



# Montana Climate Office

## Agriculture Risk in a Changing World

*Climate Outlooks for the United States*

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Kyle Bocinsky

*Director of Climate Extension*

*Montana Climate Office*



*Agriculture Risk in a Changing World*

Kyle Bocinsky, Montana Climate Office

2024 ERME National Conference, Salt Lake City, UT — April 9, 2024



**Montana  
Climate  
Office**



UNIVERSITY OF  
**MONTANA**

- Montana's **official climate data stewards**.
- Provides **high quality, timely, relevant, and scientifically-based climate information** and services to Montanans.
- Operates the **Montana Mesonet** — an extensive and growing network of weather, soil moisture, and snowpack monitoring stations.



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Raise your hand if your home community  
(state, town, reservation, etc.) has  
**broken a weather record**  
in the past few years.



# In the last 30 days, the CONUS has broken:

-  651 daily highest high temperature records
-  101 daily lowest low temperature records
-  1,845 daily greatest precipitation records
-  487 daily greatest snowfall records
-  135 daily greatest snow depth records

**IS THIS NORMAL?**

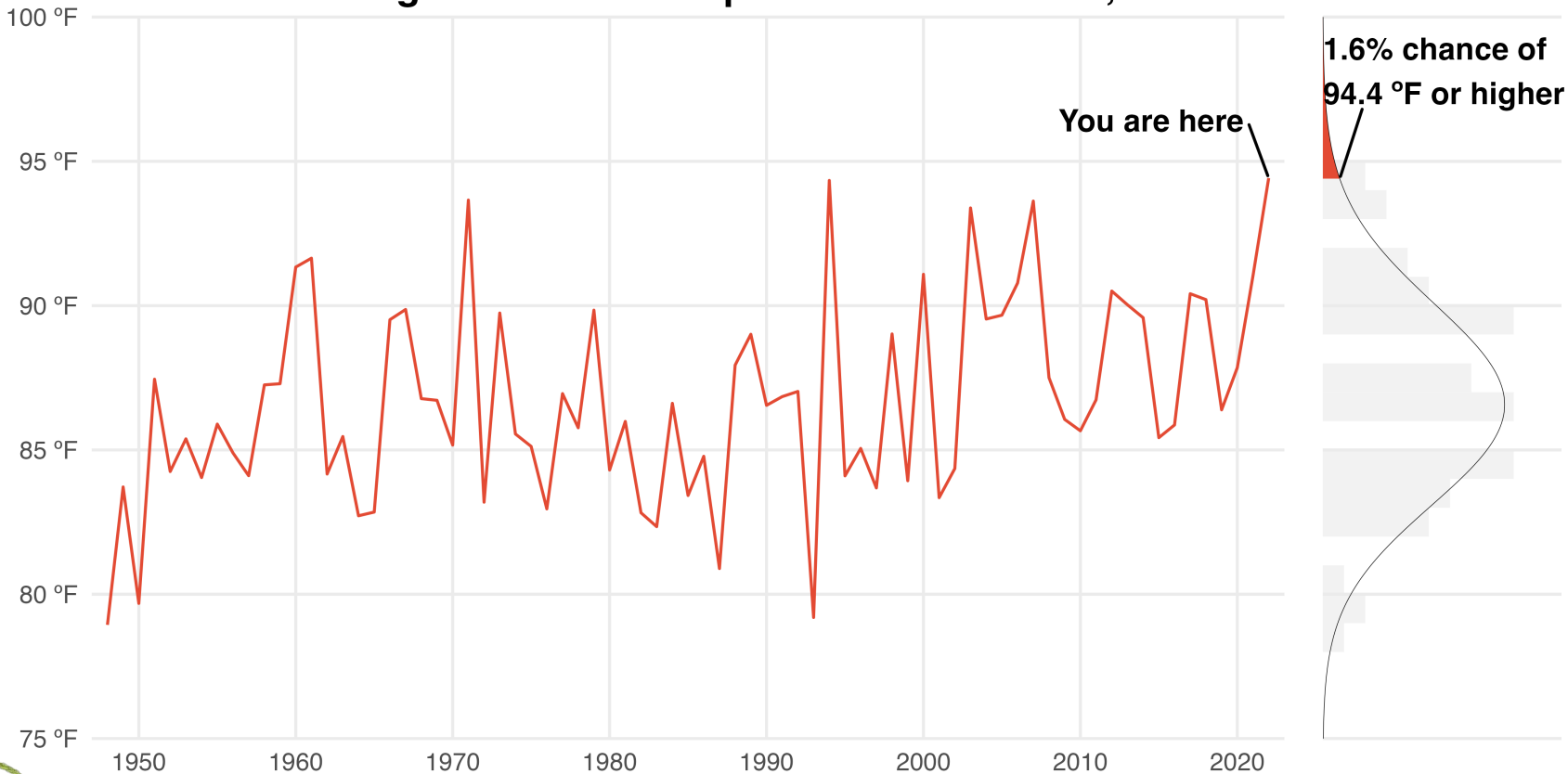
Daily Weather Records  
NOAA Climate Data Online  
<https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cdo-web/datatools/records>

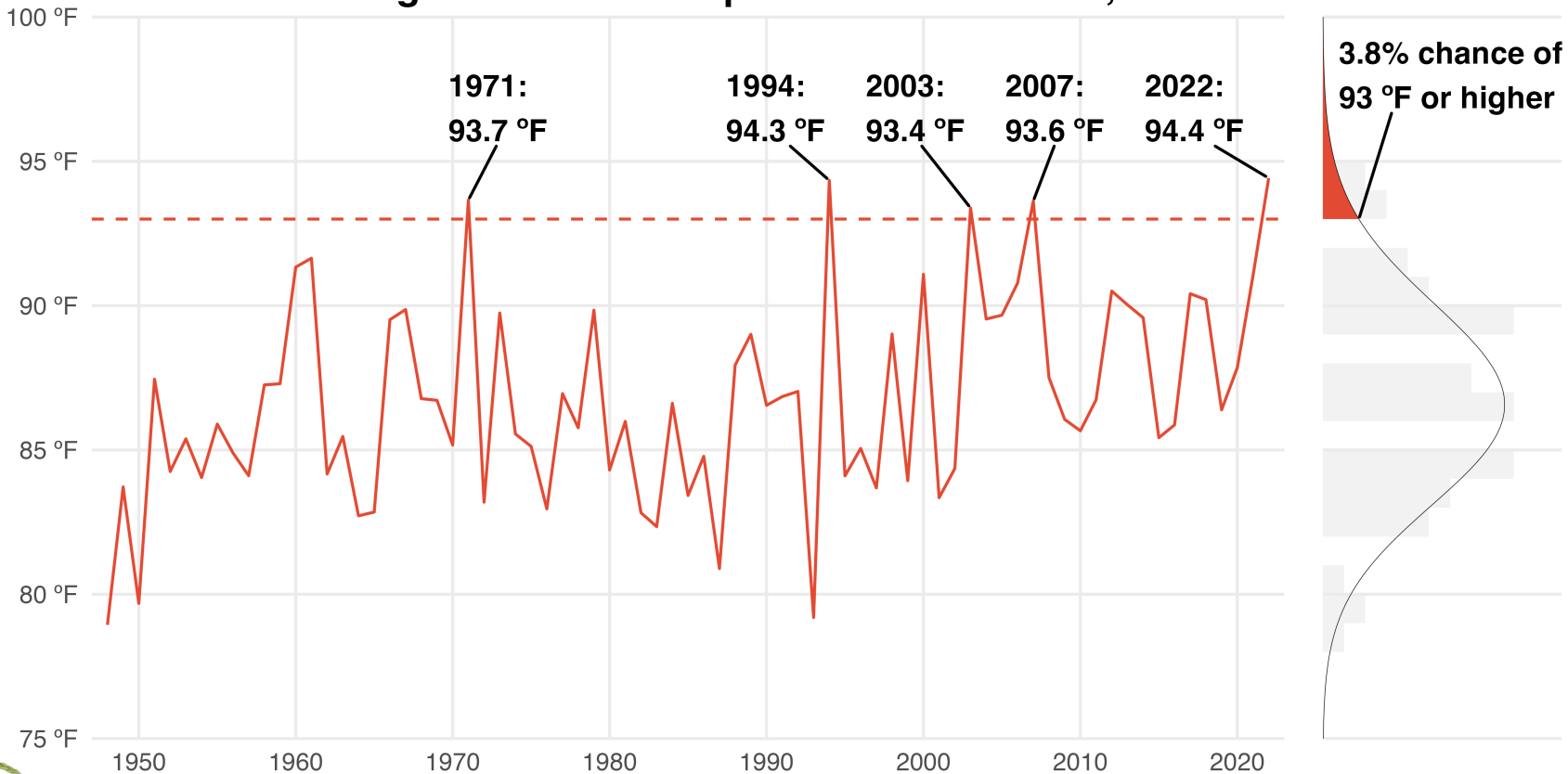


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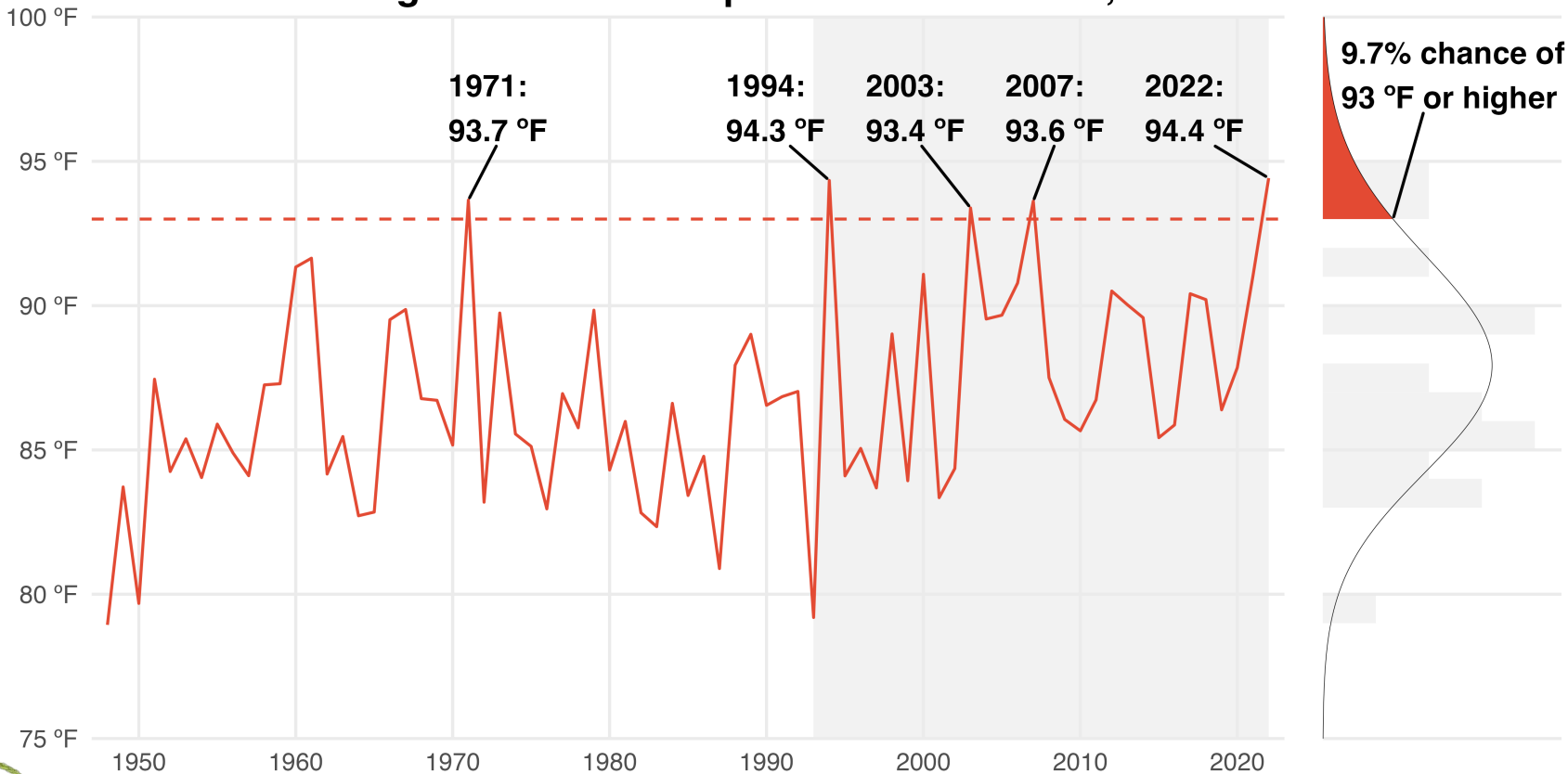
July 15 to August 15

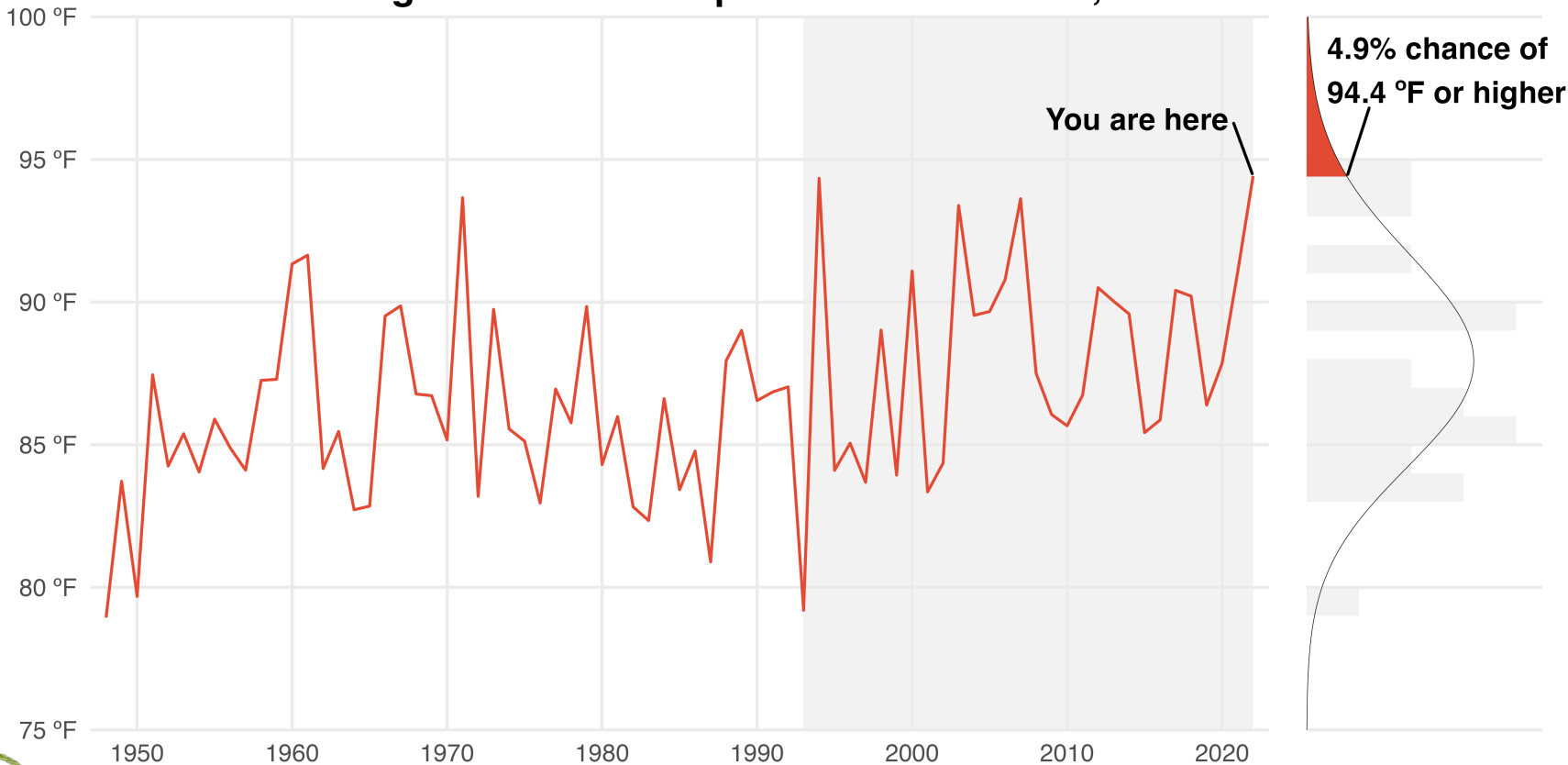
# Average Maximum Temperature in Missoula, MT



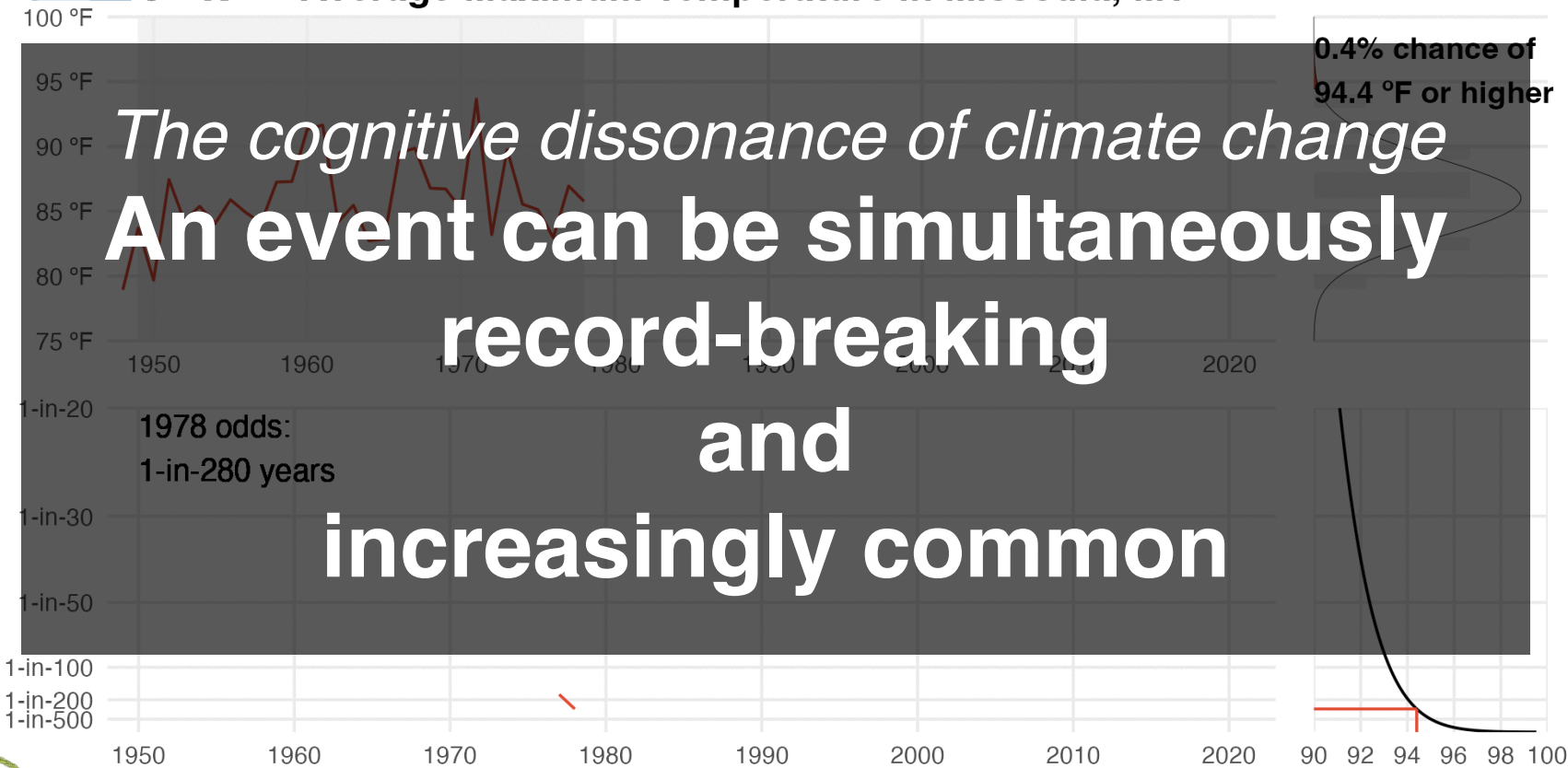


## Average Maximum Temperature in Missoula, MT









# Game Plan

1. **Observed trends and climate outlook**
2. **Risk in a changing climate**
3. **Tools for Assessing Climate Risk**

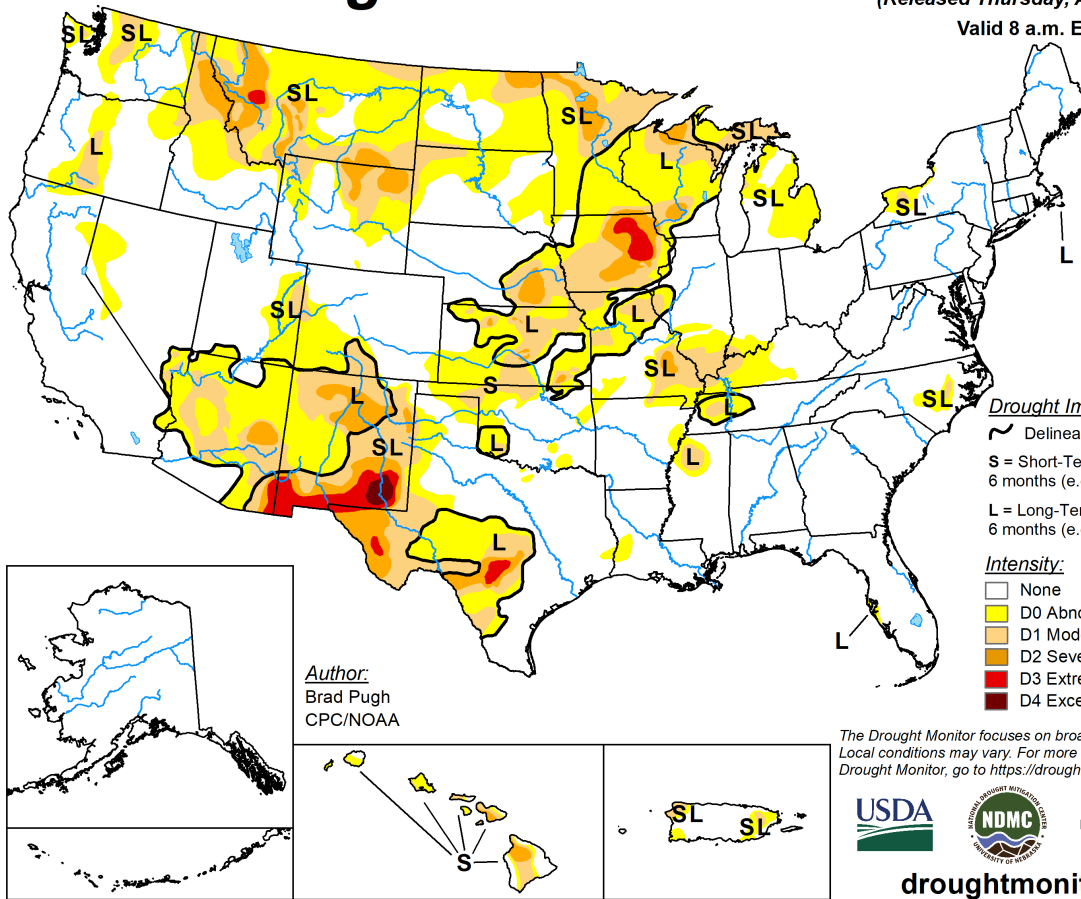


# U.S. Drought Monitor

April 2, 2024

(Released Thursday, Apr. 4, 2024)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



