



Drought Information Statement for South Central Texas

Valid December 5, 2024

Issued By: NWS Austin/San Antonio

Contact Information: sr-ewx.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated January 2, 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/ewx/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
 - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.
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- Needed rainfall occurred earlier this week, but will do little to alleviate drought across the region.
 - Reservoir levels and streamflows across the service area remain rather low.
 - Monthly outlook for December leans towards drought remaining, but improving.

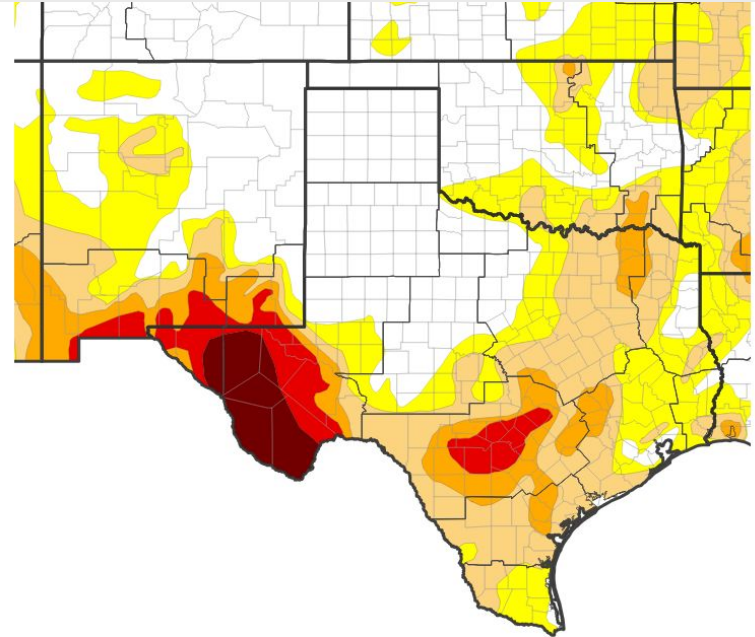




U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** Covers portions of the Edwards Plateau and I-35 Corridor
 - Percent of Area: 18.06%
 - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Extends across the portions of the Hill Country, Edwards Plateau, I-35 Corridor, and Coastal Plains
 - Percent of Area: 35.92%
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Encompasses the Coastal Plains, and portions of the Hill Country, Southern Edwards Plateau, and Rio Grande Plains
 - Percent of Area: 44.19%



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 12/03/24

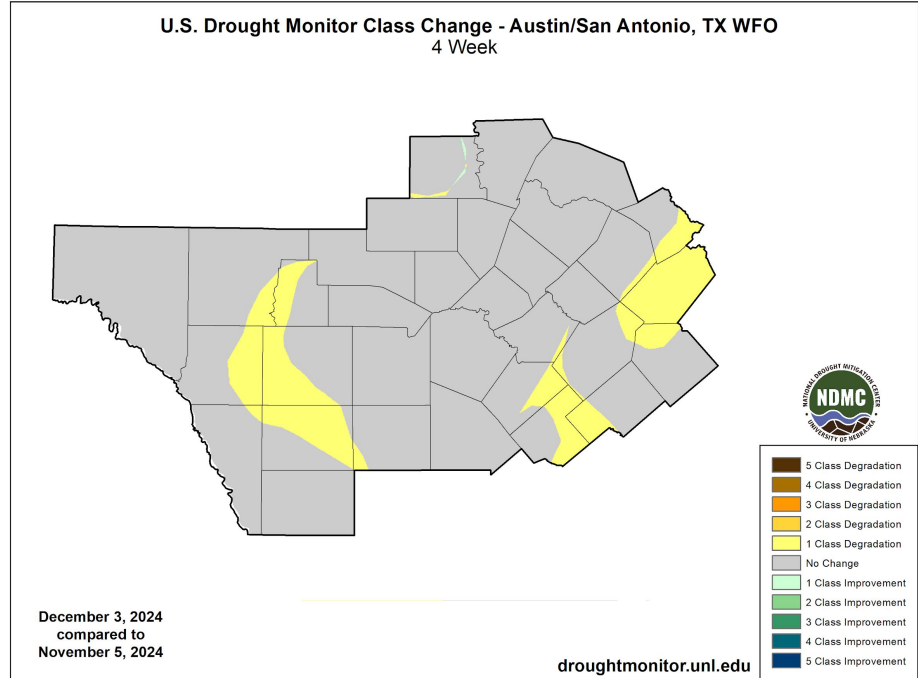




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: primarily over the Rio Grande Plains and Edward Plateau.
 - No Change: Portions of the Rio Grande Plains, Edwards Plateau, Hill Country, and I-35 Corridor.
 - Drought Improved: primarily over the Coastal Plains.



