



# Drought Information Statement for the Missouri Ozarks

Valid March 12, 2026

Issued By: *WFO Springfield, MO*

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

- This product will be updated by April 9, 2026 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.

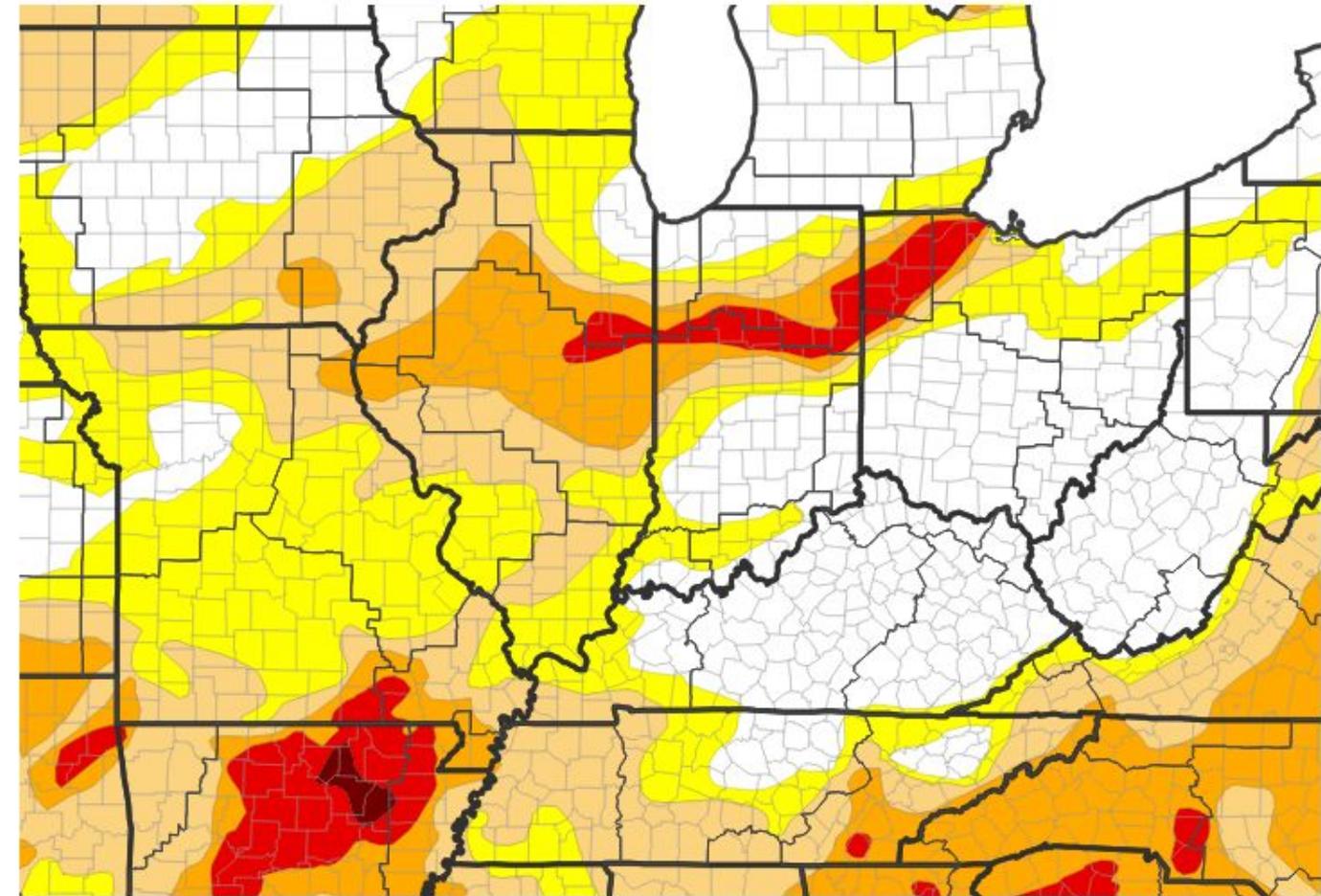




Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Lower Midwest

- **Drought Improves Across the Ozarks Region**
- **Drought Intensity and Extent**
  - D3 (Extreme Drought): Limited across extreme south-central and southeast Missouri.
  - D2 (Severe Drought): Limited across southern and extreme northeast Missouri and southeast Kansas.
  - D1 (Moderate Drought): Across most of southern and northern Missouri.
  - D0: (Abnormally Dry): Persists across much of the state.

U.S. Drought Monitor



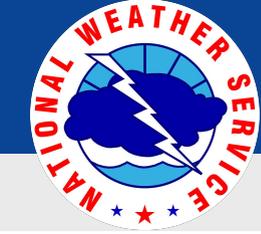
U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 03/10/26



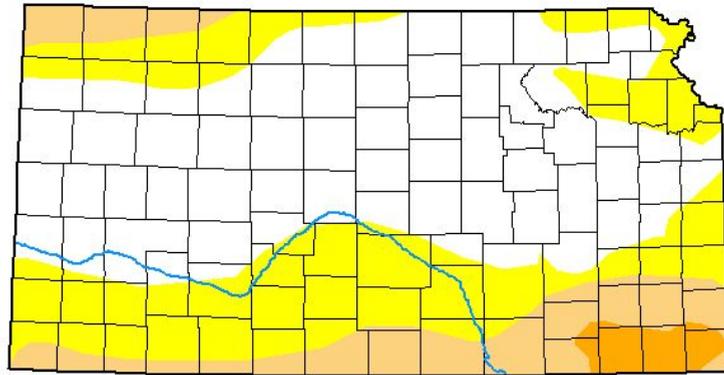


# State Drought Monitor

March 13, 2026  
10:21 AM

Link to [Recent Change Maps](#)

## U.S. Drought Monitor Kansas



March 10, 2026  
(Released Thursday, Mar. 12, 2026)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	53.76	46.24	15.48	2.50	0.00	0.00
Last Week 03-03-2026	52.59	47.41	15.48	2.65	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 12-09-2025	72.64	27.36	5.40	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-06-2026	68.26	31.74	13.65	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 03-11-2025	13.47	86.53	28.24	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>

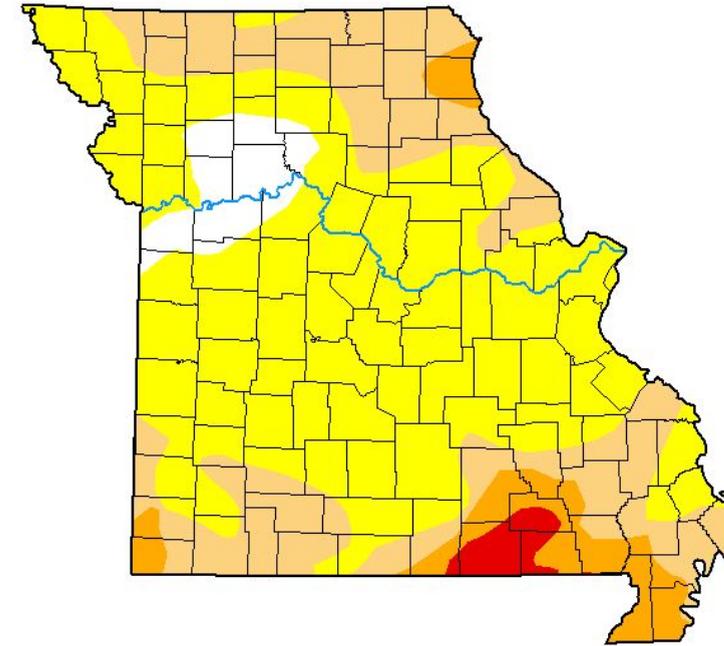
Author:

Brad Pugh  
CPC/NOAA



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

## U.S. Drought Monitor Missouri



March 10, 2026  
(Released Thursday, Mar. 12, 2026)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	5.41	94.59	34.88	8.52	1.81	0.00
Last Week 03-03-2026	2.88	97.12	59.22	20.00	2.52	0.00
3 Months Ago 12-09-2025	20.17	79.83	30.49	4.58	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-06-2026	4.72	95.28	57.54	11.61	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 03-11-2025	56.84	43.16	10.96	0.95	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>

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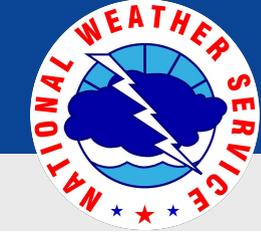
### Main Takeaways

- Drought conditions have improved by at least one category across much of Missouri due to moderate to locally heavy rainfall since March 1st.
- D3 drought persists only across extreme south-central Missouri where locations have received less rainfall.



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

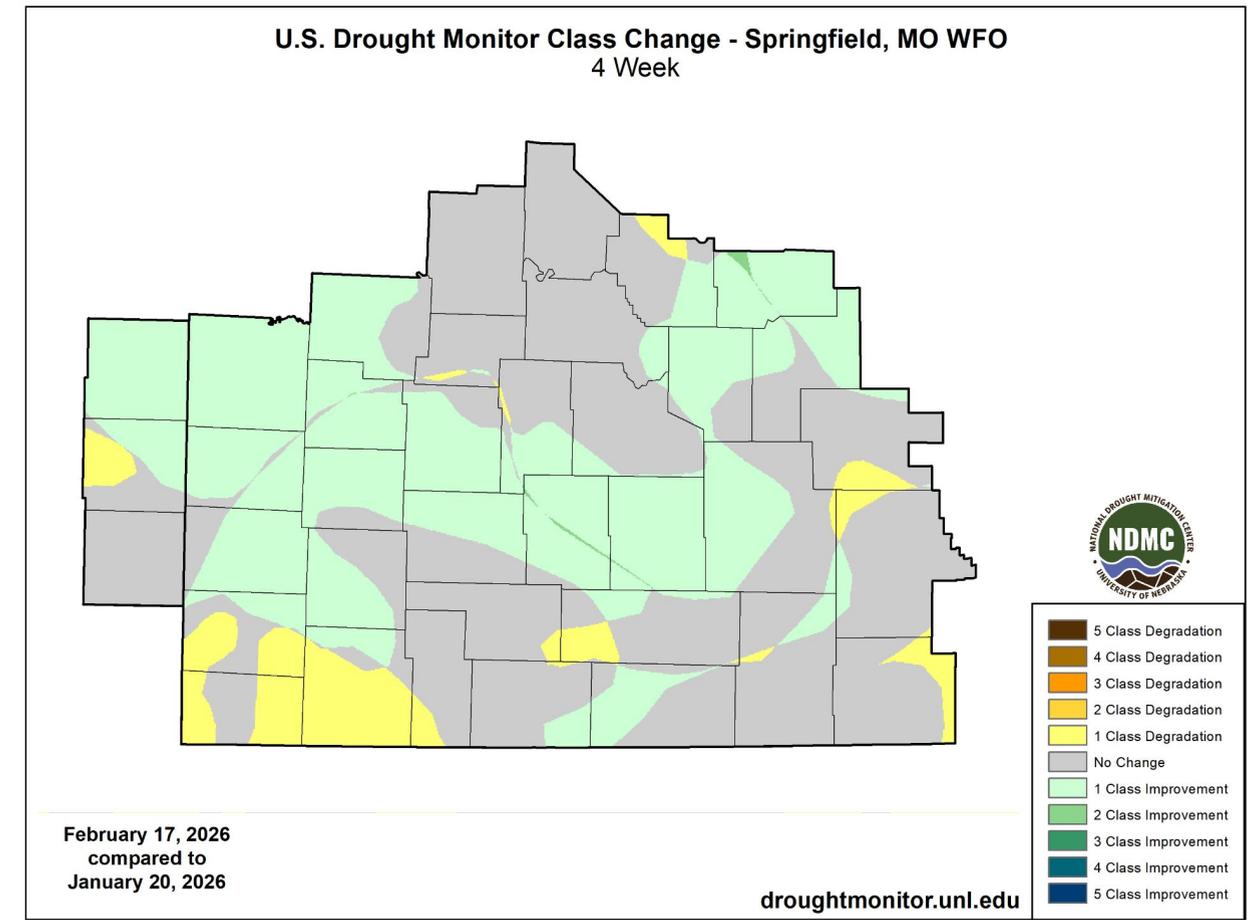
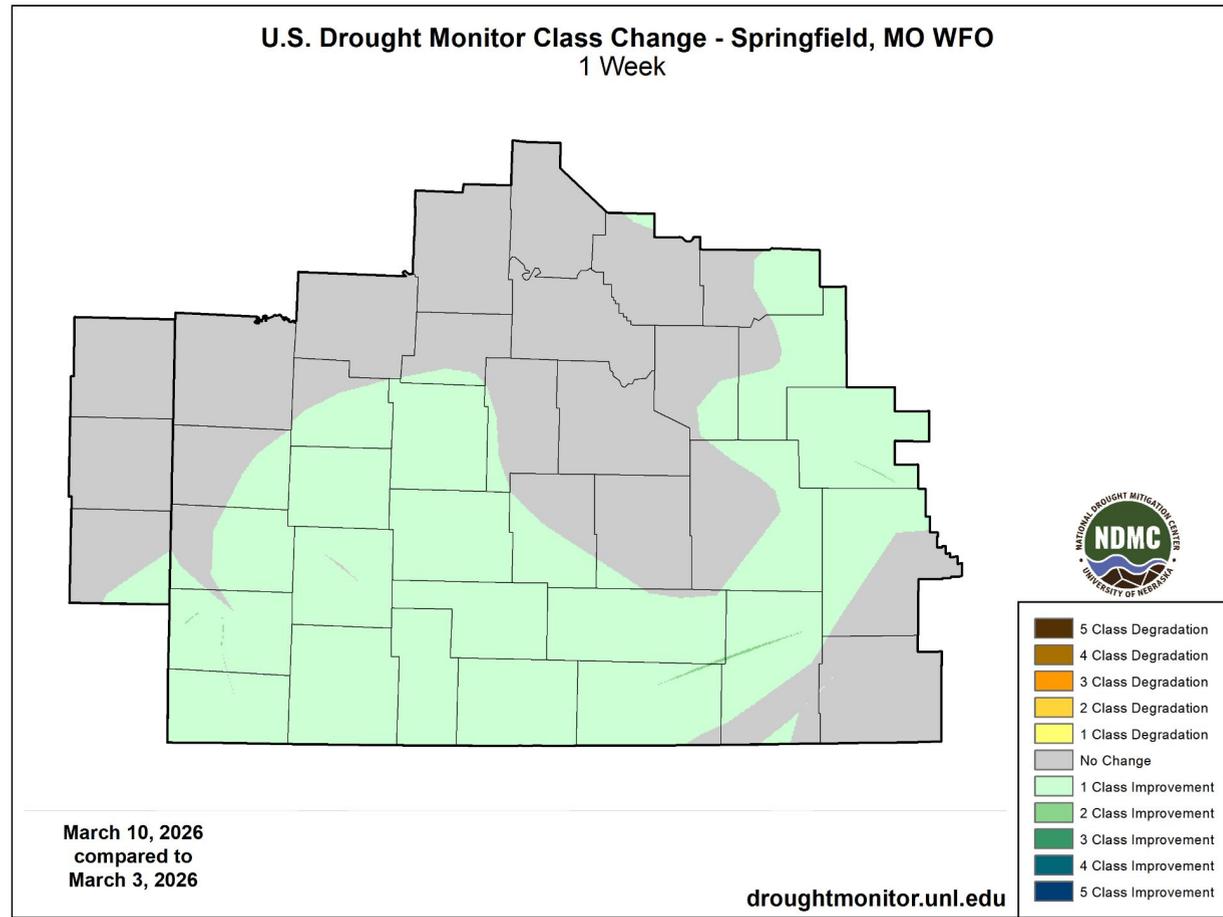
National Weather Service  
Springfield, MO



# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

March 13, 2026  
10:21 AM

[Link to Recent Change Maps](#)



## Main Takeaways

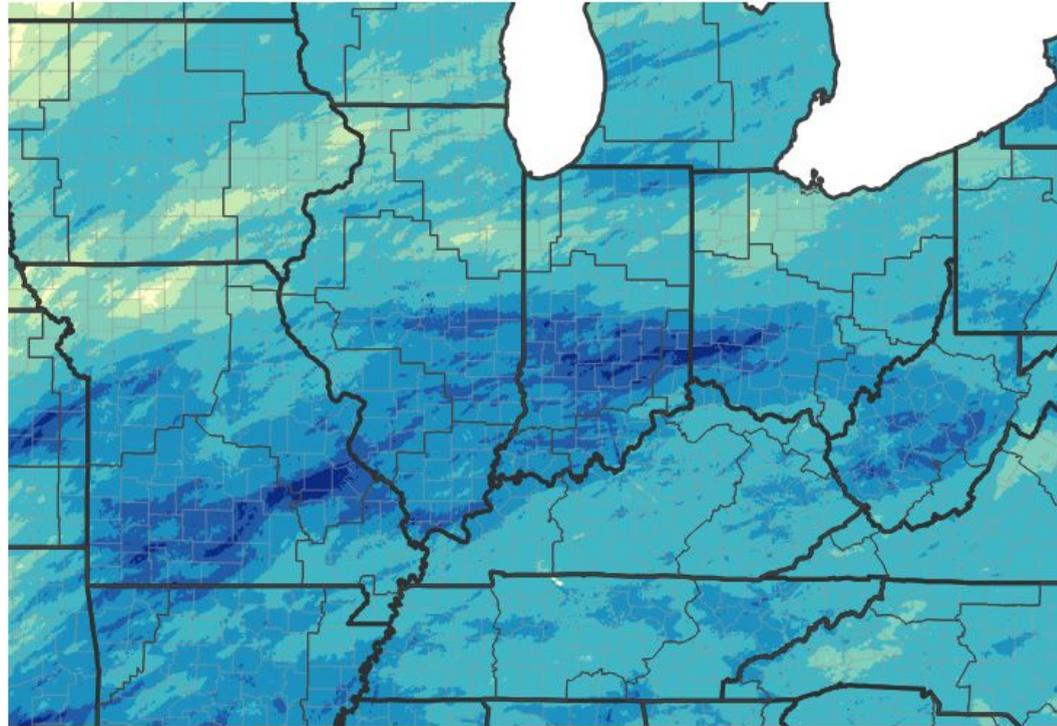
- Drought conditions have improved by at least 1 category over the last 1 to 4 weeks due to several rounds of widespread rainfall.



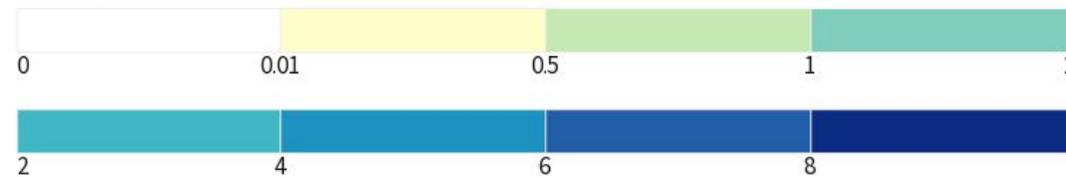
# Precipitation

March 13, 2026  
10:21 AM

### 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

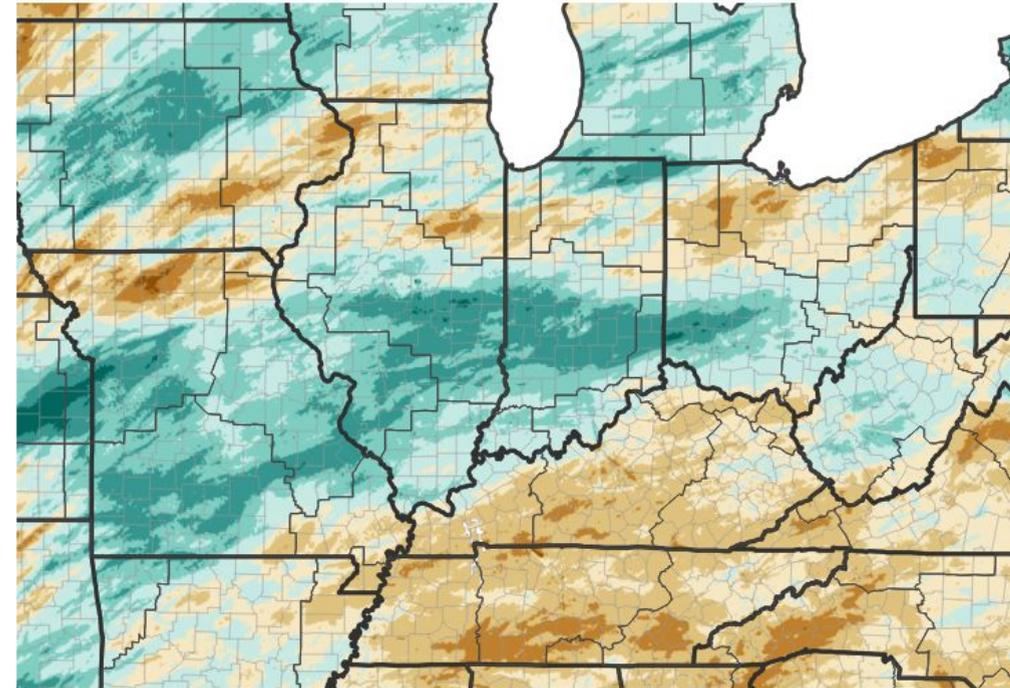


Inches of Precipitation

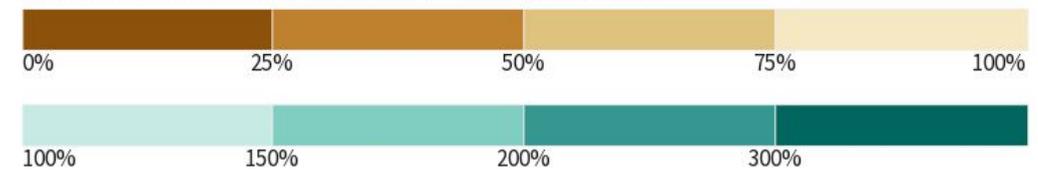


Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 03/12/26

### 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: 03/12/26

## Main Takeaways

- Most locations across southwest Missouri and southeast Kansas have actually observed above-normal precipitation over the last 30 days.
- The greatest precipitation anomalies have been atop the Ozark Plateau and portions of the eastern Ozarks.





