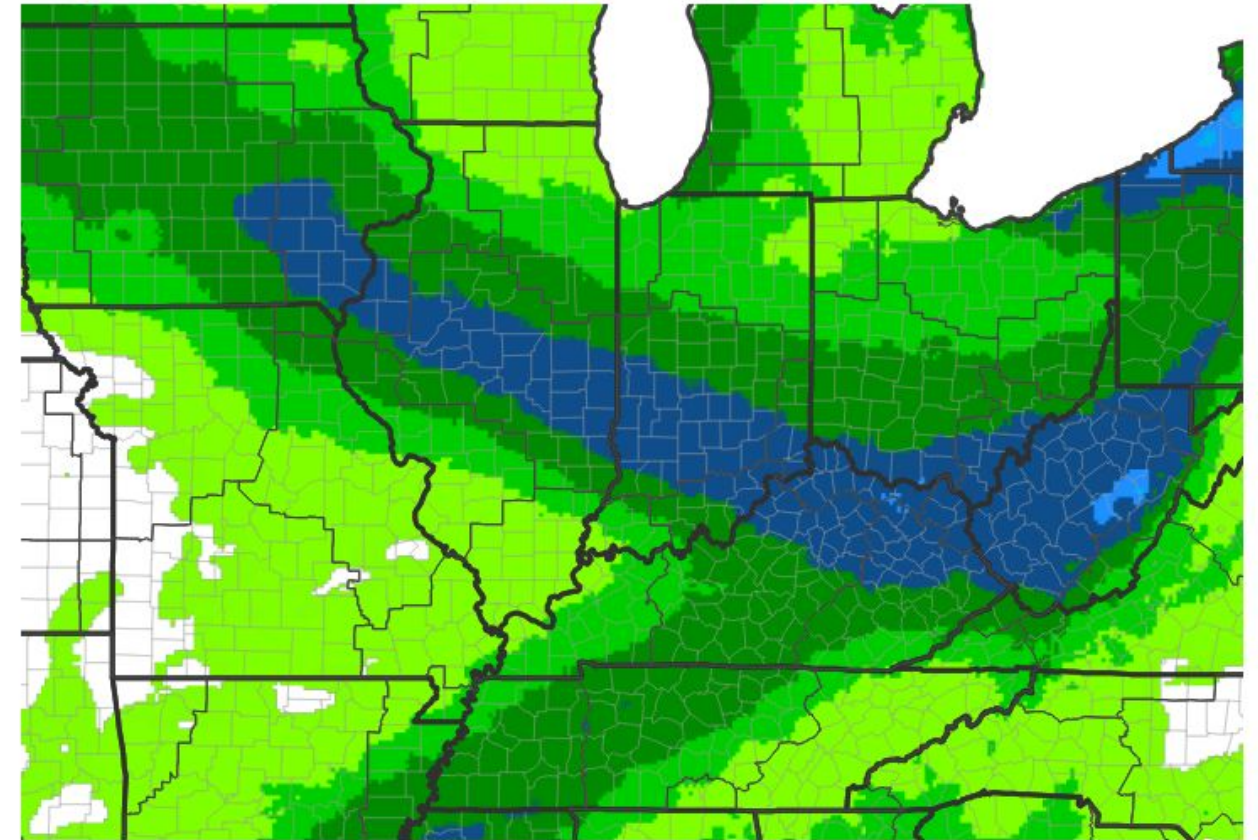
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

December 11, 2025
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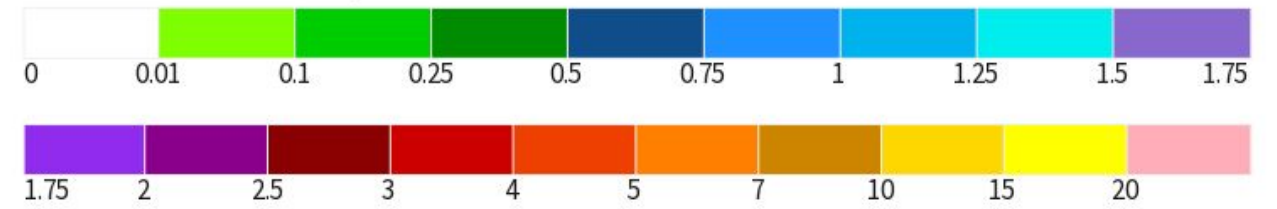
Main Takeaways

- Little to no precipitation chances over the next 7 days

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for December 11, 2025–December 18, 2025