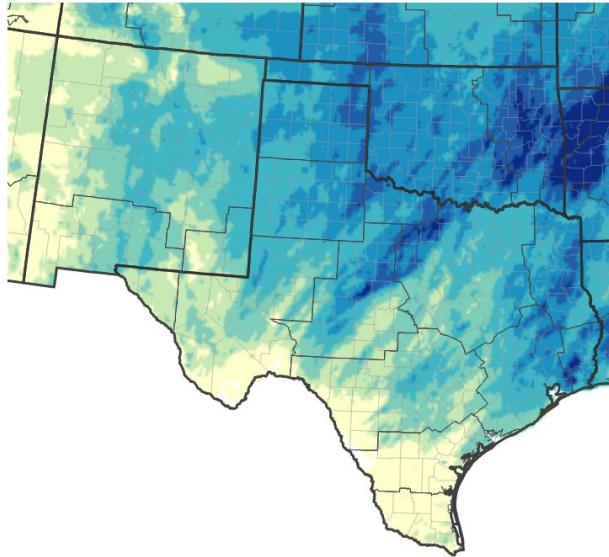


Precipitation

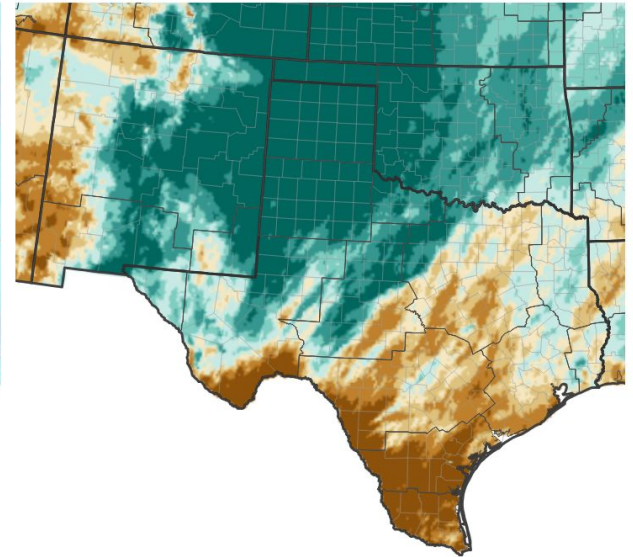
Links to the latest [Precipitation Accumulation](#) and [Percent of Normal](#) over the past 30 days

- Below normal rainfall was seen over most of the service area. However, some locations in the Rio Grande Plains, Edwards Plateau, Hill Country, and I-35 Corridor saw above normal rainfall.

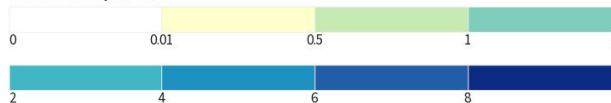
NWPS 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)



30-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal



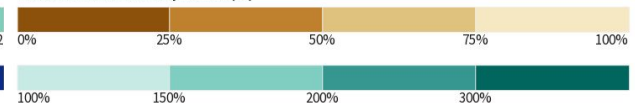
Inches of Precipitation



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

Data Valid: 12/04/24

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



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

Data Valid: 12/04/24





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Nearly all watersheds across the service area fall within either the below normal to well-below normal percentile classification despite early December and recent November rains. ([USGS](#))
- Area reservoirs remain extremely low across the service area.
- See next page for more details

Agricultural Impacts

- Please see the latest [Crop & Weather Report](#) from Texas A&M Agrilife
- Soil moistures across the service area are shown in the normal to below normal range.
([NWS Climate Prediction Center](#))

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Normal wildland fire activity is forecast through the month of November. This activity is expected to increase in the months of December and January.
([National Interagency Coordination Center](#))
- See Fire Hazard page for more details