# Summary of Impacts

March 13, 2026

10:21 AM

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Near normal to below normal risk for river flooding this spring.
- However, the flash flooding potential will ultimately be event-driven and determined by local thunderstorm rainfall amounts.
- Streamflows are near to above normal.

## Agricultural Impacts

- There were no Condition Monitoring Observer Reports (CMORs) from the last 7 days across the entire states of Missouri and Kansas.

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- Widespread rainfall has limited the number of prescribed burns and wildfires since March 1st. Finer fuels remain susceptible.

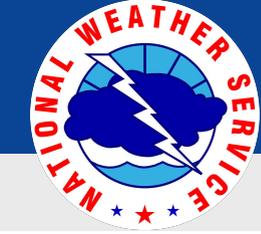
## Other Impacts

- N/A

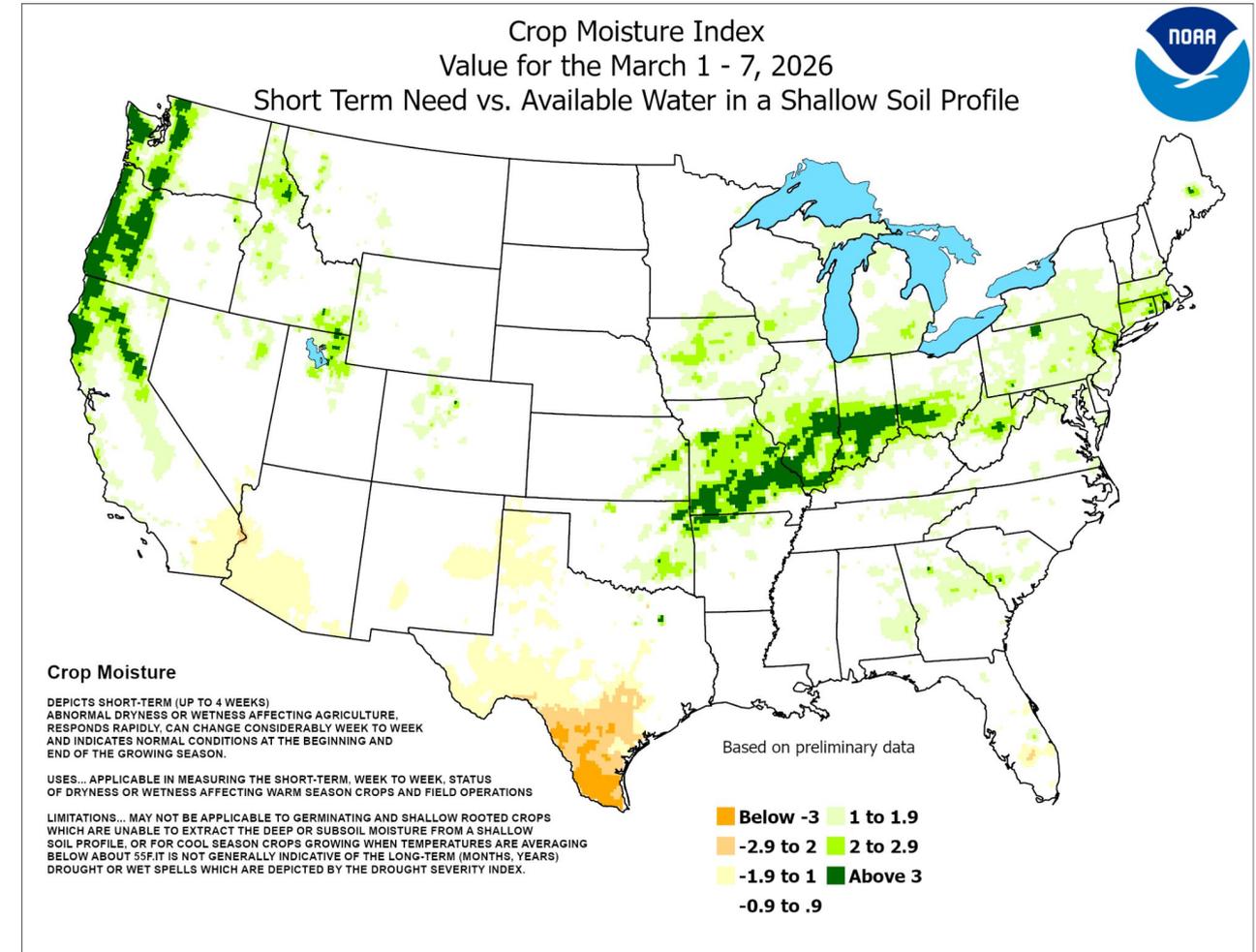
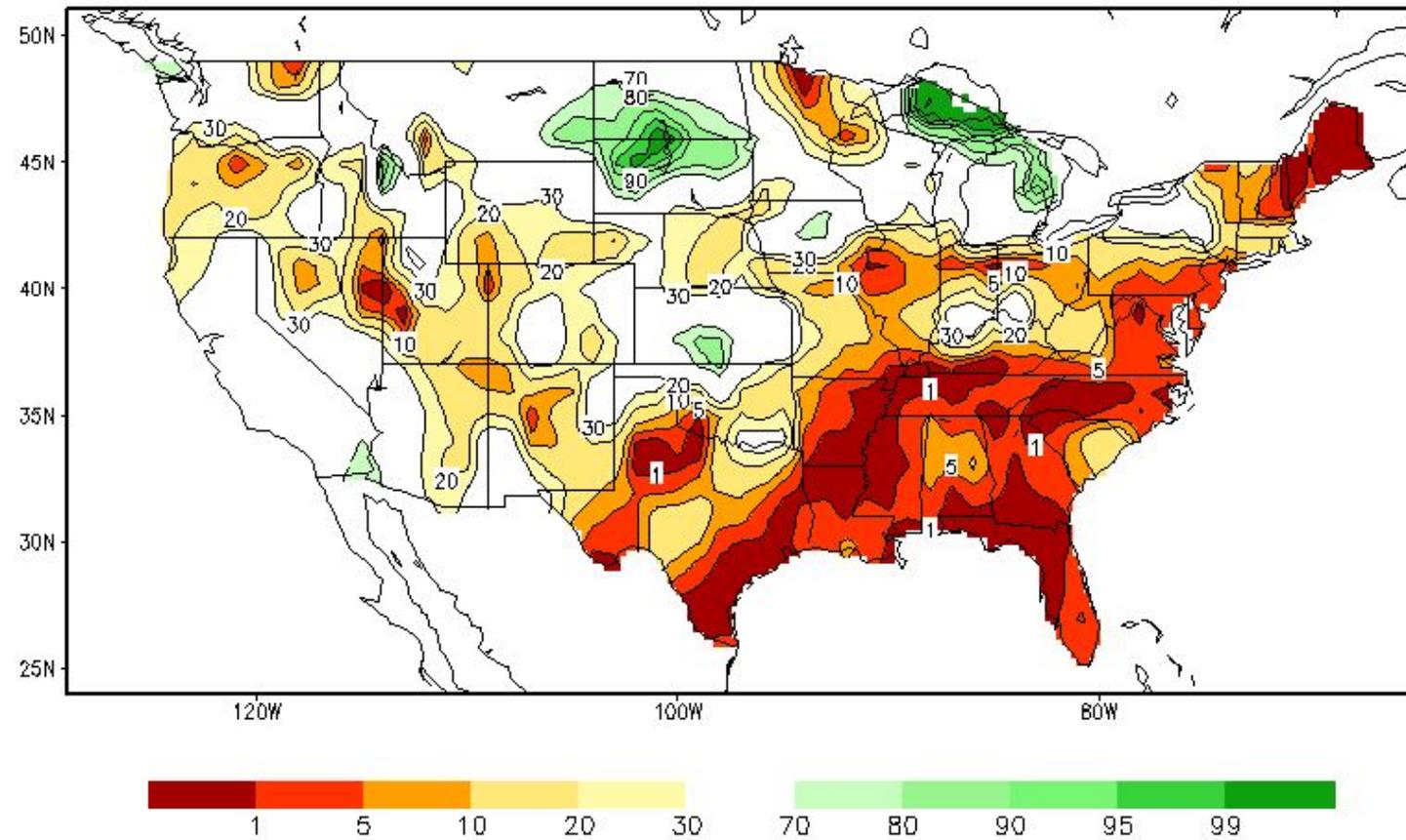
## Mitigation actions

