

# North Carolina Drought Update

Created By:

North Carolina  
Drought Management Advisory Council

[www.ncdrought.org](http://www.ncdrought.org)

NORTH CAROLINA  
CLIMATE OFFICE

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NC STATE

For the assessment period ending **July 8, 2025**

From the US Drought Monitor, with input from the NC DMAC

## The Main Takeaway

Small pockets of Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions have emerged along the South Carolina border, just west of where Chantal brought heavy rainfall last weekend.

## This Week's Summary

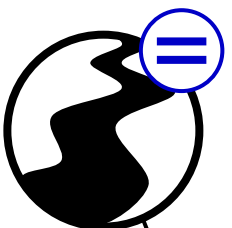
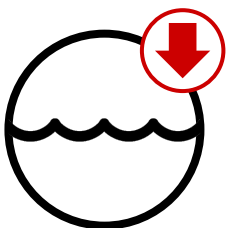
Different parts of the Piedmont are fighting opposing precipitation problems now. Northern and eastern areas have seen multiple rounds of heavy rain and flooding, including last Sunday from Tropical Storm Chantal. But southern and western areas have missed out, and combined with the late-June heat, that has helped rainfall deficits grow and impacts creep back in.

## River Level Update

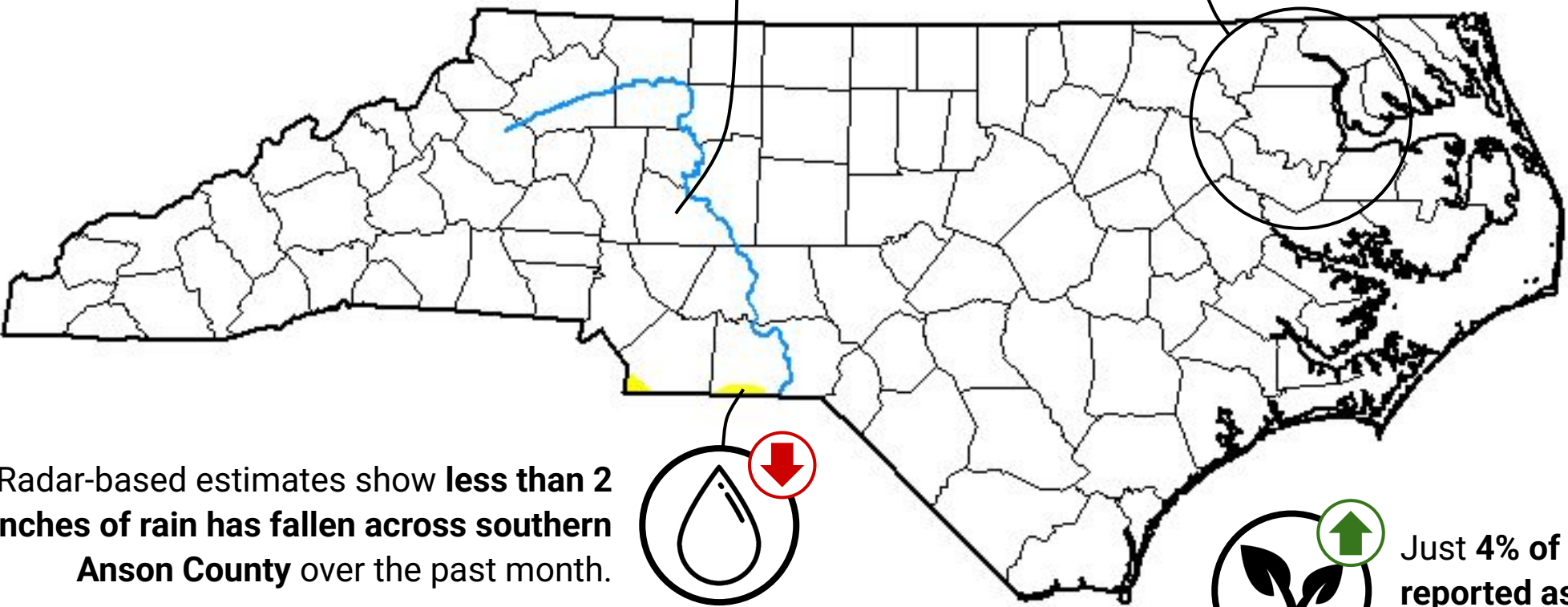
Moisture from Chantal and Wednesday's showers led to a Thursday crest in the minor flood stage for parts of the Haw, Neuse, Lumber, and lower Cape Fear rivers.

