

# May 2021 Climate Review

**Presented By:**

**National Weather Service**

**Newport/Morehead City, NC**

# May 2021 Highlights



A shot from the Tideland Trail at Croatan National Forest on May 16, 2021

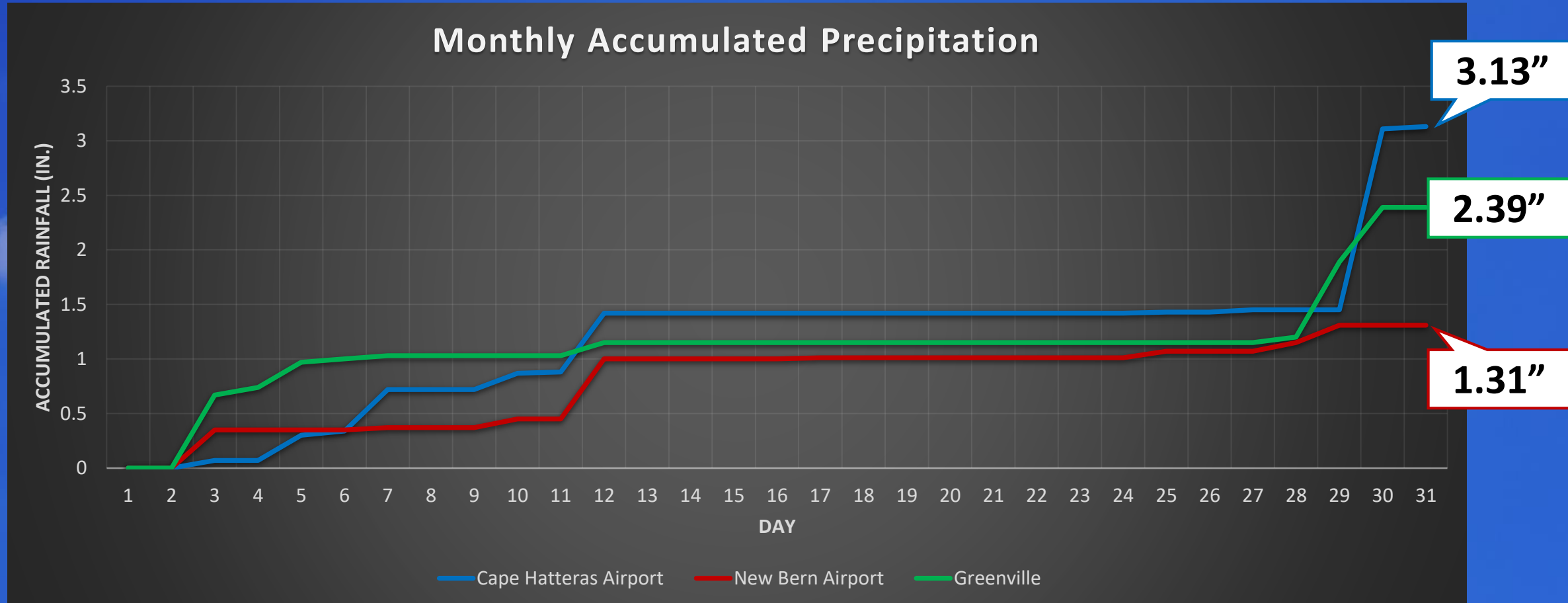
Drought conditions worsened considerably across eastern NC with yet another dry month in the books. New Bern recorded just shy of one and a third inch, its 7<sup>th</sup> driest May since records began in 1933.

Although high temperatures were largely around average, low temperatures were about 2-4 degrees below average owing to abnormally dry soils.

