



# Drought Information Statement for Central Alabama

Valid January 5, 2024

Issued By: NWS Birmingham, AL

Contact Information: [sr-bmx.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-bmx.webmaster@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated by February 5, 2024 or as drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/bmx/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.



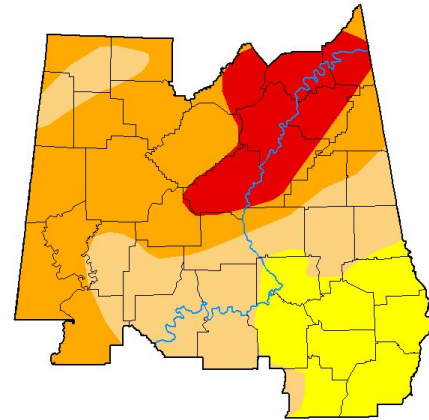


# U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for central Alabama

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - D4 Exceptional Drought: None.
  - D3 Extreme Drought: Now covers much of the area between Shelby and Cherokee Counties and includes Calera and Gadsden.
  - D2 Severe Drought: Continues across much of the area and includes Birmingham, Tuscaloosa, Livingston and Demopolis.
  - D1 includes Selma, Prattville and Alex City.
  - D0 includes much of the I-85 corridor and surrounding area.
- Overall precipitation trend the next 2 weeks is for normal to above normal rainfall
  - The pattern has changed to more of a typical winter set up for Alabama but the systems we are looking at are typically fast moving and will only allow for slow drought improvement.

## U.S. Drought Monitor Birmingham, AL WFO



**January 2, 2024**  
(Released Thursday, Jan. 4, 2024)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
<b>Current</b>	0.00	19.04	27.10	39.29	14.56	0.00
Last Week 12-26-2023	1.59	17.46	27.12	39.27	14.56	0.00
3 Months Ago 10-03-2023	6.51	36.76	56.73	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2024	0.00	19.04	27.10	39.29	14.56	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	38.73	58.48	2.79	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 01-03-2023	54.09	31.80	14.10	0.00	0.00	0.00

**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. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

**Author:**  
Lindsay Johnson  
National Drought Mitigation Center



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

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 9 am CDT Jan 2, 2024.



# Precipitation

Last 30 days

- Some showers and thunderstorms moved through the area over the last 30 days providing for some general improvements.
- However, much of the area still remains below normal over this period.
- Average weekly rainfall for the month of January should be around 1 to 1.25 inches.

