



Drought Information Statement for Western and Central North Dakota

Valid October 9, 2024

Issued By: WFO Bismarck, North Dakota

Contact Information: w-bis.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated in late November or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
 - See all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
 - Visit: <https://www.weather.gov/BIS/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
 - Visit: https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/?dews_region=41 for regional drought status updates.
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- Abnormally Dry to Extreme drought conditions are an ongoing problem across western North Dakota.



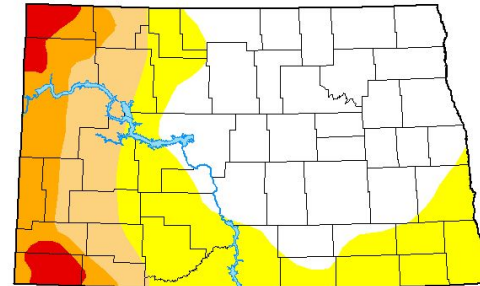


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Portions of Divide, Williams, Slope, and Bowman Counties
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Parts of western North Dakota, along the Montana state line
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Parts of western North Dakota
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Parts of western, south central, and southeast North Dakota

U.S. Drought Monitor North Dakota



October 1, 2024
(Released Thursday, Oct. 3, 2024)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	47.89	52.11	25.17	12.68	3.39	0.00
Last Week 09-24-2024	54.81	45.19	20.97	8.32	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 07-02-2024	91.73	8.27	2.22	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-02-2024	70.11	29.89	15.72	6.78	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	55.05	44.95	26.49	17.14	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 10-03-2023	55.05	44.95	26.49	17.14	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought

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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CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



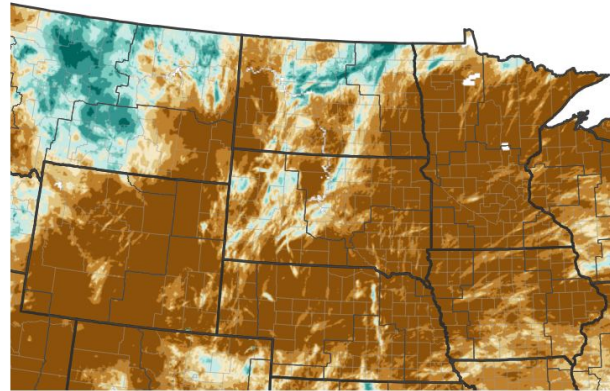
droughtmonitor.unl.edu



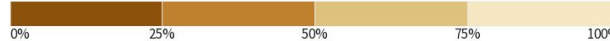
Precipitation

- Much lower than normal precipitation continues to afflict most of North Dakota.
- The lower than normal precipitation, along with above normal temperatures, have helped cure native vegetation and crops. This drying of the countryside has left the region prone to wildfires and continued expansion of drought designations.

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation

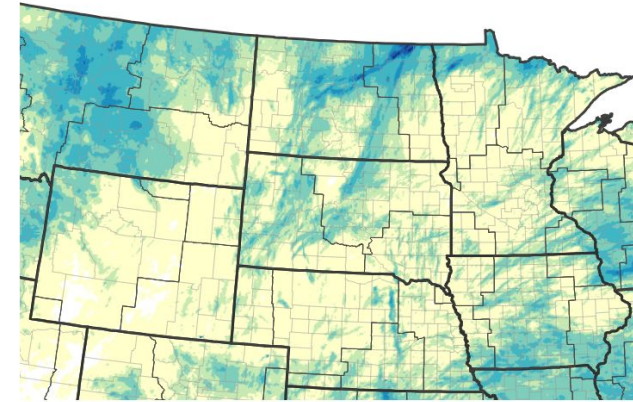


Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)

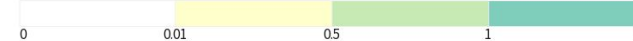


Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 10/09/24

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 10/08/24





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- The USGS stream gages show numerous streams in western North Dakota have streamflow in the low single digit to 24th percentile.

Agricultural Impacts

- Very dry conditions have caused a number of wildfires with losses including crops, livestock, machinery, and farmsteads or outbuildings. These have been reported by state and local emergency management services.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Significant wildfires sprung up over the first full weekend of October, the largest with a roughly 88,000 acre perimeter and still not 100% contained. Source: ND Forest Service

Other Impacts

- Loss of numerous hay reserves and forage due to wildfires will cause localized hay shortages.

