

# Drought Information Statement for Central and Southern Minnesota and Western Wisconsin

Valid April, 11, 2024

Issued By: NWS Twin Cities / Chanhassen, MN

## Contact Information:

- This product will be updated April, 18, 2024 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/\[WFO\]/DroughtInformationStatement](https://www.weather.gov/[WFO]/DroughtInformationStatement) for previous statements.
  - Please visit [https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/\[link\]](https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/[link]) for regional drought status updates.
- 
- Continued wet weather sees a gradual improvement in drought conditions



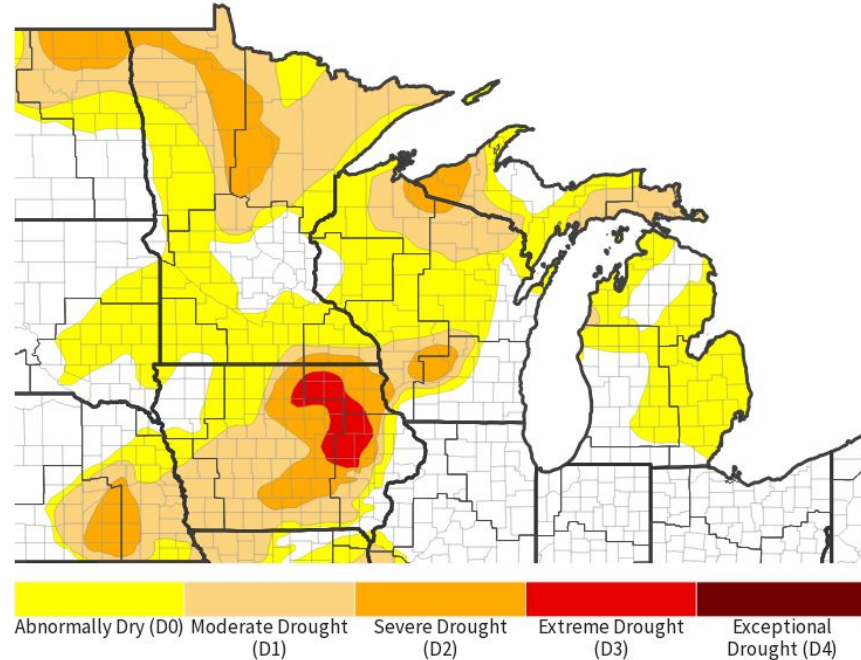


# U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: The southeast sliver of Freeborn county remains in the D2 drought category
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Most of the rest of Freeborn county and most of Todd, Morrison, and northern Mille Lacs county in central Minnesota
  - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Most of western and southern Minnesota and Menomonie to Rice Lake on the east in Wisconsin.