January 04, 2024 30-Day Departure Precipitation

Created on: January 05, 2024 - 17:16 UTC  
Valid on: January 04, 2024 12:00 UTC

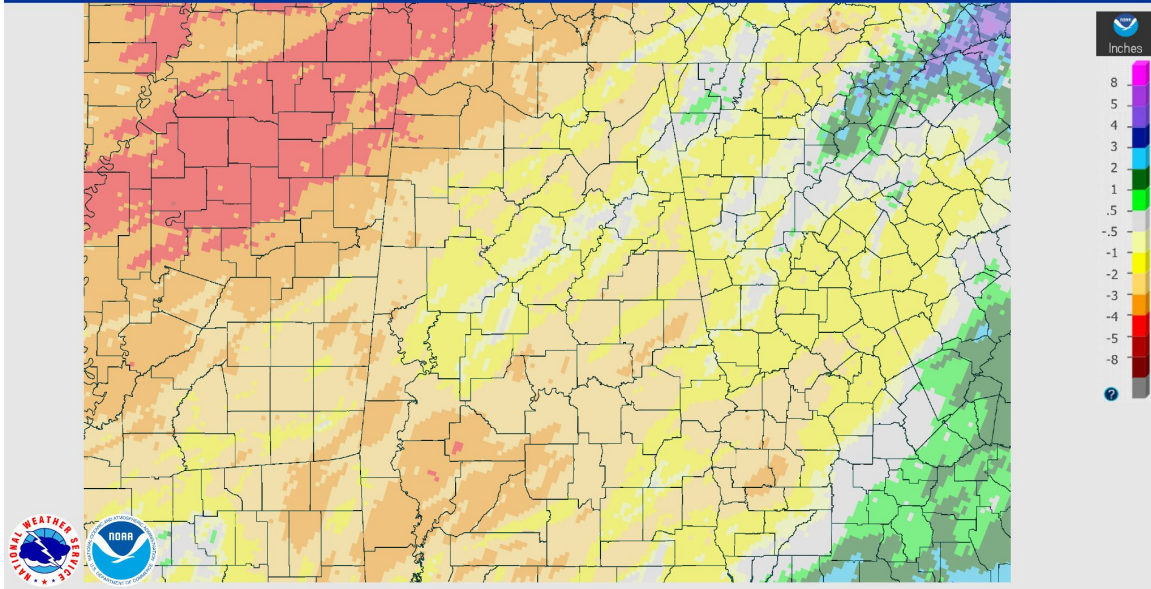


Image Captions:

Map - [Departure from normal map for Alabama](#)

Data Courtesy Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service (AHPS)

Data over the past 30 days ending Jan 4, 2024



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service  
Birmingham, AL



# Summary of Impacts

Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows remain below to much below normal across most basins in the region. See next slide for more details

## Agricultural Impacts

- Please see the latest [Crop Report](#) from the USDA.
- Overall, crop and cattle conditions stabilized or improved slightly by the end of December.

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- Wildfire activity has diminished through December and early January.

## Other Impacts

- None

## Drought Mitigation Actions

- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.







# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

Thursday, January 04, 2024

- Streamflows over the past 7 days show most of the area as well below normal. A significant increase in rainfall will be needed to keep streamflows in the normal range.
- Click the link the right for a full map and legend to the image provided.

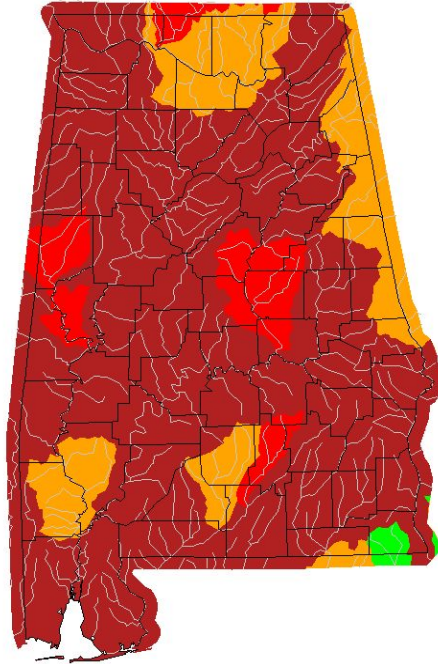


Figure Caption: [USGS 7 day streamflows for Alabama](#), valid Jan 4, 2024



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		





# Fire Hazard Impacts

Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#).

- [Keetch Byram Drought Index values](#) are averaging between 300 to 500 across the entire area. This is an improvement from previous weeks.
- Wildland fire activity has been near normal past week, and outlooks suggest this will continue through December.

