



Drought Information Statement for Central North Carolina

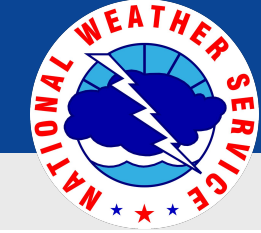
Valid March 14, 2025

Issued By: NWS Raleigh

Contact Information:

- This is the last Drought Information Statement until Severe Drought (D2) conditions redevelop.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/RAH/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Questions or comments can be sent to barrett.smith@noaa.gov
- Recent locally heavy rainfall across southern NC has helped improve rainfall deficits and the severe drought conditions.
- Moderate Drought (D1) and Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions continue across the rest of central NC.





Current Drought Conditions

March 14, 2025
3:50 PM

Graphic Courtesy of the North Carolina State Climate Office

North Carolina Drought Update

Created By:

North Carolina
Drought Management Advisory Council
www.ncdrought.org

NORTH CAROLINA
CLIMATE OFFICE
climate.ncsu.edu

NC STATE
@NCSCO

For the assessment period ending **Mar. 11, 2025**
From the US Drought Monitor, with input from the NC DMAC

The Main Takeaway

Last week's rain helped improve Severe Drought (D2) in the Sandhills and southern coastline, while Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions expanded slightly in the northwest.

This Week's Summary

Two solid rounds of rainfall – one last Wednesday and another this Monday – brought more than two inches of rain in total across parts of southeastern NC, putting a halt to worsening drought there and giving stream and soil moisture levels a needed boost. Elsewhere, the weekly rainfall totals of about an inch were near normal in most areas, but not enough to bring improvements.

Next Week's Outlook

A cold front will move in on Sunday and is expected to bring widespread rainfall totals of an inch or more, with locally higher amounts in the southern Mountains.

For your local drought status, visit www.ncdrought.org



Precipitation deficits have slowly been growing in the northern Mountains, now standing at 3.16 inches in Jefferson over the past three months.



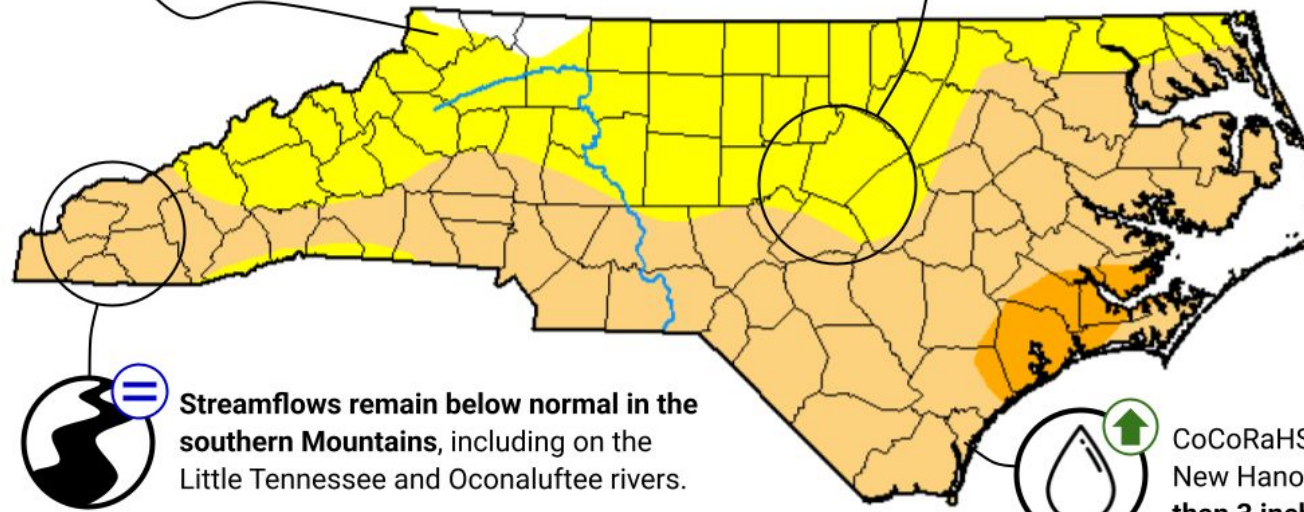
Ag Extension in Wake and Harnett counties notes cereal grains are behind their usual pace, but recent rains should help them recover.



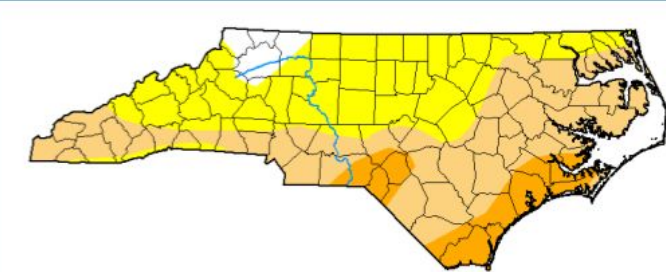
Streamflows remain below normal in the southern Mountains, including on the Little Tennessee and Oconaluftee rivers.



CoCoRaHS observers in southern New Hanover County reported more than 3 inches of rain on Monday.



