



# Drought Information Statement for South Central Texas

Valid August 3, 2023

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 Sept. 07, 2023 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.



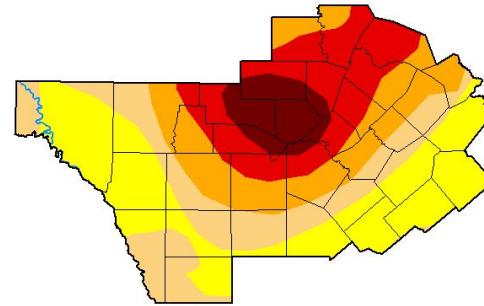


# U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - D4 Exceptional Drought: Now covers much of the central Hill Country, 7.75% of our region
  - D3 Extreme Drought: Now covers the remainder of the Hill Country and extends along I-35, including much of the Austin Area.
  - D2 Severe Drought: Extends to the east of I-35 from San Antonio northward, and includes northern Burnet/Llano counties as well as portions of Medina, Uvalde, Real, and Edwards counties.
- More hot, dry weather is forecast this month
  - Only 32% of south central Texas is not currently in drought, but is rapidly drying and expected to enter drought status before the end of August.

## U.S. Drought Monitor Austin/San Antonio, TX WFO



**August 1, 2023**  
(Released Thursday, Aug. 3, 2023)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
<b>Current</b>	0.00	32.02	22.37	19.10	18.75	7.76
<b>Last Week</b> 07-25-2023	0.00	32.02	22.36	19.10	18.75	7.76
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 05-02-2023	20.79	4.93	11.88	26.49	23.87	12.05
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-01-2023	6.21	14.33	40.02	19.13	11.66	8.65
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-27-2022	1.55	13.06	33.69	29.92	16.79	4.98
<b>One Year Ago</b> 08-02-2022	0.00	0.00	0.59	14.07	36.57	48.77

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:

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National Drought Mitigation Center



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

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am EDT August 1, 2023.



National Oceanic and  
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service  
Austin/San Antonio, TX



# 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: Over much of the Hill Country, I-35 corridor, Coastal Plains, and portions of the southern Edwards Plateau and Rio Grande Plains.
  - No Change: Portions of the southern Edwards Plateau, Rio Grande Plains, and Hill Country.
  - Drought Improved: No drought improvement was observed.

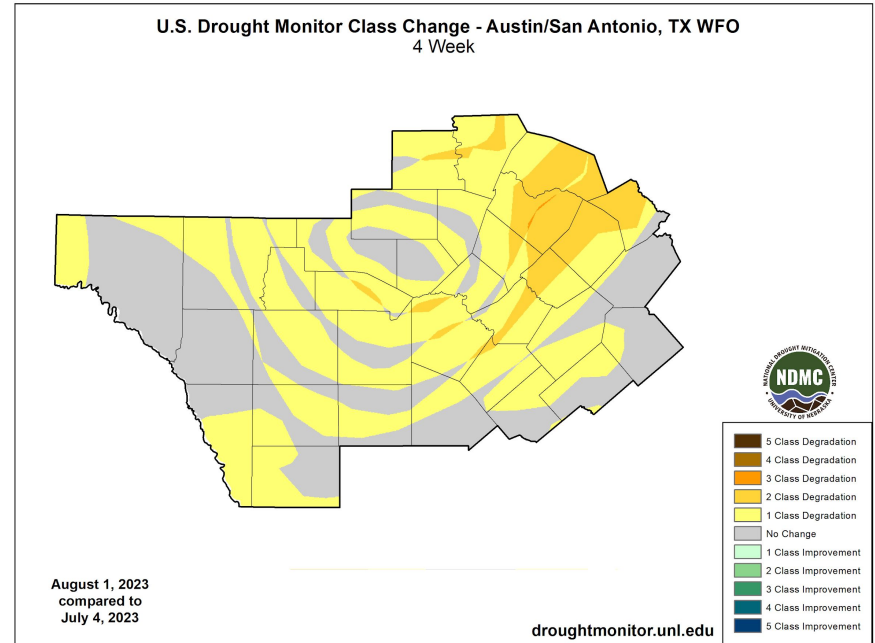


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid 8am EDT August 1, 2023







# Precipitation

Last 30 days

- Isolated to scattered rains of generally less than 1" have fallen in the last 30 days.
- The majority of the region has seen less than 25% of normal rainfall over this period.
- Combine the below normal rainfall, above normal temperatures, and breezy conditions and the result in a favorable environment for evaporation.

