



Drought Information Statement for Eastern OK & Northwestern AR

Valid November 1, 2024

Issued By: WFO Tulsa, OK

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- This product will be updated December 6, 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/tsa/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/?dews_region=132&state=All for regional drought status updates.

- Moderate (D1) to Extreme (D3) Drought conditions expanded across most of eastern Oklahoma and northwestern Arkansas.
- Heavy rainfall over the next 5 days will help improve the ongoing drought conditions.





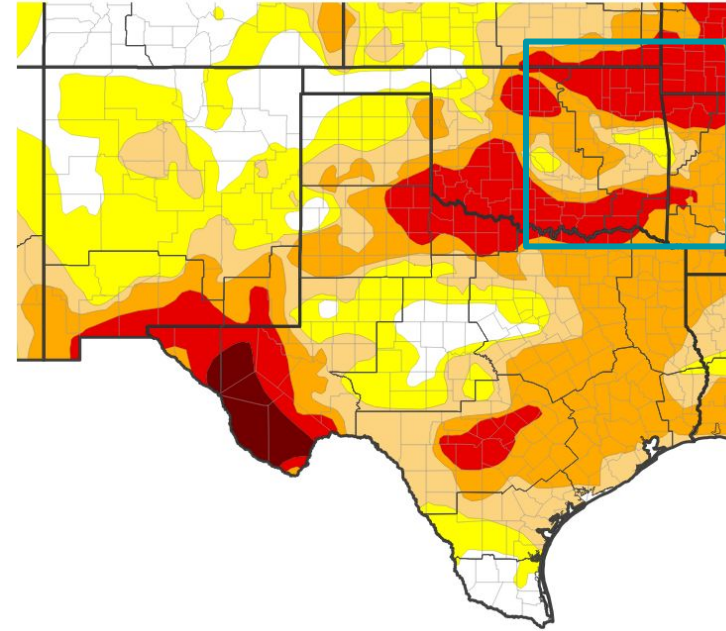
U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for the southern U.S.

- Drought intensity and Extent

- **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: portions of Osage, Washington, Nowata, Craig, Ottawa, Tulsa, Rogers, Mayes, Delaware, Wagoner, Cherokee, Adair, Pittsburg, Pushmataha, Choctaw, and Le Flore Counties in northeast OK, and Benton, Carroll, Washington, and Madison Counties in northwest AR.
- **D2 (Severe Drought)**: portions of Osage, Pawnee, Tulsa, Creek, Wagoner, Cherokee, Adair, Okfuskee, Okmulgee, McIntosh, Pittsburg, Latimer, Le Flore, and Pushmataha Counties in eastern OK, and Washington, Crawford, Madison, Franklin, and Sebastian Counties in northwest AR
- **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: portions of Creek, Okmulgee, Adair, Cherokee, Wagoner, Muskogee, McIntosh, Haskell, Pittsburg, Latimer, and Le Flore Counties in eastern OK, and Washington, Crawford, Franklin, and Sebastian Counties in northwest AR
- **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: parts of Muskogee, Cherokee, Adair, Sequoyah, and Le Flore Counties in eastern OK and Crawford and Sebastian Counties in northwest AR

