Drought Information Statement for Central and Southern Minnesota and Western Wisconsin

Valid January 16, 2025

Issued By: NWS Twin Cities / Chanhassen, MN

Contact Information:

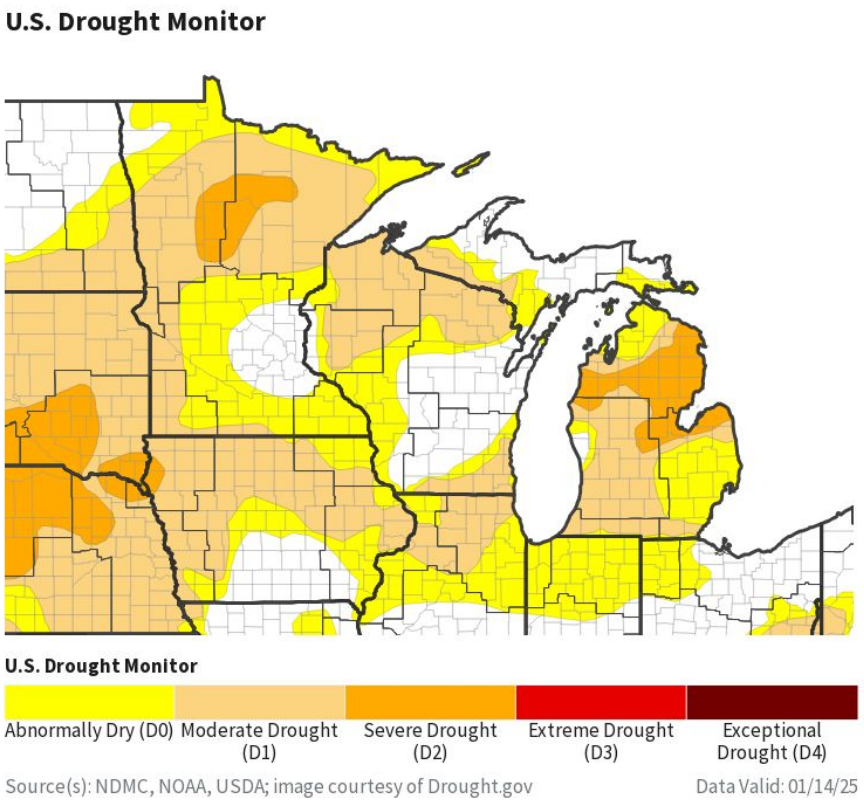
- This product will be updated February 20, 2025 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements.
- Please visit https://www.weather.gov/MPX/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.
- Please visit https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/ for regional drought status updates.

- Drought conditions have stabilized with the onset of winter

U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor

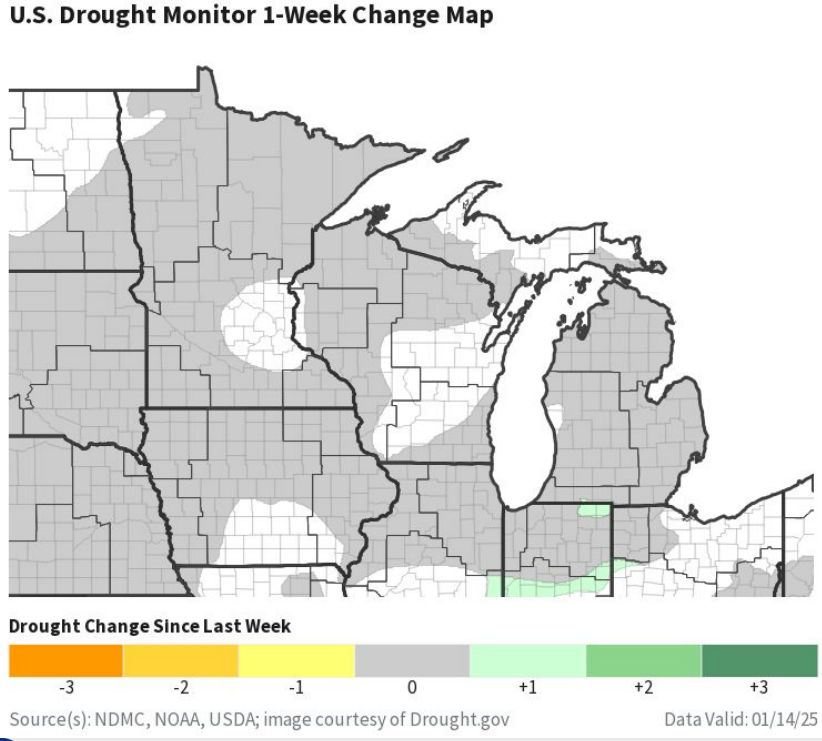
- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Most of western Wisconsin, along the I-90 corridor in southern Minnesota, along the South Dakota border in western Minnesota, and portions of central Minnesota
  - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Most of central and southern Minnesota outside of the Twin Cities metropolitan area

