

Oregon Drought and Water Conditions Report

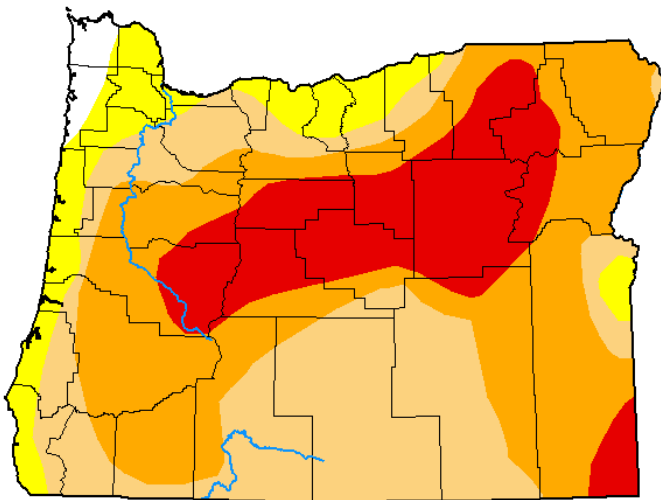


October 5th, 2026

Conditions at a Glance

- According to the [U.S. Drought Monitor \(USDM\)](#), as of September 29th, 88% of Oregon is in some form of drought. Severe (D2) to extreme drought (D3) cover 57% of the state.
- Over the past two weeks, areas with exceptional drought (D4) were removed, and severe drought (D3) conditions were reduced. These improvements were driven by recent precipitation and below normal temperatures.
- To date, [22 Oregon counties](#) have received state drought declarations under ORS 536.

U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon



September 29, 2026

(Released Thursday, Oct. 1, 2026)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	1.48	98.52	88.30	57.58	20.23	0.00
Last Week 09-22-2026	1.52	98.48	88.30	57.58	23.81	3.91
3 Months Ago 06-30-2026	2.71	97.29	86.63	54.51	16.15	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-06-2026	65.06	34.94	15.76	4.65	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-30-2025	32.92	67.08	47.65	24.35	1.39	0.00
One Year Ago 09-30-2025	32.92	67.08	47.65	24.35	1.39	0.00

Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate 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>

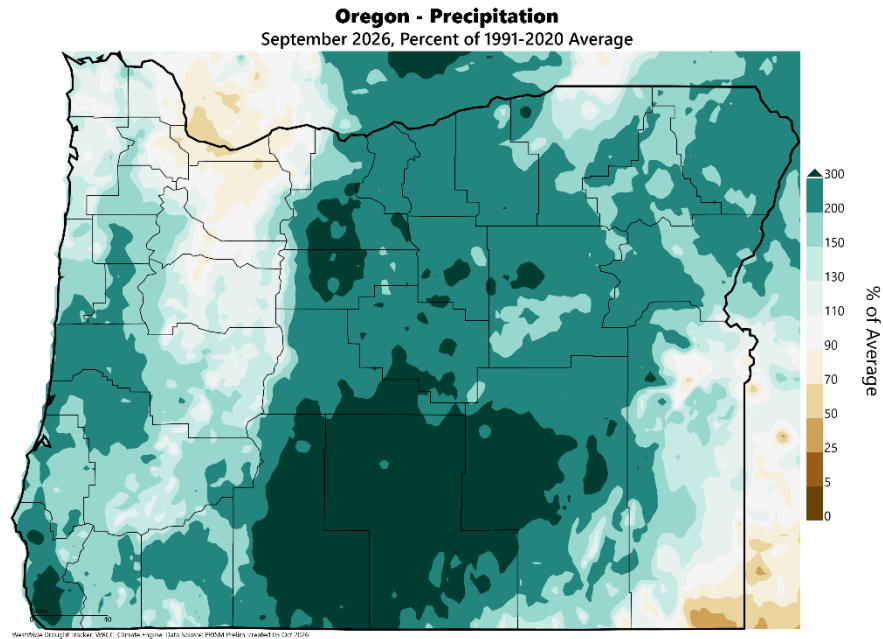
Author:

Jonathan Case
NASA/MSFC/UAH

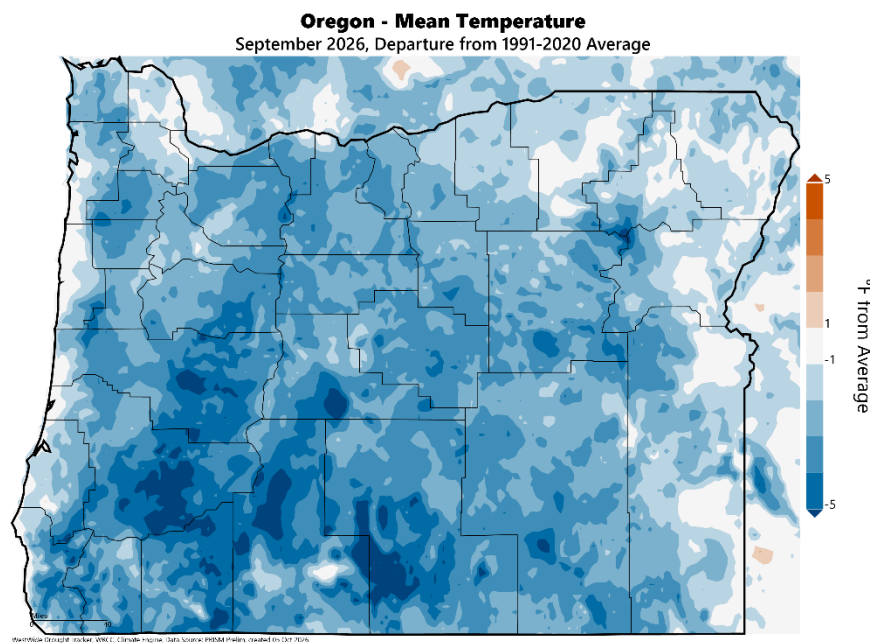


droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Recent Conditions

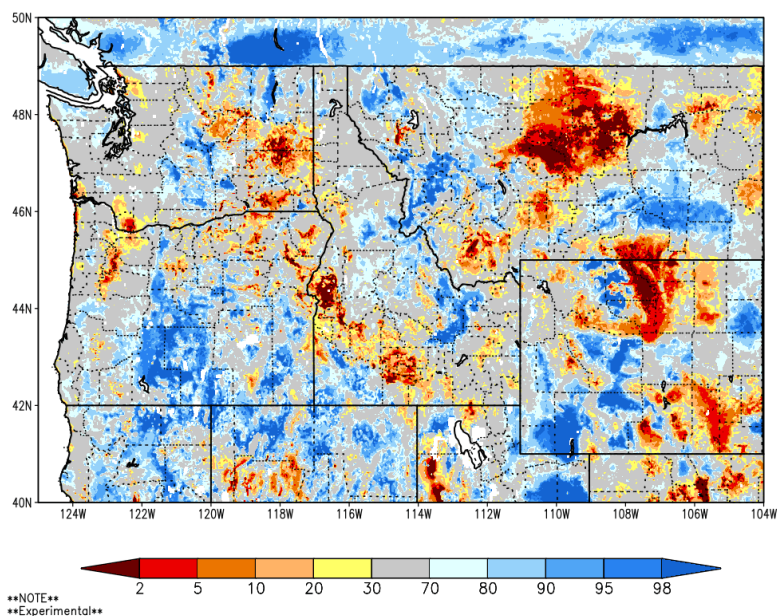


- Precipitation in September was near normal to above normal for most of Oregon. Over the [past two weeks](#), precipitation varied, ranging from near normal to below normal. In parts of the Cascade Range, notable precipitation deficits ranged from 0.6 to 1.2 inches below normal.

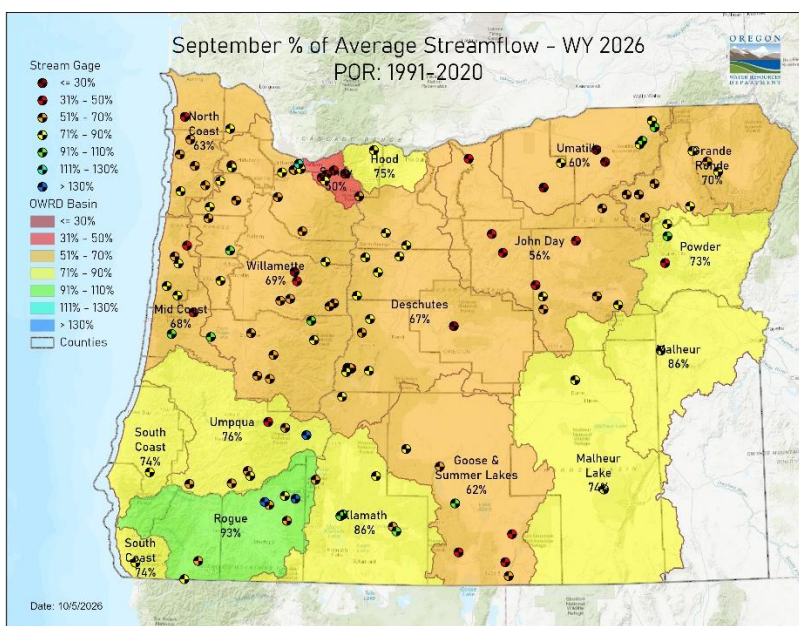


- In September, temperatures were below normal for most of Oregon. Over the [past two weeks](#), western Oregon generally recorded near-normal temperatures, while central and eastern Oregon generally had above-normal temperatures.

