

2025 Summer Weather Outlook (June-September)

Summer 2025 Weather Outlook

Through the first half of this spring, very dry conditions were prevalent across most of Texas, with the exception being the Rio Grande Valley. Concerns were growing that this setup could contribute to a very hot summer – potentially a top 3 all-time hottest summer across the state (along with 2011 and 2023). However, a much wetter pattern then set up for the second half of spring, where much of the northern half to two-thirds of Texas experienced above-normal rainfall. That said, not all of Texas fared well in the rainfall department. Austin and San Antonio and points south and west experienced a relatively dry spring season.

The rain this spring should help some with temperatures this summer, but it may not be enough to prevent another top 10 hottest summer for Texas (ranked among 130 historical summers, dating back to 1895). It is important to note, for summer temperatures in Texas to qualify as above-normal (based on a 15-year normal, 2010-2024), the summer will need to rank top 10 due to most of the hottest summers in Texas history occurring within the past 15 years. In fact, five of the eight hottest summers have occurred since 2011, including the top three (2011, 2023, and 2022). The bar for what is normal continues to be raised, making it more statistically challenging to have another above-normal summer. But it can be done – and a lot of what has been in place in recent years remains in place in support of another very hot, top 10 type of summer.

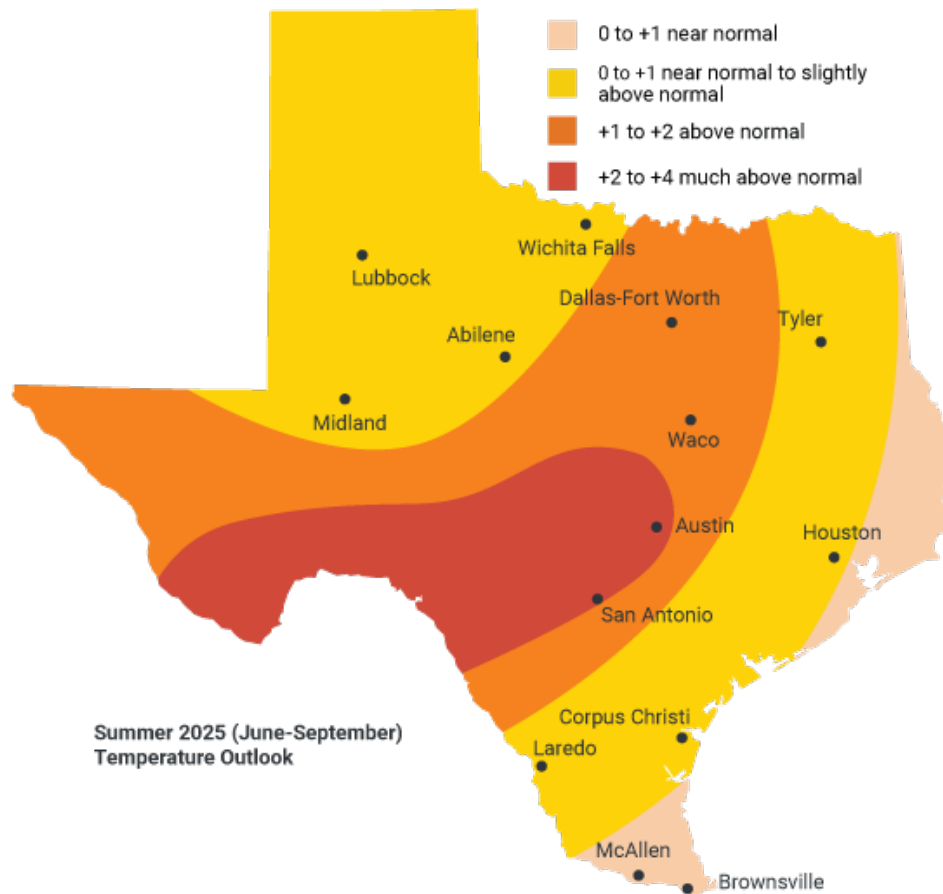
Adding to the concerns for heat this summer in Texas, current indicators lean toward most of Texas experiencing below-normal rainfall; so the wetter spring pattern may not hold on much longer.

Summer 2025 Temperature Outlook

The forecast for the summer season in Texas is for mostly above-normal temperatures to impact the state.

The hottest anomalies should appear in the driest regions, including Austin, San Antonio, the Hill Country, and points south and west to locations like Del Rio and Big Bend. Those regions could approach a top 5 hottest summer (and hotter than last summer).

