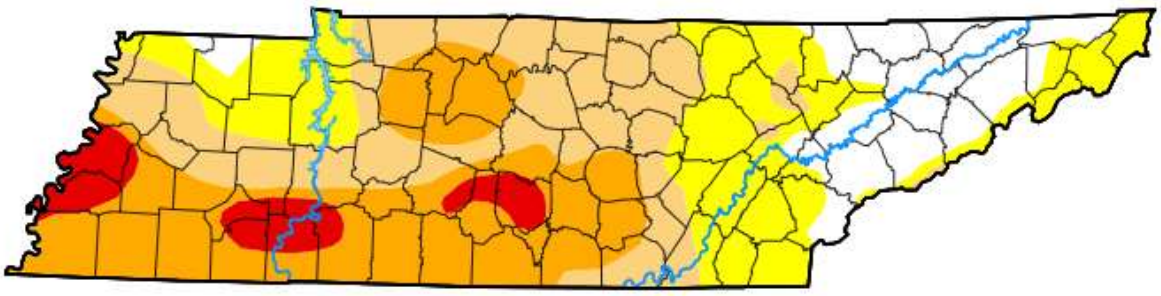
Tennessee Drought Update

For the assessment period ending October 6, 2026

This Week's Drought Monitor of Tennessee Map

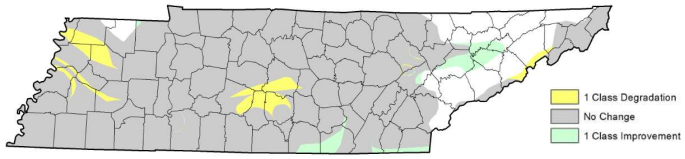
From the US Drought Monitor, authored by Richard Tinker, CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP, with input from the Tennessee Climate Office



Another week of drier than normal conditions resulted in expansion of Extreme Drought, Severe Drought and Moderate Drought conditions in northwest TN and parts of Middle TN, while other areas remained unchanged.

Most of East TN received above normal precipitation resulting in a few areas of 1-class improvements, while other areas remained unchanged.

Change Since Last Week



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Statewide Condition Summary

What's Changed? **Precipitation was below normal for most areas except a few locations in West/Middle TN, and much of East TN (although mountains were drier than normal) for the last drought monitoring period (09/29-10/06). High temperatures remained above normal statewide (~3-9°F above normal for most areas) last week.**

What's New? **Moderate Drought (D1) conditions expanded in northwest TN, while Extreme Drought (D3) and Severe Drought conditions expanded across parts of Middle and West TN. Parts of East TN saw one-category improvements, including D2 to D1 improvement in Marion County. A small area of Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions was introduced along the North Carolina Border in southern Cocke and Greene counties.**

What's Next? **Most of the state is forecast to receive above normal rainfall from the remnants of Isaias, with 1-2.50" during the next drought monitoring period (10/06-10/13). Except for the northeast corner of the state, which could be drier. High Temperatures are expected to remain above normal for most of the next drought monitoring period. Areas that receive above normal rainfall may see improvements in drought conditions.**

Statewide Coverage By Category

Category	Coverage This Week	Change Since Last Week
D0: Abnormally Dry	24.84%	-2.27%
D1: Moderate Drought	26.48%	+0.57%
D2: Severe Drought	27.93%	-0.86%
D3: Extreme Drought	**6.19%**	**+1.24%**
D4: Exceptional Drought	**0.00%**	**0.00%**