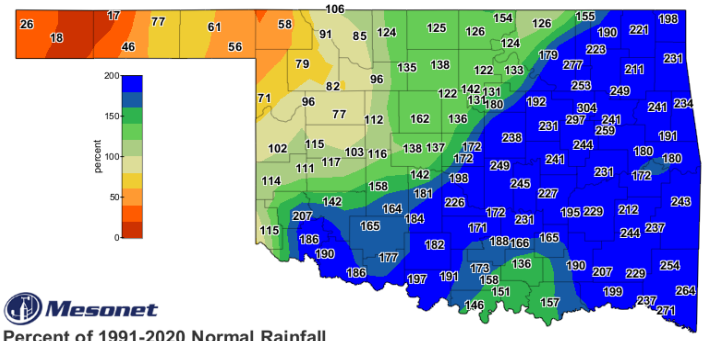
Oklahoma Water Resources Bulletin
& Summary of Current Conditions

February 17, 2023

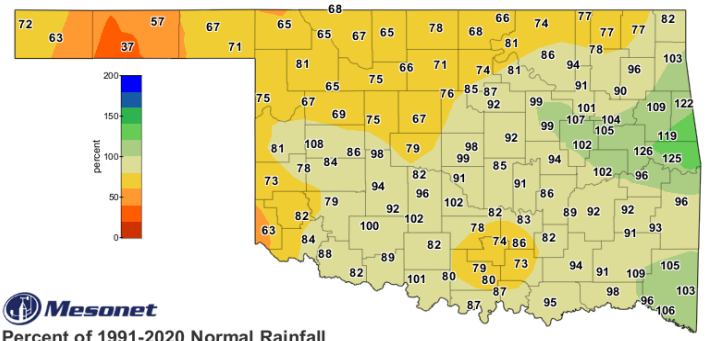
Statewide Precipitation

Climate Division	Last 30 Days (January 18, 2023 – February 16, 2023) Total Rainfall (inches)	Departure From Normal (inches)	Percent of Normal	Rank Since 1921	Last 365 Days (February 17, 2022 – February 16, 2023) Total Rainfall (inches)	Departure From Normal (inches)	Percent of Normal	Rank Since 1921
PANHANDLE	0.27"	-0.37"	43%	37th driest	12.44"	-8.14"	60%	5th driest
N. CENTRAL	1.30"	+0.19"	117%	28th wettest	21.82"	-9.60"	69%	8th driest
NORTHEAST	3.84"	+1.98"	207%	3rd wettest	36.94"	-5.73"	87%	37th driest
W. CENTRAL	1.01"	-0.04"	96%	45th wettest	22.15"	-6.25"	78%	20th driest
CENTRAL	2.82"	+1.15"	169%	13th wettest	33.24"	-4.39"	88%	42nd driest
E. CENTRAL	5.30"	+2.86"	217%	7th wettest	49.30"	+3.16"	107%	22nd wettest
SOUTHWEST	1.93"	+0.61"	146%	22nd wettest	25.81"	-4.46"	85%	34th driest
S. CENTRAL	3.72"	+1.55"	171%	13th wettest	33.73"	-6.98"	83%	31st driest
SOUTHEAST	7.86"	+4.58"	240%	5th wettest	49.59"	-1.00"	98%	48th wettest
STATEWIDE	**3.06"**	**+1.35"**	**179%**	**9th wettest**	**31.48"**	**-4.99"**	**86%**	**30th driest**