Mitigation Actions

- Burn bans are in place for many counties. One should check with their local authorities for specifics in their area.

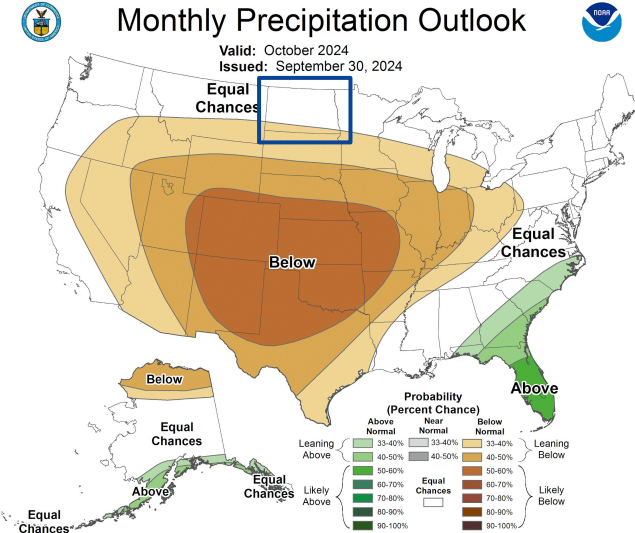
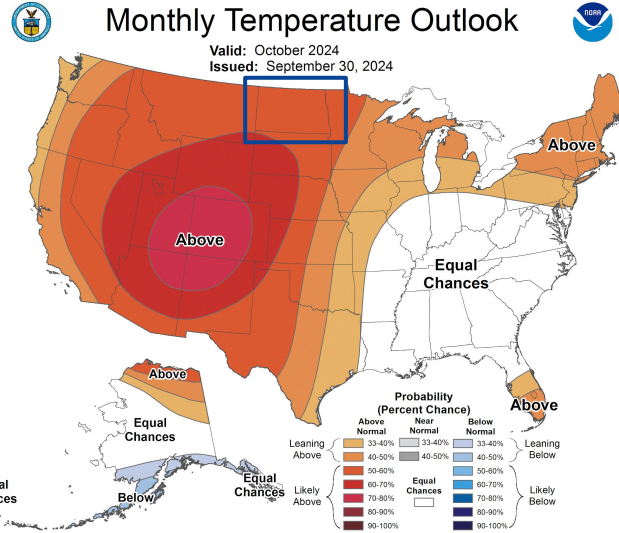




Long-Range Outlooks

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

- The trend of above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation has dried/cured both native vegetation and crops.
- This pattern is likely to continue for the foreseeable future, with above normal temperatures favored for the month of October.



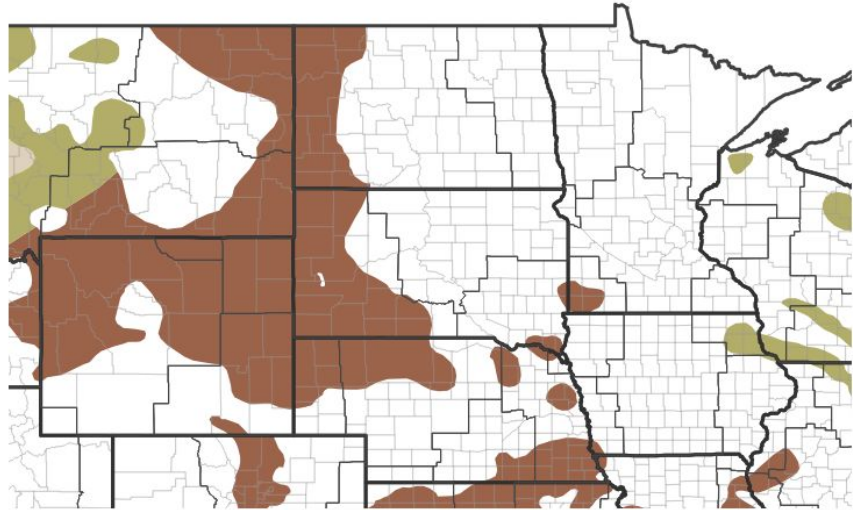


Drought Outlook

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

- The current trend of worsening and expanding drought conditions are likely to persist going forward.
- The next milestone in the region's drought will be the onset of the snow accumulation season in late November to early December. At that point the conditions will remain largely in suspended animation until such time as conditions during the spring thaw become more predictable.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for September 19, 2024–December 31, 2024



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 09/19/24

Links to the latest:

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

