



Drought Information Statement for Eastern Nebraska and Western Iowa

Valid December 3rd, 2024

Issued By: NWS Omaha/Valley

Contact Information: nws.omaha@noaa.gov or 1-800-452-9074

- This product will be updated January 3, 2025 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at drought.gov/drought-information-statements
- Please visit weather.gov/Omaha/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.
- Please visit drought.gov/drought-status-updates?dews_region=41 for regional drought status updates

- **A CHANGE IN FORTUNE BRINGS SIGNIFICANT RAINFALL AND WIDESPREAD IMPROVEMENT TO DROUGHT CONDITIONS**
- **DROUGHT REMOVAL IS FORECAST ACROSS THE STATE OF IOWA**



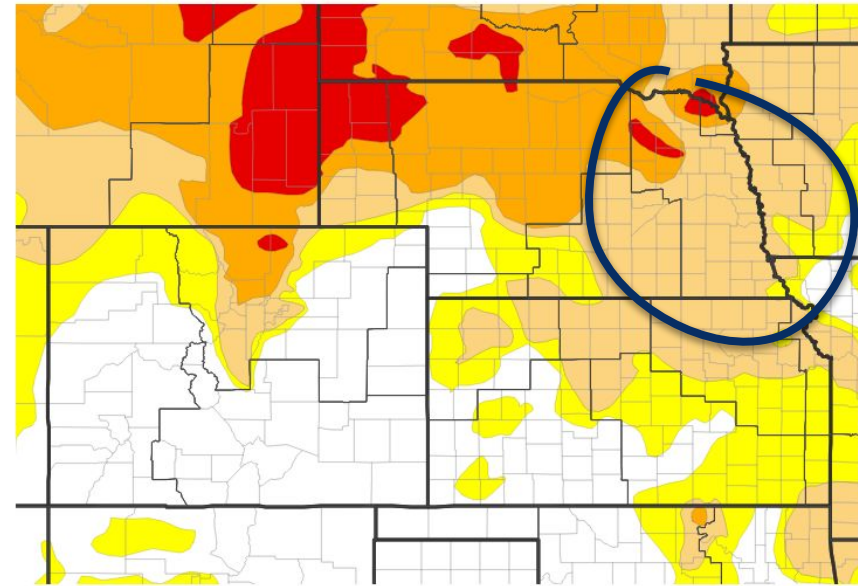


U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

- The area was drought free in mid-July. Things deteriorated quickly through the fall, but November has brought welcomed improvement.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought):** None
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** Small portions of northeast Nebraska including parts of Antelope County. These areas are the few that have recorded deterioration over the past six weeks.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Significant rainfall over the past six weeks leaves severe drought relegated to northeast Nebraska.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** The vast majority of the eastern Nebraska and western Iowa.
 - **D0 (Abnormally Dry):** The best conditions are in the southeast corner of the forecast area where “abnormally dry” conditions have been declared.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 12/03/24

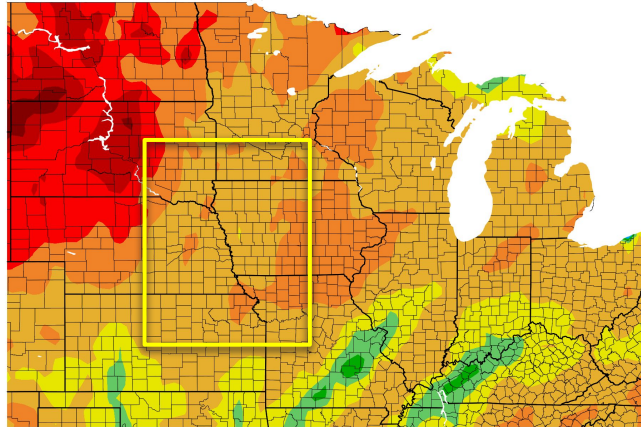




Precipitation

Over the Past 30 Days

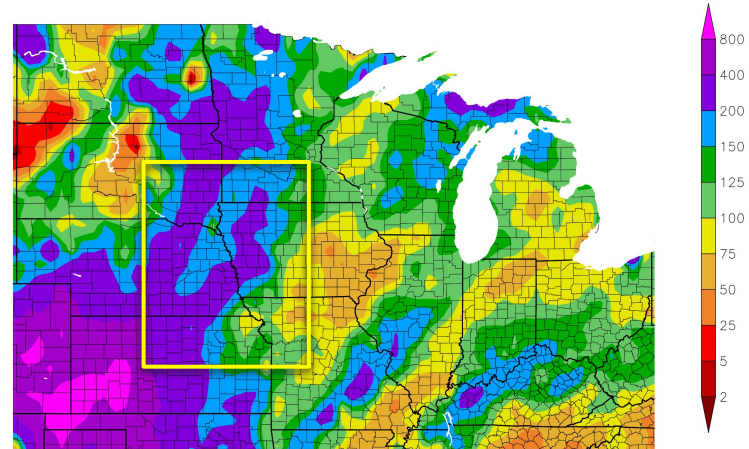
Precipitation (in)
11/5/2024 - 12/4/2024



Generated 12/5/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
11/5/2024 - 12/4/2024



Generated 12/5/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

- After historically a historically dry September and October, November came through with some much needed precipitation. Many locations have recorded 150-300% of normal precipitation over the month.
- Lincoln recorded its third wettest November on record; Omaha its seventh.