Percent of 1991-2020 Normal Rainfall
Last 30 Days

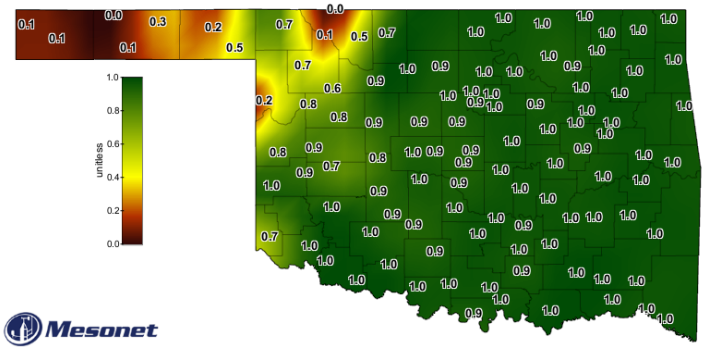
Jan 18, 2023 through Feb 16, 2023



Percent of 1991-2020 Normal Rainfall
Last 365 Days

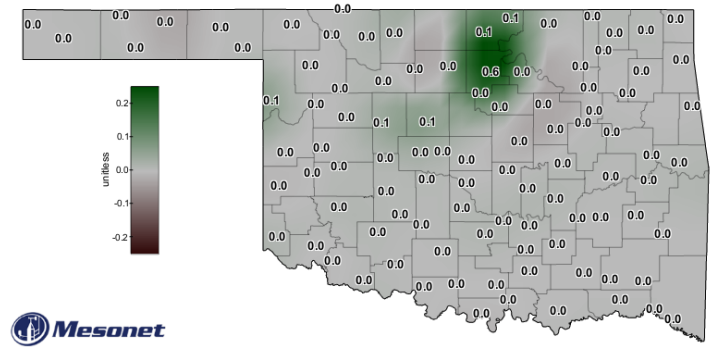
Feb 17, 2022 through Feb 16, 2023

Soil Moisture



1-day Average 10-inch Fractional Water Index

February 16, 2023



7-day 10-inch Fractional Water Index Change

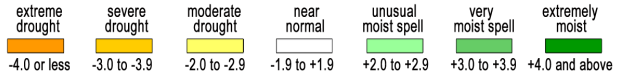
February 16, 2023

The Fractional Water Index ranges from very dry soil having a value of 0 to soil at field capacity illustrated by a value of 1.
[1.0-0.8 = Enhanced Growth; 0.8-0.5 = Limited Growth; 0.5-0.3 = Plants Wilting; 0.3-0.1 = Plants Dying; <0.1 = Barren Soil.]

Drought Indices

Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI)

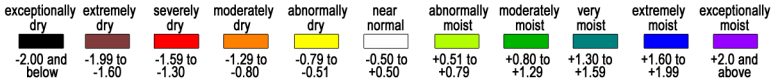
Climate Division	Status 2/11/23	Value 1/14	Value 2/11	Change in Value
NORTHWEST	Extreme Drought	-5.26	-4.95	0.31(+)
NORTH CENTRAL	Near Normal	-2.12	-1.49	0.63(+)
NORTHEAST	Near Normal	-1.75	0.02	1.77(+)
WEST CENTRAL	Near Normal	-2.11	-1.60	0.51(+)
CENTRAL	Near Normal	-1.87	-0.32	1.55(+)
EAST CENTRAL	Near Normal	0.23	1.48	1.25(+)
SOUTHWEST	Near Normal	-0.70	0.45	1.15(+)
SOUTH CENTRAL	Near Normal	-0.64	0.76	1.4(+)
SOUTHEAST	Unusual Moist Spell	0.09	2.21	2.12(+)



The PDSI is based upon precipitation, temperature, and soil moisture, and is considered most effective for unirrigated cropland, spanning from -10 (dry) to +10 (wet). According to the latest PDSI, as of February 11, 2023, all climate regions were Near Normal or wetter except the Northwest, which remained in Extreme Drought.

