



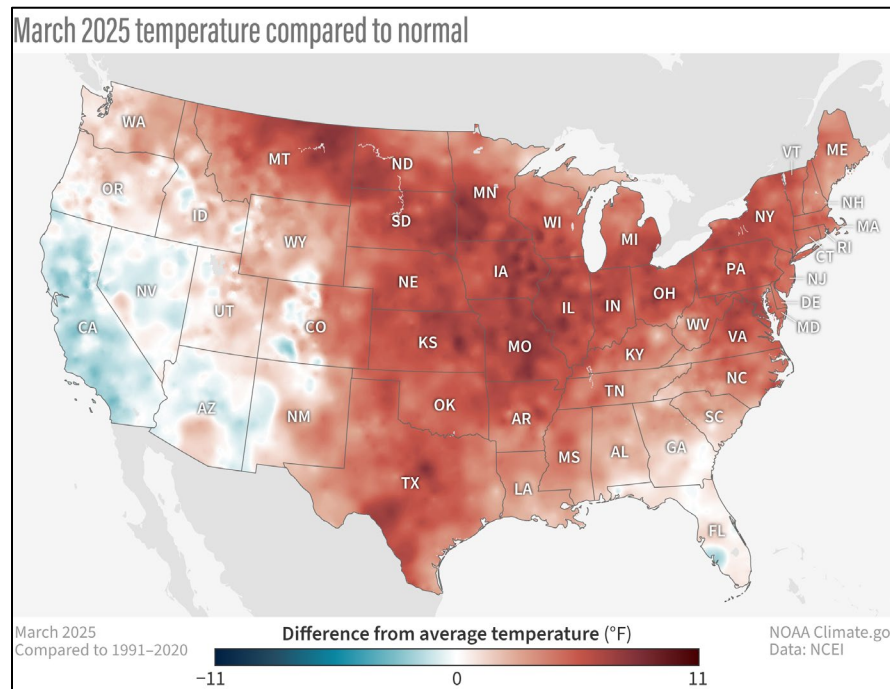
Water and Climate Update

April 17, 2025

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) produces this weekly report using data and products from the [National Water and Climate Center](#) and other agencies. The report focuses on seasonal snowpack, precipitation, temperature, and drought conditions in the U.S.

Snow	2	Drought	8
Precipitation	4	Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators	12
Temperature.....	7	More Information	18

U.S. experiences sixth-warmest March on record



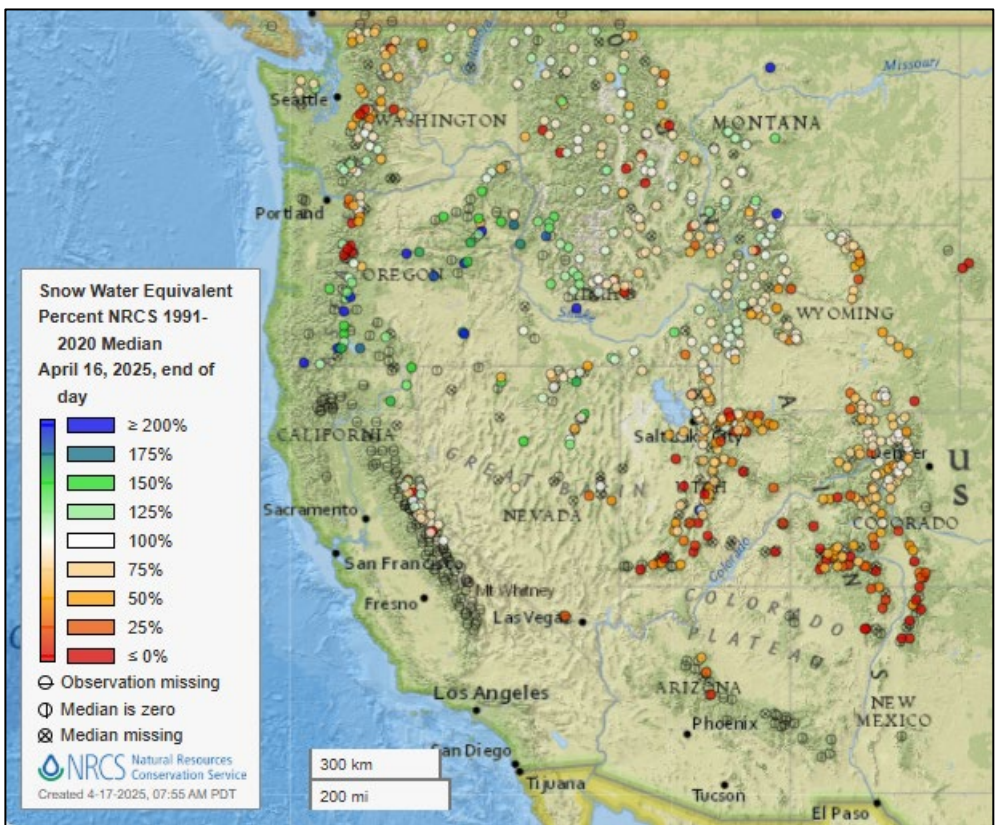
In a recently released report, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration summarized the recorded temperatures and precipitation for the U.S. during the month of March. Per an excerpt from the report:

“The average temperature of the contiguous U.S. in March was 46.9°F, 5.4°F above average, ranking as the sixth-warmest March in the 131-year record. Generally, March temperatures were above average to much above average across most of the Lower 48, except for parts of California and the Southeast. Kansas had its fourth-warmest March on record (tied with 1946), with Nebraska and Texas recording their fifth-warmest. Overall, eighteen states experienced a March average temperature that ranked among their ten warmest on record. The top map shows March temperatures compared to the 1991-2020 average, with places that were cooler than average in blue and places that were warmer than average in red.”

Related:

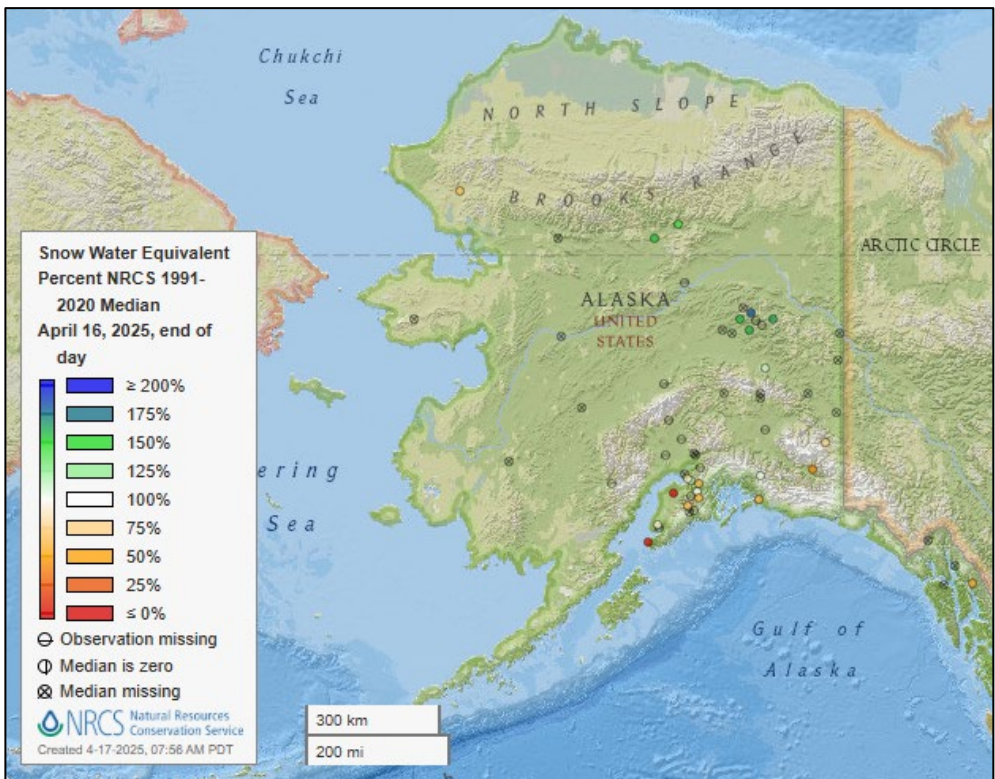
[U.S. climate summary for March 2025](#) – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Snow



[Snow water equivalent percent of median map](#)

See also:
[Snow water equivalent values \(inches\) map](#)

