



Drought Information Statement for South Central Texas

Valid August 1, 2024

Issued By: NWS Austin/San Antonio

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

- This product will be updated September 5, 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.
 - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.
-
- Widespread improvement in drought conditions over the past 30 days
 - Reservoir levels across the service area saw some improvement while overall water storage remains low
 - Monthly outlooks show hot temperatures with a much of the area having equal chances of above, below, or near normal rainfall chances for the month of August



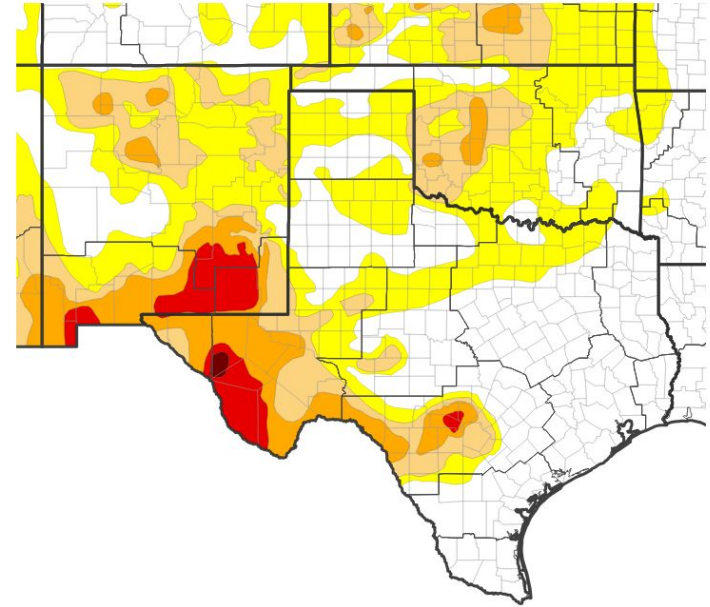


U.S. Drought Monitor

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
 - Percent of Area: 1.70%
 - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Extends across the portions of the Hill Country, southern Edwards Plateau, and Rio Grande Plains
 - Percent of Area: 17.49%
 - **No Drought or D0 (Abnormally Dry):** Encompasses the Coastal Plains, and portions of the Hill Country, Southern Edwards Plateau, I-35 corridor, and Rio Grande Plains
 - Percent of Area: 57.52%

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 07/30/24

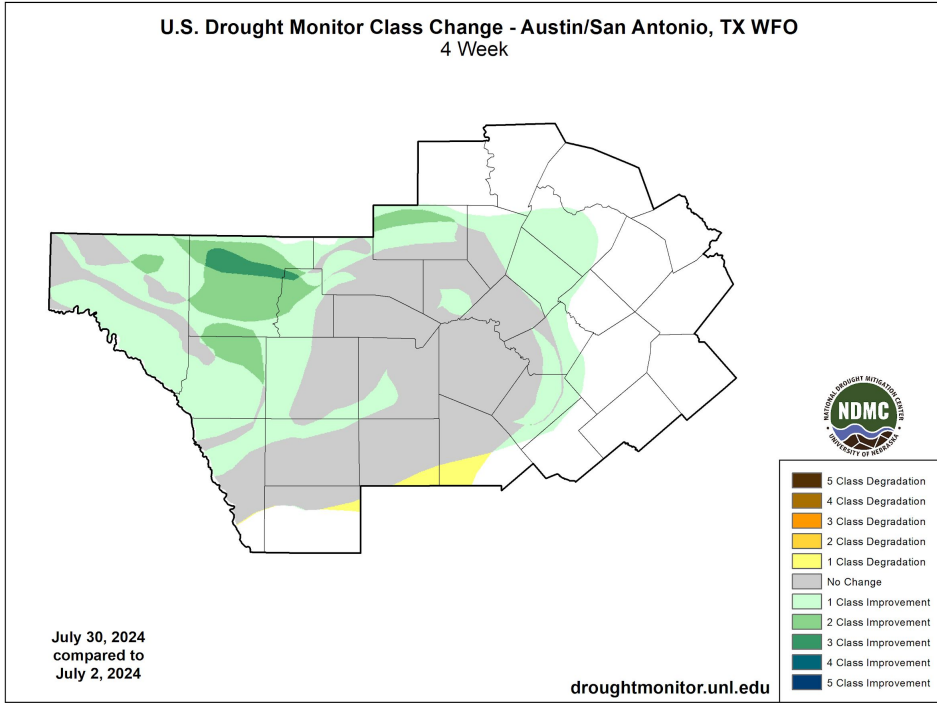




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: only a small portion of the Winter Garden saw drought conditions worsen
 - No Change: portions of the I-35 corridor, Hill Country, southern Edwards Plateau, and Rio Grande Plains
 - Drought Improved: The greatest improvement occurred over the Edwards Plateau and Hill Country where categories improved by 2 to 3 classes. Improvement also occurred over parts of the I-35 corridor



