

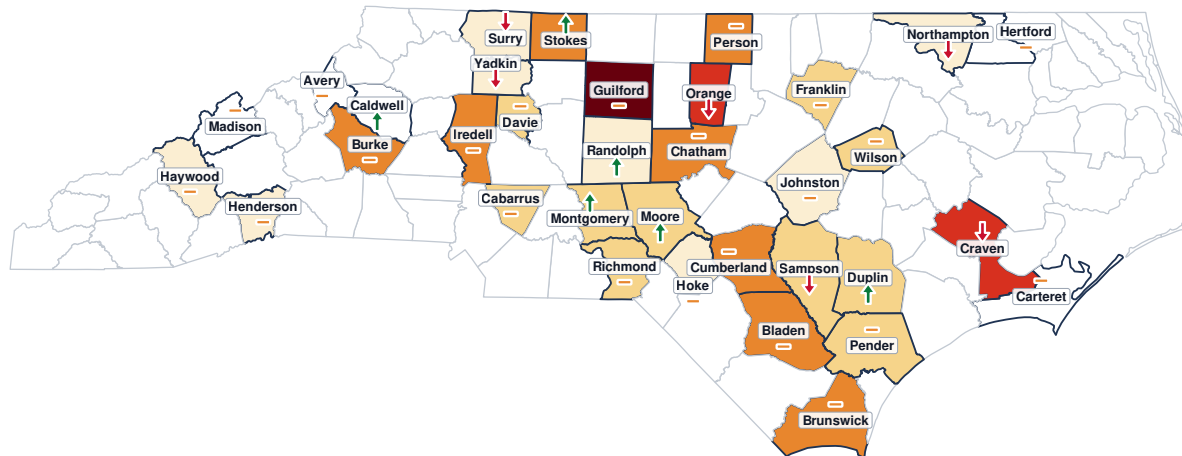
DROUGHT IMPACT (COUNTY REPORTED)

- Exceptional Drought
- Extreme Drought
- Severe Drought
- Moderate Drought
- Abnormally Dry
- No mapped response

COMMENT SIGNAL

- Worsening / crop stress intensifying
- Some relief / conditions improving
- Uneven rainfall / mixed conditions
- Persistent drought / little change

COUNTY-REPORTED DROUGHT IMPACT



STATEWIDE TRENDS

- Rainfall has been highly variable, producing patchy, short-term relief in many counties.
- Pasture and hay production is reduced in multiple counties, with reports of low hay yields and limited forage.
- Corn and soybean fields show widespread drought stress, and yield losses have been reported in some areas.
- Water tables, ponds, streams, and other surface-water supplies remain low in several counties, increasing irrigation demand.

TOP STATEWIDE CONCERNS

- low subsoil moisture
- reduced hay and pasture production
- uneven, patchy rainfall
- low water tables and ponds
- crop stress and yield loss
- increased irrigation needs

REGIONAL SUMMARIES

WEST / MOUNTAINS & Foothills

Avery, Burke, Caldwell, Haywood, Henderson, Iredell, Madison

- Mixed reports: some mountain counties (Avery) are reporting wet conditions while others (Burke, Iredell) remain in severe drought.
- Widespread showers have lessened drought in parts of the region, but crop and pasture conditions remain variable.

Piedmont / Sandhills

Cabarrus, Chatham, Cumberland, Davie, Guilford, Hoke, Montgomery, Moore, Orange, Person, Randolph, Richmond, Stokes, Surry, Yadkin

- Widespread drought severity: several counties report severe to exceptional drought (Chatham, Cumberland, Person, Stokes, Guilford; Orange reported as extreme).
- Scattered rainfall has provided temporary relief in places, yet pastures, hay, and field crops continue to show drought stress and increased irrigation needs.

North & Central Coastal Plain

Carteret, Craven, Franklin, Hertford, Johnston, Northampton, Wilson

- Mixed conditions from short-term recovery (Carteret, Hertford) to extreme drought in Craven.
- Surface rains improved topsoil moisture in some areas, but subsoil moisture and water tables remain low across portions of the region.

Southeast Coastal Plain

Bladen, Brunswick, Duplin, Pender, Sampson

- Severe drought reported in Bladen and Brunswick with very low water tables, streams, lakes, and ponds.
- Recent rains have helped maintain soil moisture and reduced stress in places, but crop losses and slowed development (corn, soybeans, peanuts) were reported.
- Some counties note conditions improving enough that water is not currently limiting for crops, but overall surface-water supplies remain low.

COUNTY COMMENT HIGHLIGHTS (selected notes from impact and additional comments)

Avery

We have been wet and have enough rain that our spider mites are rotting on the stems.

Guilford

Drought continues in Guilford County with reduced pasture/hay, crop stress in corn/soybean, soil dryness, higher irrigation needs, and variable moisture.

Wilson

Water table is still low, but we have received some very timely rains.

Bladen

Drought remains; rains helped soil moisture, but water table, streams, lakes, and ponds are still very low; corn crop is mostly done with reported yield losses; soybeans and peanuts have been stunted or slowed by lack of rainfall, drought stress has reduced.

Montgomery

Drought persists; rains in July–Aug brought some temporary relief.

Carteret

Two weeks of rain have left soil moisture good at the moment.

Orange

Orange County is slowly recovering from extreme drought with additional showers; we are 23 inches less this year than last year at the same time (16" vs 39").

Craven

A few inches of rainfall provided much needed water for crop growth but not enough to restore subsoil moisture.

Stokes

Low hay production.