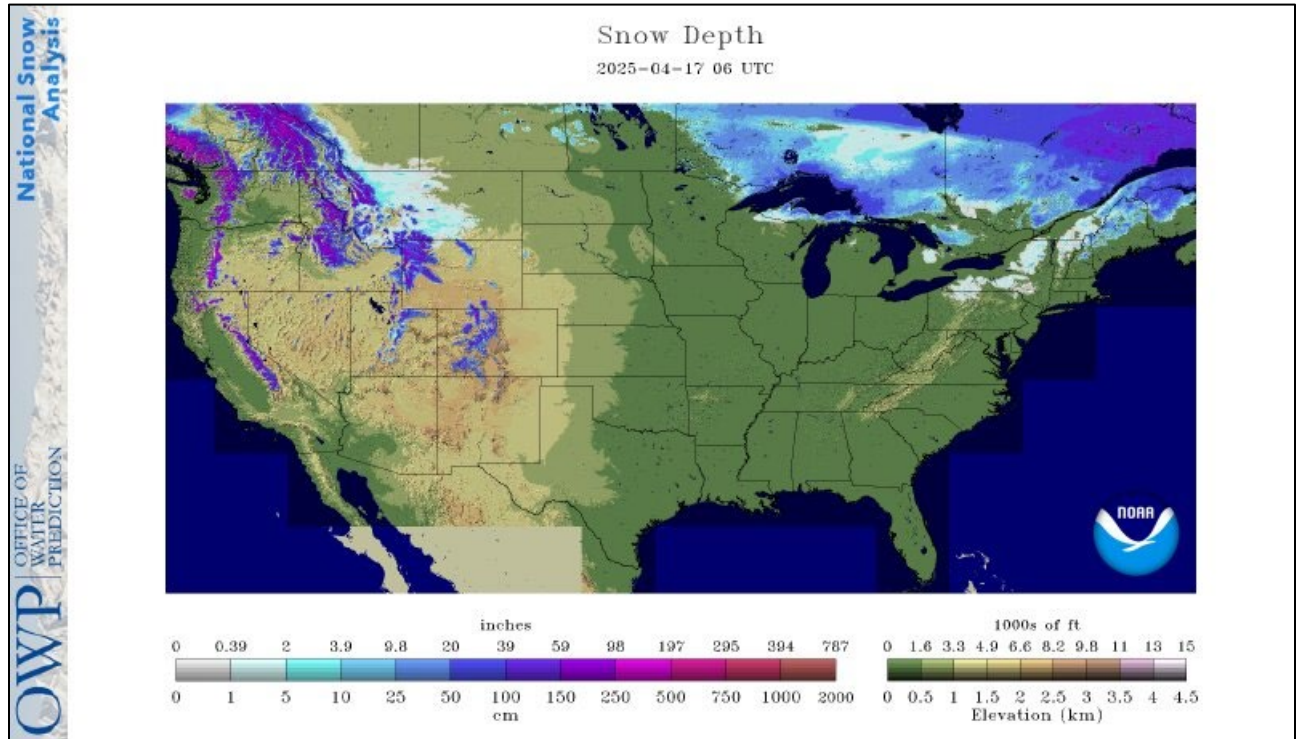


[Alaska snow water equivalent percent of median map](#)

See also:
[Alaska snow water equivalent values \(inches\) map](#)

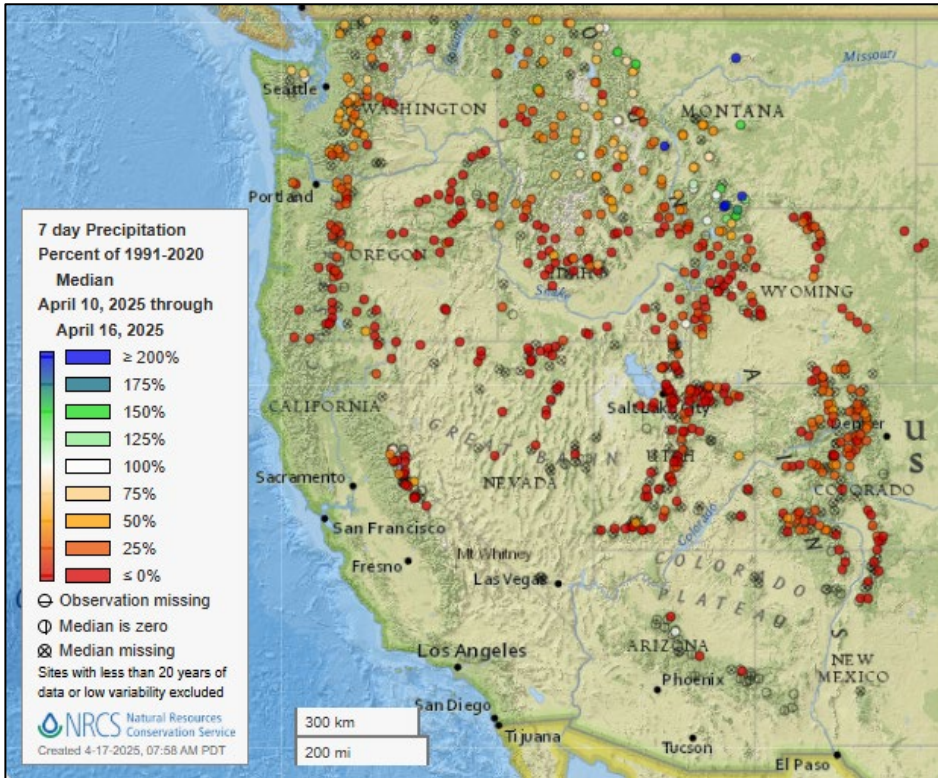
Current Snow Depth, National Weather Service Snow Analysis

Source: NOAA NWS National Operational Hydrologic Remote Sensing Center



Precipitation

Last 7 Days, NRCS SNOTEL Network

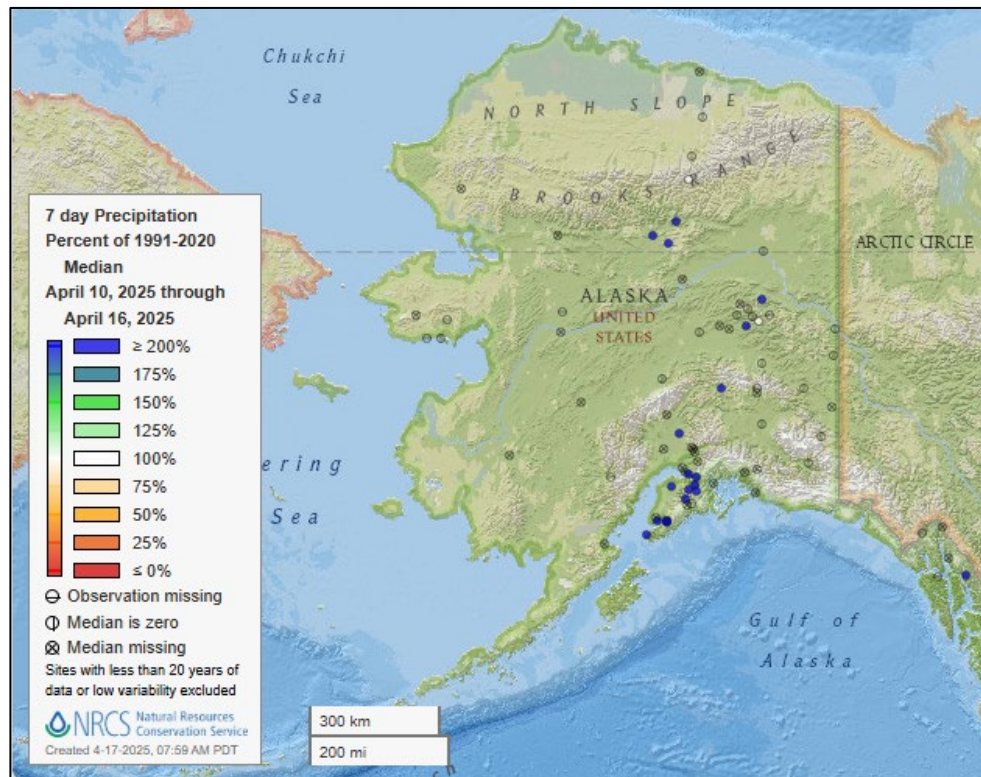


[7-day precipitation percent of median map](#)

See also:
[7-day total precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)

[Alaska 7-day precipitation percent of median map](#)

See also:
[Alaska 7-day total precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)



Month-to-Date, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

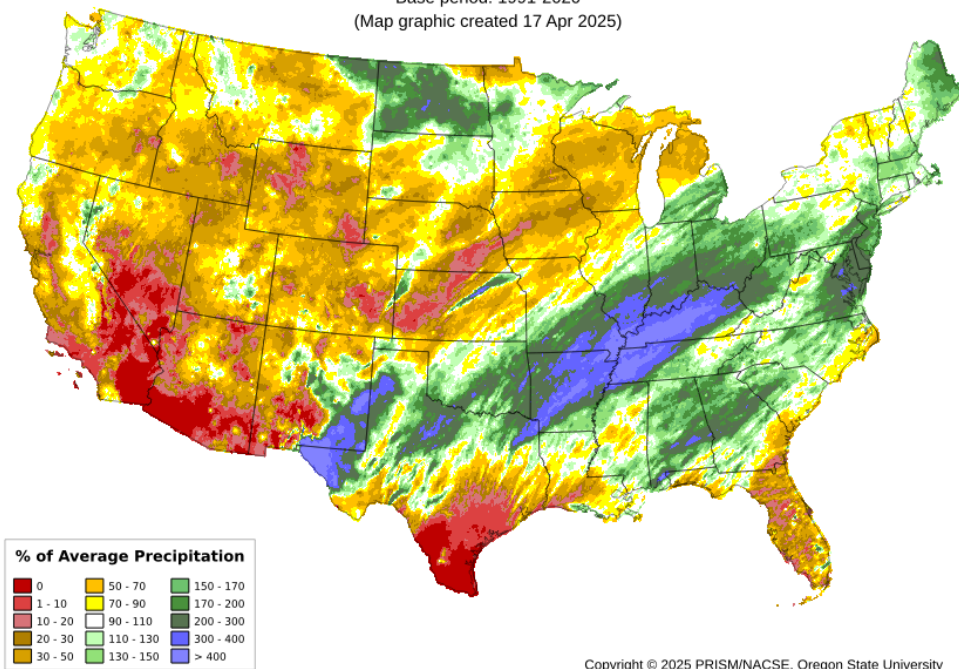
Total Precipitation Anomaly: 01 Apr 2025 - 16 Apr 2025