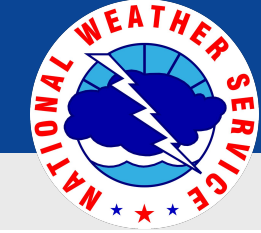
Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 12/11/25





8 to 14 Day Outlooks

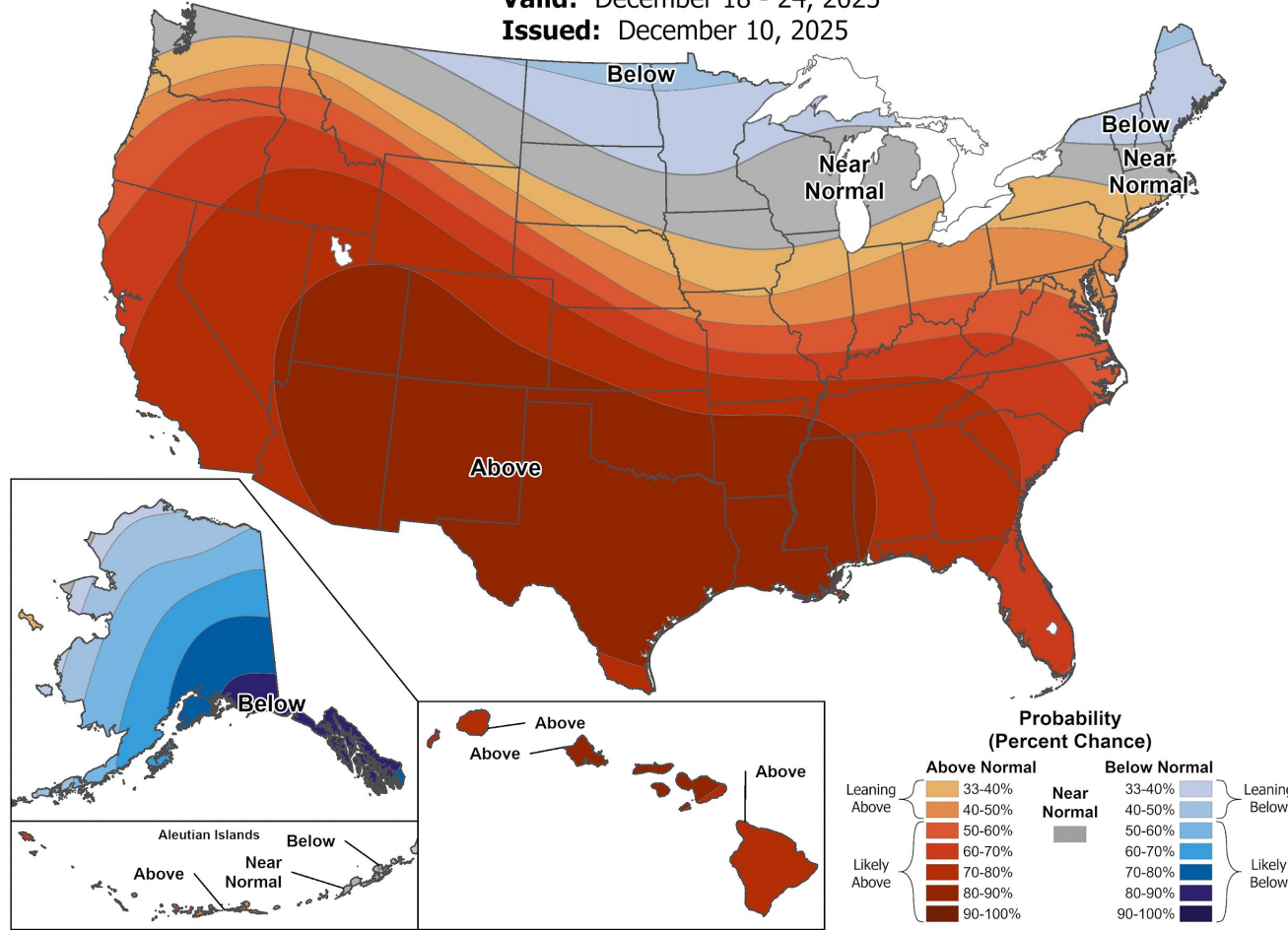
December 11, 2025
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The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)



