

# North Carolina Drought Update

For the assessment period ending May 30, 2023

## Statewide Condition Summary

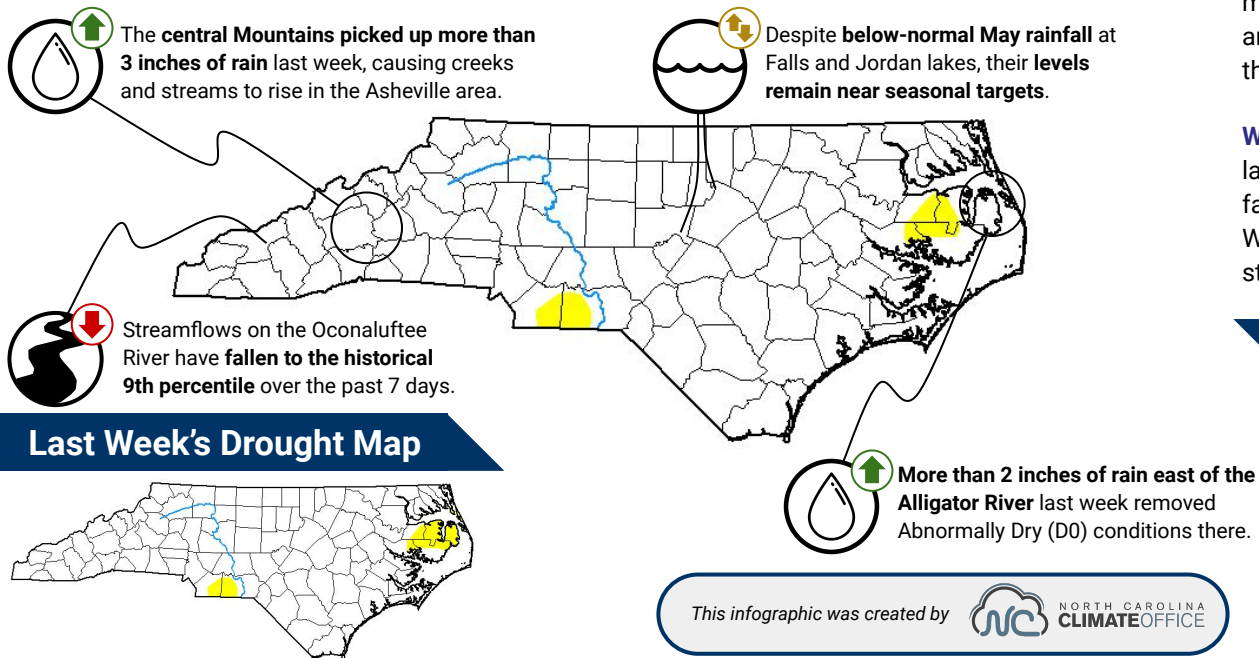
**What's Changed?** Last weekend's rainfall led to small improvements in Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions along the coast, but patchy dryness remains in a few spots.

**What's New?** Memorial Day weekend was a wet one for most areas, but our dry areas in the southern Piedmont and central Coastal Plain didn't see quite as much, so they finished the spring with a net precipitation deficit.

**Who Else Missed Out?** The coastal low pressure system last weekend brought fairly widespread rainfall, but the far western corner of the state saw less than half an inch. While that area is unclassified on the drought map, streamflows continue to run below normal there.

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

From the US Drought Monitor, authored by Richard Heim (NOAA/NESDIS/NCEI) with input from the [North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council \(ncdrought.org\)](https://www.ncdrought.org)



## Statewide Coverage By Category

Category	Coverage This Week	Change Since Last Week
D0: Abnormally Dry	2.47%	-1.49%
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

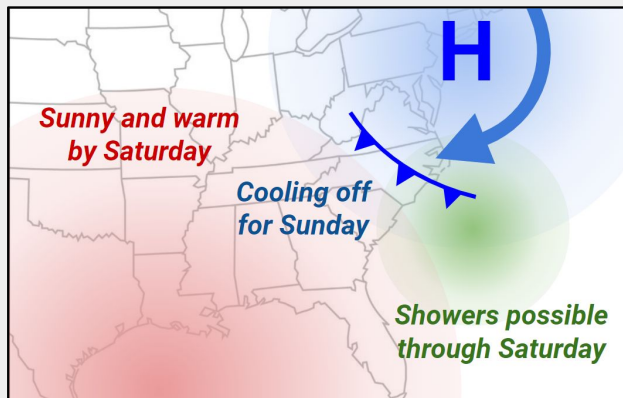


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# Short-Range Outlook for North Carolina

## Week 1:

June 1 to 7, 2023



### Cooler by Sunday



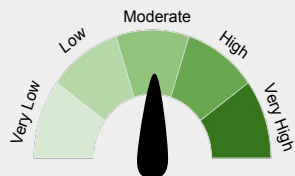
Under clearing skies, temperatures will steadily warm into the upper 80s by Saturday before a cold front moves through overnight. That will drop our high temperatures back into the 70s on Sunday, and we'll stay cool to seasonable early next week.

