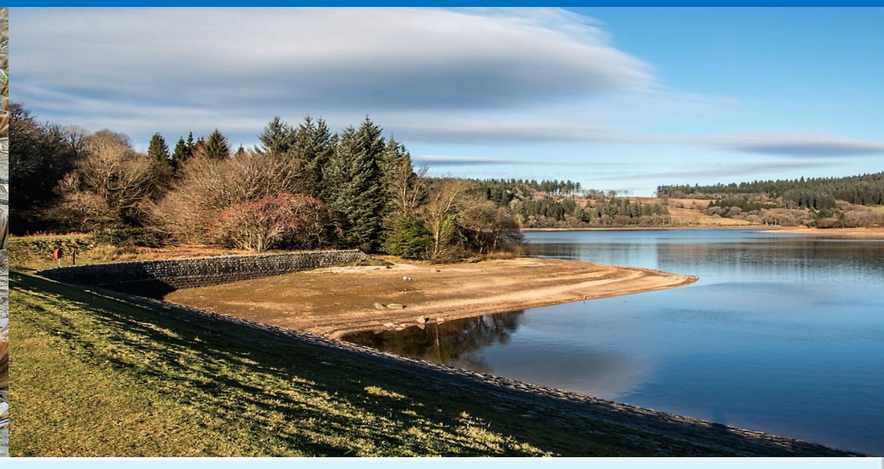
Drought Information Statement for the Missouri Ozarks

Valid October 9, 2025

Issued By: *WFO Springfield, MO*
Contact Information: *contact.sgf@noaa.gov*

- This product will be updated November 6, 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.





U.S. Drought Monitor

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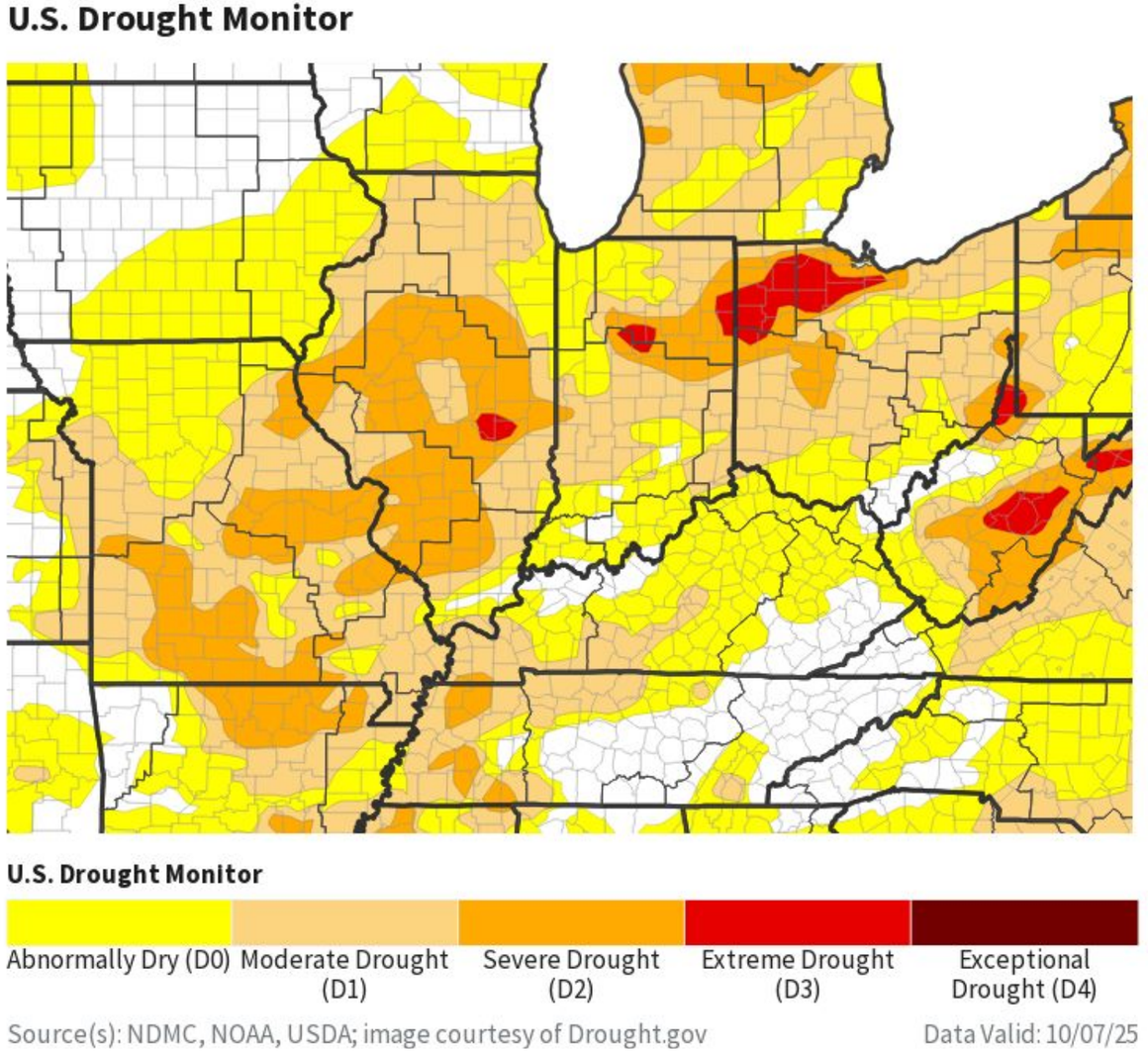
Link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor for Lower Midwest

- **Drought Continues Across the Ozarks Region**

- **Drought Intensity and Extent**
  - D2 (Severe Drought): St. Clair, southern Benton, eastern Cedar, far northeast Vernon, Hickory, Polk, western Dallas, far eastern Dade, eastern Lawrence, northeast Barry, Greene, Christian, northern Stone, Taney, Webster, Wright, Ozark, Douglas, southeast Laclede, western Texas, southern Howell, Oregon, southeast Shannon, Maries, Miller, northern Phelps Counties in Missouri
  - D1 (Moderate Drought): eastern Bourbon, eastern Crawford, and Cherokee Counties in Kansas. Vernon, Barton, Jasper, Newton, Morgan, Cedar, Dade, Lawrence, northern Barry, Dallas, portions of Benton, Camden, Laclede, northern Howell, Shannon, eastern Dent, Pulaski, and portions of Texas and Phelps Counties in Missouri.
  - D0: (Abnormally Dry): western Bourbon and western Crawford Counties in Kansas. All remaining portions of southern and central Missouri.