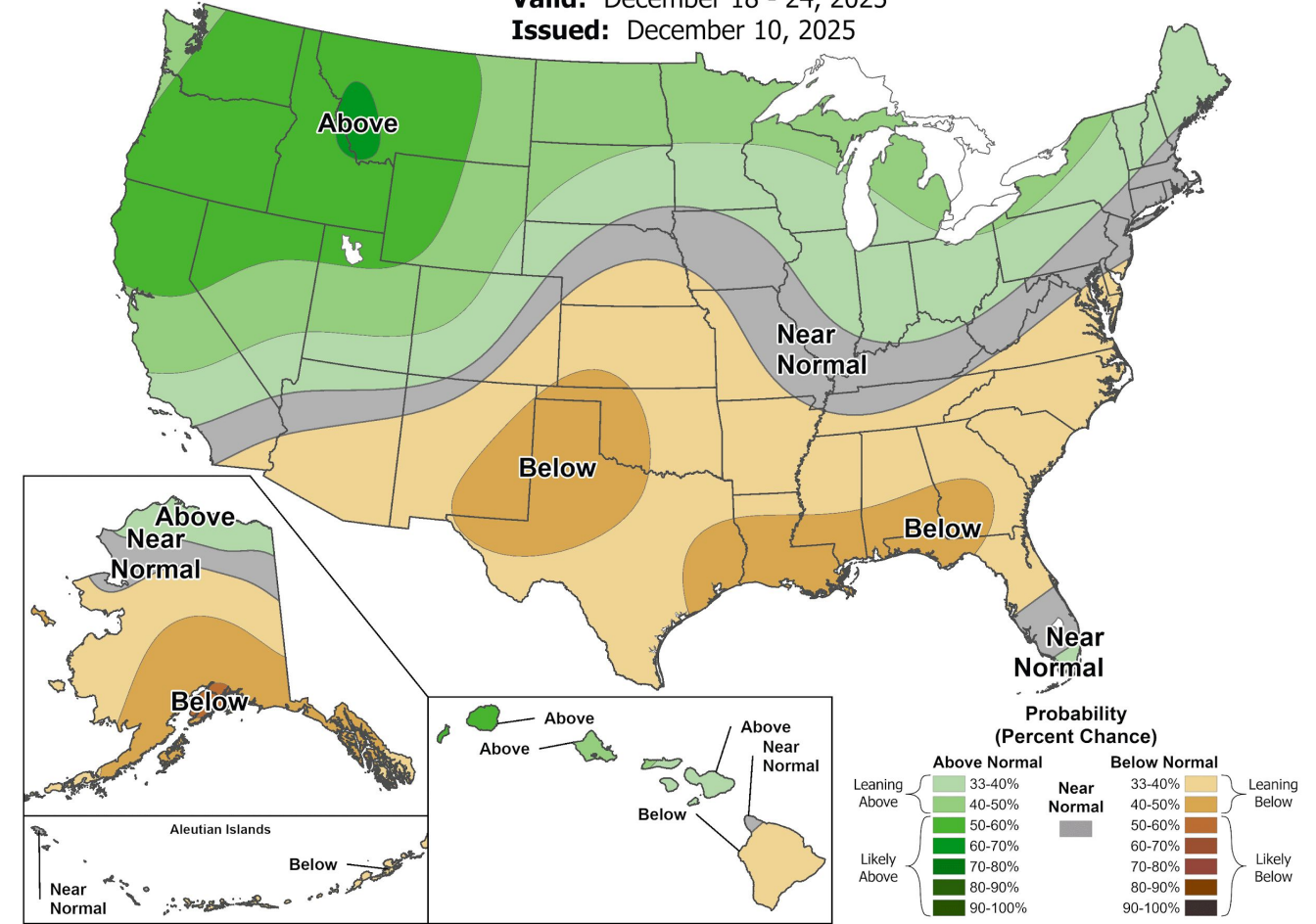
8-14 Day Temperature Outlook

Valid: December 18 - 24, 2025
Issued: December 10, 2025



8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook

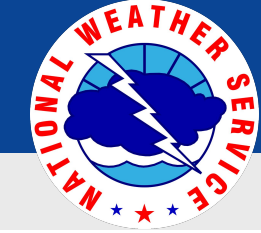
Valid: December 18 - 24, 2025
Issued: December 10, 2025



Main Takeaways

- The signal favors better chances for above normal temperatures and near to below normal precipitation for the December 18th - 24th timeframe.