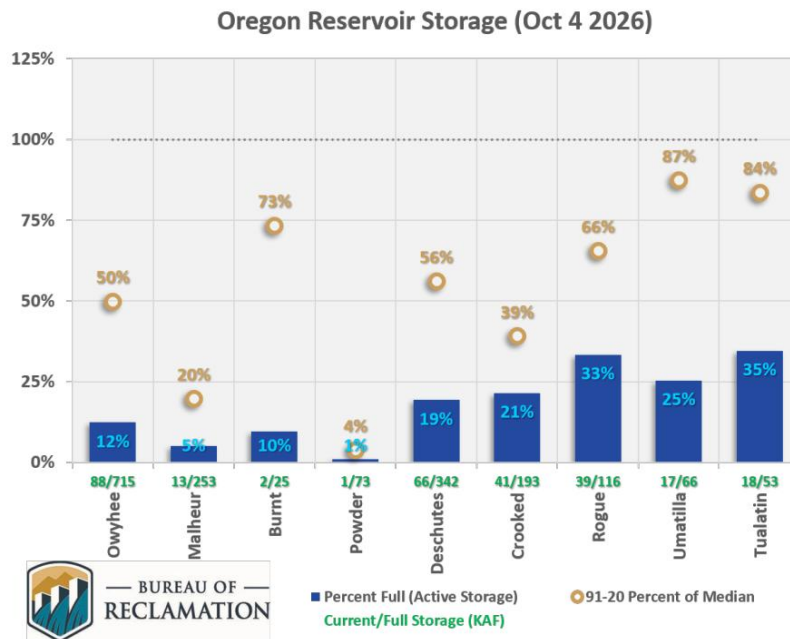
SPoRT-LIS 0-100 cm Soil Moisture percentile valid 05 Oct 2026



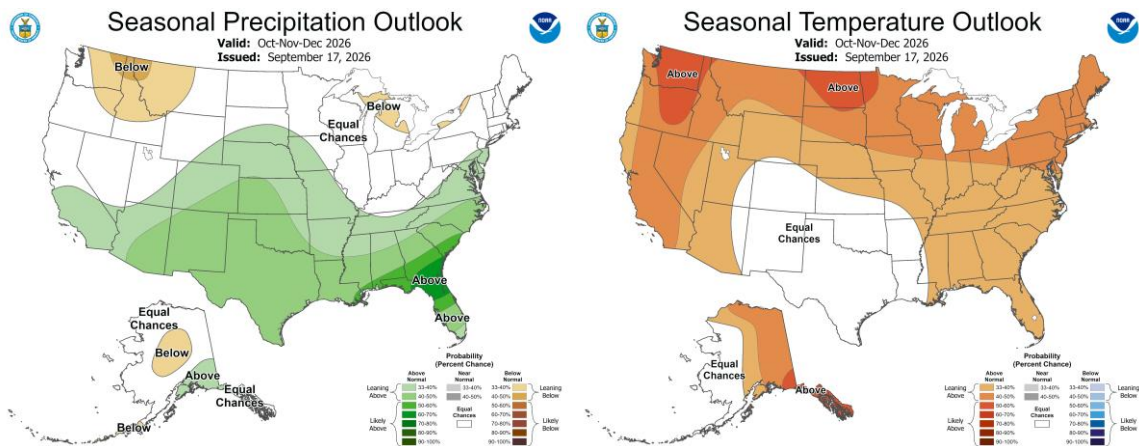
- Recent [soil moisture indicators](#) show that conditions are wetter than normal for much of central Oregon and in parts of western and southeastern Oregon. For the rest of the state conditions are variable, ranging from near normal to drier than normal.



- Streamflow conditions in September were below normal for most of the state, with near-normal conditions in parts of eastern, south-central, and southwestern Oregon. The Rogue Basin was the only basin to record normal streamflow conditions in September. [Recent streamflow](#) conditions are below normal across much of the state.