State Drought Monitor

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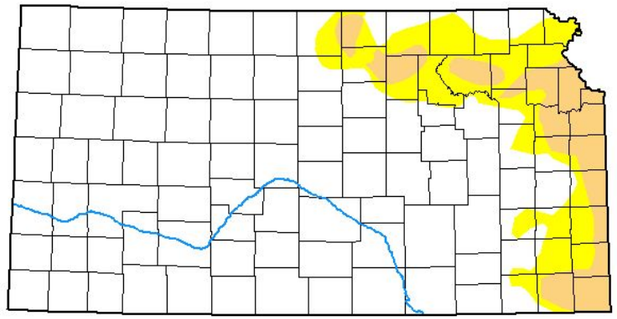
Link to Recent Change Maps

U.S. Drought Monitor
Kansas



October 7, 2025
(Released Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	81.37	18.63	7.82	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 09-30-2025	81.75	18.25	5.09	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 07-08-2025	67.59	32.41	7.76	1.48	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 10-01-2024	7.48	92.52	50.40	8.34	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 10-08-2024	5.87	94.13	56.74	11.44	0.59	0.00

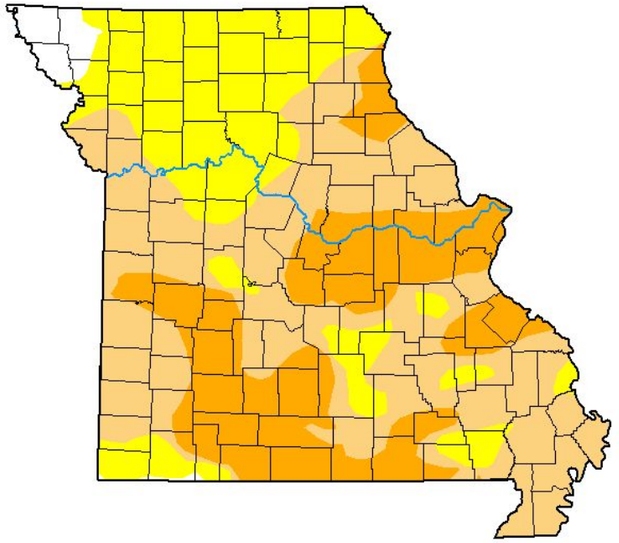
Intensity:
- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

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:
Curtis Riganti
National Drought Mitigation Center

droughtmonitor.unl.edu

U.S. Drought Monitor
Missouri



October 7, 2025
(Released Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	2.50	97.50	70.93	26.76	0.00	0.00
Last Week 09-30-2025	6.56	93.44	63.57	22.18	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 07-08-2025	90.22	9.78	0.91	0.00	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 10-01-2024	39.30	60.70	23.73	7.95	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 10-08-2024	29.24	70.76	29.43	14.64	3.41	0.00

Intensity:
- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
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Author:
Curtis Riganti
National Drought Mitigation Center

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Main Takeaways

- Drought has further expanded and worsened in southern and central Missouri.
- Drought conditions continue expanding westward into far eastern Kansas.

Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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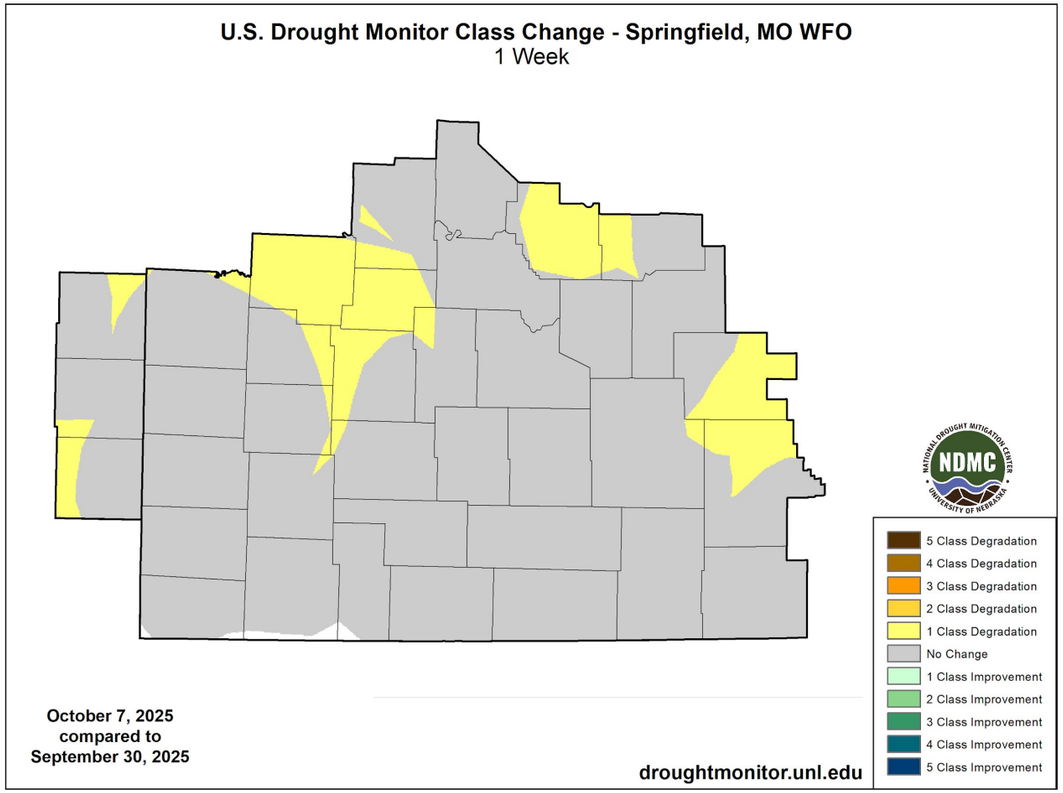
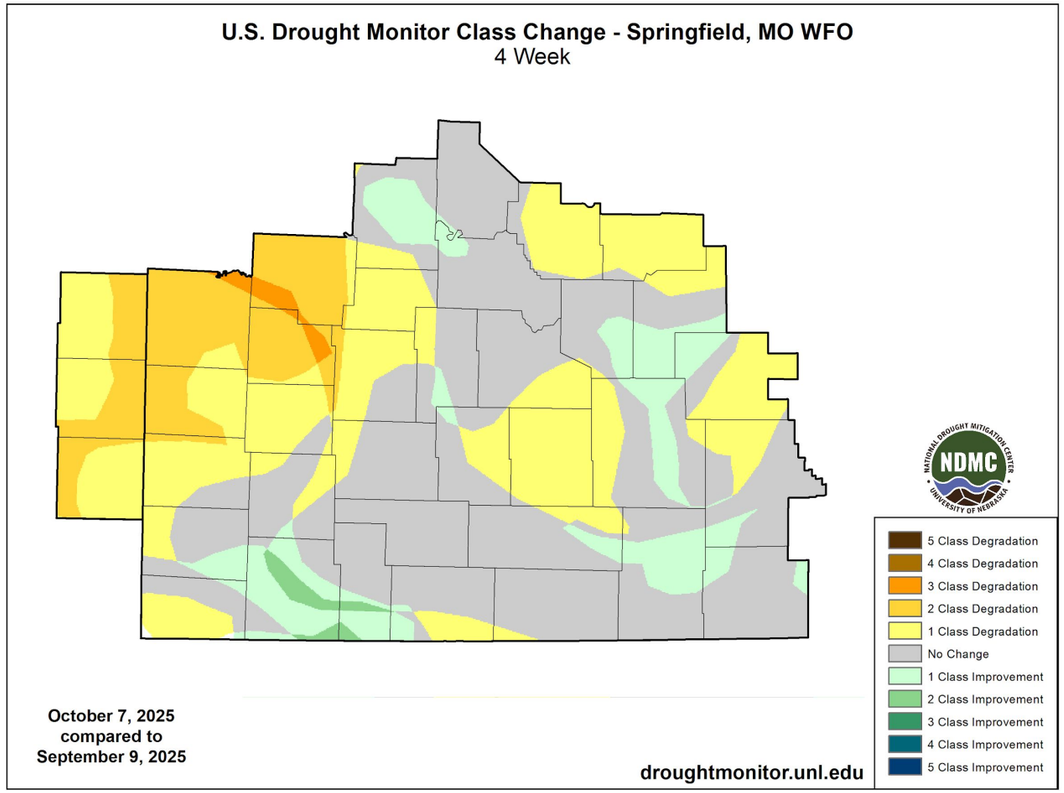
Link to Recent Change Maps