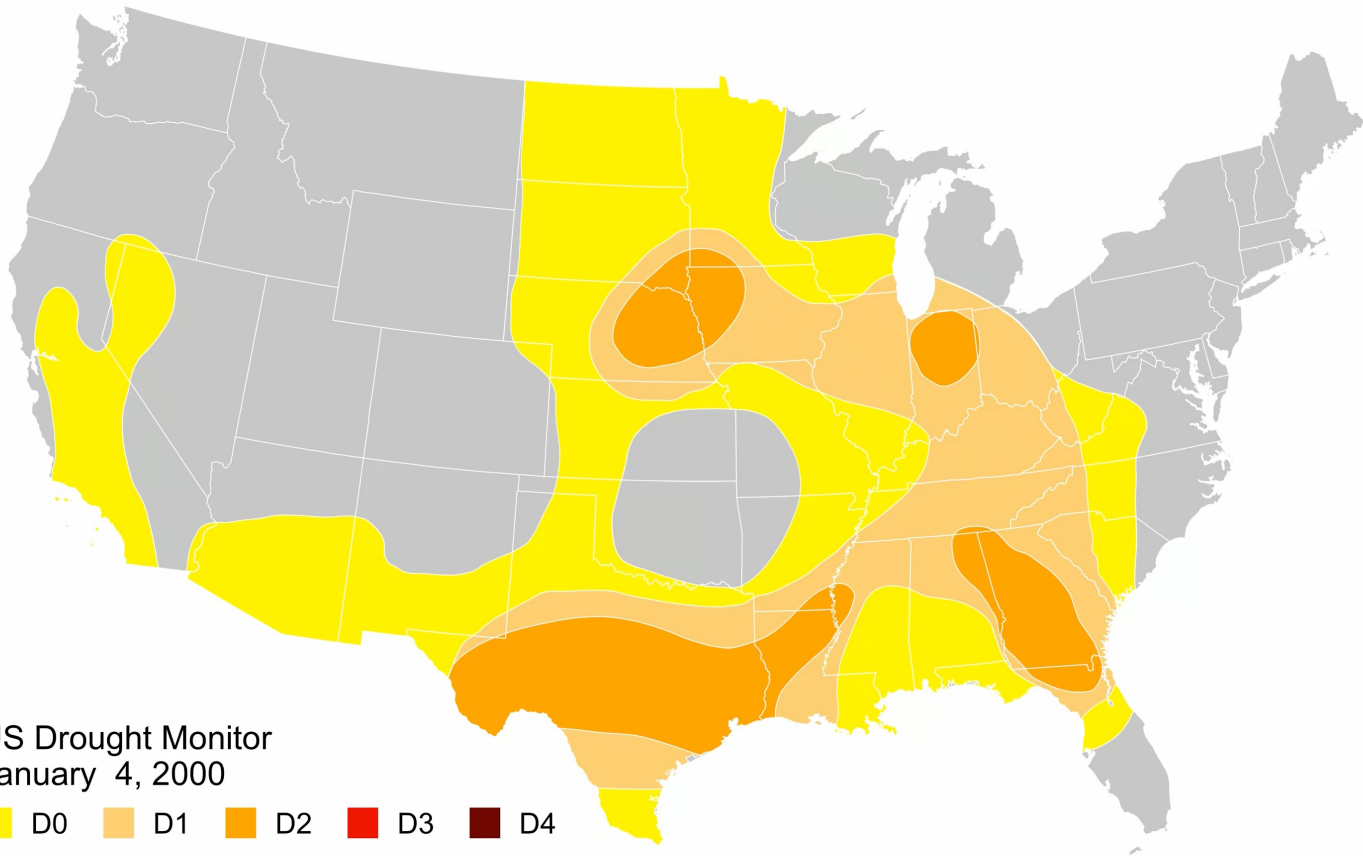
[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)



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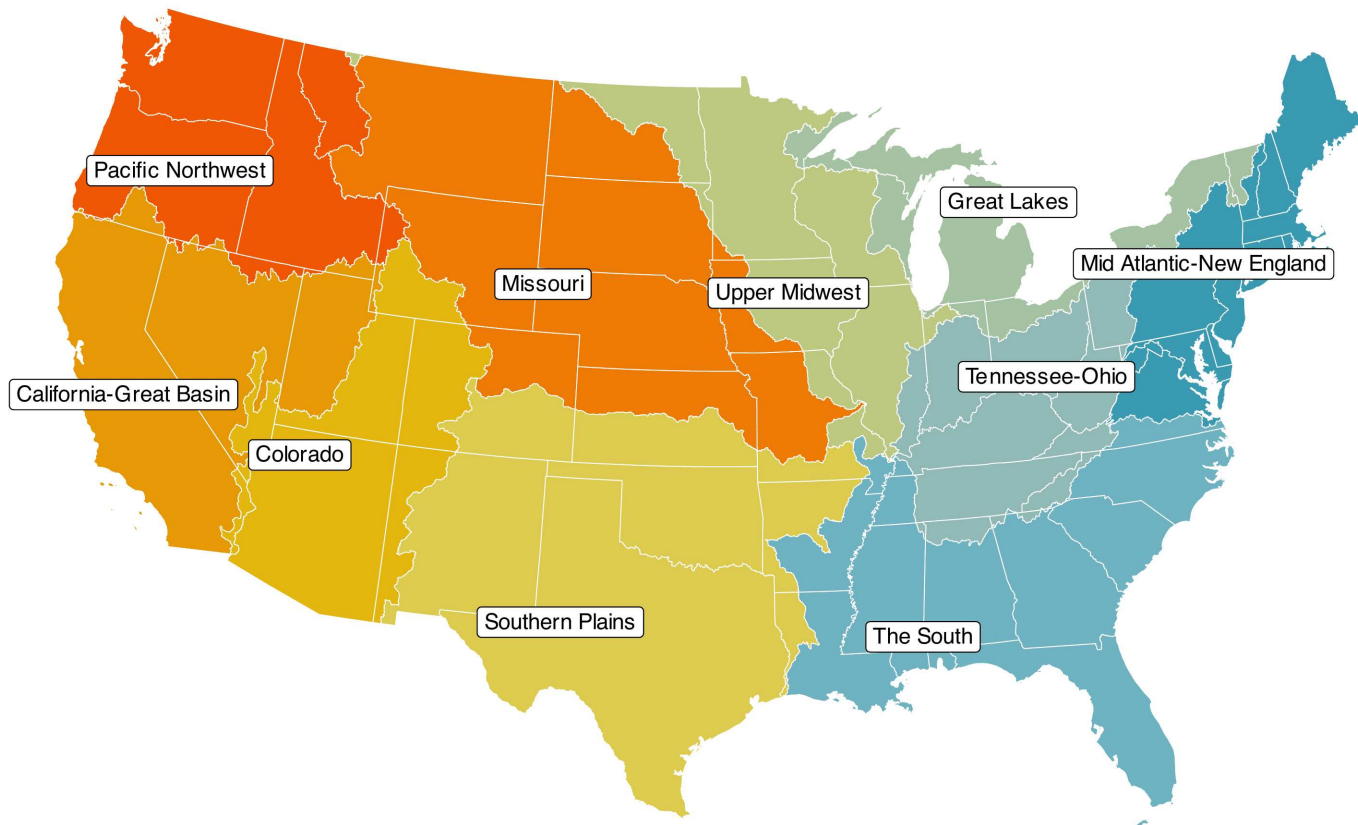
2024 ERME National Conference, Salt Lake City, UT — April 9, 2024

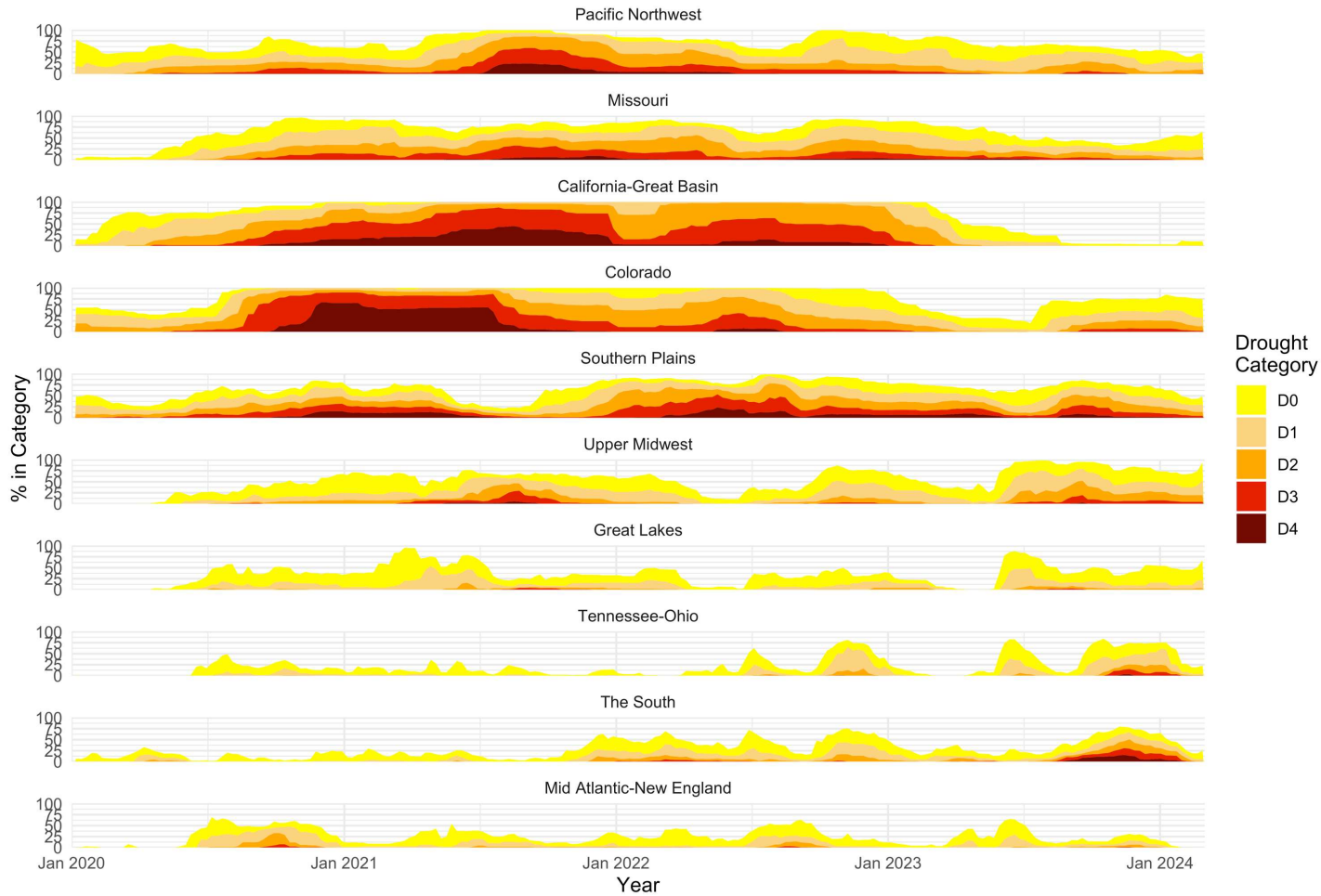


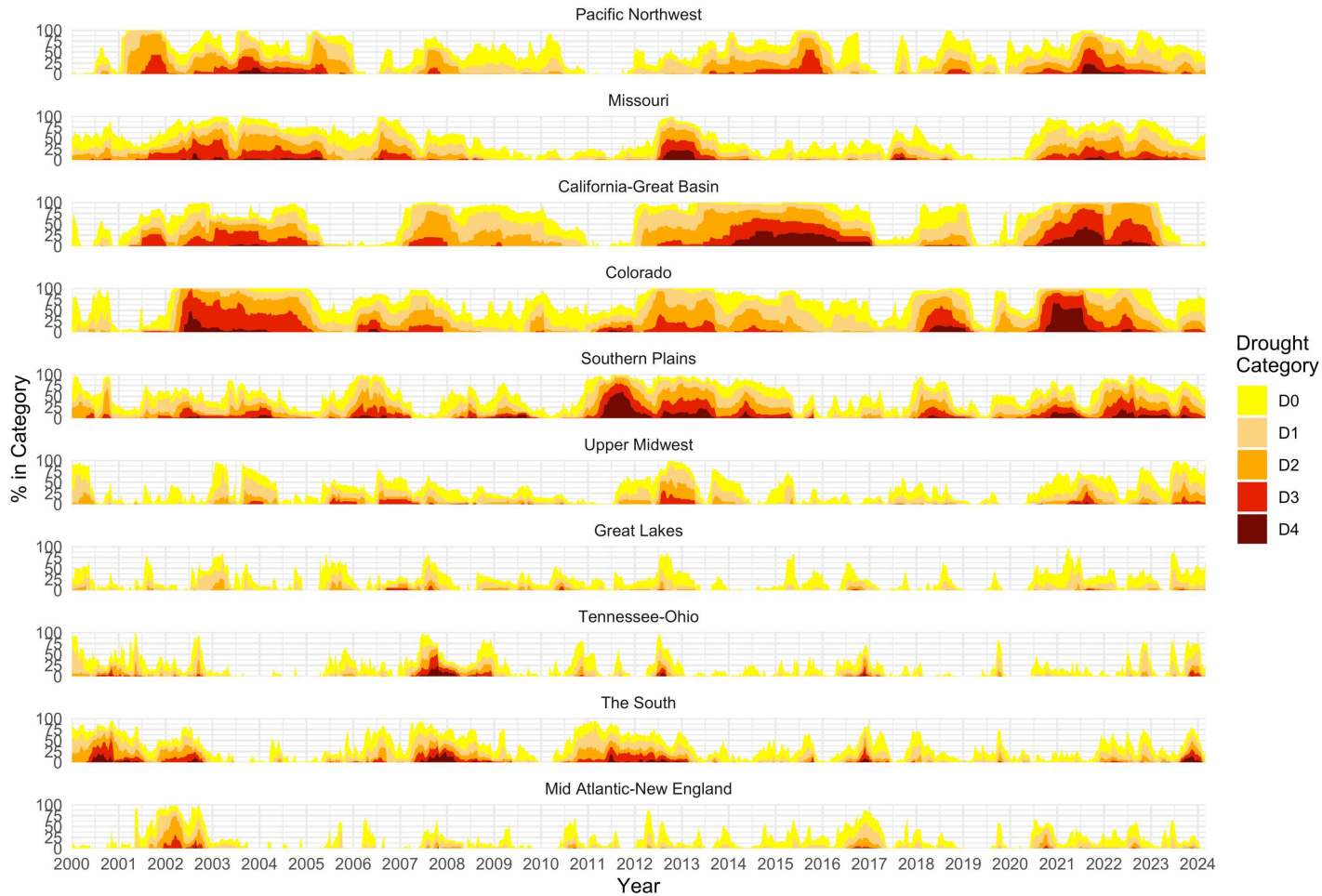
US Drought Monitor  
January 4, 2000

■ D0 ■ D1 ■ D2 ■ D3 ■ D4







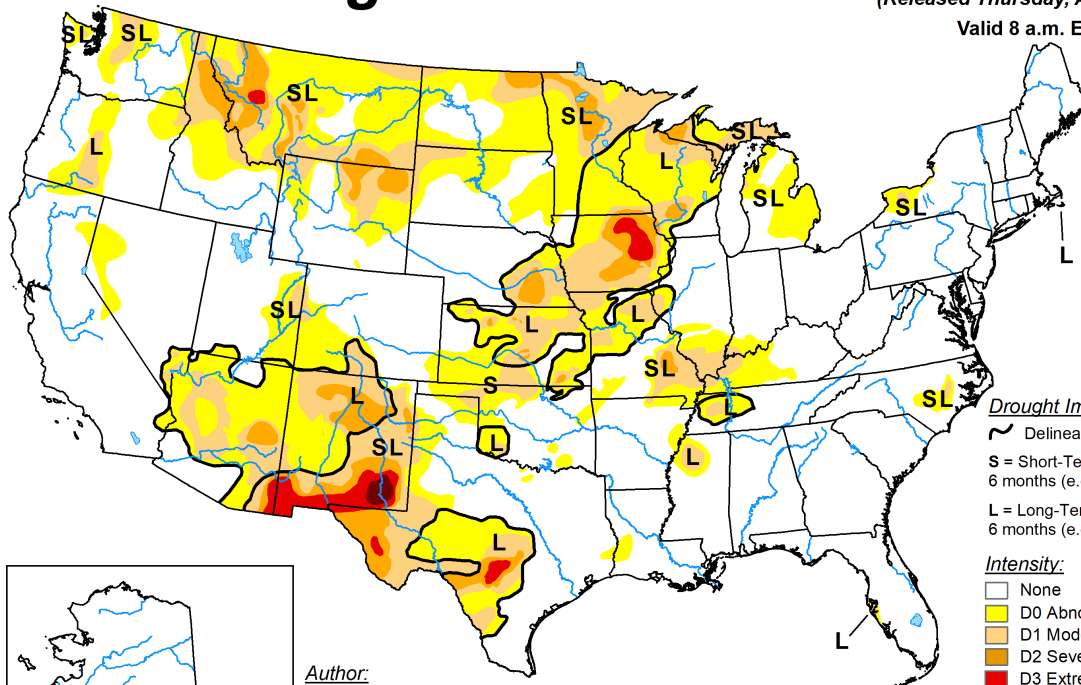


# U.S. Drought Monitor

April 2, 2024

(Released Thursday, Apr. 4, 2024)

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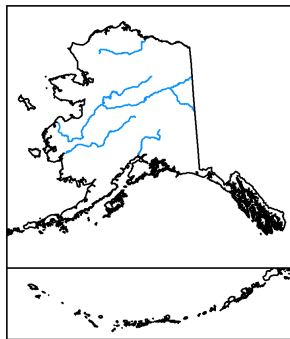


**Drought Impact Types:**

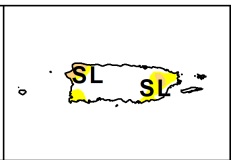
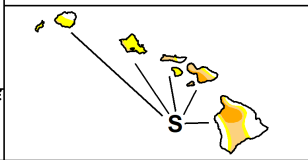
- ~ Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

**Intensity:**

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



Author:  
Brad Pugh  
CPC/NOAA



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)



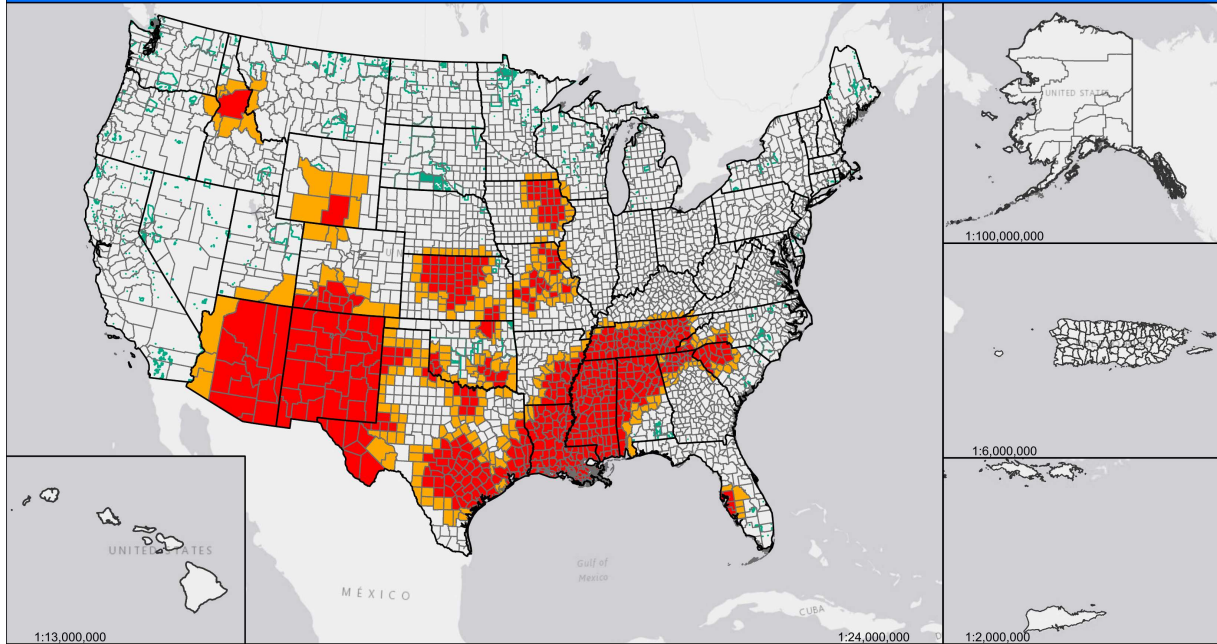
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# 2024 Secretarial Drought Designations - All Drought



## Secretarial Drought Designations for 2024

Disaster Incidences as of April 3, 2024

-  State Boundary
-  County Boundary
-  Tribal Lands
-  Primary Counties: 566
-  Contiguous Counties: 333



United States Department of Agriculture  
Farm Service Agency  
Program Delivery/Safety Net Division  
April 3, 2024



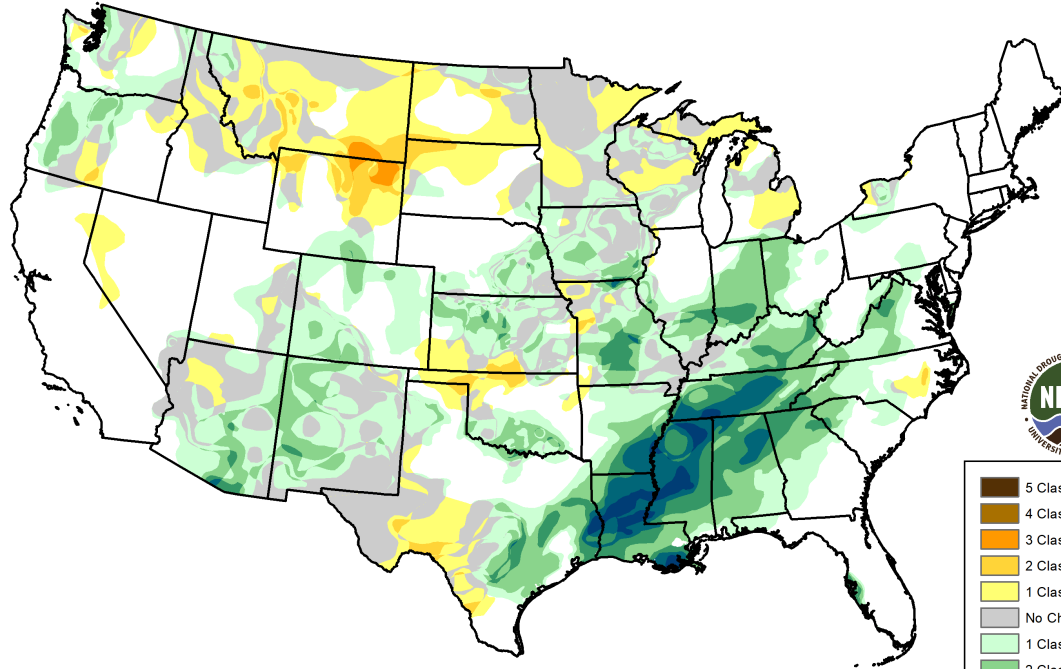
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# U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - CONUS

Start of Calendar Year



- 5 Class Degradation
- 4 Class Degradation
- 3 Class Degradation
- 2 Class Degradation
- 1 Class Degradation
- No Change
- 1 Class Improvement
- 2 Class Improvement
- 3 Class Improvement
- 4 Class Improvement
- 5 Class Improvement

April 2, 2024  
compared to  
January 2, 2024

[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)



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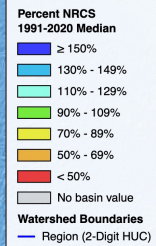
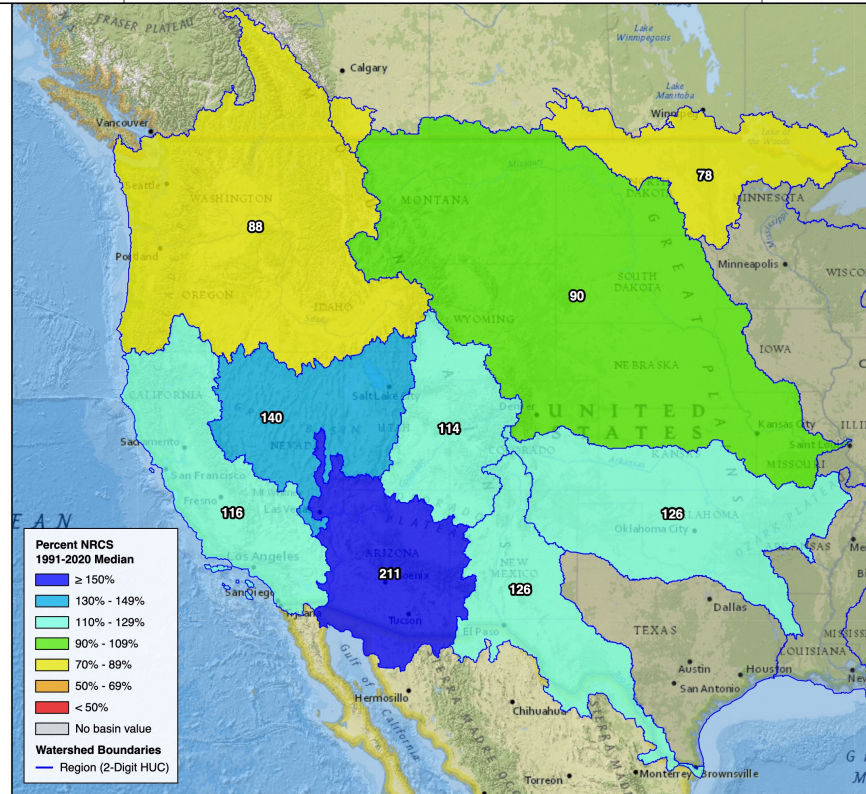
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Snow Water Equivalent

Percent NRCS 1991-2020 Median

April 8, 2024, end of day



USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service United States Department of Agriculture