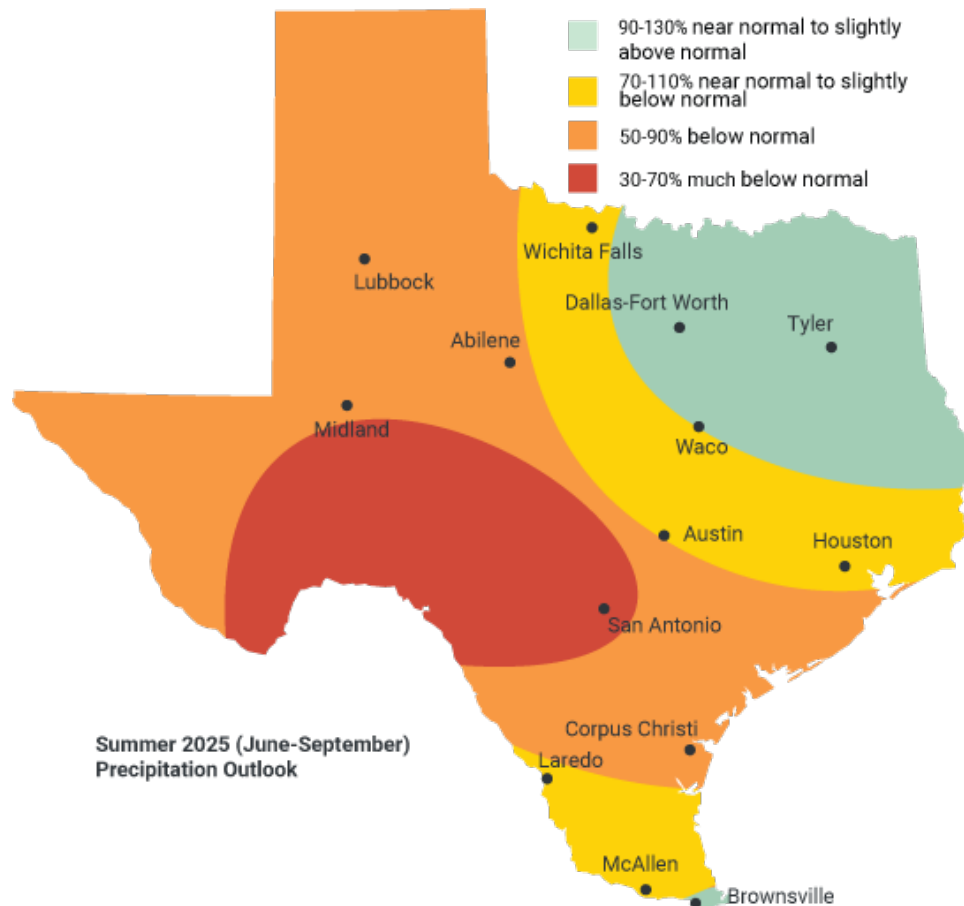
Dallas-Fort Worth (and much of North Texas) has been much more fortunate with rain in the spring, which may not prevent a top 10 hottest summer, but it could be enough to prevent enough extreme heat to support a summer rivaling 2011 and 2023. Northwest Texas and the Panhandle benefited the most with rain this spring, which would support a summer only slightly above the 15-year normal.



On a continental level, the heat this summer should be especially focused over the western half, with the highest potential for above-normal temperatures extending from the Northern Rockies (especially focused over Montana) into the Western Canadian provinces. Portions of the eastern half of the North American continent are forecasted to be less above-normal than the western half, with some areas possibly experiencing a slightly milder than normal summer. This could impact the eastern fringe regions of Texas – East Texas extending south along the Gulf Coast and into the Rio Grande Valley – with temperatures closer to normal this summer.

Summer 2025 Precipitation Outlook

The summer precipitation outlook shows mostly below-normal rainfall is forecasted this summer across Texas.



The areas most likely to experience below-normal precipitation are some of the same areas currently impacted by the worse drought conditions – across portions of South Central and southern West Texas.

Normal to possibly slightly above-normal rainfall is most likely over much of Northeast Texas as well as the Rio Grande Valley.

In general, however, with most of the state forecasted to see below-normal rainfall this summer, drought is likely to expand and intensify.

Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook

For reference, the normal number of named storms in the Atlantic Basin each season is 14, 7 of which are hurricanes, and 3 of those hurricanes are major (category 3 or greater). Last year was another active season, with 18 named storms, 11 hurricanes, and 5 major hurricanes. The last hurricane season with below-normal numbers was 2015.

The forecast for this year's hurricane season is 14 to 19 total named storms, 7 to 10 of those will reach hurricane strength, and 2 to 5 of the hurricanes will be major hurricanes of category 3 or greater. This would qualify as another above normal season.

