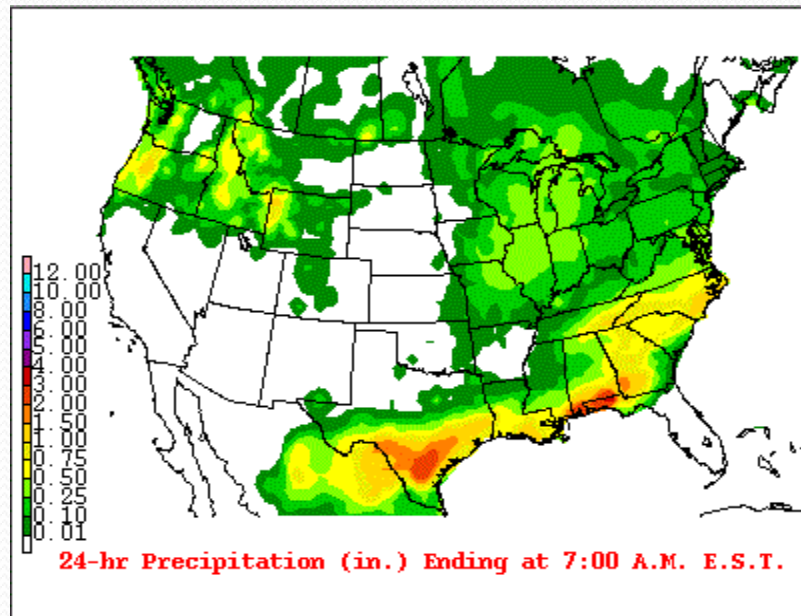


# Climate Review for the month December 2016 and the Year 2016

Presented by:  
National Weather Service  
Newport/Morehead City

# December 2016 Summary

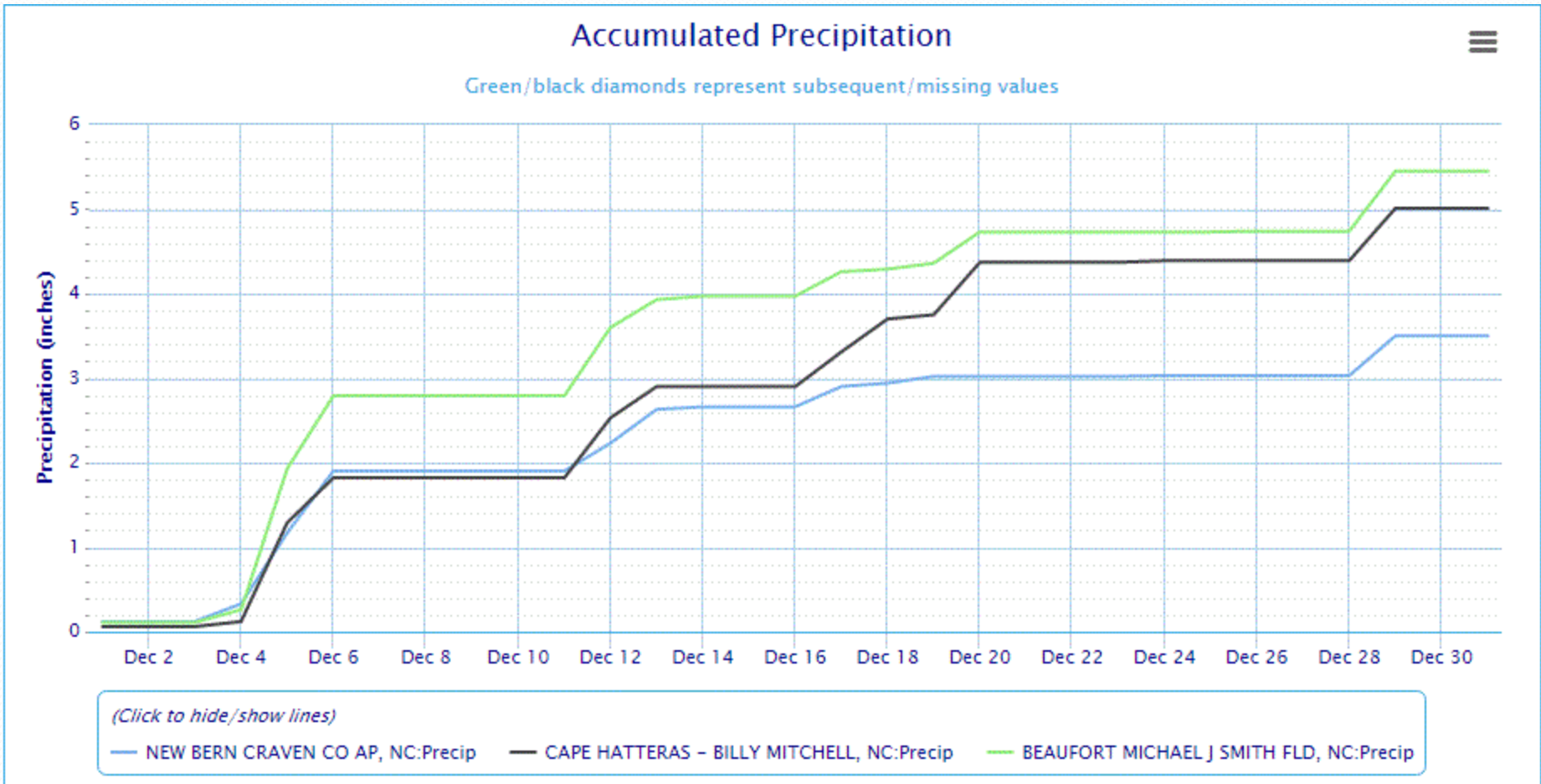
December 2016 was a relatively quiet month across eastern North Carolina with near normal temperatures and rainfall that was slightly above normal. No severe weather occurred in our area in the month of December. The primary weather system during the month was a strong area of low pressure that brought between 1 and 2 inches of rain and strong gusty winds to the region December 4 and 5.



24-hour Rainfall totals at 7 AM December 5, 2016.

*DISCLAIMER : The climate data provided are preliminary and have not undergone final quality control by NCDC. Therefore...this data is subject to revision.*

# December 2016 Rainfall



Here's a look at the December precipitation for New Bern, Hatteras and Beaufort.

# Average Temperatures within our CWA in December 2016

	Avg_ Max	Avg_Max Normal	Avg_ Min	Avg_Min Normal
<b>Beaufort</b>	58.9	57.0	41.8	39.7
<b>Cape Hatteras</b>	59.0	55.9	45.1	42.7
<b>New Bern</b>	57.5	57.5	37.3	36.1
<b>Greenville</b>	55.4	55.3	33.8	33.0
<b>Kinston</b>	56.1	55.3	34.9	34.0
<b>Williamston</b>	56.0	54.6	36.5	33.0
<b>Plymouth</b>	57.9	56.0	37.3	35.9
<b>Bayboro</b>	58.8	58.3	38.9	35.7

Despite a couple of cold snaps, temperatures for December 2016 were about 1-2 degrees above normal for many eastern North Carolina locations.

# Max and Min Temperature within our CWA in December 2016.

	MAX	MIN
Beaufort	72	27
Cape Hatteras	72	29
New Bern	81	21
Greenville	77	20
Kinston	79	21
Williamston	77	20
Plymouth	79	21
Bayboro	78	27

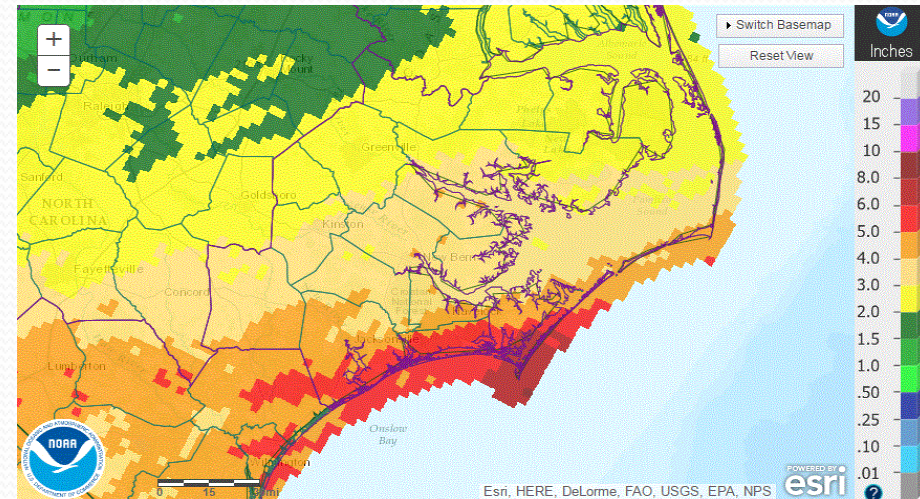
# Max and Min Temperature within our CWA for the Year 2016.

	MAX	MIN
Beaufort	90	20
Cape Hatteras	94	22
New Bern	97	18
Greenville	99	17
Kinston	98	
Williamston	98	16
Plymouth	97	16
Bayboro	95	25

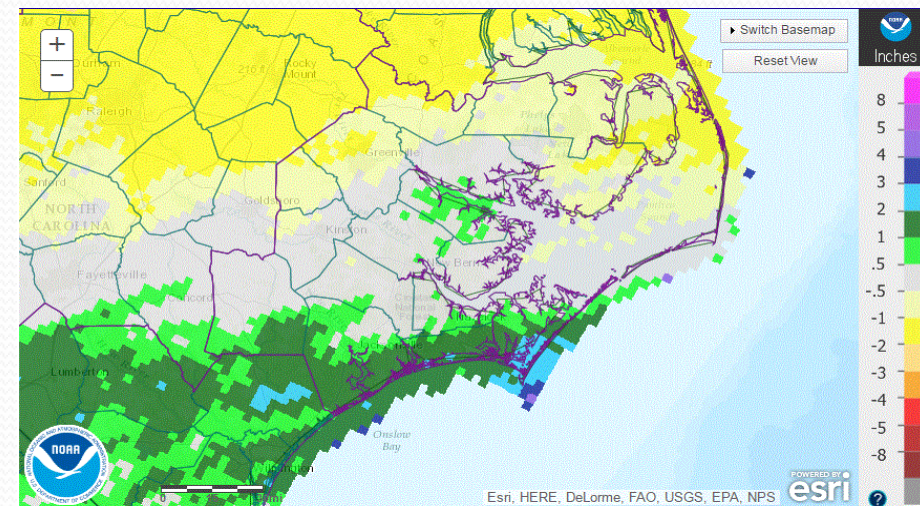
# December 2016 Rain Versus Climate Normal

	Precipitation (inches)	Normal	Difference
Beaufort	5.45	3.52	1.93
Cape Hatteras	5.01	4.27	0.74
New Bern	3.50	3.40	1.00
Greenville	2.38	3.25	-0.87
Kinston	3.94	3.08	0.86
Williamston	3.17	3.24	-0.07
Plymouth	3.63	3.29	0.34
Bayboro	4.02	3.75	0.27

A large part of eastern North Carolina had near normal precipitation in December 2016. The expectation were the coast where it was generally 1 to 2 inches wetter than normal, and far northern areas that were 1 to 2 inches below normal.



Observed Precipitation

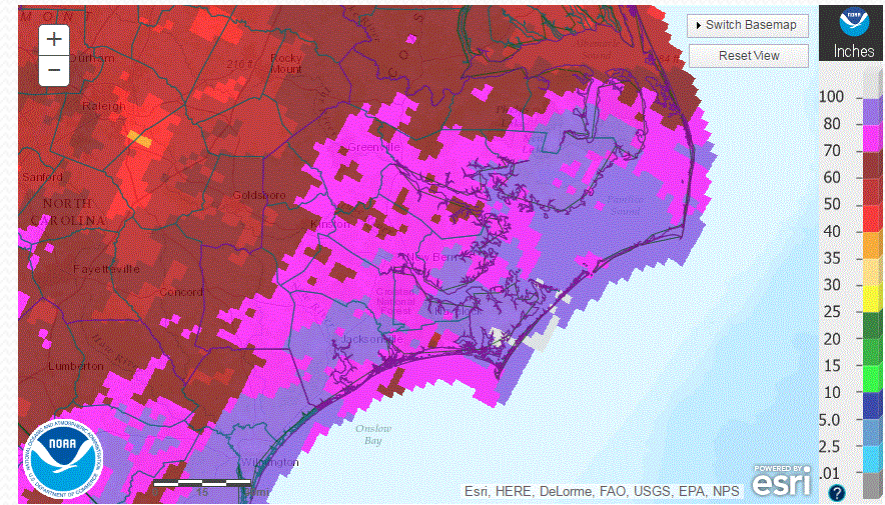


Departure From Normal

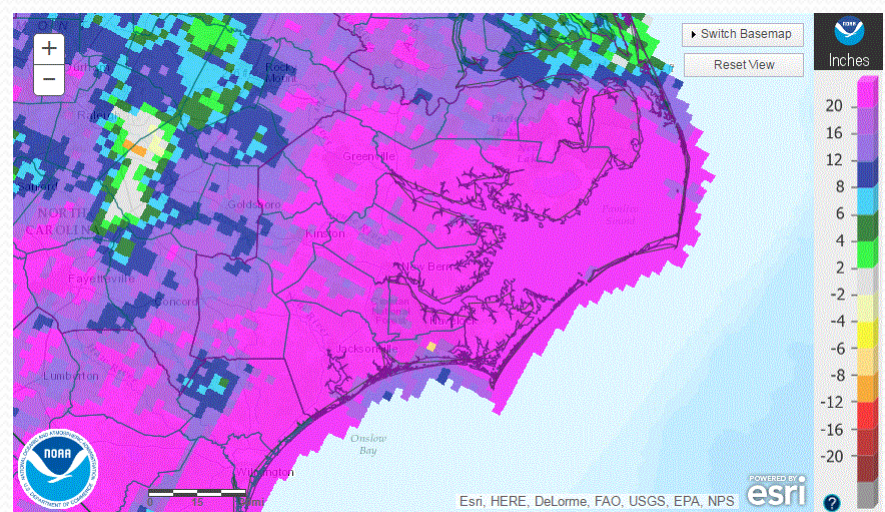
# Yearly 2016 Rain Versus Climate Normal

	Precipitation (inches)	Normal	Difference
Beaufort	58.37	54.55	3.82
Cape Hatteras	73.19	58.04	15.15
New Bern	64.57	52.75	11.82
Greenville	69.06	49.60	19.46
Kinston	67.52		
Williamston	71.57	49.83	21.74
Plymouth	74.83	51.90	22.93
Bayboro	65.80	47.35	18.45

Thanks largely to Tropical Storm Hermine and Hurricane Matthew, most all of eastern North Carolina was more than 10 inches above normal in precipitation for 2016, with many areas more than 20 inches above normal!



Observed Precipitation

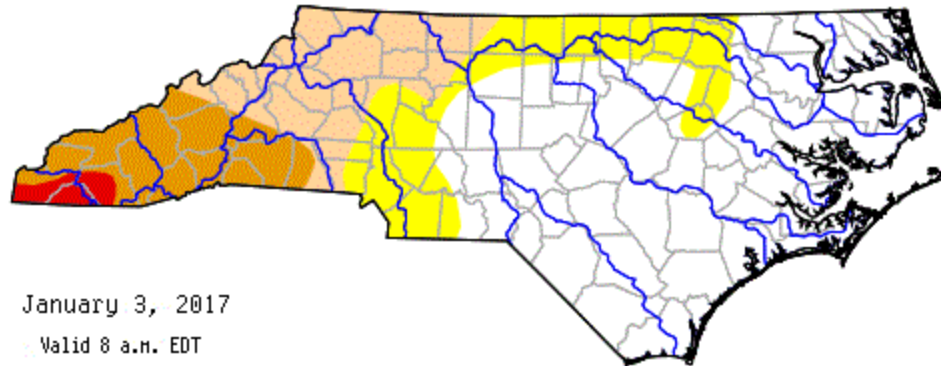


Departure From Normal



# Latest Drought Monitor for North Carolina

US Drought Monitor of  
**NORTH CAROLINA**



January 3, 2017

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

#### Drought Classifications

- D0 - Abnormally Dry
- D1 - Moderate Drought
- D2 - Severe Drought
- D3 - Extreme Drought
- D4 - Exceptional Drought



County Boundaries



Major River Basins ([View Map](#))

**S** = Short-Term, typically <6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)

**L** = Long-Term, typically >6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

[Hi-Resolution Image](#) | [Print Version](#) |

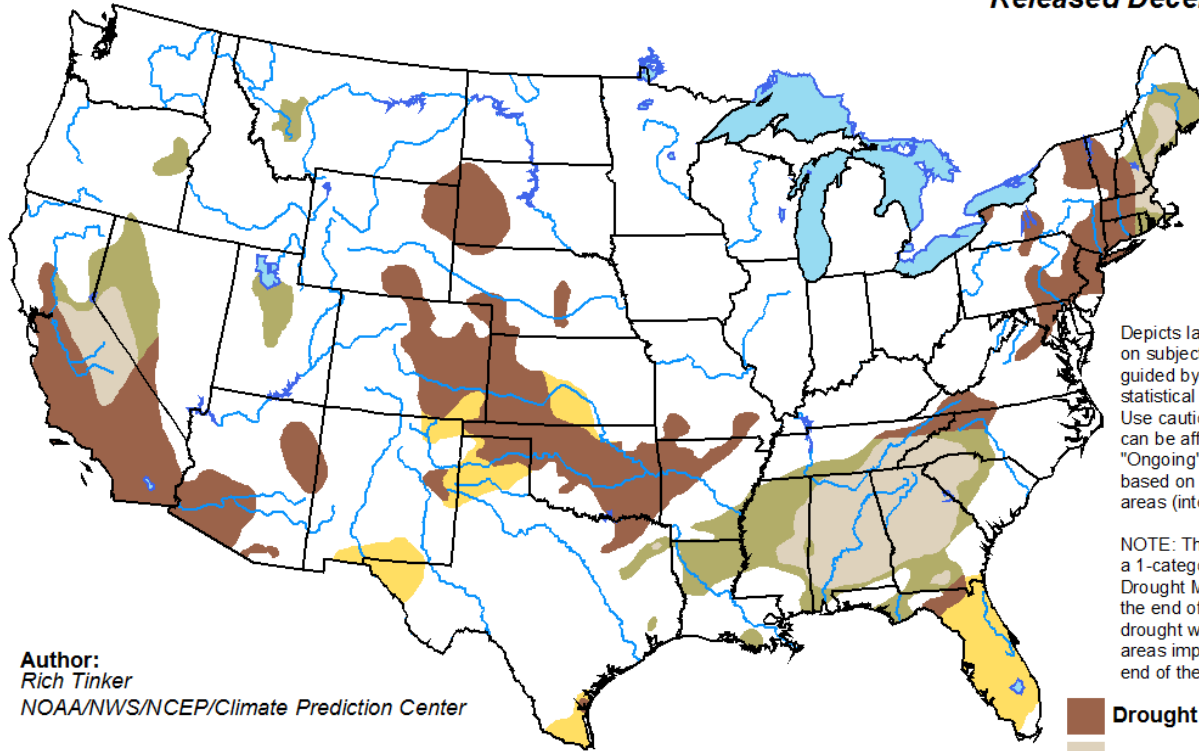
Severe to Extreme Drought continues in the mountain areas of far western NC with abnormally dry conditions into the western and northern Piedmont. Eastern NC remains in good shape drought-wise.

# Monthly Drought Outlook

For January

## U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period





Valid for January 2017  
Released December 31, 2016

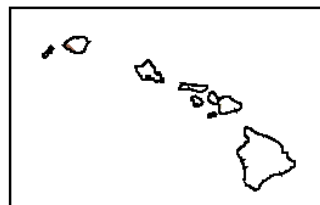
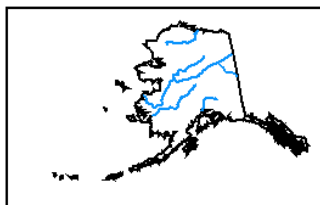


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

Author:  
Rich Tinker  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

-  Drought persists
-  Drought remains but improves
-  Drought removal likely
-  Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/3eZGd>