Last Week's Drought Status



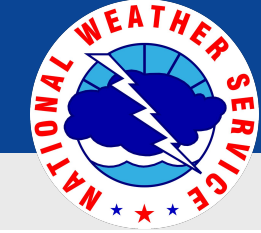
Statewide Coverage by Category

Category	Current Coverage	Change Since Last Week
D0: Abnormally Dry	39.31%	-2.08%
D1: Moderate Drought	55.55%	+12.19%
D2: Severe Drought	3.90%	-7.46%
D3: Extreme Drought	0.00%	0.00%
D4: Exceptional Drought	0.00%	0.00%



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

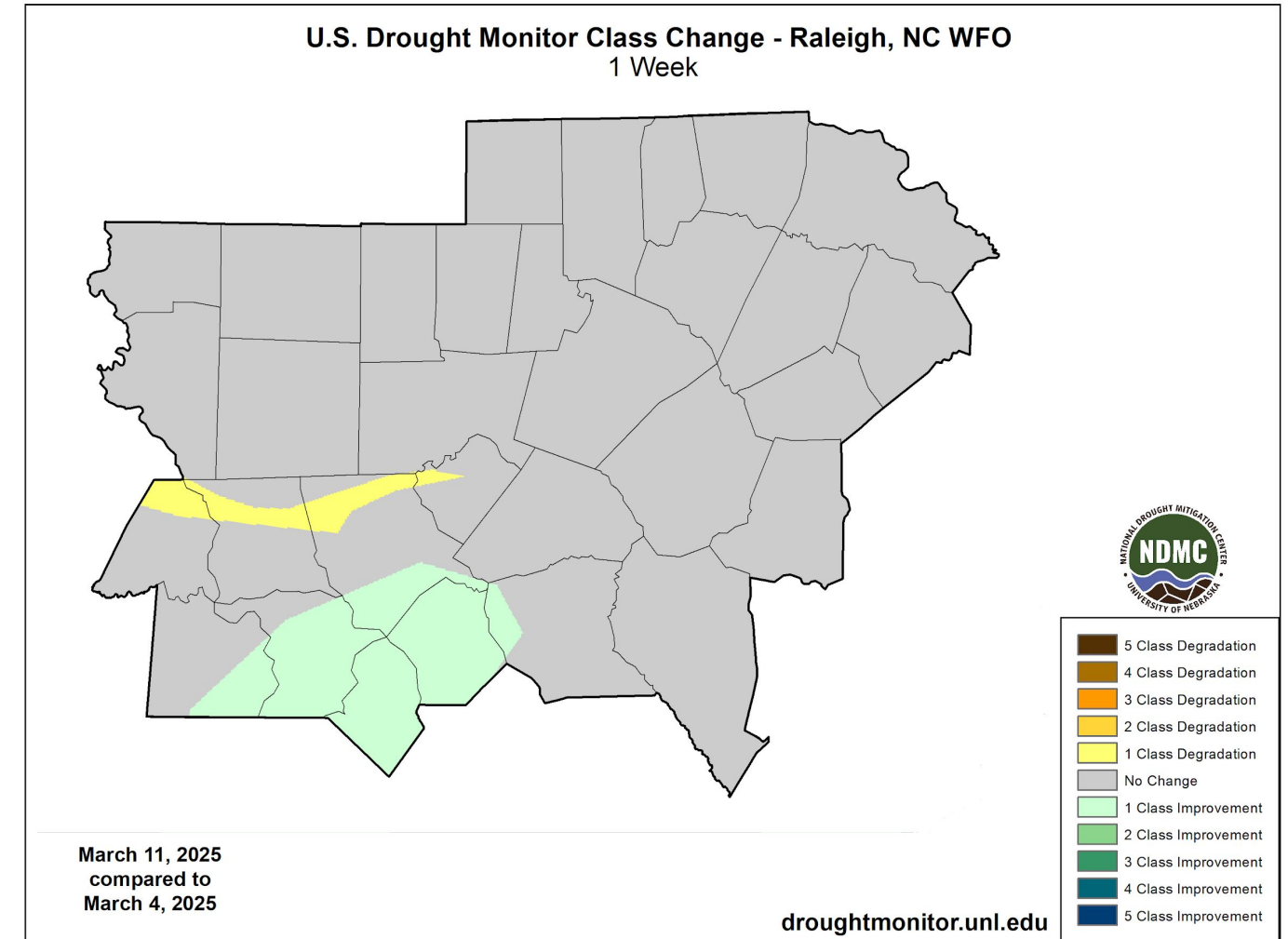
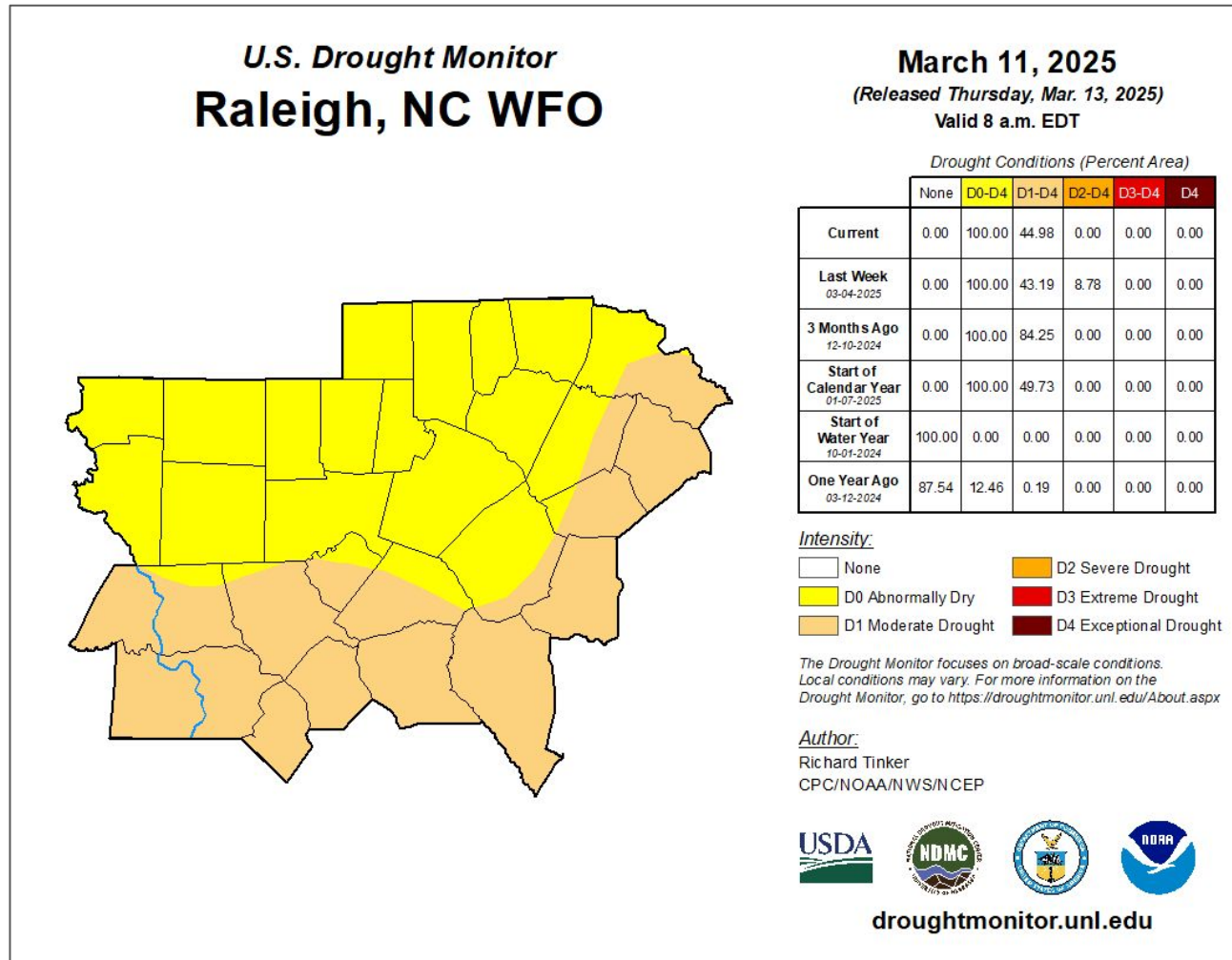
National Weather Service
Raleigh, NC