### Rain Chances Fizzle Out



A departing low pressure system offshore could fuel a few light showers, mainly along the coastline, through Saturday. After that, mostly dry conditions should take hold, although some forecasts do hint at scattered showers possible on Monday afternoon.

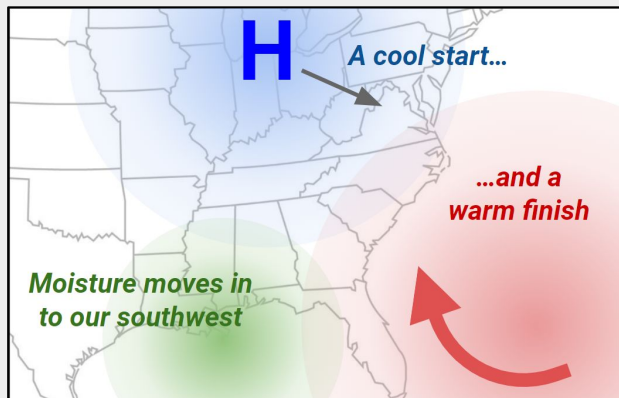
### Forecast Confidence



Confidence is lower about potential rain chances from Saturday's cold frontal passage or during the day on Monday.

## Week 2:

June 8 to 14, 2023



### Cooler, then Warming Up



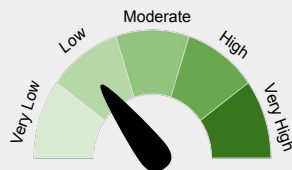
Current forecasts show this week beginning with high pressure diving in from the northwest, which would bring a reinforcing shot of cooler air by next weekend. After that, expect temperatures to moderate and rise back above normal by mid-month.

### A Dry Start



Under the control of high pressure, expect dry conditions to continue at the start of this week. As the circulation pattern shifts to more southerly winds, Gulf moisture moving in could fuel better chances of showers and storms later in the week.

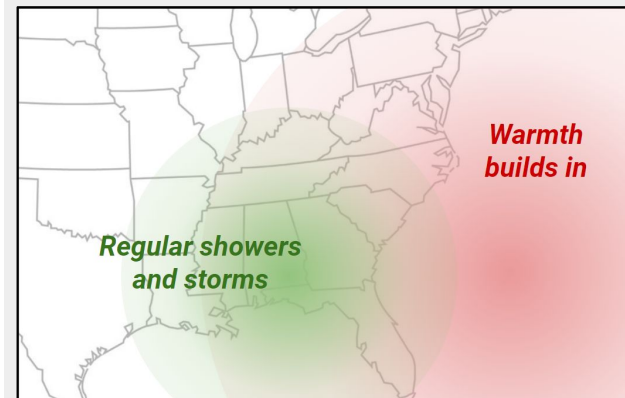
### Forecast Confidence



Uncertainty about how the exact temperature and precipitation patterns over our region might evolve is fairly high at the moment.

## Weeks 3-4:

June 15 to 28, 2023



### Warmer Weather Locked In



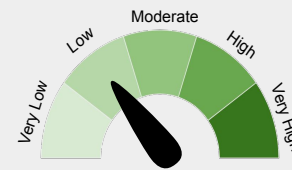
By the middle of June, forecasts show large-scale high pressure settling in over the eastern US. That should favor above-normal temperatures later in the month, and perhaps our first 90°F+ days of the year. Our normal June highs are in the mid to upper 80s.

### Summer-Like Precipitation



An ongoing supply of Gulf moisture to our south and southwest should continue to support seasonal shower and thunderstorm activity. That typically means scattered and often short-lived rainfall, but it can be intense and locally heavy while it lasts.

### Forecast Confidence



Due to the often-localized nature of our summer precipitation, predicting its tendency a month in advance is very difficult.