

North Carolina Drought Update

For the assessment period ending May 11, 2021

Statewide Condition Summary

This Week's Drought Monitor of North Carolina Map

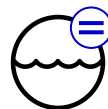
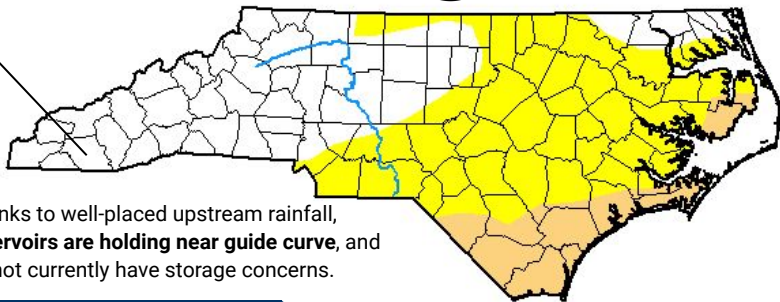
From the US Drought Monitor, authored by David Simeral (NOAA/WRCC/DRI) with input from the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council (ncdrought.org)



Another 4 inches of rain in some spots last week keeps the southern Mountains as the state's lone wet spot this spring.



Groundwater levels in eastern NC continue to steadily decrease after several dry months, with limited rainfall available for recharge.



Thanks to well-placed upstream rainfall, reservoirs are holding near guide curve, and do not currently have storage concerns.



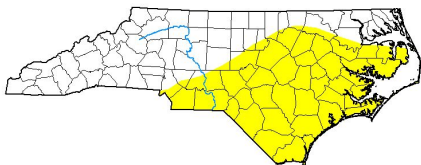
Thunderstorms last week brought damaging hail but little rain to parts of eastern NC. Drought is now limiting crop growth as soil moisture levels decline further.

What's Changed? For the first time since November 2019, **Moderate Drought (D1) is present in NC**. Another week of limited rainfall, plus increasing agricultural and hydrological impacts, drought has emerged along the coastline. Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions have also expanded into VA.

What's New? While the state saw thunderstorms and some cooler temperatures over the past week, that rain was spotty across eastern NC, where springtime precipitation deficits now range from 3.5 inches in **Raleigh** to 4.4 inches in **Wilmington** to 6.2 inches at **Ocracoke**.

What's Next? High pressure building in should keep our rainfall chances low through the middle of next week.

Last Week's Drought Map



Statewide Coverage By Category

Category	Coverage This Week	Change Since Last Week
D0: Abnormally Dry	58.10%	+7.32%
D1: Moderate Drought	12.28%	+12.28%
D2: Severe Drought	0.00%	0.00%
D3: Extreme Drought	0.00%	0.00%
D4: Exceptional Drought	0.00%	0.00%

This infographic was created by