Monthly Outlooks

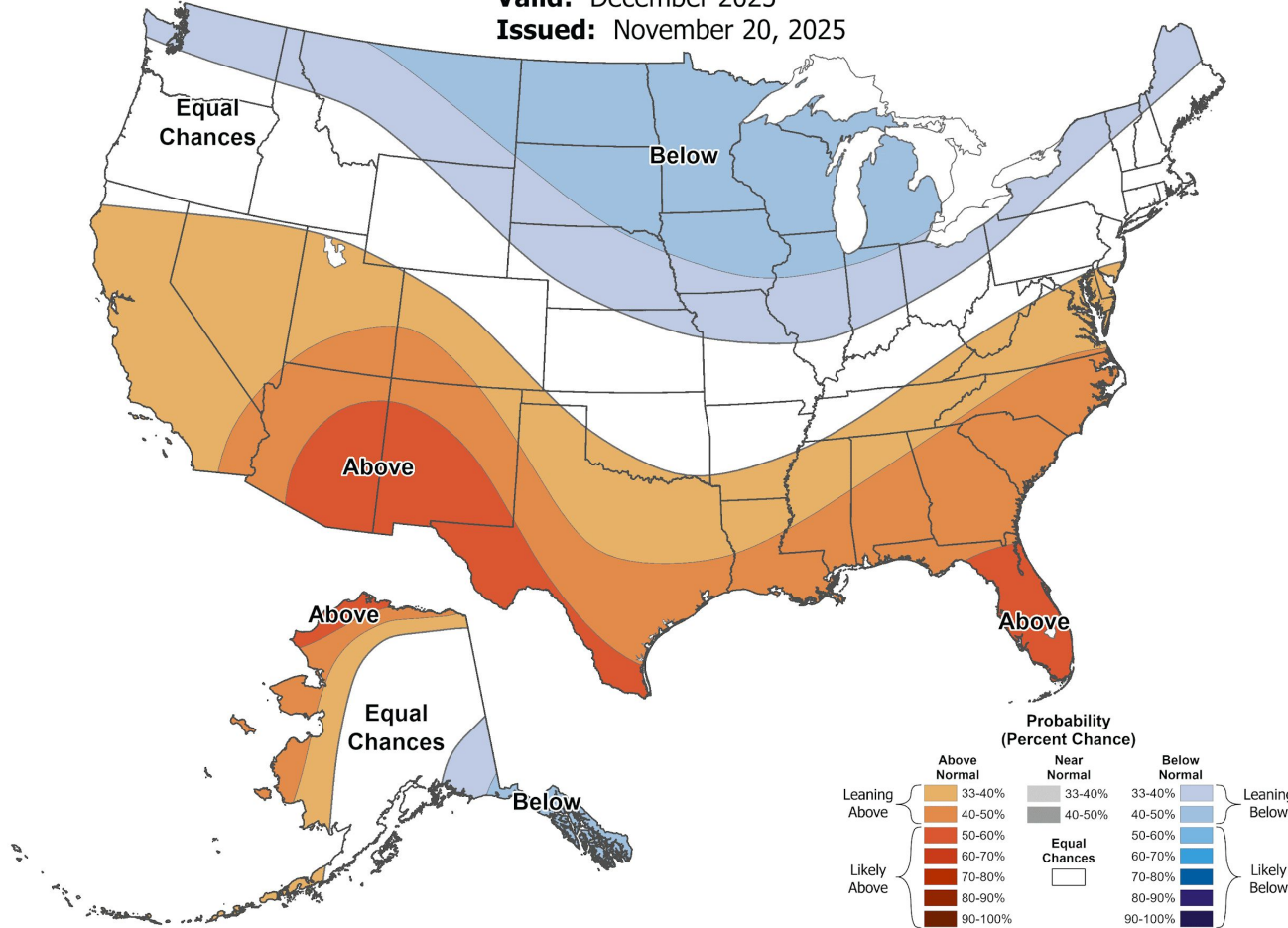
December 11, 2025