Current Drought Conditions

March 14, 2025
3:50 PM

Latest U.S. Drought Monitor Map and One-Week Change



Main Takeaways

- Moderate Drought (D1) conditions remain across much of southern and eastern North Carolina

Image Caption:

Left: [U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am EST March 11th.](#)

Right: [U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid 8am EST March 11th.](#)



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Raleigh, NC

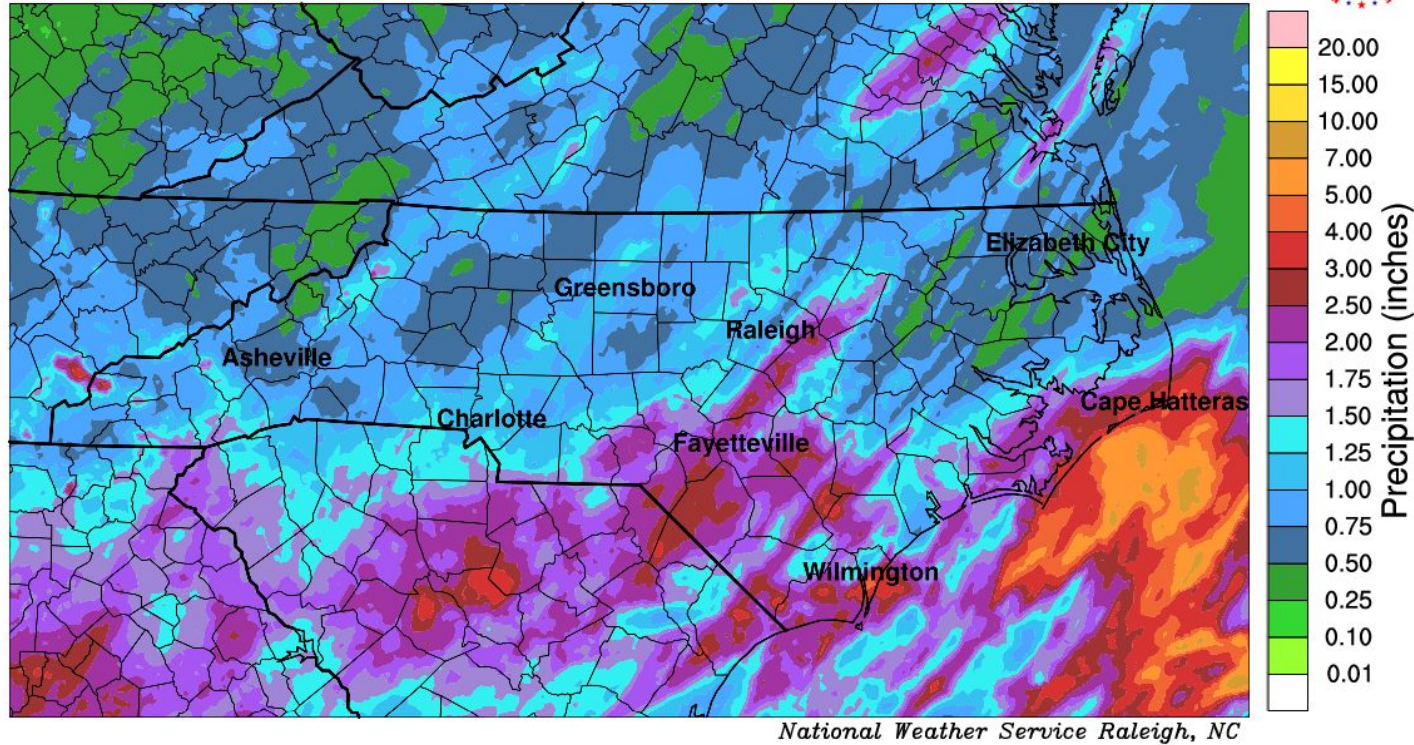


Observed Precipitation

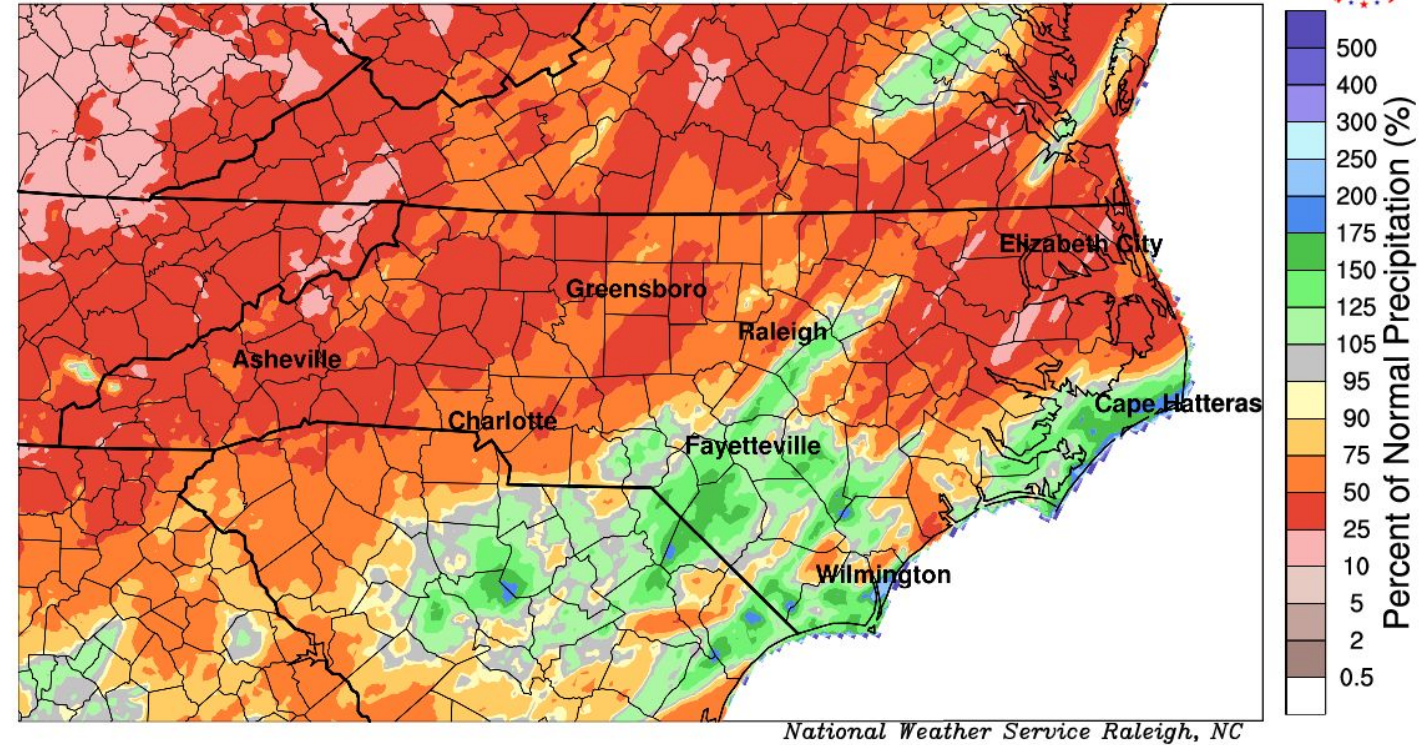
March 14, 2025
3:50 PM

Latest 7-Day Rainfall and Percent of Normal Rainfall

NWPS 14-Day Observed Precipitation
Valid: 8 AM EDT Friday March 14, 2025



NWPS 14-Day Observed Percent of Normal Precipitation
Valid: 8 AM EDT Friday March 14, 2025



Main Takeaways

- A storm system that moved across North Carolina on Wednesday, March 5th produced up to 1-1.5 inches of rain from the southern Piedmont to the southern coastal (14 day rainfall and percent of normal shown above).

Image Captions:

Left - Precipitation Amount for NC

Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation for NC

Data Courtesy NWS National Water Prediction Service

Data over the past 14 days ending March 14, 2025

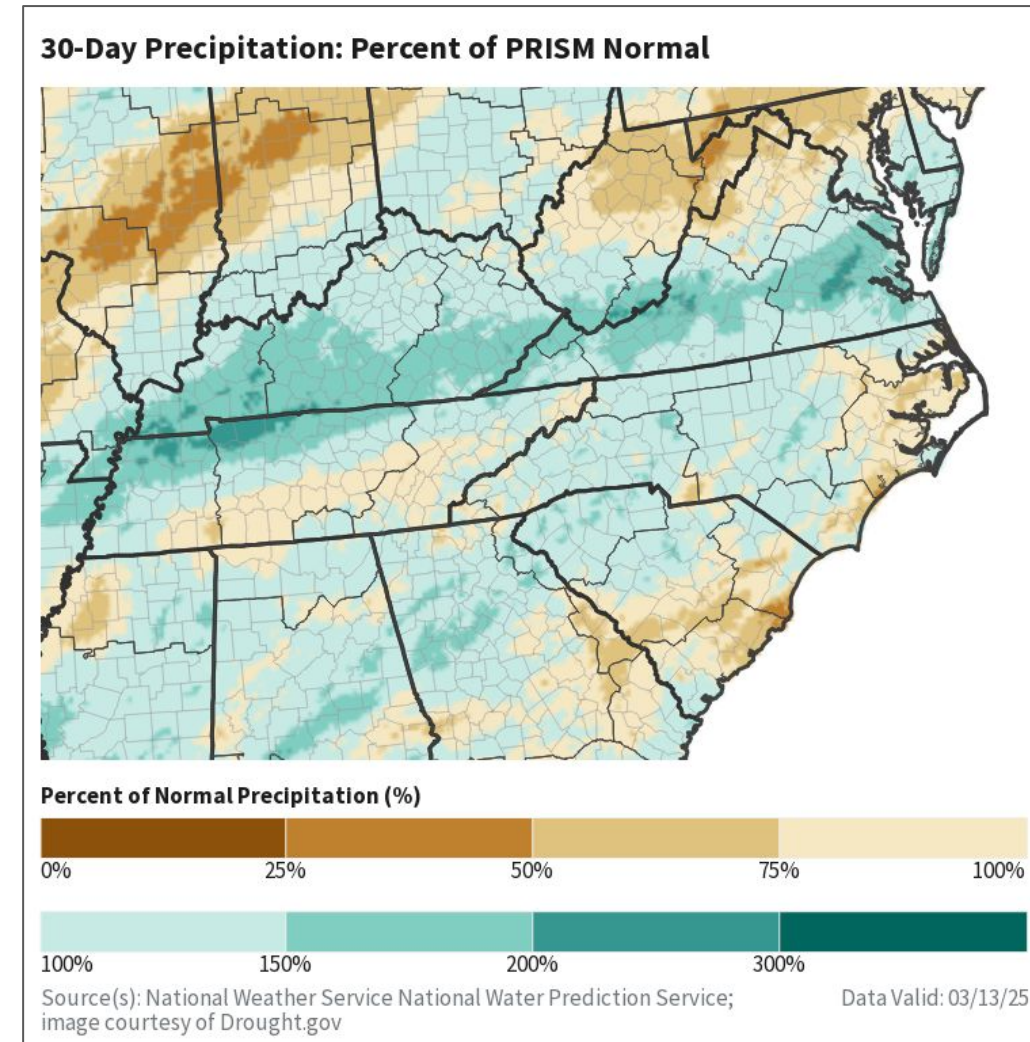
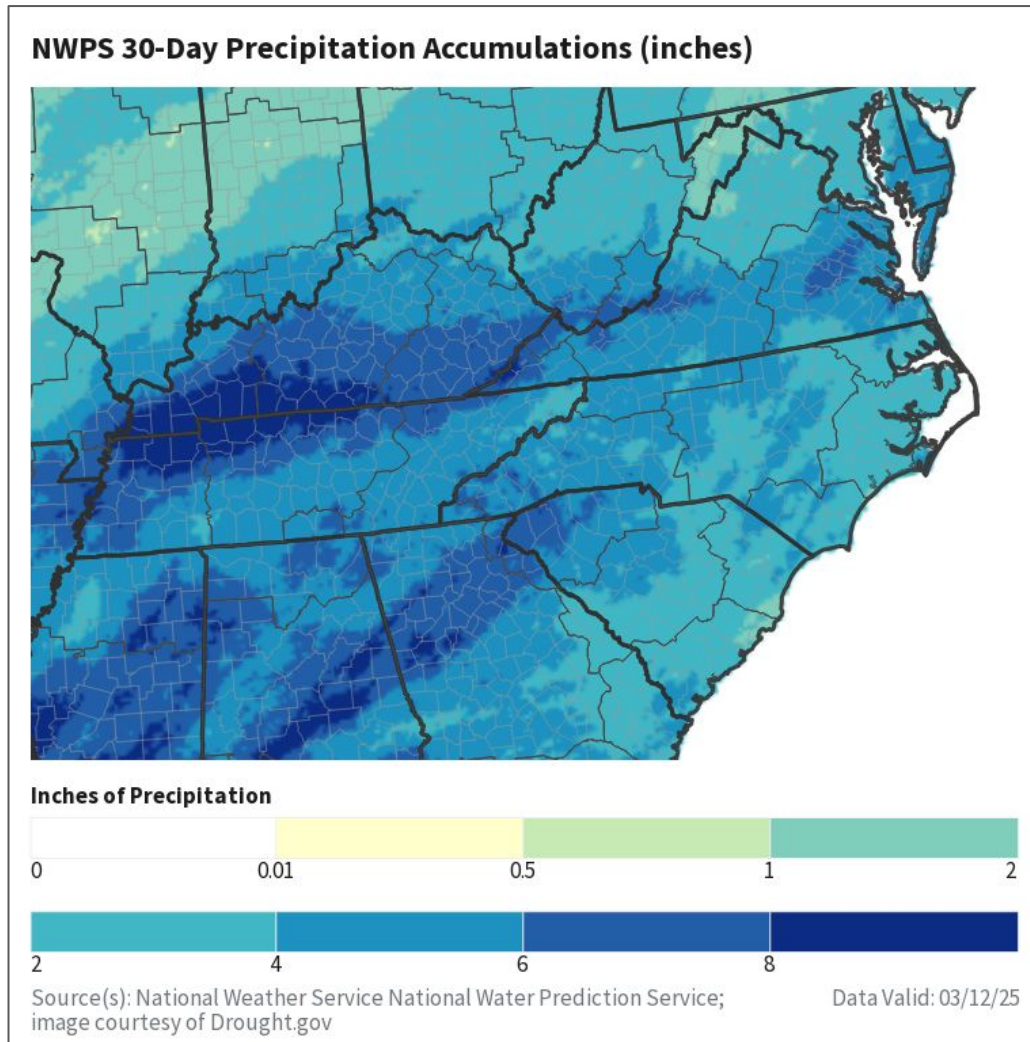