## Monthly Rankings

	Average Temp	Total Rainfall
<b>Hatteras</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> Warmest	59 <sup>th</sup> Driest
<b>New Bern</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> Coolest	7 <sup>th</sup> Driest

# May 2021 Rainfall

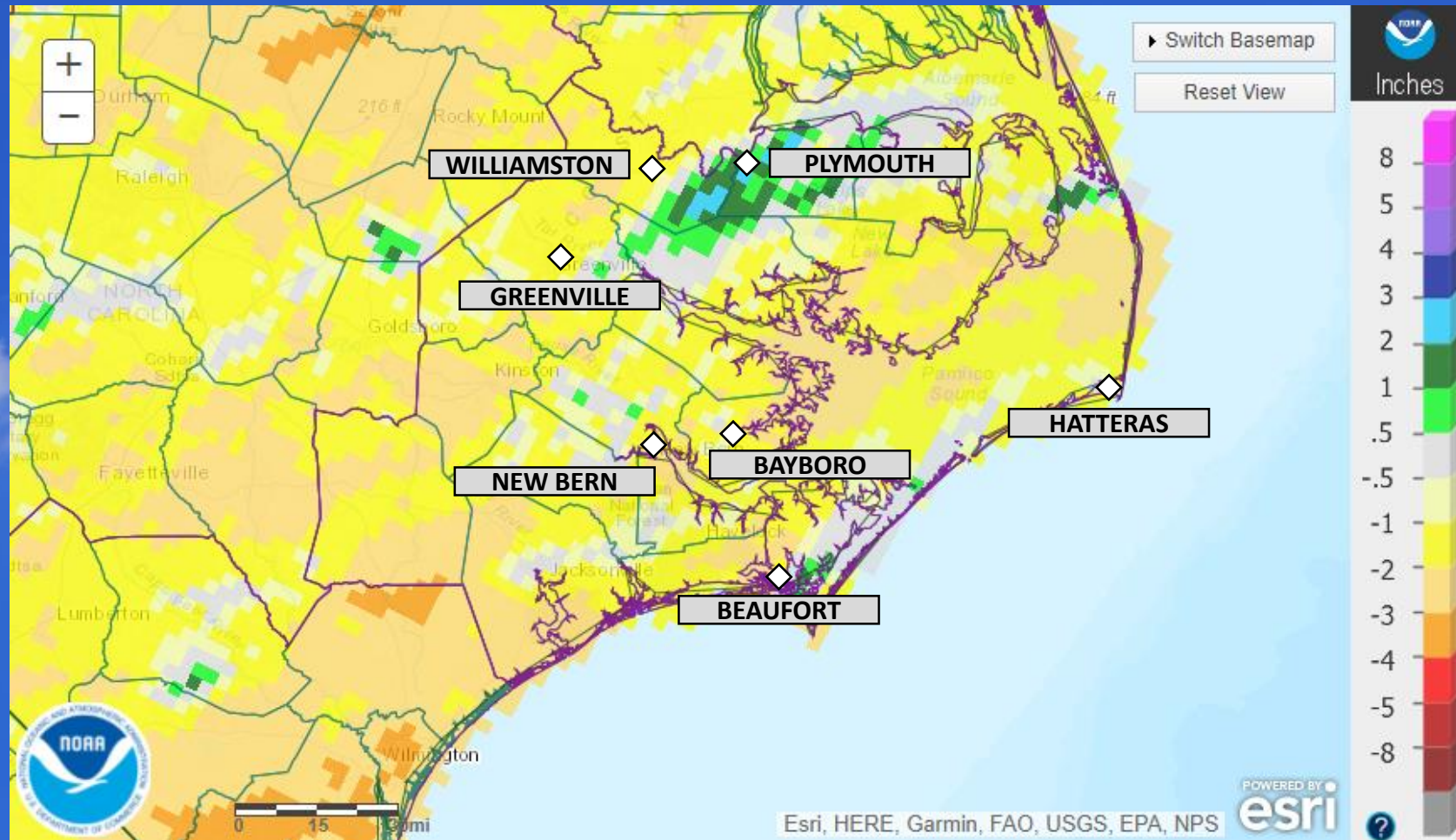


White diamonds denote missing 24-hour precipitation report. Asterisk denotes total with missing data.