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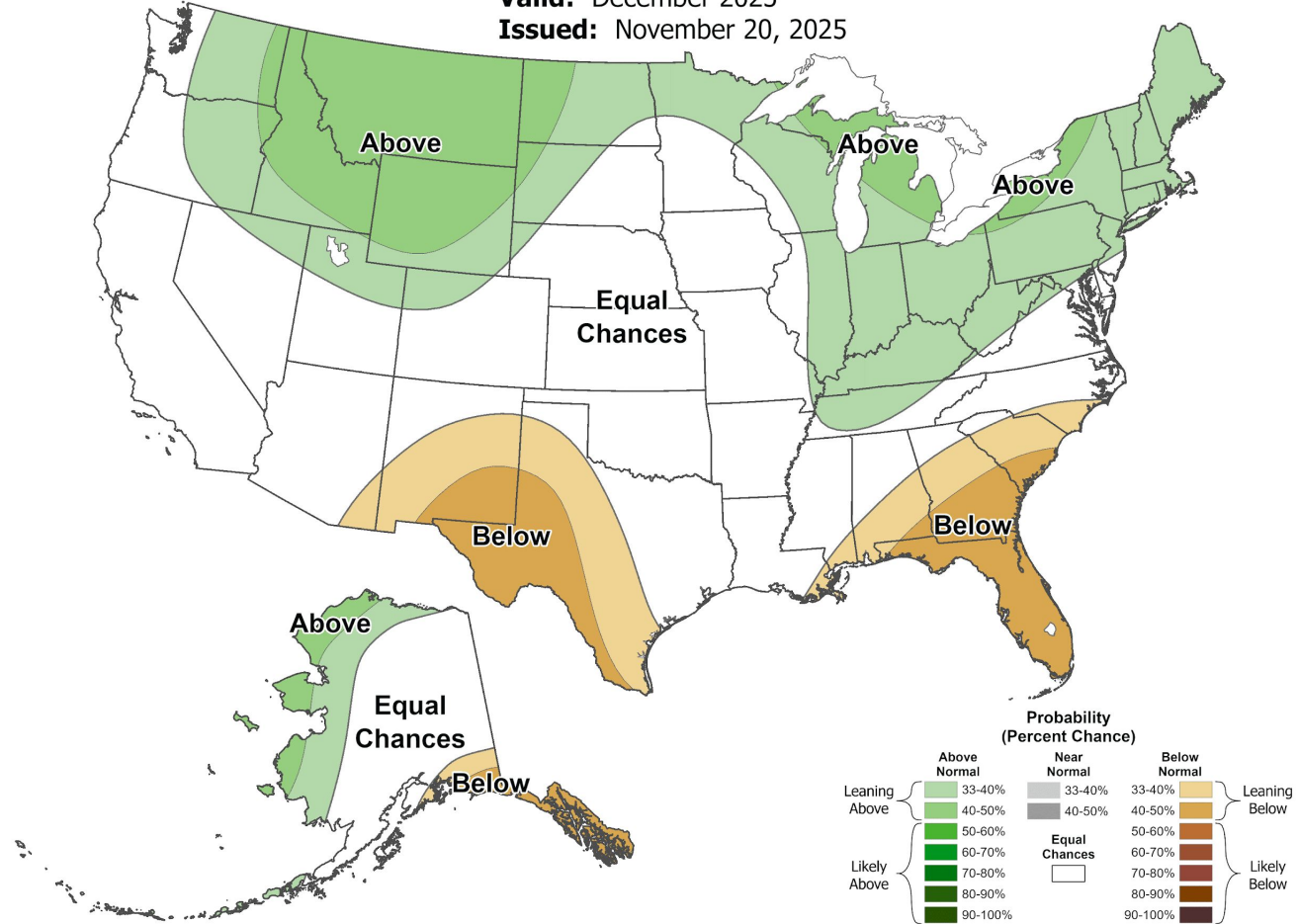
Monthly Temperature Outlook