Observed Precipitation

March 14, 2025
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Latest 30-Day Rainfall and Percent of Normal Rainfall



Main Takeaways

- There are still rainfall deficits across portions of southern and eastern North Carolina in the past 30 days or longer.

Image Captions:

Left - Precipitation Amount for NC
Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation for NC
Data Courtesy NWS National Water Prediction Service
Data over the past 30 days ending March 13, 2025





Precipitation Forecast

March 14, 2025
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Latest 7-Day Precipitation Forecast

- Next 7 days:

- A strong cold front will move through the region Sunday, bringing a chance of non-convective strong winds, severe storms, and flooding.
- Widespread rainfall of at least one half inch is expected and higher amounts up of over one inch are possible across much of the area.

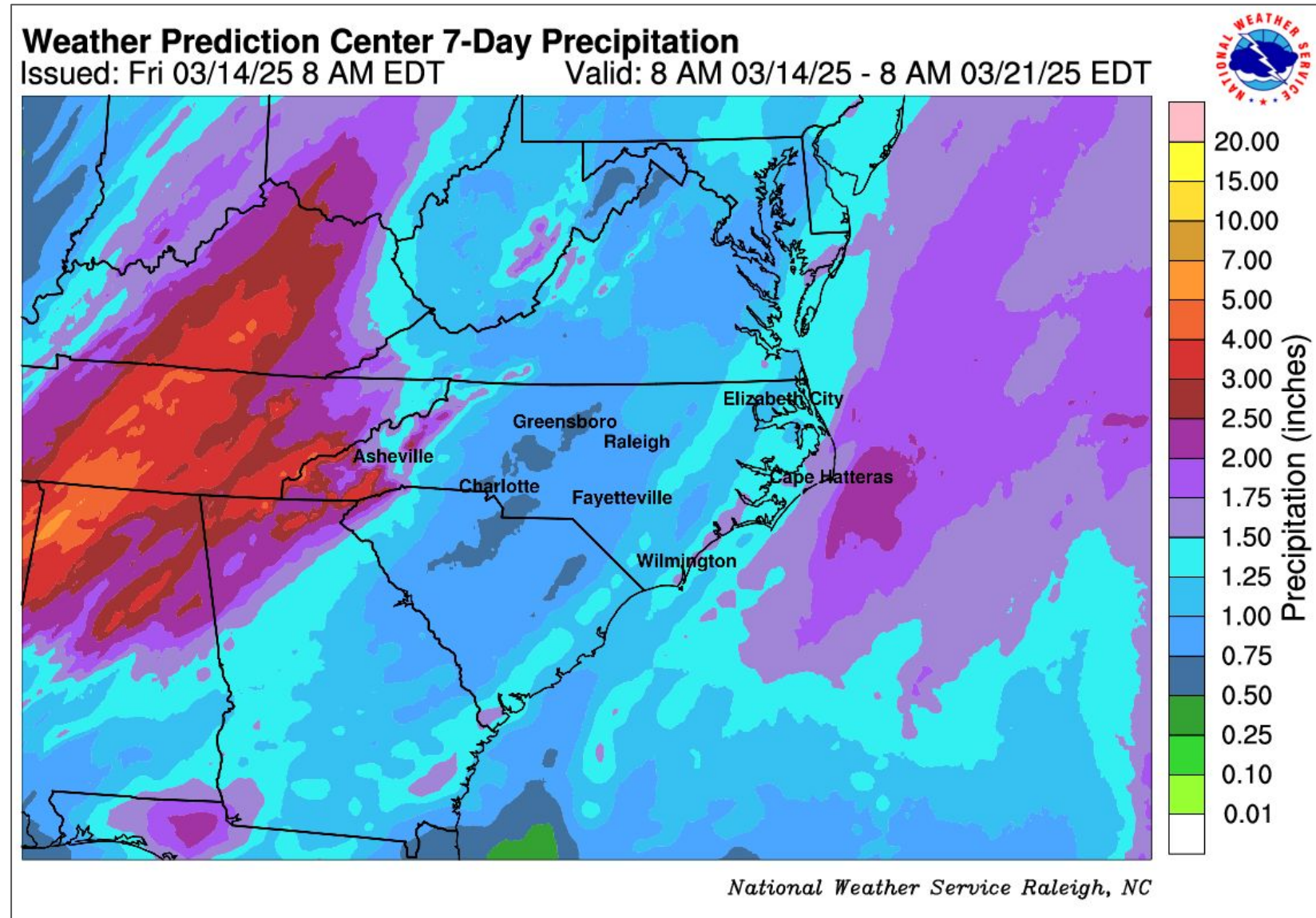


Image Caption:

Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid Friday March 14 to Friday March 21, 2025





8-14 Day Outlook

March 14, 2025
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Temperature and Precipitation Outlook

Main Takeaways

- There is a 40-60% chance of above normal temperatures in Days 8-14 across central North Carolina.
- There are slightly increased chances (33-40%) of above normal precipitation in Days 8-14.

