Drought Information Statement for New Mexico

Valid June 17, 2024

Issued By: NWS Albuquerque

Contact Information:

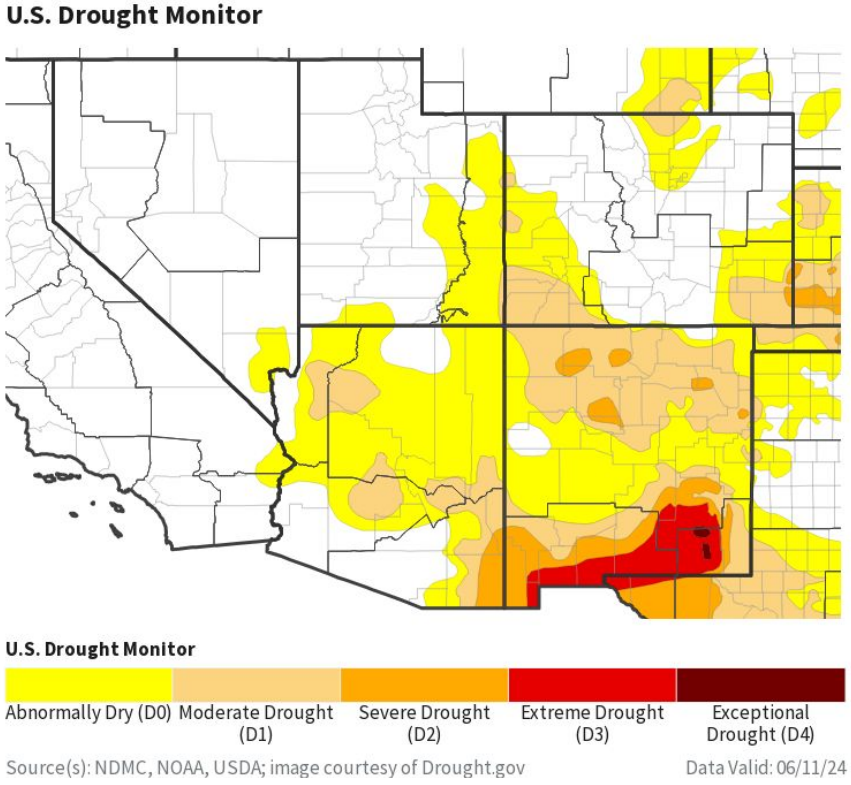
- This product will be updated July 12, 2024 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements.
- Please visit https://www.weather.gov/ABQ/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.
- Please visit https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates for regional drought status updates.

- Drought persisted with minor improvements over the past month.

U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor for the southwest U.S.

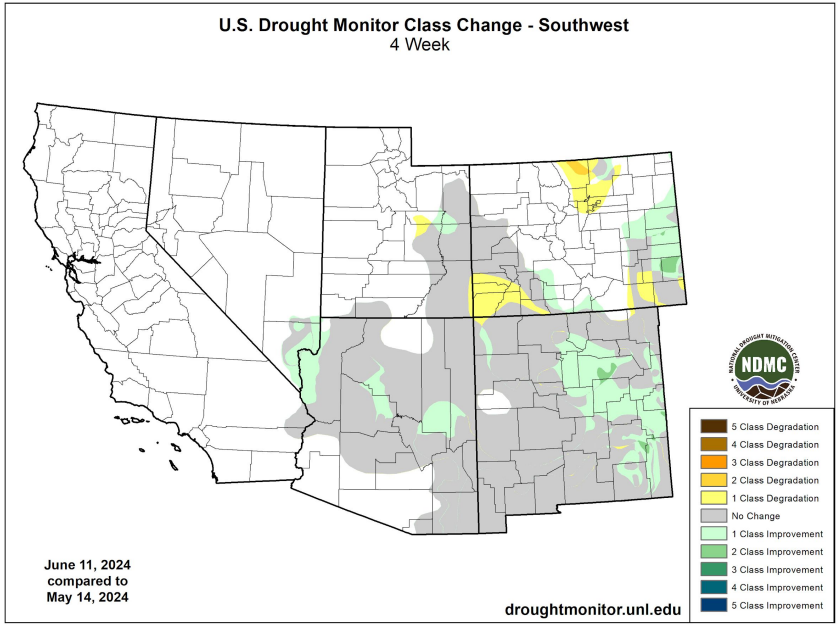
- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: Portions of far southeast NM.
  - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Adjacent portions of southeast NM and far southern NM.
  - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Southeast NM, the borderland, and portions of north-central NM.
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Much of northern and eastern NM and the remainder of southern NM.
  - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: The remainder of NM and surrounding portions of CO, AZ, and TX.



