

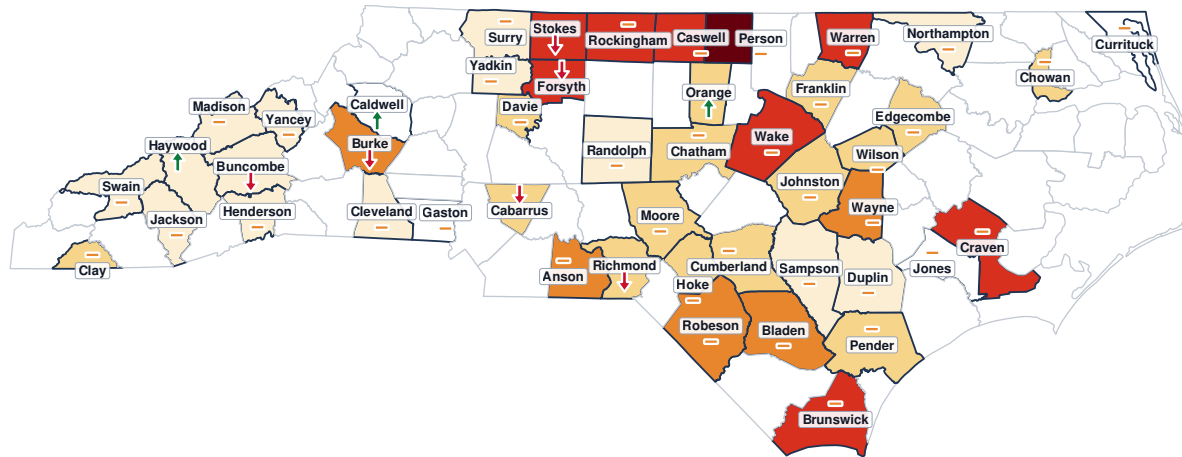
DROUGHT IMPACT (COUNTY REPORTED)

- 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 and mostly spotty, giving only localized, short-term relief to soils and crops.
- Corn yields are widely reduced, with reports of short plants, abandoned fields, and ongoing low-yield harvests.
- Pastures and hay fields are stressed statewide, with lost cuttings and increased supplemental feeding reported in multiple counties.
- Water supplies are strained in some areas, with wells running dry and mandatory restrictions reported locally.
- Soybeans, vegetables, and other row crops are exhibiting reduced yield and quality in many counties.

TOP STATEWIDE CONCERNS

- Reduced corn yields
- Pasture and hay loss
- Low subsoil and stream levels
- Insufficient and spotty rainfall
- Water supply shortages and restrictions
- Increased irrigation and supplemental feeding needs

REGIONAL SUMMARIES

WEST / MOUNTAINS & FOOTHILLS

Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Clay, Cleveland, Gaston, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Madison, Swain, Yancey

- Most mountain counties report abnormally dry conditions with localized moderate to severe drought (e.g., Burke severe, Clay moderate).
- Pasture and hay regrowth is slowed; some producers increasing irrigation and supplemental feeding, and surface streams are low in places.
- Some counties note low current impact as the season winds down, but dry periods since August persist and earlier drought reduced yields/quality.

PIEDMONT / SANDHILLS

Anson, Cabarrus, Caswell, Chatham, Cumberland, Davie, Forsyth, Hoke, Moore, Orange, Person, Randolph, Richmond, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry, Wake, Yadkin

- Piedmont has many severe to extreme reports, including extreme or exceptional drought in several counties (Caswell, Rockingham, Stokes, Person, Wake).
- Widespread crop impacts: corn and hay losses, thin soybeans with poor pod fill, and reduced hay production on some farms.
- Recent light or spotty rains gave localized relief but have not erased cumulative seasonal deficits.

NORTH & CENTRAL COASTAL PLAIN

Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Edgecombe, Franklin, Johnston, Jones, Northampton, Warren, Wayne, Wilson

- Coastal plain counties range from abnormally dry to extreme (Craven and Wayne reported extreme), with subsoil and water-table deficits noted.
- Topsoil received scattered, variable rains that helped some fields, but many later crops and harvests are expected below average without more consistent moisture.

SOUTHEAST COASTAL PLAIN

Bladen, Brunswick, Duplin, Pender, Robeson, Sampson

- Southeast coastal counties include extreme and severe drought reports (Brunswick, Bladen, Robeson) with significant losses in dryland crops.
- Strong or spotty showers improved topsoil in parts of some counties, but waterways and streams remain low and relief is uneven across the region.

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

Cabarrus

Peppers and tomatoes took a heavy hit

Hoke

Corn harvest continues with yields coming in below average on early planted corn. Other crops and pastures are fairing but it can be seen that they are still stressed.

Orange

Orange county is still in moderate and severe drought conditions, however, much of the county received approximately 1.5 inches of rain Saturday and Sunday which greatly improved the upper soil moisture levels across much of the county. Northern band approximately 20 % is in severe drought conditions. No additional comments.

Robeson

Dry conditions persist in the Southern part of the county with hit and miss showers. Northern part of the county is in much better shape. Spotty showers provided some help to topsoil moisture over the weekend but most of the rain chances in the forecast never developed well.

Surry

The region has not experienced any significant rainfall events in at least one full week now while battling extremely high temperatures (low to mid 90's) for this time of the year. Plus as of the time of completing this survey the region is not forecasted for another significant rainfall event for a whole other week well into 9/22 at best. Due to no rainfall and extremely high temperatures crop conditions are starting to show small signs of drought once again as corn harvest starts to ramp up within the region.

Swain

no drought at this time, even though a more dry period has settled in since August. No drought impact, but a dry period has settled in since the summer months of July and August, which more much more wet than now.

Wake

Most of the county remains very dry for the past month. Some locations received rainfall over the weekend but mostly <0.25". While rains about a month ago were useful to keep plants growing, continued high temperatures are again starting to impact growth/yields. Soybeans are very dry, thin and pods not filling and pasture/grass is poor