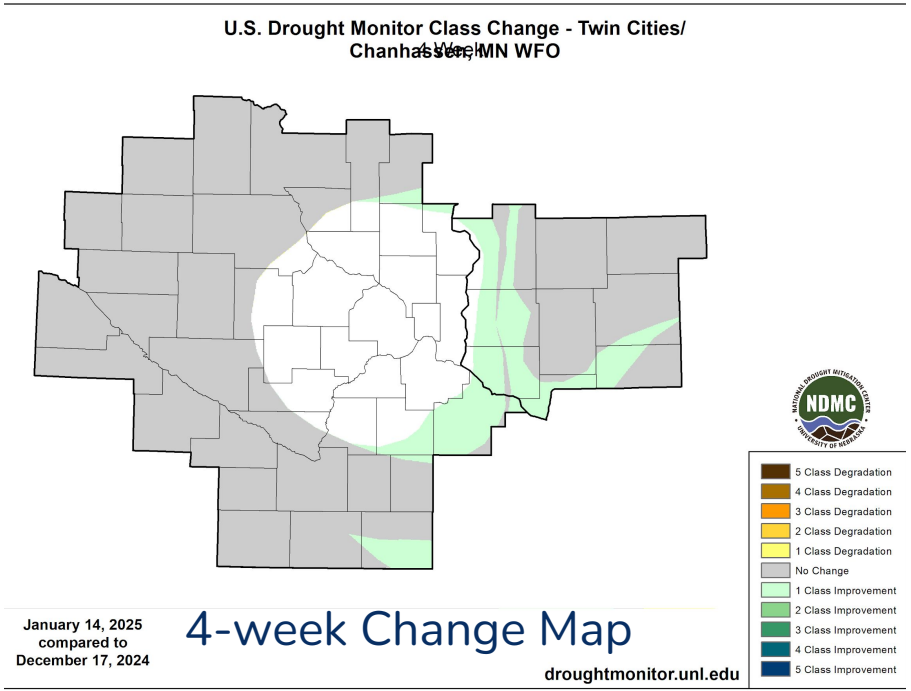


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest 1-week change map and 4-week change map for the NWS Twin Cities Region

- Little change in drought conditions has been seen since the onset of winter



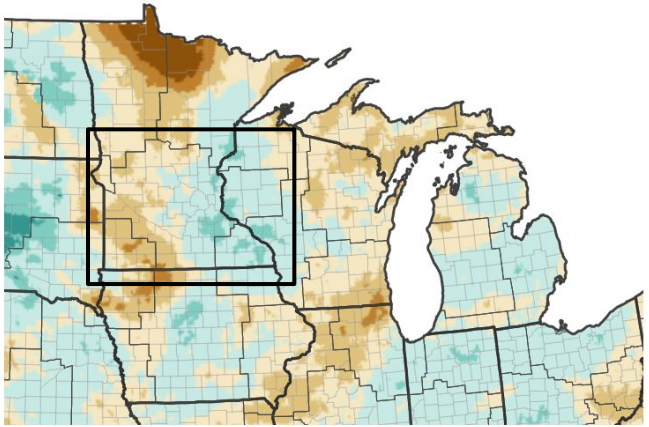


Precipitation Departures

1-month and 3-month percent of normal precipitation

- It has started to dry out over the last 30 days, across western MN, though deficits are small given the low precipitation normals in the winter
- For the last 90 days, precipitation deficits remain, though are smaller than what have seen for the last 30 days

30-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)