Recent Change in Drought Intensity

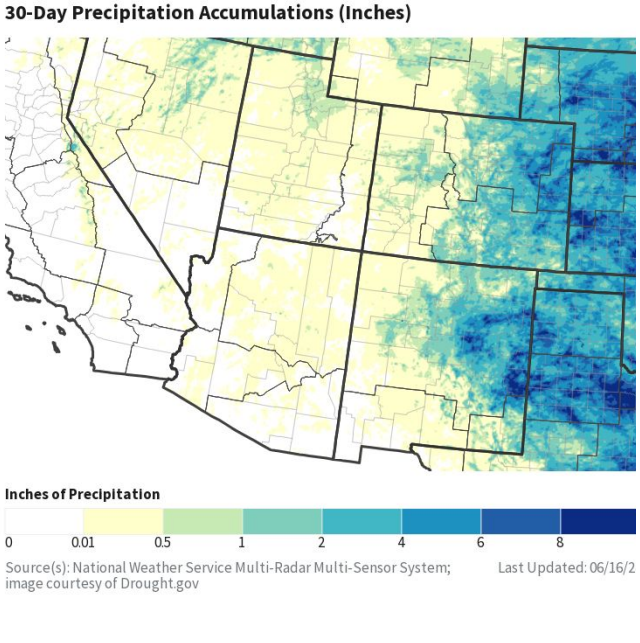
Link to the latest 4-week change map for the southwest U.S.

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought Worsened: No noteworthy deterioration occurred in NM.
  - No Change: Most of NM saw little to no change.
  - Drought Improved: Small portions of NM experienced 1 class improvements, mainly in the eastern and north central parts of the state.



Precipitation

- After and extremely dry April, we began to see rounds of precipitation develop through much of central eastern NM. Areas close to the border of Texas saw well above normal precipitation amounts in the last 30 days. Close to normal precipitation was observed through much of the northern half of the state, while well below normal rainfall persisted in the southwest.



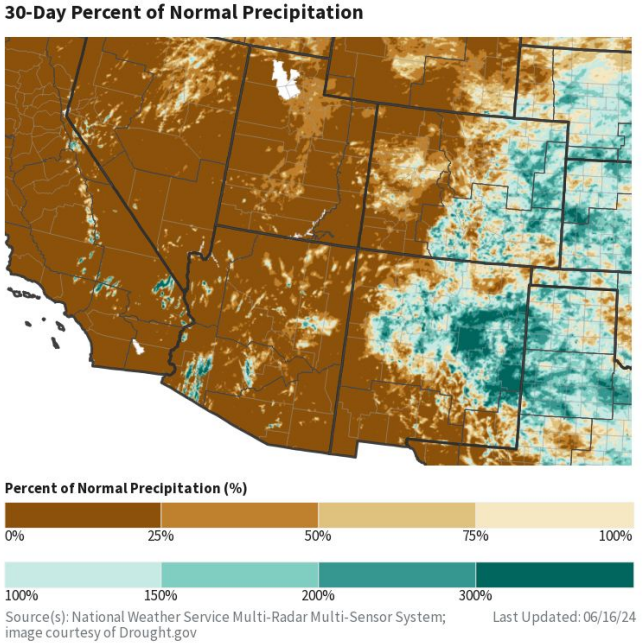


Image Caption: (Left) 30-day Precip (Right) 30-day Percent of Normal ending 5/2/2024.

