

North Carolina Drought Update

Created By:

North Carolina
Drought Management Advisory Council

www.ncdrought.org

 NORTH CAROLINA
CLIMATE OFFICE

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NC STATE

For the assessment period ending **Aug. 5, 2025**

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

The Main Takeaway

Heavy rain in the southwestern Piedmont removed any dryness there, while Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions have expanded into parts of the northern Coastal Plain.

This Week's Summary

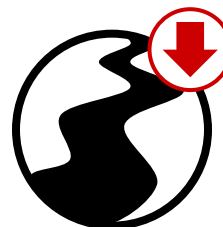
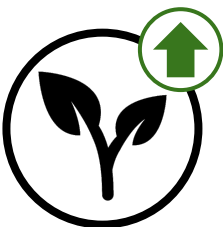
This week's rain wiped out the July dryness near and west of Charlotte, with 3 to 6 inches in those areas. In the Coastal Plain, showers have been hit or miss lately, and some dry areas have emerged with declining streamflows, brown grass, and increased fire danger.

This Season To Date

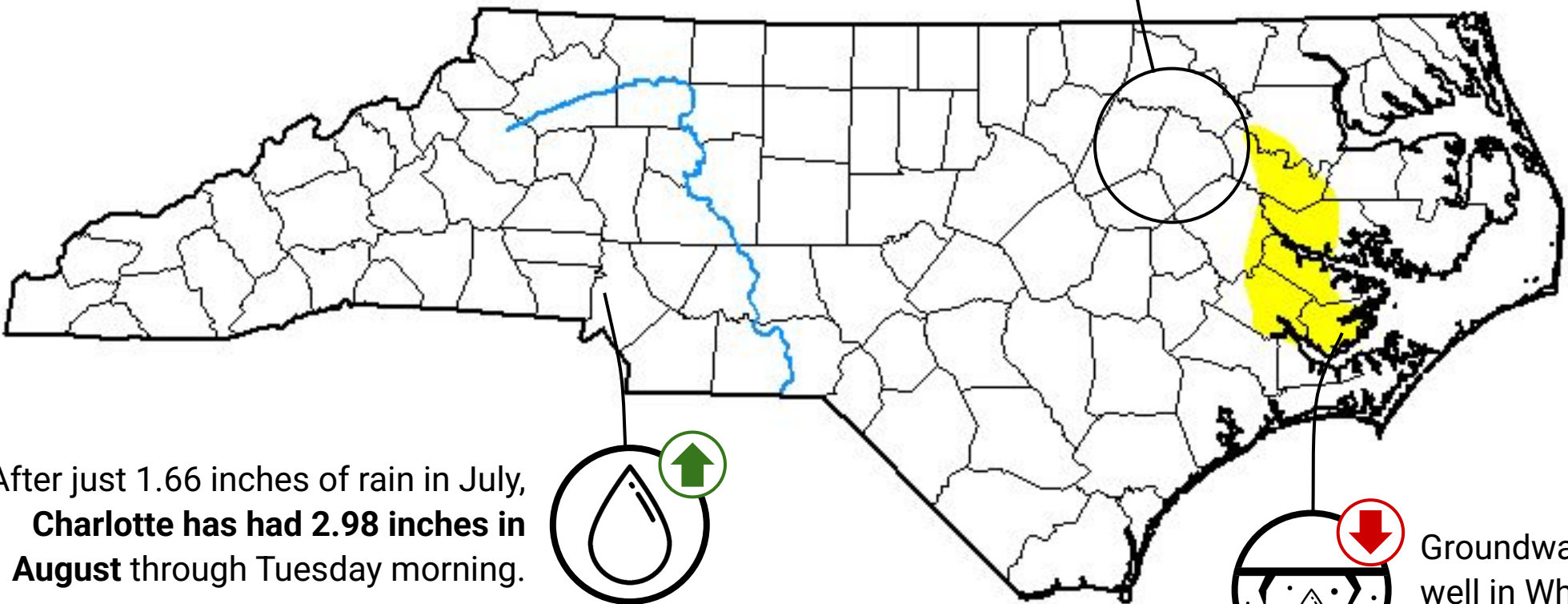
Since June 1, showers, storms, and Chantal have most of the state above their normal summer rainfall. It's on pace for the 7th-wettest summer on record in **Asheville** and the 15th-wettest in **Greensboro**, while at the coast, **New Bern** is about 2 inches below its normal rainfall.