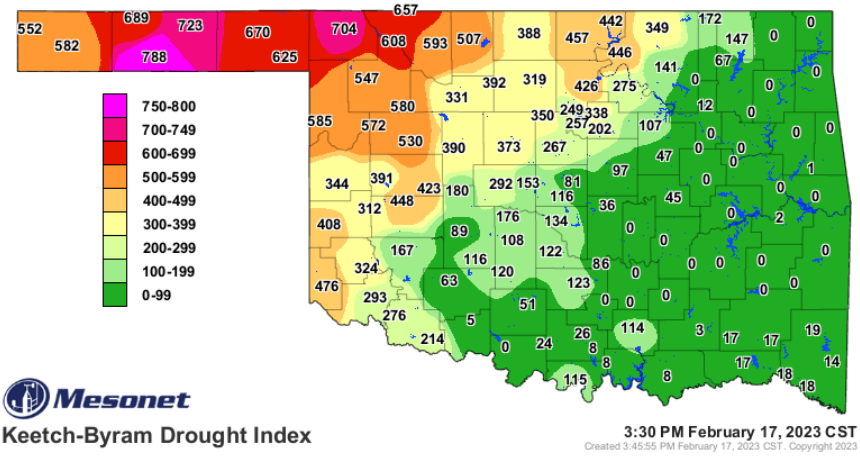
Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI)
Through January 2023

3-month	12-month	24-month
Moderately Dry	Extremely Dry	Severely Dry
Near Normal	Moderately Dry	Moderately Dry
Near Normal	Near Normal	Near Normal
Near Normal	Moderately Dry	Moderately Dry
Near Normal	Near Normal	Near Normal
Abnormally Moist	Near Normal	Near Normal
Near Normal	Near Normal	Near Normal
Near Normal	Abnormally Dry	Abnormally Dry
Near Normal	Near Normal	Near Normal



The SPI provides a comparison of precipitation over several specified time periods with totals from the periods for all years in the historical record. Through January 2023, the Northwest was Moderately Dry for the 3-month, Extremely Dry for the 12-month, and Severely Dry for the 24-month period. North Central and West Central were Moderately Dry for the 12- and 24-month periods; South Central was Abnormally Dry for the 12- and 24-month periods.

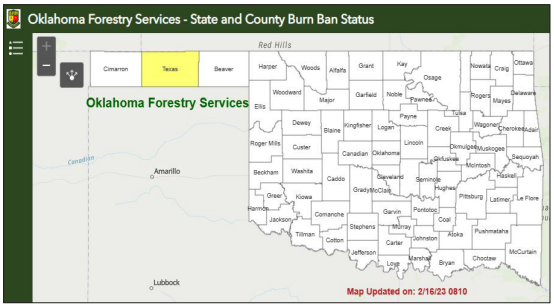
Keetch-Byram Drought Fire Index



The Keetch-Byram Drought Index measures the state of near-surface soil moisture (within the uppermost eight inches of soil) as well as the amount of fuel available for fires.

KBDI values of 600 and above are often associated with more severe drought and increased wildfire occurrence.

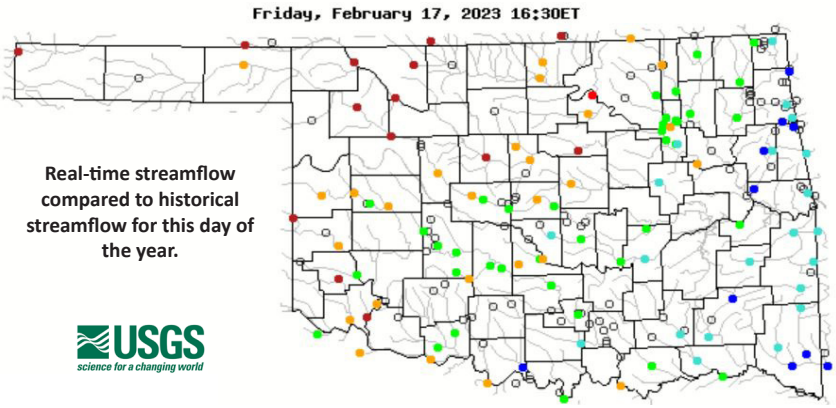
State & County Burn Ban Status



Streamflow Conditions

Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10 Much below normal	10-24 Below normal	25-75 Normal	76-90 Above normal	>90 Much above normal	High	Not ranked

Visit waterwatch.usgs.gov for additional real-time streamflow information.