Temperature

Link to HPRCC

- Temperatures during throughout May and June have been above normal in the majority of the. The only exception to this was in the southeast where normal temperatures were observed.

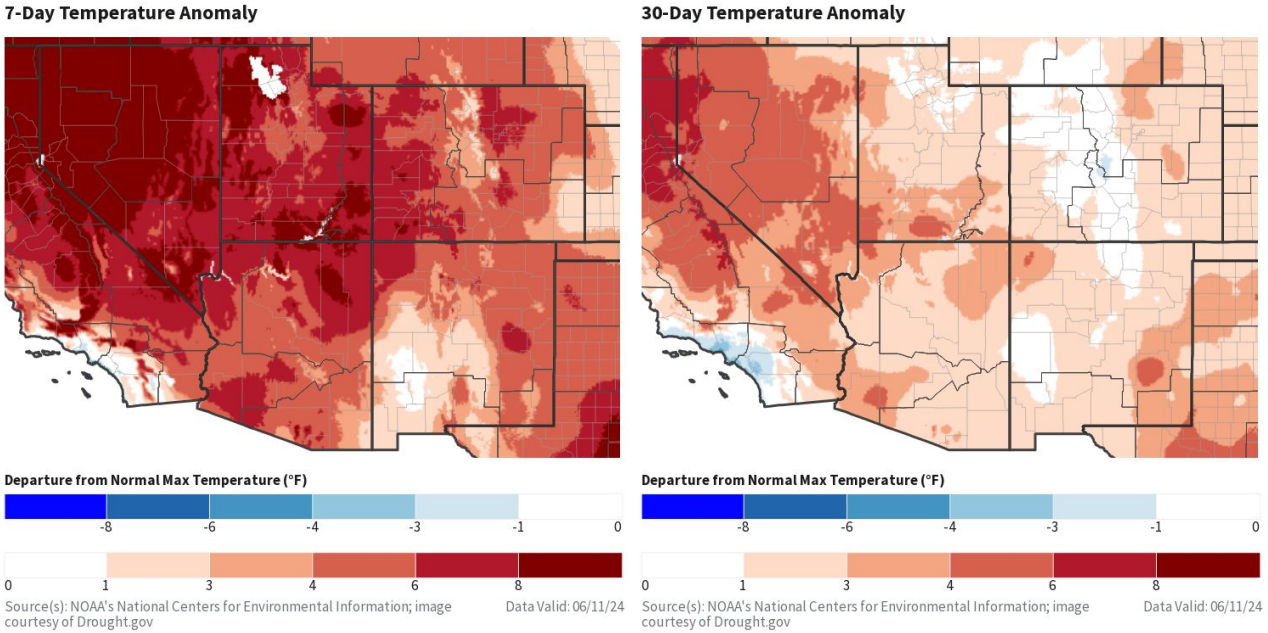


Image Caption: (Left) 7-day Temp Anomaly (Right) 30-day Temp Anomaly ending 4/28/2024.

Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflow was generally near to below normal across the vast majority of NM at the end of May, except in areas where reservoir releases led to higher flows.

Agricultural Impacts

- Rangeland in particular has suffered in the southeastern part of the state.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fuel moisture values are near to below normal across much of the region, including grass and timber fuels (Albuquerque Interagency Dispatch Center). The May and June significant wildland fire potential shows areas along the central mountain chain and southern NM in a higher risk category which lines up well with the area of moderate or greater drought.

Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- This map shows how various river basins are performing compared to a 7 day average streamflow for the week of June 16, over the last 30 years.
- Most of the state is reading as normal with a couple basins below normal.
- It is important to keep in mind that the major river systems of New Mexico are largely controlled by dams and reservoirs and that “performance” is heavily influenced by human activity.