Possible Impact

- Potential for continued improvement in drought conditions.

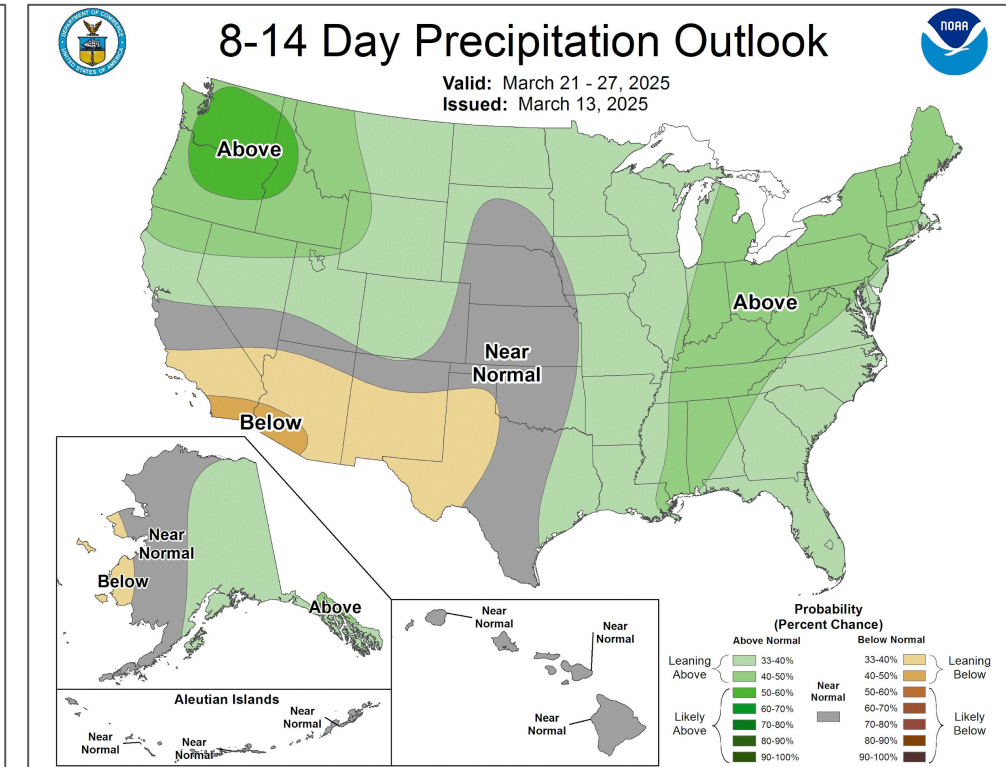
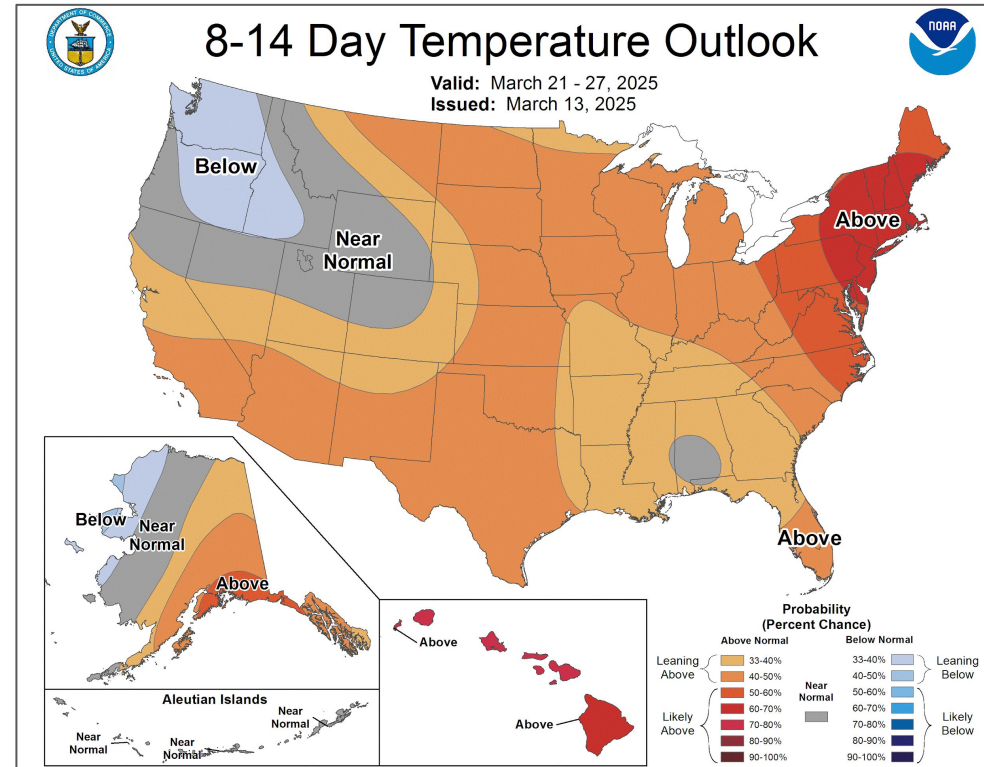


Image Captions:
 Left - [Climate Prediction Center 8-14 Day Temperature Outlook.](#)
 Right - [Climate Prediction Center 8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook.](#)
 Valid March 21 -27, 2025





Weeks 3-4 Outlook

March 14, 2025
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Temperature and Precipitation Outlook

Main Takeaways

- There are equal chances of above or below normal precipitation across essentially all of central North Carolina.
- Likewise there are equal chances of above or below normal temperatures.