Valid: December 2025
Issued: November 20, 2025



Monthly Precipitation Outlook

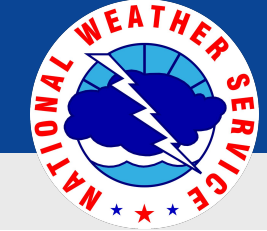
Valid: December 2025
Issued: November 20, 2025



Main Takeaways

- The signal favors equal chances for above/below normal temperatures and equal chances of above/below normal precipitation for the month of December.





Seasonal Outlooks

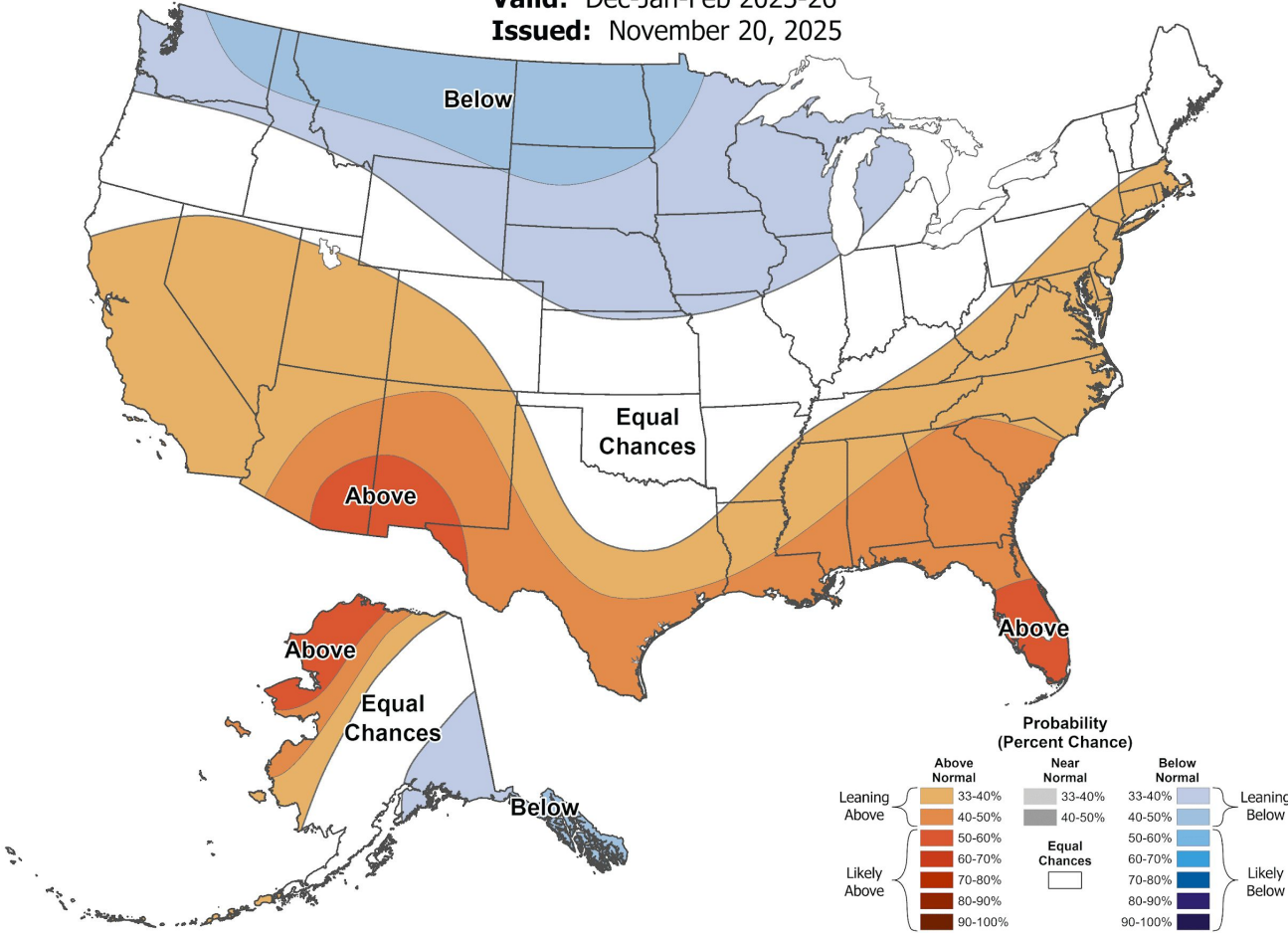
December 11, 2025
12:38 PM

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