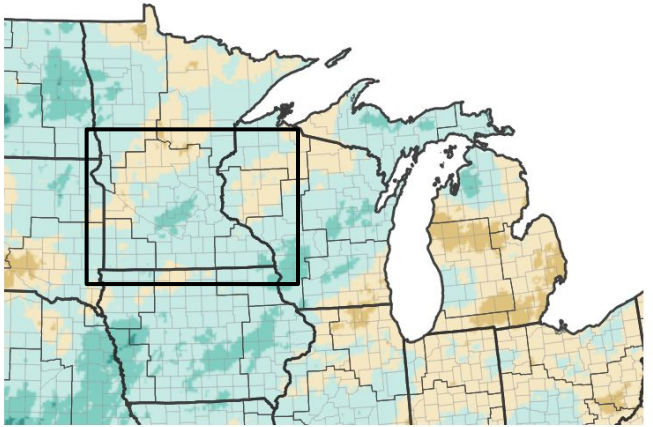
0% 25% 50% 75% 100%

100% 150% 200% 300%

Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 01/17/25

90-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)

0% 25% 50% 75% 100%

100% 150% 200% 300%

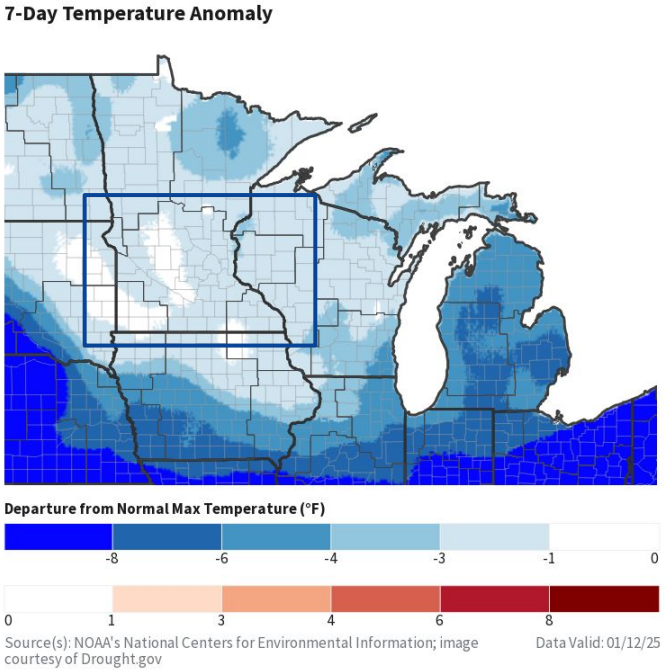
Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service ; image courtesy of Drought.gov

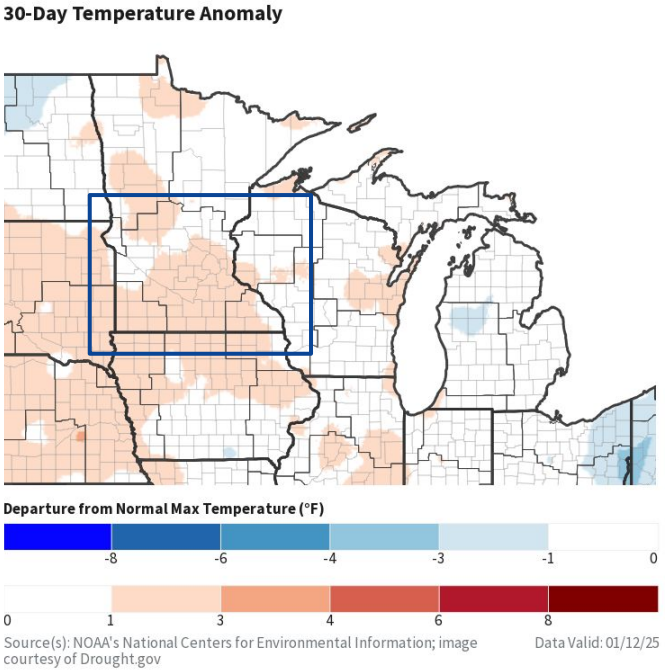
Data Valid: 01/17/25

Temperature Departures

1-week and 1-month temperature departure

- For the previous week and month, temperatures have been running near normal





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Significant amounts of ice continue to be seen on streams and rivers across Minnesota and Wisconsin, which is impacting streamflows (USGS Streamflow).

Agricultural Impacts

- We are now out of the growing season. (State USDA Crop Reports).

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Cold temperatures are keeping the fire danger low in Minnesota and Wisconsin, though the lack of snow will lead to a low fire danger any time we do see above normal temperatures. (MN Fire Danger, WI Fire Danger).