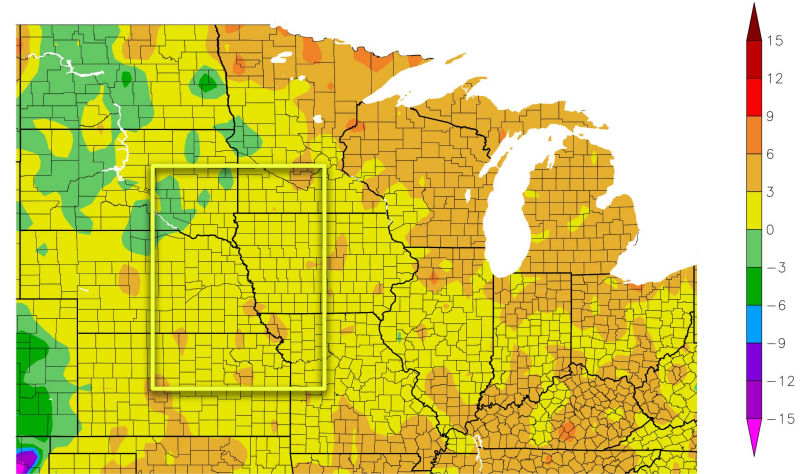
Temperature

Over the Past 30 Days

- Warm conditions persist.
- Lincoln, Norfolk, and Omaha were all well above normal for the month of November.

	Norfolk	Omaha	Lincoln
November Average Temperature vs Normal (1991-2020)	+4.4°	+2.7°	+3.9°

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
11/5/2024 – 12/4/2024



Generated 12/5/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers





Summary of Impacts

Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

Hydrologic Impacts

- Low precipitation this fall has led to concern about aquatic wildlife if streamflows are low during winter. Fish could be at risk when waters freeze. (1380KCIM.com)

Agricultural Impacts

- Drought poses a problem for Christmas tree farmer in southeast Nebraska. He says half died from the drought. (KLKN-TV.com)
- Electric fences are not working as well during drought. (FarmAndDairy.com)
- Drought conditions have made it hard to plant and maintain young trees planted to replace those destroyed in the 2020 derecho. (KCRG.com)

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Burn bans across the state of Iowa and in Douglas County, NE have been lifted thanks to the cooler weather and the recent moisture.

Other Impacts

- None

Mitigation Actions

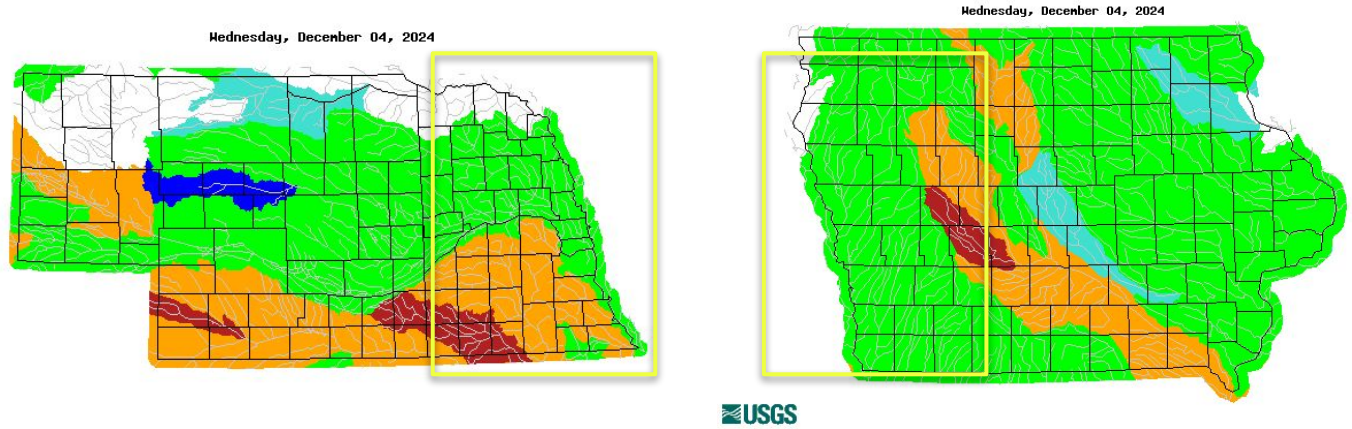
- Shenandoah, IA remains in stage 4 water restrictions. (KCCI.com)





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflow is closer to normal over the northern half of the area.
- The recent wet spell has improved streamflow across most of the area.