0 50 100 200 300 400 500 Miles  
Created 4-09-2024



Agriculture Risk in a Changing World

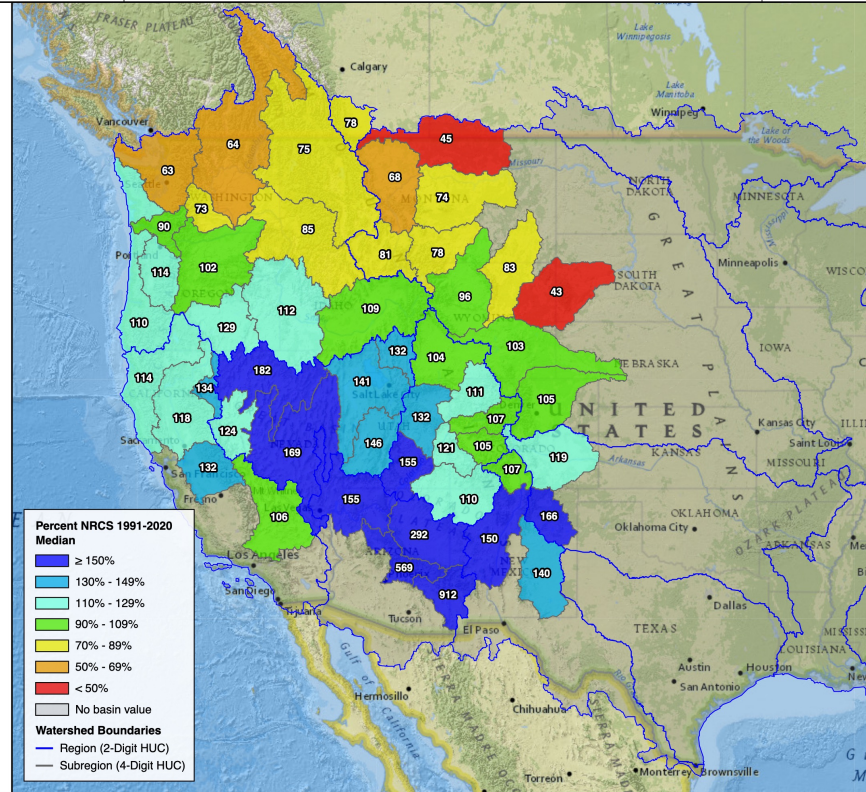
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Snow Water Equivalent

Percent NRCS 1991-2020 Median

April 8, 2024, end of day



**Percent NRCS 1991-2020 Median**

- ≥ 150%
- 130% - 149%
- 110% - 129%
- 90% - 109%
- 70% - 89%
- 50% - 69%
- < 50%
- No basin value

**Watershed Boundaries**

- Region (2-Digit HUC)
- Subregion (4-Digit HUC)

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service United States Department of Agriculture



0 50 100 200 300 400 500 Miles  
Created 4-09-2024

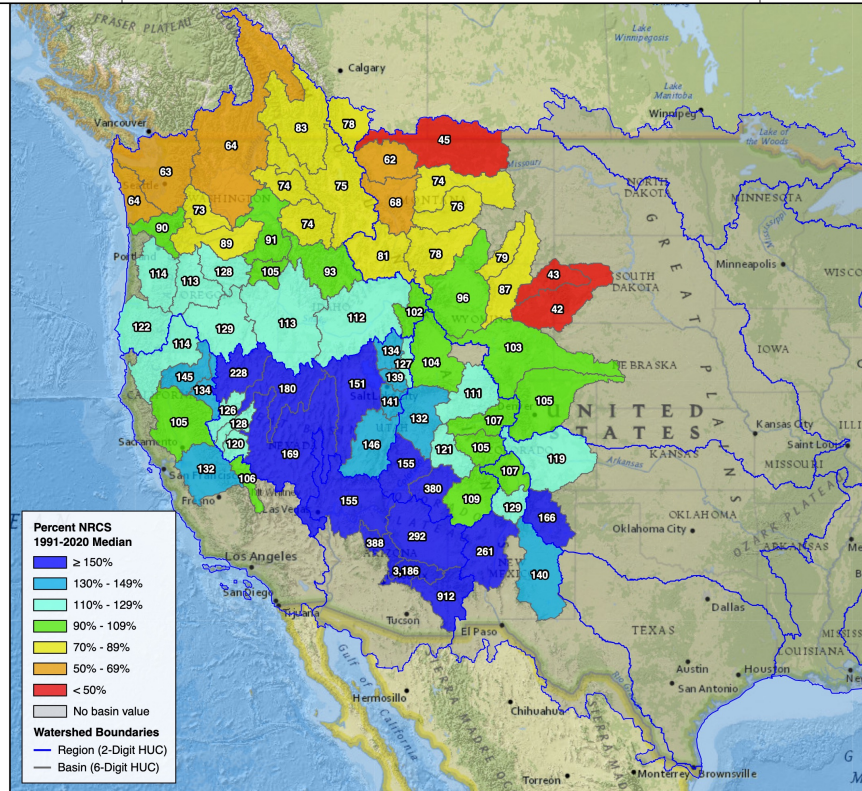


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USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service United States Department of Agriculture



0 50 100 200 300 400 500 Miles  
Created 4-09-2024



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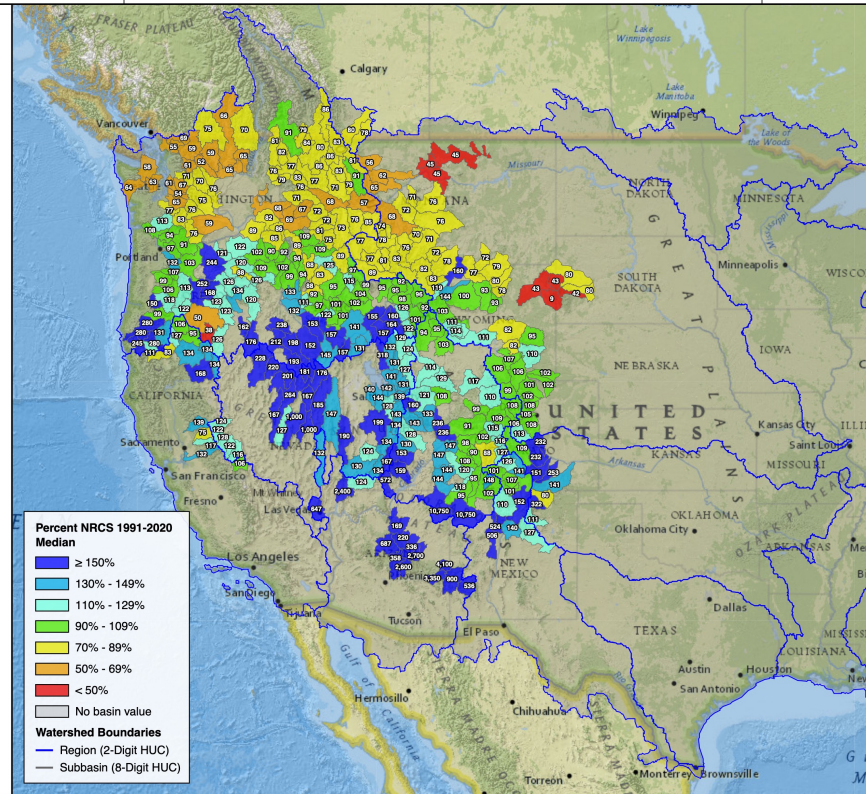
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- No basin value

**Watershed Boundaries**

- Region (2-Digit HUC)
- Subbasin (8-Digit HUC)