Main Takeaways

- We have already seen the flash drought and are now entering long-term drought conditions.
- West-central Missouri has seen the biggest increase in drought severity over the last 4 weeks.

Precipitation

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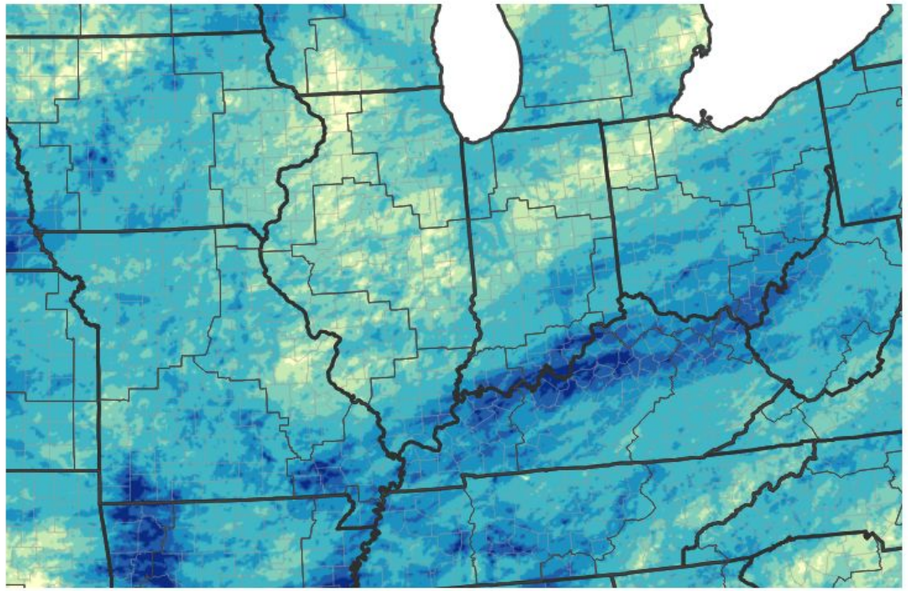
30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



Inches of Precipitation

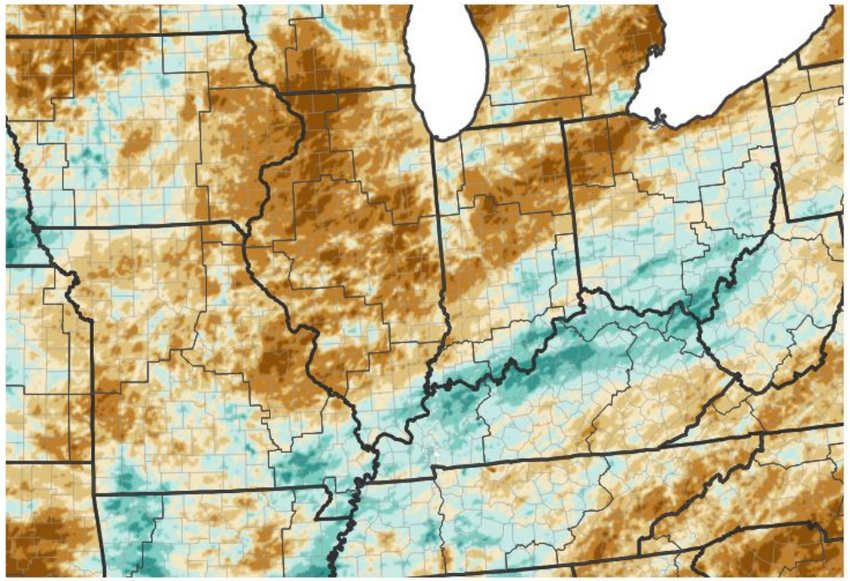
0 | 0.01 | 0.5 | 1 | 2

2 | 4 | 6 | 8

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

Last Updated: 10/09/25

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions

0% | 25% | 50% | 75% | 100%

100% | 150% | 200% | 300%

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

Last Updated: 10/09/25

Main Takeaways

- Precipitation has been generally below normal across southern Missouri and southeast Kansas over the last 30 days.
- A portion of far southwest Missouri saw above-normal precipitation within the last 30 days.