Period ending 7 AM EST 16 Apr 2025

Base period: 1991-2020

(Map graphic created 17 Apr 2025)

[Month-to-date national total precipitation anomaly map](#)



Last 3 Months, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

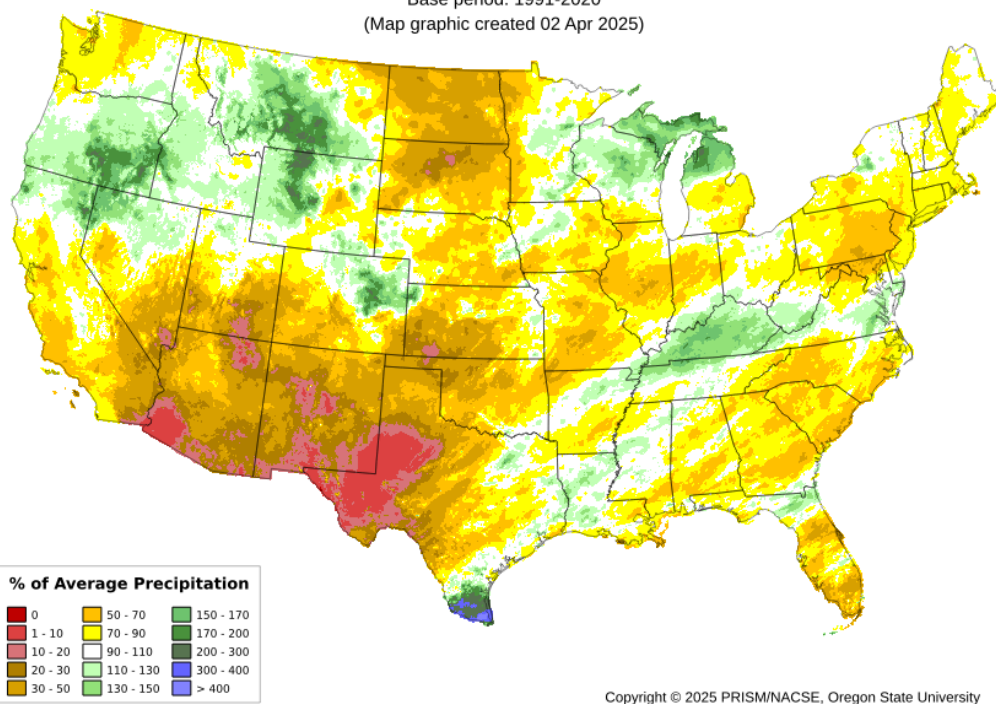
[January through March 2025 precipitation anomaly map](#)

Total Precipitation Anomaly: Jan 2025 - Mar 2025

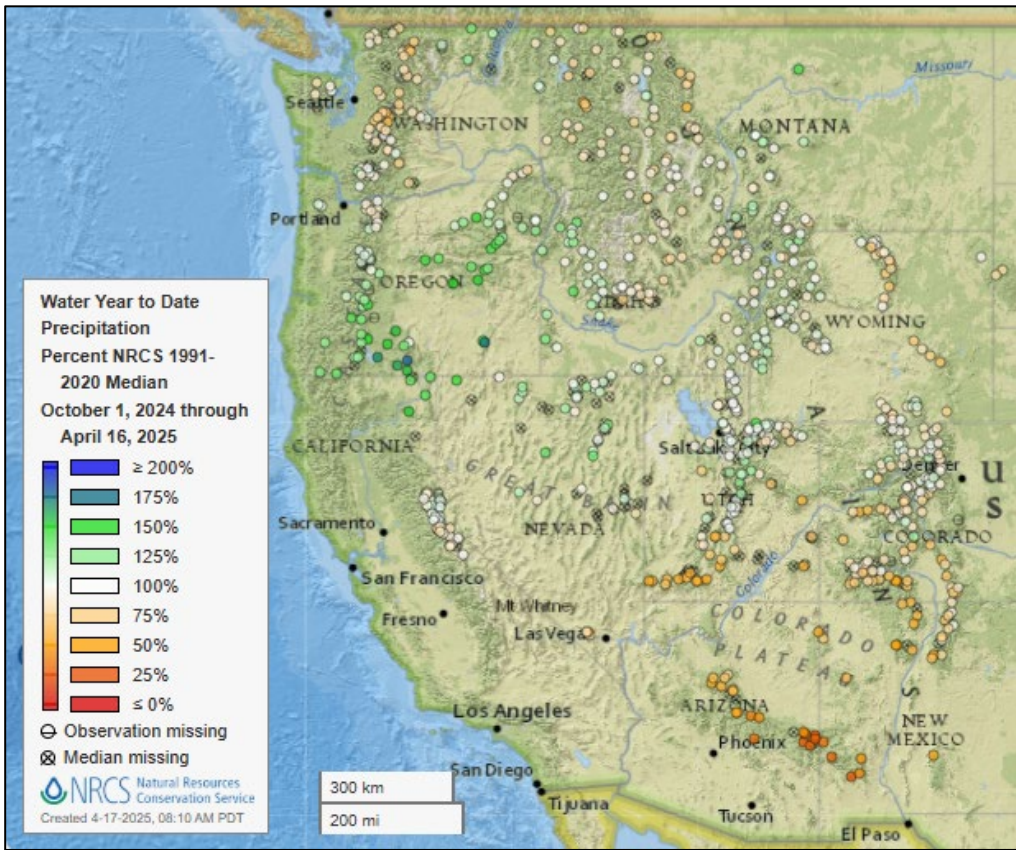
Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Mar 2025

Base period: 1991-2020

(Map graphic created 02 Apr 2025)



Water Year-to-Date, NRCS SNOTEL Network

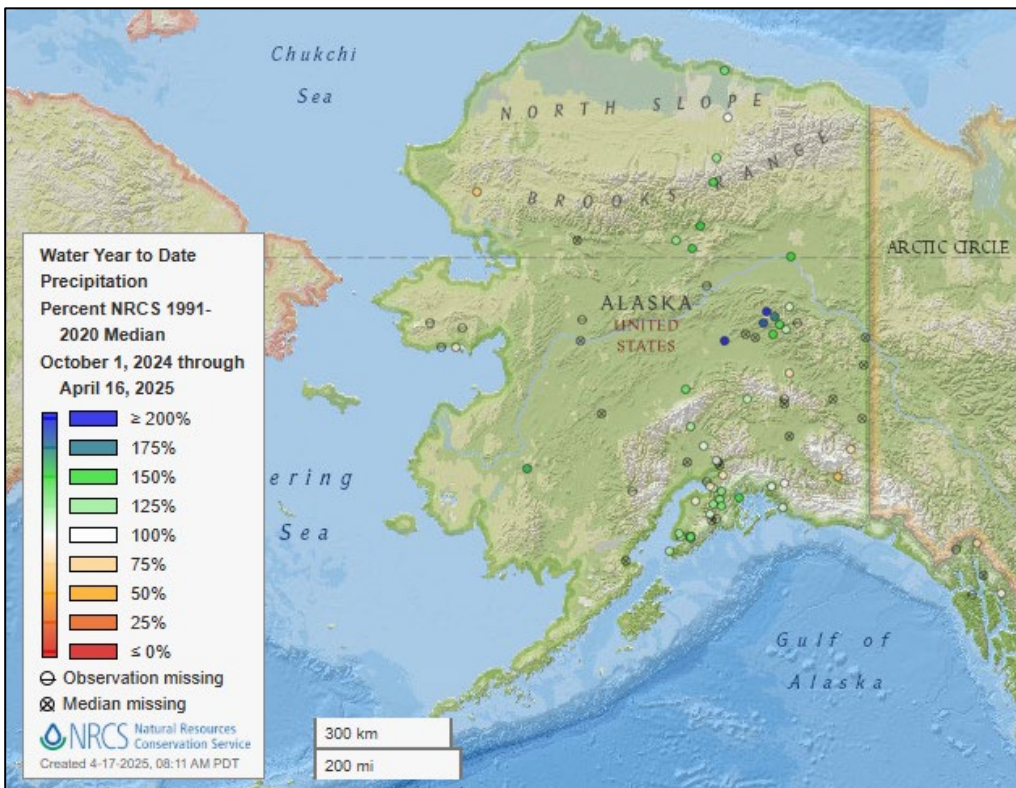


[2025 water year-to-date precipitation percent of median map](#)

See also:

[2025 water year-to-date precipitation percent of average map](#)

[2025 water year-to-date precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)



[Alaska 2025 water year-to-date precipitation percent of median map](#)

See also:

[Alaska 2025 water year-to-date precipitation percent of average map](#)