**USDA** Natural Resources Conservation Service  
United States Department of Agriculture



0 50 100 200 300 400 500 Miles  
Created 4-09-2024

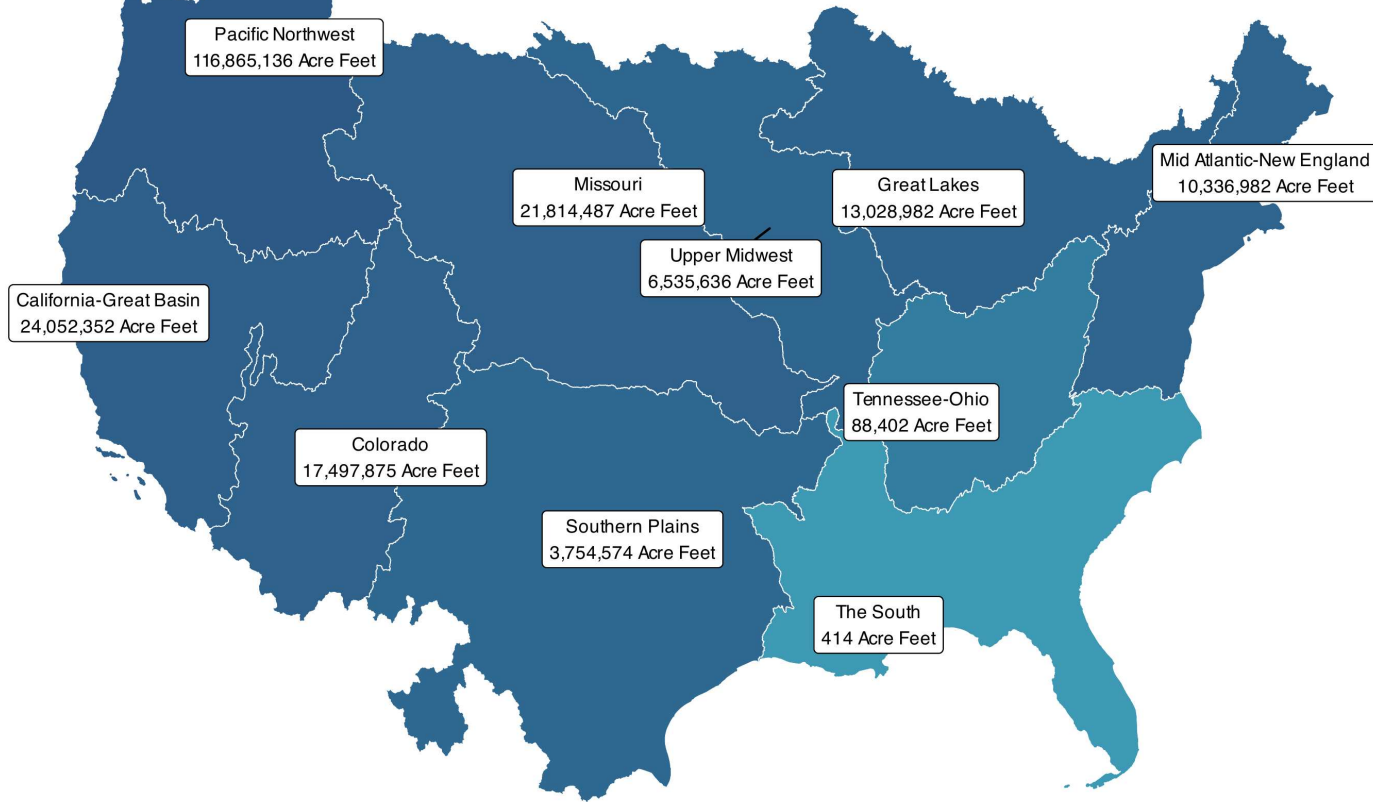


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# Normal Snowpack

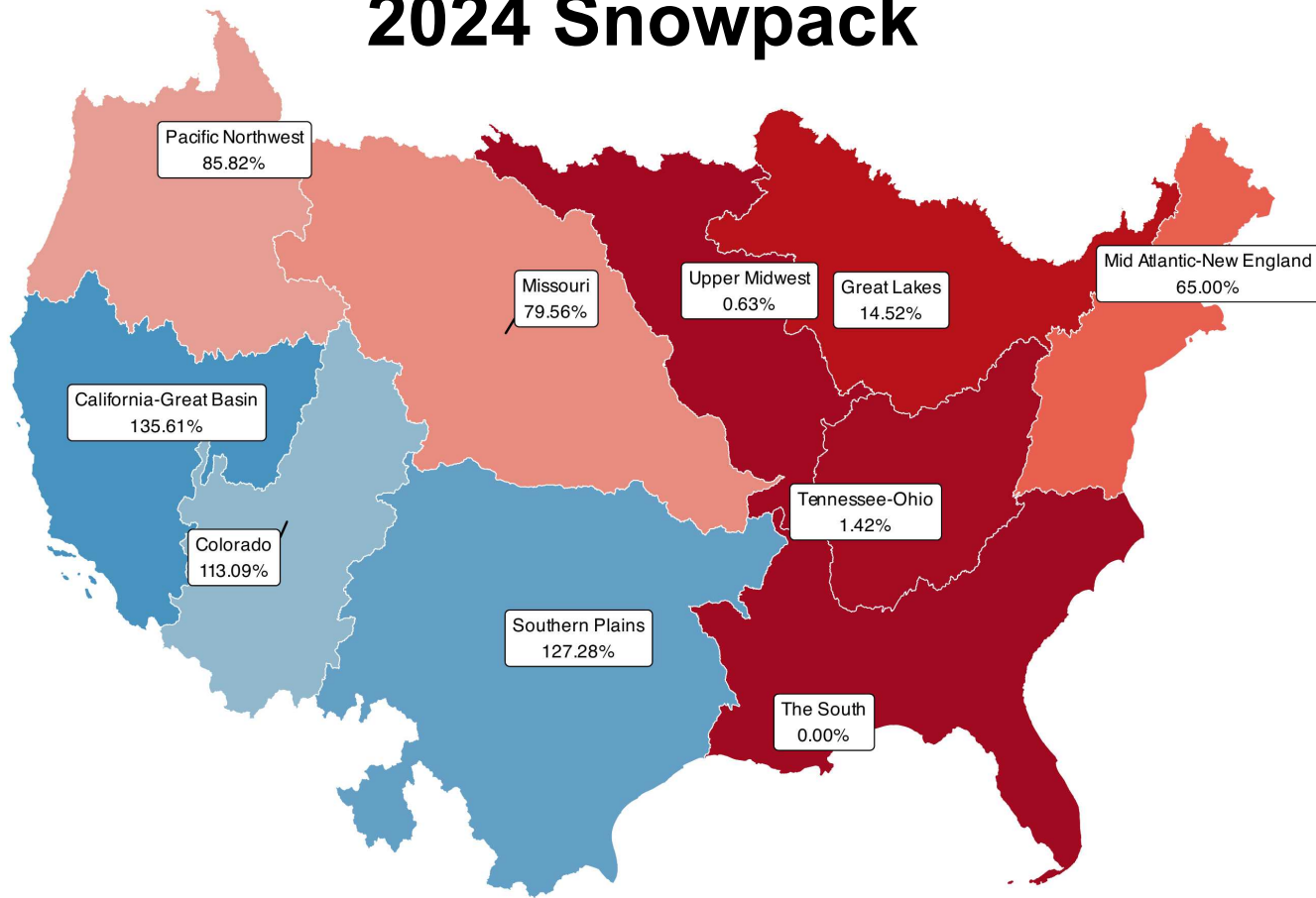


# 2024 Snowpack





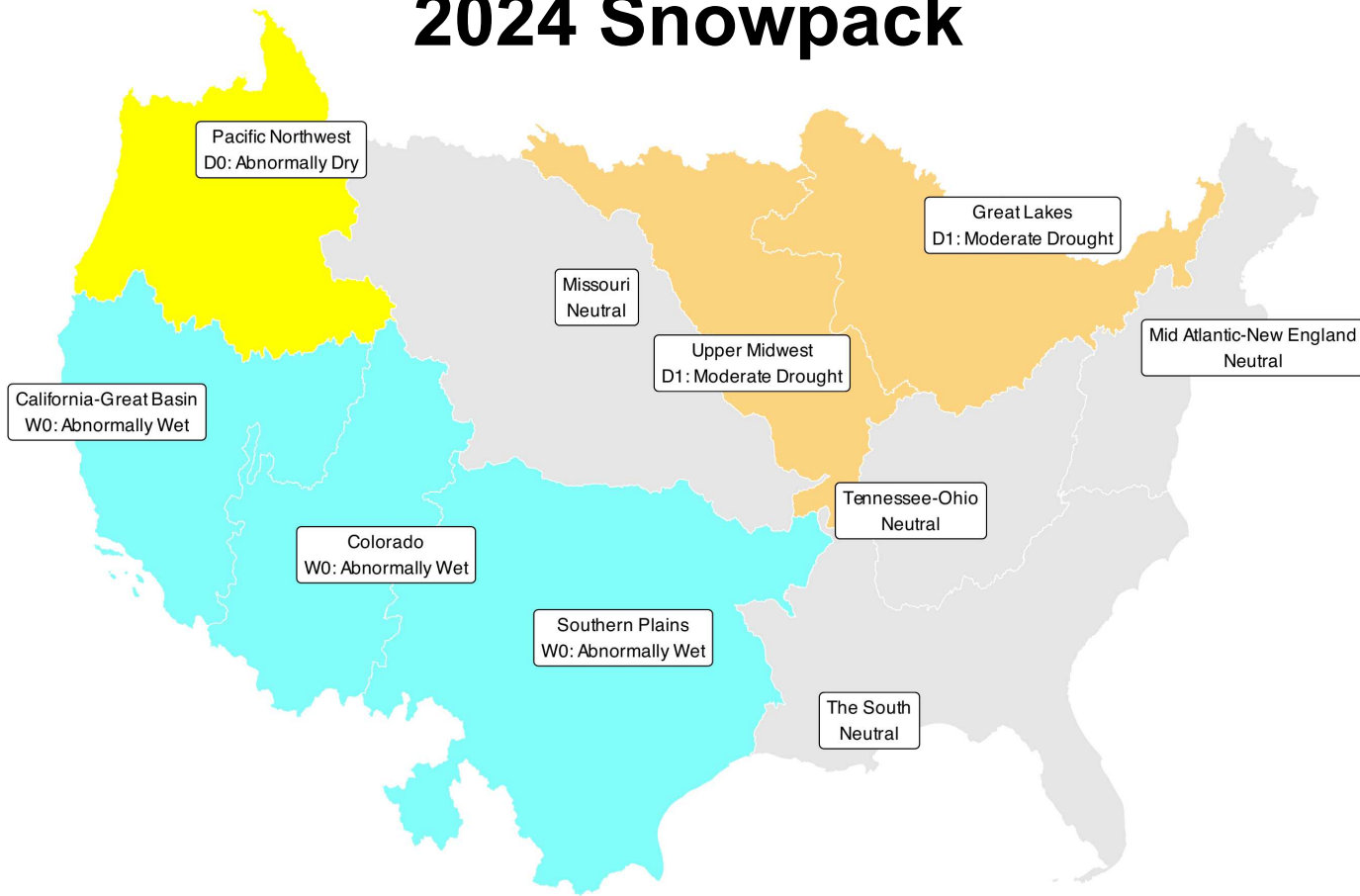
# 2024 Snowpack



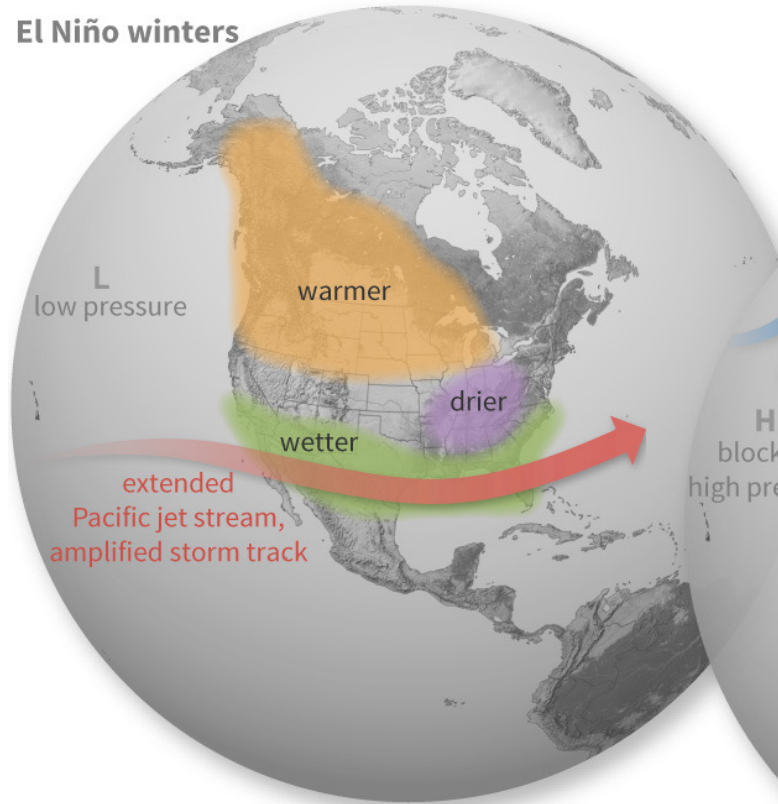
# 2024 Snowpack



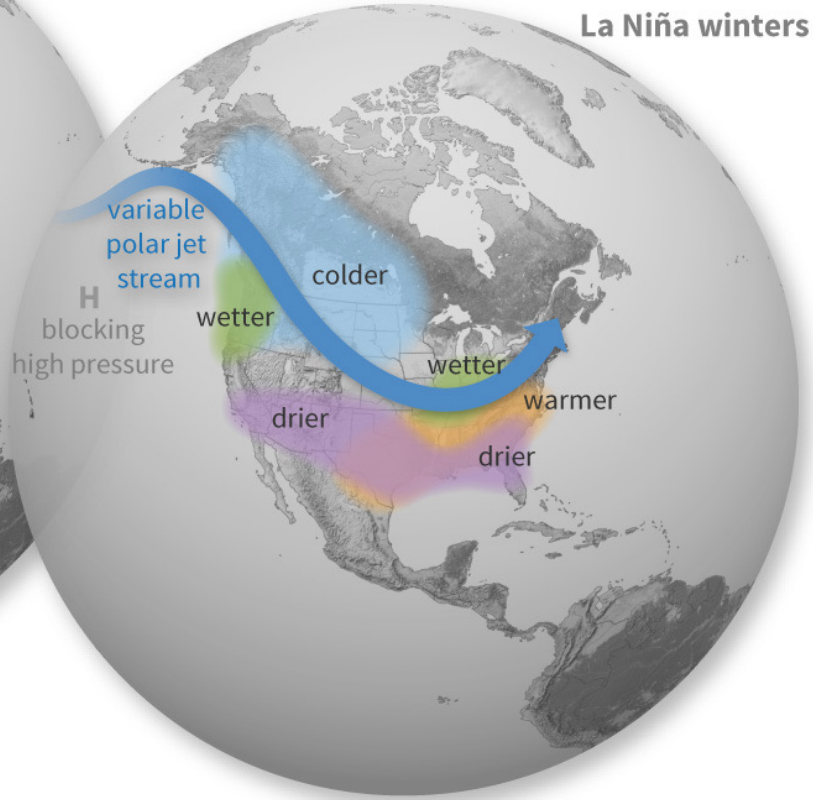
# 2024 Snowpack



## El Niño winters



## La Niña winters



NOAA Climate.gov

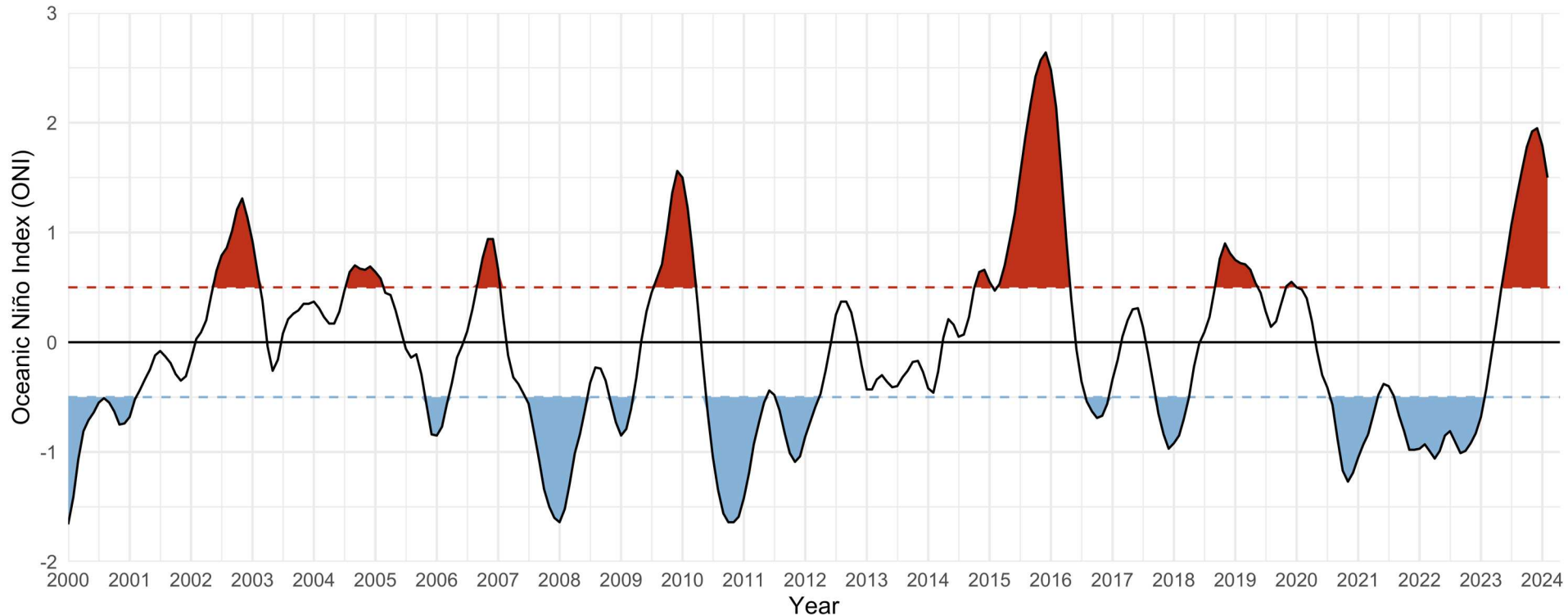


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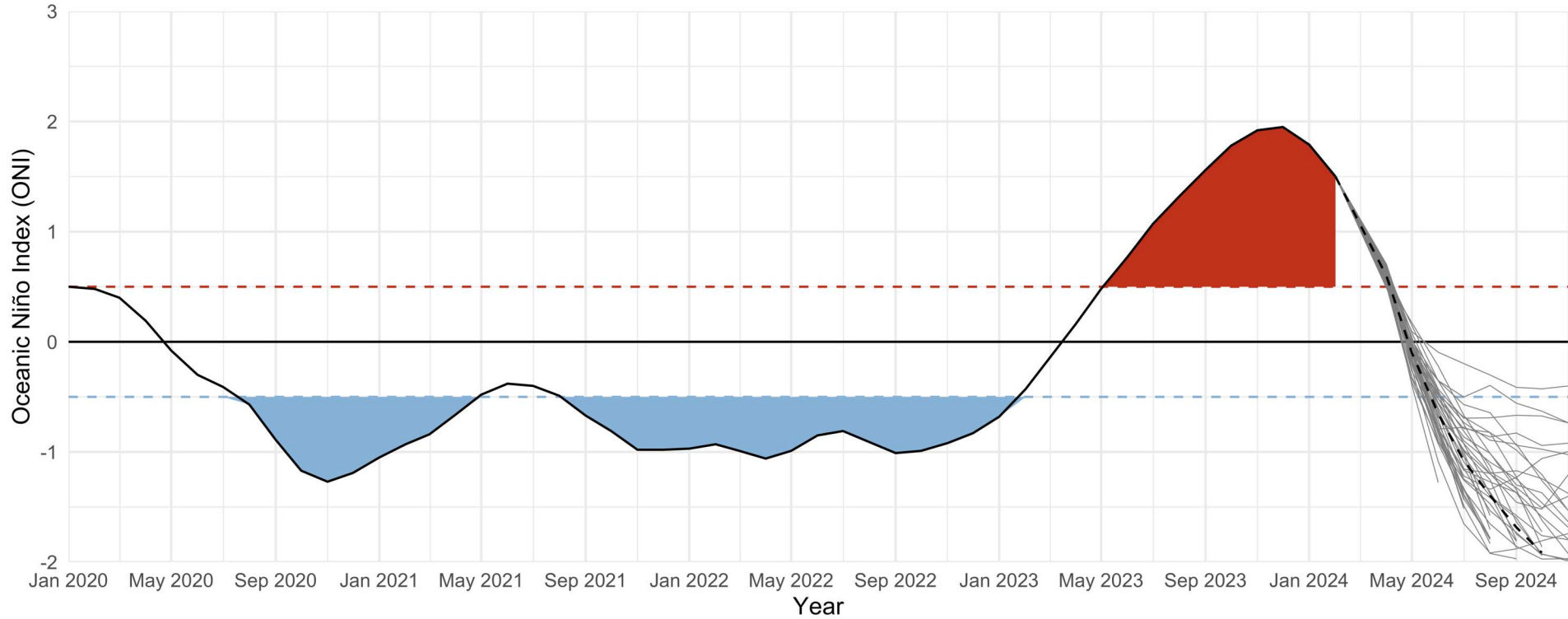
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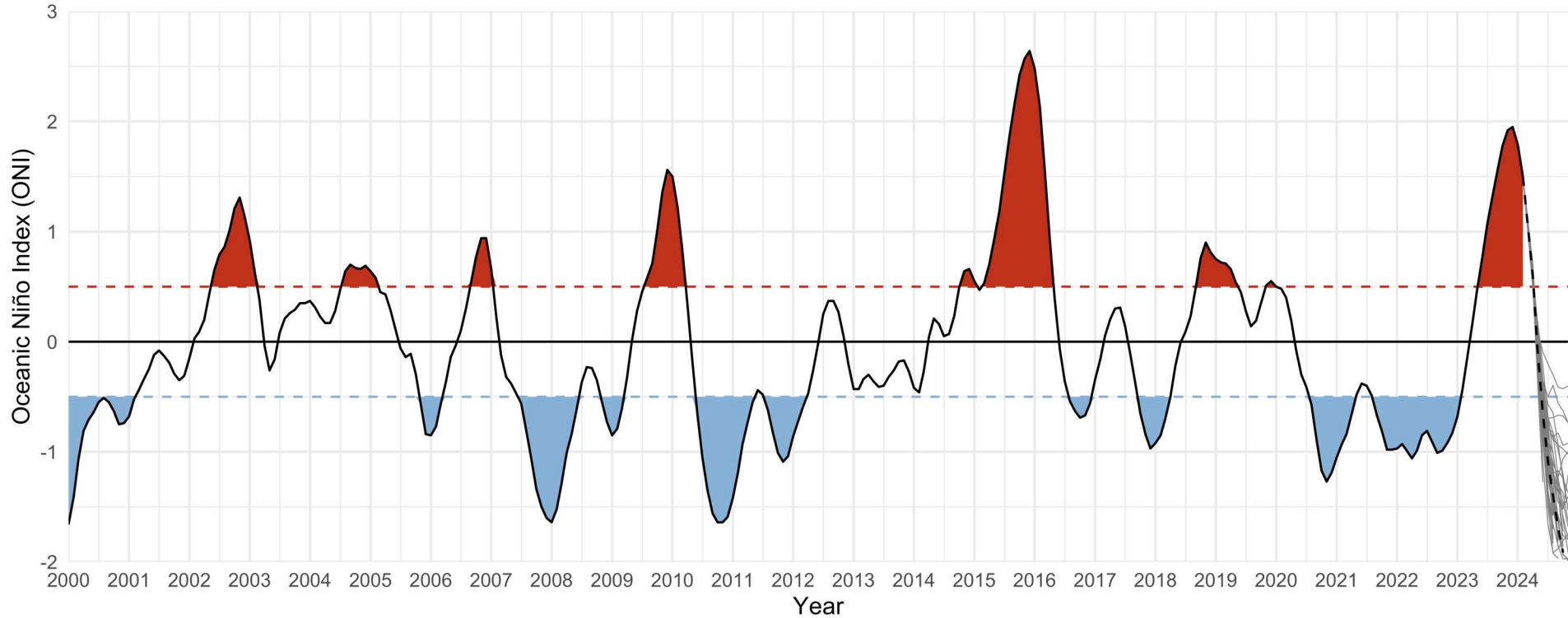
# ENSO Since 2000



# Summer 2024 Projections

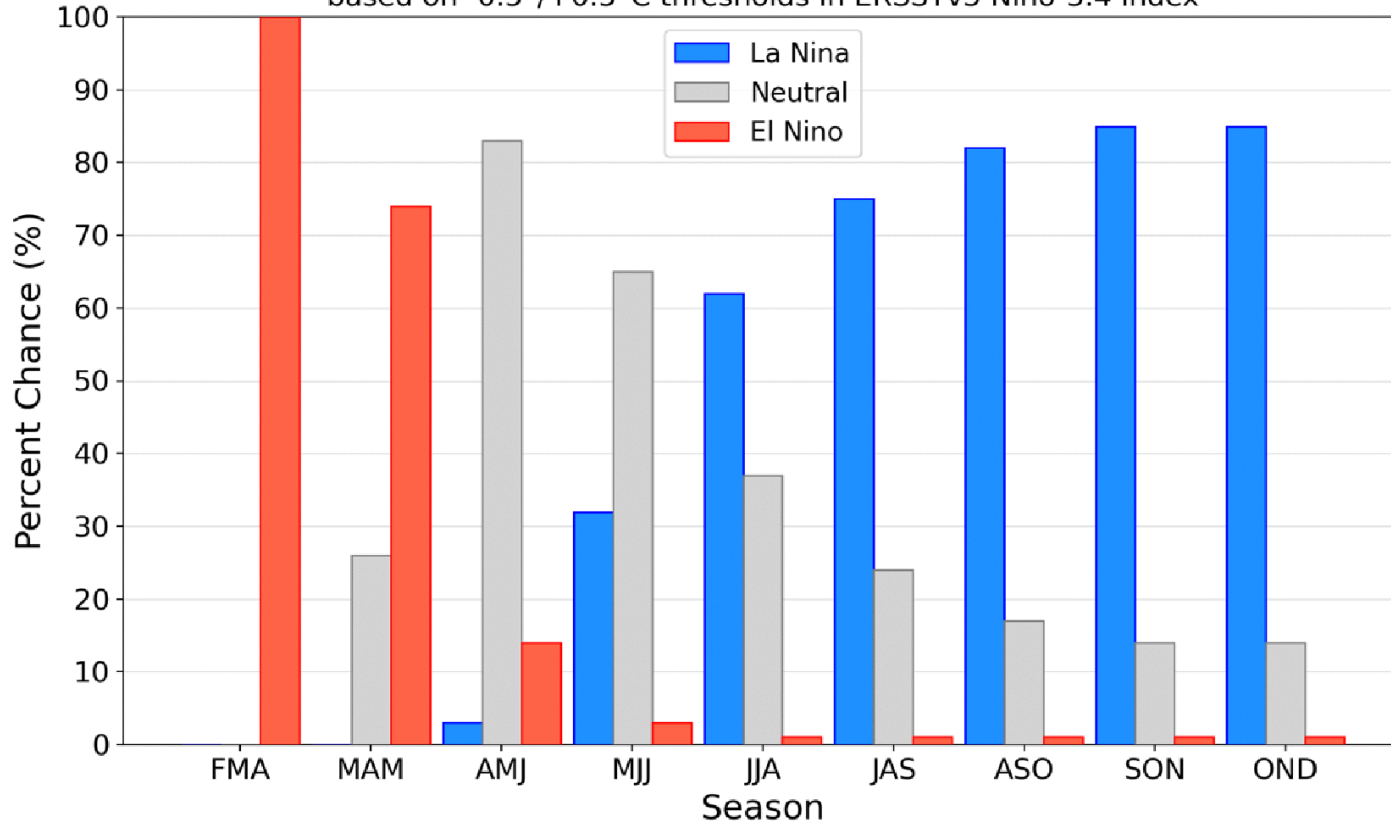


# Summer 2024 Projections



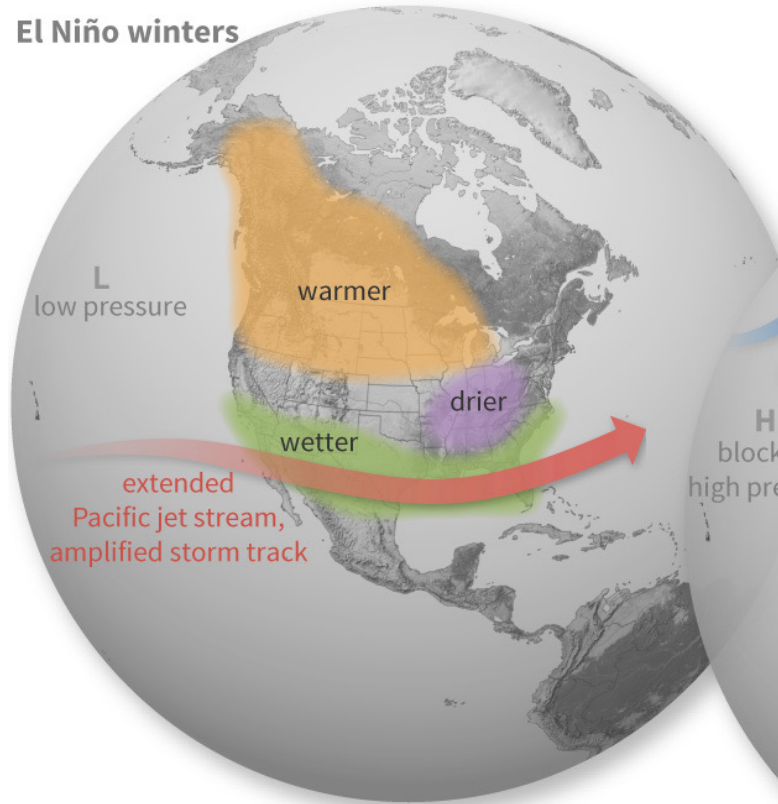
# Official NOAA CPC ENSO Probabilities (issued Mar. 2024)

based on  $-0.5^{\circ}/+0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  thresholds in ERSSTv5 Niño-3.4 index

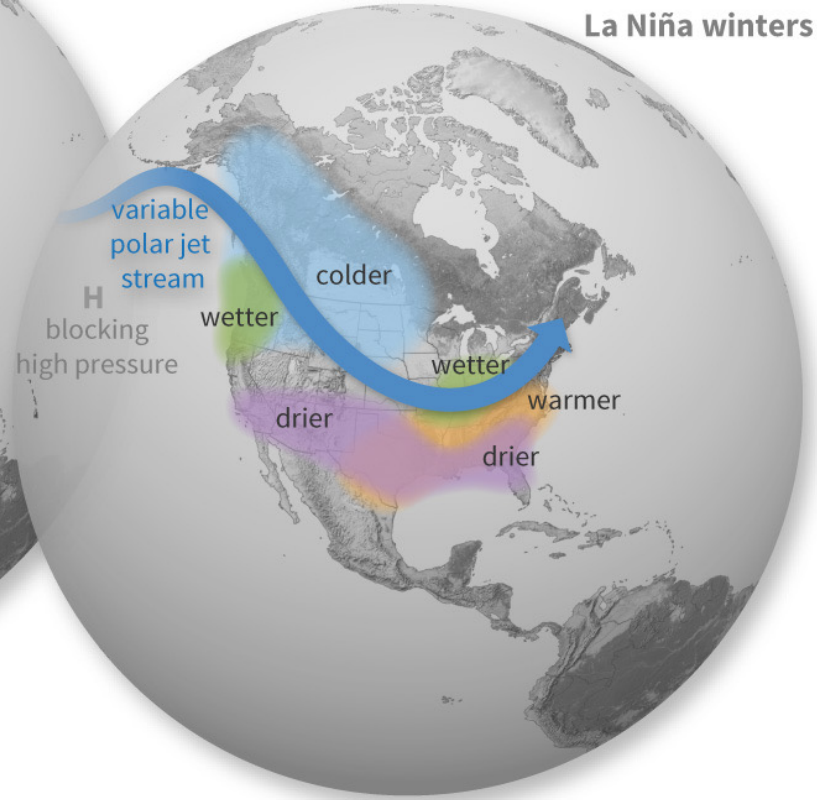




## El Niño winters



## La Niña winters



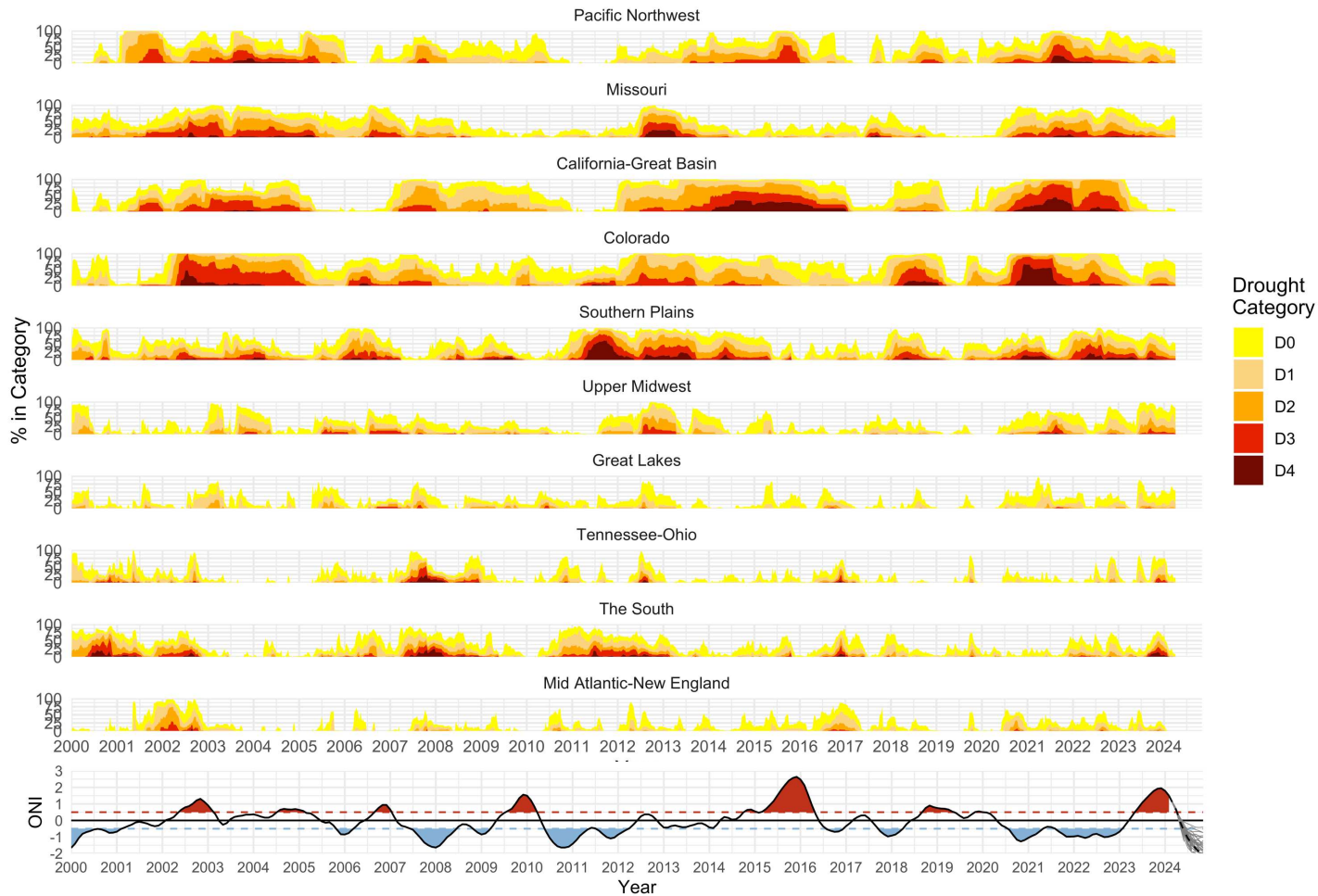
NOAA Climate.gov



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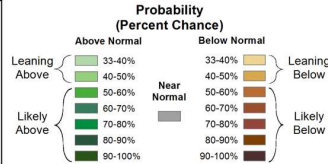
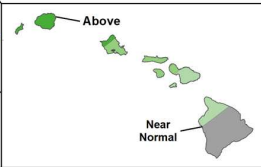
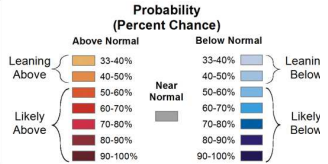
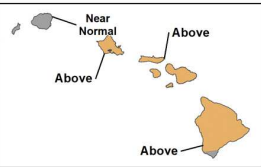
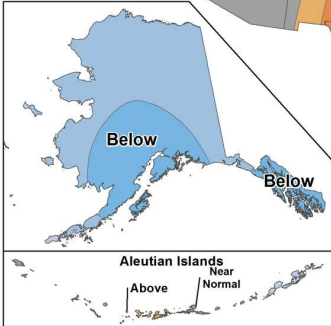
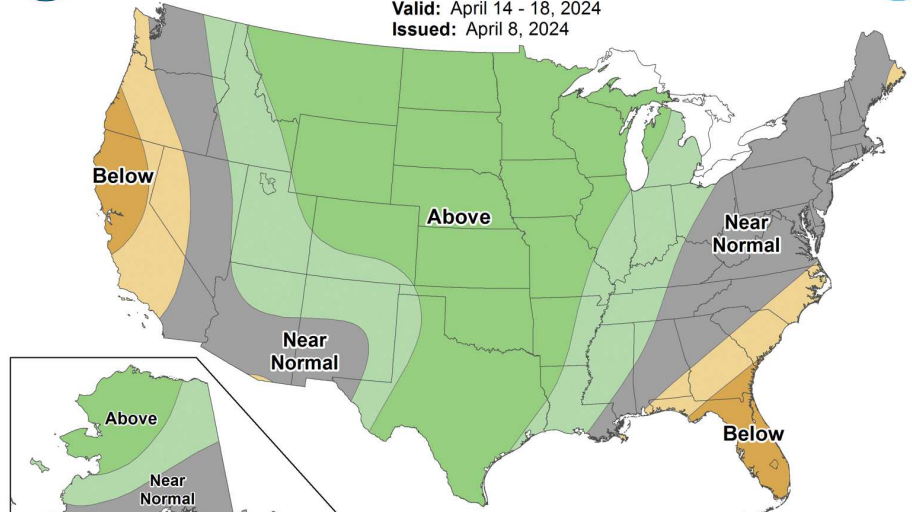
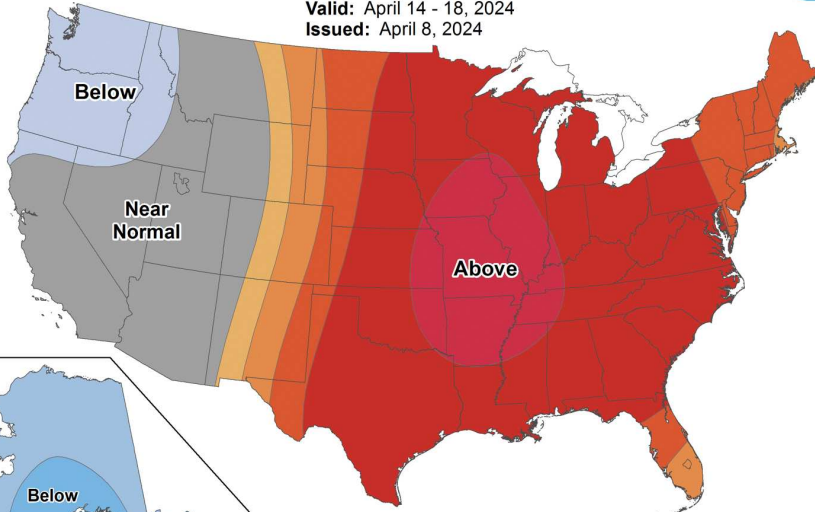
# 6-10 Day Temperature Outlook