- 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](https://muext.us/PSCFarmRanch).





### Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile MAR 11, 2026



## Main Takeaways

- Soil moisture conditions have improved over the last month but remain below normal across the state
- Crop Moisture Index from March 1st - March 7th was above normal.





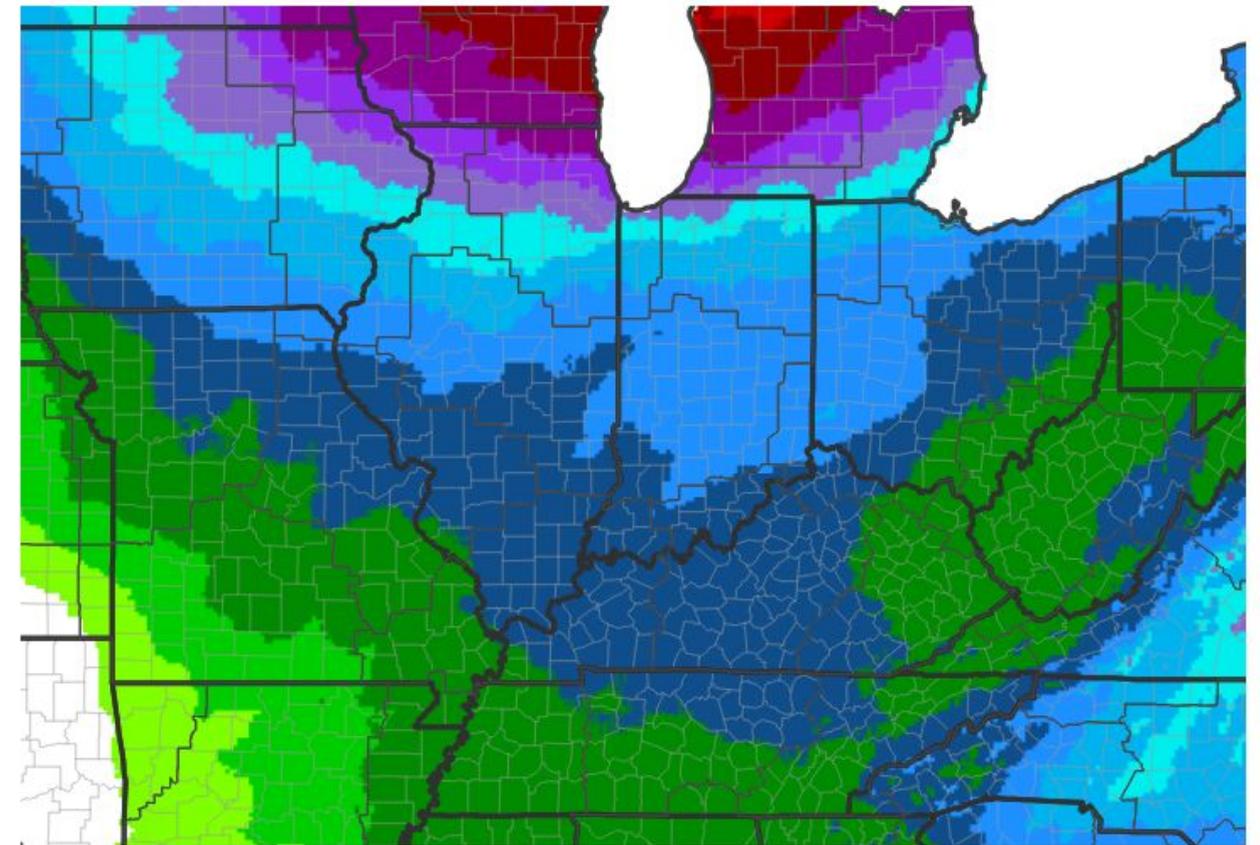
# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

March 13, 2026  
10:21 AM

## Main Takeaways

- Most locations are forecast to receive at least light precipitation over the next 7 days.
- The heaviest rainfall is forecast across northeast Missouri.
- Some of this precipitation could fall as snow on Sunday, particularly across central and northern Missouri.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for March 12, 2026–March 19, 2026



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 03/12/26





# 8 to 14 Day Outlooks

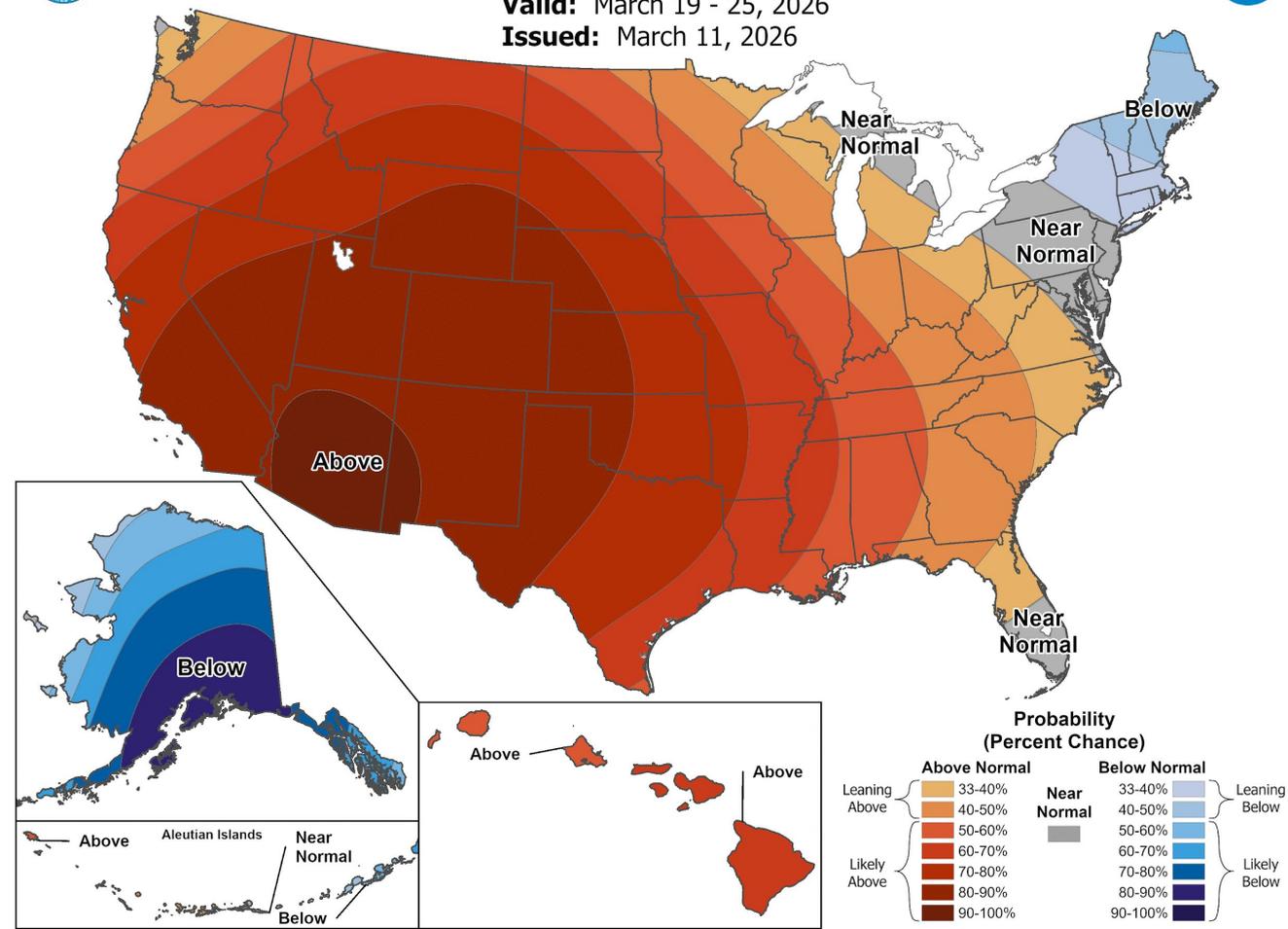
March 13, 2026  
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The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)