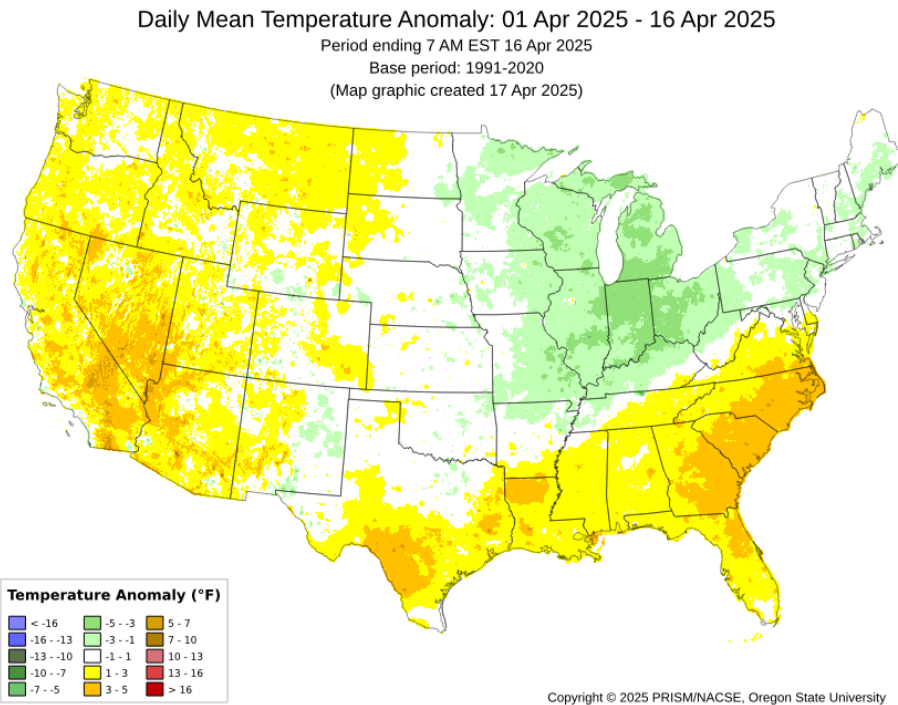
[Alaska 2025 water year-to-date precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)

Temperature

Month-to-Date, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

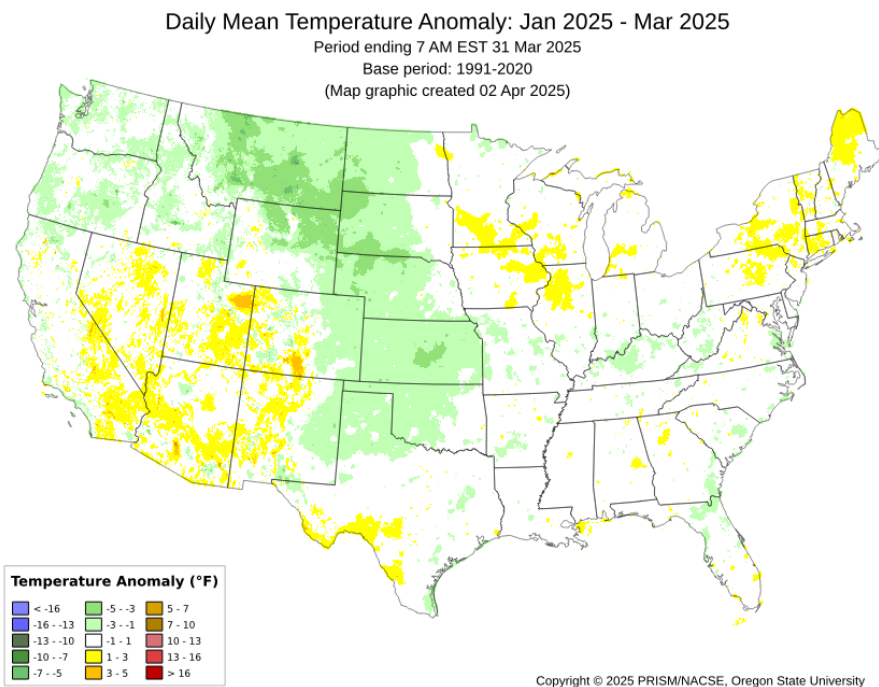
[Month-to-date national daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)



Last 3 Months, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

[January through March 2025 daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)



Drought

[U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

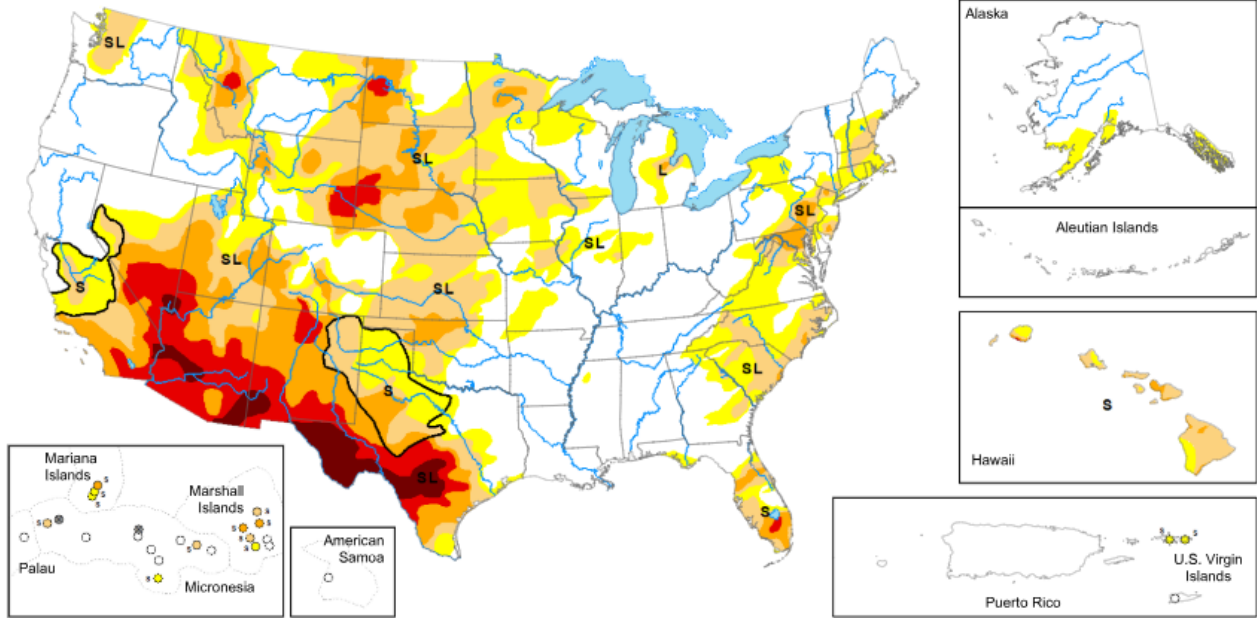
[U.S. Drought Portal](#)

Source: NOAA

Map released: April 17, 2025

Data valid: April 15, 2025

View grayscale version of the map



United States and Puerto Rico Author(s):
[Curtis Riganti](#), National Drought Mitigation Center

Pacific Islands and Virgin Islands Author(s):
[Daniel Whitesel](#), National Drought Mitigation Center

More maps and statistics:

- [U.S. States and Puerto Rico](#)
- [Continental U.S.](#)
- [Regions ▾](#)

The data cutoff for Drought Monitor maps is each Tuesday at 8 a.m. EDT. The maps, which are based on analysis of the data, are released each Thursday at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time.

Intensity and Impacts

<input type="checkbox"/> None	<input type="checkbox"/> D1 (Moderate Drought)	<input type="checkbox"/> D3 (Extreme Drought)	<input type="checkbox"/> No Data
<input type="checkbox"/> D0 (Abnormally Dry)	<input type="checkbox"/> D2 (Severe Drought)	<input type="checkbox"/> D4 (Exceptional Drought)	
- Delineates dominant impacts	S - Short-term impacts, typically less than 6 months (agriculture, grasslands)	L - Long-term impacts, typically greater than 6 months (hydrology, ecology)	SL - Short- and long-term impacts

Current [National Drought Summary](#), April 15, 2025

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

“During the week of April 8-14, temperatures across the Contiguous U.S. were split into above-normal readings in the western U.S., below-normal readings east of the Mississippi River, and near-normal temperatures in the Mississippi River Valley. Temperatures across the western Great Plains, the Rocky Mountains, and the Intermountain West ranged from 3-12 degrees warmer than normal. In the Upper Ohio River Valley and Appalachian Mountains, temperatures from 6-12 degrees cooler-than-normal were widespread. Dry weather occurred over much of the Great Plains and western U.S., except for parts of North Dakota, Montana, northern Idaho and western Washington. Some moderate precipitation amounts, locally exceeding an inch or two, occurred in parts of the eastern U.S., especially in the Mid-Atlantic, though precipitation was mostly light east of the Mississippi River otherwise.

Changes to the U.S. Drought Monitor depiction were somewhat limited this week compared to the last few. Increases in drought coverage occurred in parts of southern Texas, New Mexico, much of Colorado, and parts of Kansas, Nebraska and northern South Dakota. Dry weather and high fire danger continued in south Florida this week, leading to further degradation and the development of localized extreme drought. The higher precipitation amounts in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast led to some localized improvements in ongoing drought and abnormal dryness. Heavier precipitation over the last month has quickly improved conditions in this region, with lessened precipitation deficits and increasing groundwater in many areas.”

National Drought Summary – Looking Ahead

“Between Wednesday, April 16 and the evening of Monday, April 21, the National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center is forecasting widespread heavy rainfall in parts of the central U.S., especially along east and south of the Interstate 44, 35 and 70 corridors in Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, Illinois and Indiana. Precipitation amounts may reach or exceed 3 inches from eastern Oklahoma northeast through St. Louis into eastern Illinois. The forecast calls for precipitation amounts from 0.25-1 inches in parts of the Rocky Mountains, with locally higher amounts possible, especially from far northern New Mexico north to southern Montana. Precipitation amounts from 0.5-1.25 inches, with localized higher amounts, are forecast from southeast Minnesota east through Wisconsin and Michigan. Farther east, weather along the Atlantic Coast is forecast to be mostly dry.