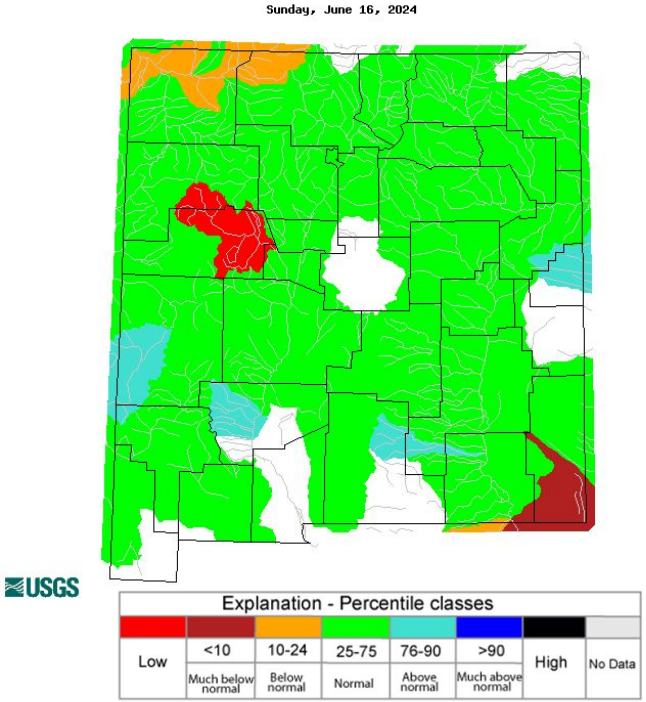
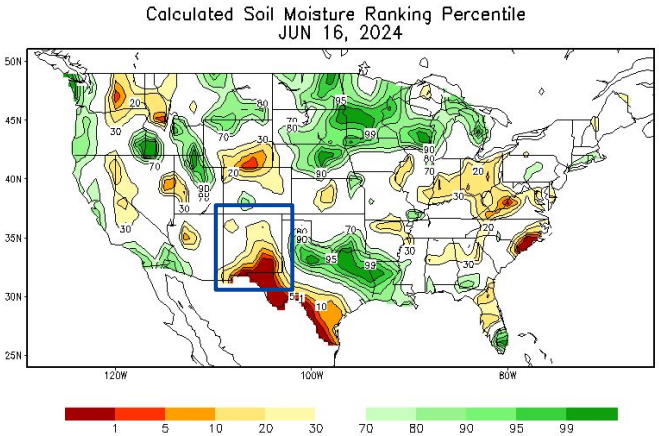
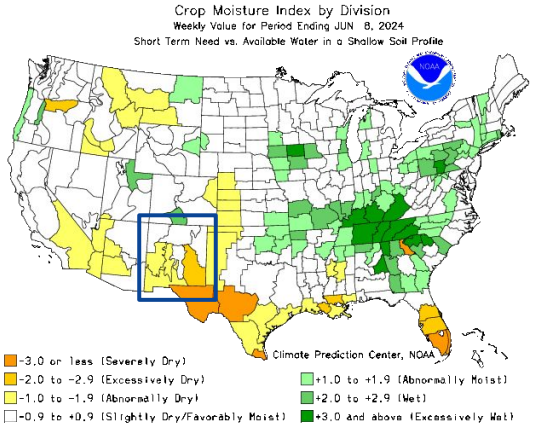


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid 06 16 2024

Agricultural Impacts

- Soil Moisture conditions are dry throughout most of eastern and far southern New Mexico.
- Crop moisture conditions are drier than normal in southern 2/3rds of New Mexico.