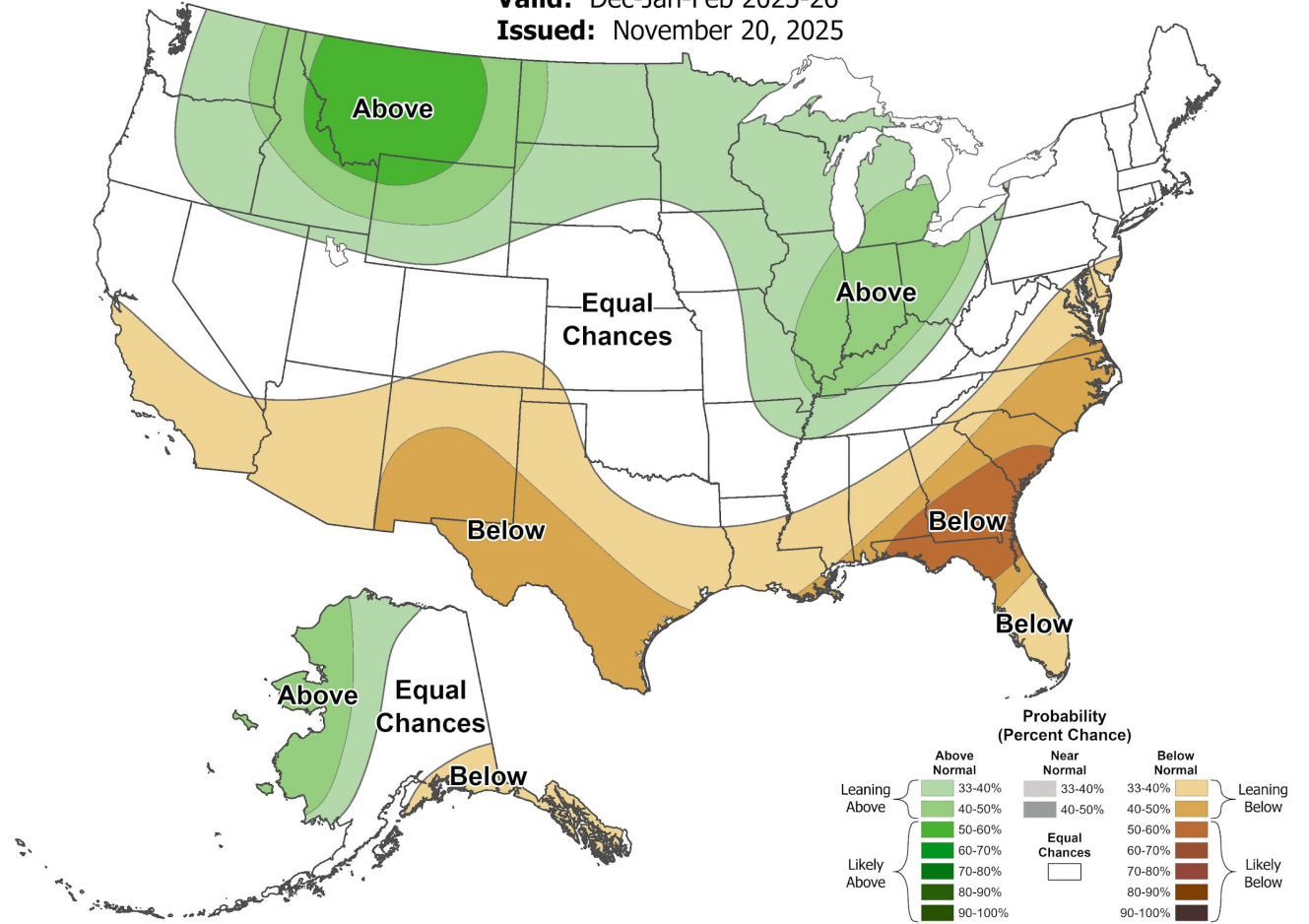
Seasonal Temperature Outlook

Valid: Dec-Jan-Feb 2025-26
Issued: November 20, 2025



Seasonal Precipitation Outlook

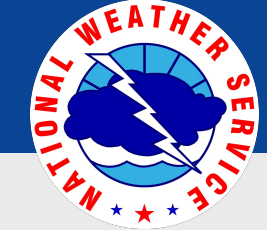
Valid: Dec-Jan-Feb 2025-26
Issued: November 20, 2025



Main Takeaways

- The signal slightly favors equal chances of above/below normal temperatures and equal chances of above/below normal precipitation for the period of December to February.