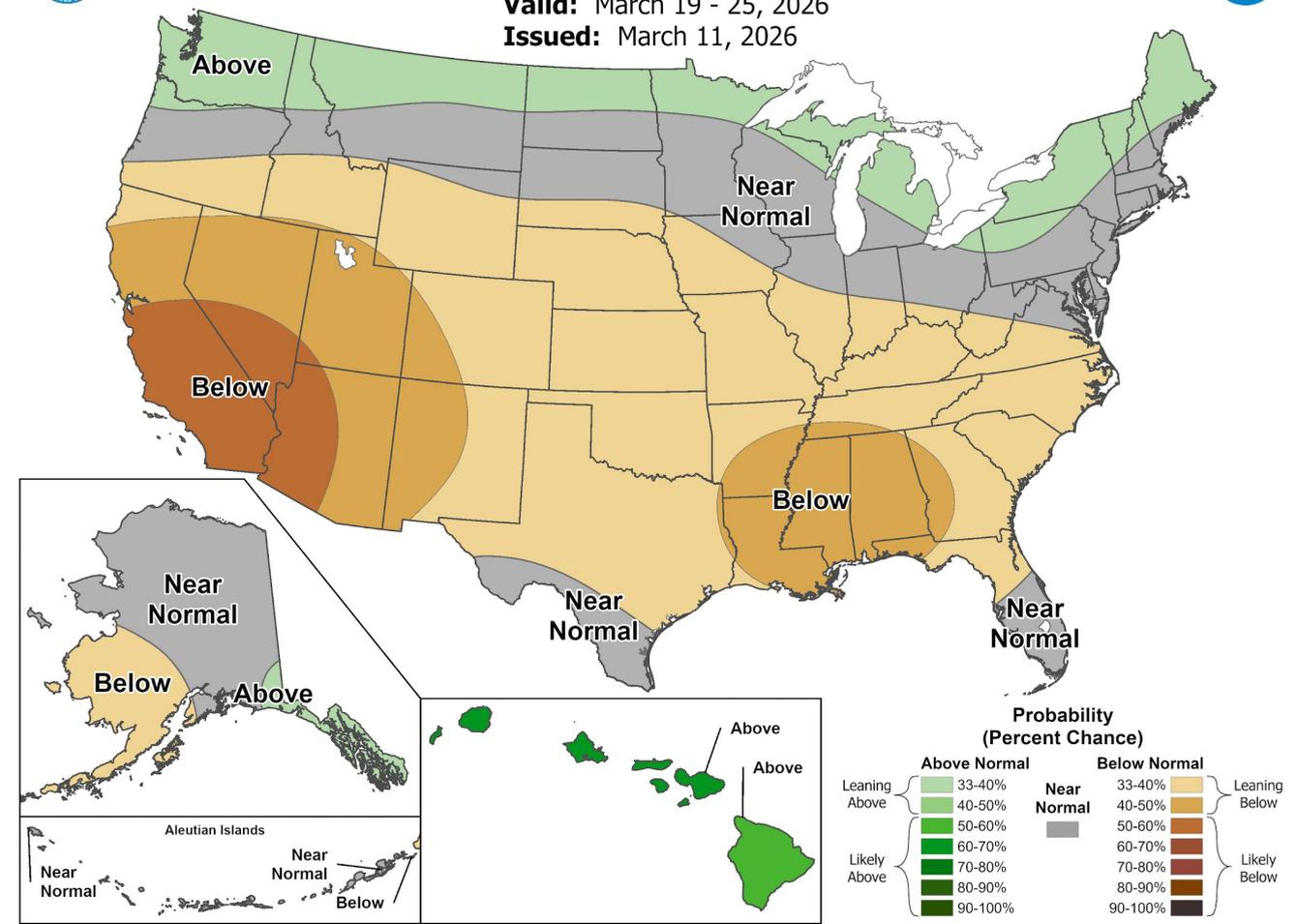
## 8-14 Day Temperature Outlook

Valid: March 19 - 25, 2026  
Issued: March 11, 2026



## 8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook

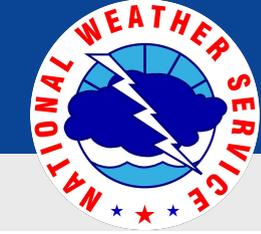
Valid: March 19 - 25, 2026  
Issued: March 11, 2026



### Main Takeaways

- The signal strongly favors above-normal temperatures and slightly favors below-normal precipitation for the March 19th-25th period.