Valid: April 14 - 18, 2024  
Issued: April 8, 2024



# 6-10 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: April 14 - 18, 2024  
Issued: April 8, 2024



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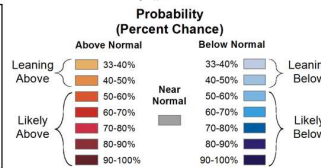
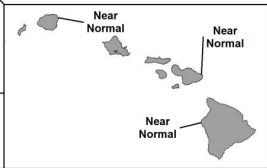
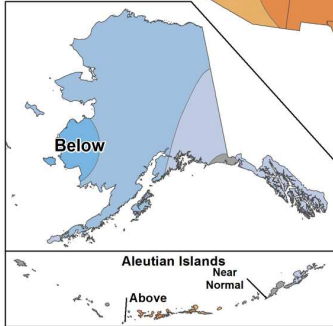
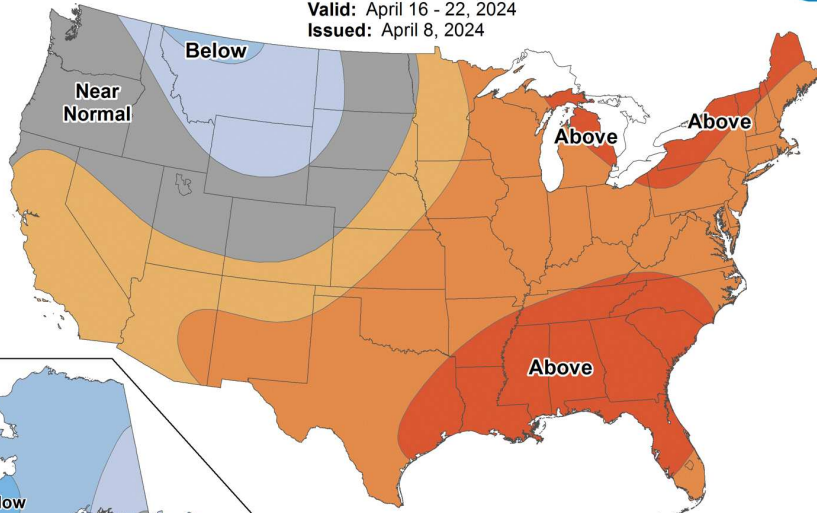
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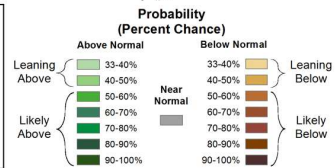
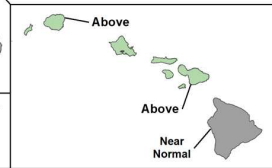
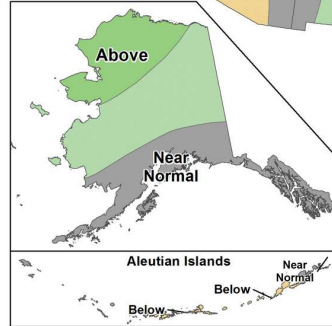
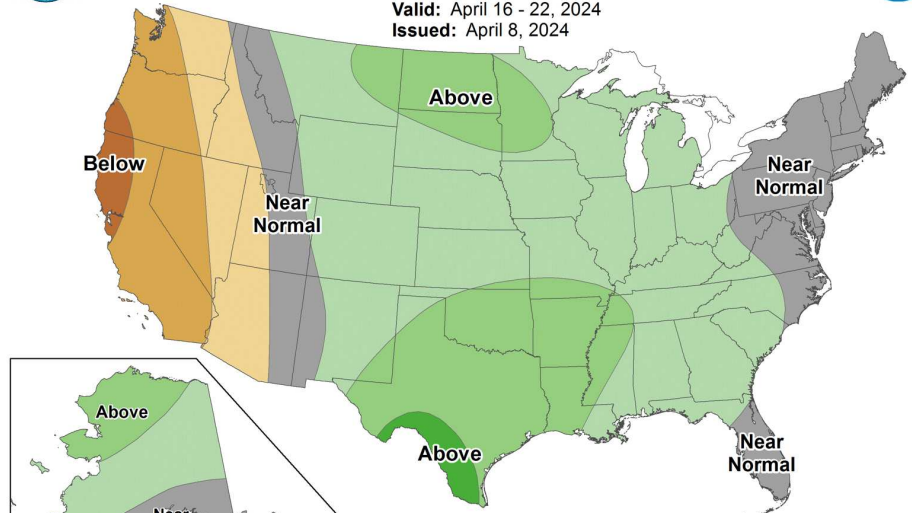
# 8-14 Day Temperature Outlook

Valid: April 16 - 22, 2024  
Issued: April 8, 2024



# 8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: April 16 - 22, 2024  
Issued: April 8, 2024



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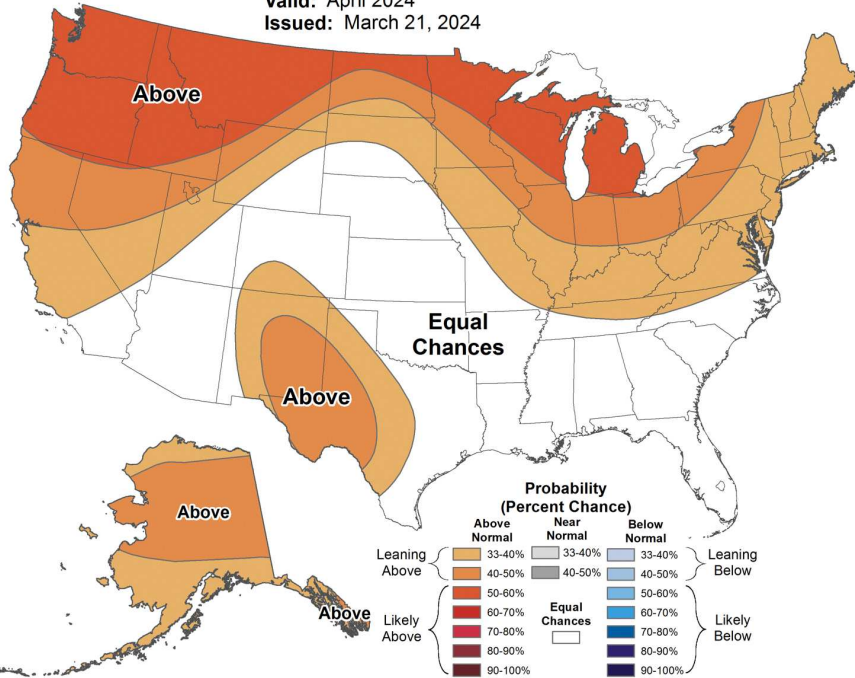
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# Monthly Temperature Outlook



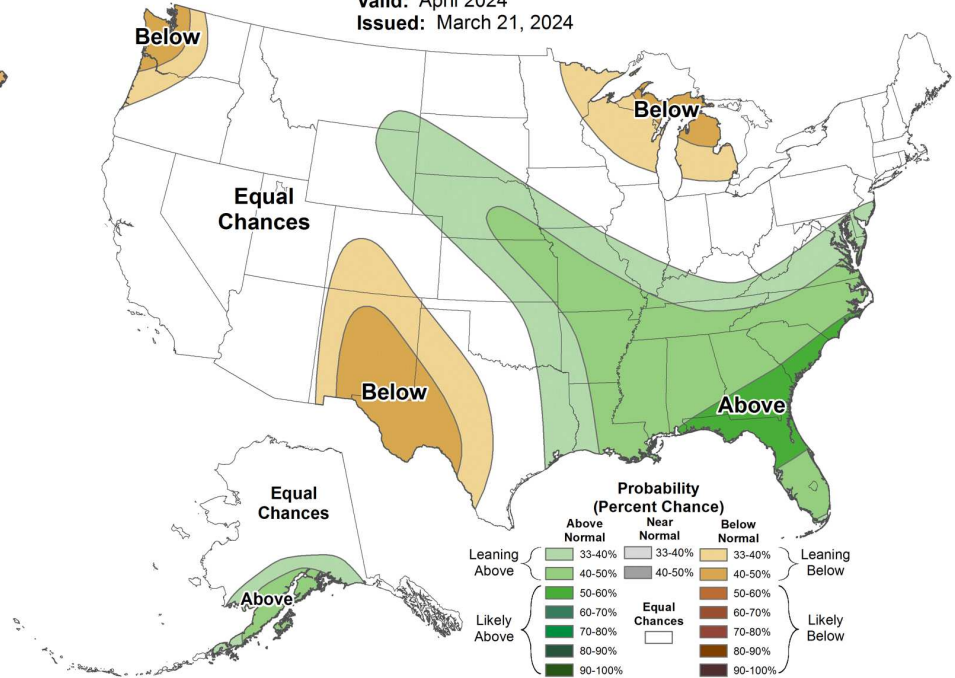
Valid: April 2024  
Issued: March 21, 2024



# Monthly Precipitation Outlook



Valid: April 2024  
Issued: March 21, 2024



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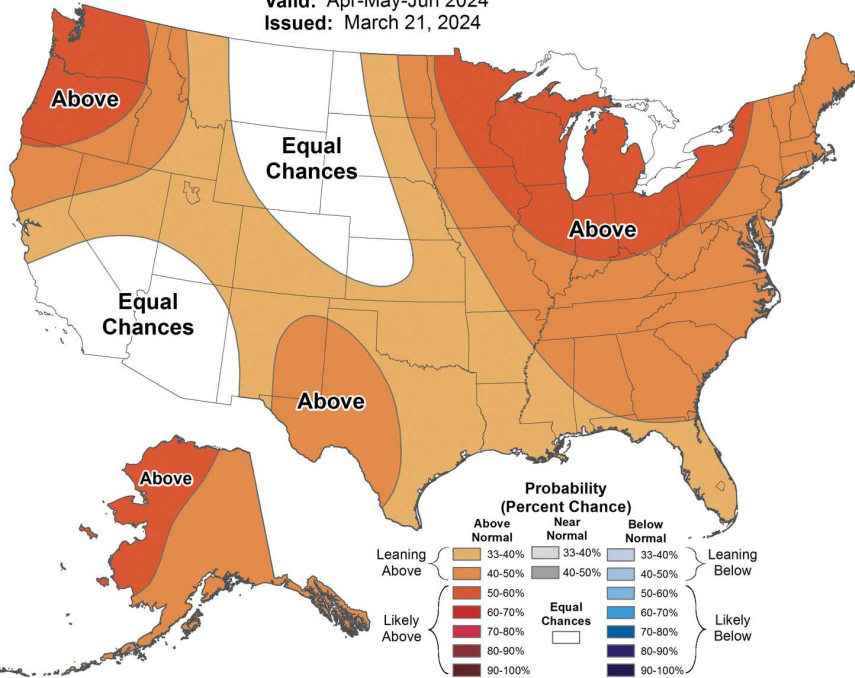
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# Seasonal Temperature Outlook



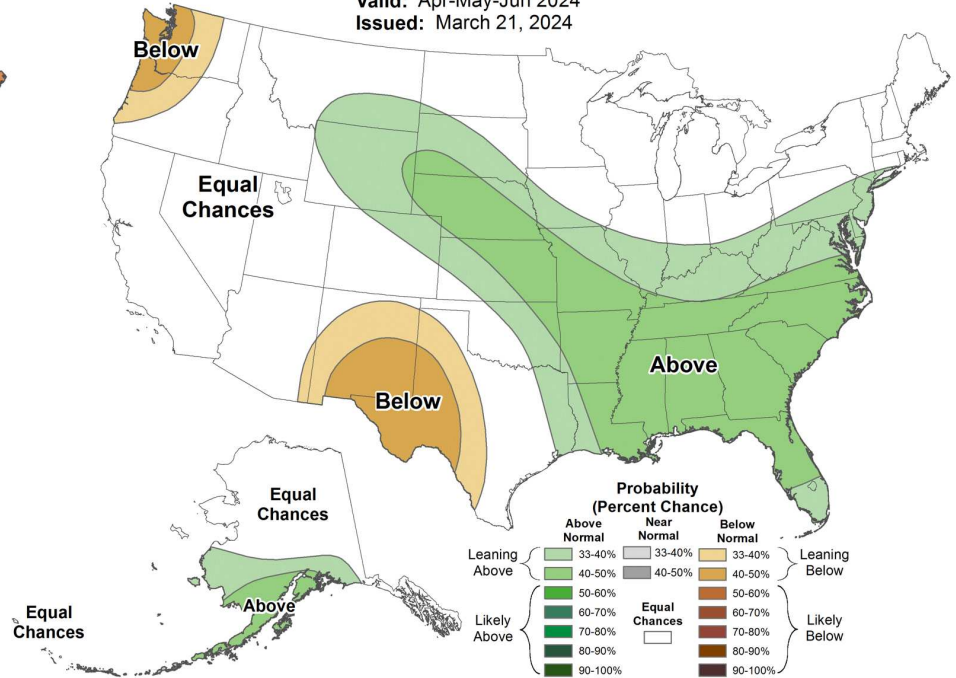
Valid: Apr-May-Jun 2024  
Issued: March 21, 2024



# Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



Valid: Apr-May-Jun 2024  
Issued: March 21, 2024

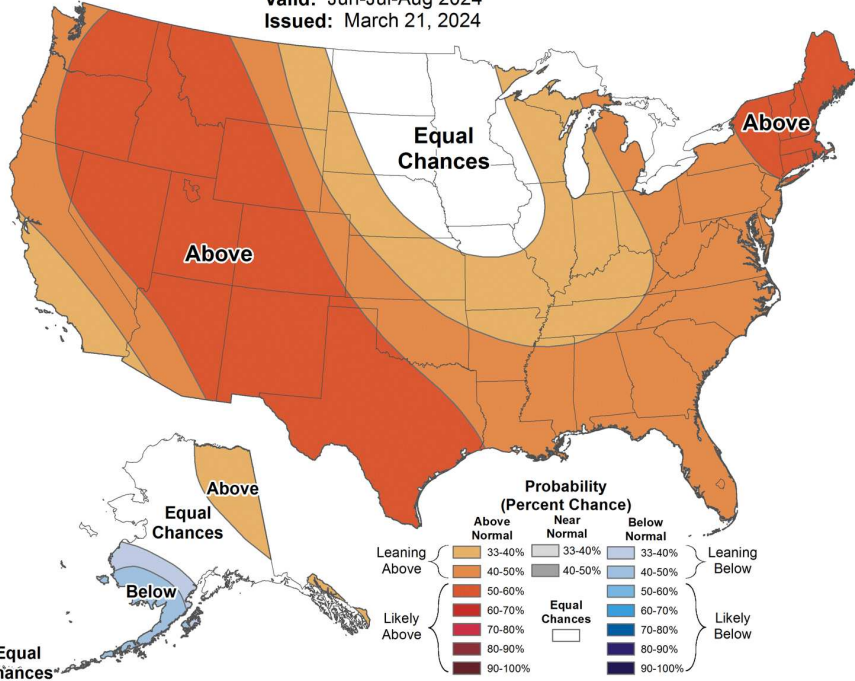




# Seasonal Temperature Outlook



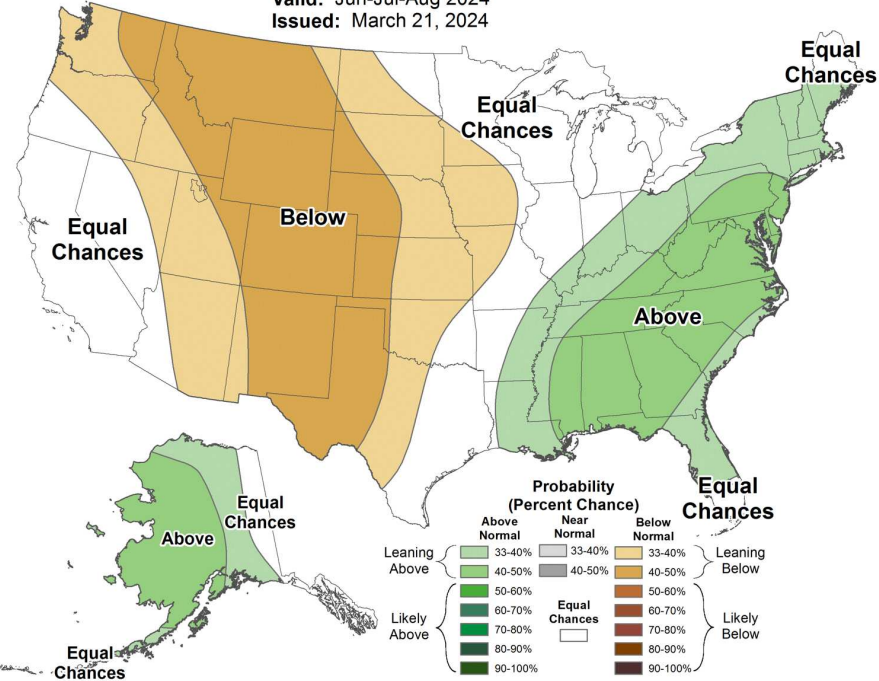
Valid: Jun-Jul-Aug 2024  
Issued: March 21, 2024



# Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



Valid: Jun-Jul-Aug 2024  
Issued: March 21, 2024



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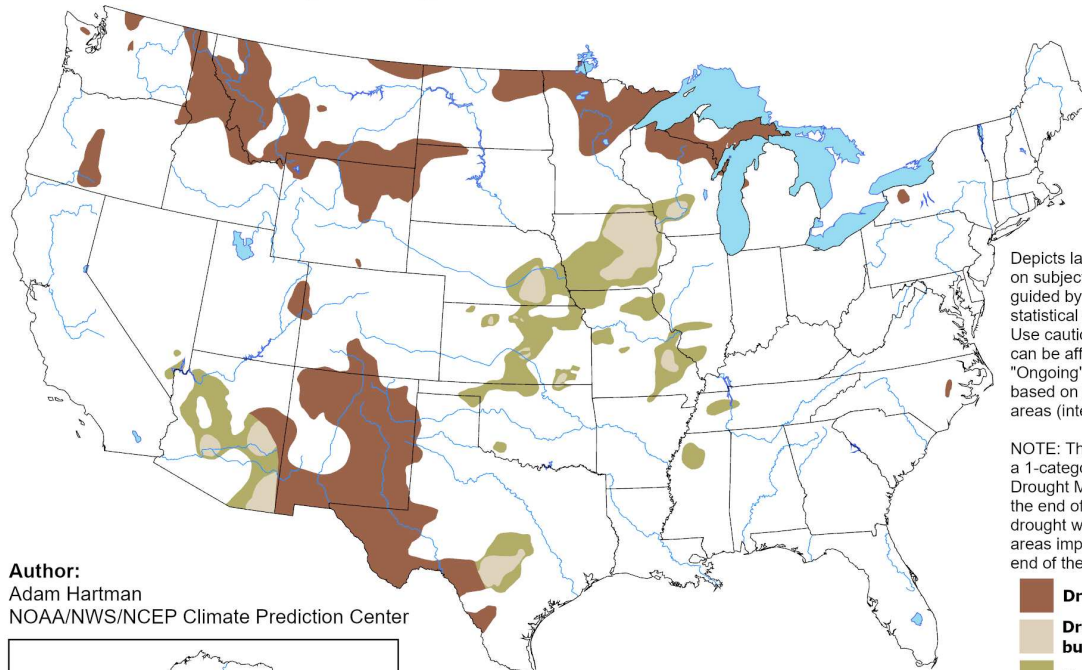
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# U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook

## Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for April 2024  
Released March 31, 2024

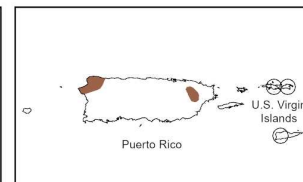
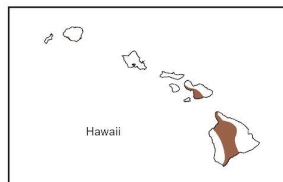


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to 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**
- No drought**

**Author:**  
Adam Hartman  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center



<https://go.usa.gov/3eZGd>



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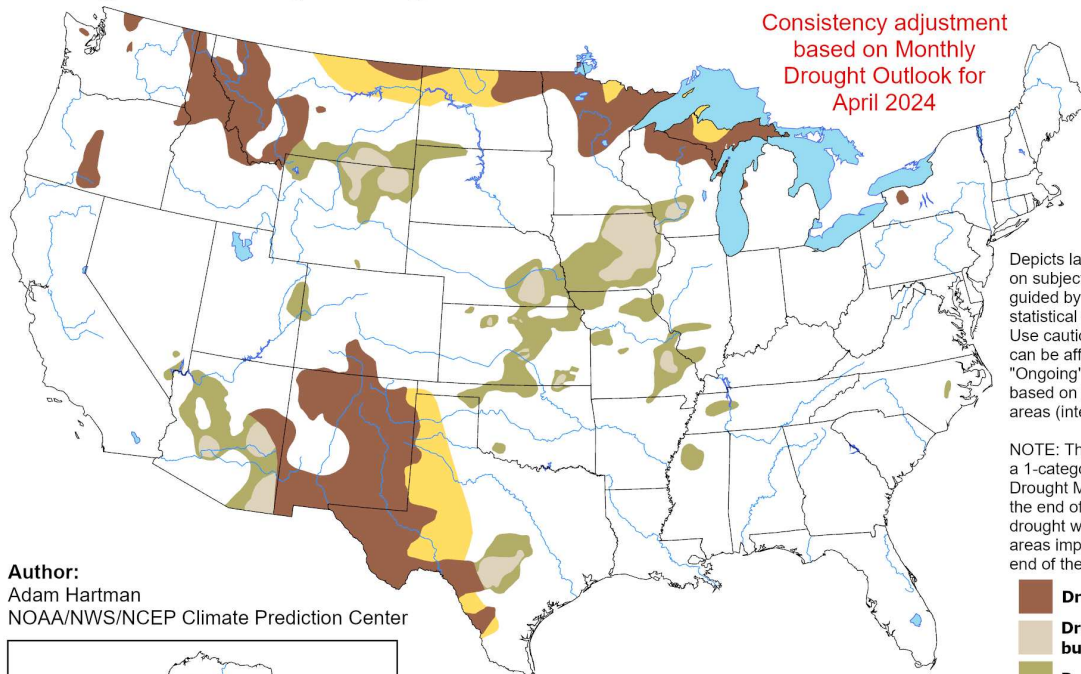


# U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

## Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for April 1 - June 30, 2024  
Released March 31, 2024

Consistency adjustment  
based on Monthly  
Drought Outlook for  
April 2024

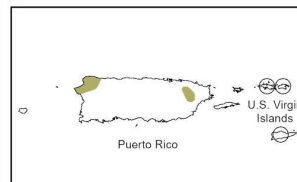
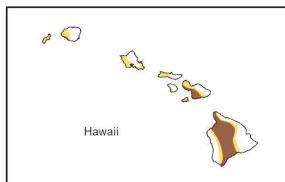
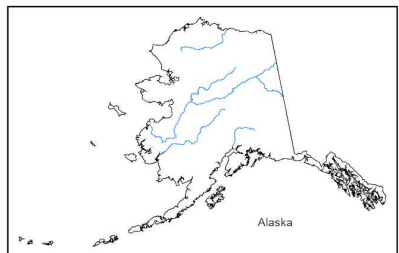


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to 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
-  No drought

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



<https://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>



Agriculture Risk in a Changing World

Kyle Bocinsky, Montana Climate Office

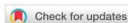
2024 ERME National Conference, Salt Lake City, UT — April 9, 2024

# Game Plan

1. **Observed trends and climate outlook**
2. **Risk in a changing climate**
3. **Tools for Assessing Climate Risk**



ARTICLE



<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-022-30316-5>

OPEN

## Drought assessment has been outpaced by climate change: empirical arguments for a paradigm shift

Zachary H. Hoylman<sup>1,2✉</sup>, R. Kyle Bocinsky<sup>1,3</sup> & Kelsey G. Jencso<sup>1,2</sup>

Despite the acceleration of climate change, erroneous assumptions of climate stationarity are still inculcated in the management of water resources in the United States (US). The US system for drought detection, which triggers billions of dollars in emergency resources, adheres to this assumption with preference towards 60-year (or longer) record lengths for drought characterization. Using observed data from 1,934 Global Historical Climate Network (GHCN) sites across the US, we show that conclusions based on long climate records can substantially bias assessment of drought severity. Bias emerges by assuming that conditions from the early and mid 20th century are as likely to occur in today's climate. Numerical simulations reveal that drought assessment error is relatively low with limited climatology lengths (~30 year) and that error increases with longer record lengths where climate is changing rapidly. We assert that non-stationarity in climate must be accounted for in contemporary assessments to more accurately portray present drought risk.

**Under stationary assumptions, drought severity is exaggerated in locations that are experiencing aridification and underrepresented in locations that are getting wetter.**

This concept applies to other metrics commonly used in drought assessment.

**Shifting to 30-year drought climatologies achieves the following goals:**

- Drought assessment better reflects present drought risk to affected communities;
- Greater standardization across datasets with differing periods of record;
- Better accounting for climate change into the future.

