



# Drought Information Statement for South Central Texas

Valid February 1, 2024

Issued By: NWS Austin/San Antonio, TX

Contact Information: [sr-ewx.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-ewx.webmaster@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated March 7, 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/ewx/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.



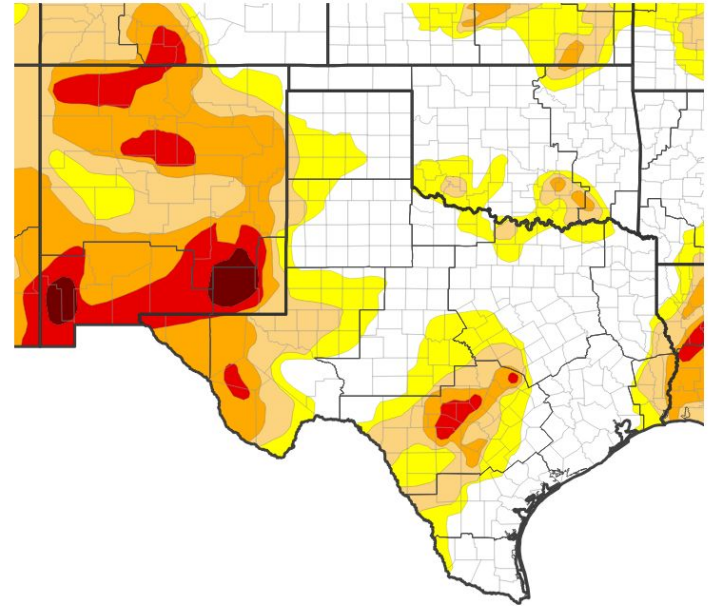


# U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for south central Texas

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - D3 Extreme Drought: Covers portions of the Hill Country and I-35 corridor
    - Percent of Area: 6.78%
  - D2 Severe Drought: Extends across the portions of the Hill Country and I-35 corridor
    - Percent of Area: 16.30%
  - No Drought or D0 Abnormally Dry Conditions: Extends across the portions of Rio Grande Plains, Coastal Plains, and Southern Edwards Plateau
    - Percent of Area: 46.10%

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 01/30/24

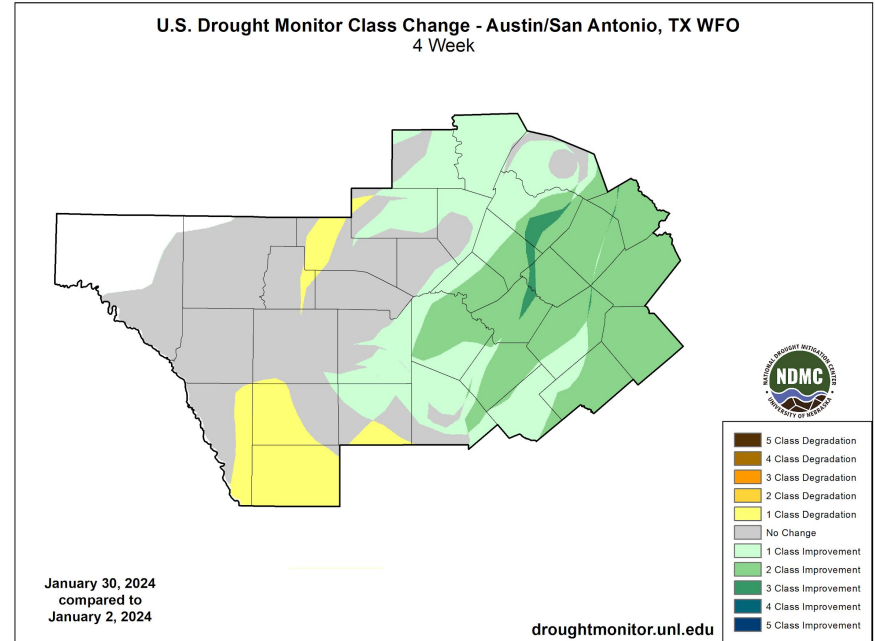




# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for south central Texas

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought Worsened: Portions of the Hill Country and Rio Grande Plains
  - No Change: Much of the southern Edwards Plateau, and portions of the I-35 Corridor and Hill Country
  - Drought Improved: Large portions of the Coastal Plains and I-35 corridor, and portions of the Hill Country