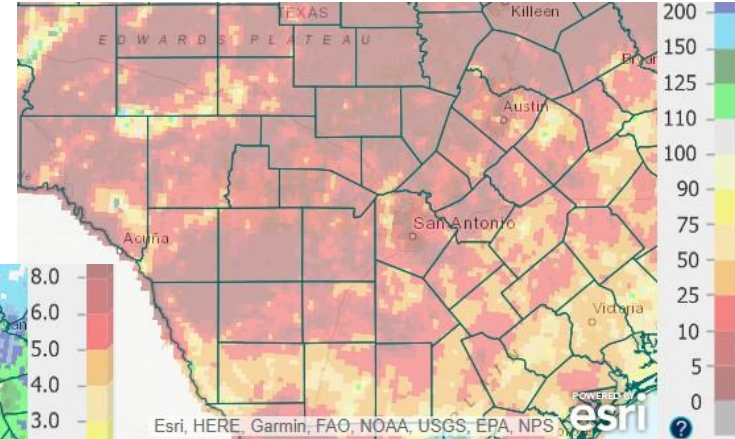
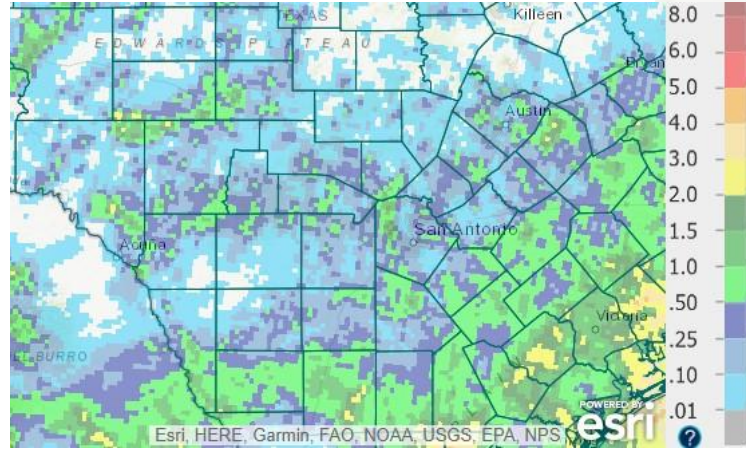


Image Captions:  
 Left - [Precipitation Amount Map for south-central Texas](#)  
 Right - [Percent of Normal Precipitation for south-central Texas](#)  
 Data Courtesy Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service (AHPS)  
 Data over the past 30 days ending August 3, 2023







# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows remain below to much below normal across most basins in the region, and have worsened over the past two weeks. See next slide for more details

## Agricultural Impacts

- Please see the latest [Crop and Weather Report](#) from Texas A&M Agrilife.
- Soil Moistures have continued to decrease over the past 14 days with much of the area showing below normal soil moisture. Crop moistures remain severely dry.

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- Wildfire activity has continued to increase and above normal wildland fire activity is expected to continue through September.
- See slide 8 for more details

## Other Impacts

- Water recreation is severely impacted on Lake Medina, Lakes Travis and Amistad as well as the Guadalupe, Frio, Pedernales, and Blanco rivers.