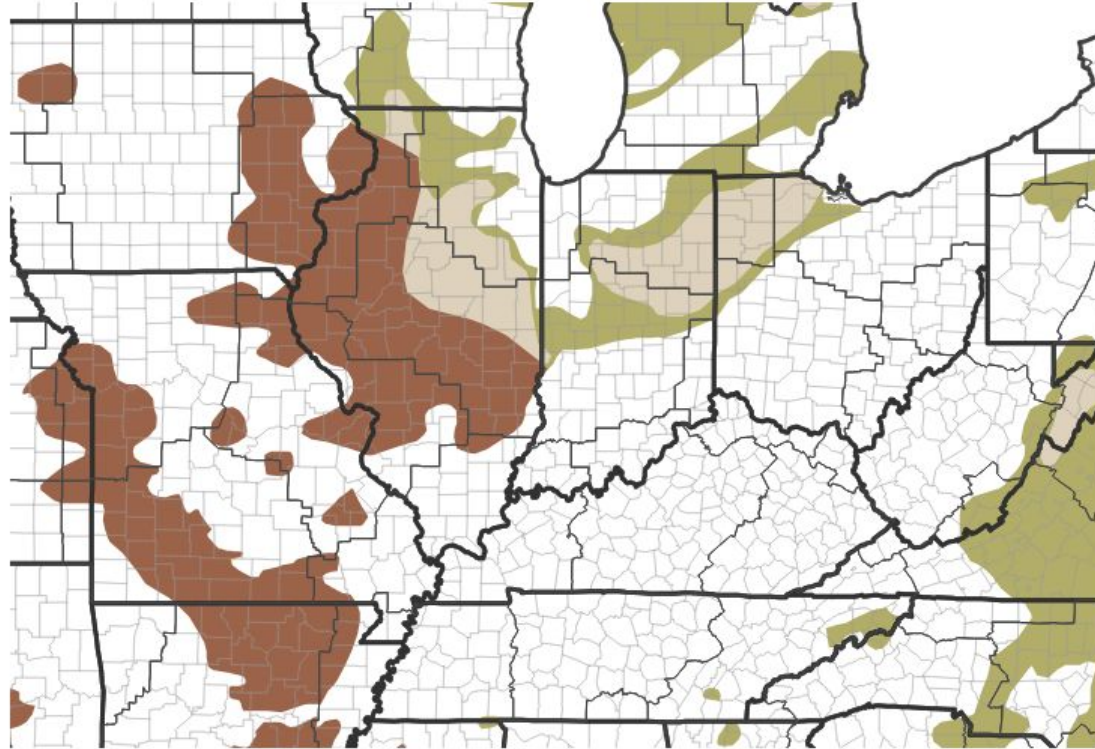


Drought Outlook

December 11, 2025
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[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#) | [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

1-Month Drought Outlook for December 1, 2025–December 31, 2025



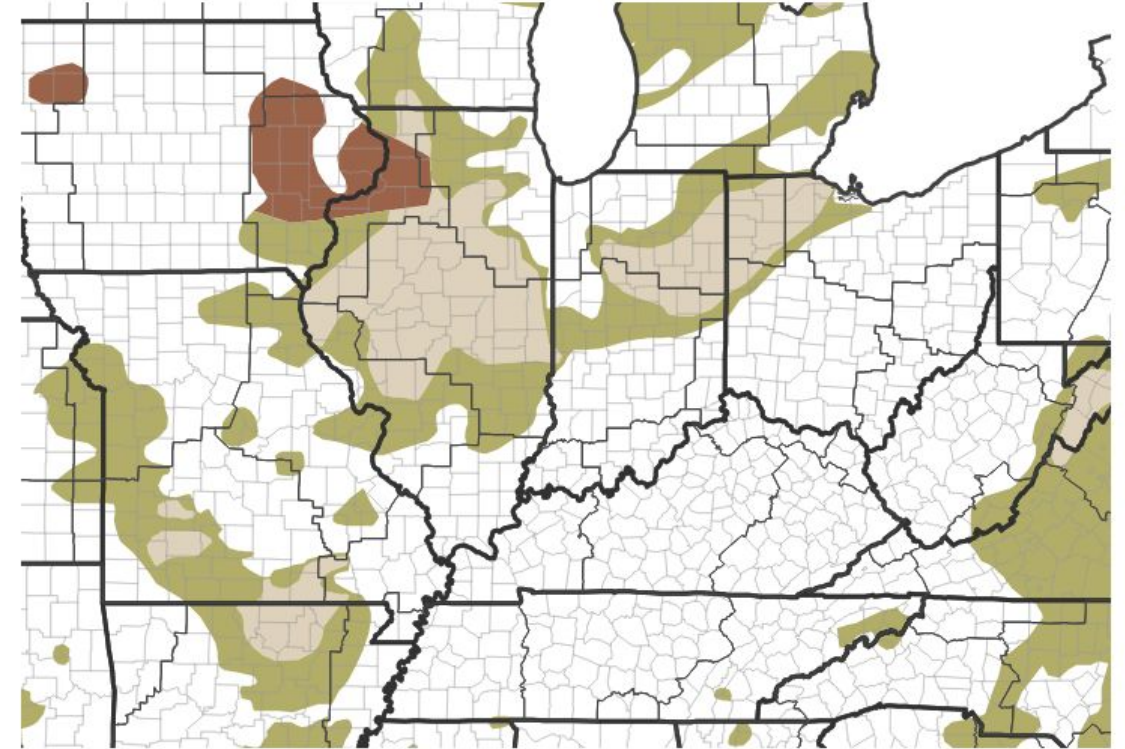
Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 11/30/25

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for November 30, 2025–February 28, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



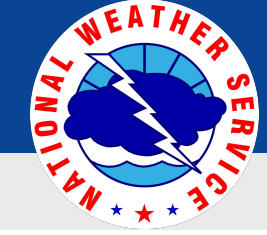
Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 11/30/25

Main Takeaways

- Drought likely to persist through late Winter (January and February).





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



weather.gov/drought