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 10/29/24

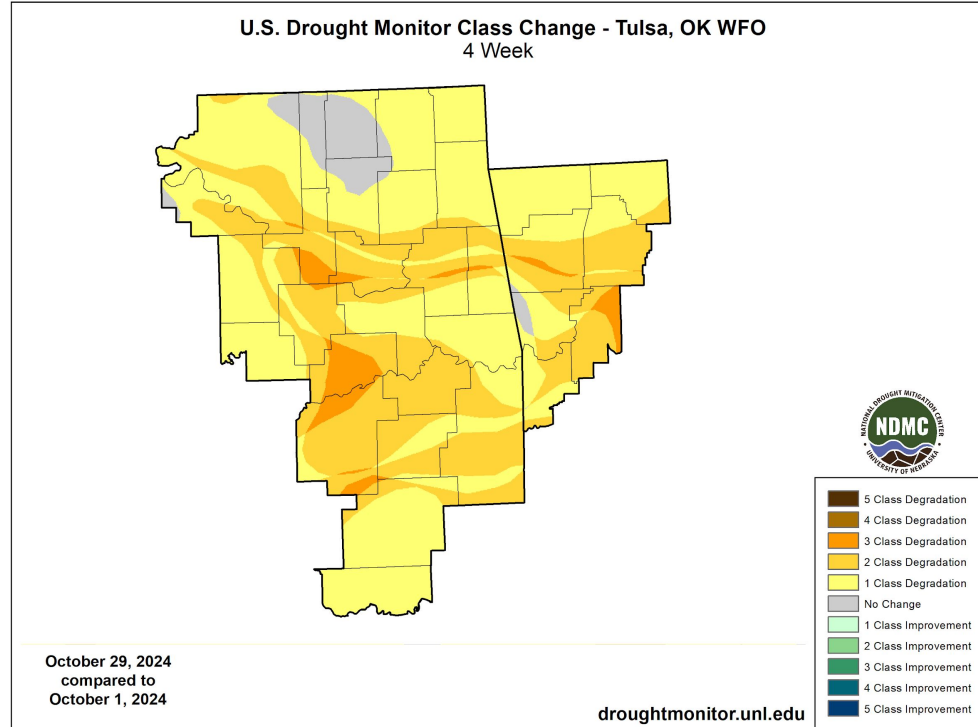




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for eastern Oklahoma and northwestern Arkansas

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change:
 - Drought Worsened: all counties in eastern OK and northwest AR
 - No Change: portions of Osage, Washington, Notawa, Craig, and Rogers Counties in eastern OK, and Crawford County in northwest AR.

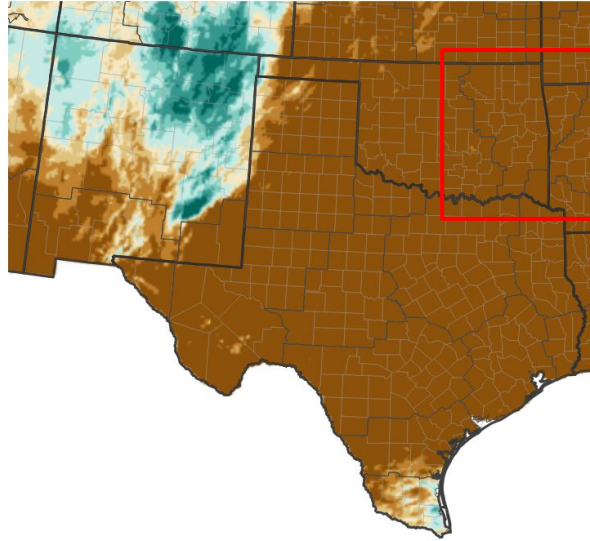




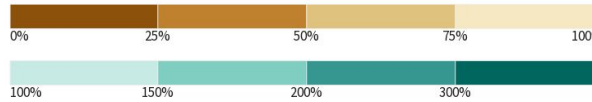
Precipitation

- For the 7-day period through the morning of Nov. 1, 2024, 0.5” to 3” of rain fell across eastern OK and northwest AR.
- For the 30 days ending Oct. 27, 2024, rainfall totals across the area ranged from 0” to 0.5”, This corresponds to 0%-25% of the normal rainfall.

30-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal

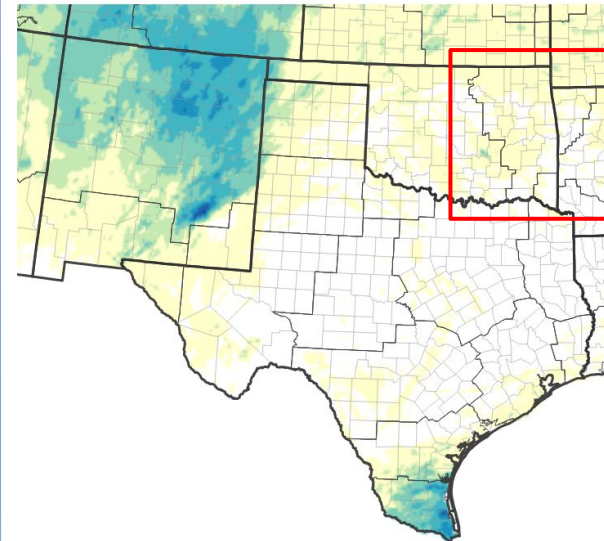


Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 10/27/24

NWPS 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)



Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 10/27/24





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflow is below to much below average for this time of year for numerous basins in eastern OK and northwest AR.
- Numerous reservoirs were below 90% of their conservation pools.

