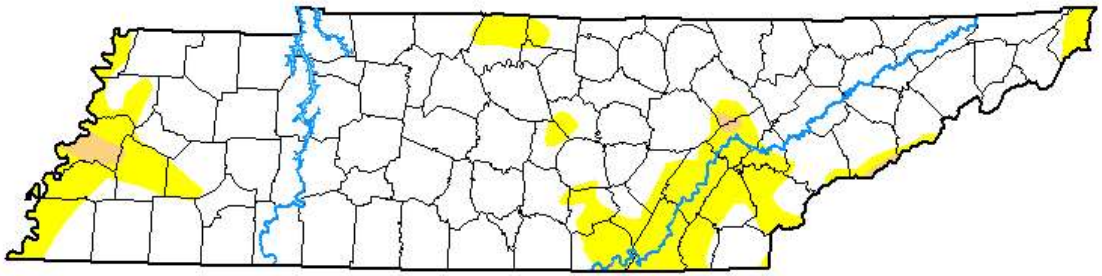
Tennessee Drought Update

For the assessment period ending August 18, 2026

This Week's Drought Monitor of Tennessee Map

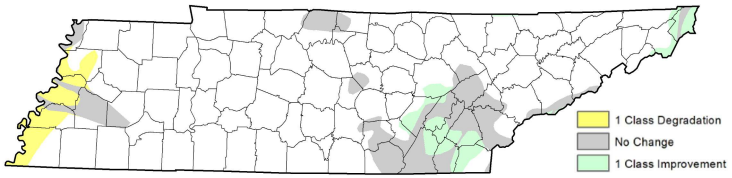
From the US Drought Monitor, authored by David Mocko, SSAI/NASA/GSFC, with input from the Tennessee Climate Office



Another week of drier than normal conditions resulted in expansion of drought and abnormally dry conditions along the Mississippi River.

Another week of storms with heavy rainfall brought above normal precipitation to parts of East TN resulting in a few areas of 1-class improvements.

Change Since Last Week



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Statewide Condition Summary

What's Changed? **West and most of Middle TN recorded little to no rainfall, while most of East TN had another week of storms and heavy rain with above normal rainfall except for Monroe County over the last drought monitoring period (08/11-08/18). High temperatures were 2-8°F above normal for most of the state this past week, except for the NE corner of the state that saw slightly cooler than normal high temps.**

What's New? **A few areas of Moderate Drought (D1) and Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions improved by one class in the eastern half of Tennessee. New areas of D1 and D0 were added in West TN along the Mississippi River.**

What's Next? **Most areas of Tennessee are forecasted to received less than 0.5" of rainfall in the next drought monitoring period (08/18-8/25). Many parts of West TN are expected to see less than 0.1" of rainfall. This could lead to further degradation of drought conditions in the region as a potential flash drought emerges.**

Statewide Coverage By Category

Category	Coverage This Week	Change Since Last Week
D0: Abnormally Dry	15.98%	+1.09%
D1: Moderate Drought	0.91%	-0.88%
D2: Severe Drought	0.00%	-0.02%
D3: Extreme Drought	**0.00%**	**0.00%**
D4: Exceptional Drought	**0.00%**	**0.00%**