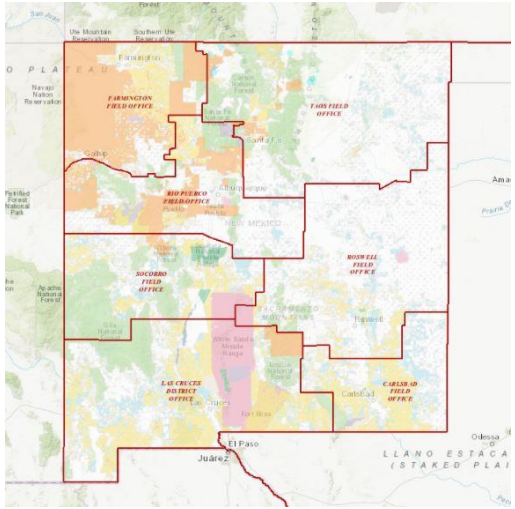


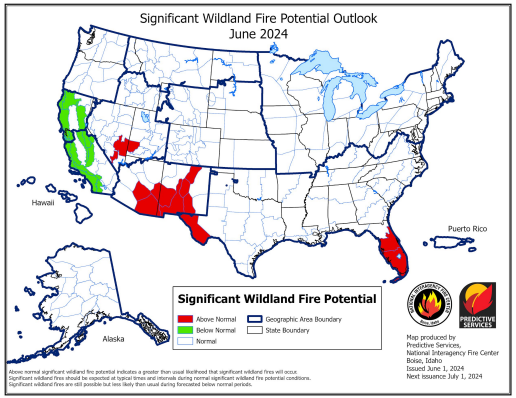
Fire Hazard Impacts

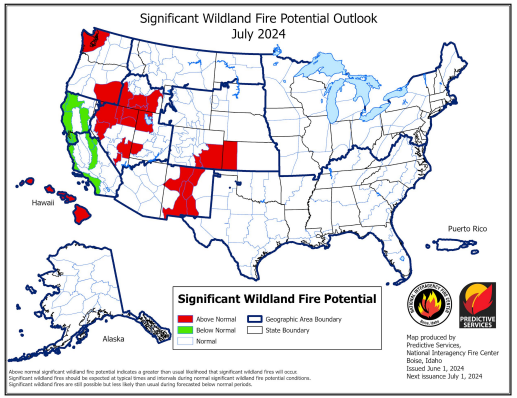
Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center.]

- The latest June and July 2024 significant wildland fire potential outlooks shows areas along the central mountain chain, nearby highlands, and southern NM with above normal fire potential.

Detailed information available on the interactive map below.