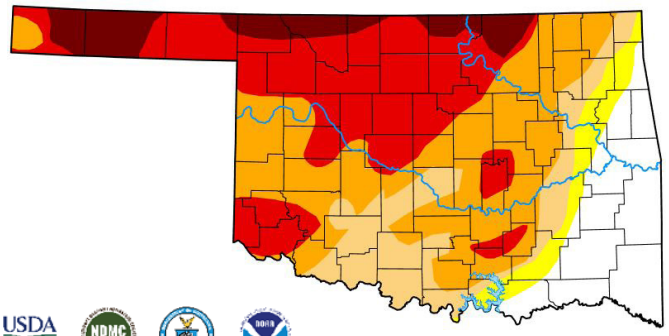
Real-time streamflow compared to historical streamflow for this day of the year.

USGS science for a changing world

Drought Summary for Oklahoma

U.S. Drought Monitor

Oklahoma



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

February 14, 2023

(Released Thursday, Feb. 16, 2023)

Valid 7 a.m. EDT

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author:
Brian Fuchs
National Drought Mitigation Center

D0 - Abnormally Dry
- Crops are stressed (wheat, canola, alfalfa, pecans); winter wheat germination is delayed
- Stock pond levels decline

D1 - Moderate Drought
- Summer crop and forage yields are reduced
- Wildfire risk increases
- Lake recreation activities are affected; deer reproduction is poor

D2 - Severe Drought
- Dryland crops are severely reduced; pasture growth is stunted
- Cattle are stressed
- Burn bans begin

D3 - Extreme Drought
- Grasses are dormant, and hay is nonexistent; planting is delayed; fields are spotty; emergency CRP grazing is authorized
- Cattle have little water and feed
- Wildfires are increasing in number and severity; air quality is poor, with dust storms and smoke

D4 - Exceptional Drought
- Ground is cracking; farmers are bailing failed crops or abandoning fields; pastures are bare; land is abandoned
- Cost of hay and water is high and supplies are scarce; producers are liquidating herds
- Burn restrictions increase; fire season is long

Week	Date	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4	DSCI
Current	2023-02-14	14.97	85.03	80.07	66.94	36.58	8.07	277
Last Week	2023-02-07	5.88	94.12	84.95	79.25	56.20	11.27	326
3 Months Ago	2022-11-15	0.00	100.00	97.71	87.88	64.07	19.67	369
Start of Calendar Year	2022-12-27	1.82	98.18	89.73	80.92	56.13	11.65	337
Start of Water Year	2022-09-27	0.00	100.00	99.88	94.44	64.44	17.25	376
One Year Ago	2022-02-15	2.33	97.67	87.98	76.35	55.65	2.90	321

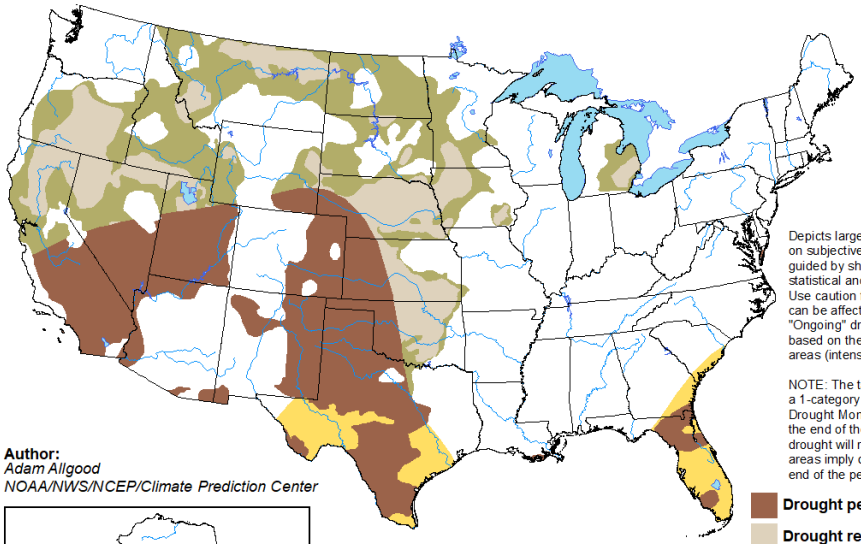
According to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor, as of February 14, 2023, an estimated 3,271,562 people in Oklahoma (80.07% of the state in area) were experiencing drought conditions, including 8.07% of the state in area in Exceptional Drought (D4), 36.58% in Extreme Drought (D3) or worse, and 66.94% in Severe Drought (D2) or worse.