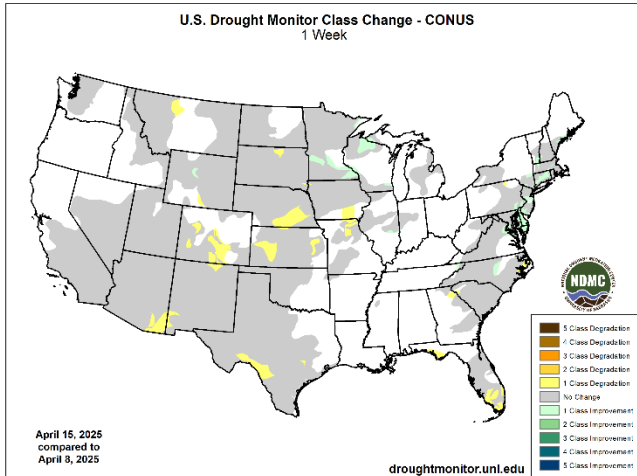
For the period from April 22-26, the National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center forecast favors above-normal precipitation in much of the central and southern U.S., especially in Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana. Warmer-than-normal temperatures are also favored across most of the contiguous U.S., especially in the Southeast. Drier-than-normal weather is slightly favored in northwest California and coastal areas of Oregon and Washington.

In Hawaii, warmer- and wetter-than-normal weather is strongly favored from April 22-26. In Alaska, above-normal precipitation is favored for April 22-26 in most areas outside of the North Slope. Colder-than-normal temperatures are favored in the central and eastern thirds of Alaska, while warmer-than-normal temperatures are likelier in southwest Alaska and the Aleutian Islands.”

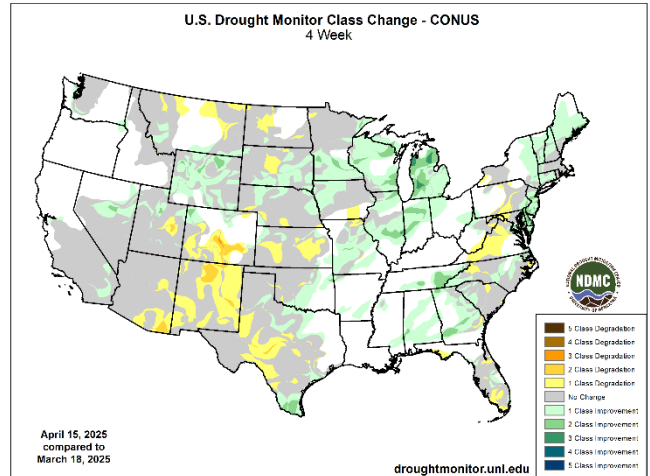
Changes in Drought Monitor Categories over Time

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

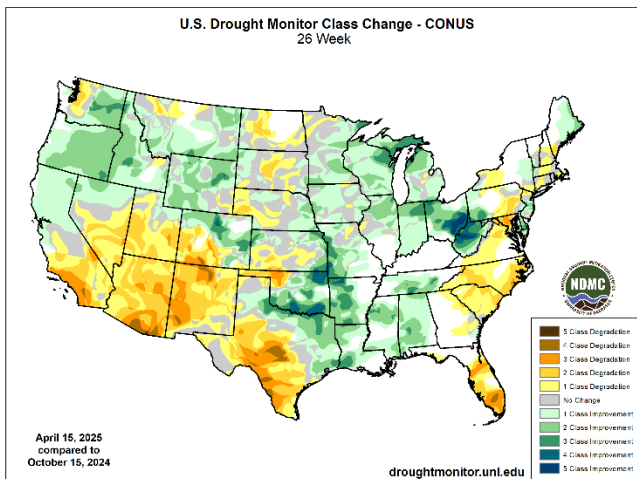
1 Week



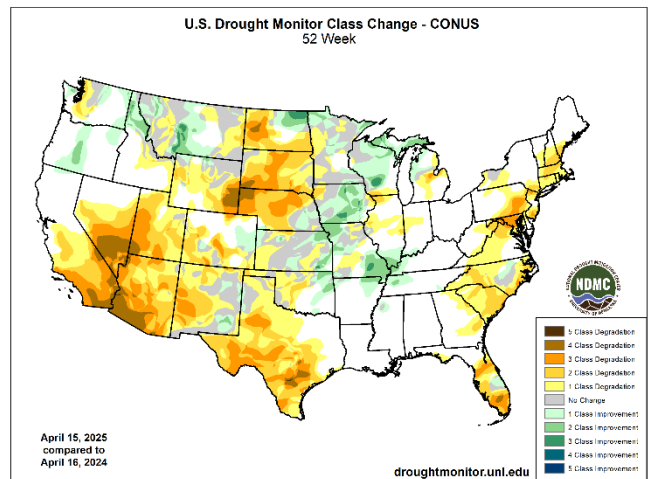
1 Month



6 Months



1 Year



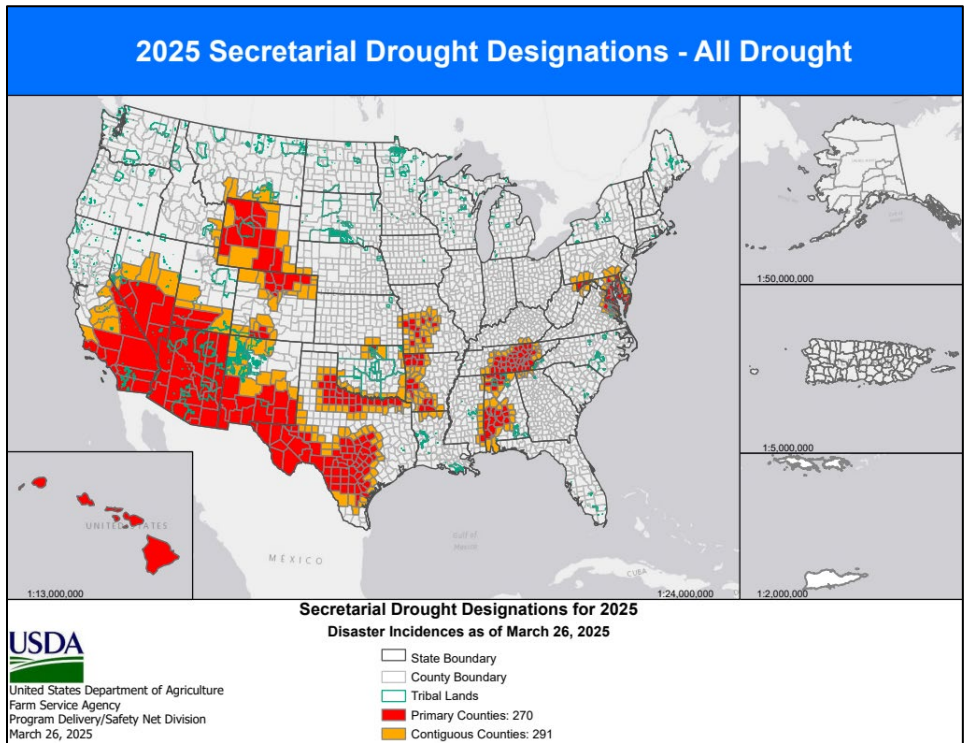
[Changes in drought conditions over the last 12 months for the contiguous U.S.](#)

Highlighted Drought Resources

- [Drought Impact Reporter](#)
- [Quarterly Regional Climate Impacts and Outlook](#)
- [U.S. Drought Portal Indicators and Monitoring](#)
- [U.S. Population in Drought, Weekly Comparison](#)
- [USDA Disaster and Drought Information](#)

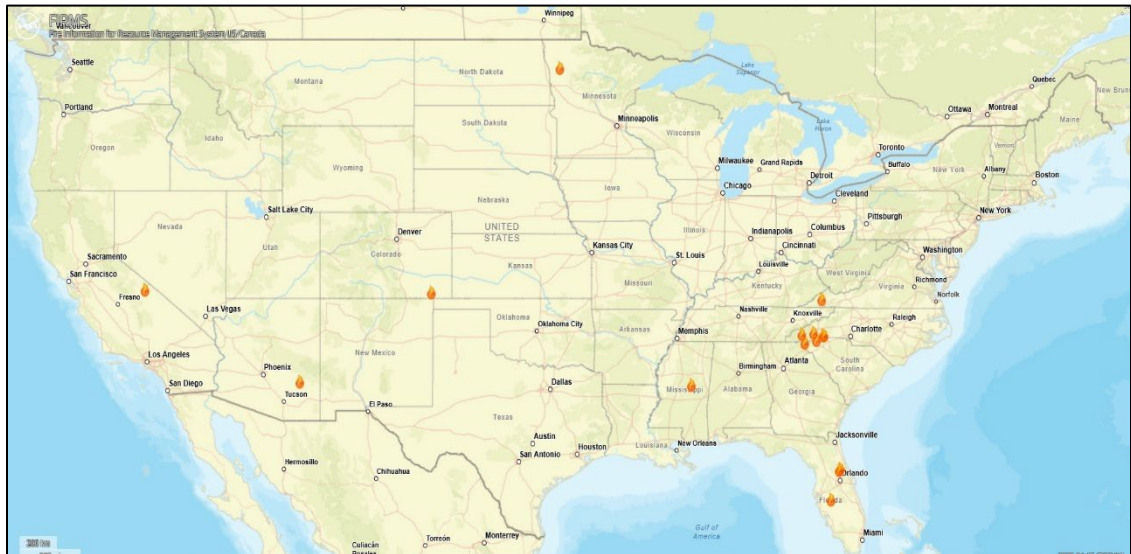
USDA Secretarial [Drought Designations](#)

Source: USDA Farm Service Agency



Wildfires: [Fire Information for Resource Management System US/Canada](#)