## U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 04/09/24

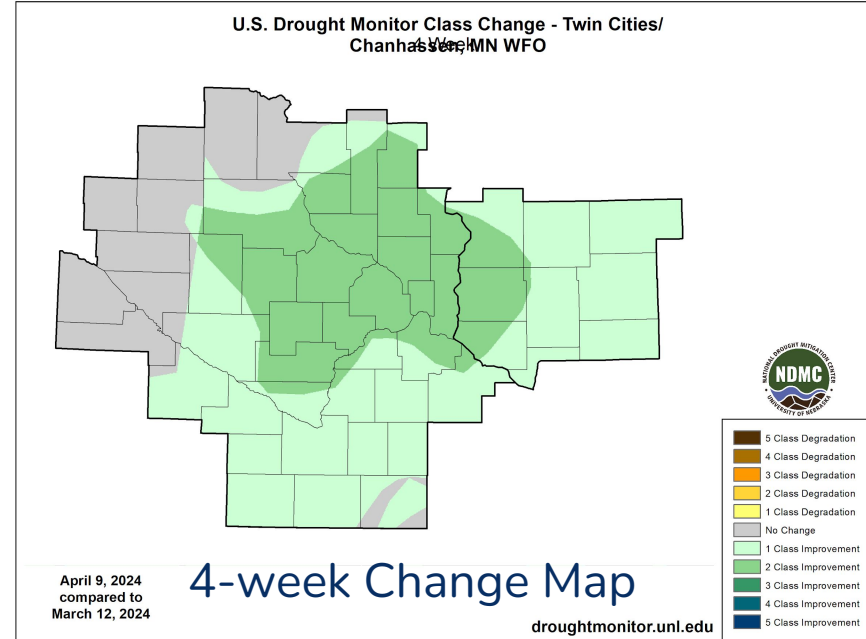
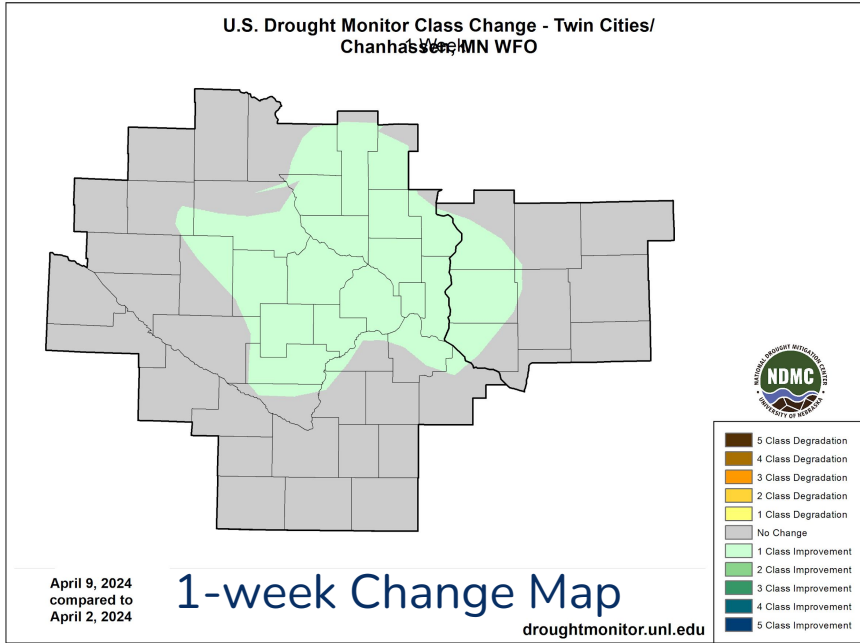




# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [1-week change map](#) and [4-week change map](#) for the NWS Twin Cities Region

- Wet weather since March 20th has allowed for a continued improvement in drought conditions



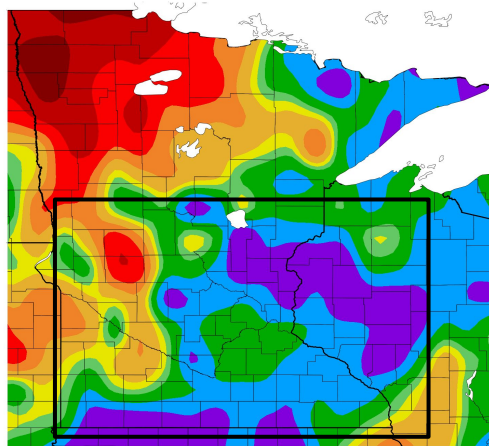


# Precipitation Departures

## 1-month and 3-month percent of normal precipitation

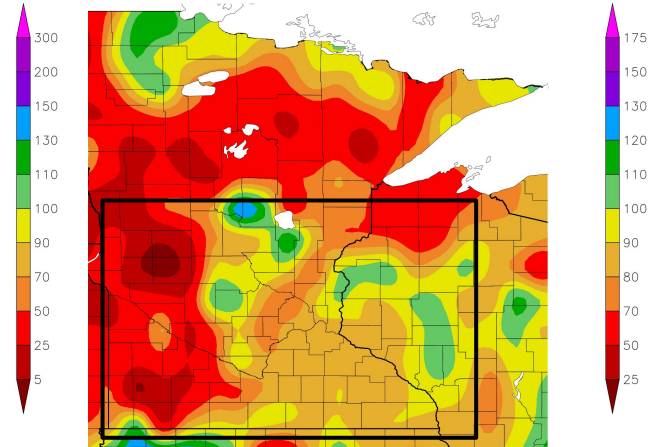
- The last month has seen very wet weather outside of western MN that has resulted in the improvements to the drought we have seen.
- However, as you go farther back, precipitation from a dry 2023 growing season remains.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
3/12/2024 – 4/10/2024



Generated 4/11/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
1/12/2024 – 4/10/2024



NOAA Regional Climate Centers at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers



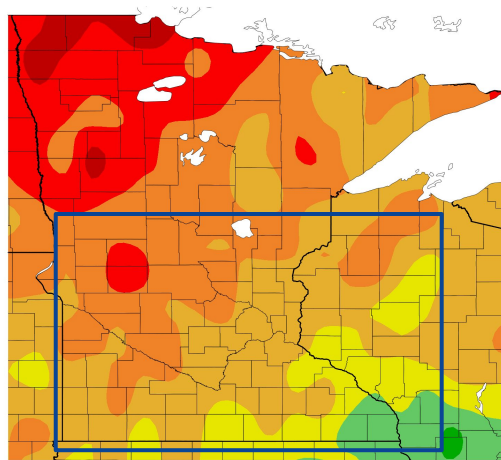


# Temperature Departures

## 1-week and 1-month temperature departure

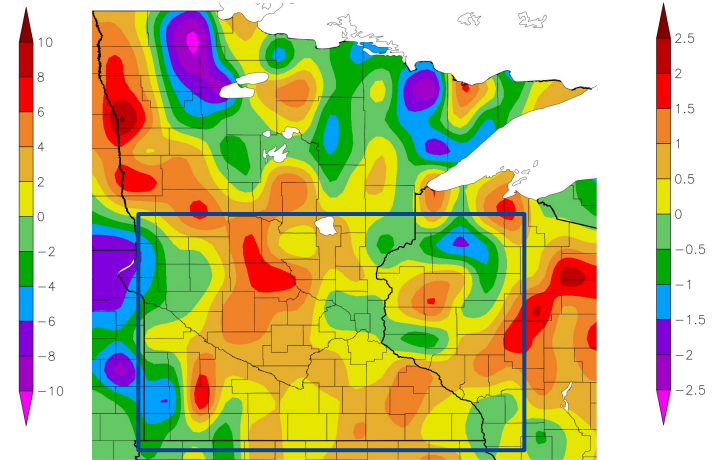
- Temperatures over the last month have continued to run above normal, though that departure above normal was not as extreme as what we saw through much of the winter.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
4/4/2024 – 4/10/2024



Generated 4/11/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
3/12/2024 – 4/10/2024



NOAA Regional Climate Centers 024 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

- Recent rains have allowed streamflows to return to a normal range, with low flow conditions only lingering in the Mississippi River basin from St. Cloud to the the headwaters. ([USGS Streamflow](#)).

## Agricultural Impacts

- We are just starting to get into the planting season, so agriculture impacts are minimal. However, recent rains have greatly improved soil moisture conditions across region ([Current soil moisture observations](#)).

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- We are in the heart of the Spring fire season in MN and WI. Until the green-up occurs, we will have an increased wildfire risk for any day where it does not rain ([MN Fire Danger](#), [WI Fire Danger](#)).

## Other Impacts

- No known additional impacts.

## Mitigation Actions

- None Currently in place.





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

## Average streamflow for the past 7 days

- Recent rains have helped stream flow conditions to improve, though the upper Mississippi River from St. Cloud to the headwaters continues to struggle with below normal flows.