Patrick T. Fallon/Agence France-Presse — Getty Images



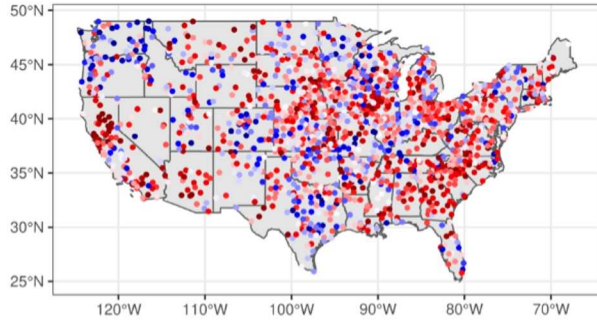
*Agriculture Risk in a Changing World*

Kyle Bocinsky, Montana Climate Office

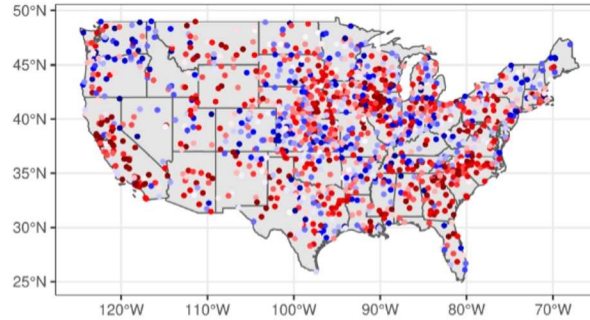
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# POR bias exceeds +/-1 class during severe drought

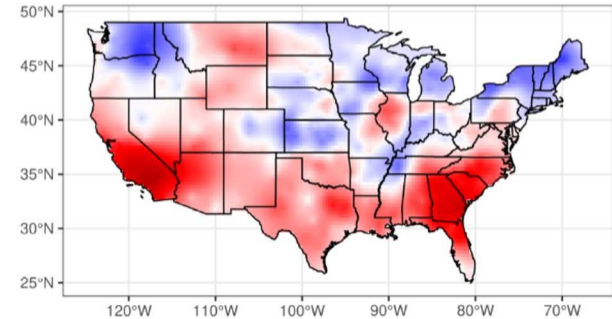
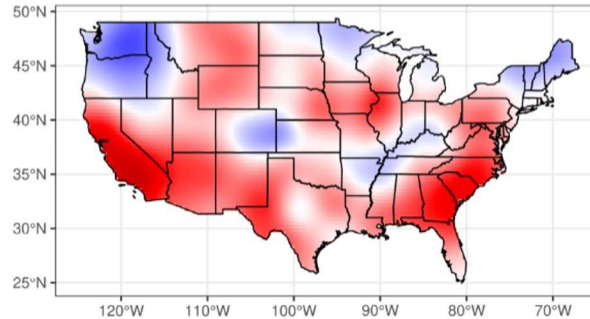
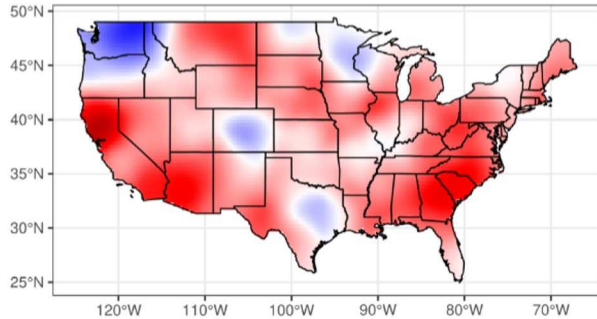
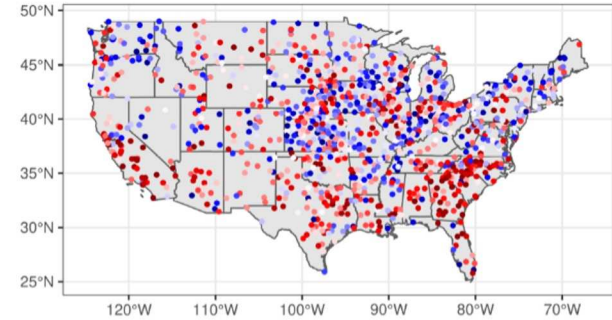
Daily Summer Bias (Very Dry Conditions,  $-2 > \text{SPI}$ )  
30 Day SPI (June 1 - August 31, 1991-2020)



Daily Summer Bias (Very Dry Conditions,  $-2 > \text{SPI}$ )  
60 Day SPI (June 1 - August 31, 1991-2020)



Daily Summer Bias (Very Dry Conditions,  $-2 > \text{SPI}$ )  
90 Day SPI (June 1 - August 31, 1991-2020)



0.5 (Dry Bias) 0 (No Bias) 0.5 (Wet Bias)

-0.5 (Dry Bias) 0 (No Bias) 0.5 (Wet Bias)

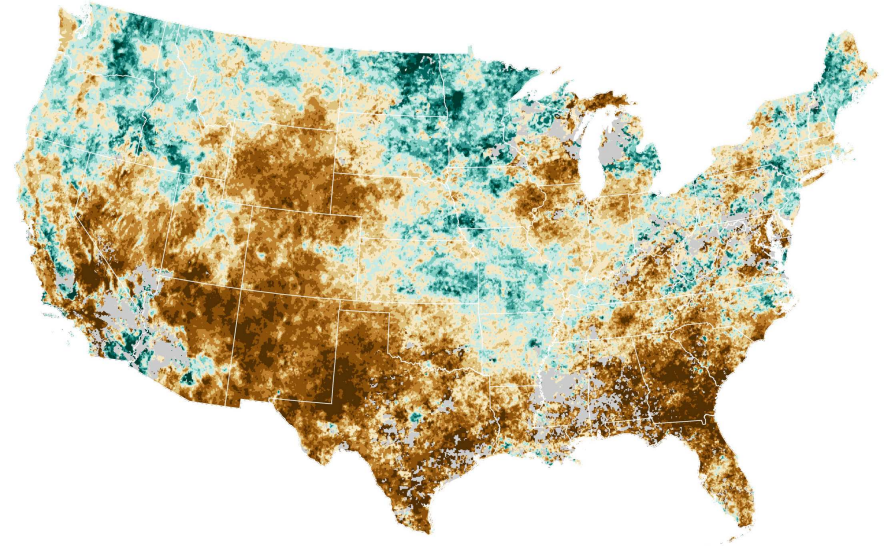
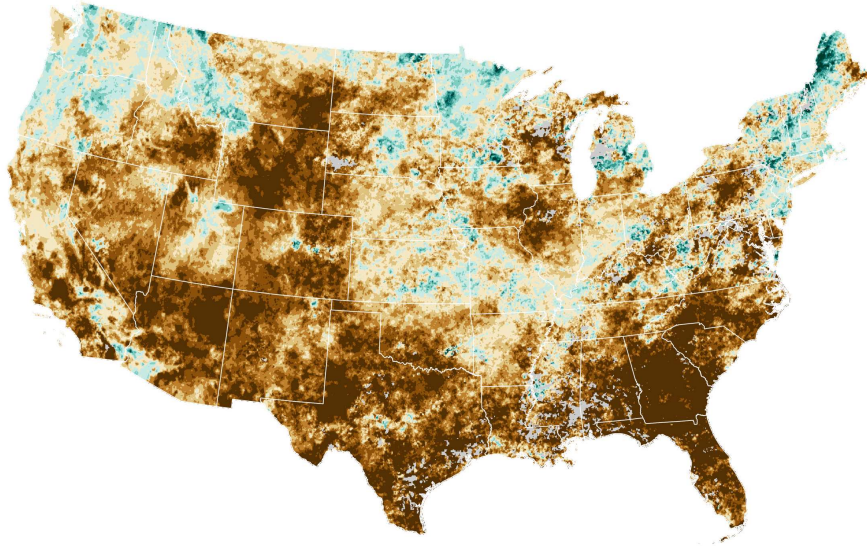
-0.5 (Dry Bias) 0 (No Bias) 0.5 (Wet Bias)



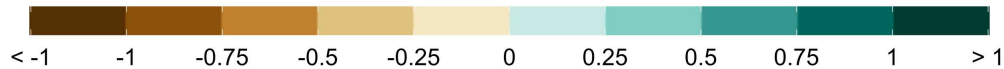
# POR bias exceeds +/-1 class during severe drought

Precipitation only (SPI)

Precipitation and evaporation (SPEI)



Period-of-record bias during severe drought ( $\geq D2$ ), summer 2012–2021



# 1. USDM declarations for severe drought ( $\geq$ D2) align with century-scale climatologies

Demonstrable bias against declaring drought in places that are getting wetter

# 2. “Nearly automatic” disaster relief triggered by the USDM primarily benefits aridifying regions

Excess payments may be undermining adaptation

# 3. Climate change scenarios suggest amplifying inequities in assistance

If the money is there to begin with...



# Summertime severe drought declarations

Period-of-record

USDM

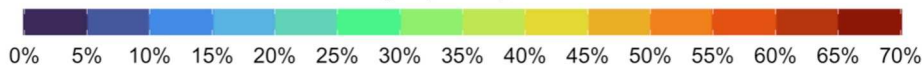
30-year

Precip. only (SPI)

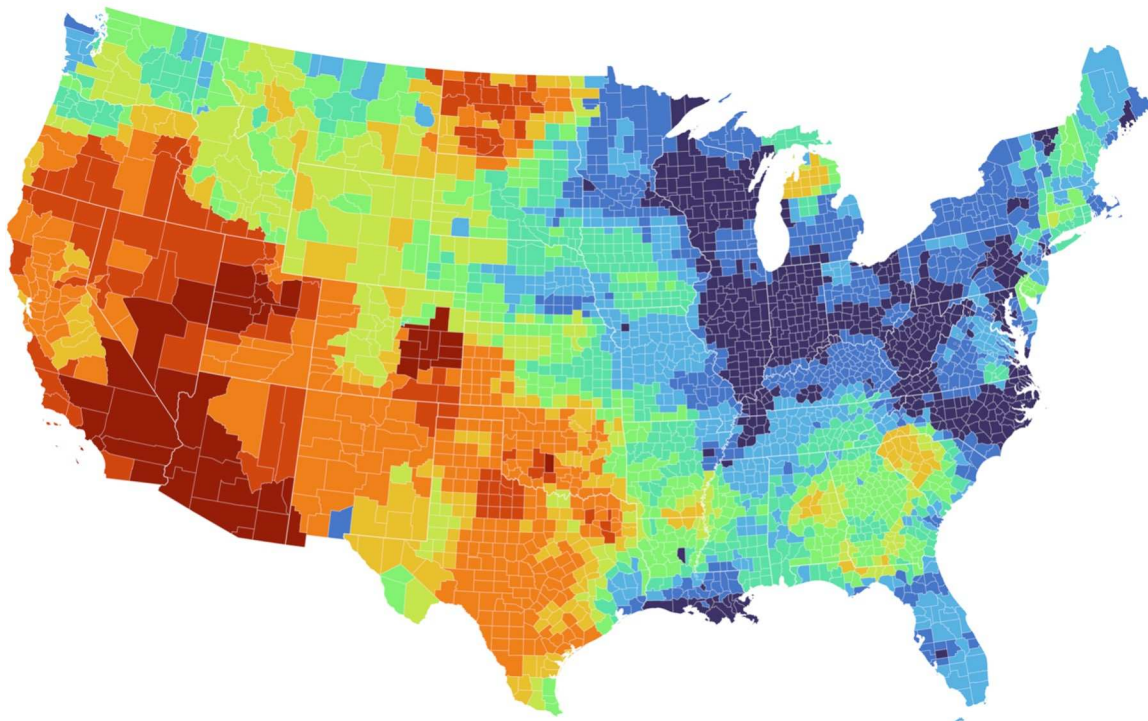
Precip. and evap. (SPEI)

- **USDM declares severe drought more often than either reference period**
- **Spatial patterns of POR (Southwest, southern Rockies) align with USDM**
- **30-year reference period emphasizes drought conditions in Pacific NW**

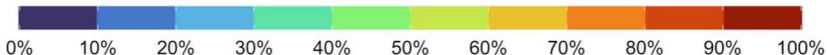
Percent of months in severe drought ( $\geq D2$ ), summer 2012–2021



# USDM triggers disaster declarations and relief



Percent of years with secretarial disaster declarations for drought, 2012–2021



## USDA Secretarial Drought Disasters

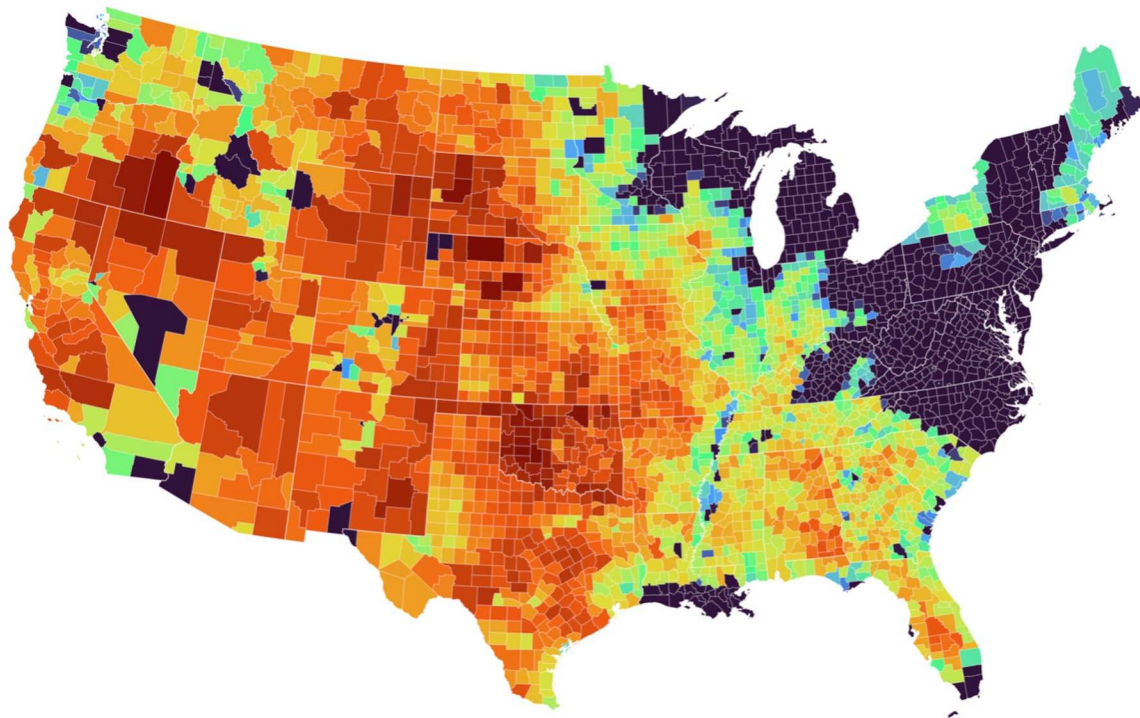
“Fast Track” Secretarial disaster designations for severe drought provide for a **nearly automatic designation** when, during the growing season, any portion of a county meets the D2 (Severe Drought) drought intensity value for eight consecutive weeks or a higher drought intensity value for any length of time as reported in the U.S. Drought Monitor.

*7 CFR § 759.5 - Secretarial disaster area determination and notification process*





# USDM triggers disaster declarations and relief



Livestock Forage Program payments, 2012–2021 — Total: \$7,615,795,889



## Livestock Forage Program Eligibility Criteria

### 1 monthly payment:

D2 (severe drought) for at least eight consecutive weeks

### 3 monthly payments:

D3 (extreme drought) at any time

### 4 monthly payments:

D3 (extreme drought) for at least four consecutive weeks or D4 (exceptional drought) intensity at any time

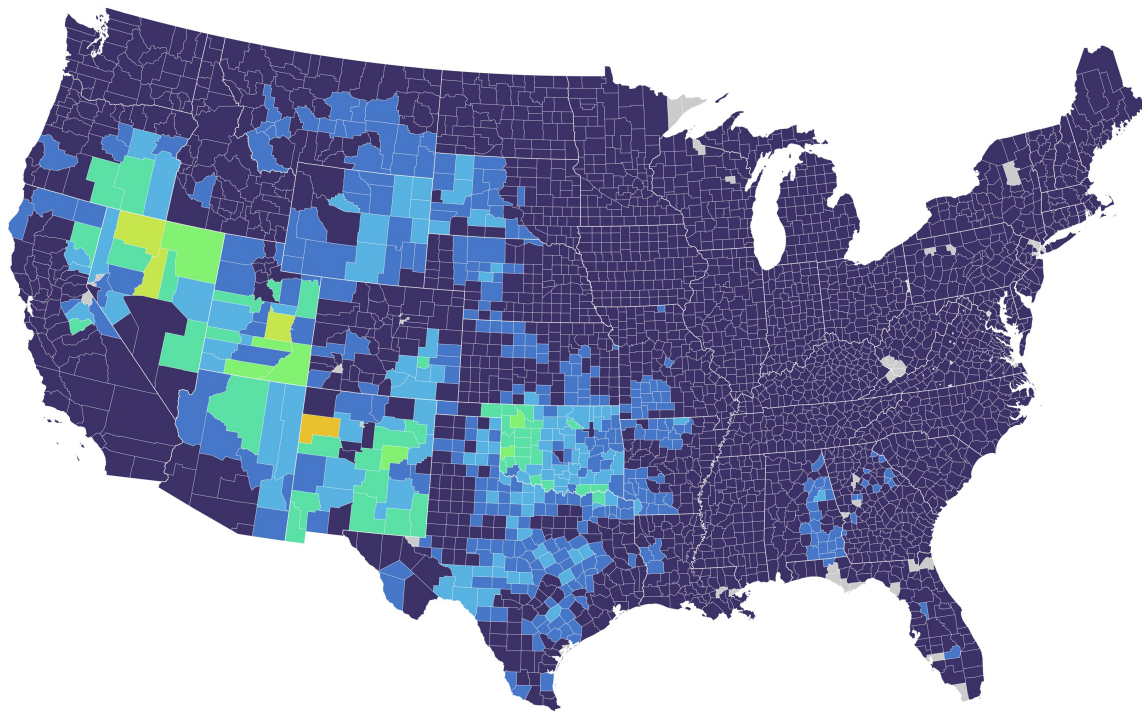
### 5 monthly payments:

D4 (exceptional drought) for any four weeks

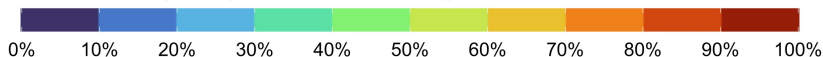
7 CFR § 1416.205 - Eligible grazing losses



# USDM triggers disaster declarations and relief



Livestock Forage Program, percent of average farm receipts, 2012–2021



## Livestock Forage Program Eligibility Criteria

### 1 monthly payment:

D2 (severe drought) for at least eight consecutive weeks

### 3 monthly payments:

D3 (extreme drought) at any time

### 4 monthly payments:

D3 (extreme drought) for at least four consecutive weeks or D4 (exceptional drought) intensity at any time

### 5 monthly payments:

D4 (exceptional drought) for any four weeks

7 CFR § 1416.205 - Eligible grazing losses

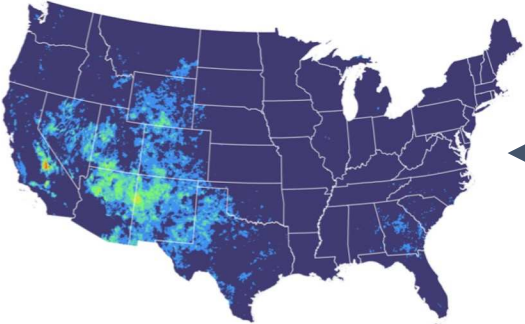
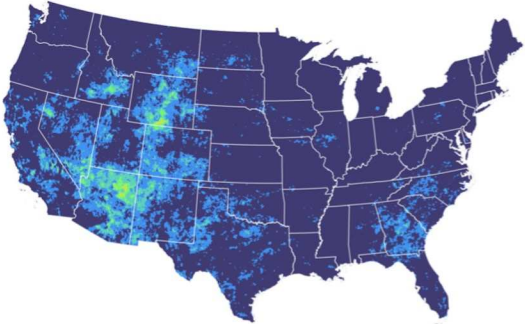


# Drought bias affects disaster declarations and relief

Precip. only (SPI)

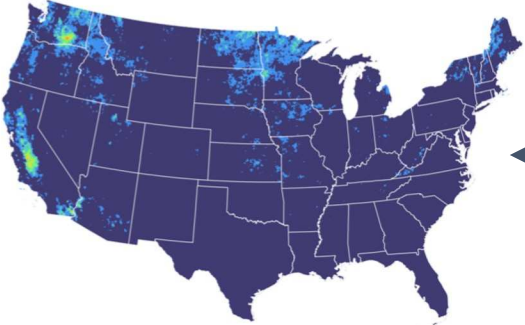
Precip. and evap. (SPEI)

POR in drought  
(30-year not)

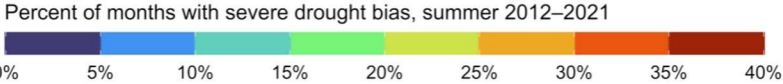


Regions where aridification is occurring and climate adaptation needed most.

30-year in drought  
(POR not)



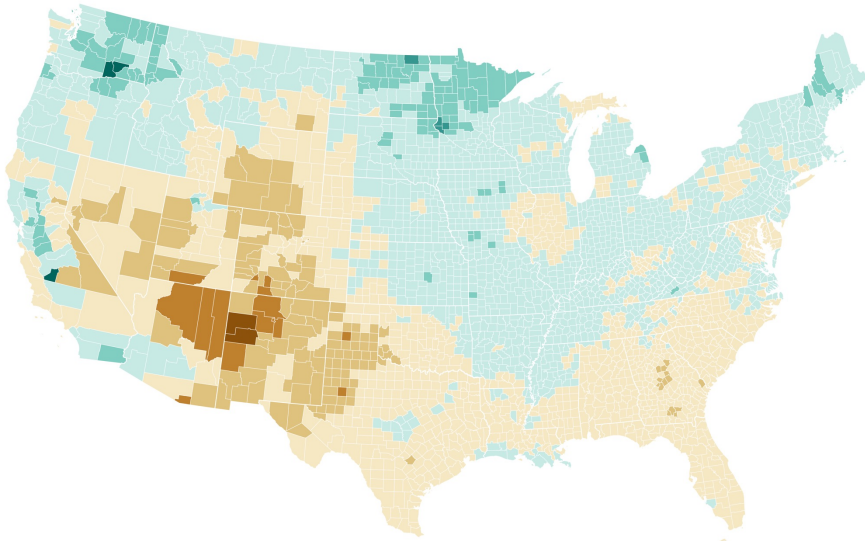
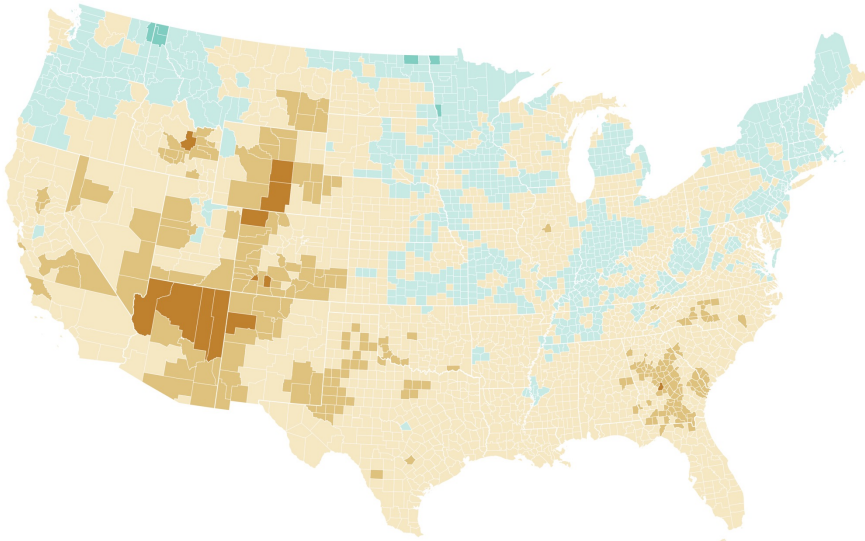
Climate patterns are shifting here too, leading to an under-assessment of drought conditions.