Other Impacts

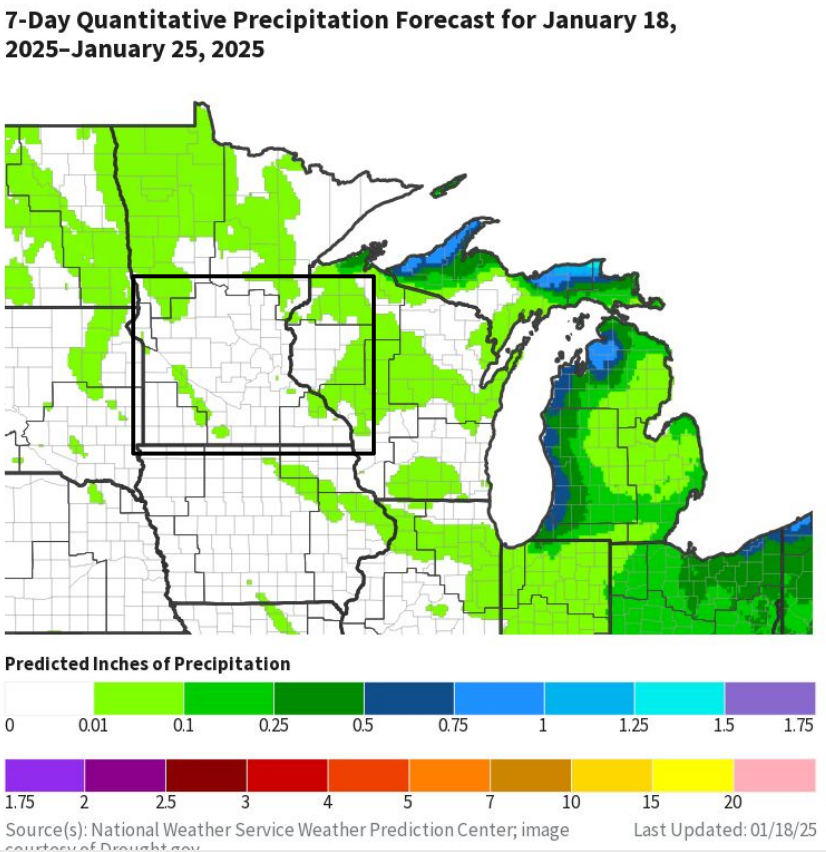
- No known additional impacts.

Mitigation Actions

- None Currently in place.

Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

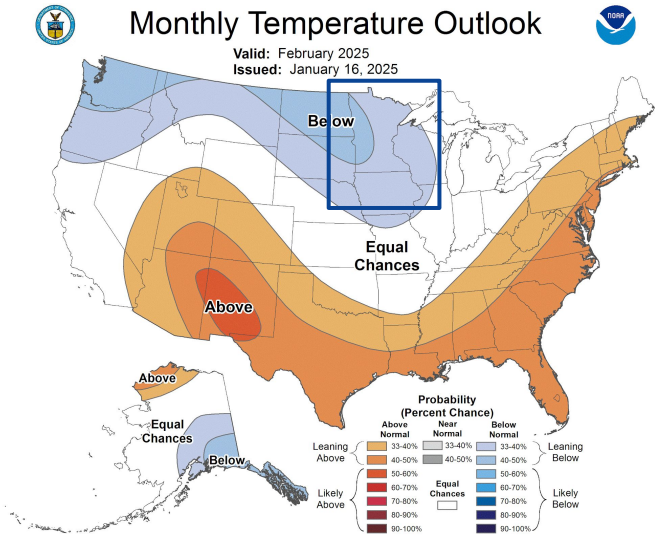
- Little in the way of precipitation is expected for the next 7 days, or the rest of January

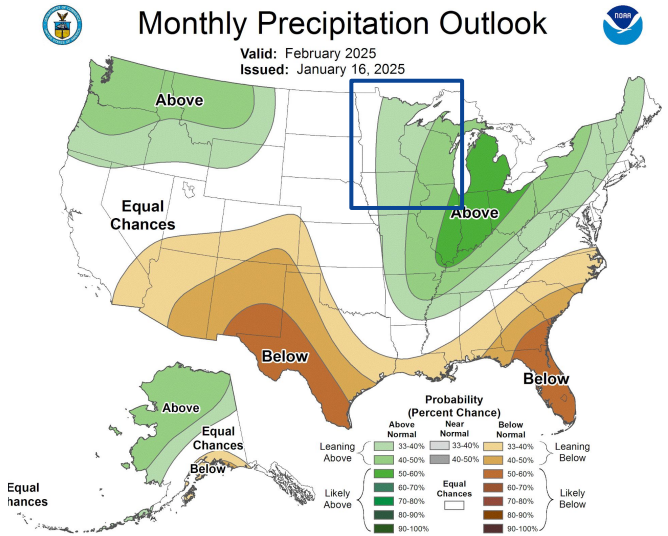


February Outlooks

The latest weekly to seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage]