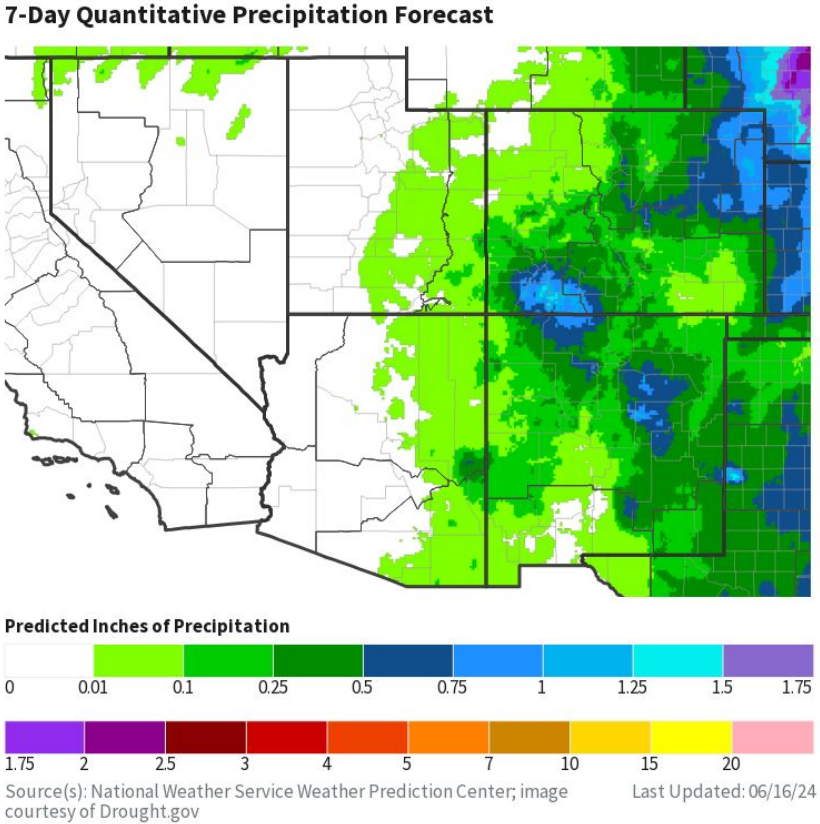






Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

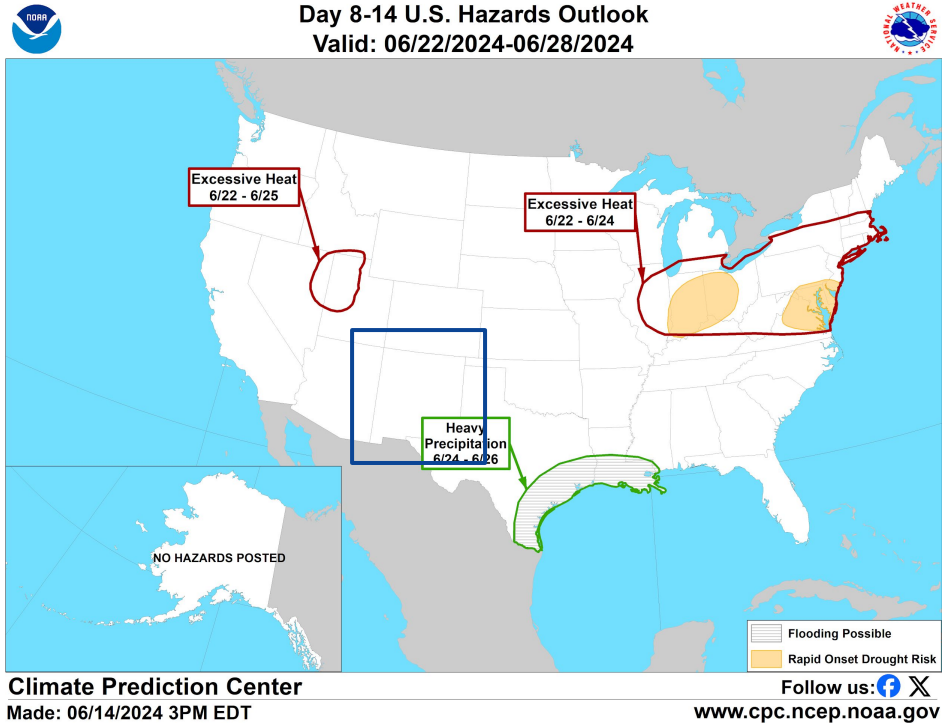
- Parts of northern and eastern NM are forecast to pick up moderate precipitation amounts over the next 7 days. The heavier amounts are expected over east central and far northern New Mexico.



Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day Temperature Outlook and Precipitation Outlook.

- Summarize conditions and impacts here



Long-Range Outlooks

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

- The latest CPC monthly precipitation outlook for June favors slightly above normal precipitation in extreme eastern New Mexico.
- The latest CPC monthly temperature outlook for June favors above normal temperatures for all of New Mexico