Drought Mitigation Actions

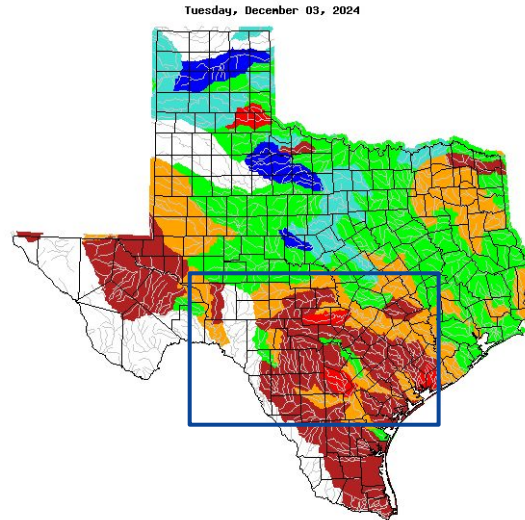
- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.
- Select [Municipality Restrictions](#) (as of 12/4/2024)
 - City of Uvalde: Stage 5
 - City of Fredericksburg: Stage 4
 - City of Kerrville: Stage 3
 - City of San Antonio: Stage 3
 - City of Universal City: Stage 3
 - City of Georgetown: Stage 2
 - City of New Braunfels: Stage 2
 - City of Austin: Stage 2
 - City of Del Rio: Stage 2
 - City of Llano: Stage 2





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Nearly all watersheds across the service area fall within either the below normal to well-below normal percentile classification despite early December and recent November rains.



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 December 3, 2024

Reservoir	Pool Elevation	Current Elevation	Percent Full
Amistad	1117.00 feet	1051.11 feet	26.6%
Medina Lake	1064.2 feet	972.75 feet	2.8%
Canyon Lake	909.00 feet	881.46 feet	51.2%
Granger Lake	504.00 feet	503.00 feet	92.3%
Georgetown Lake	791.00 feet	779.03 feet	63.8%
Lake Buchanan	1020.00 feet	1004.41 feet	63.4%
Lake LBJ	825.00 feet	824.76 feet	98.6%
Lake Marble Falls	738.00 feet	736.31 feet	94.5%
Lake Travis	681.00 feet	638.20 feet	44.1%
Lake Austin	492.9 feet	492.20 feet	96.1%

Table caption: [TWDB Reservoir](#) conditions as of December 4, 2024

Additional data:

[Edwards Aquifer, Bexar Index Well J-17](#) as

of December 4, 2024:

10 day average: 627.3

Historical Monthly Average: 667.5

Departure from Average: -41.6



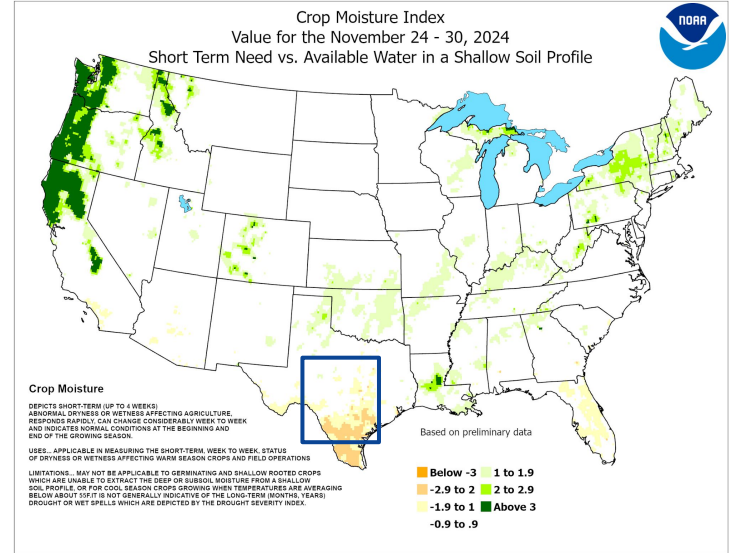
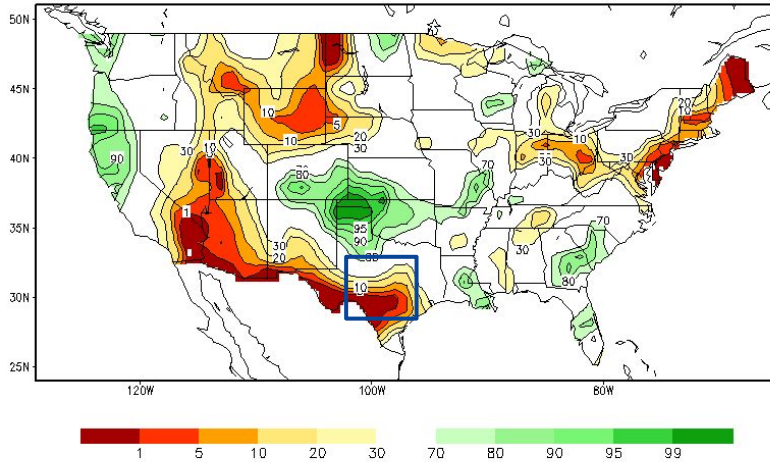


