

North Carolina Drought Update

For the assessment period ending August 18, 2020

This Week's Drought Monitor of North Carolina Map

From the US Drought Monitor, authored by David Simeral (*Western Regional Climate Center*) with input from the [North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council \(ncdrought.org\)](http://ncdrought.org)

Up to 6 inches of rain in the western Piedmont last week filled lakes and streams to the brim, while groundwater levels are at record highs for this time of year.

Some crops in the northern tier counties dried up in July, but recent rains offered soil moisture recovery as the corn harvest begins.

After missing the rain from Isaias, the southern Piedmont picked up 2"+ last week, and lawns are green once again.

Fire activity has declined and fire danger has been well below normal since Hurricane Isaias, especially at the coast.

Last Week's Drought Map



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<https://climate.ncsu.edu/nighthawk>



Statewide Condition Summary

What's Changed? North Carolina remains clear of any dryness or drought after another wet week in most areas.

What's New? Following a dry July, our rainfall rebound in August has continued. Hurricane Isaias saturated the coast earlier in the month, and over the past week, several frontal systems plus pop-up showers and storms have brought additional rainfall across the state. As a result, there are no major dry spots or areas of concern for potentially developing drought.

What's Next? Rain chances will remain higher through Friday before tapering off this weekend as high pressure creeps closer to the coast. That will elevate our temperatures back into the 90s by early next week.

Statewide Coverage By Category

Category	Coverage This Week	Change Since Last Week
D0: Abnormally Dry	0.00%	0.00%
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%