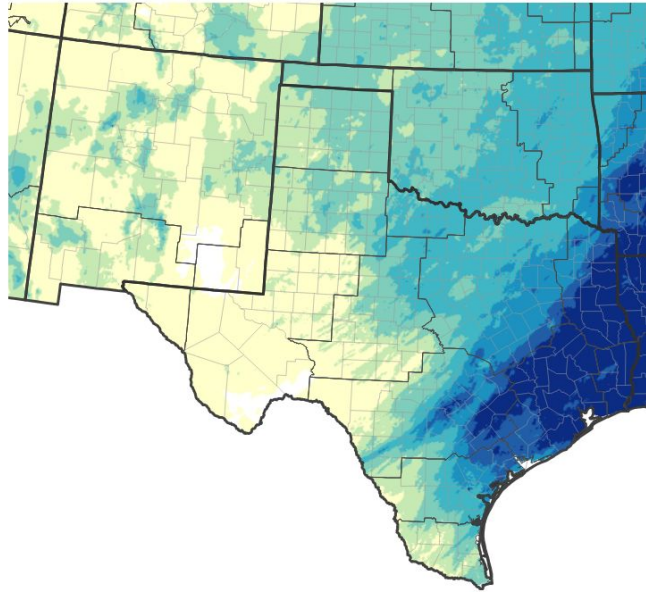


# Precipitation

Links to the latest [Precipitation Accumulation](#) and [Percent of Normal](#) over the past 30 days

- The last few days of January saw significant rainfall return to the service area.
  - Isolated totals of over a foot of rainfall.
- The flip side is continued below normal precipitation for portions of the southern Edwards Plateau and Rio Grande Plains which saw less than half of the normal rainfall.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



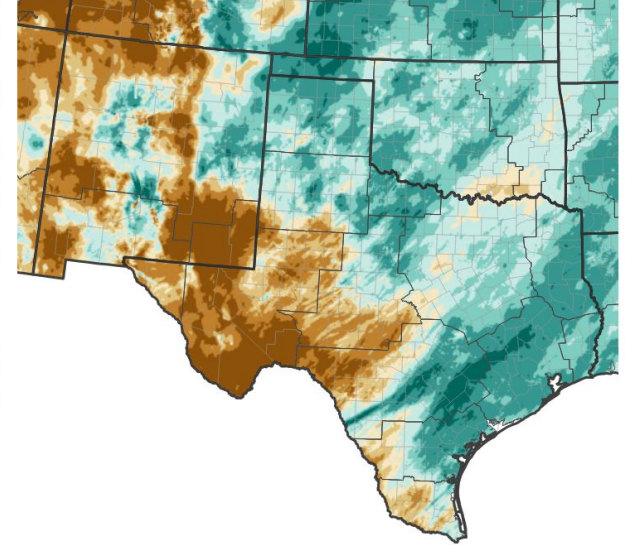
Inches of Precipitation



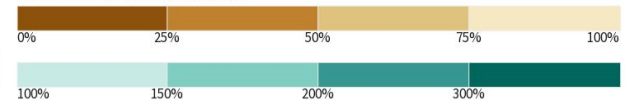
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 02/01/24

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: 02/01/24





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Drastic improvements in streamflow were observed due to the late January heavy rain. Much of the Colorado, Guadalupe, Brazos, and San Antonio basins now show normal to much above normal flow.
- However, streamflows in the upper Guadalupe, Frio and Nueces River missed much of that rainfall and remain below to much below normal flow.
- See next page for more details.

## Agricultural Impacts

- Please see the latest [Crop & Weather Report](#) from Texas A&M Agrilife.
- Near to abnormally moist crop moisture values are shown across the three crop divisions within the service area.

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- Normal to below normal wildland fire activity is forecast through the month of February.
- See Fire Hazard page for more details.

## Drought Mitigation Actions

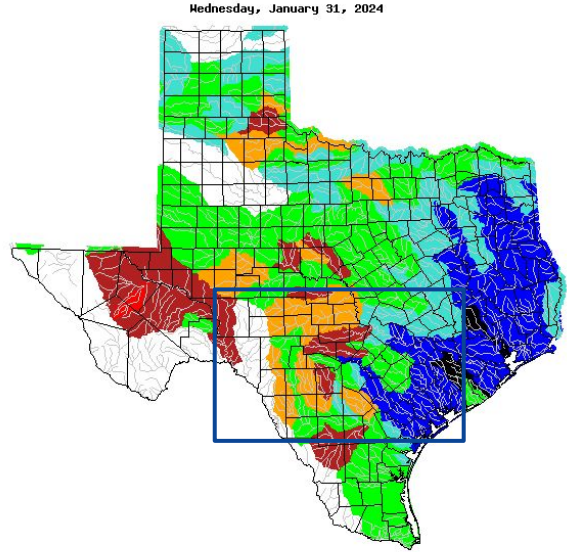
- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.
- Select [Municipality Restrictions](#) (as of 2/1/2024)
  - City of Fredericksburg: Stage 4
  - City of Kerrville: Stage 2
  - City of Georgetown: Stage 2
  - City of Uvalde: Stage 3
  - City of San Antonio: Stage 2
  - City of Universal City: Stage 2
  - City of New Braunfels: Stage 2
  - City of Austin: Stage 2
  - City of Del Rio: Stage 2





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Drastic improvements in streamflow were observed due to the late January heavy rain. Much of the Colorado, Guadalupe, Brazos, and San Antonio basins now show normal to much above normal flow.
- However, streamflows in the upper Guadalupe, Frio and Nueces River missed much of that rainfall and remain below to much below normal flow.



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		

Figure Caption: [USGS 7 day streamflows for Texas](#), valid January 31, 2024

Reservoir	Pool Elevation	Current Elevation	Percent Full
Amistad	1117.00 feet	1058.99 feet	24.5%
Medina Lake	1064.2 feet	974.63 feet	3.3%
Canyon Lake	909.00 feet	887.67 feet	60.4%
Granger Lake	504.00 feet	506.57 feet	100%
Georgetown Lake	791.00 feet	778.57 feet	62.6%
Lake Buchanan	1020.00 feet	994.42 feet	45.4%
Lake LBJ	825.00 feet	824.72 feet	98.4%
Lake Marble Falls	738.00 feet	736.44 feet	95.5%
Lake Travis	681.00 feet	631.46 feet	38.1%
Lake Austin	492.9 feet	492.22 feet	96.2%

Table caption: [TWDB Reservoir](#) conditions as of February 1, 2024

Additional data:  
[Edwards Aquifer, Bexar Index Well J-17](#) as of

February 1, 2024:  
 10 day average: 645.8  
 Historical Monthly Average: 668.8  
 Departure from Average: -23.6

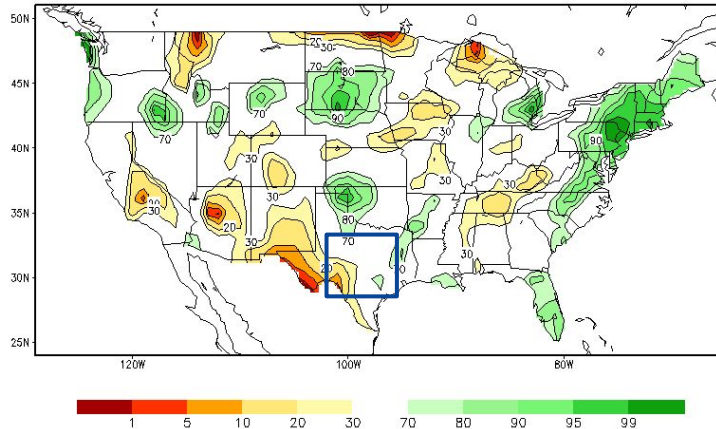


# Agricultural Impacts

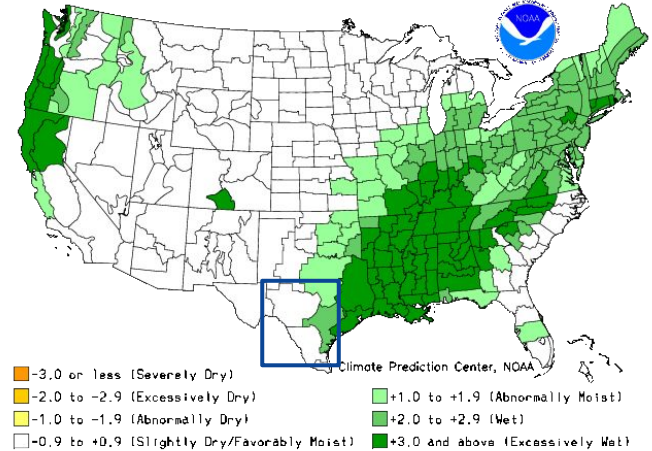
Links to the latest [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) and [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#).

- Soil moistures have improved to normal to slightly above normal across much of the area.
- Below normal soil moistures remain across portions of the southern Edwards Plateau and Rio Grande Plains.
- Near to abnormally moist crop moisture values are shown across the three crop divisions within the service area.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile  
JAN 31, 2024



Crop Moisture Index by Division  
Weekly Value for Period Ending JAN 27, 2024  
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

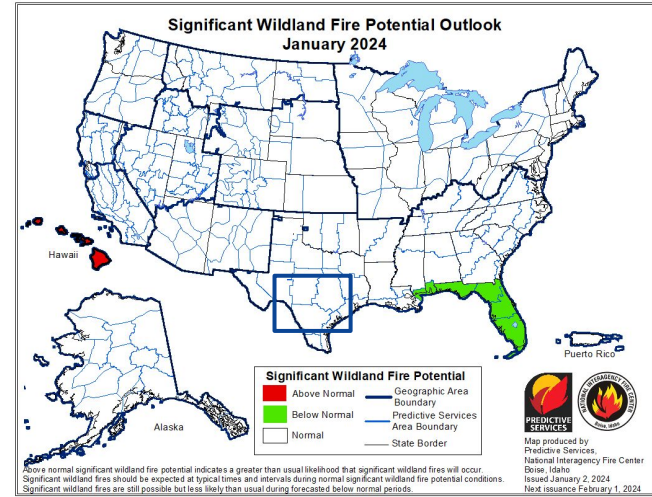
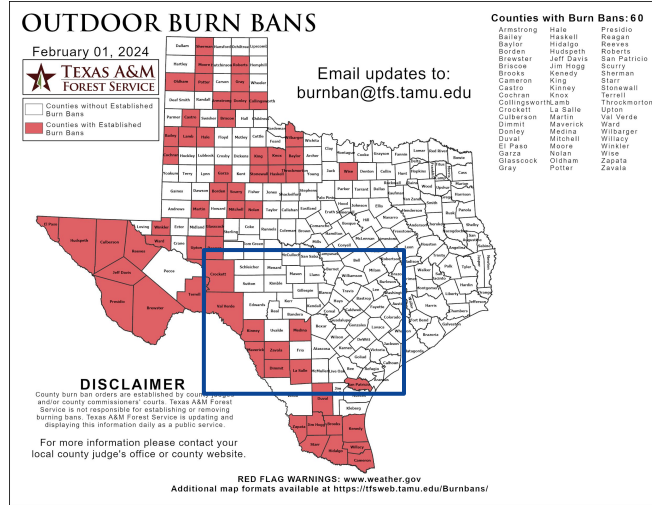




# Fire Hazard Impacts

Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#).

- [Keetch Byram Drought Index values](#) have dropped below 200 across much of the Hill Country, I-35 corridor, Coastal Plains, and southern Edwards Plateau. Between 300 and 500 primarily remain across portions of the Rio Grande Plains.



- Normal to below normal wildland fire activity is forecast through the month of February.

Burn bans remain for 6 of our 33 counties as of January 4, 2024. Latest County Burn Ban map available [here](#).