Possible Impact

There is no clear signal for wet or dry conditions heading into early April. However the main storm track should generally be through the Midwest, bringing weather systems into the region and some chances for rain.

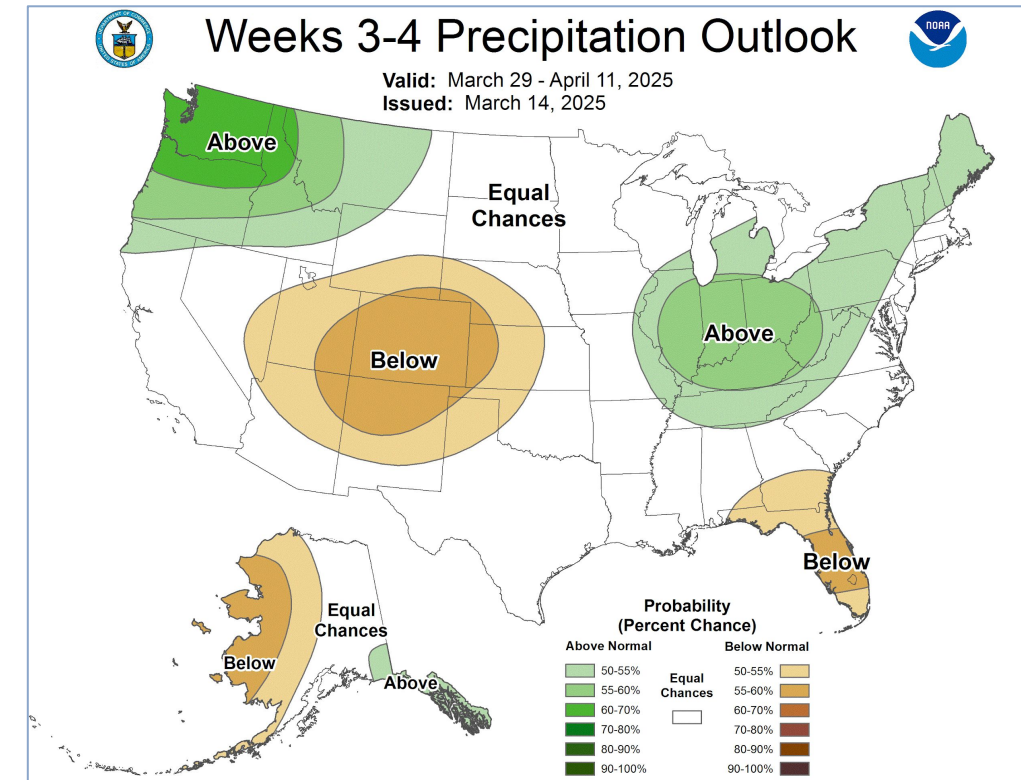
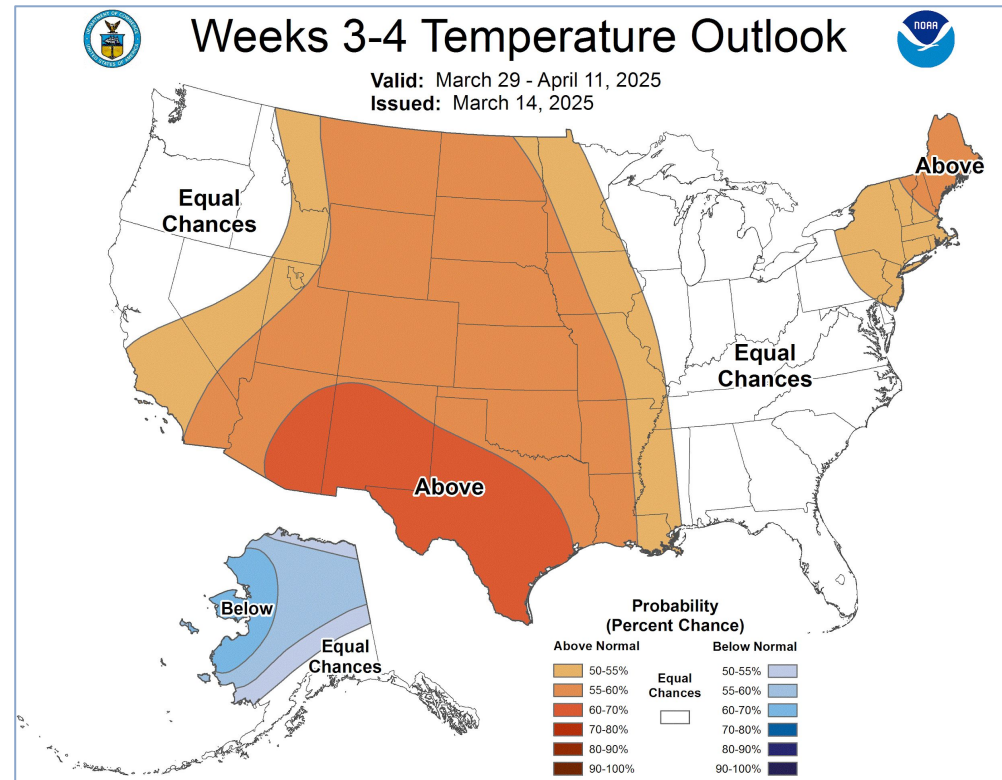


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Weeks 3-4 Temperature Outlook.](#)

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Weeks 3-4 Precipitation Outlook.](#)

Valid March 22-April 4, 2025