Source: NASA/USDA Forest Service



Current large wildland fires, as classified by the National Interagency Coordination Center

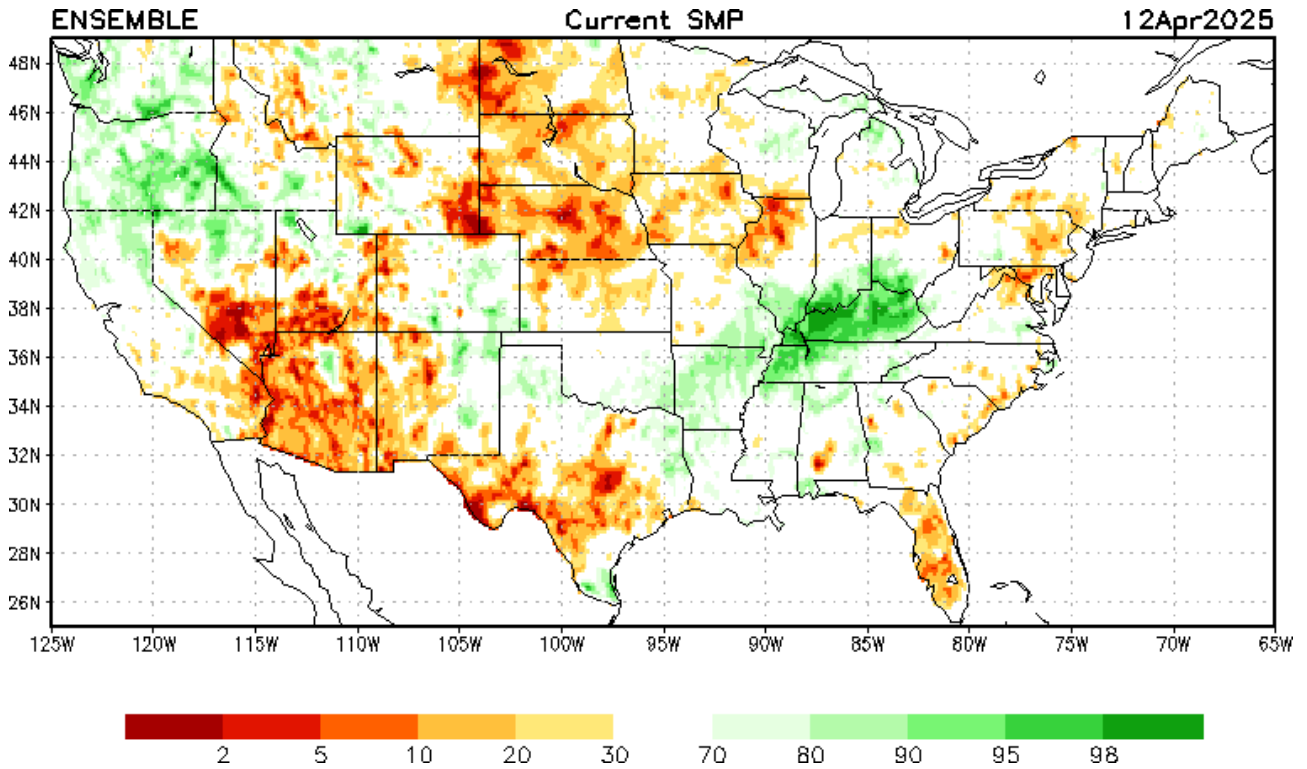
Highlighted Wildfire Resources

- [National Interagency Fire Center](#)
- [InciWeb Incident Information System](#)
- [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook](#)

Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators

Soil Moisture

Source: NOAA National Centers for Environmental Prediction

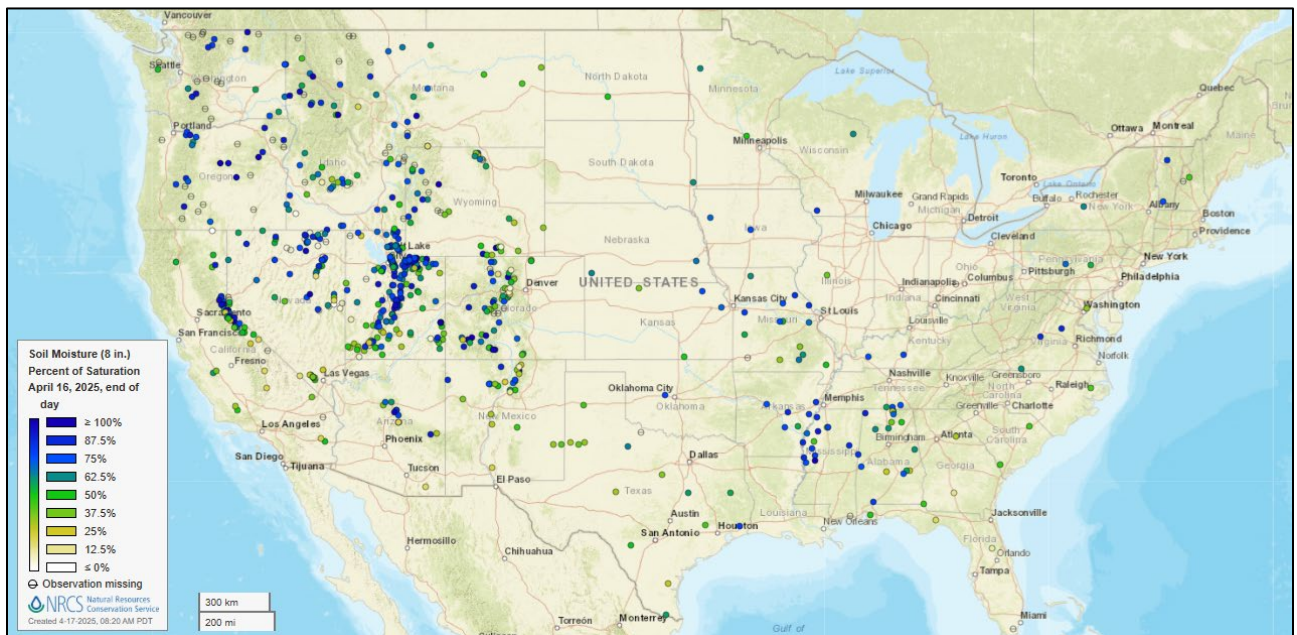


[Modeled soil moisture percentiles](#) as of April 12, 2025

Soil Moisture Percent of Saturation

Source: NRCS SNOTEL and [Soil Climate Analysis Network](#) (SCAN)

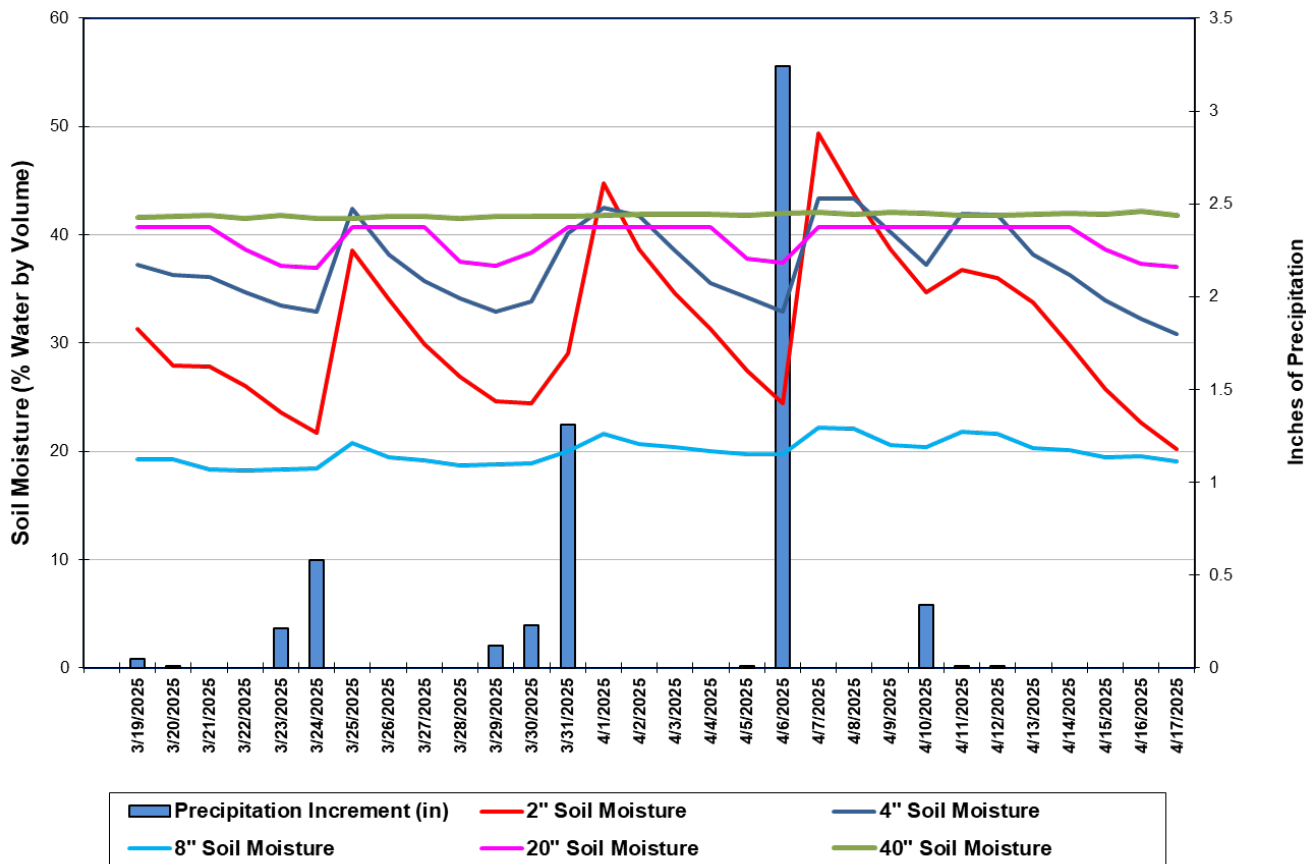
[U.S. soil moisture map at 8-inch depth:](#)



Soil Moisture

Source: NRCS [Soil Climate Analysis Network](#) (SCAN)

Stanley Farm, Alabama (SCAN site 2056)
Daily Mean Soil Moisture vs. Daily Precipitation



This chart shows the precipitation and soil moisture for the last 30 days at the [Stanley Farm](#) SCAN site in Alabama. Soil sensors at all depths except the -40-inch sensor recorded increases in soil moisture after three different storm events deposited 5.7 inches of precipitation at the site between March 23 and April 6. Total precipitation for the 30-day period was 6.12 inches.