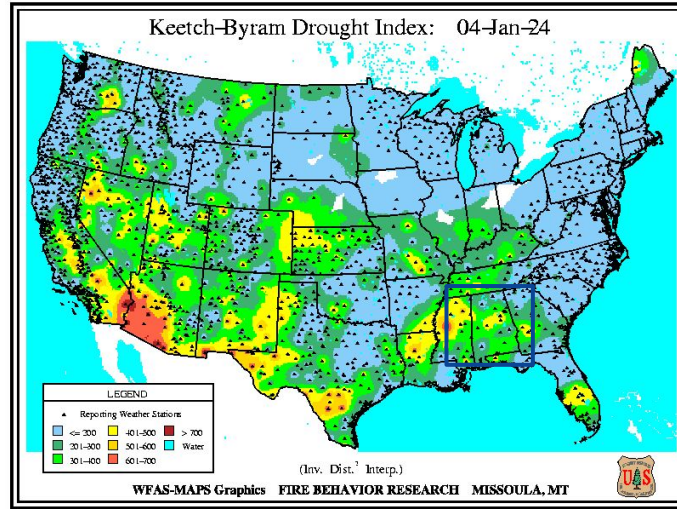


Image caption: National KBDI image released January 4th

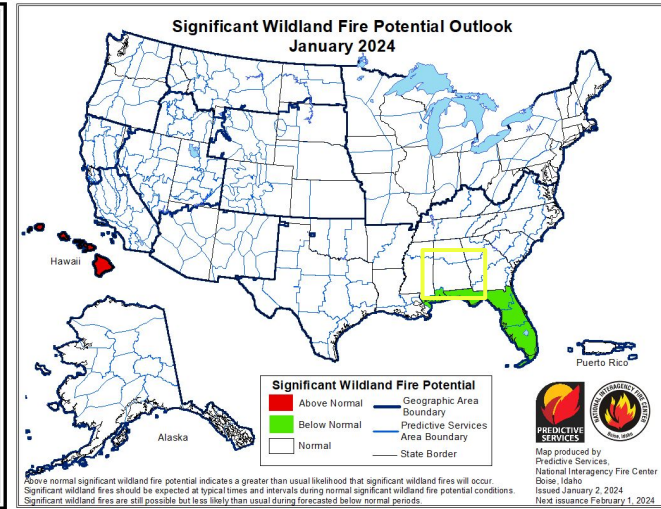


Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook](#) for January 2024





# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Rainfall amounts over the next 7 days are expected to be around 3 to 4 inches. This would be well above typical average rainfall for central Alabama and would be beneficial in improving drought conditions.

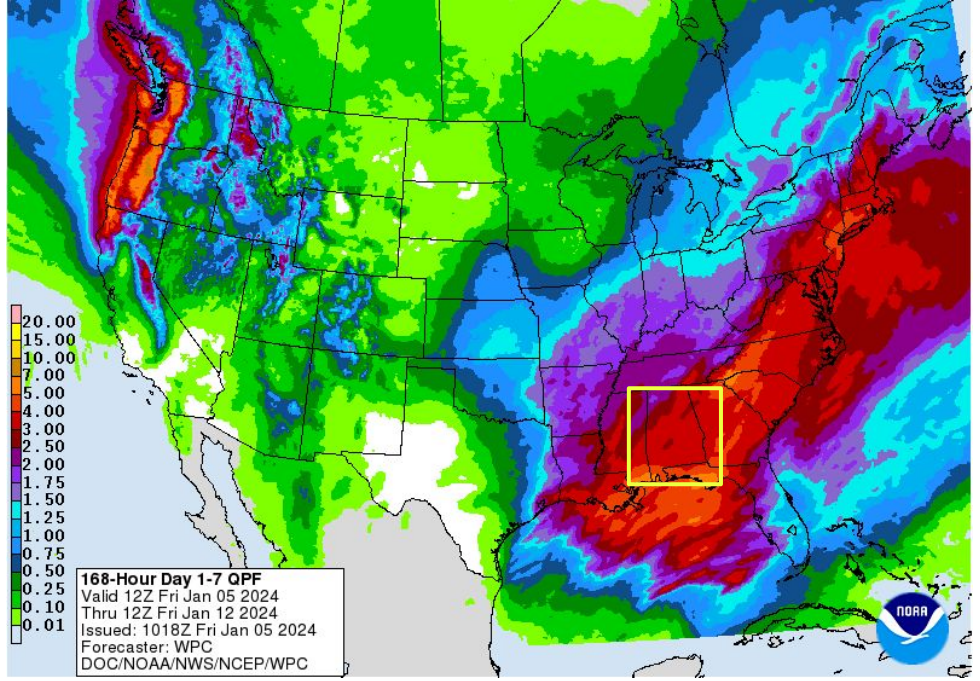


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid Jan 5th to Jan 12th



# Long-Range Outlooks

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- The outlook over the next 6 to 10 days will call for near normal temperatures across the area.
- Rainfall amounts are expected to be above normal over the next 6 to 10 days.