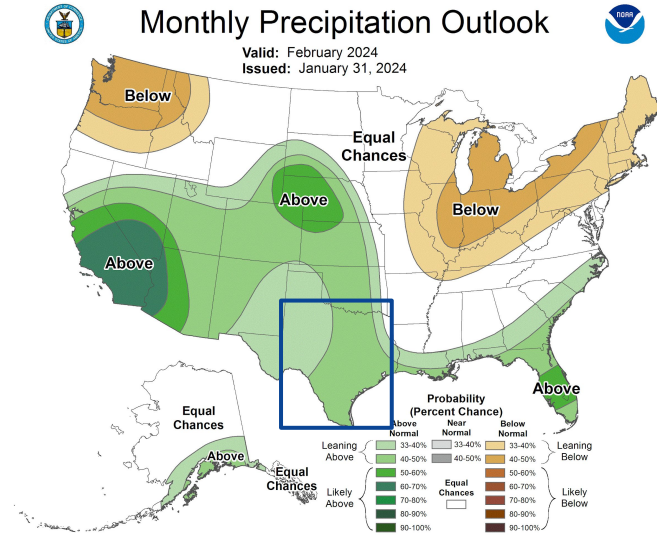
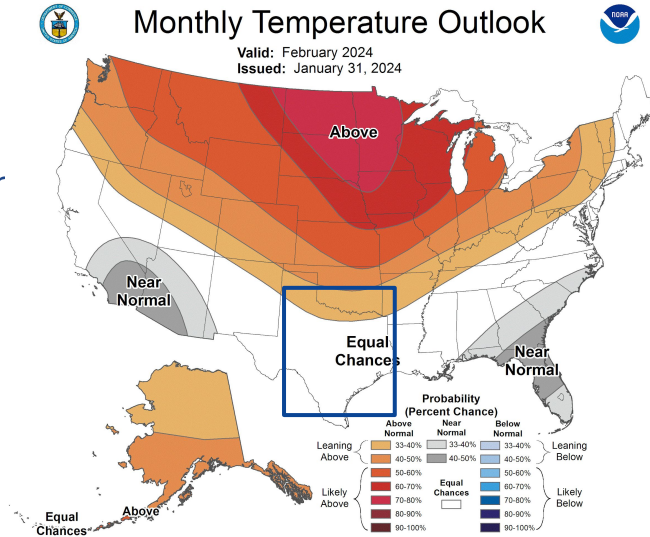




# Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Chances are equal for above, below, or near normal temperatures for the month of February.
- Chances lean towards above normal moisture for all of south central Texas for the month of February.



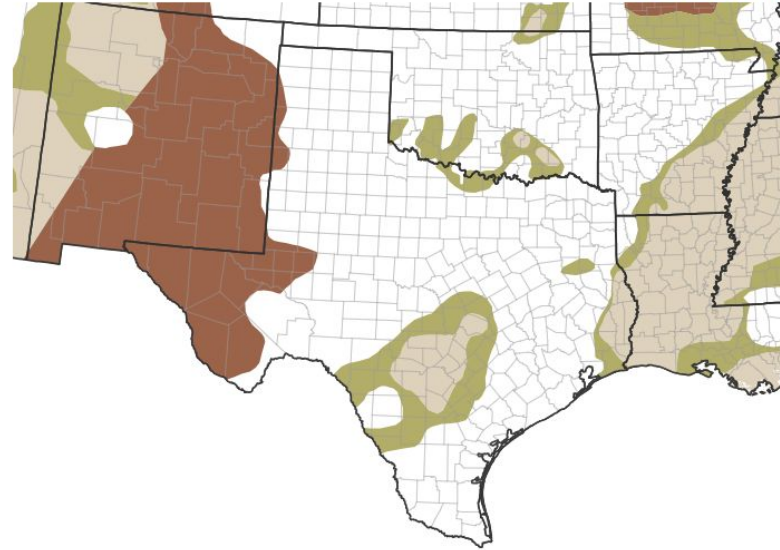


# Drought Outlook

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

- The Drought Outlook shows potential for drought conditions to end across portions of the Hill Country, southern Edwards Plateau, Rio Grande Plains, and Coastal Plains over the course of the month of February.
- Drought conditions are expected to improve across a sizable portion of the I-35 corridor and Hill Country through February.

## 1-Month Drought Outlook



### Drought Is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center  
Data Valid: 02/01/24

[Drought.gov](#)

Links to the latest:

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



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

National Weather Service  
Austin/San Antonio, TX