Soil Moisture Data Portals

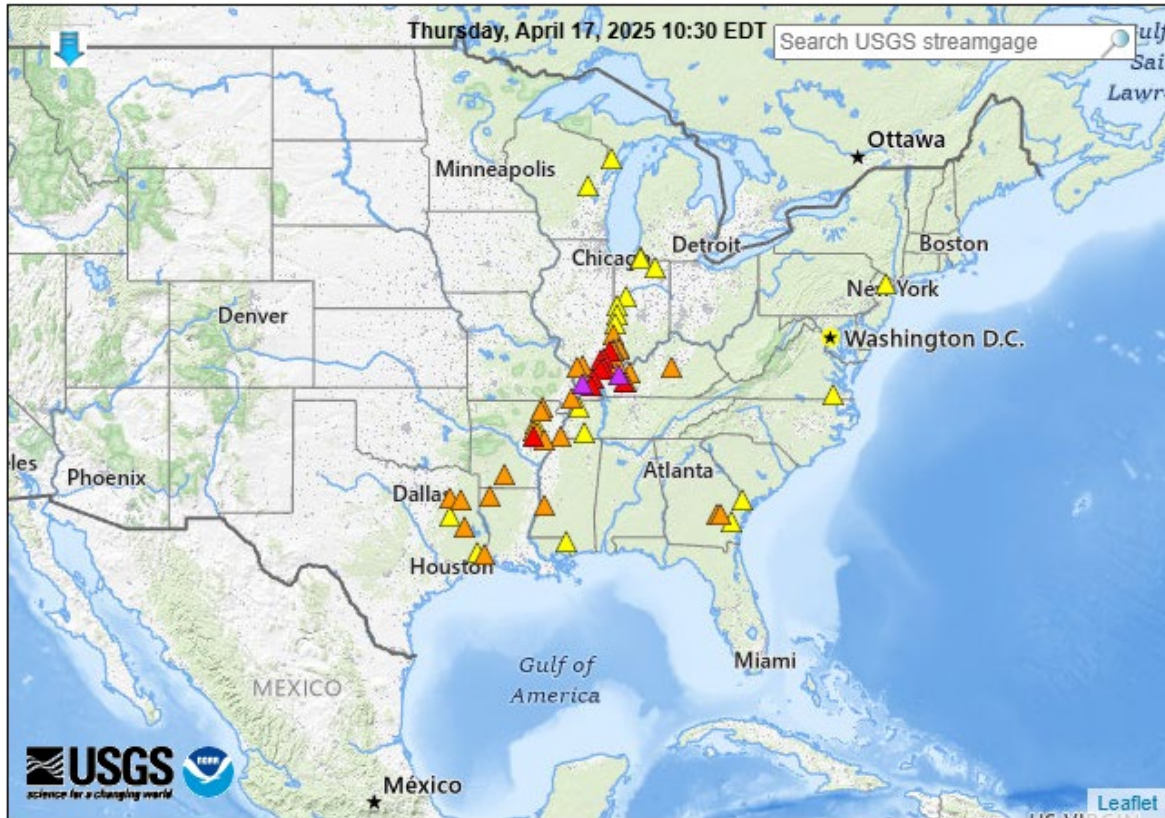
- [USCRN Soil Moisture](#)
- [National Soil Moisture Network](#)
- [NOAA Climate Prediction Center Soil Moisture](#)
- [NASA Grace](#)

Streamflow, Drought, Flood, and Runoff

Source: U.S. Geological Survey [WaterWatch Streamflow Map](#)

Map of flood and high flow conditions

(39 in floods [major: 2, moderate: 9, minor: 28], 19 in near-flood)



Explanation - Percentile classes						
<95	95-98	>= 99	Above action stage	Above flood stage	Above moderate flood stage	Above major flood stage
△ Streamgage with flood stage			○ Streamgage without flood stage			

[WaterWatch: Streamflow, drought, flood, and runoff conditions](#)

Reservoir Storage

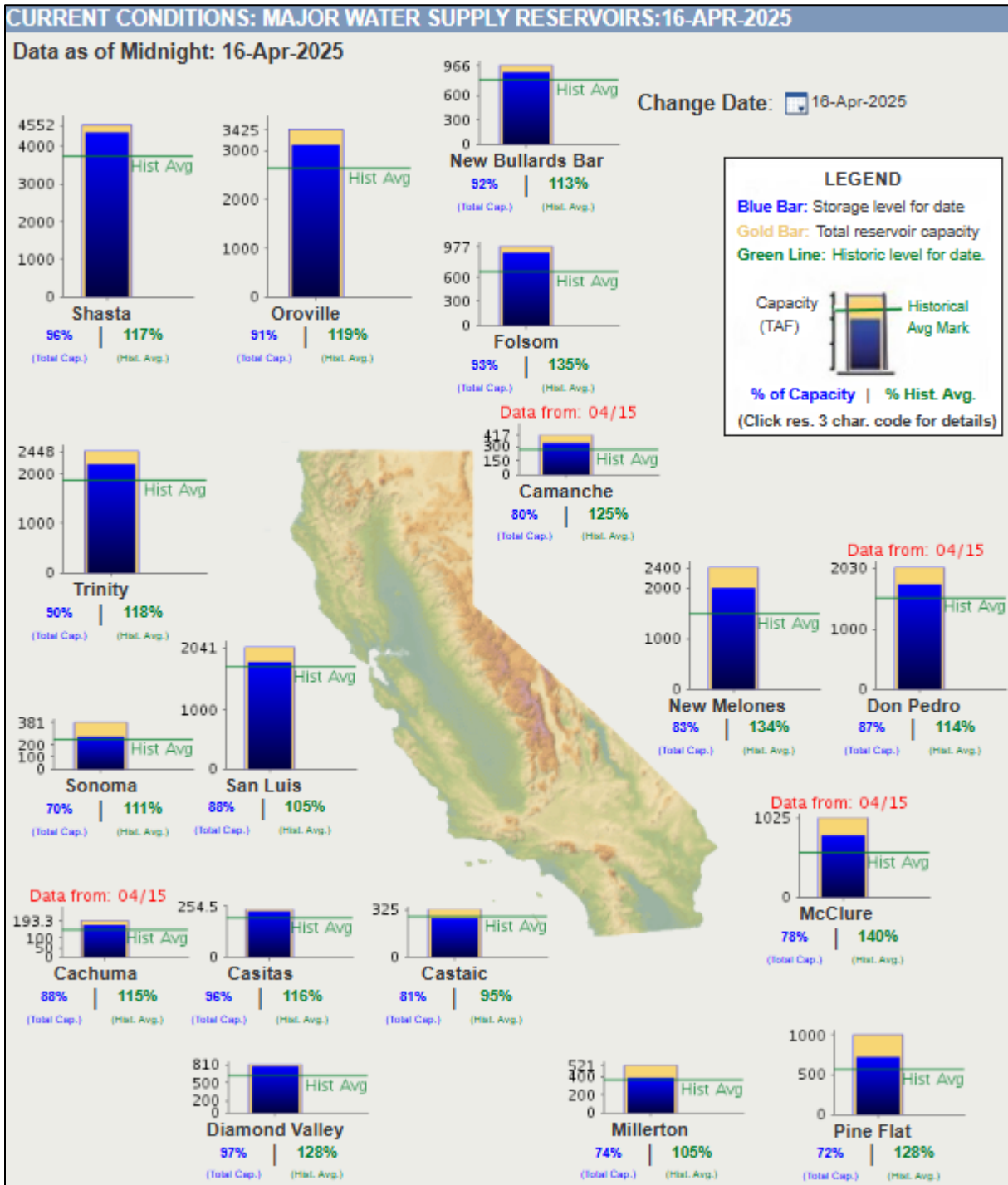
Hydromet Teacup Reservoir Depictions

Source: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

- [Upper Colorado](#)
- [Pacific Northwest/Snake/Columbia](#)
- [Sevier River Water, Utah](#)
- [Upper Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas](#)

Current California Reservoir Conditions

Source: California Department of Water Resources



[Current California Reservoir Conditions](#)

Agricultural Weather Highlights

Author: Brad Rippey, Agricultural Meteorologist, USDA/OCE/WAOB

National Outlook, Thursday April 17, 2025: “A low-pressure system emerging from the central Rockies will reach the Great Lakes region early Friday and traverse eastern Canada during the weekend. However, active weather will continue for several days along the storm’s trailing cold front, as a new low-pressure system forms by Sunday over Texas and drifts northeastward. Consequently, 5-day rainfall totals should reach 2 to 4 inches or more from the southeastern Plains into the lower Midwest. Still-soggy areas of the mid-South and lower Midwest could experience further setbacks in resuming fieldwork. Locally severe thunderstorms will accompany the rain, while windy, mostly dry weather will maintain an elevated wildfire threat in parts of the Southwest and adjacent High Plains. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for April 22 – 26 calls for near- or above-normal temperatures nationwide, with the Southeast having the greatest likelihood of experiencing unusual warmth. Meanwhile, near- or above-normal precipitation across most of the country should contrast with drier-than-normal weather in the Pacific Northwest.”