# Monthly Outlooks

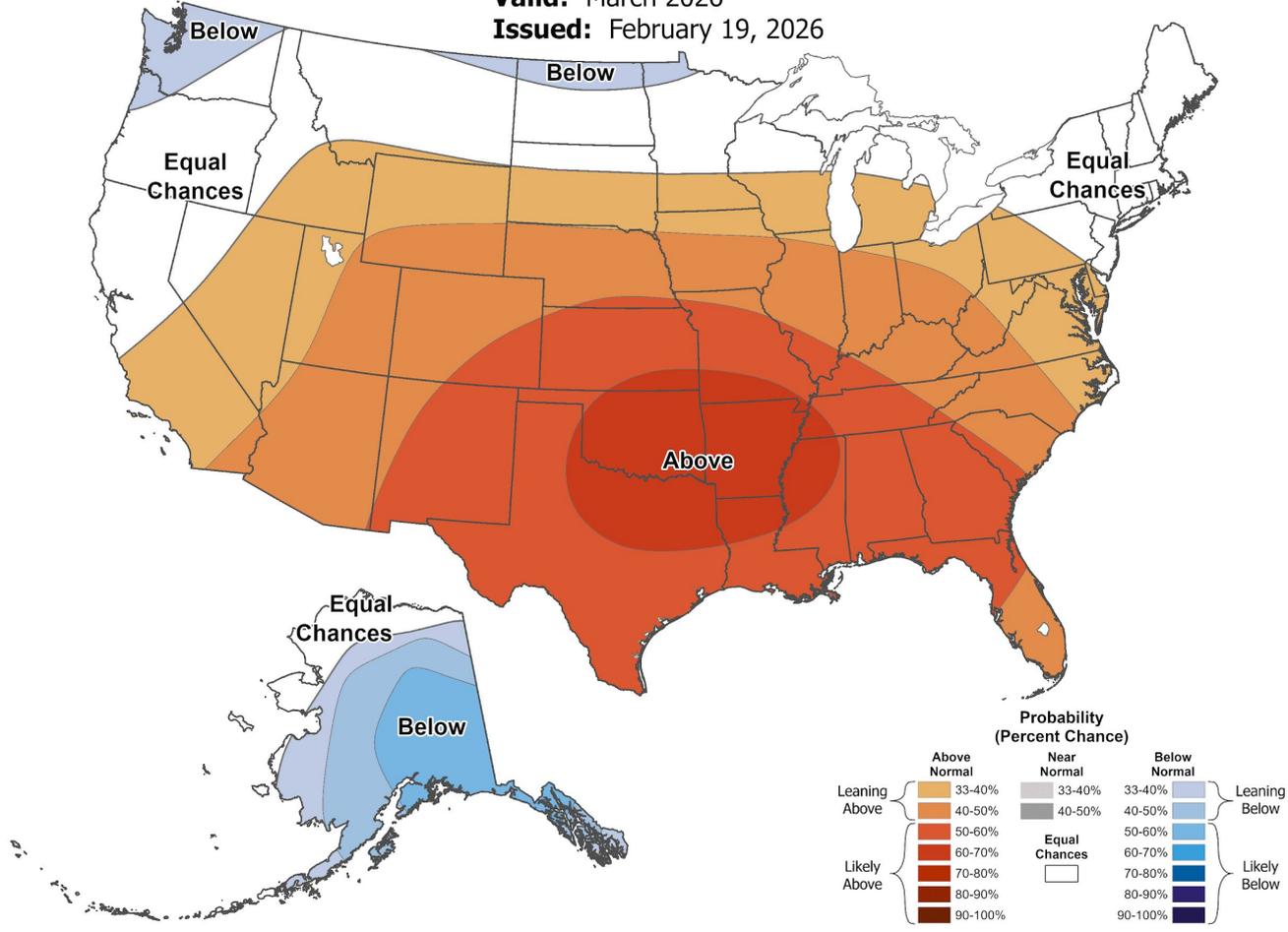
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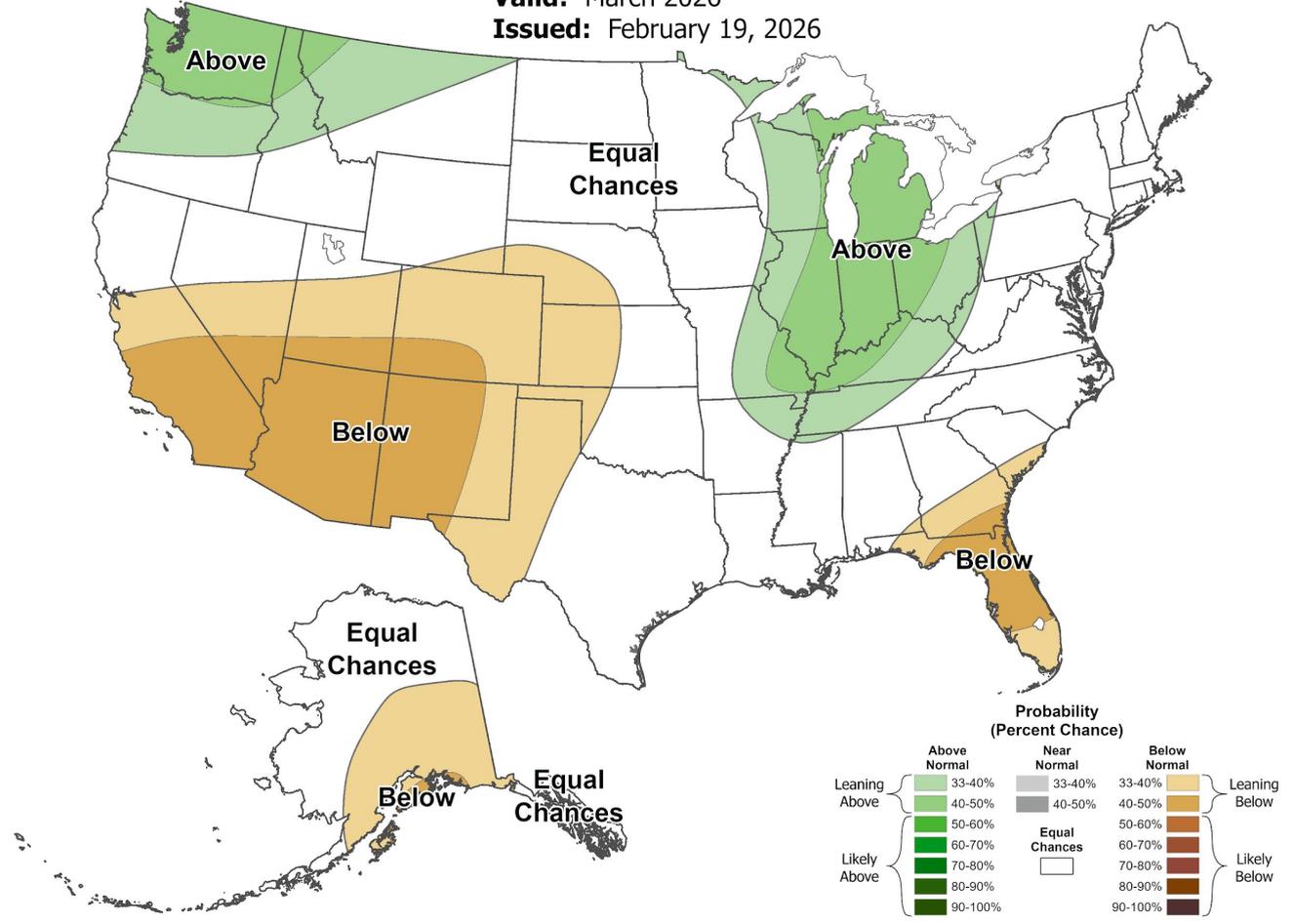
## Monthly Temperature Outlook

Valid: March 2026  
Issued: February 19, 2026



## Monthly Precipitation Outlook

Valid: March 2026  
Issued: February 19, 2026



### Main Takeaways

- The signal favors above-normal temperatures for the month of March.
- There is a slight signal for above-normal precipitation across the eastern portions of Missouri for March.