For your local drought status, visit www.ncdrought.org

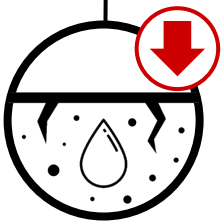
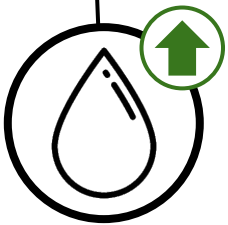
Topsoil moisture conditions bounced back this week, from 33% to 19% shown as short or very short, per USDA/NASS.



Streamflows in the upper Tar River basin have dropped below normal after two dry weeks in the northern Coastal Plain.

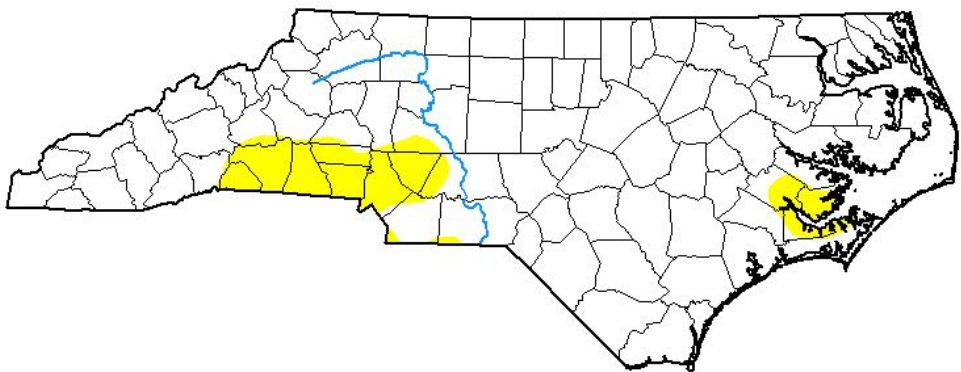


After just 1.66 inches of rain in July, **Charlotte has had 2.98 inches in August** through Tuesday morning.



Groundwater levels at DWR's well in Whortonsville have **fallen to the historical 12th percentile**.

Last Week's Drought Status



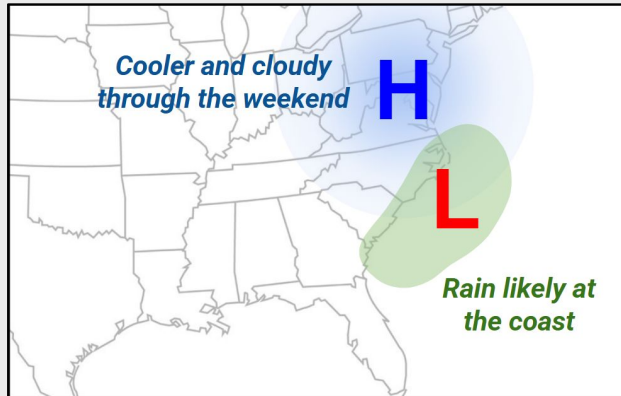
Statewide Coverage by Category

Category	Current Coverage	Change Since Last Week
D0: Abnormally Dry	3.55%	-5.37%
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:

August 7 to 13, 2025



Staying Cool and Muggy



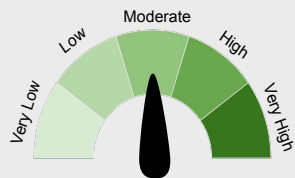
With continued cloudy conditions and a cooler high pressure system to the north, our high temperatures will remain in the upper 70s to low 80s through the weekend. Temperatures may rebound into the upper 80s by Monday, but with lingering high humidity.

