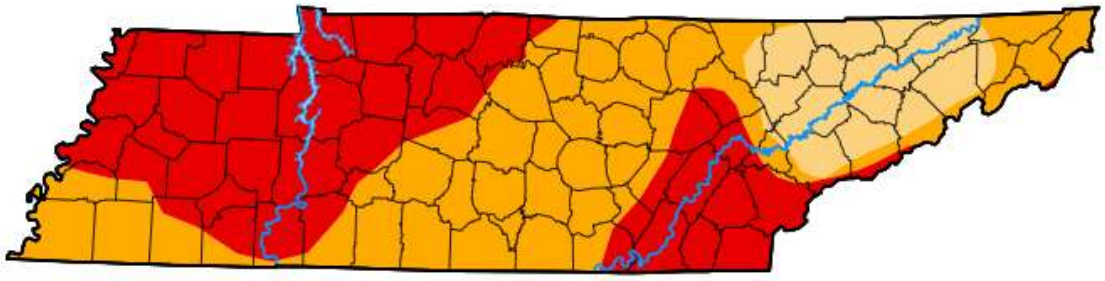
Tennessee Drought Update

For the assessment period ending April 28, 2026

This Week's Drought Monitor of Tennessee Map

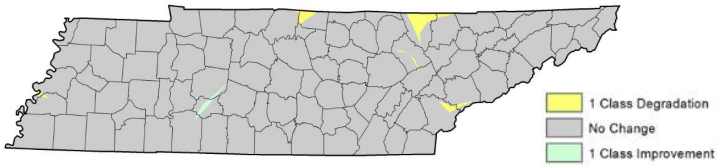
From the US Drought Monitor, authored by Brad Rippey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, with input from the Tennessee Climate Office





Some areas of the state received at or above average rainfall during this drought monitor period. Above average temperatures continued this past week.

Change Since Last Week



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Statewide Condition Summary

What's Changed? All of TN received measurable rainfall over the past week ranging from 0.25" to 2", with some small areas receiving ~2-3". Even with widespread rainfall, most parts of the state were again below normal for the week, especially the western half. High temperatures were above average across the entire state, with closer to normal values in East TN (+1-6°F) during the last drought monitoring period (04/21–04/28).

What's New? Extreme Drought (D3) expanded into Macon and Trousdale counties in Middle TN. Severe Drought (D2) conditions expanded in Scott County on the northern Cumberland Plateau. Moderate Drought (D1) conditions remained the same in northeast TN, including areas north of Knoxville.

What's Next? Heavy rains and strong storms occurred in many parts of West and Middle TN in the first days of the next drought monitoring period (4/28–5/5) with some areas already reporting 2-4 inches of rainfall Tuesday into Wednesday. However, little additional rainfall is expected. Below average high temperatures are expected through the next drought monitoring period. In areas that saw heavy rains drought conditions will likely improve, and likely remain the same in areas with lighter rainfall totals.

Statewide Coverage By Category

Category	Coverage This Week	Change Since Last Week
D0: Abnormally Dry	0.00%	0.00%
D1: Moderate Drought	13.06%	-0.63%
D2: Severe Drought	42.58%	+0.31%
D3: Extreme Drought	**44.36%**	**+0.32%**
D4: Exceptional Drought	**0.00%**	**0.00%**