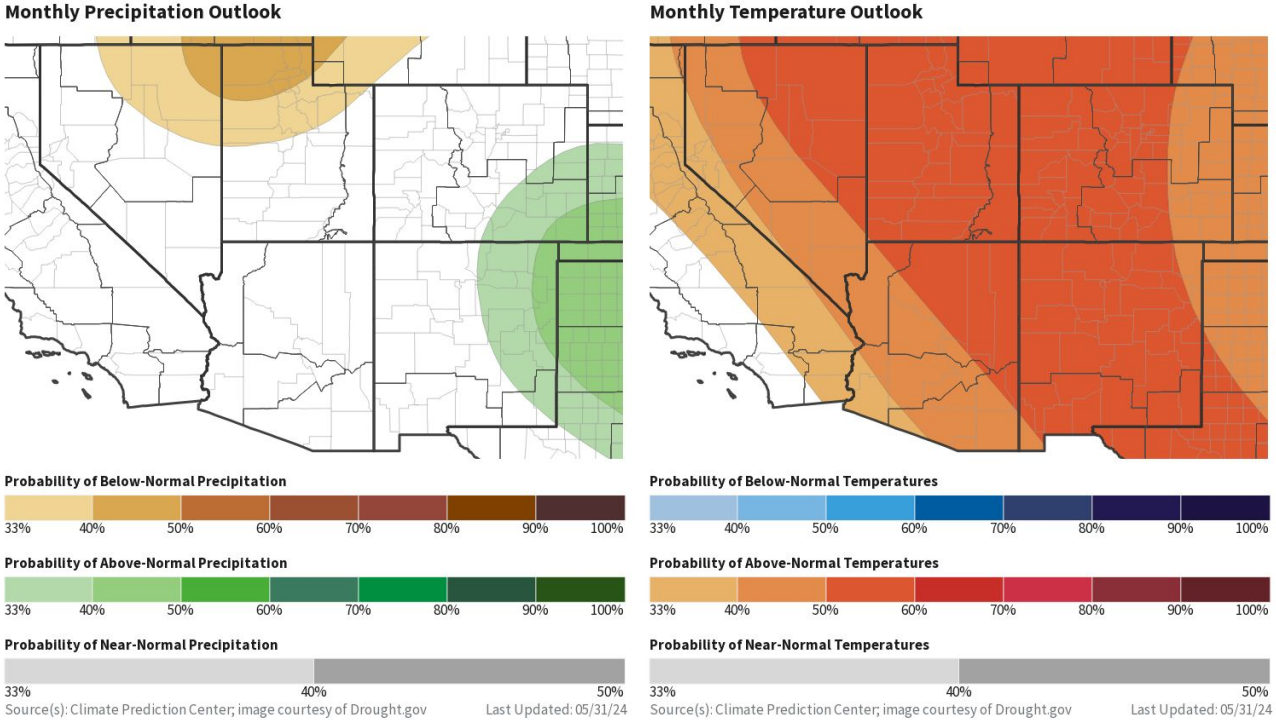
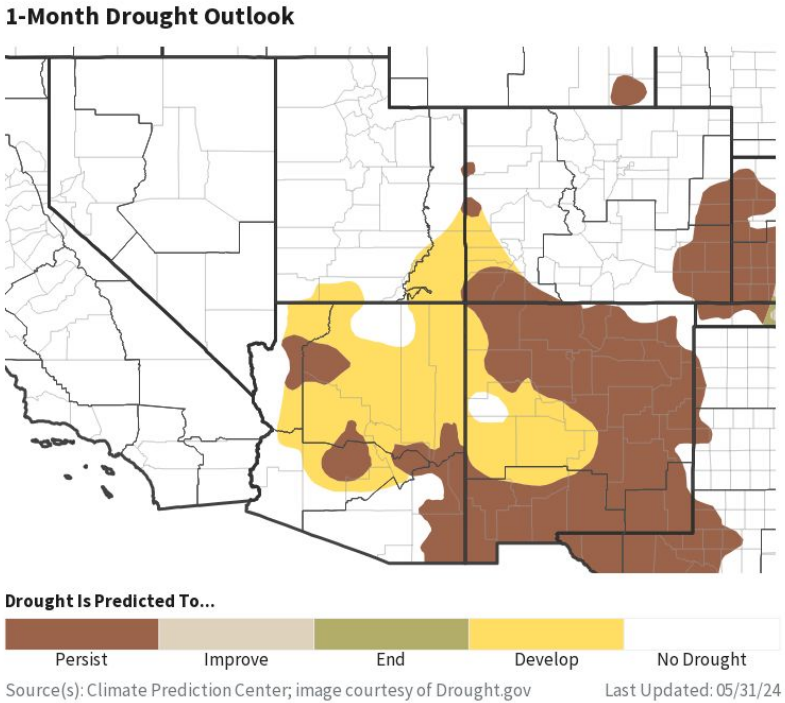


Image Caption: (Left) May Precip Outlook (Right) May Temperature Outlook

Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

- Based on the fact that conditions can be quite dry in New Mexico when we call for near normal temperatures and precipitation, the Climate Prediction Center is calling for persistence of drought conditions throughout much of the state and potentially some development in the western part of the state.



Links to the latest:
Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook