

# North Carolina Drought Update

For the assessment period ending July 20, 2021

## Statewide Condition Summary

### This Week's Drought Monitor of North Carolina Map

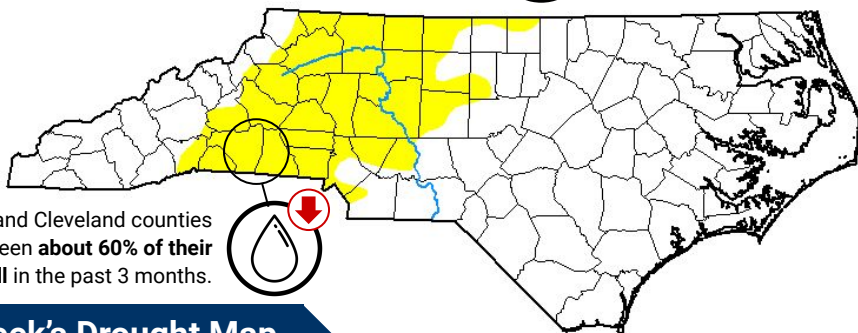
From the US Drought Monitor, authored by Brad Rippey (US Department of Agriculture) with input from the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council ([ncdrought.org](http://ncdrought.org))



Driven by recent hot, dry days, **increased evaporation rates have dried soils and slowed plant growth** across the western Piedmont.



Groundwater and streamflow levels are **holding at or above normal statewide**, including in the Abnormally Dry region.

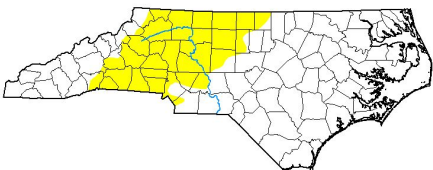


Rutherford and Cleveland counties have only seen **about 60% of their normal rainfall** in the past 3 months.



**High humidity has decreased wildfire development**, and for the year to date, fire activity is near-normal across the state.

### Last Week's Drought Map



**What's Changed?** Heavy rain earlier this week eroded some of the Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions in the northern Piedmont, but dryness remains farther west.

**What's New?** A cold front crossing the state on Sunday and Monday dropped 3 inches of rain near Greensboro, where this week's improvements were made. However, less than an inch fell last week in parts of the Foothills, prolonging a dry spell that began emerging in the spring.

**What's Next?** Another summer-like week is ahead, with high temperatures in the low to mid-90s. After a dry weekend, showers and thunderstorms should return by early next week, but no widespread rain is expected.

### Statewide Coverage By Category

Category	Coverage This Week	Change Since Last Week
D0: Abnormally Dry	24.16%	-2.11%
D1: Moderate Drought	0.00%	0.00%
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



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