Agricultural Impacts

- Numerous reports from farmers and producers across eastern OK and northwest AR of dry ponds, cracked ground, little to no forage, supplemental feed and water needed for cattle, and stressed mature trees.
- Lack of recent rain and above normal temperatures has resulted in lower soil moisture for agriculture.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Burn bans are in effect for large parts of OK and AR.
- There has been an uptick in wildfire numbers and sizes especially during the latter half of October across the area.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.

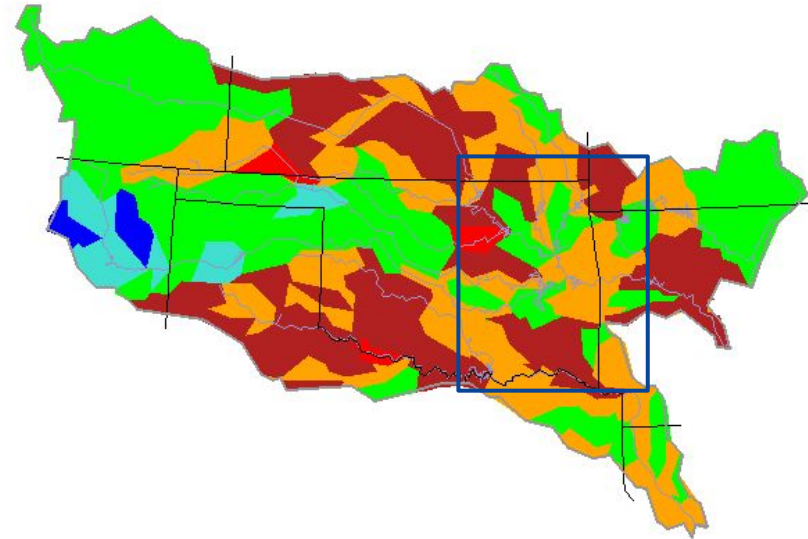




Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- According to the USGS, the [7-day average streamflow](#) as of Oct. 31, 2024 was much below normal across the upper Arkansas River, Verdigris River, and Spring River basins in northeastern OK, the Kiamichi River and Red River basins in southeastern OK, and the White River basin in northwestern AR (image on the right).
- According to the USACE, the following reservoirs were more than 5% below the top of their conservation pools as of October 28, 2024:
 - Ft. Gibson Lake 25%
 - Wister Lake 42%
 - Hugo Lake 53%
 - Eufaula Lake 66%
 - Skiatook Lake 69%
 - Keystone Lake 69%
 - Heyburn Lake 74%
 - Hulah Lake 75%
 - Beaver Lake 76%
 - Copan Lake 77%
 - Birch Lake 78%
 - Oologah Lake 84%
 - Kaw Lake 86%
 - Sardis Lake 91%

Thursday, October 31, 2024



USGS

| 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 | | |

Image Caption: USGS 7-day average streamflow HUC map valid October 31, 2024



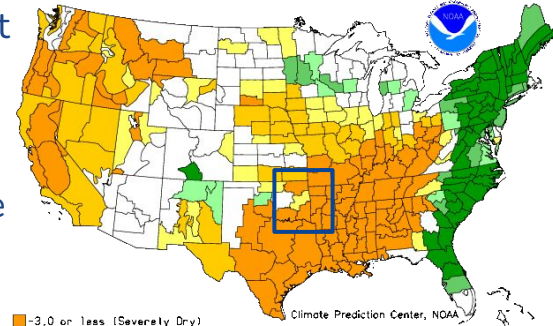


Agricultural Impacts

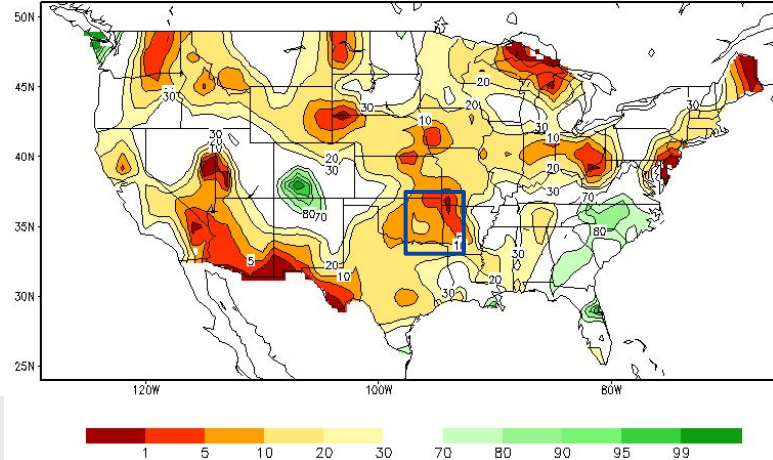
Links to the [OK Mesonet Soil Moisture](#) and Arkansas-Red Basin River Forecast Center [modeled zonal soil moisture](#).

- According to the CPC, soil moisture was below normal for most of eastern OK and northwestern AR, with all of northeast OK and northwest AR below the 10th percentile, as of Oct. 31, 2024 (left image). The CPC weekly Crop Moisture Index was severely dry for most of eastern OK and northwestern AR as of Oct. 26, 2024 (right image).
- According to the OK Farm Report, the OK Emergency Drought Committee approved a new program on Oct. 28 to deliver critical drought relief for Oklahoma agricultural producers.
- There have been numerous reports from local farmers and producers across the D3 areas of eastern OK and northwest AR stating dry ponds, little to no grazing available, little to no crops, supplemental feed and water are needed for cattle, stressed mature trees, and cracked ground.

Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending OCT 26, 2024
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile



Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
OCT 31, 2024



| | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| ■ -3.0 or less (Severely Dry) | ■ +1.0 to +1.9 (Abnormally Moist) |
| ■ -2.0 to -2.9 (Excessively Dry) | ■ +2.0 to +2.9 (Wet) |
| ■ -1.0 to -1.9 (Abnormally Dry) | ■ +3.0 and above (Excessively Wet) |
| ■ -0.9 to +0.9 (Slightly Dry/Favorably Moist) | |





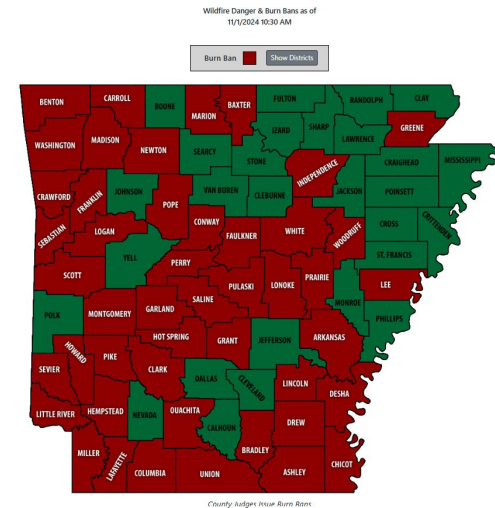
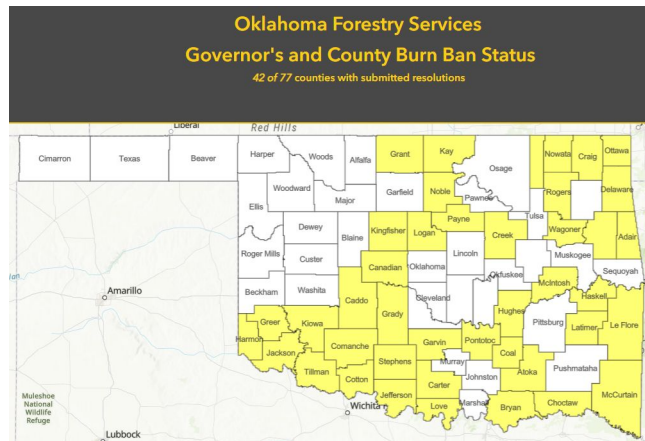
Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Burn Bans were in effect for Washington, Nowata, Craig, Ottawa, Delaware, Creek, Rogers, Wagoner, Cherokee, Adair, McIntosh, Haskell, Latimer, Le Flore, and Choctaw County in eastern OK and Benton, Washington, Carroll, Madison, Crawford, Sebastian, and Franklin Counties in northwest AR as of October 31, 2024.
- The combination of severely reduced moisture in fine grasses and cross timbers resulted in an uptick in wildfire numbers and sizes especially during the latter half of October across the area. Fire activity was also enhanced in the heavier timbers in southeast OK into northwest AR where fuels primed by weeks without wetting rains and terrain resulted in problematic fire behavior.

Latest OK Burn Ban map available [here](#).

Latest AR Burn Ban map available [here](#).

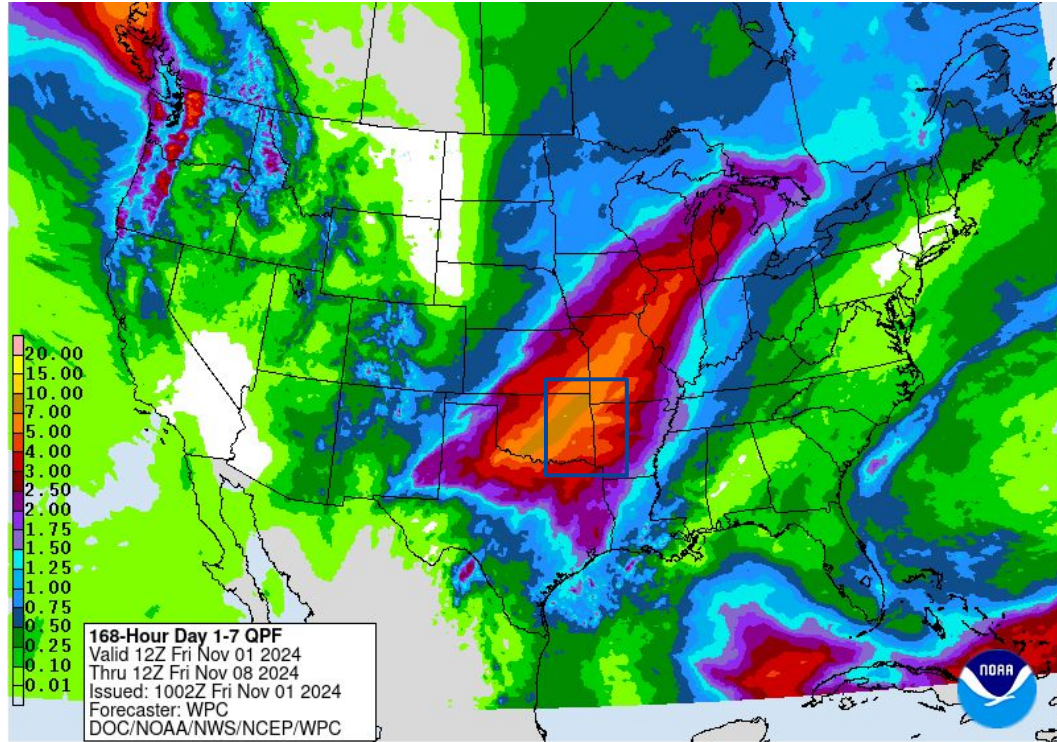




Seven-Day Precipitation Forecast

Link to the latest [7-day Forecast for Eastern OK and northwest AR](#)

- An active weather period is expected over the next 7 days, with several rounds of heavy rainfall.
- Widespread 4"-10" of rain is forecast over the next 7 days across eastern OK and northwest AR.
- The heaviest rainfall is expected to fall Nov. 2-4, 2024.