Departure from Normal Temp - Last 14 Days

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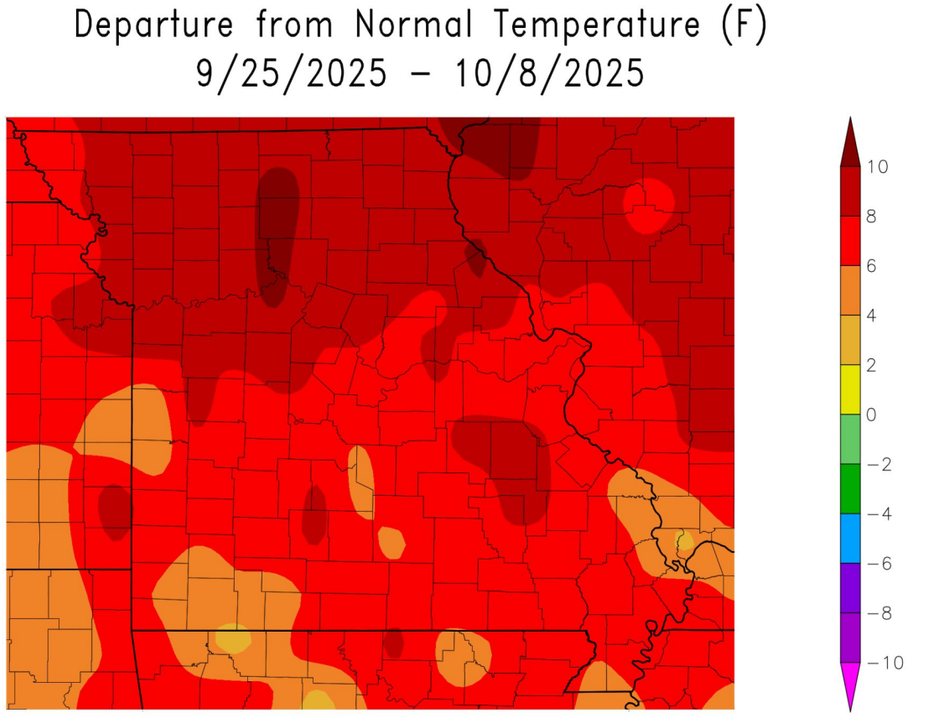
Link to [HPRCC Climate Maps]



Main Takeaways

- Temperatures have been 4-10 degrees above normal for the last two weeks.
- Paired with below normal precipitation amounts, dry temperatures have been a contributing factor to drought development.

Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- A number of locations are seeing below normal streamflows, with reports of small creeks, streams, and ponds nearly dried up.

Agricultural Impacts

- 20 Condition Monitoring Observer Reports (CMORs) from the last 7 days indicate severely dry conditions.
  - Supplementing feed and feeding hay early (some for 60+ days already) 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 “going into winter this low [on water and feed] is going to be a major issue”

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Increased risk of fires and potential early onset of fall 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

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- Many farmers and ranchers continued to haul water for livestock, supplement feed and cull herds.
- The Missouri Department of Agriculture has an AgriStress Helpline at 833-897-2474.
- The University of Missouri Extension Office has set up a Psychological Service Clinic to aid farmers and ranchers.
- More information is available at muext.us/PSCFarmRanch.

Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

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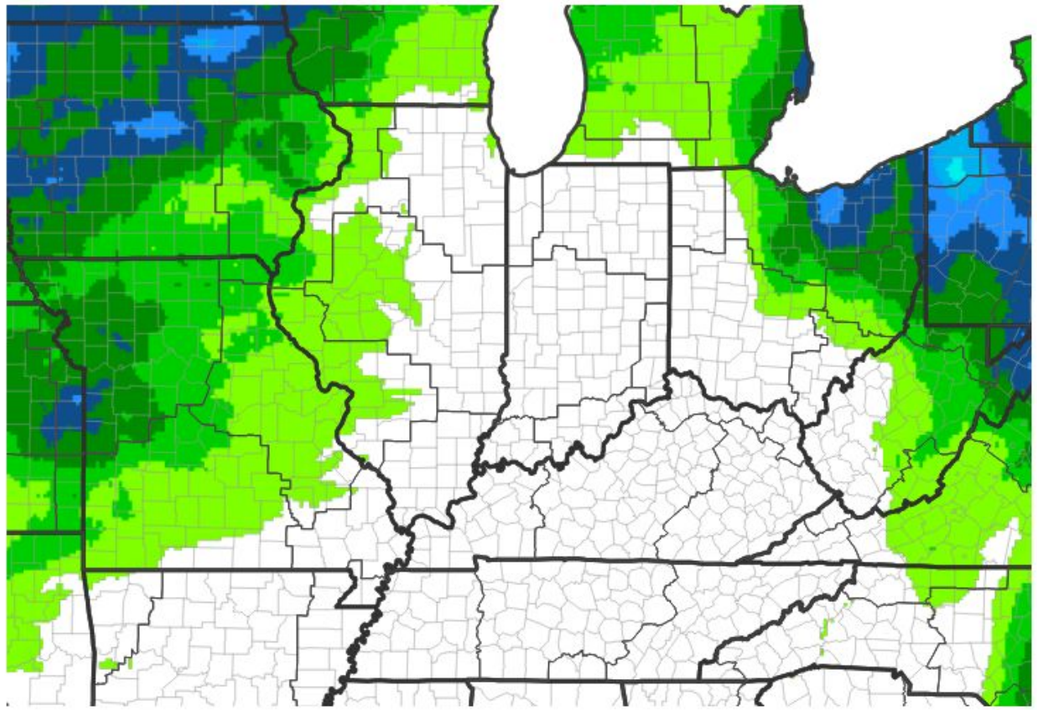
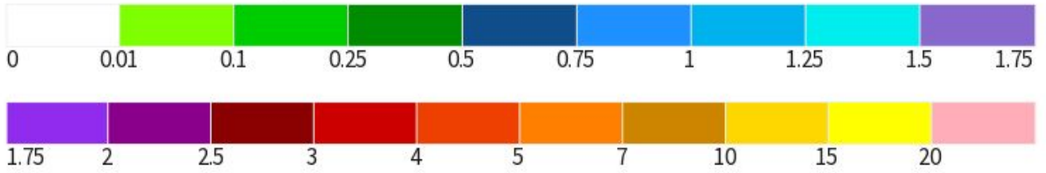
Main Takeaway