# Seasonal Outlooks

March 13, 2026

10:21 AM

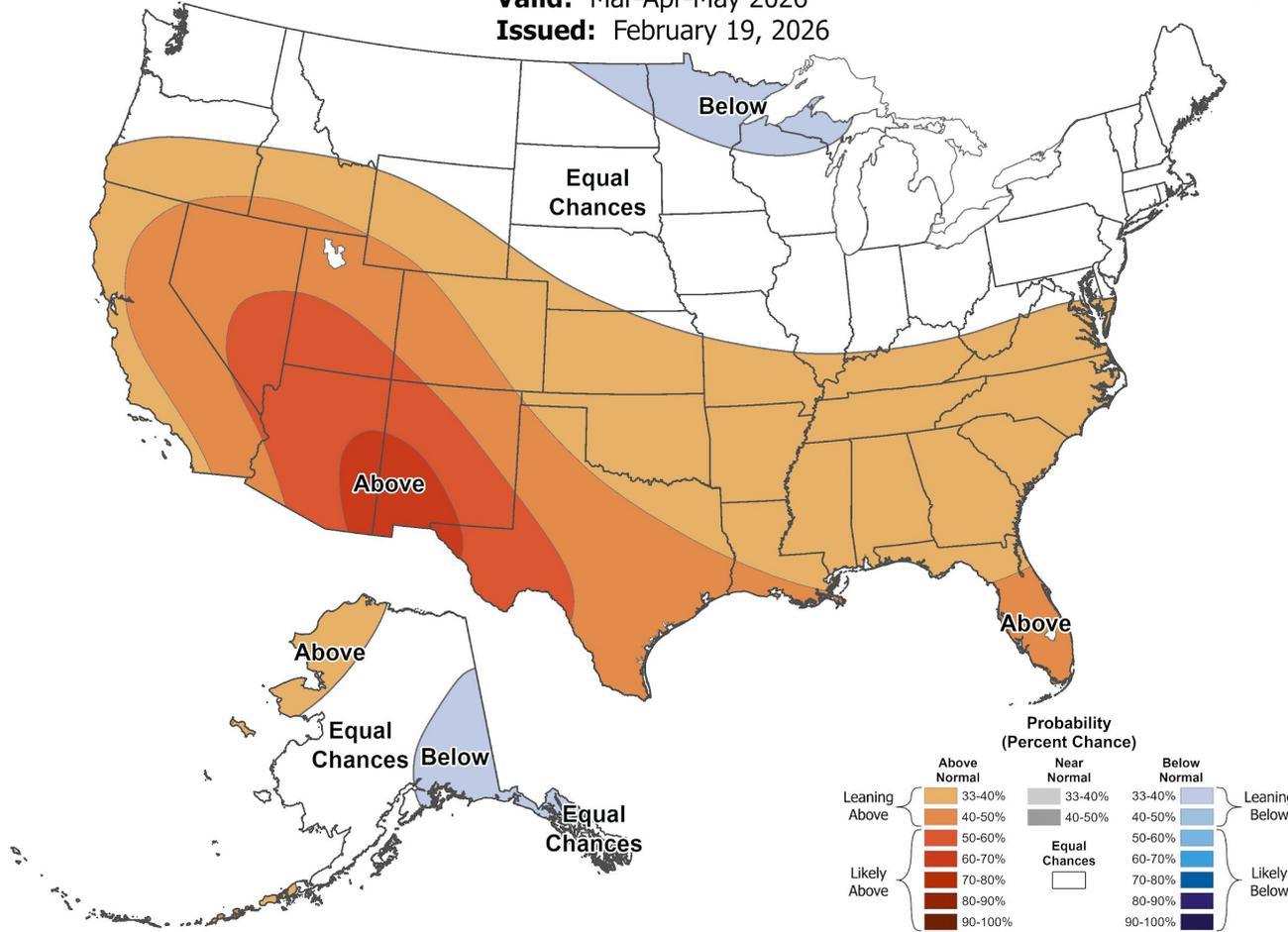
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)



## Seasonal Temperature Outlook



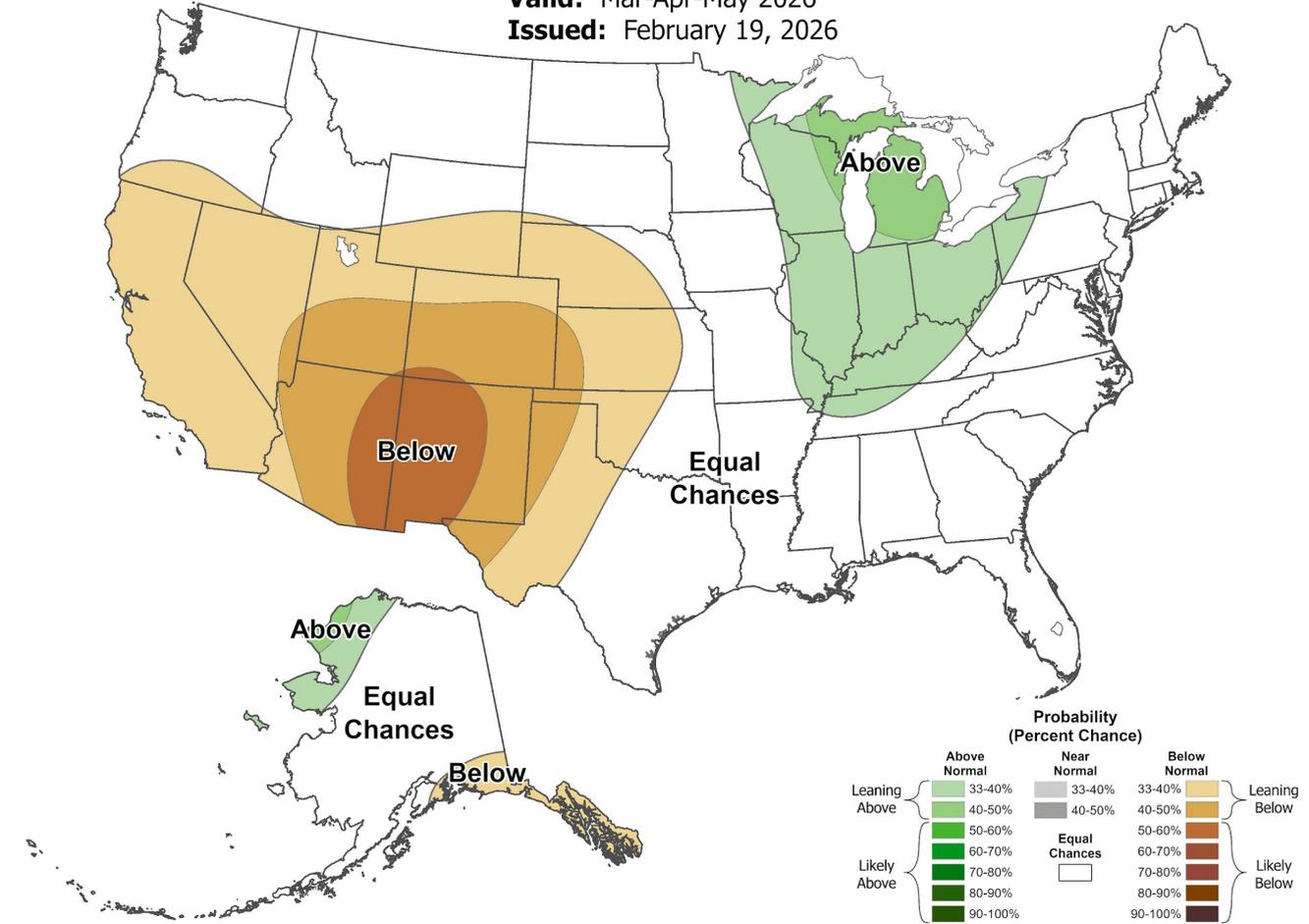
Valid: Mar-Apr-May 2026  
Issued: February 19, 2026



## Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



Valid: Mar-Apr-May 2026  
Issued: February 19, 2026



### Main Takeaways

- The signal slightly favors chances of above-normal temperatures, but there are equal chances for precipitation for the period of March to May.



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service  
Springfield, MO



## For Additional Information

- [NWS Springfield Webpage](#) | [IDSS Point Forecasts](#)
- [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