Wet at the Coast



A slow-moving low pressure system just offshore, which could become a tropical storm, will bring up to 2 inches of rain to immediate coastal areas through Saturday. Inland areas should be drier this weekend, but showers are possible beginning early next week.

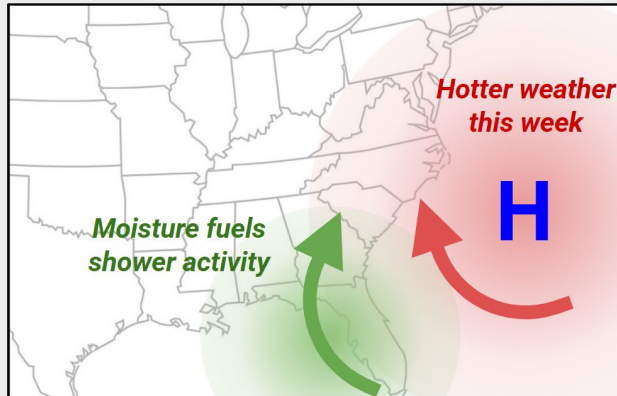
Forecast Confidence



Between the potential tropical development off our coast and daily shower activity, it's an active week with lots of moving parts.

Week 2:

August 14 to 20, 2025



Summer Sizzle Returns



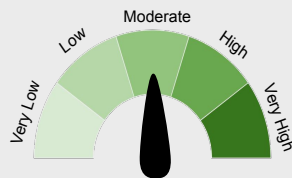
High pressure building back off our coast will bring a warm, moist southerly flow this week. Expect mostly above-normal temperatures with the potential for highs to hit the mid-90s later in the week. Humidity levels should also remain high throughout the week.

Daily Showers and Storms



A moisture-rich southerly circulation should continue to fuel daily pop-up showers and thunderstorms across the state. With the scattered nature of those storms, some areas will be wet this week, but there may also be drier spots that miss out on the rain.

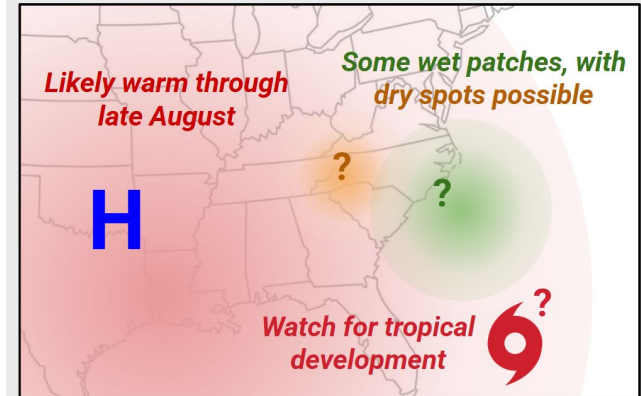
Forecast Confidence



Confidence is high in the warmer temperature pattern but lower for precipitation given the localized nature of our expected rainfall.

Weeks 3-4:

Aug. 21 to Sep. 3, 2025

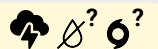


Mostly Warm to End August



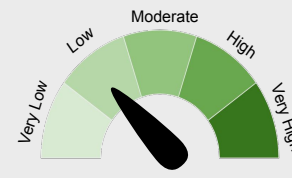
A broad area of upper-level high pressure should keep much of the country warmer than normal through late August. Some guidance shows a slight slackening of that pattern over the final week of the month, with temperatures trending closer to normal.

Storms Still Possible



Expect a typical summer-like precipitation pattern through Weeks 3 and 4, with decent chances for daily showers and thunderstorms, but some dry spots potentially emerging too. Tropical activity should also ramp up nearing the peak of the season.

Forecast Confidence



The potential for high-impact events including heat and hurricanes makes this forecast at this lead time fairly uncertain.