Agricultural Impacts

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

- Soil moistures across the service area are shown in the below to well below normal range as of December 3rd.
- Crop moisture index values show severely dry conditions across all of our service area as of October 26th.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
DEC 04, 2024

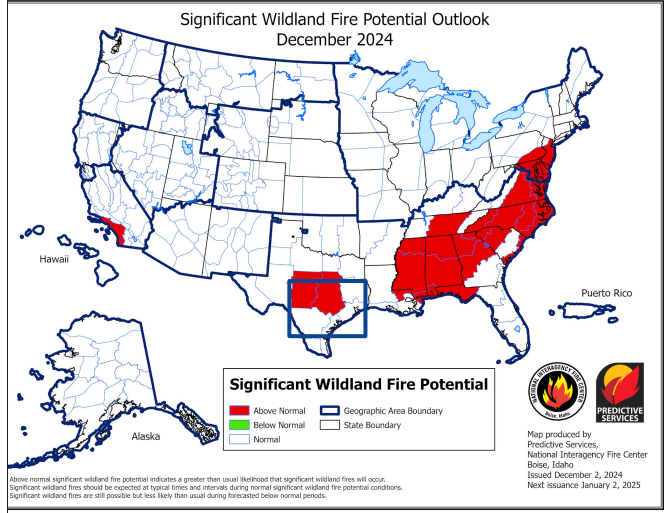
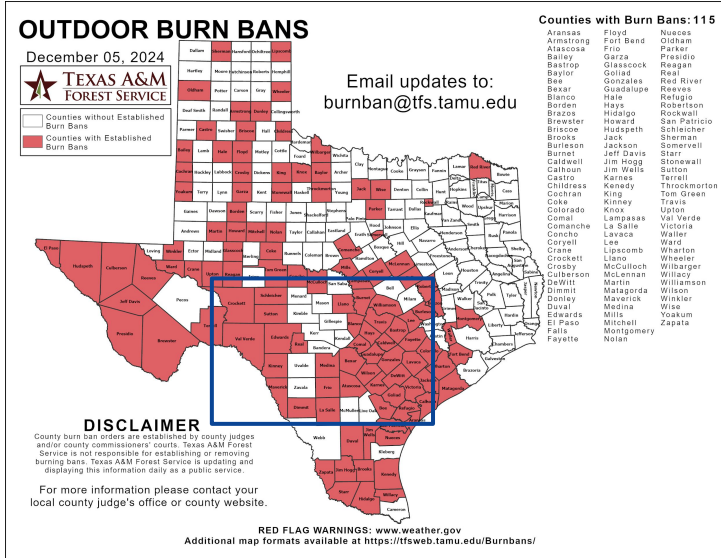




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- [Keetch Byram Drought Index](#) values of 200 to 400 range across a narrow strip of the Rio Grande Plains into portions of the Edwards Plateau and Hill Country from recent rains.
- Values range between 500 and 800 across a majority of the service area
- Near normal wildland fire potential is expected for December



Burn bans remain for 29 of our 33 counties as of December 4, 2024. Latest County Burn Ban map available [here](#).