Weather Hazards Outlook: [April 19 – 23, 2025](#)

Source: NOAA Weather Prediction Center















U.S. Day 3-7 Hazards Outlook

About the Hazards Outlook

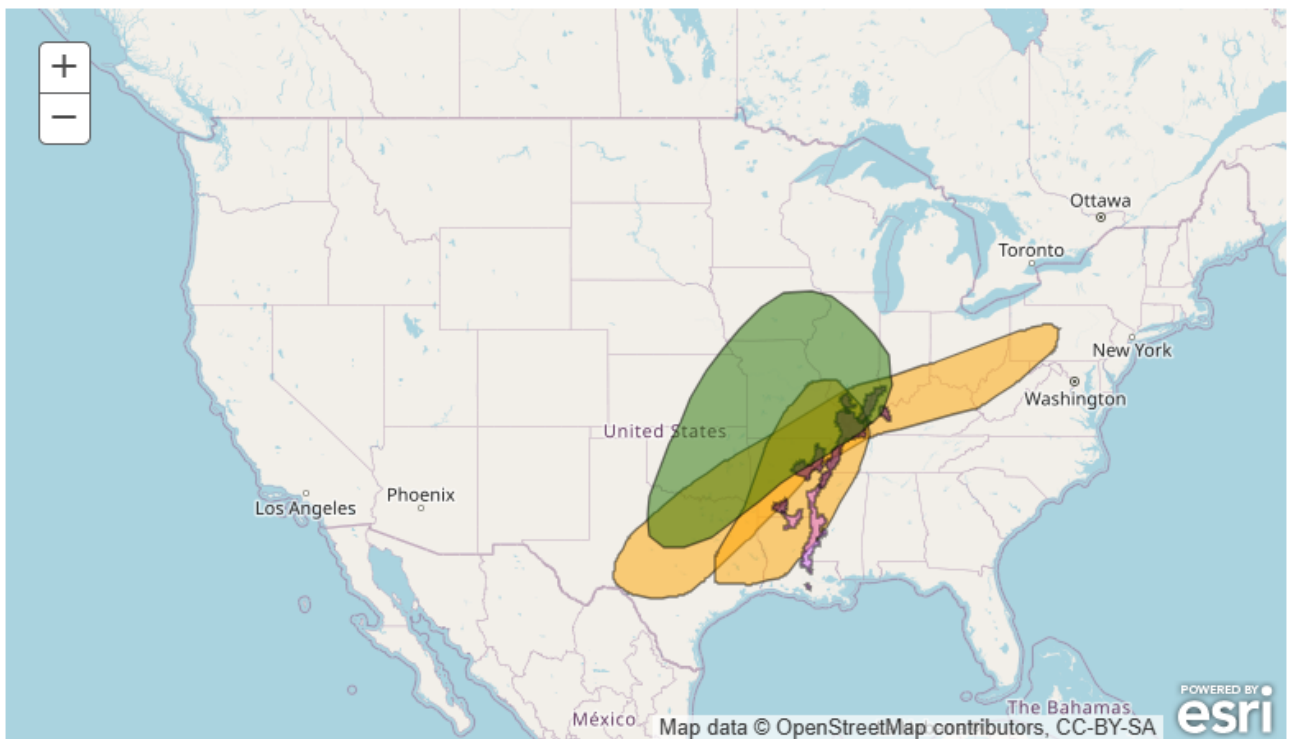
Created April 16, 2025

NOTE: These products are only created Monday through Friday. Please exercise caution using this outlook during the weekend.

Precipitation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Temperature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wildfires	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Soils	<input type="checkbox"/>

Legend			
	Flooding Likely		Hazardous Heat
	Flooding Occurring or Imminent		Hazardous Cold
	Flooding Possible		Frost/Freeze
	Freezing Rain		High Winds
	Heavy Precipitation		Significant Waves
	Heavy Rain		Critical Wildfire Risk
	Heavy Snow		Severe Weather

Valid April 19, 2025 - April 23, 2025

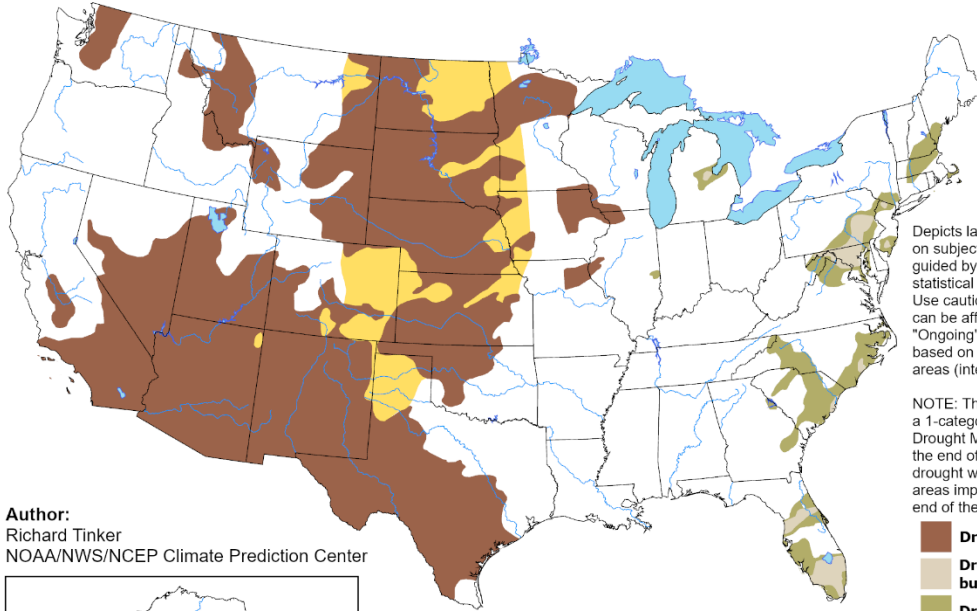


Seasonal Drought Outlook: [April 17 – July 31, 2025](#)

Source: National Weather Service

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook
Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for April 17 - July 31, 2025
Released April 17, 2025

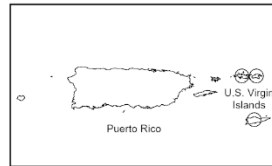
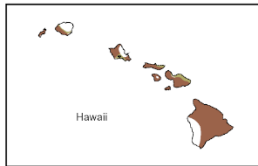


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

- Drought persists
- Drought remains, but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely
- No drought

Author:
Richard Tinker
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center



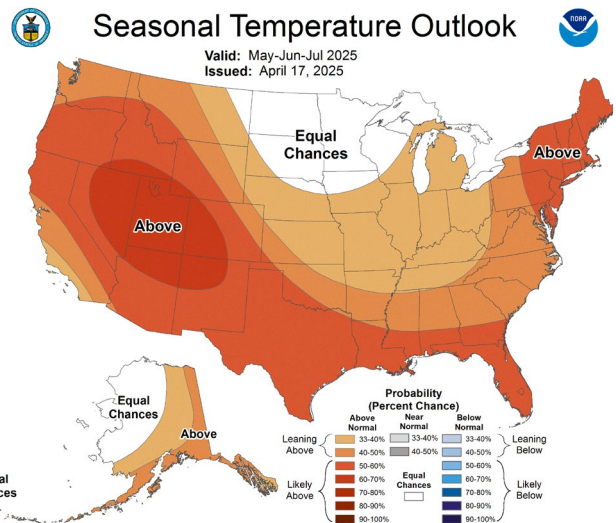
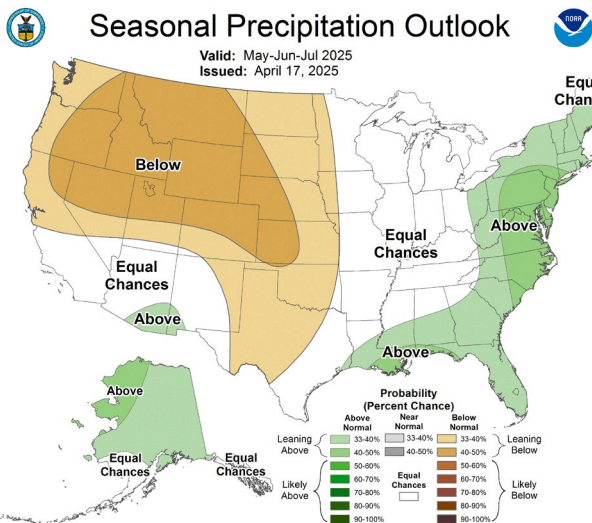
<https://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

Climate Prediction Center Three-month Outlook

Source: National Weather Service

Precipitation

Temperature



[May-June-July 2025 precipitation and temperature outlook summaries](#)

More Information

The NRCS [National Water and Climate Center](#) publishes this weekly report. We welcome your feedback. If you have questions or comments, please [contact us](#).