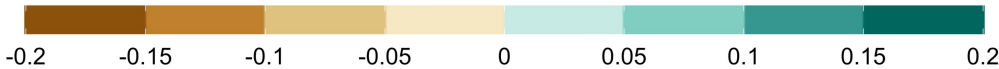
# Drought bias affects disaster declarations and relief

Precipitation only (SPI)

Precipitation and evaporation (SPEI)



Drought non-stationarity correction, summer 2012–2021

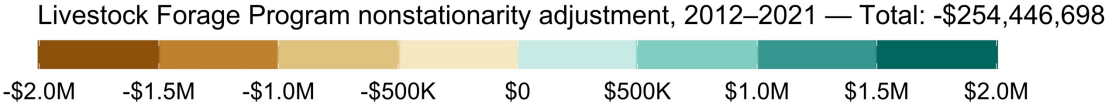


# Drought bias affects disaster declarations and relief

Precipitation only (SPI)

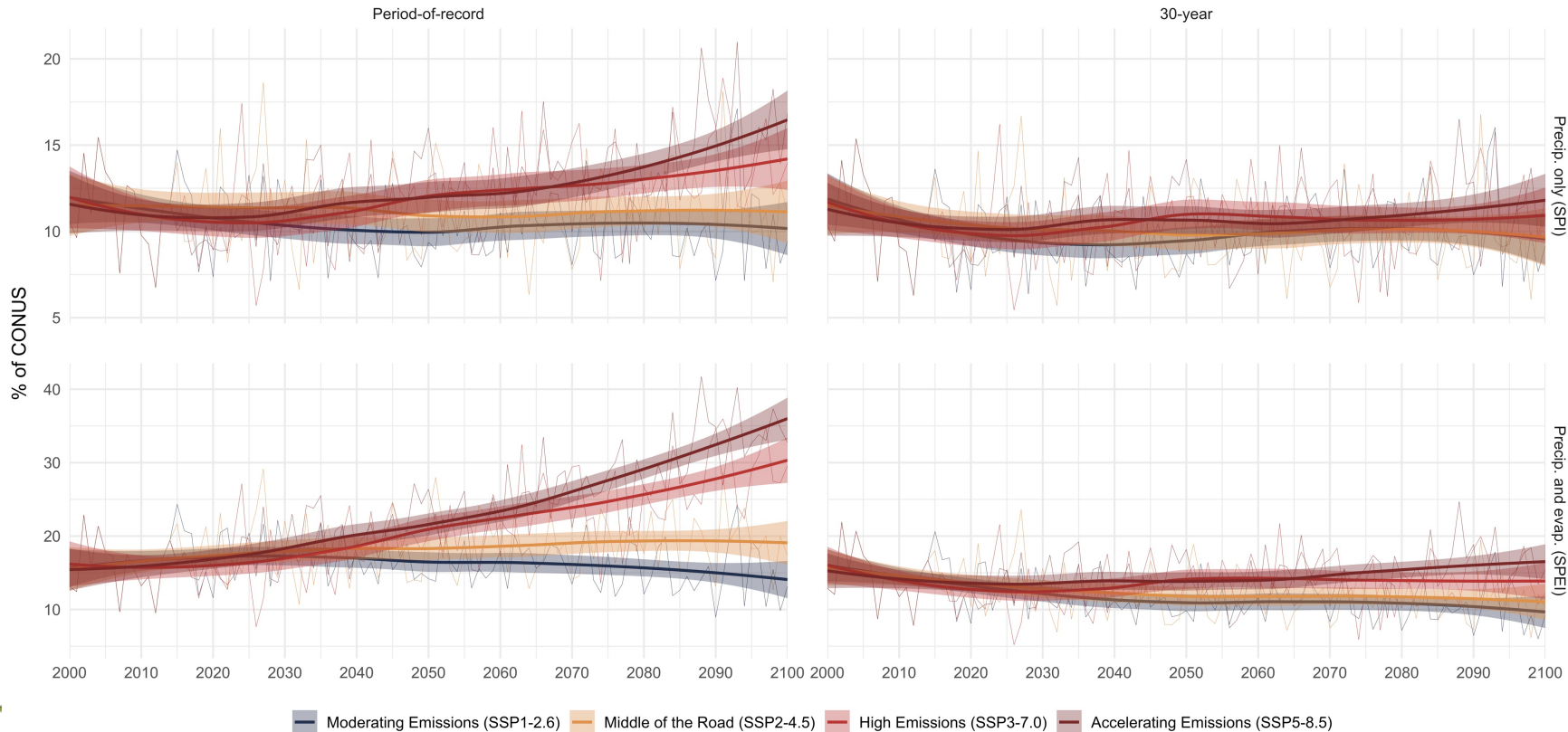
Precipitation and evaporation (SPEI)

**Under a 30-year reference period, drought relief would have been distributed differently, and would have been substantially less costly.**



# POR-based drought relief

Percent of CONUS in severe drought ( $\geq D2$ ), summer 2000–2100



# POR-based drought relief

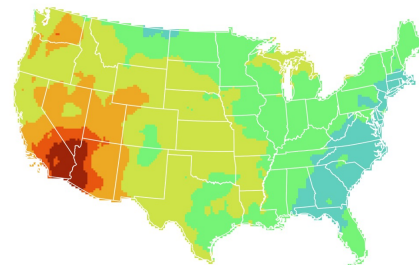
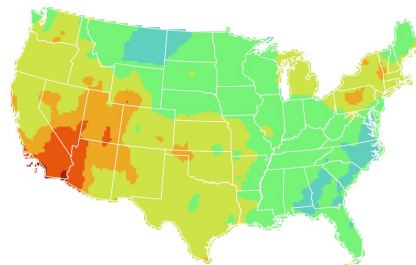
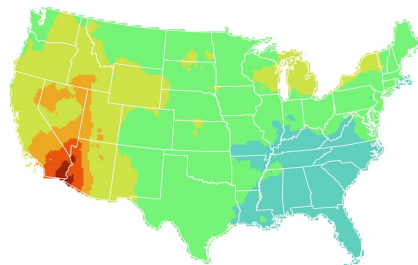
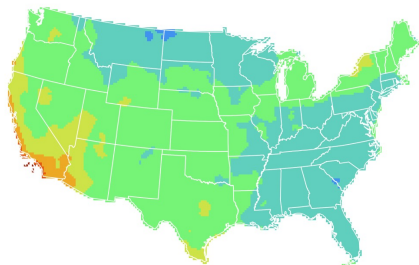
Moderating Emissions  
(SSP1-2.6)

Middle of the Road  
(SSP2-4.5)

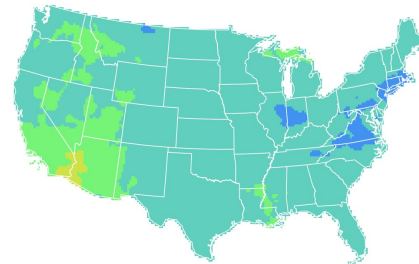
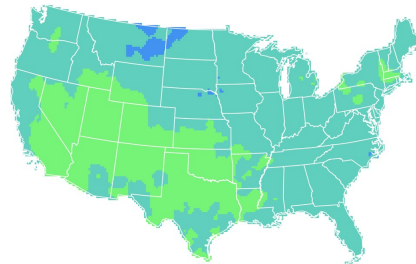
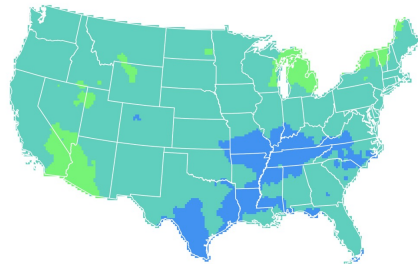
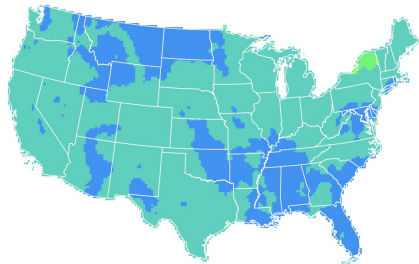
High Emissions  
(SSP3-7.0)

Accelerating Emissions  
(SSP5-8.5)

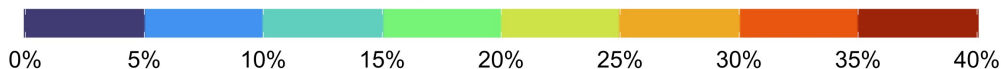
Period-of-record



30-year



Percent of months in severe drought ( $\geq D2$ ), Precip. and evap. (SPEI), summer 2041–2060



# POR-based drought relief

Moderating Emissions  
(SSP1-2.6)

Middle of the Road  
(SSP2-4.5)

High Emissions  
(SSP3-7.0)

Accelerating Emissions  
(SSP5-8.5)

Period-of-record

30-year

**POR-based drought declarations are likely to enter a state of “perpetual drought” by the end of the century.**

**Risk Buffering, or Subsidy?**

Percent of months in severe drought ( $\geq D2$ ), Precip. and evap. (SPEI), summer 2081–2100





# Recommendations for drought monitoring

- 1. Begin the transition to standard, regularly updated reference periods (climatologies).**
- 2. Develop sector-specific drought assessments that align with adaptive capacity.**
- 3. Engage more fully with climate projections in order to inform drought adaptation efforts.**



# Recommendations for policymakers

- 1. Ensure that [drought] relief programs are responding to contemporary risk.**
- 2. Support drought monitoring as a tool for both risk assessment and climate adaptation.**
- 3. Target adaptation in those places and sectors that are experiencing the greatest change.**



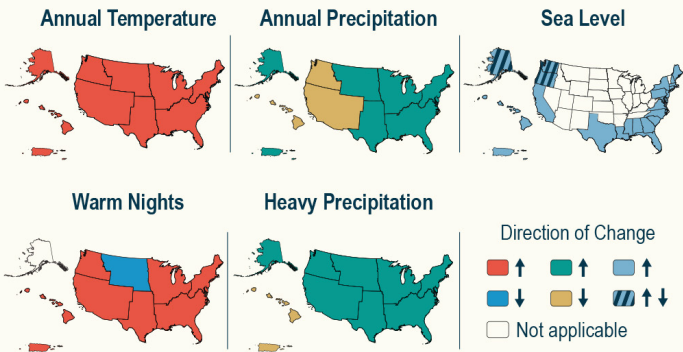
# Game Plan

1. **Observed trends and climate outlook**
2. **Risk in a changing climate**
3. **Tools for Assessing Climate Risk**



# Climate Change Risks and Opportunities in the US

Climate change is happening now in all regions of the US

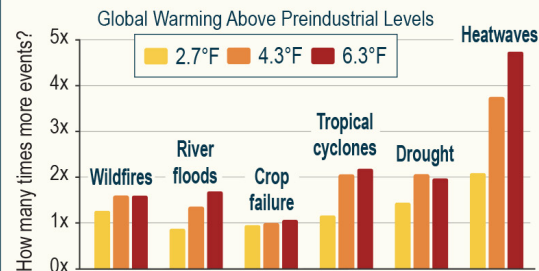


Each additional increment of warming leads to greater risks

- Water supply
- Food security
- Infrastructure
- Health and well-being
- Ecosystems
- Economy
- Livelihoods and heritage

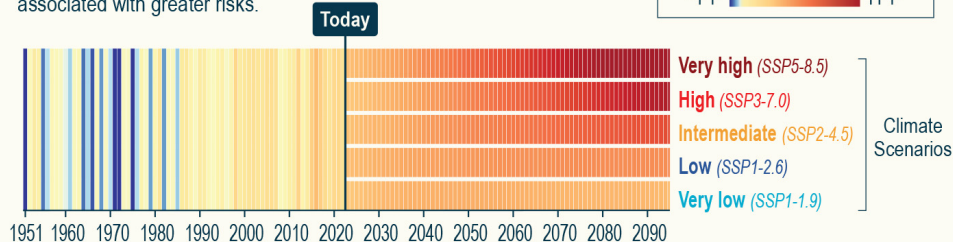
Without deeper cuts in global net emissions, climate risks to the US will continue to grow

▶ A person born in North America in 2020 will experience more climate hazards during their lifetime, on average, than a person born in 1965.



How much more the US warms depends on choices made today

▶ Future global greenhouse gas emissions from human activities determine whether and how quickly the US reaches warming levels associated with greater risks.



Action to limit future warming and reduce risks can have near-term benefits and opportunities

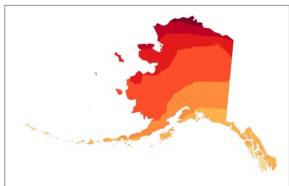
Low-carbon energy jobs	Improved air quality	Health benefits	Economic benefits
Reduced risks to ecosystems	Reduced risks to biodiversity	More options for adaptation	Social benefits



# Projected Changes at 3.6°F (2.0°C) of Global Warming

## Alaska

Average winter temperatures increase by 4.8°F



## Hawai'i

Annual temperatures increase by 1.8°F

## Northwest

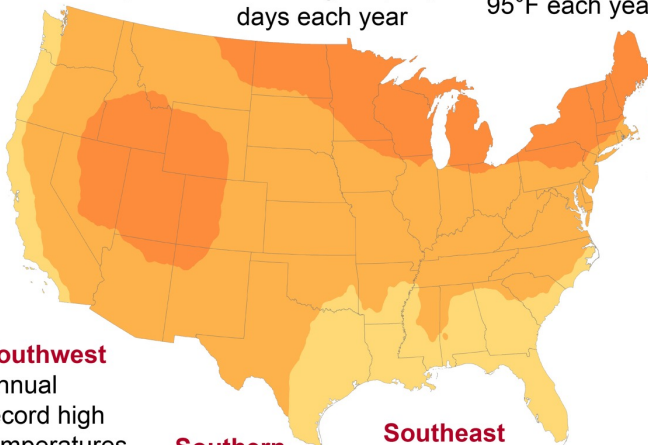
Average summer temperatures increase by 3.9°F

## Northern Great Plains

Nine fewer zero-degree (0°F) days each year

## Midwest

Ten more days above 95°F each year



## Northeast

Minimum summer temperatures increase by 3.2°F



## US Caribbean

Average summer temperatures increase by 1.7°F

## Southwest

Annual record high temperatures are 3.7°F hotter

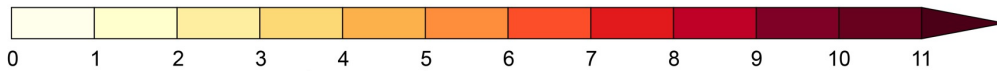
## Southern Great Plains

Eight more days above 105°F each year

## Southeast

Six more days above 100°F each year

Temperature Change (°F)



Global average ↑

United States average ↑

Fifth National Climate Assessment  
US Global Change Research Program  
[nca2023.globalchange.gov](https://nca2023.globalchange.gov)

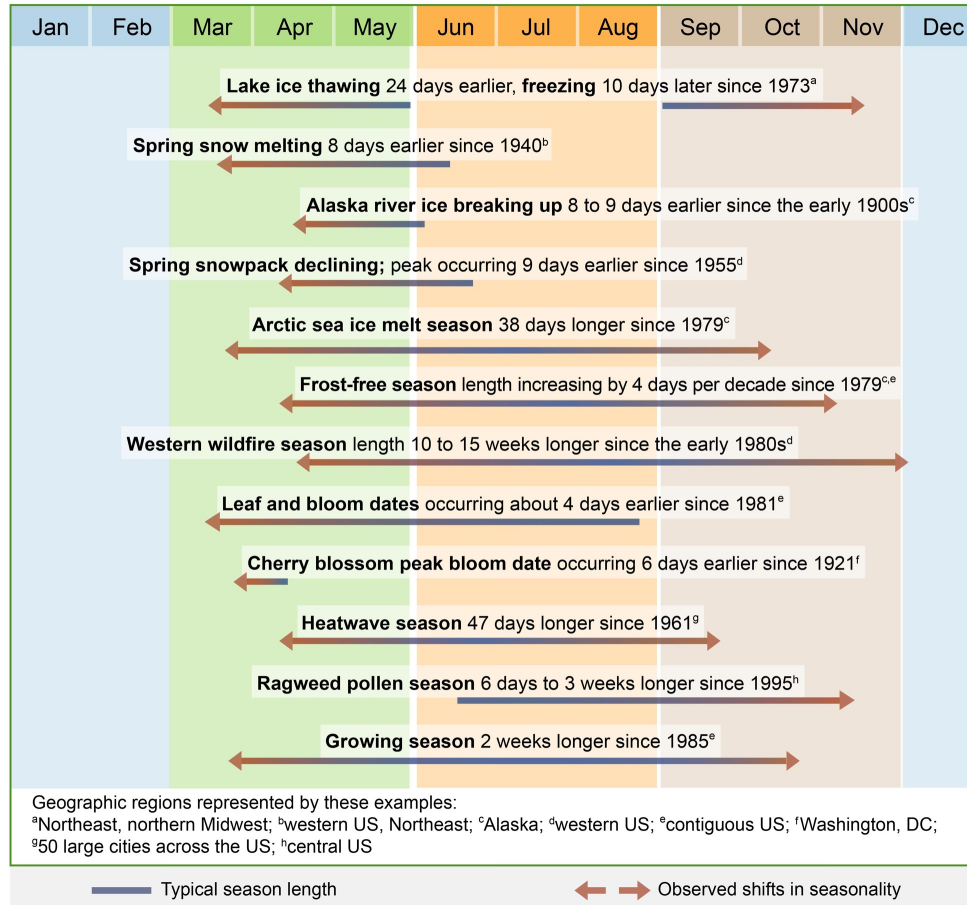


*Agriculture Risk in a Changing World*

Kyle Bocinsky, Montana Climate Office

2024 ERME National Conference, Salt Lake City, UT — April 9, 2024

## Changes in Seasonality



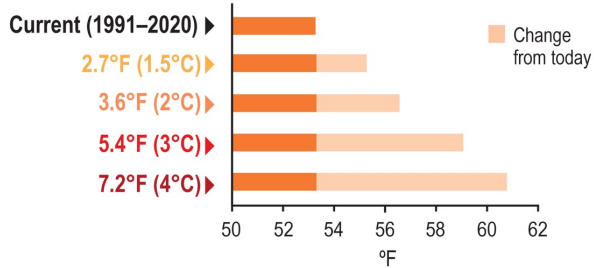
Fifth National Climate Assessment  
 US Global Change Research Program  
[nca2023.globalchange.gov](https://nca2023.globalchange.gov)



# Consequences are Greater at Higher Global Warming Levels

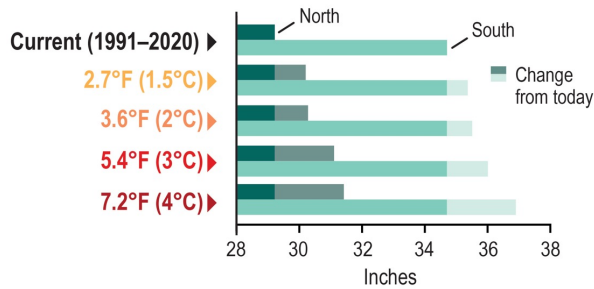
## US average temperature

The US warms more than the global average compared to the preindustrial period



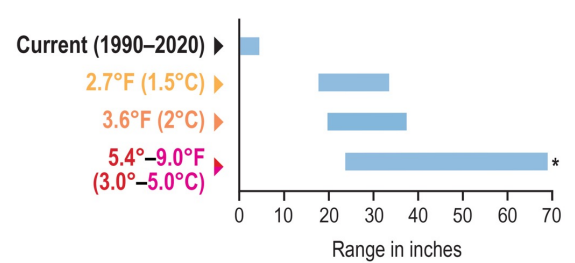
## Annual average rainfall

Annual average rainfall totals increase rapidly in the North, more slowly in the South.



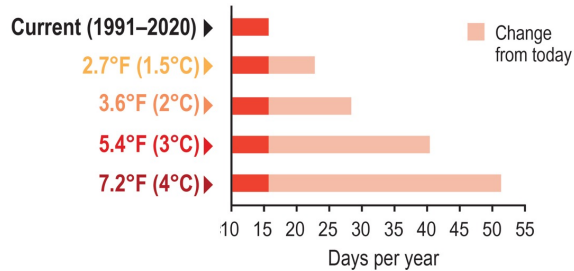
## US average sea level rise

Sea level rise (by 2100 compared to 2020) is higher for higher warming levels.



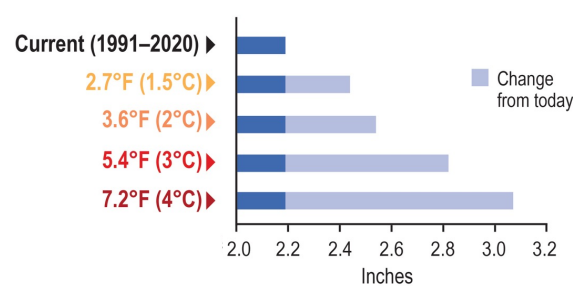
## Number of days ≥ 95°F

The number of very hot days (95°F or hotter) increases.



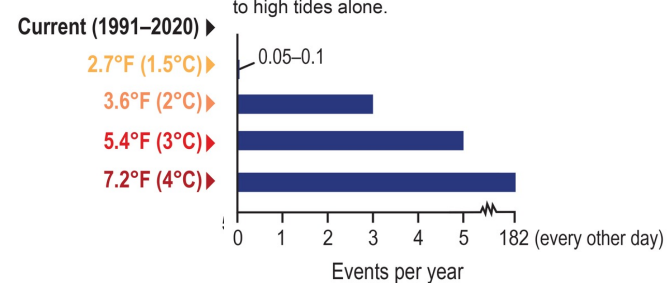
## Extreme precipitation events

More rain falls during the most extreme precipitation events.



## Coastal flooding events

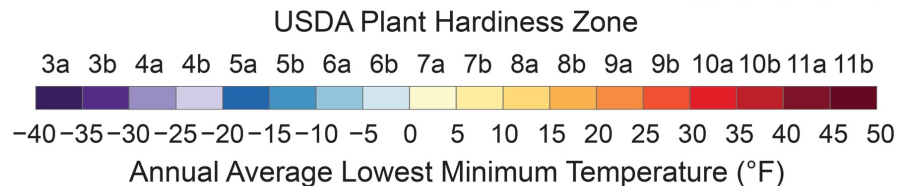
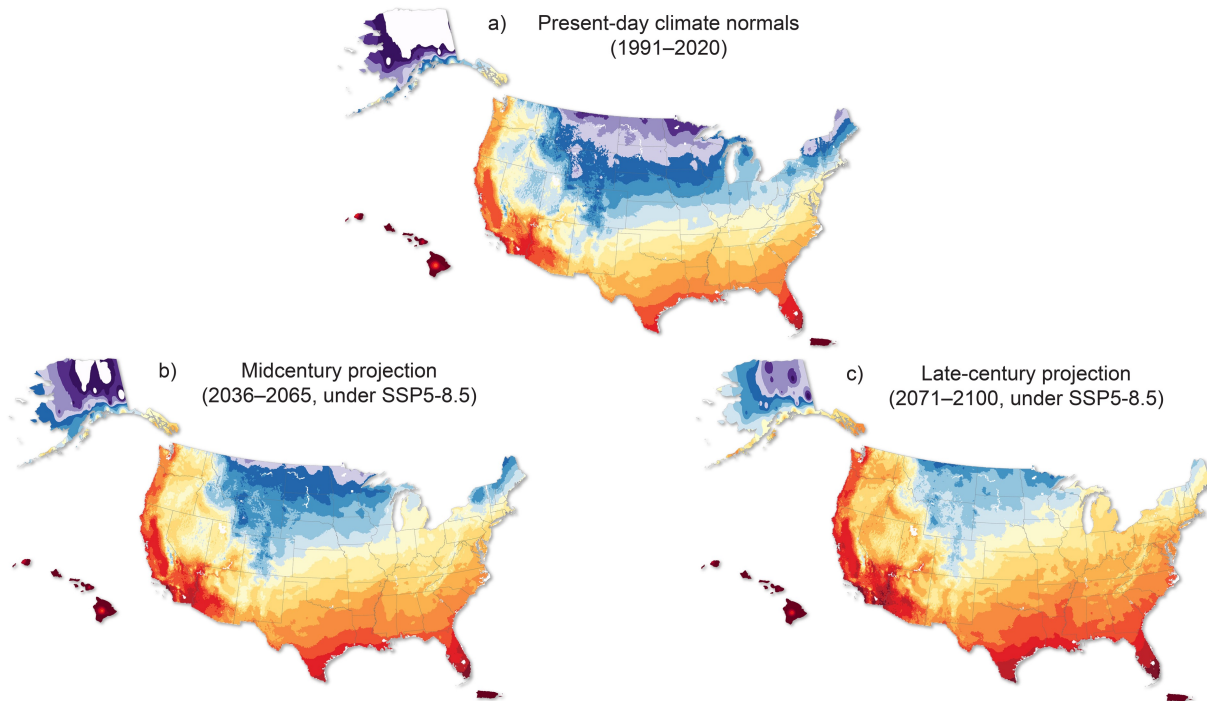
Sea level rise drives an increase in the number of major coastal flooding events per year due to high tides alone.