For your local drought status, visit [www.ncdrought.org](http://www.ncdrought.org)

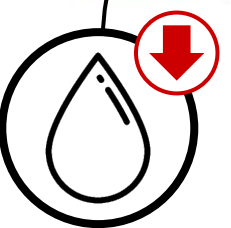
A Rowan County CoCoRaHS observer notes **lawns are turning brown and farm pond levels are dropping** after a dry start to July.



While northeastern areas saw less than an inch of rain from Chantal, **streamflows there remain near or above normal.**

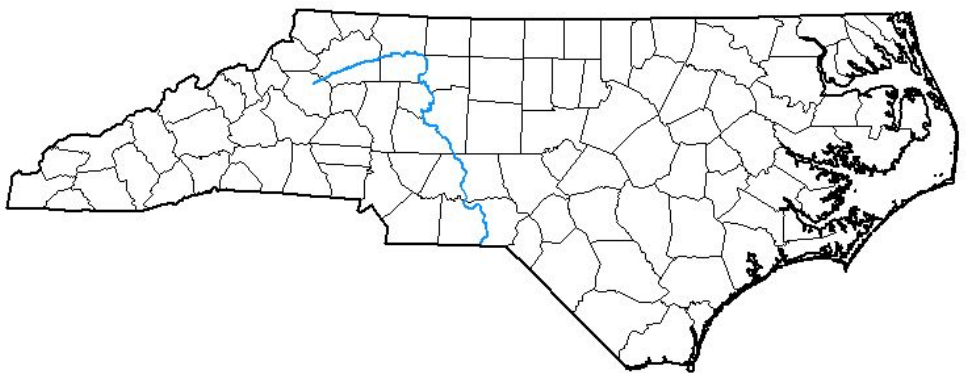


Radar-based estimates show **less than 2 inches of rain has fallen across southern Anson County** over the past month.



Just **4% of topsoil moisture** was reported as short on this week's USDA/NASS Crop Progress report.

## Last Week's Drought Status



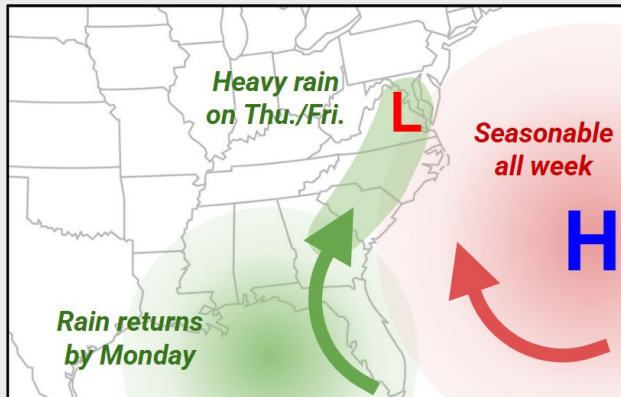
## Statewide Coverage by Category

Category	Current Coverage	Change Since Last Week
D0: Abnormally Dry	0.17%	+0.17%
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%

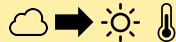
# Short-Range Outlook for North Carolina

## Week 1:

July 10 to 16, 2025

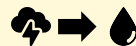


### Summer-Like Weather



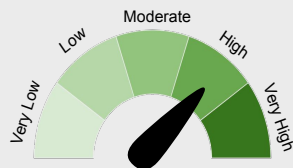
With cloud cover on Thursday, our high temperatures will be slightly below normal in the mid to upper 80s. The rest of the week looks seasonable with highs in the low 90s. Humidity levels should climb above 90% each morning and above 50% in the afternoons.