## Drought Mitigation Actions

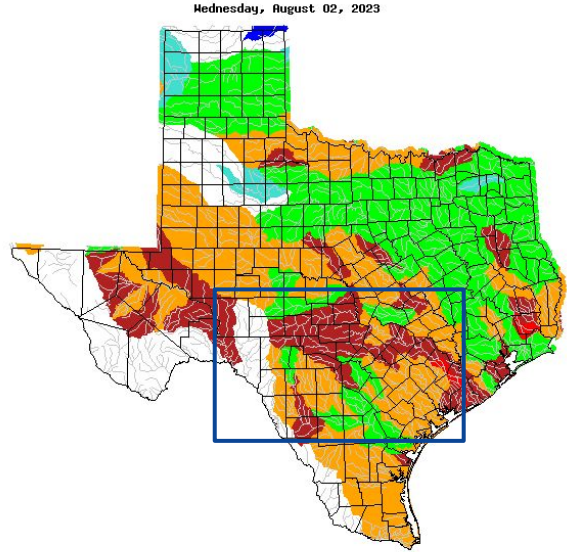
- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.
- Select [Municipality Restrictions](#) (as of 8/3)
  - Fredericksburg: Stage 3
  - City of Llano: Stage 3
  - City of Georgetown: Stage 3
  - San Antonio: Stage 2
  - Universal City: Stage 2
  - New Braunfels: Stage 2
  - Austin: Stage 1 (subject to change soon)
  - Kerrville: Stage 2





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflows over the past 7 days show a noticeable drop of streamflows as waterways have not been replenished from rainfall, and surface evaporation has increased over the past two weeks.
- Much of the streamflow across the area is in the less than 10th percentile for this time of year (maroon shading on the map).



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 August 2, 2023

Reservoir	Pool Elevation (ft)	Current Elevation (ft)	Percent Full
Amistad	1117.00	1066.92	36.2%
Medina Lake	1064.2	979.53	4.7%
Canyon Lake	909.00	894.24	71.2%
Granger Lake	504.00	502.79	90.8%
Georgetown Lake	791.00	775.81	55.7%
Lake Buchanan	1020.00	997.75	53.8%
Lake LBJ	825.00	824.77	98.7%
Lake Marble Falls	738.00	736.33	94.7%
Lake Travis	681.00	635.25	41.4%
Lake Austin	492.9	492.16	96.8%

Table caption: [TWDB Reservoir](#) conditions as of August 3, 2023

Additional data:  
Edwards Aquifer, Bexar Index Well J-17 as of August 3, 2023:

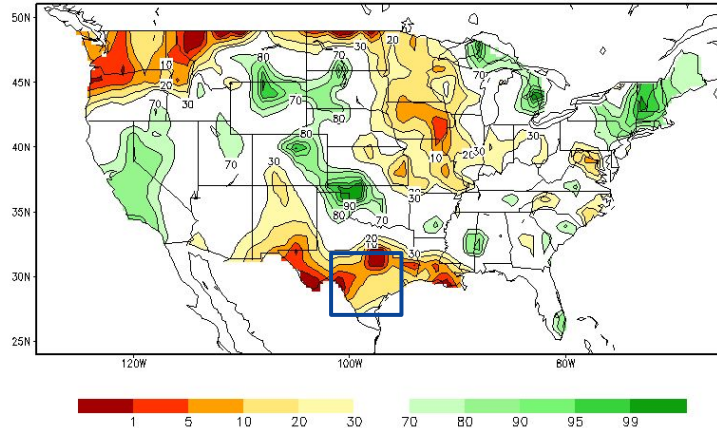
10 day average: 628.3  
 Historical July Average: 657.6  
 Departure from Average: -29.3



# Agricultural Impacts

- Soil Moistures have continued to decrease over the past 14 days with much of the area showing below normal soil moisture.
- Crop moistures remain in the severely dry category across all three of the crop divisions.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile  
AUG 02, 2023



Crop Moisture Index by Division  
Weekly Value for Period Ending JUL 29, 2023  
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