- Best chances for measurable rainfall through Thursday, October 16 will be on Friday, October 10th.
- Even these rain chances (20-40%) will be localized and marginal at best, with highest total accumulations remaining below 0.5” and most areas staying completely dry.
- Rain will be hard to come by in the near future.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for October 9, 2025–October 16, 2025



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 10/09/25

8 to 14 Day Outlooks

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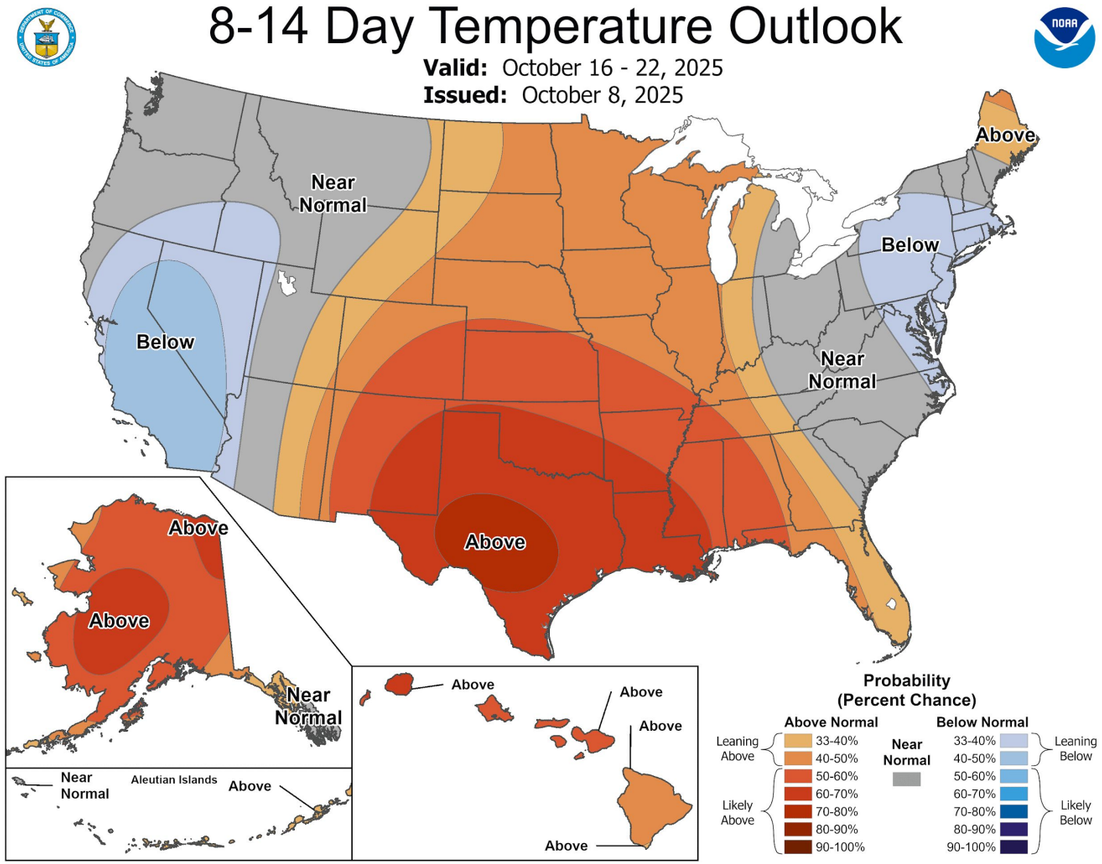
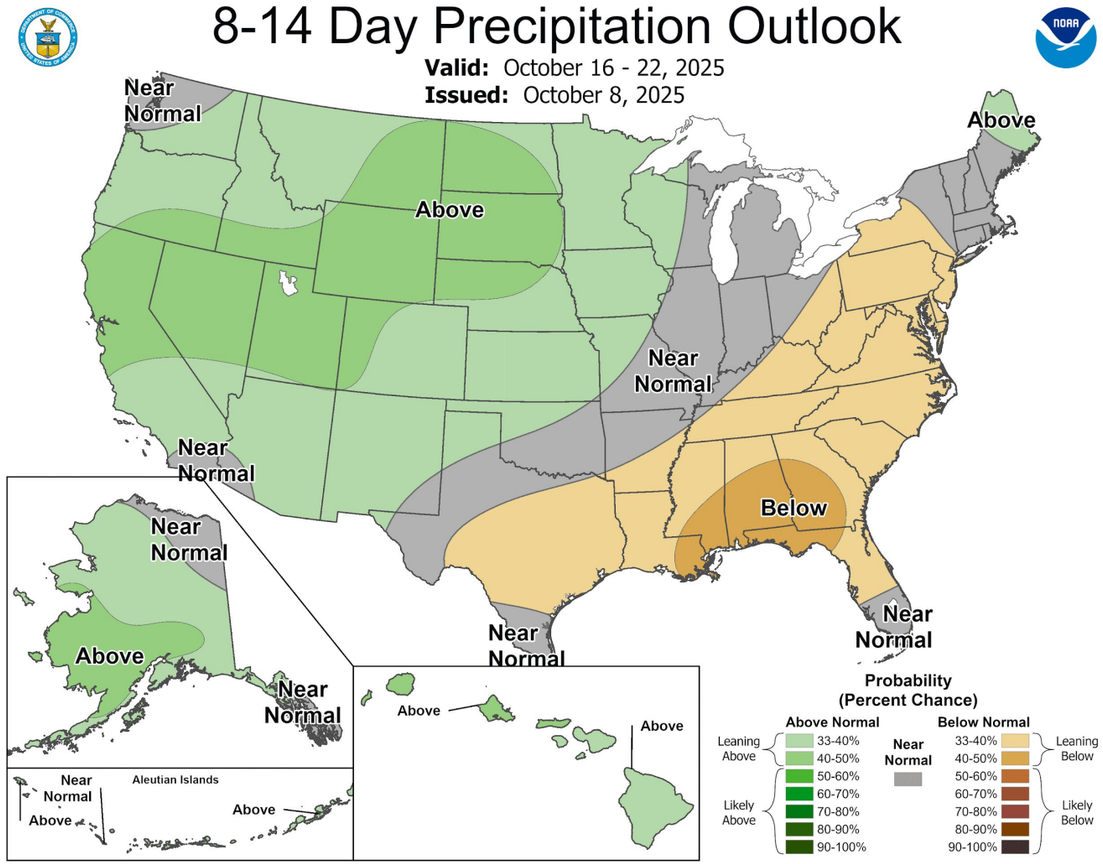
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage





Main Takeaways

- Above normal temperatures and near normal precipitation are favored.

Monthly Outlooks

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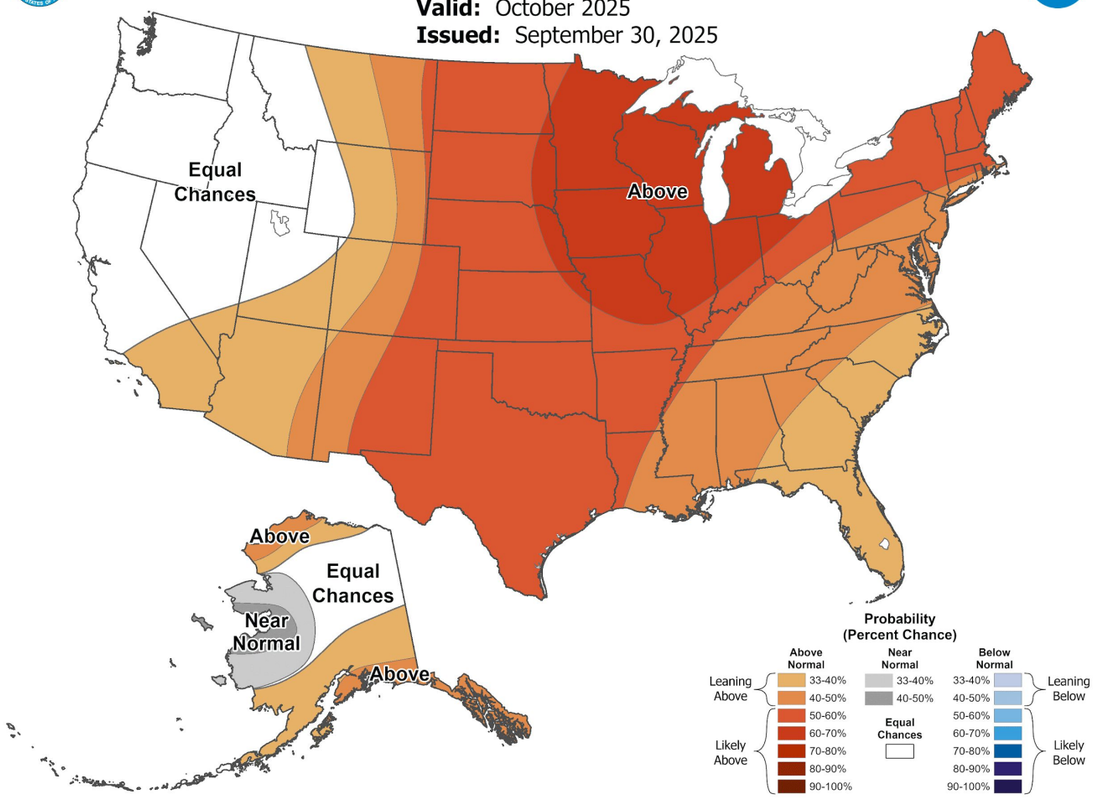
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

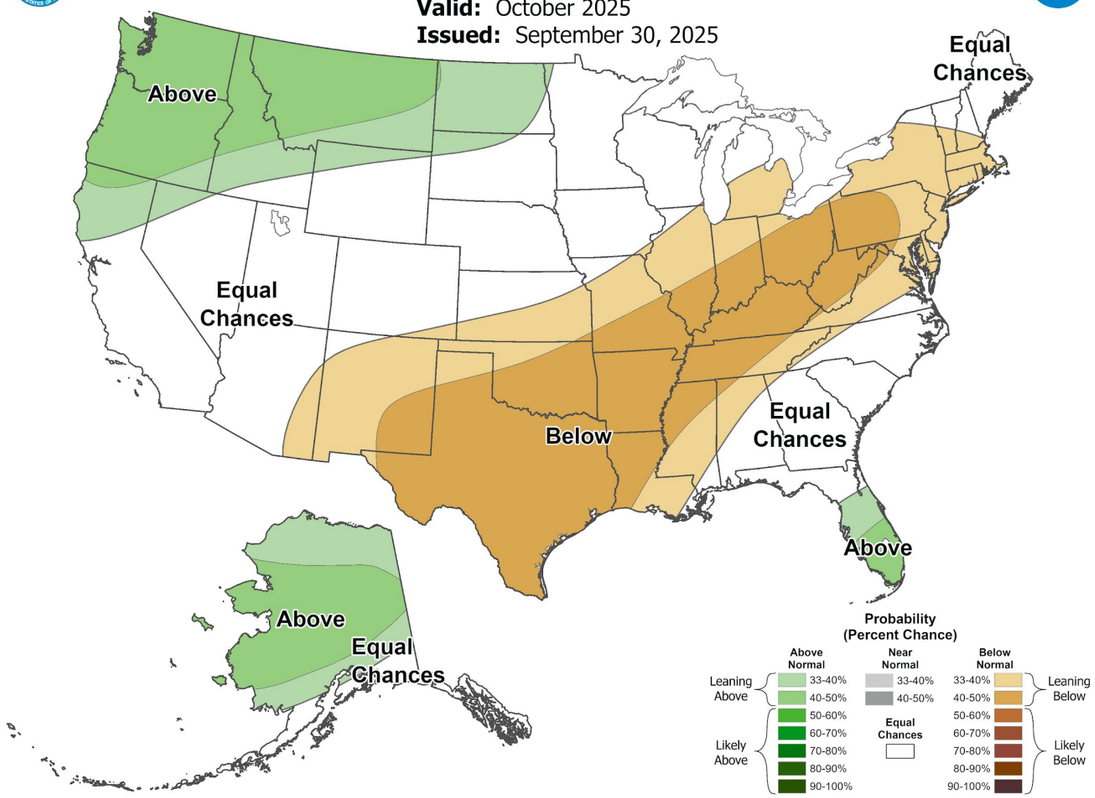
Monthly Temperature Outlook

Valid: October 2025
Issued: September 30, 2025



Monthly Precipitation Outlook

Valid: October 2025
Issued: September 30, 2025



Main Takeaways

- Leaning towards above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation.

Seasonal Outlooks

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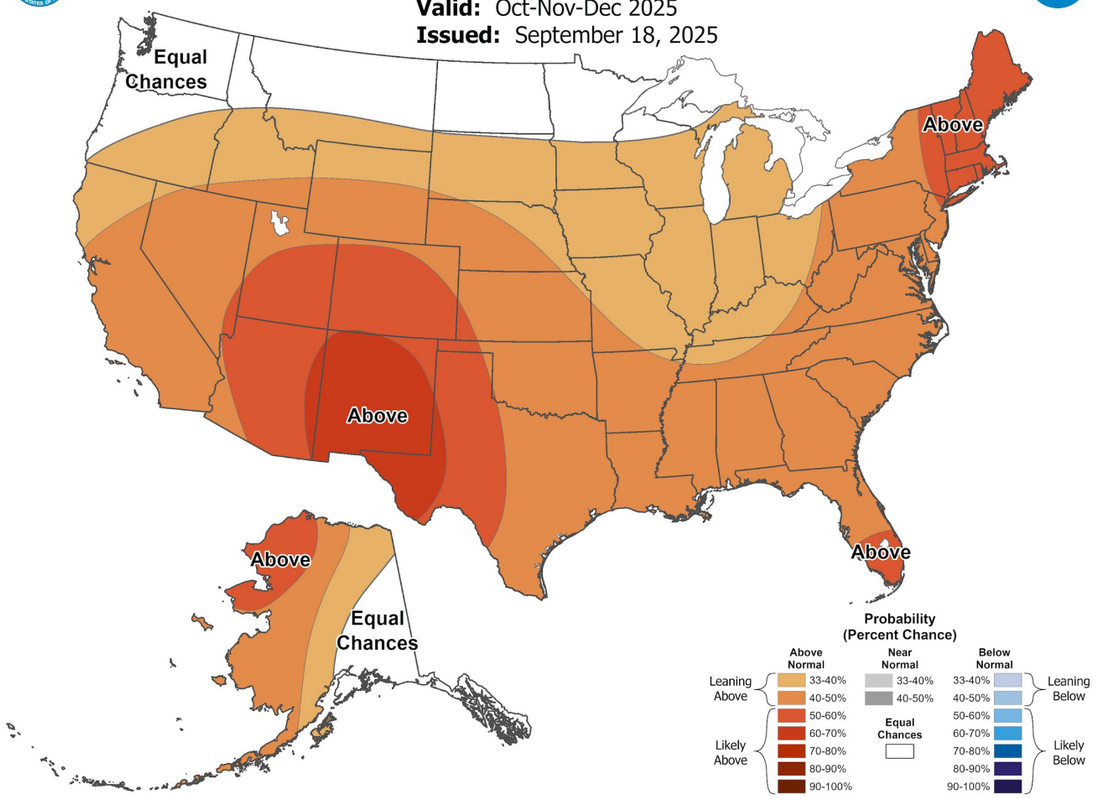
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