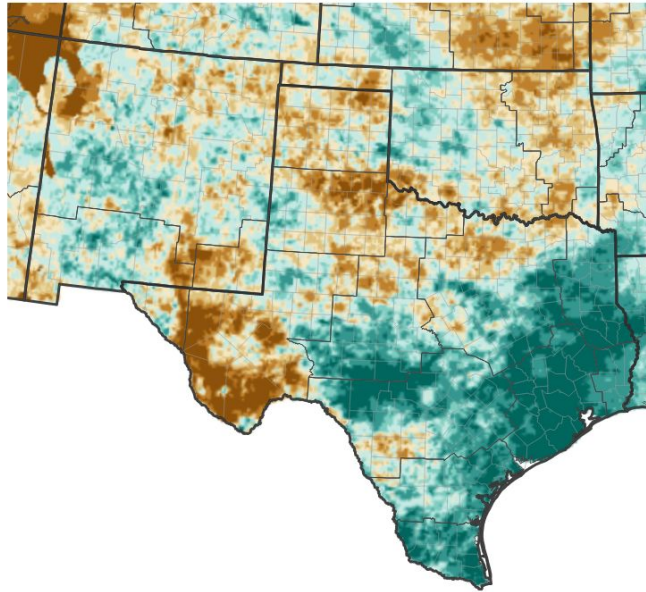


Precipitation

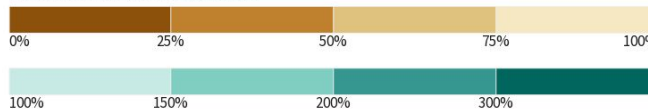
Links to the latest [Precipitation Accumulation](#) and [Percent of Normal](#) over the past 30 days

- Much of the area saw above normal rainfall over the past 30 days
 - The bulk of this rainfall occurred during two rounds of rainfall; July 6th, and July 22-29th.
- Portions of the Hill Country and southern Edwards Plateau saw greater than 300% of normal rainfall over the past 30 days
- Only a small portion of the Winter Garden saw below normal rainfall over the past 30 days

30-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal

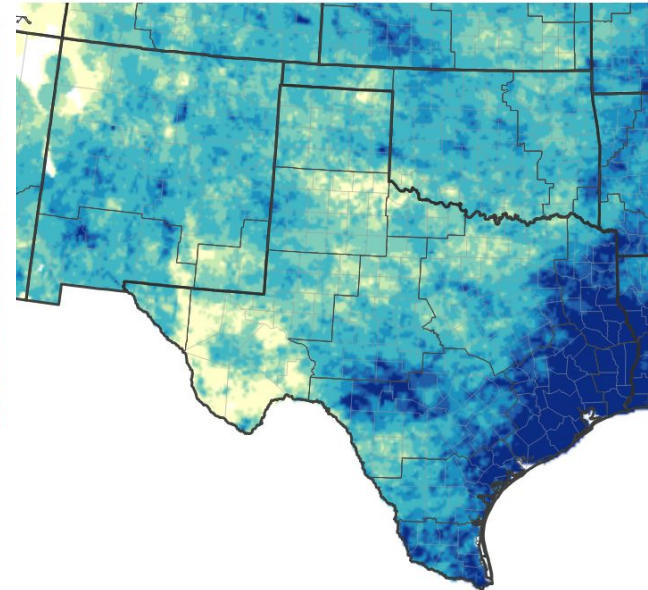


Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)

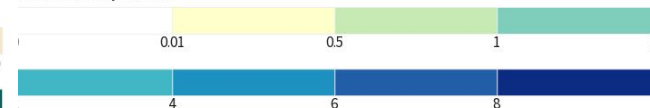


Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 07/31/24

NWPS 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)



Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; Data Valid: 07/31/24





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Late month rainfall helped to provide some short term improvement in streamflows along the Colorado and Llano River basins ([USGS](#))
- Unfortunately, the longer running rainfall deficits continue to prevent significant improvement the much of the service area's river basins where most are either in the below or much below normal range for this time of year ([USGS](#))
- Medina Lake is now at 2.3 percent capacity, Amistad is 24% capacity, and Canyon Lake has returned to setting daily record low elevations
- See next page for more details

Agricultural Impacts

- Please see the latest [Crop & Weather Report](#) from Texas A&M Agrilife
- Despite some moisture from Tropical Storm Alberto, soil moistures have dropped to well below normal across the entire service area due to numerous hot and dry days ([NWS Climate Prediction Center](#))

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Normal wildland fire activity is forecast through the month of July ([National Interagency Coordination Center](#))
- See Fire Hazard page for more details

Drought Mitigation Actions

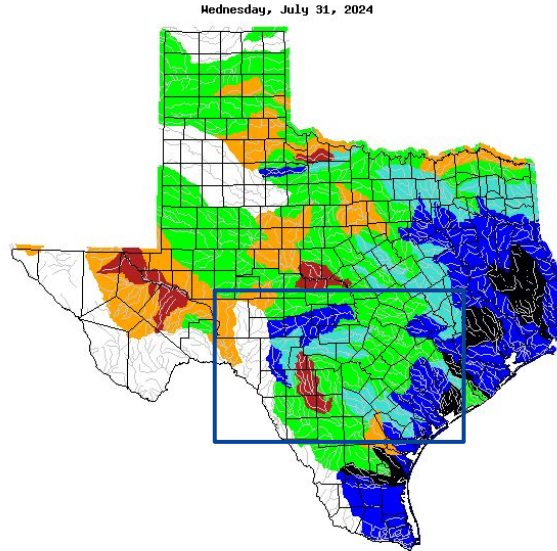
- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.
- Select [Municipality Restrictions](#) (as of 7/3/2024)
 - City of Uvalde: Stage 5
 - City of Fredericksburg: Stage 4
 - City of Kerrville: Stage 3
 - City of San Antonio: Stage 3
 - City of Universal City: Stage 3
 - 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

- Many river basins across the service area continue to show near or above normal flows from the late July rainfall.
- The Frio River, Rio Grande, Sabinal, and Devils River basins are the only streams which show below normal flows on the 7-day historically average streamflow map.
- Many of the drought stricken reservoirs across the service area observed a response from the July rainfall.
 - Lake Travis rose over 7 feet
 - Canyon Lake rose over a foot
 - Medina Lake rose 6 feet.
 - Amistad Lake rose over a foot



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 July 31, 2024

Reservoir	Pool Elevation	Current Elevation	Percent Full
Amistad	1117.00 feet	1048.77 feet	25.0%
Medina Lake	1064.2 feet	975.95 feet	3.6%
Canyon Lake	909.00 feet	885.95 feet	57.7%
Granger Lake	504.00 feet	505.71 feet	100%
Georgetown Lake	791.00 feet	785.24 feet	81.4%
Lake Buchanan	1020.00 feet	1007.17 feet	72.9%
Lake LBJ	825.00 feet	824.76 feet	98.6%
Lake Marble Falls	738.00 feet	736.33 feet	94.7%
Lake Travis	681.00 feet	641.97 feet	40.6%
Lake Austin	492.9 feet	492.20 feet	96.1%

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

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

August 1, 2024:

10 day average: 635.9

Historical Monthly Average: 657.3

Departure from Average: -21.1



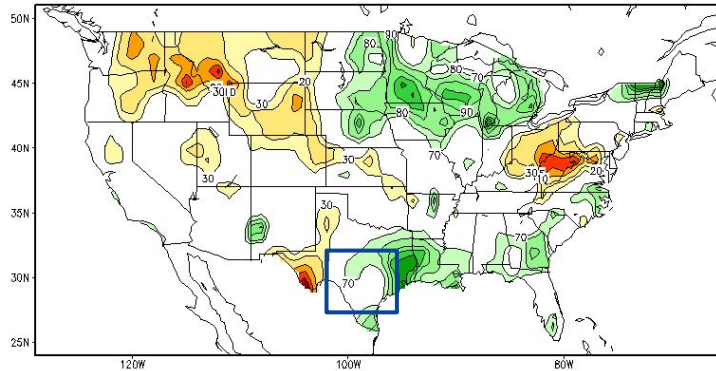


Agricultural Impacts

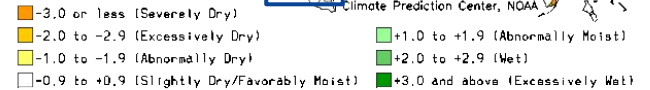
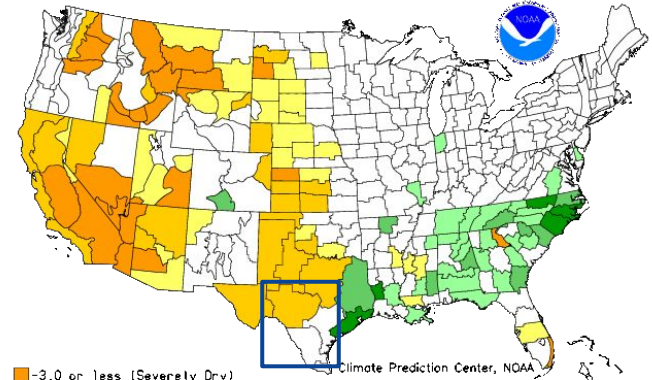
Links to the latest [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) and [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#).

- With the ample rainfall over the past 30 days, soil moisture went from well below normal to normal moisture across the entire service area
- Crop moisture index values show excessively dry across the western most climate zone to normally dry across the remaining two climate zones within our service area

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
JUL 31, 2024



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

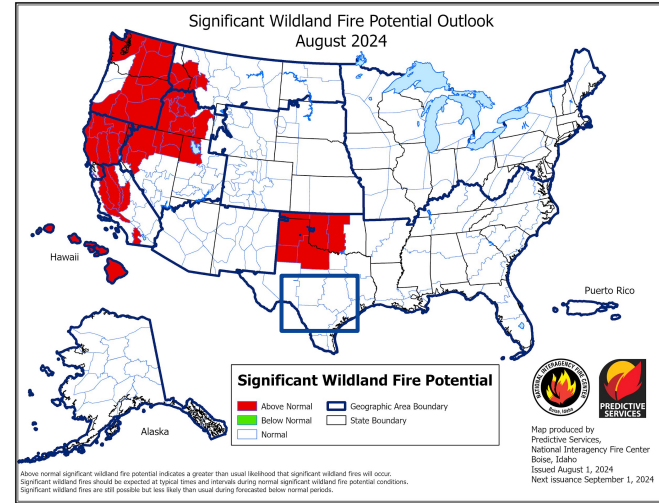
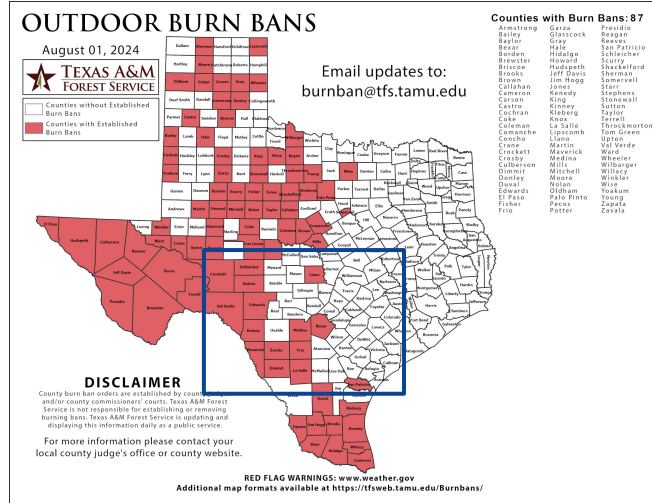




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- [Keetch Byram Drought Index values](#) have dropped into the 0 to 200 range across the Hill Country
- Values range between 400 and 600 over portions of the southern Edwards Plateau and Rio Grande Plains
- Normal wildland fire activity is forecast through the month of August



Burn bans remain for 9 of our 33 counties as of August 1, 2024. Latest County Burn Ban map available [here](#).



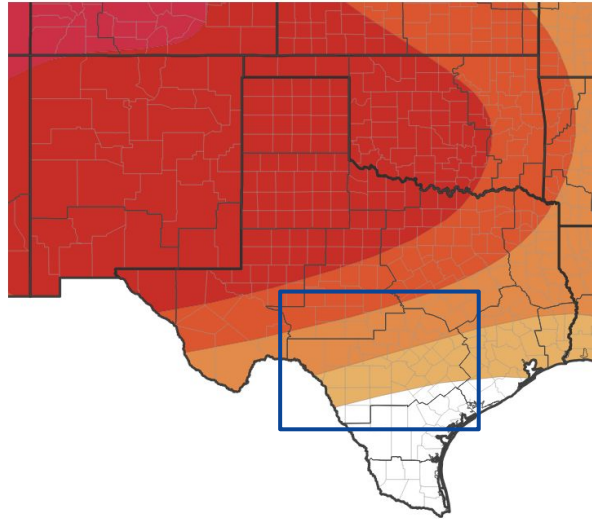


Long-Range Outlooks

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

- The temperature outlook for the month of August leans towards above normal for much of the service area
- The precipitation outlook shows equal chances for above, below, or near normal chances for the month of July across much of the service area
 - There is a leaning towards below normal chances for portions of the Hill Country and I-35 Corridor.
 - There is a slight leaning towards above normal rainfall for portions of the Coastal Plains, Rio Grande Plains, and Winter Garden

Monthly Temperature Outlook



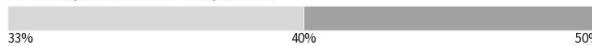
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



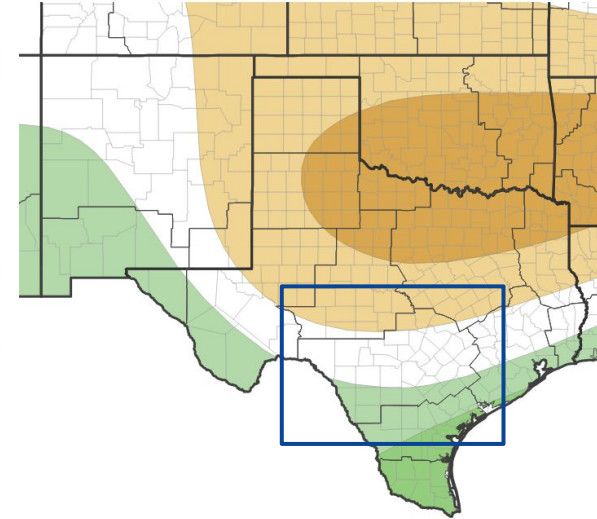
Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



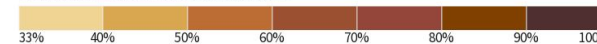
Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 07/31/24

Monthly Precipitation Outlook



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation

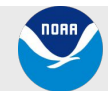


Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 07/31/24



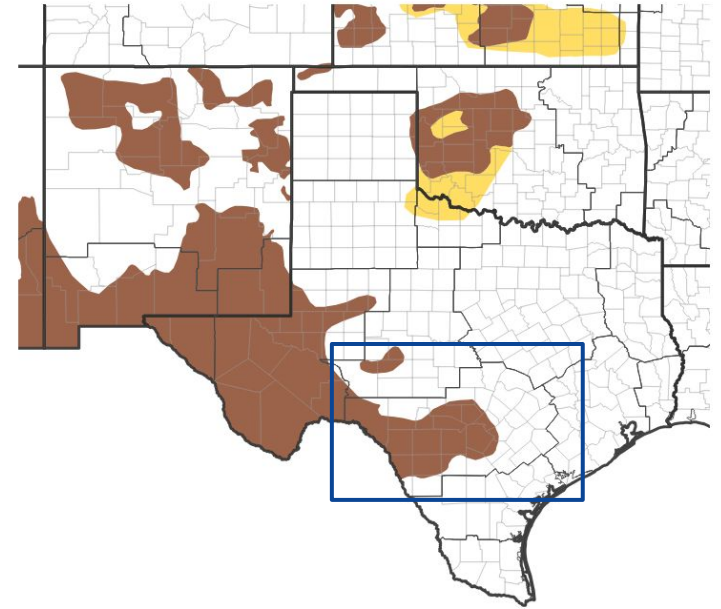


Drought Outlook

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

- Drought conditions are forecast to persist across portions of the southern Edwards Plateau, Rio Grande Plains, I-35 Corridor, and Hill Country through the month of August
- The three month outlook mirrors the monthly outlook with no drought improvement shown through October

1-Month Drought Outlook



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 07/31/24

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