



# Drought Information Statement for North Louisiana, East Texas, Southwest Arkansas, and Extreme Southeast Oklahoma

Valid September 30, 2023

Issued By: NWS Shreveport

Contact Information: [sr-shv.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-shv.webmaster@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated October 31, 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/shv/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.





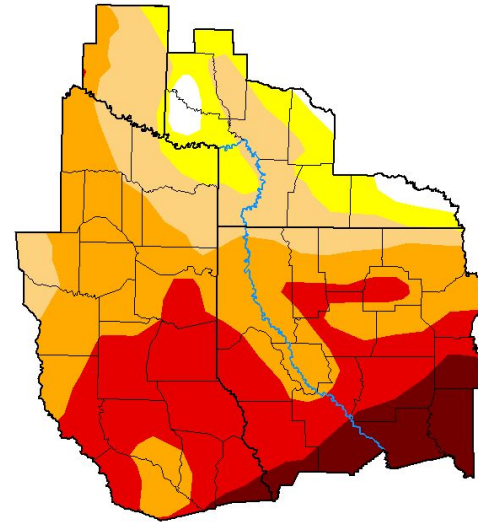
# U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Southeast OK, Southwest AR, East TX, and North LA

- Extreme and Severe Drought Continues to Plague East Texas and North Louisiana
- Drought intensity and Extent
  - D4 (Exceptional Drought): Portions of Central Louisiana
  - D3 (Extreme Drought): Much of Lower East Texas (South of I-20) and North-central Louisiana
  - D2 (Severe Drought): Much of East Texas and North Louisiana (along and north of I-20)
  - D1 (Moderate Drought): Portions of extreme Northeast Texas, McCurtain County Oklahoma, and Southwest Arkansas
  - D0: (Abnormally Dry): Much of Southwest Arkansas

## U.S. Drought Monitor Shreveport, LA WFO

**September 26, 2023**  
(Released Thursday, Sep. 28, 2023)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	2.22	97.78	88.01	68.76	36.19	8.25
Last Week 09-19-2023	1.23	98.77	93.80	79.57	48.53	18.64
3 Months Ago 06-27-2023	77.95	22.05	1.19	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2023	60.66	39.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-27-2022	22.33	77.67	13.34	7.46	2.90	0.00
One Year Ago 09-27-2022	22.33	77.67	13.34	7.46	2.90	0.00

Intensity

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought

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:  
Richard Heim  
NCEI/NOAA



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

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 7am CDT September 26th.  
Issued on: September 28th





# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [12-week change map](#) for Southeast OK, East TX, Southwest AR, and North LA

- 12 Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Flash drought conditions rapidly intensified across much of the region since early July.
  - Portions of East Texas and North Louisiana have experienced a 4 category degradation (from no drought/abnormally dry (D0) to Extreme/Exceptional (D3/D4) Drought in the last few months.

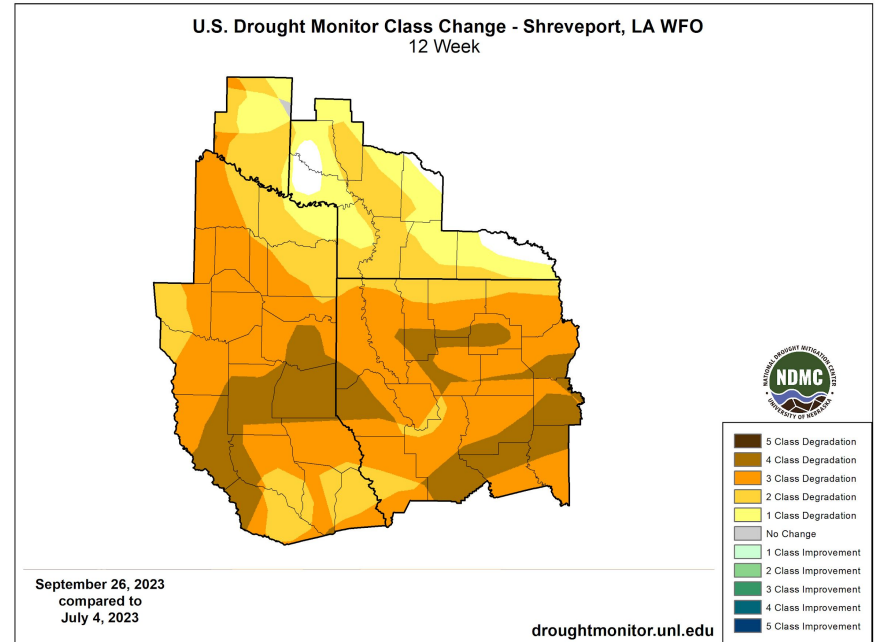


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 12-week change map valid 7am CDT September 26th.

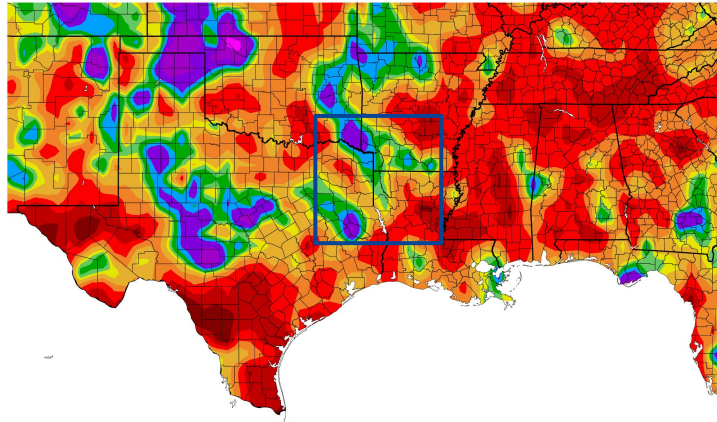




# Precipitation

- Near to above normal rain (on the left image) has fallen in September across portions of Deep East TX as well as in a northwest to southeast corridor from Southeast OK into much of Southwest AR into extreme Northwest LA. Below normal rain has been observed elsewhere across extreme Northeast TX and much of North LA.
- September monthly rainfall totals of 4-6+ inches (on the right image) have been observed across portions of Deep East TX, Southeast OK, Southwest AR, and extreme Northeast TX.

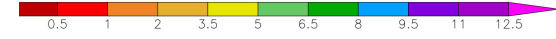
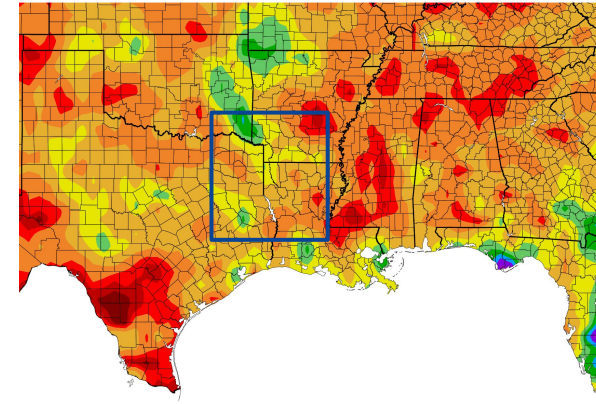
Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
9/1/2023 – 9/29/2023



Generated 9/30/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Precipitation (in)  
9/1/2023 – 9/29/2023



Generated 9/30/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Imagery from the High Plains Regional Climate Center.

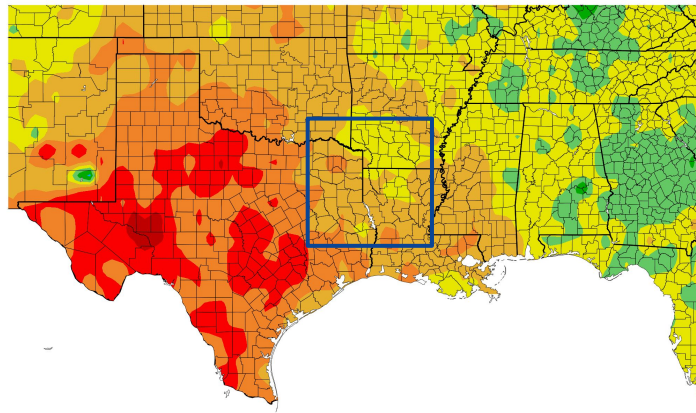




# Temperature

- After one of the hottest summers on record, September continued the trend of above normal temperatures, with readings 2-4° above normal especially over East TX and North LA.
- Shreveport, LA recorded 6 days of triple digit temperatures, while Tyler, TX recorded 5 days, and Lufkin, TX recorded 4 days.
- September average temperatures ranked in the Top 10 warmest Septembers on record across East TX and Northwest LA.

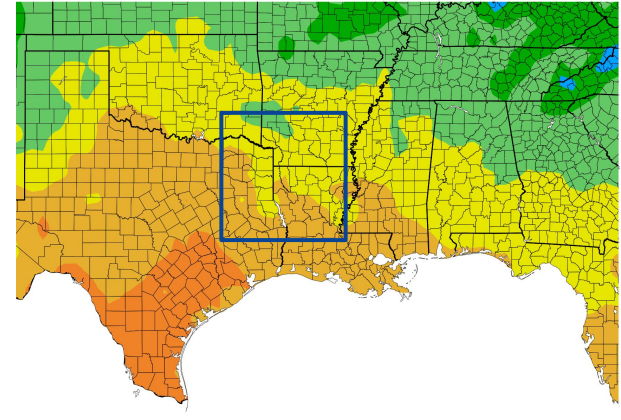
Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
9/1/2023 – 9/29/2023



Generated 9/30/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Temperature (F)  
9/1/2023 – 9/29/2023



Generated 9/30/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Imagery from the High Plains Regional Climate Center.





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Numerous creeks, streams, and bayous that normally hold water year-round across East TX and North LA are very low or completely dry. Area lakes and reservoirs remain near or slightly below normal pool stage.

## Agricultural Impacts

- Area pastures have burned up, with most producers getting one or NO cutting of hay this summer. Supplemental feeding of cattle began back in mid-summer across North LA and East TX. Stock ponds are very low or completely dry across North LA and East TX. Many producers have been unable to prep for fall planting.

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- A high fire danger remains across much of North LA and portions of East TX given the dry to critically dry fuels in place. These drought stressed fuels remain conducive for fire initiation and spread.

## Other Impacts

- In addition to vegetation, numerous trees have died or lost significant foliage due to inadequate deep soil moisture.

## Mitigation Actions

- Smaller communities have enacted water restrictions due to excessive use or lower than normal well/aquifer levels. Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.

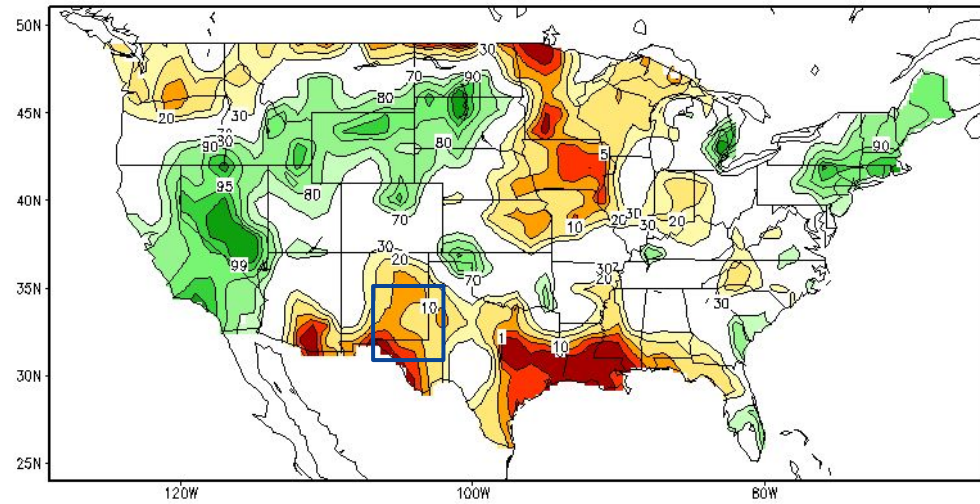




# Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture remains much below normal across East TX and North Louisiana near and south of I-20.
- Near normal soil moisture exists elsewhere across Northeast TX and Southwest AR, with above normal soil moisture present across Southeast OK.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile  
SEP 29, 2023

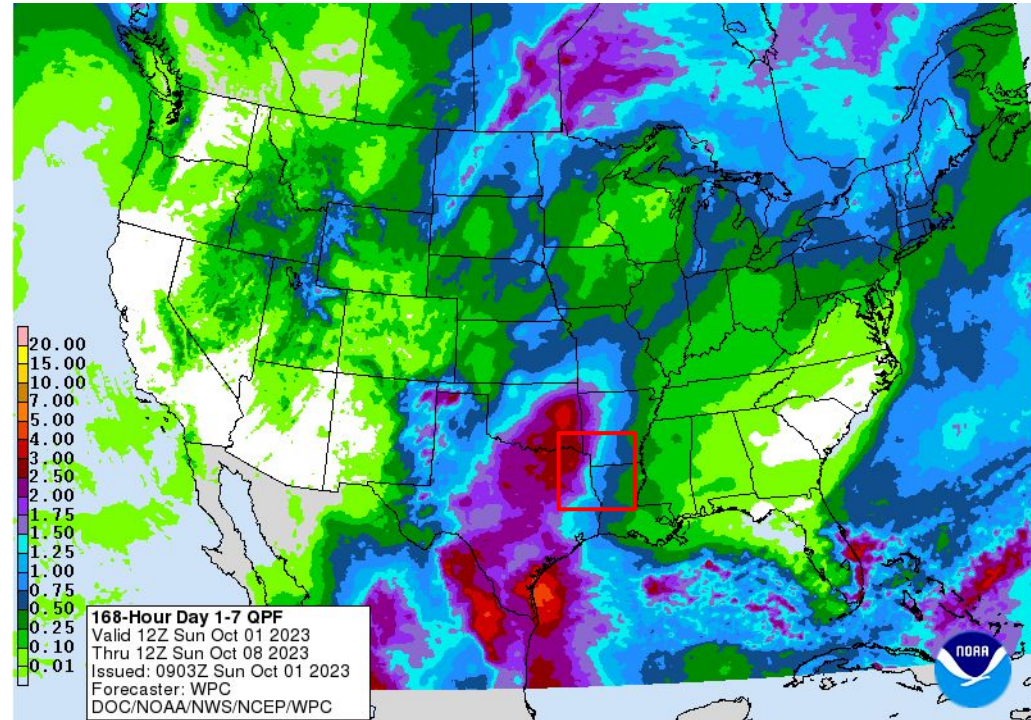


Imagery Above: Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile for September 28th from the Climate Prediction Center



# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- A slow moving upper level disturbance will result in widespread welcome rains across much of TX, OK, Western AR, and possibly North LA.
- Rainfall amounts of 1-2+ inches are possible Wednesday, October 4th through late Friday, October 6th, especially over East TX, Southeast OK, and Western AR.
- While these rains won't end the drought conditions in place, they should help to ease the very dry conditions.



Imagery Above: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#)  
Valid Sunday October 1 to Sunday October 8



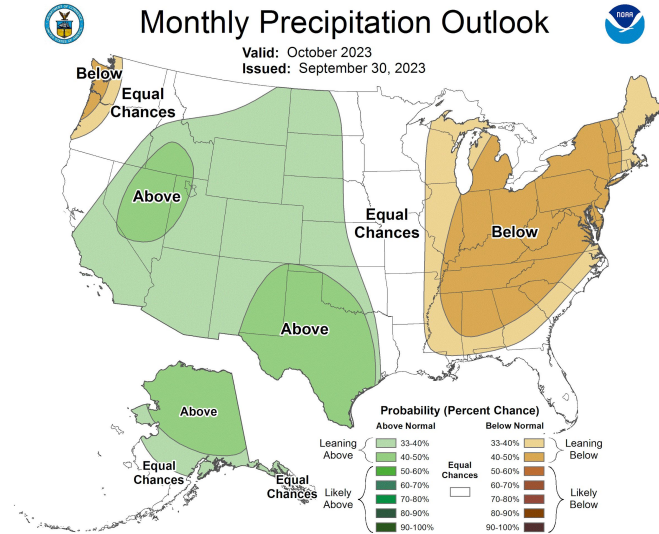
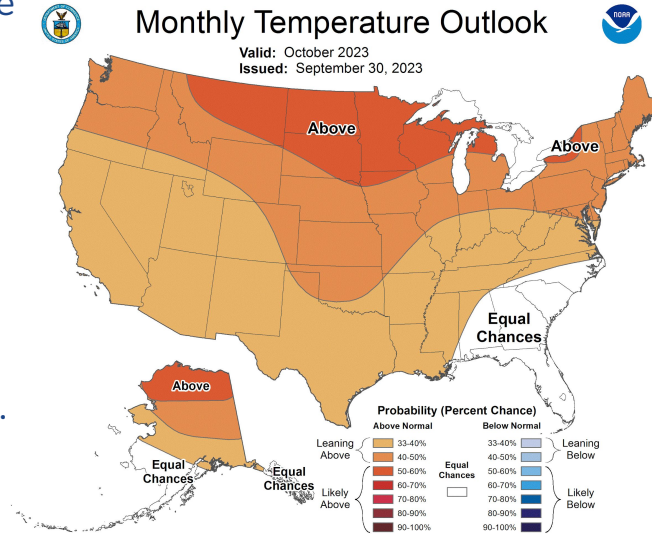




# Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Unfortunately, higher than normal probabilities exist for our region to see above normal temperatures (on average) during October.
- There is no skill level for determining whether we will see above normal, near normal, or below normal rainfall during October across our region.



Left Image - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook](#)  
 Right Image - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook](#)  
 Valid October 2023





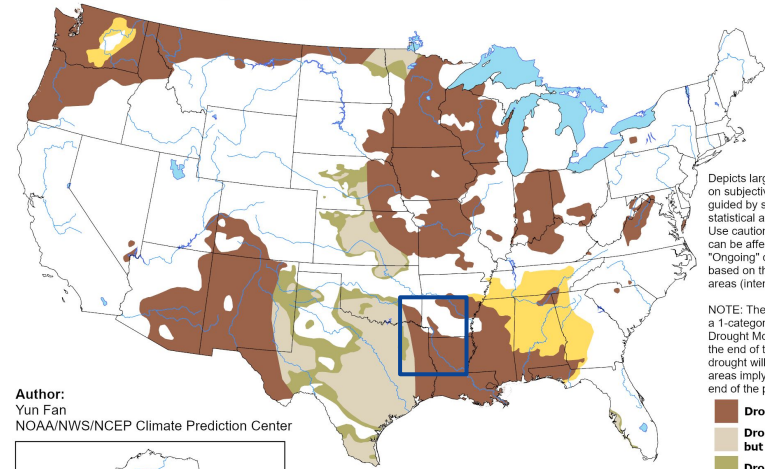
# Drought Outlook

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

- Drought conditions are expected to persist throughout October across East TX, North LA, and portions of Southwest AR.
- Some improvement to the drought is anticipated across portions of Southeast OK and at least the western sections of East TX during the month.

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

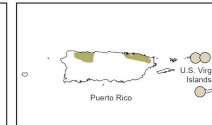
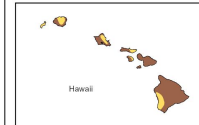
Valid for October 2023  
Released September 30, 2023



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:  
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NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center



- Drought persists
- Drought remains, but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely
- No drought



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

Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook  
Released September 30, 2023 - Valid through October 2023

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  
Shreveport, LA