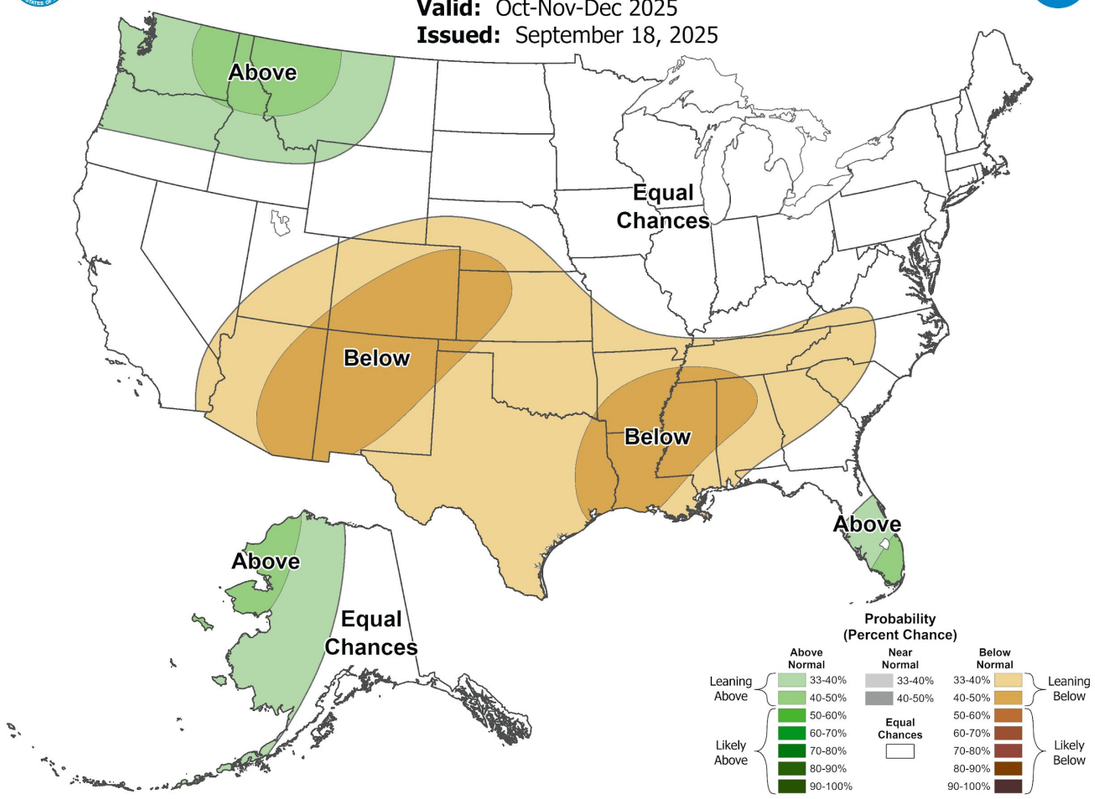
Seasonal Temperature Outlook

Valid: Oct-Nov-Dec 2025
Issued: September 18, 2025



Seasonal Precipitation Outlook

Valid: Oct-Nov-Dec 2025
Issued: September 18, 2025



Main Takeaways

- Leaning above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation.

Drought Outlook

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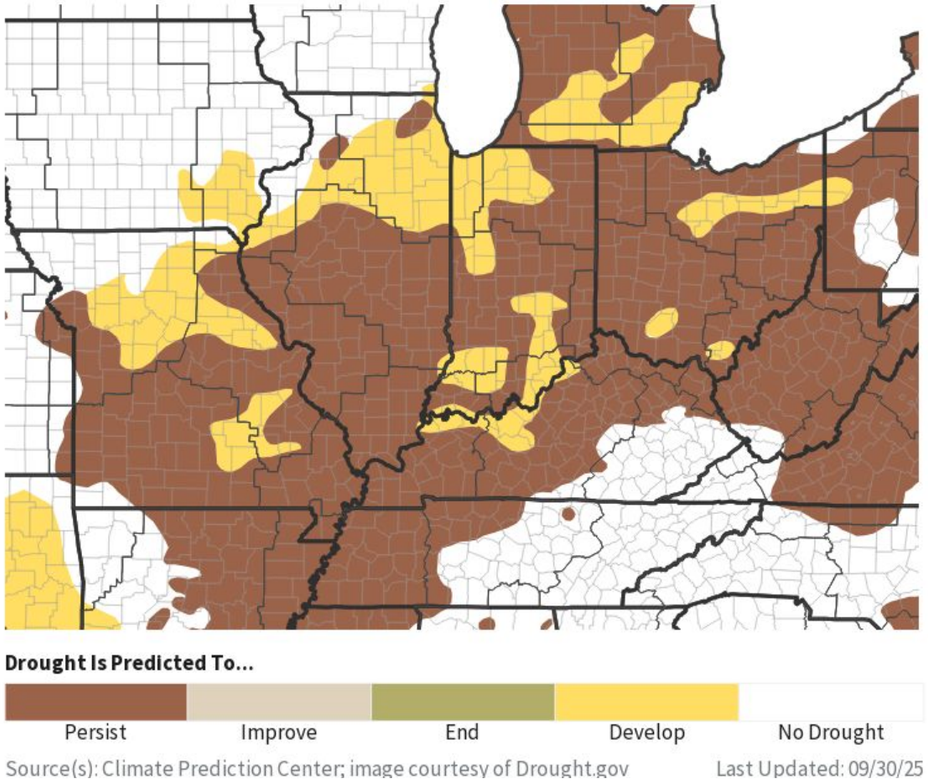
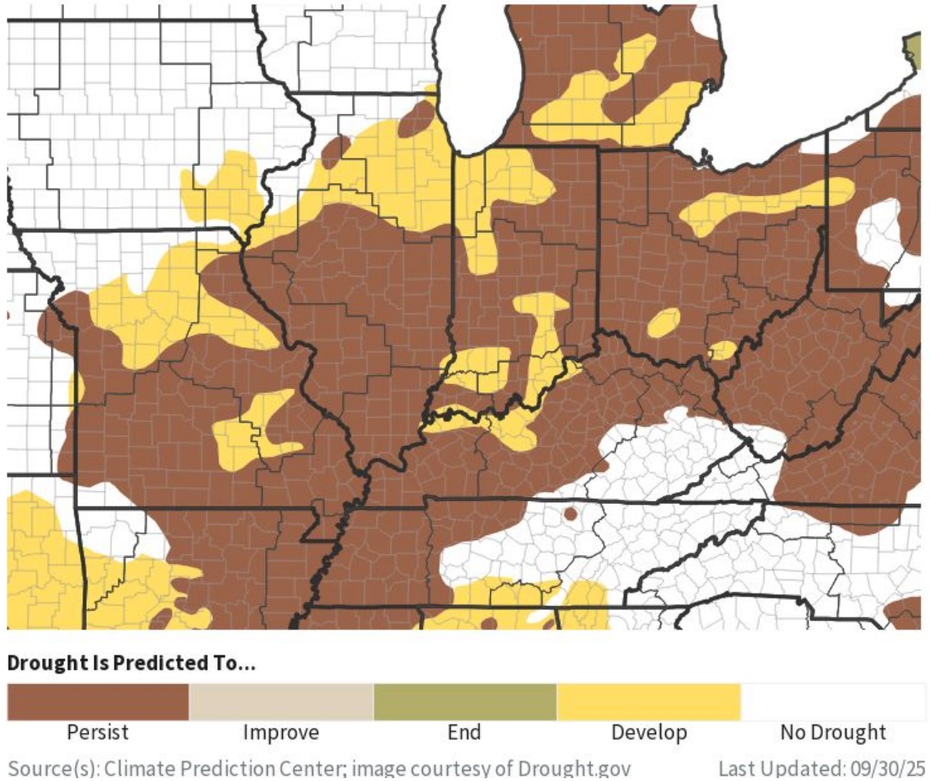
[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#) | [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

1-Month Drought Outlook for November 1, 2025–November 30, 2025



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov
Last Updated: 09/30/25

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for October 9, 2025–January 31, 2026



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov
Last Updated: 09/30/25

Main Takeaways

- Drought persists and further develops from November through the end of January.

Additional Drought Resources

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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