- Temperatures for February are expected to trend near to a little below normal.
- A more active storm track in February is expected from the Ohio Valley into the Great Lakes, with some enhanced probabilities for above normal precipitation across eastern MN into western WI.

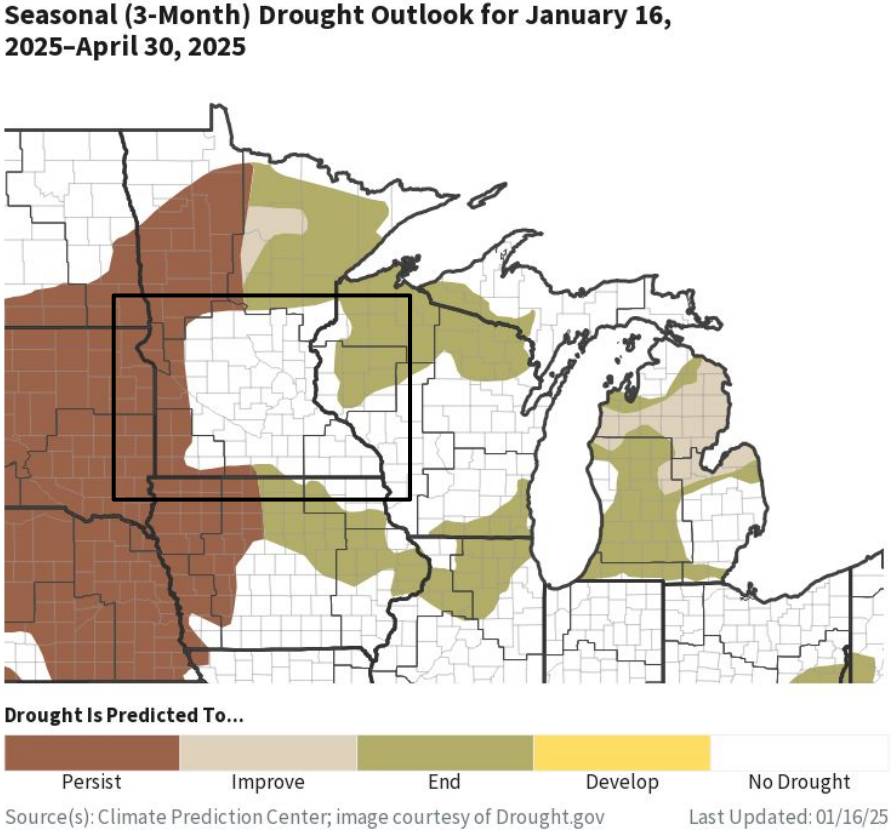




Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

- With the possibility for above normal precipitation for February into March, there is the potential we will see gradual improvements to drought conditions across eastern MN and western WI.



Links to the latest:
Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Definitions and State Resources

What do those categories mean?

Drought Category Definitions:

D0	**Abnormally Dry**	**Going into drought:** • Short-term dryness slowing planting, growth of crops or pastures	**Coming out of drought:** • Some lingering water deficits • Pastures or crops not fully recovered
D1	**Moderate Drought**	• Some damage to crops, pastures • Streams, reservoirs, or wells low, some water shortages developing or imminent • Voluntary water-use restrictions requested	
D2	**Severe Drought**	• Crop or pasture losses likely • Water shortages common • Water restrictions imposed	
D3	**Extreme Drought**	• Major crop/pasture losses • Widespread water shortages or restrictions	
D4	**Exceptional Drought**	• Exceptional and widespread crop/pasture losses • Shortages of water in reservoirs, streams, and wells creating water emergencies	

Comprehensive Drought Information for Minnesota: http://www.drought.gov/state/minnesota
Comprehensive Drought Information for Wisconsin: http://www.drought.gov/state/wisconsin
These sites contain links to resources from each state, to help you dive into drought information in more detail.