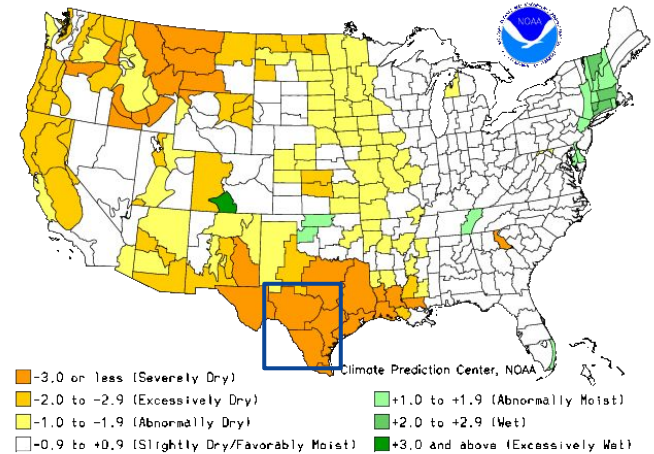


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid August 2 , 2023

Above: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending July 29, 2023









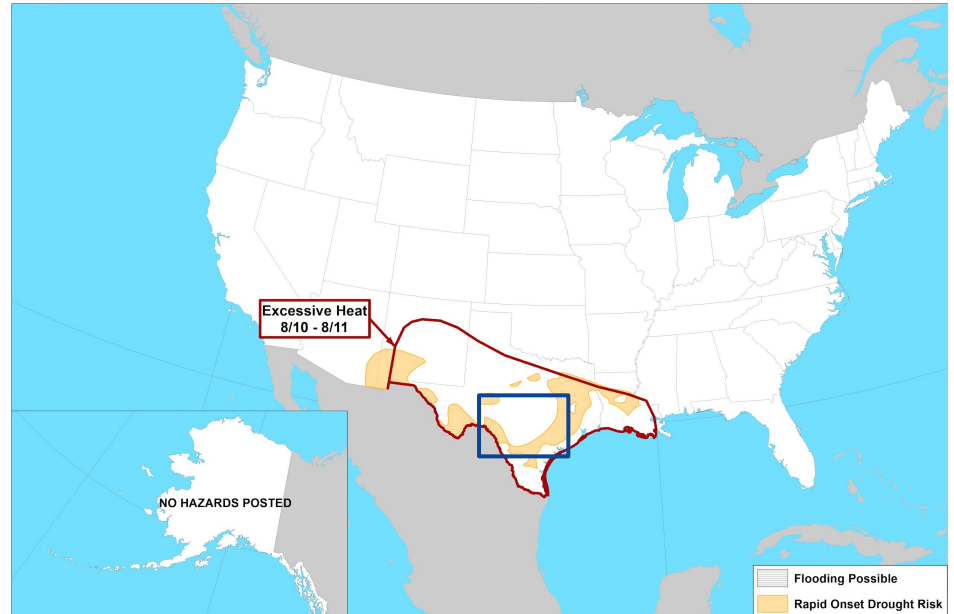
# Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- Continued hot temperatures and a lack of rainfall over the next 1-2 weeks will lead to continued Rapid Onset Drought impacts in south-central Texas.



Day 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook  
Valid: 08/10/2023-08/16/2023



Climate Prediction Center  
Made: 08/02/2023 3PM EDT

Follow us:   
[www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov)

Image Caption:  
[Days 8 to 14 U.S. Hazards Outlook](#) Valid August 2, 2023





# Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Above normal temperatures are likely to continue on average through the month of August.
- Odds lean towards below normal precipitation in August across