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

Image Captions:

Left USGS 7 day average streamflow NE HUC map

Right USGS 7 day average streamflow IA HUC map

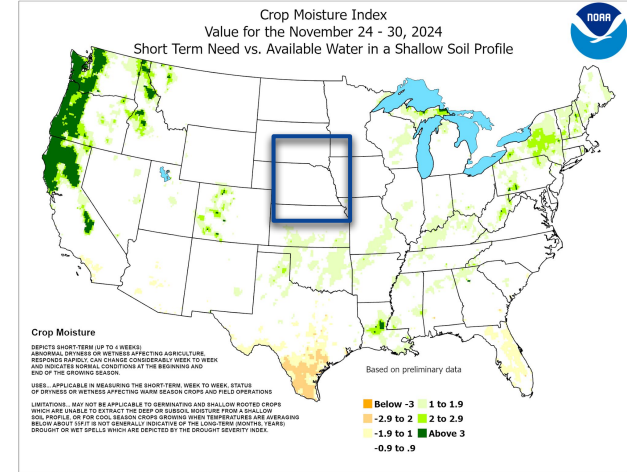
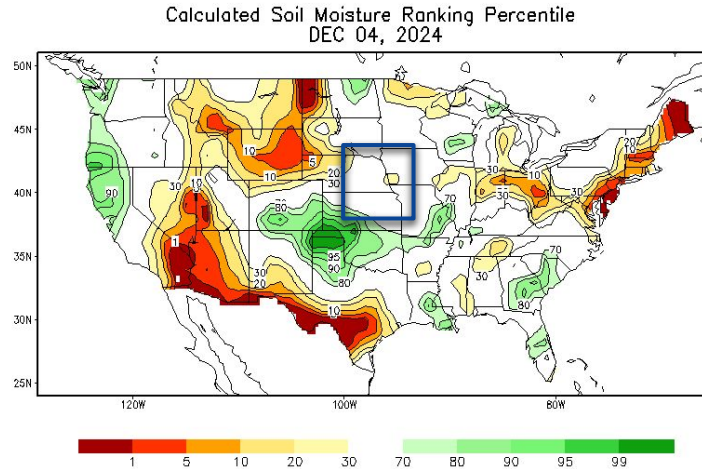




Agricultural Impacts

Link to the Latest [USDA Crop Progress Reports](#) by State

- It's been a long time since soil moisture has looked as good as it does in this part of the country.
- This is due in part to the typical dryness of the winter season.





Drought Outlook

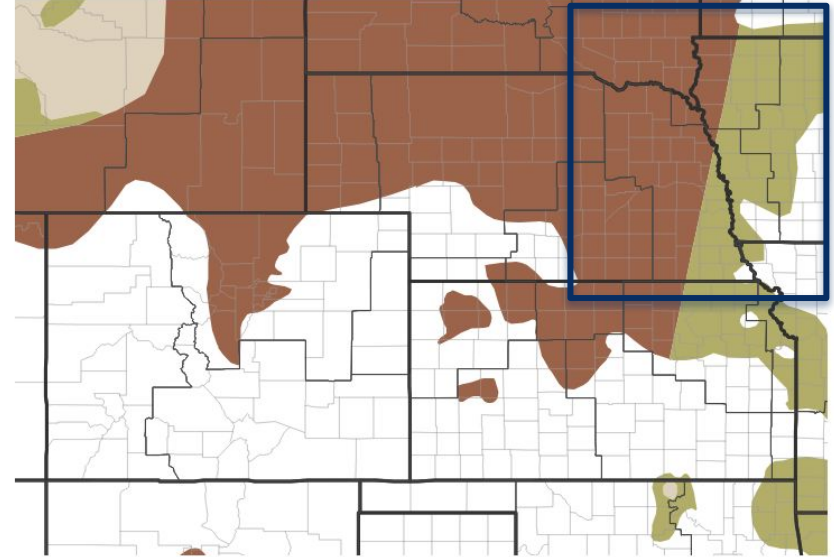
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Improvement has been noted over the past six weeks.
- The **3-month drought outlook** calls for drought to remain through at least February for most of the Central Plains.
- Along and east of the Missouri River, improvement and drought removal is forecast.

Link to the latest:

- [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)
- [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for November 30, 2024–February 28, 2025



Drought Is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 11/30/24