# May 2021 Rainfall vs. Climate Normal

	Observed (In.)	Normal	Difference
Beaufort	2.48	3.94	▼ 1.46
Hatteras	3.13	4.37	▼ 1.24
New Bern	1.31	4.25	▼ 2.94
Greenville	2.39	4.04	▼ 1.65
Williamston	2.08	3.69	▼ 1.61
Plymouth	6.16	4.14	▲ 2.02
Bayboro	4.18	4.36	▼ 0.18

Red sites have missing data



May 2021 Precipitation: Departure from Normal  
 Analysis from the Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service

# Wettest and Driest Mays

	Cape Hatteras	Year Observed	New Bern	Year Observed
Wettest	12.67"	2016	10.10"	2003
2 <sup>nd</sup> Wettest	12.14"	2018	9.62"	1943
3 <sup>rd</sup> Wettest	11.70"	2003	8.61"	2018
4 <sup>th</sup> Wettest	11.69"	1940	8.32"	2009
5 <sup>th</sup> Wettest	11.44"	1972	<b>8.15"</b>	<b>2020</b>

	Cape Hatteras	Year Observed	New Bern	Year Observed
5 <sup>th</sup> Driest	0.58"	1920	1.18"	1962
4 <sup>th</sup> Driest	0.55"	1906	0.99"	1982
3 <sup>rd</sup> Driest	0.53"	2011	0.98"	1942
2 <sup>nd</sup> Driest	0.49"	1991	0.48"	1941
Driest	0.35"	1987	0.47"	2011

# Average Temperatures: May 2021

	Average High	Normal High	Difference	Average Low	Normal Low	Difference
Beaufort	77.0	77.5	▼ 0.5	60.0	62.7	▼ 2.7
Hatteras	76.2	76.7	▼ 0.5	62.3	62.7	▼ 0.4
New Bern	80.9	80.4	▲ 0.5	56.5	58.7	▼ 2.2
Greenville	80.9	80.5	▲ 0.4	56.6	58.8	▼ 2.2
Kinston	81.2	82.0	▼ 0.8	56.2	59.5	▼ 3.3
Williamston	80.3	78.2	▲ 2.1	55.3	58.8	▼ 3.5
Plymouth	80.2	80.2	0.0	55.1	58.1	▼ 3.0
Bayboro	79.2	79.0	▲ 0.2	54.6	58.0	▼ 3.4

Red sites have missing data

# Warmest and Coolest Mays By Avg. Temp

	Cape Hatteras	Year Observed	New Bern	Year Observed
Warmest	74.1°	2019	77.0°	1933
2 <sup>nd</sup> Warmest	73.4°	1991	75.1°	1953
3 <sup>rd</sup> Warmest	73.1°	2012	74.9°	2019
4 <sup>th</sup> Warmest	73.0°	2018	74.4°	1991
5 <sup>th</sup> Warmest	72.4°	2017	74.1°	1994

	Cape Hatteras	Year Observed	New Bern	Year Observed
5 <sup>th</sup> Coolest	63.3°	1963	65.9°	1968
4 <sup>th</sup> Coolest	63.0°	1961	65.6°	1963
3 <sup>rd</sup> Coolest	63.0°	2005	65.5°	1992
2 <sup>nd</sup> Coolest	62.8°	1967	65.2°	2005
Coolest	61.0°	1920	62.6°	1967