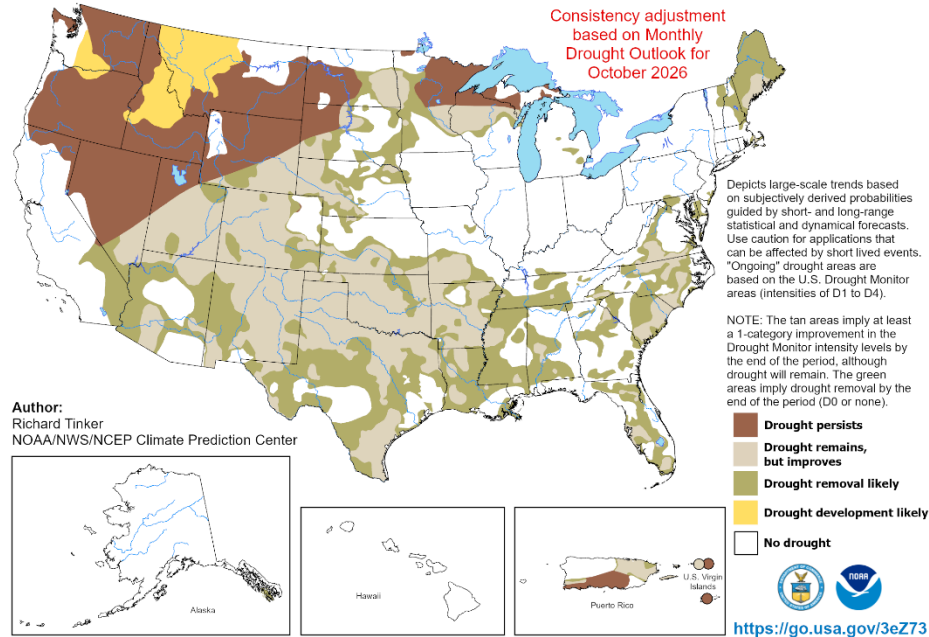
- As of October 4th, all USBR storage projects in Oregon were below normal. For more information on reservoir storage projects, refer to the [US Army Corps of Engineers](#) and the [US Bureau of Reclamation](#).



- The [seasonal climate outlook](#) indicates equal chances of below-normal, near-normal, or above-normal precipitation for most of the state with probabilities leaning towards below-normal precipitation in northeastern Oregon. The outlook also indicates probabilities leaning towards above normal temperatures statewide with a higher chance of above normal temperatures in northeastern Oregon.

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for October 1 - December 31, 2026
Released September 30, 2026



- The [seasonal drought outlook](#) for October through December indicates that drought is likely to persist for most of the state with drought development likely for a small portion of north-central Oregon.

Additional Resources and References

Please visit [Oregon Water Resources Department's drought information page](#) to learn about current drought conditions, assistance programs, and potential drought tools.

If you are interested in submitting local drought-related conditions and impacts, please visit the [drought impacts toolkit](#) to learn more. [Click here](#) to visit the map of condition monitoring observer reports.

Released every Thursday, the [US Drought Monitor](#) provides a weekly assessment of drought conditions. The USDM provides a [network infographic](#) which depicts the network of observers who gather and report information about conditions and drought impacts.

The [WestWide Drought Tracker](#) uses data from [PRISM](#) to provide easy access to fine-scale drought monitoring and climate products, such as the figures depicting climate conditions within this report.

The National Weather Service's [Climate Prediction Center](#) offers [weekly](#), [monthly](#), and [seasonal](#) climate outlooks illustrating the probabilities of temperatures and precipitation.

The [Regional Climate Centers](#) (RCC) working with NOAA partners, deliver climate services at national, regional, and state levels. Climate [anomaly maps of Oregon](#) are updated daily at around noon PST.

NASA's [Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment](#) (GRACE) provide satellite-based observations of soil moisture conditions that are useful as drought indicators, helpful in describing current wet or dry soil conditions.

[USGS National Water Dashboard](#) provides maps of real-time and average streamflow conditions at USGS sites throughout the state.

Reservoir storage “teacup” diagrams are offered by both the [US Bureau of Reclamation](#) and [US Army Corps of Engineers](#). The diagrams represent the level of fill in the reservoirs as both percent full and as a ratio of volume of water currently in the reservoir to the volume of water in the reservoir when it is full.

Oregon wildfire information can be found through [InciWeb](#) and the Oregon Department of Forestry's [Wildfire News](#), along with the [Northwest Interagency Coordination Center](#) which offers outlooks on the significant wildland fire potential.

Oregon Office of Emergency Management maintains a [hydrology/meteorology dashboard](#) which shows state and local drought declarations, as well as hosts many of the data sources to generate this report. Use the selection arrows at the bottom of your browser to navigate through the various sources.

US Department of Agriculture provides the [Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin](#) as a vital source of information on US and global weather, climate, and agricultural developments, along with seasonally appropriate agrometeorological charts and tables. USDA's [Drought Programs and Assistance](#) offers links to programs and resources to help those struggling with persistent drought.