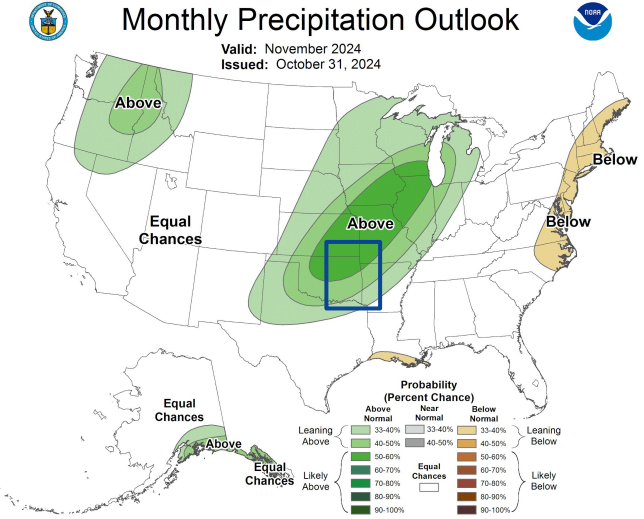
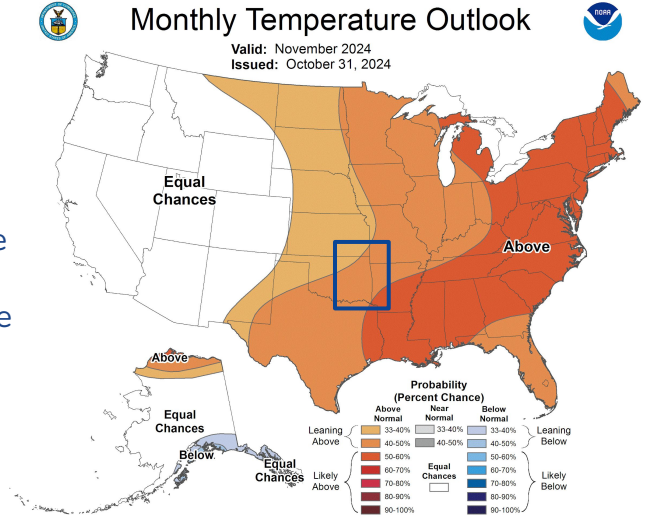




Long-Range Outlooks

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

- According to the Climate Prediction Center (CPC), there is an enhanced chance for above normal temperatures and a likely chance for above median rainfall for all of eastern OK and northwestern AR for October 2024.
- In the longer term, the outlook for the 3-month period Nov-Dec-Jan 2024 calls for an enhanced chance of above normal temperatures for all of eastern OK and northwest AR. There is an equal chance for above, near, and below median rainfall for northeast OK and northwest AR, and an enhanced chance for below median precipitation across the remainder of for eastern OK and west central AR.



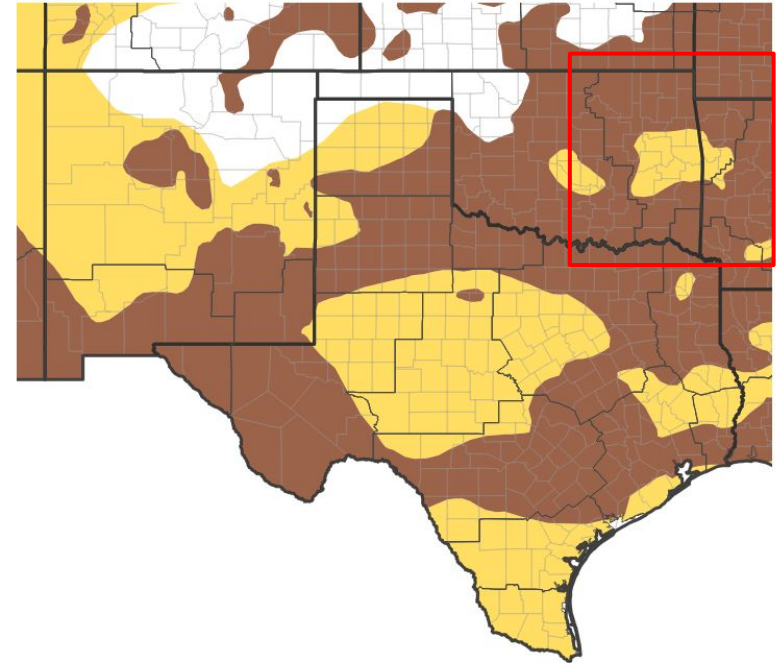


Drought Outlook

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

- The CPC Seasonal Drought Outlook valid October 17, 2024 through January 31, 2025 indicates that drought conditions are expected to persist in the areas currently experiencing drought, and develop across the remainder of eastern OK and northwest AR.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for October 17, 2024–January 31, 2025



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 10/17/24

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