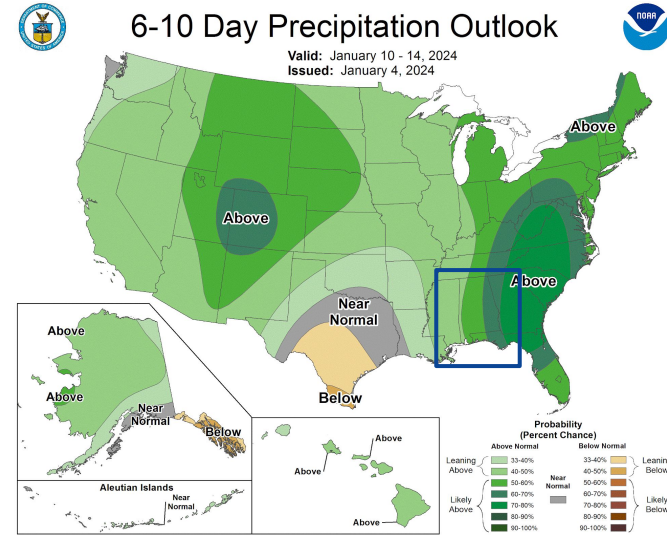
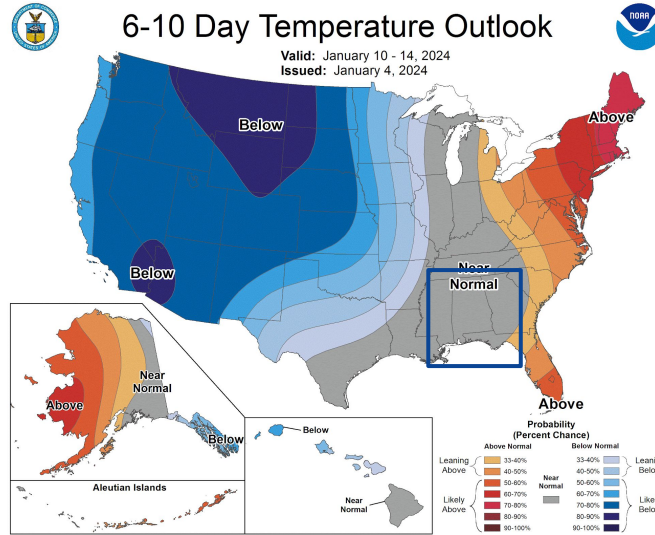


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center 6 to 10 day Temperature Outlook.](#)

Right - [Climate Prediction Center 6 to 10 day Precipitation Outlook.](#)







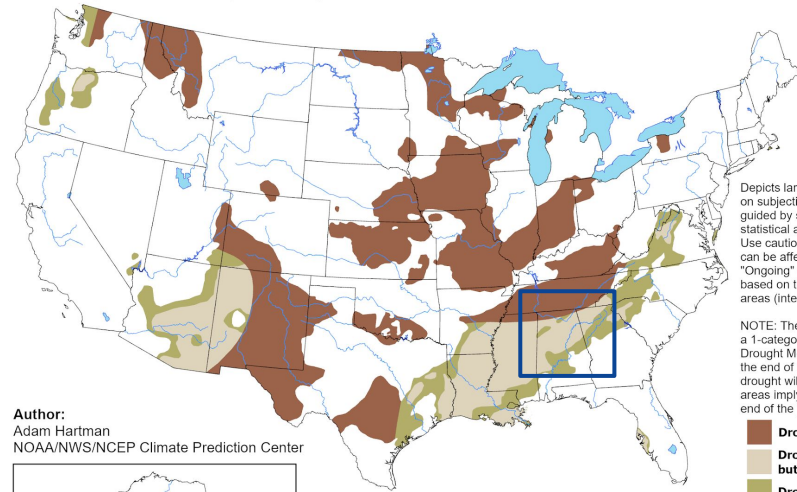
# Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Drought is expected to generally improve or remain steady across the entire area by the end of January.
- Drought removal is expected over some parts of the area in the southern locations.

## U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for January 2024  
Released December 31, 2023



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

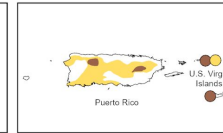
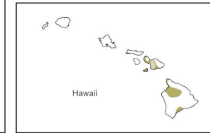


Image Caption:  
CPC Monthly Drought Outlook Released December 31, 2023 and valid now through January 31.

Links to the latest:

- [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)
- [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