Drought Probability

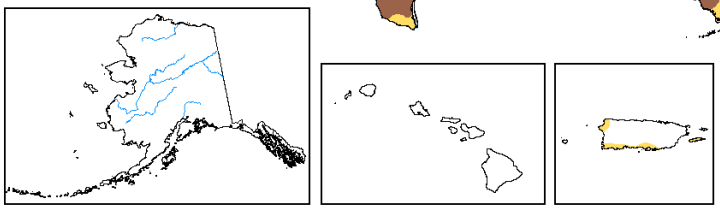
U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for February 16 - May 31, 2023
Released February 16



Author:
Adam Allgood
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center



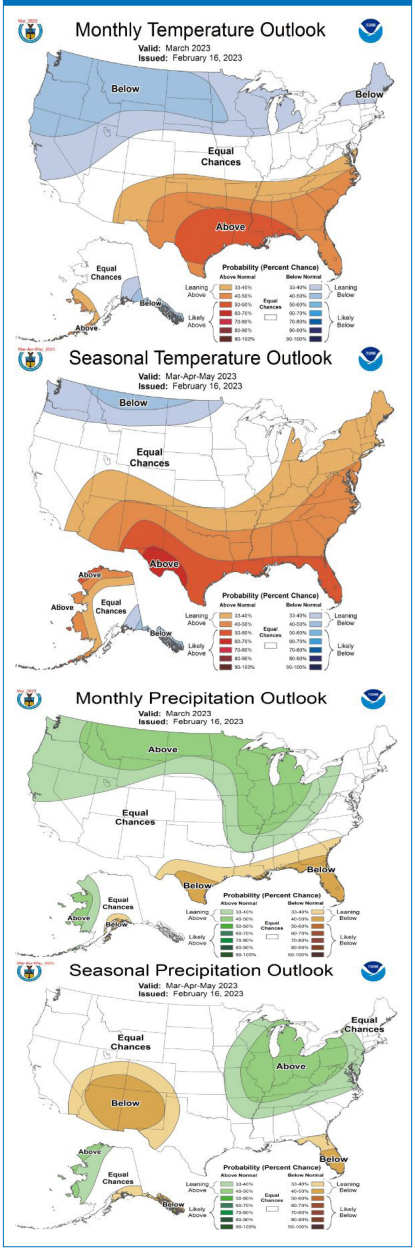
Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

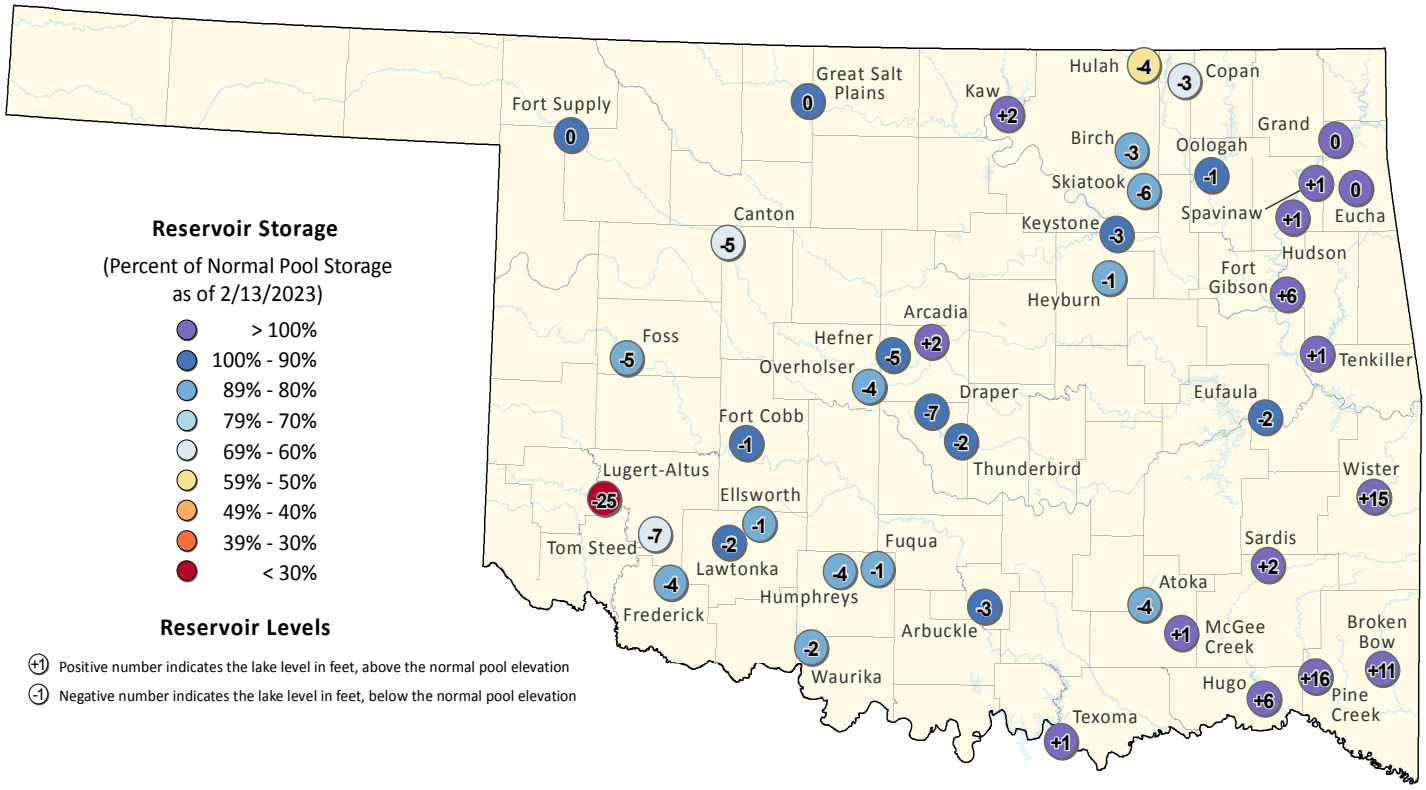
- **Drought persists**
- **Drought remains but improves**
- **Drought removal likely**
- **Drought development likely**

http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73

Monthly/Seasonal Outlook



Oklahoma Reservoir Levels and Storage as of 2/13/2023



This map shows reservoir storage as a percentage of normal pool storage capacity.
The source information was collected from real-time lake gages monitored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (https://www.swt-wc.usace.army.mil/Daily_Morning_Reservoir_Report.pdf), and the U.S. Geological Survey(https://waterdata.usgs.gov/ok/nwis/current/?type=lake&group_key=basin_cd).
For more information please visit the OWRB's website: (https://www.owrb.ok.gov).

The Oklahoma Water Resources Bulletin is compiled and distributed monthly by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board utilizing products and information developed by the Oklahoma Climatological Survey, Oklahoma Mesonet, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Drought Mitigation Center, US Geological Survey, US Army Corps of Engineers, and US Department of Agriculture. For questions or comments contact Darla Whitley, Editor.