Fifth National Climate Assessment  
US Global Change Research Program  
[nca2023.globalchange.gov](https://nca2023.globalchange.gov)



# Projected Changes in Plant Hardiness Zones

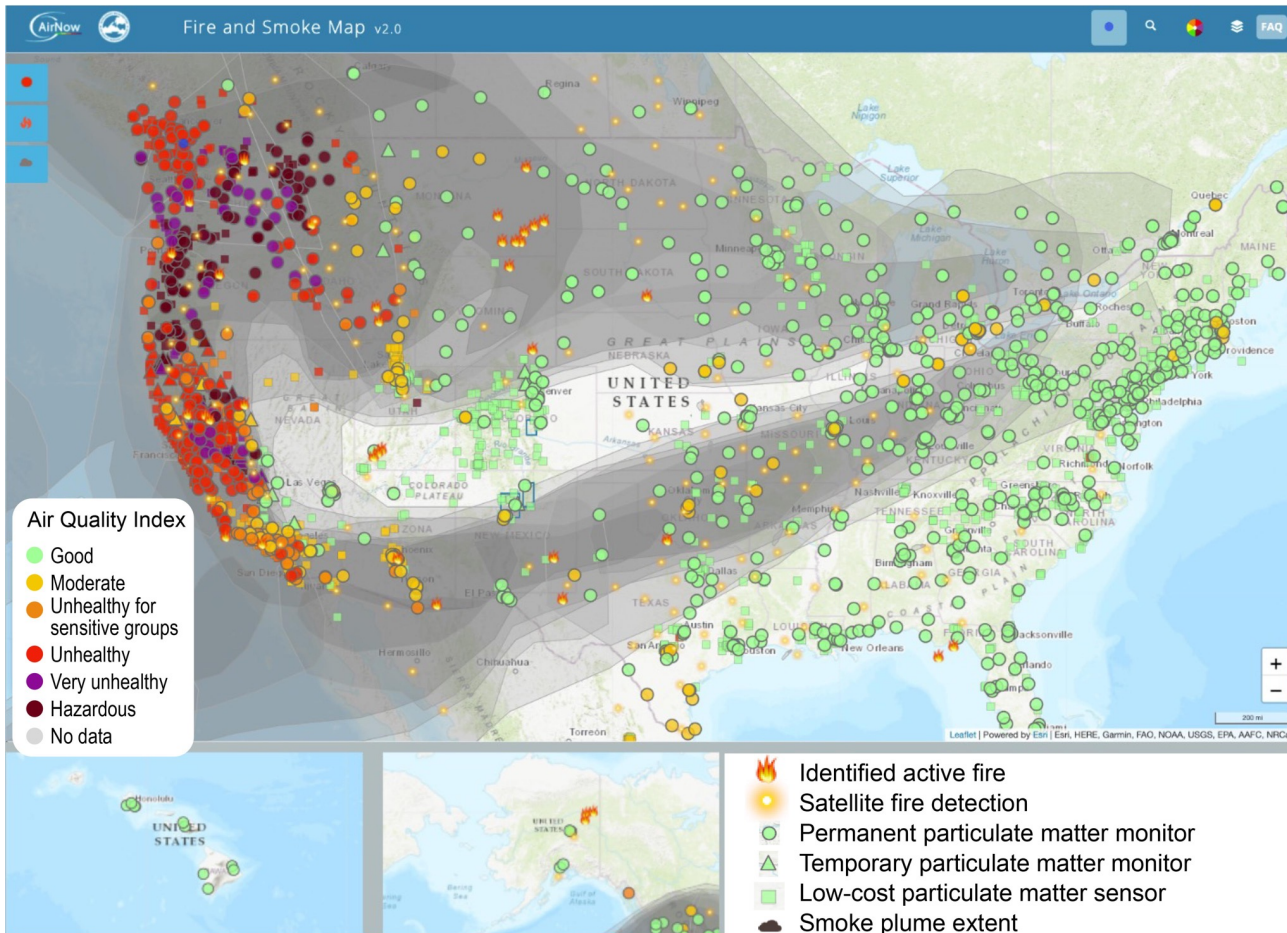


Fifth National Climate Assessment  
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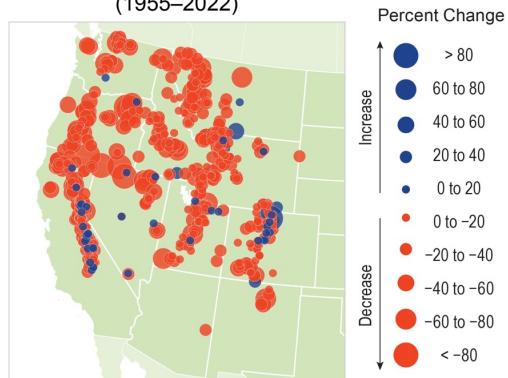


# Impacts of Wildfire Smoke on Air Quality

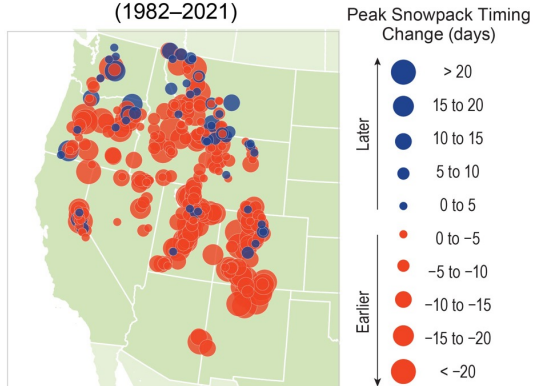


# Snowpack Changes in the West

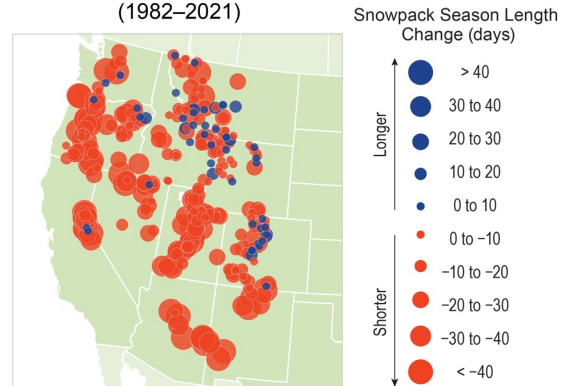
a) April 1 snowpack (1955–2022)



b) Timing of snowpack peak (1982–2021)



c) Length of snowpack season (1982–2021)

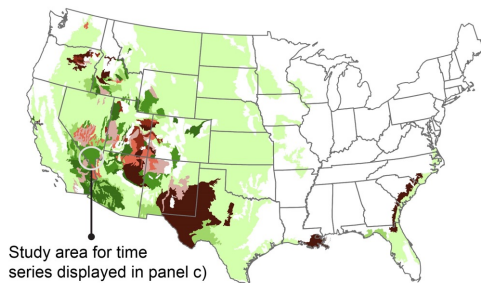


Fifth National Climate Assessment  
 US Global Change Research Program  
[nca2023.globalchange.gov](https://nca2023.globalchange.gov)



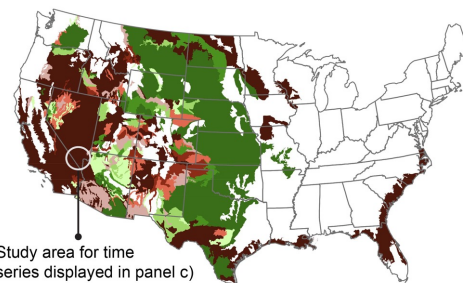
# Rangeland Production

a) Trend of annual net primary production (1984–1999)



Study area for time series displayed in panel c)

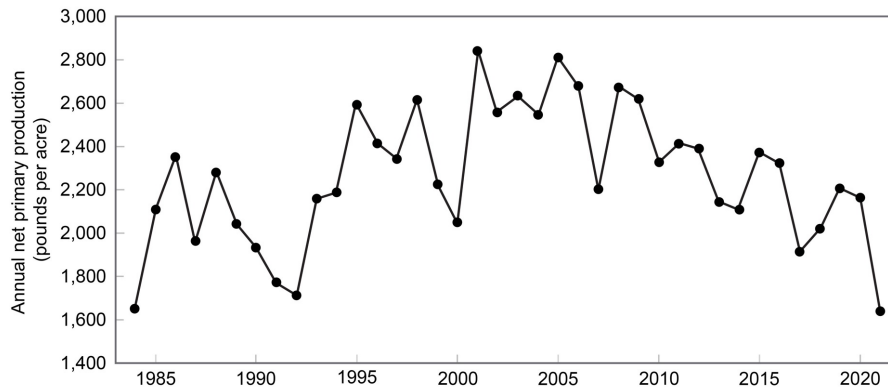
b) Trend of annual net primary production (2000–2021)



Study area for time series displayed in panel c)



c) Annual net primary production (1984–2021)



Fifth National Climate Assessment  
 US Global Change Research Program  
[nca2023.globalchange.gov](https://nca2023.globalchange.gov)



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2024 ERME National Conference, Salt Lake City, UT — April 9, 2024

# Example Effects of Climate Change on the Food Supply Chain

Extreme temperature



Extreme rainfall



Hurricanes



Floods



Droughts



Wildfires



Changing ENSO



Changing seasonality



**Production**

Irrigation  
Crop health and selection  
Water quality  
Worker health and safety  
Input supplies and prices  
Output yields and quality

**Storage, processing, and distribution**

Electricity access  
Storage capacity, quality, and safety  
Import/export restrictions  
Labor supply  
Transport networks and fuel prices

**Retail and markets**

Infrastructure  
Market and supplier access  
Product supply and demand  
Product cost  
Product waste

**Consumption**

Seasonal food availability  
Food accessibility, cost, and usability  
Nutritional content  
Consumer preferences, choices, and means

Fifth National Climate Assessment, US Global Change Research Program, [nca2023.globalchange.gov](https://nca2023.globalchange.gov)



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# Compound Events

## a) Temporal compounding of events in 2020 and 2021



## b) Spatially compounding climate-related disasters: September 15, 2020

- Large wildfires across Oregon, Washington, and California damage homes and infrastructure. Wildfire smoke in western states causes weeks of bad air quality across the West.
- Hurricane Sally, the 18th-named Atlantic storm of 2020, is about to make landfall. It brings widespread flooding, infrastructure damage, and power outages to Louisiana, Alabama, and Florida.

- Drought
- Wildfire
- Extreme heat
- Extreme thunderstorms
- Wind
- Marine life
- Hot sea surface temperature
- Atmospheric river
- Hurricane
- COVID-19

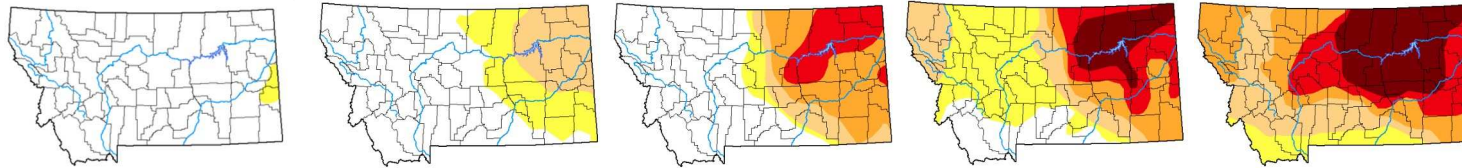
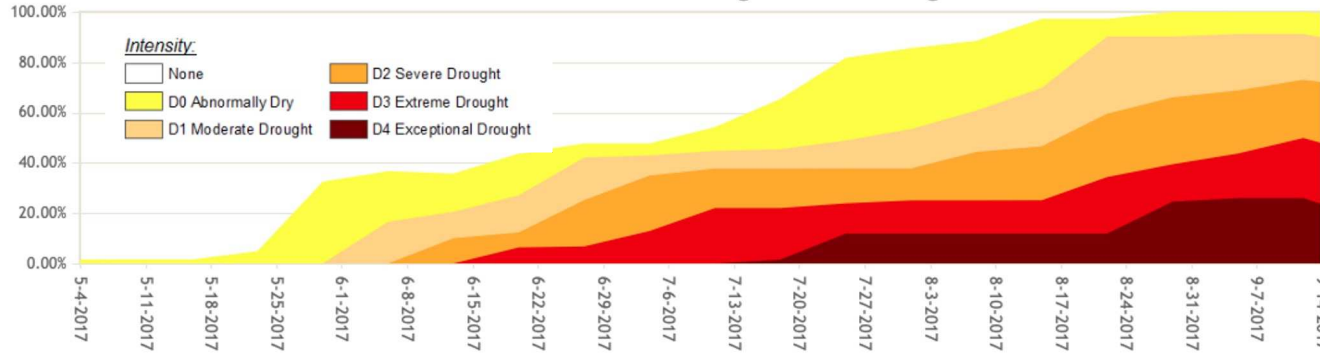
### Nationwide

The COVID-19 pandemic limits access to, and the response capacity of, hospitals, cooling centers, and evacuation centers.



# Recent Extremes: Flash Drought

Montana Percent Area in U.S. Drought Monitor Categories

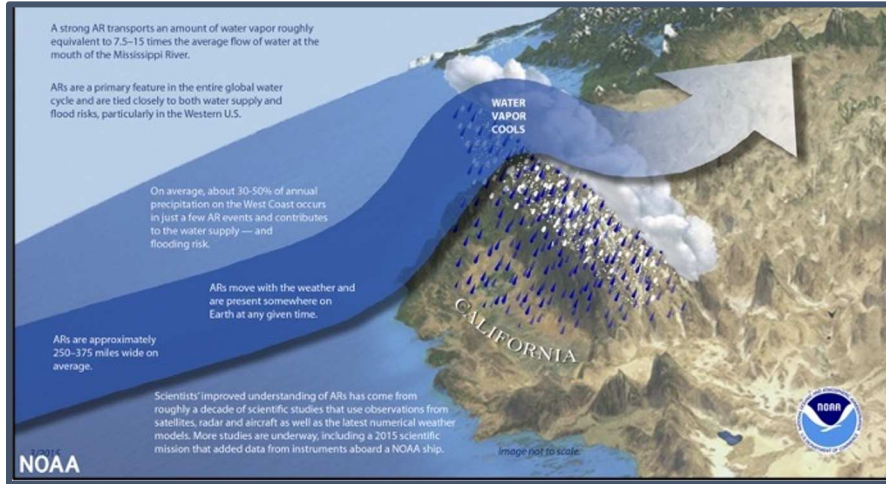


- Warm May and June temperatures and record low rainfall contributed to a **rapid dry-down across the state**
- **Impacts:** 1.4 million acres burned, poor air quality, loss of crops and livestock, decreases in tourism and recreation, **\$2.6B in ag. losses across US N. Plains**

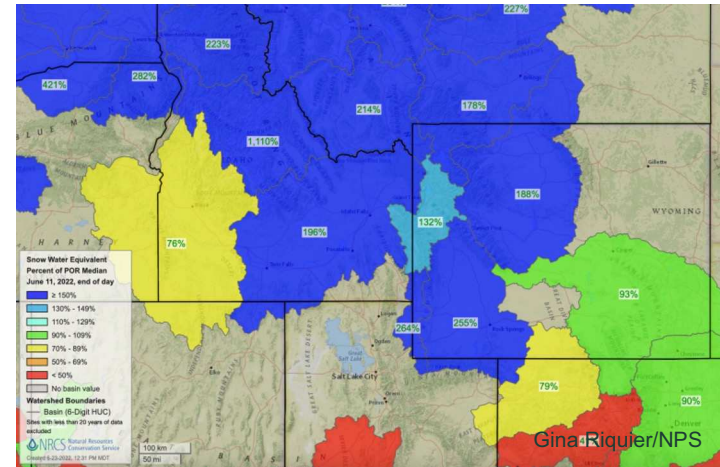


# Recent Extremes: Atmospheric Rivers, Snowpack and Flooding

## Atmospheric Rivers



## Atmospheric River + Delayed Snowmelt

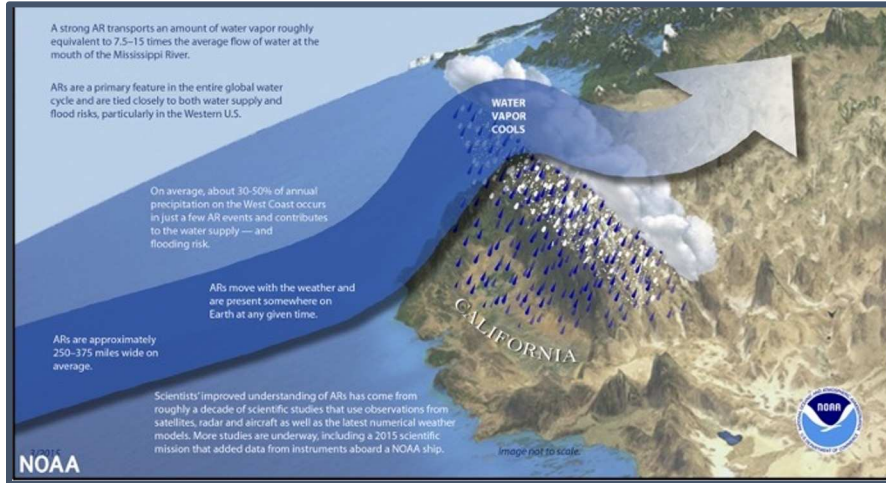


- Storm system of warm and extremely wet air that originates from the tropical Pacific.
- One atmospheric river can transport as much water as 7–15x the Mississippi!



# Recent Extremes: Atmospheric Rivers, Snowpack and Flooding

## Atmospheric Rivers



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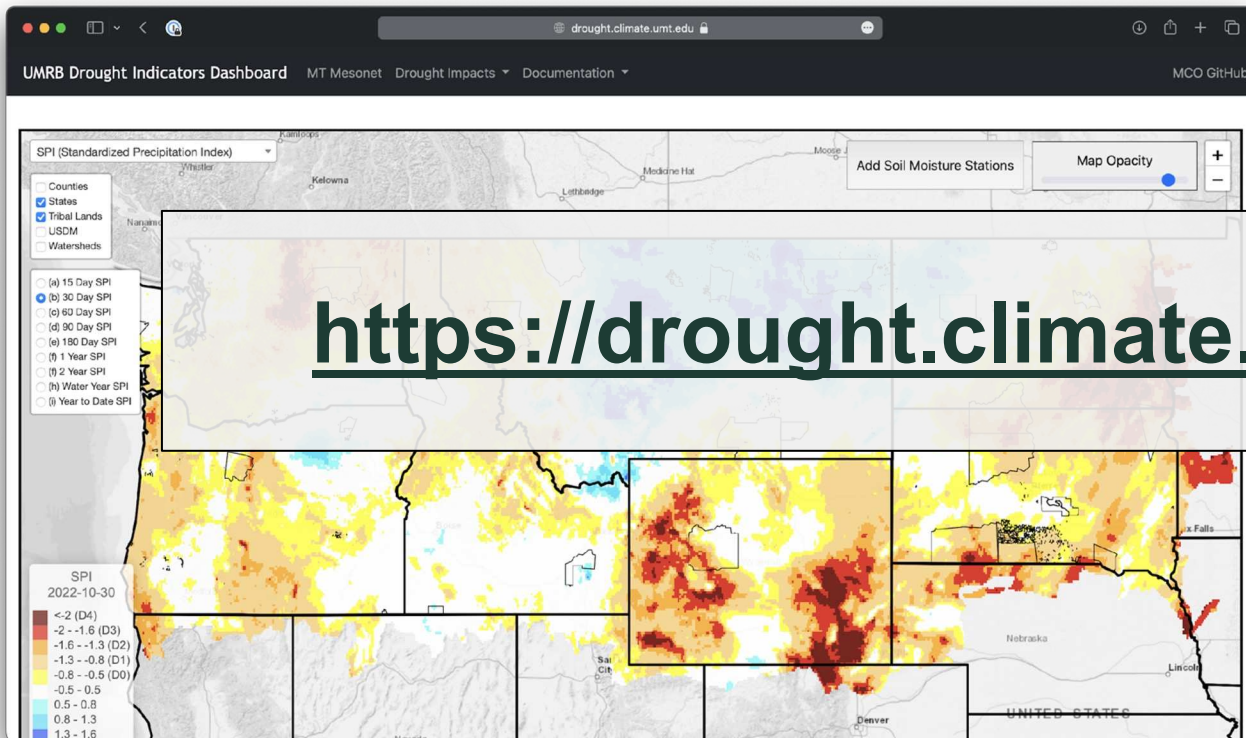
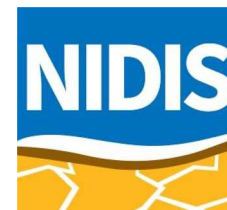


- Yellowstone: On June 10–13th a category 5 atmospheric river dropped 2–4 inches of rain on melting snowpack.
- 1 in 500-year flood event!





# Drought Monitoring & Indicators Dashboard



Operational drought models

- Daily to weekly
- 30m – 1km resolution
- Local validation via MT Mesonet

**These data form the basis for objective assessment by the monitoring committee and making our case to the USDM**



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# BLM Climate and Remote Sensing Data

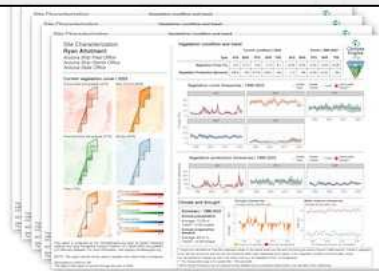
- Scalable drought summaries
- Near real-time vegetation conditions
- Weekly drought reports
- Annual Site Characterization reports

<https://reports.climateengine.org>

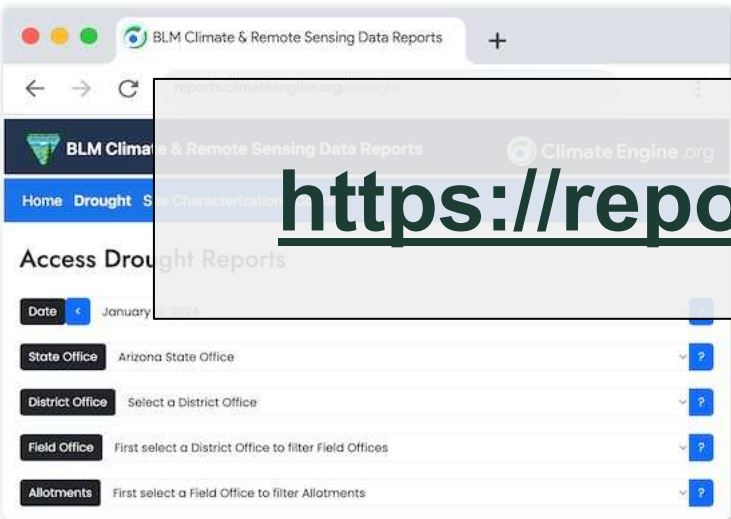
Drought Reports



Every 5 days  
Site Characterization reports



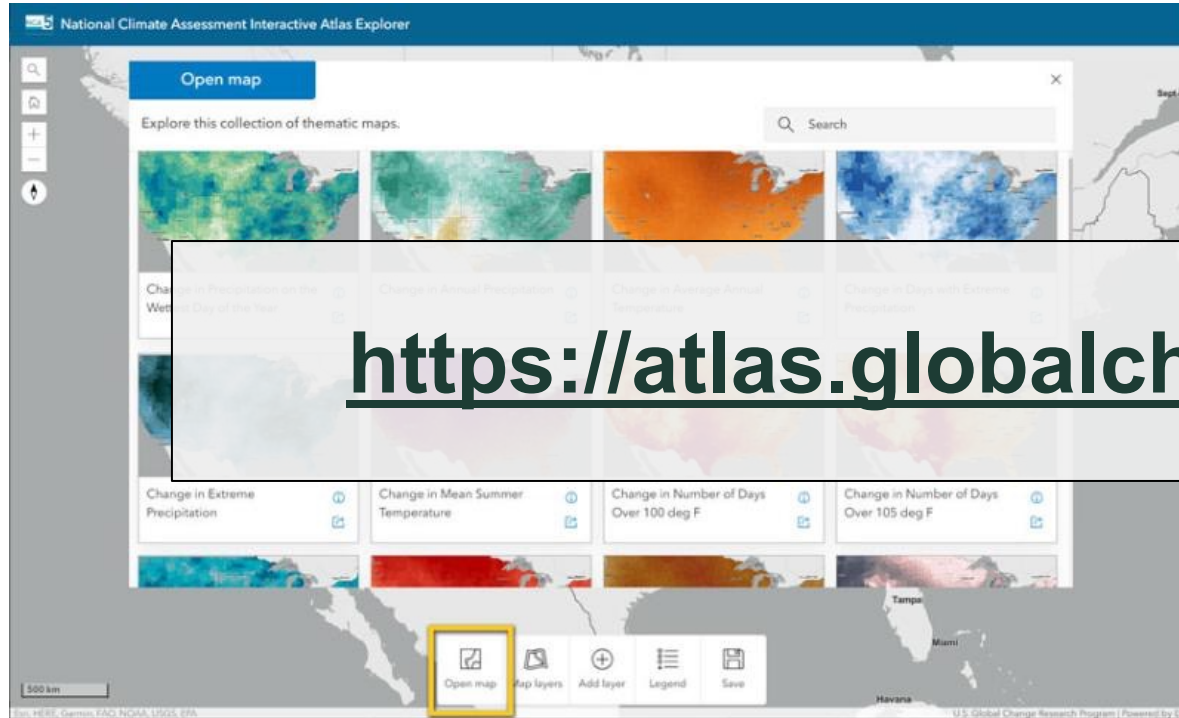
Every year



# 5<sup>th</sup> National Climate Assessment Atlas

- Climate trends and impacts
- Explore Climate Maps from the Assessment
- StoryMap about Climate Impacts
- Download data from NCA5

<https://atlas.globalchange.gov>

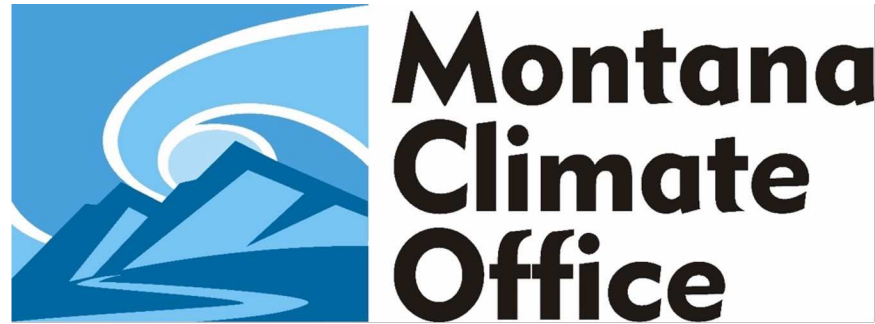


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# Questions?



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# EMRE Climate Workshop Survey 2

What weather/climate resources are most useful and trusted by Extension educators and your communities and what else do you need?

URL: <https://tinyurl.com/kmyye4v5>

