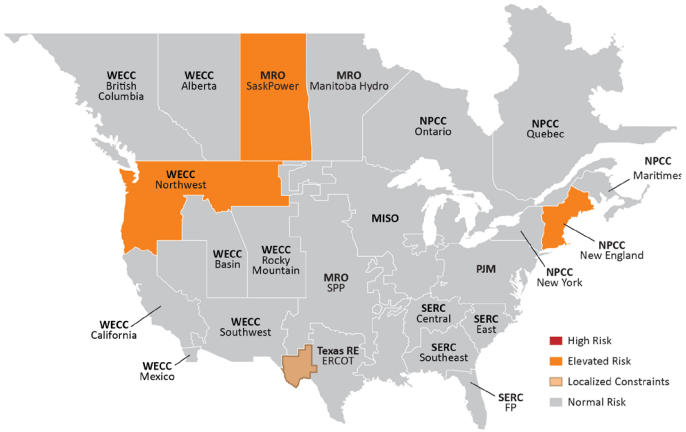
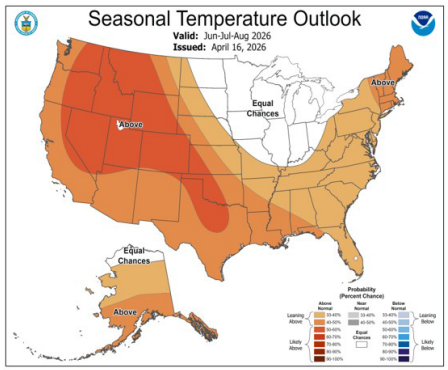
2026 Summer Reliability Assessment Snapshot

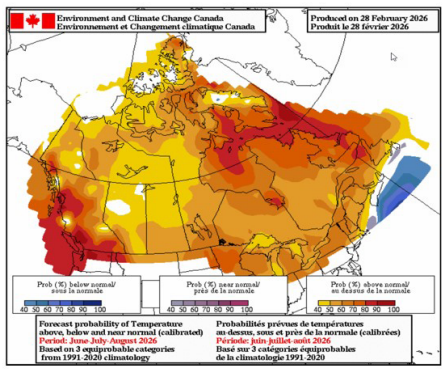
NERC's assessment finds that record resource additions have strengthened readiness for the summer season, even as elevated risks remain in some areas. The large expansion of bulk power system resource additions includes a substantial influx of solar and battery and some new natural gas-fired generators. The assessment also identifies ongoing challenges that could strain the grid this summer. Accelerated demand, rapid growth of large loads, periods of low wind output, and the overlap of early summer heat with spring maintenance outages may challenge reliability.

At-Risk Areas Decrease: In 2025, six regions were at an elevated risk for supply shortfalls in abnormal summer conditions. In 2026, only three regions and one locality are at-risk.

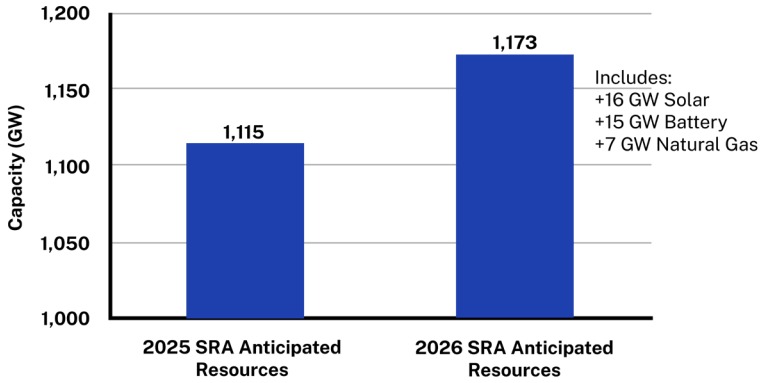


High Temperatures and Drought Conditions: Early summer heat and drought conditions will increase reliability risks across several regions.





Record-breaking Resource Growth: Rapid growth in solar, battery, and natural gas-fired resources since last summer has strengthened reserves.



Electricity Demand Continues to Rise: Load growth has increased by 11 GW since 2025. This builds on the 10 GW growth in 2025, which doubled the increase from 2023–2024.