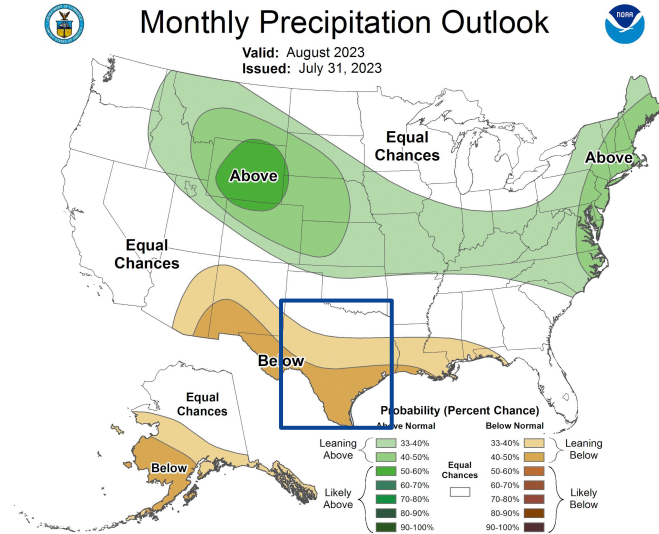
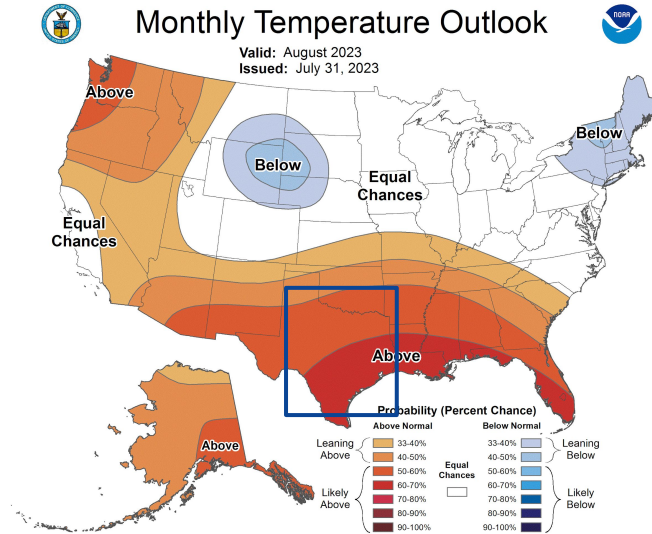


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook](#),

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook](#),

Valid August 2023







# Drought Outlook

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

- Drought will continue to expand this month across the western, southern, and southeastern periphery of south-central Texas which are currently experiencing abnormal dryness.
- Drought elsewhere will persist, and impacts will continue to gradually worsen

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

Valid for August 2023  
Released July 31, 2023

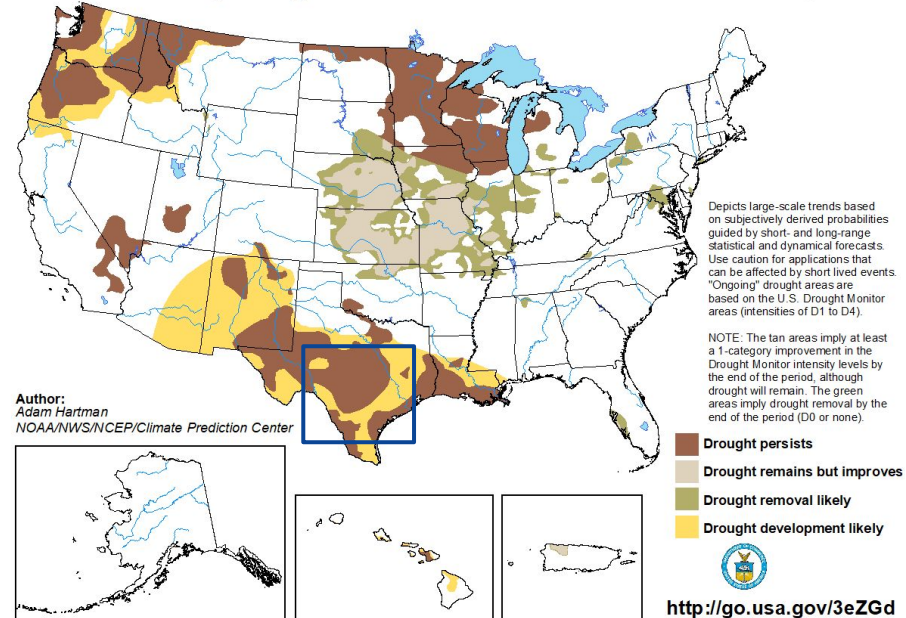


Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook Released July 31, 2023 valid for August 2023

Links to the latest:

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

