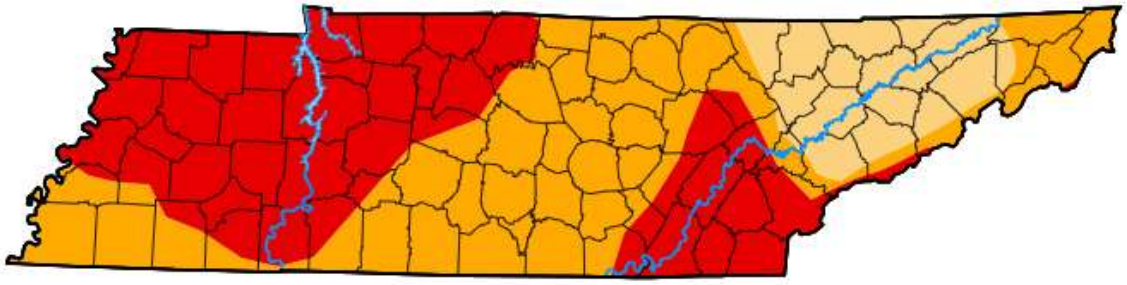
Tennessee Drought Update

For the assessment period ending April 21, 2026

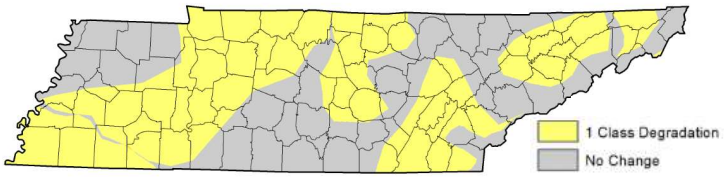
This Week's Drought Monitor of Tennessee Map

From the US Drought Monitor, authored by Brian Fuchs, National Drought Mitigation Center, with input from the Tennessee Climate Office



Most areas of the state recorded below average rainfall and above average temperatures this past week. Almost all stream gauges reported below normal flow as well.

Change Since Last Week



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Statewide Condition Summary

What's Changed? **Most of TN received measurable rainfall over the past week ranging from 0.1" to 1.5", this was still below average for most of the state except a small part of northwest TN. High temperatures were above average across the entire state (+10-16°F) during the last drought monitoring period (04/14–04/21).**

What's New? **All parts of TN are now experiencing drought conditions. Extreme Drought (D3) was expanded in most parts of West TN, northern Middle TN, and the Cumberland Plateau. Severe Drought (D2) conditions were expanded in northern Middle TN, the northern Cumberland Plateau, and southwest TN. Moderate Drought (D1) conditions were introduced in northeast TN, including areas north of Knoxville.**

What's Next? **Heavy rains and strong storms are forecast for most areas of Tennessee over the next drought monitoring period (4/21–4/28) with most areas anticipating 1.5-2.5 inches and potentially higher amounts in some locations. Above average high temperatures are expected to continue through this drought monitoring period, but with heavy rains drought conditions will likely improve across parts of the state.**

Statewide Coverage By Category

Category	Coverage This Week	Change Since Last Week
D0: Abnormally Dry	0.00%	-6.35%
D1: Moderate Drought	13.69%	-9.15%
D2: Severe Drought	42.27%	-17.98%
D3: Extreme Drought	**44.04%**	**+33.48%**
D4: Exceptional Drought	**0.00%**	**0.00%**