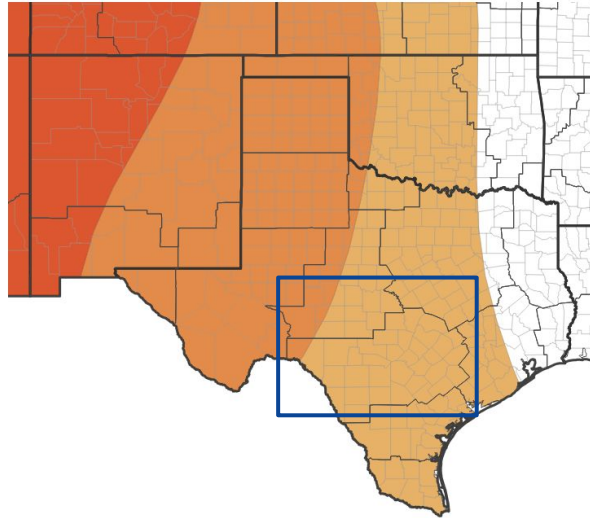


Long-Range Outlooks

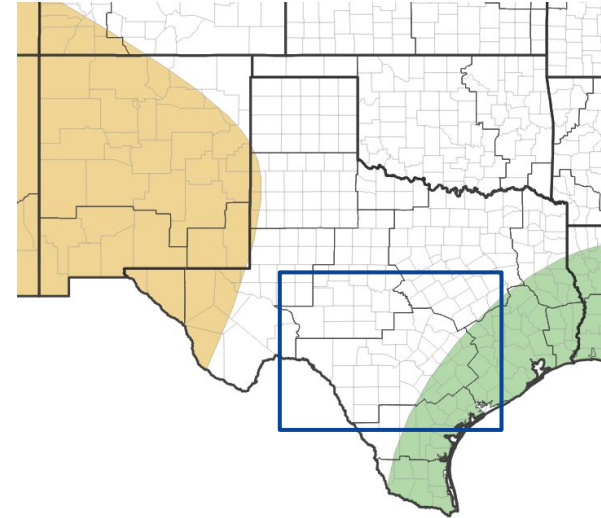
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- The temperature outlook for the month of December leans towards above normal for the entire service area.
- The precipitation outlook leans towards near normal rainfall for most of the service area.

Monthly Temperature Outlook for December 1, 2024–December 31, 2024



Monthly Precipitation Outlook for December 1, 2024–December 31, 2024



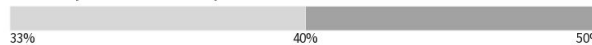
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



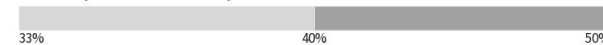
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



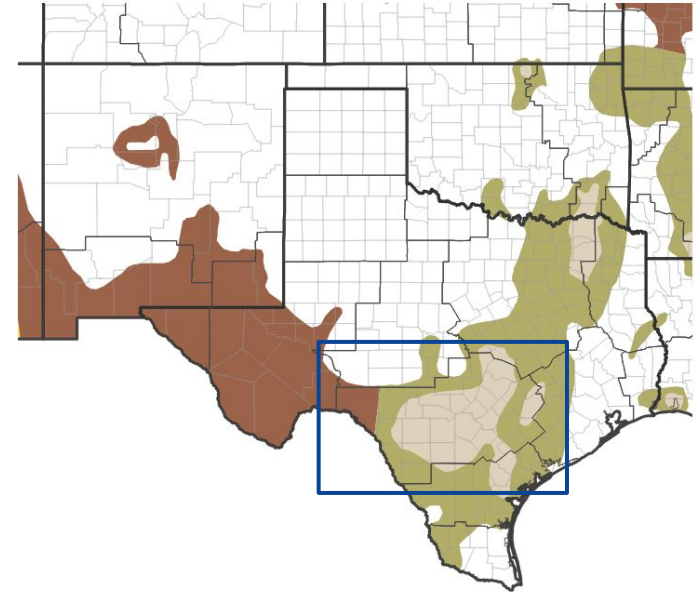


Drought Outlook

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

- The monthly drought outlook for December shows drought persisting for most of the service area, with some improvement over portions of the area.
- The three month outlook shows drought persisting through February for the entire service area.

1-Month Drought Outlook for December 1, 2024–December 31, 2024



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 11/30/24

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**