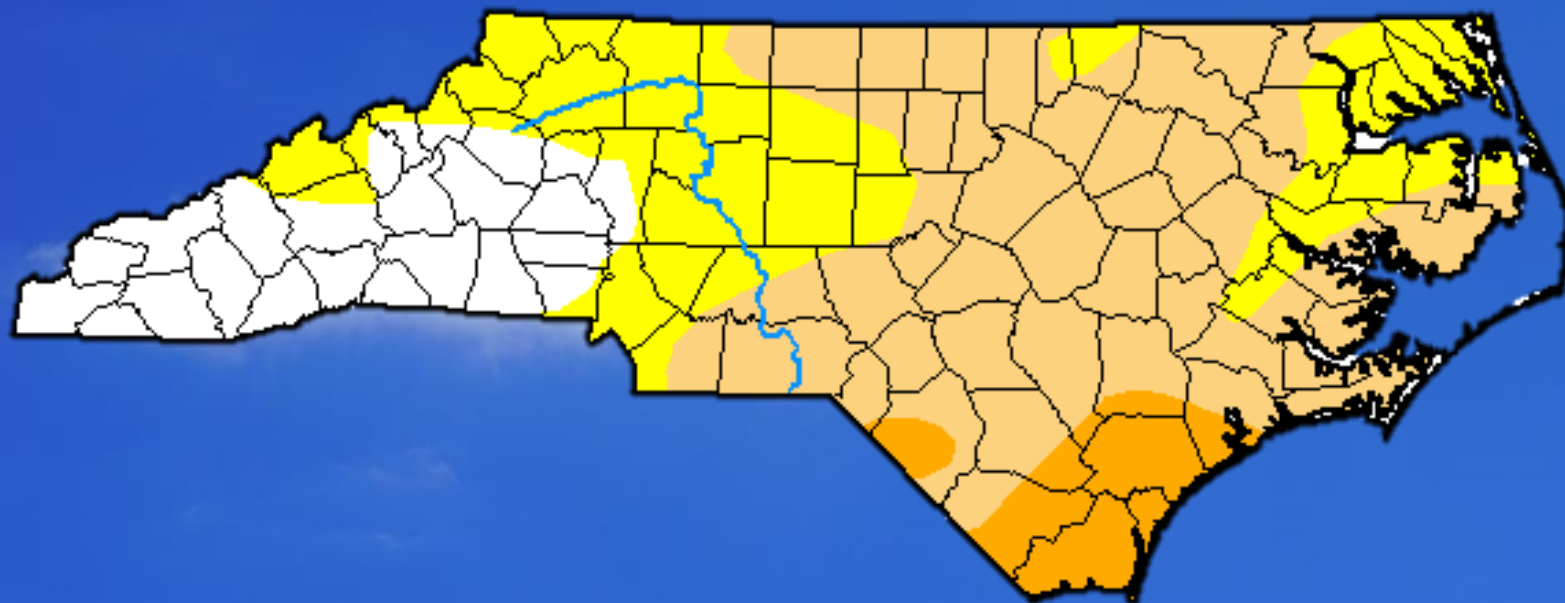
# Temperature Extremes: May 2021

	Max High	Date Obs.	Min Low	Date Obs.
<b>Beaufort</b>	88	24 <sup>th</sup>	48	12 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Hatteras</b>	87	23 <sup>rd</sup> , 27 <sup>th</sup>	49	12 <sup>th</sup>
<b>New Bern</b>	94	28 <sup>th</sup>	43	8 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Greenville</b>	95	26 <sup>th</sup> , 28 <sup>th</sup>	43	13 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Kinston</b>	95	25 <sup>th</sup> , 29 <sup>th</sup>	42	14 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Williamston</b>	93	27 <sup>th</sup> , 29 <sup>th</sup>	43	14 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Plymouth</b>	93	28 <sup>th</sup> , 29 <sup>th</sup>	41	15 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Bayboro</b>	91	24 <sup>th</sup>	42	15 <sup>th</sup>

Red sites have missing data



# Drought Monitor: North Carolina



**June 1, 2021**

(Released Thursday, Jun. 3, 2021)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	17.65	82.35	54.19	7.49	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> <i>05-25-2021</i>	20.38	79.62	48.40	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> <i>03-02-2021</i>	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> <i>12-29-2020</i>	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> <i>09-29-2020</i>	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> <i>06-02-2020</i>	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:



*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>*

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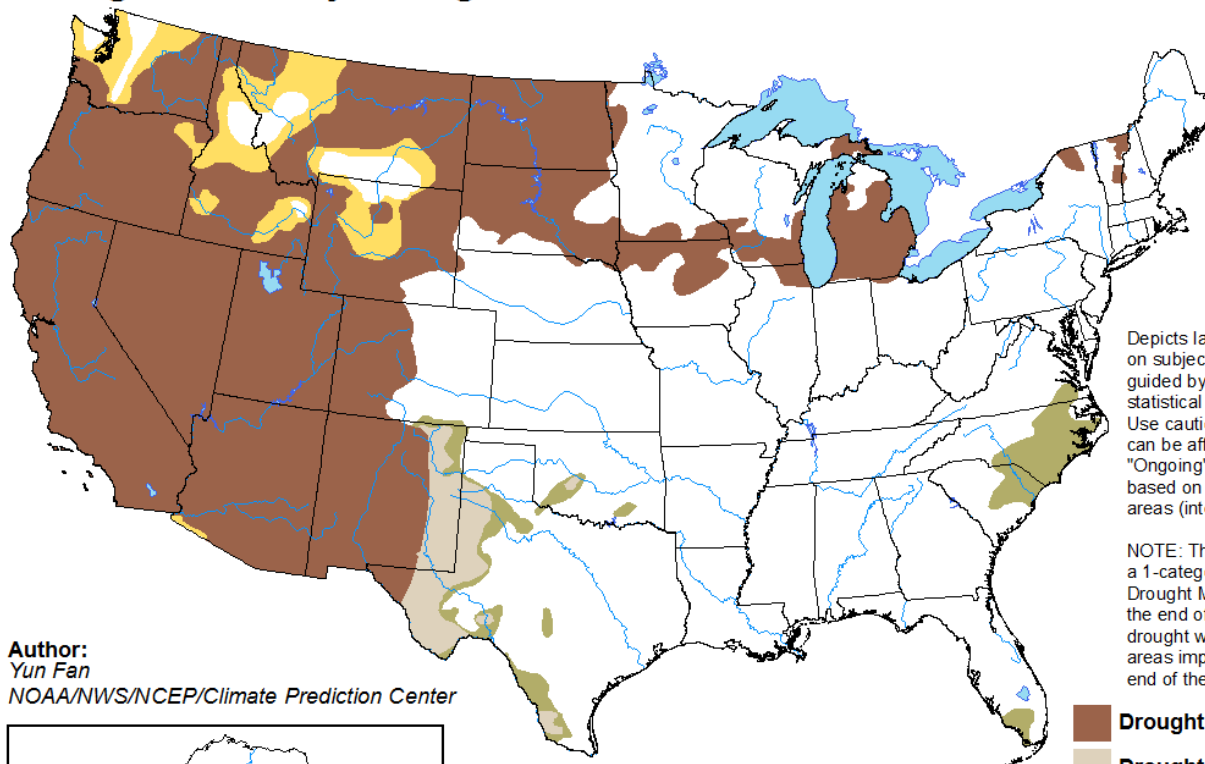


[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

# Monthly Drought Outlook

## U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

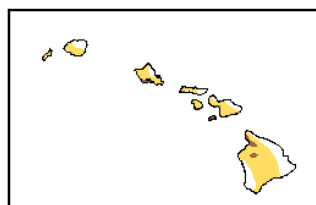
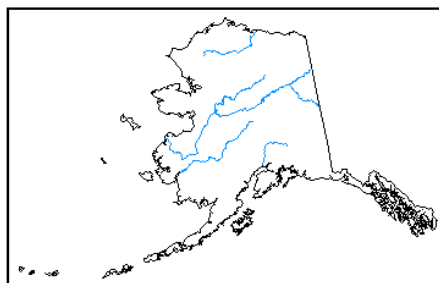
Valid for June 2021  
Released May 31, 2021







Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

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-  Drought persists
-  Drought remains but improves
-  Drought removal likely
-  Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/3eZGd>