### Heavy Rain Through Friday



Low pressure to our north and a feed of moisture from the south will fuel widespread showers and storms on Thursday and Friday, with the potential for more flash flooding. Moist air in place will support daily showers this weekend and early next week.

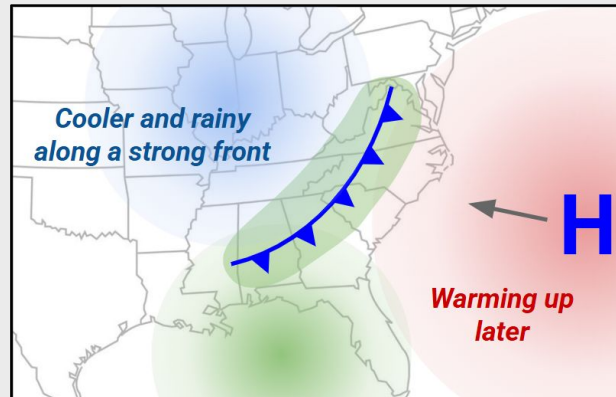
### Forecast Confidence



We're mostly looking at a typical summer pattern, but pinpointing areas that will see the heaviest rainfall through Friday is tricky.

## Week 2:

July 17 to 23, 2025

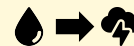


### Cooler Next Weekend



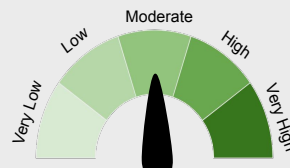
The main weather feature this week is likely to be a strong cold front approaching from the west by next Friday. That should drop our temperatures below normal through next weekend, although a rebound is expected as high pressure builds back in offshore.

### Frontal Rains Early



The cold frontal passage should bring a decent dose of rainfall to start this week, especially next Friday and Saturday. After that, the return of a moist feed from the south should bring seasonable chances of pop-up showers and thunderstorms each afternoon.

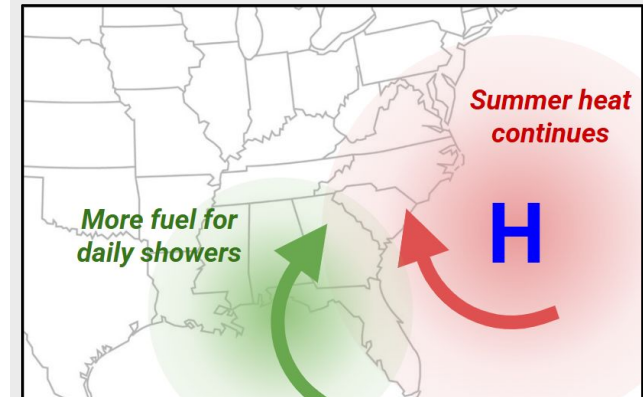
### Forecast Confidence



Uncertainty lies in how much our temperatures will fall behind the front and how much rain that system might bring early this week.

## Weeks 3-4:

Jul. 24 to Aug. 6, 2025



### Staying Warm into August



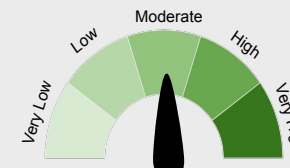
We won't be under a building heat dome like parts of the Pacific Northwest, but high pressure over or just off our coast should continue to favor above-normal temperatures for North Carolina through late July – our climatologically hottest period of the entire year.

### Showers Remain Likely



An ongoing supply of Gulf moisture from the south should continue to favor daily shower activity, so this two-week period may be wetter overall. But if high pressure shifts closer to the coastline, it could also suppress those showers during some drier spells.

### Forecast Confidence



Summertime precipitation outlooks typically lack skill, but a majority of forecast tools show near- or above-normal rainfall in our region.