Regarding the Gulf, the forecast is for 3 to 6 named storms. While the indicators for a Texas landfalling storm aren't quite as strong as a year ago, the potential for Gulf activity is high enough to warrant Texans remaining alert to a potential tropical storm or hurricane landfall. In fact, the Gulf is nearly as warm as it was a year ago, when it was at record levels. The forecast

for a Texas landfall is either 0 or 1 named storm. The probability of Texas landfall is in the 30 to 40% range.

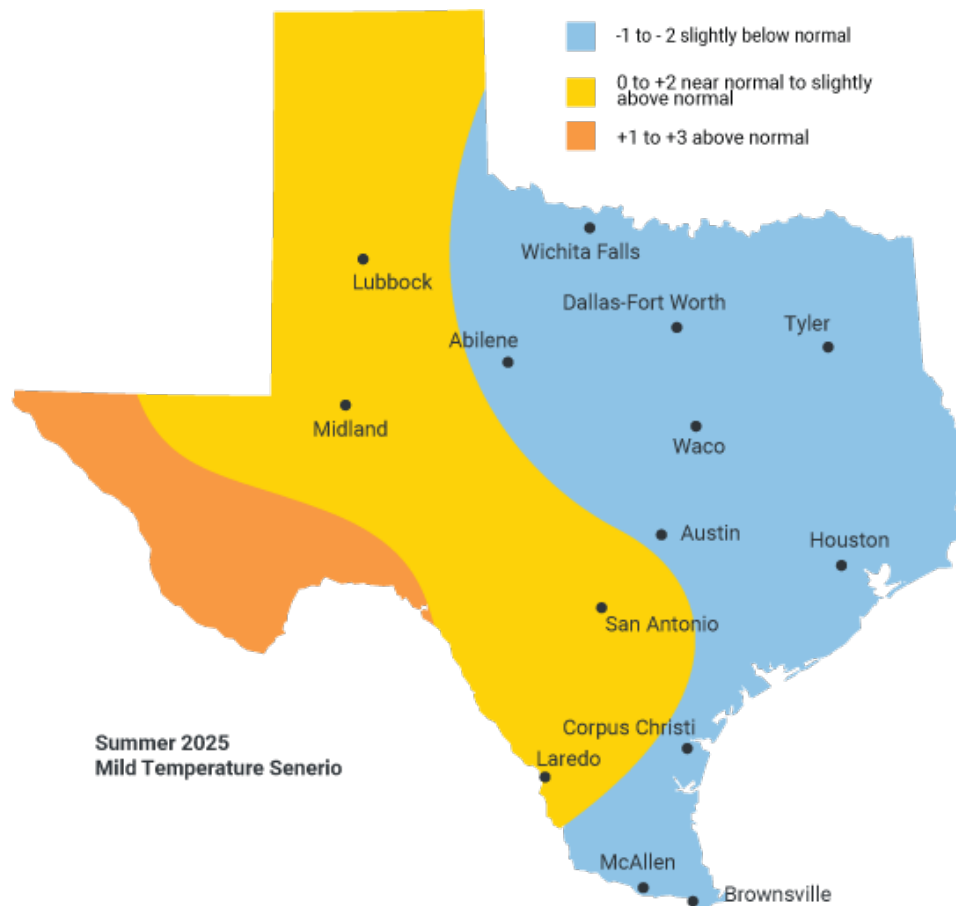
Final Thoughts

While the summer temperature outlook calls for another above-normal, very hot summer for Texas, this isn't a guarantee.

2011 and 2023 were the two hottest summers in Texas weather history. Recent weeks have likely been too wet for a large portion of the state for Summer 2025 to push into top 2 territory. However, indicators still suggest a good chance for a top 10 hottest summer, with a probability of occurrence in the 40-50% chance range. 2022 and 2012 are two recent years with similarities to 2025. Those were the 3rd and 17th hottest summers on record for Texas. Also, this year is showing some similarities with 2020, which was the 29th hottest summer on record. There is 70 to 80% probability that Summer 2025 will rank within the 30 hottest.

While the lean is toward another very hot summer, ranking among the hottest in Texas weather history, a milder (and possibly wetter) scenario does exist (with more potential than the last few years). 2017 and 2021 are tied for the 55th hottest summer, and 2025 does have some similarities to those years. As previously mentioned, some portion of the eastern half of the U.S. is likely to experience relatively milder conditions. There's about a 30% chance that the milder air will expand to include more than just the eastern fringes of Texas.

While not the official forecast, the following map shows what a milder scenario may look like.



The milder scenario would also likely produce a wetter pattern for the summer season. However, a wetter pattern is unlikely to impact all of Texas. The potential for a dry pattern remains moderately high for parts of southern West Texas into South Central Texas, even with a wetter scenario for the state in general. This would keep the drought contained rather than expanding and worsening across most of the state. Again, this is not a likely scenario nor the official forecast, but it cannot be ruled out.