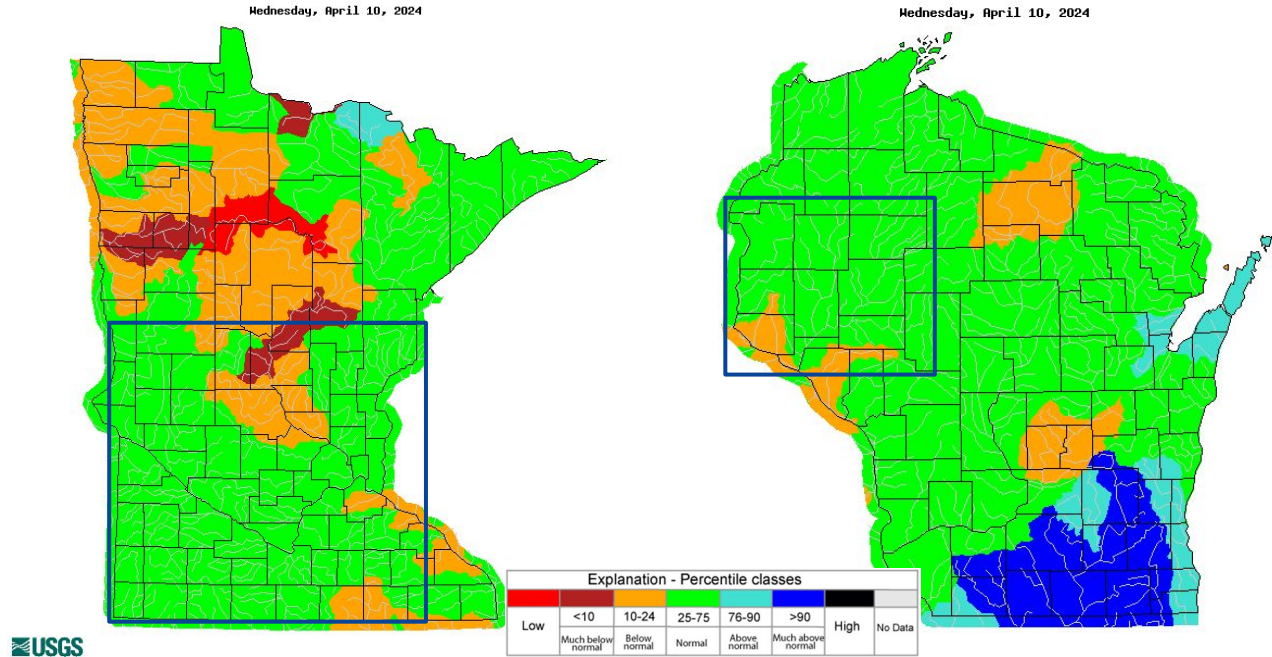


Image Caption: USGS 7-day Streamflow departure from normal for MN. Valid April 10, 2024

Image Caption: USGS 7-day Streamflow departure from normal for WI. Valid April 10, 2024





# Fire Hazard Impacts

Fire Danger ratings valid for the date listed ONLY. [Wildfire Danger for MN](#)

[Wildfire Danger for WI](#)

- We are in the heart of our Spring Fire season, with a typical wildfire hazard existing for this time of year.
- Recent rainfall has greatly improved the wildfire risk from where it was in mid March, though until the green-up occurs, the wildfire risk will continue on any days where it does not rain.

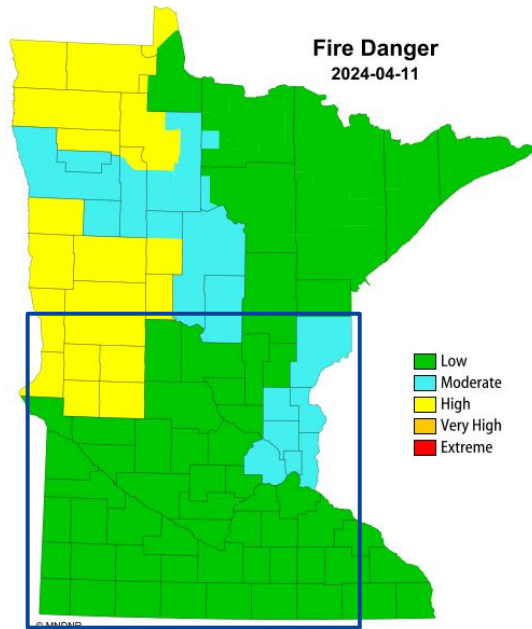


Image Caption: Wildfire Danger for MN. Valid April 11, 2024

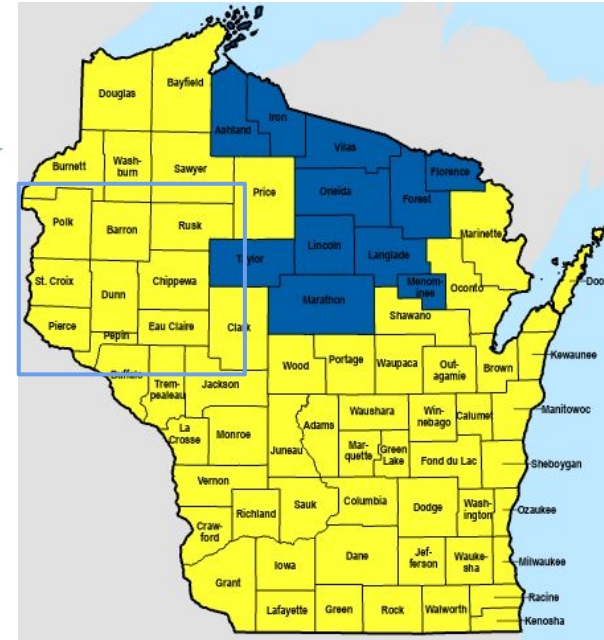


Image Caption: Wildfire Danger for WI. Valid April 11, 2024



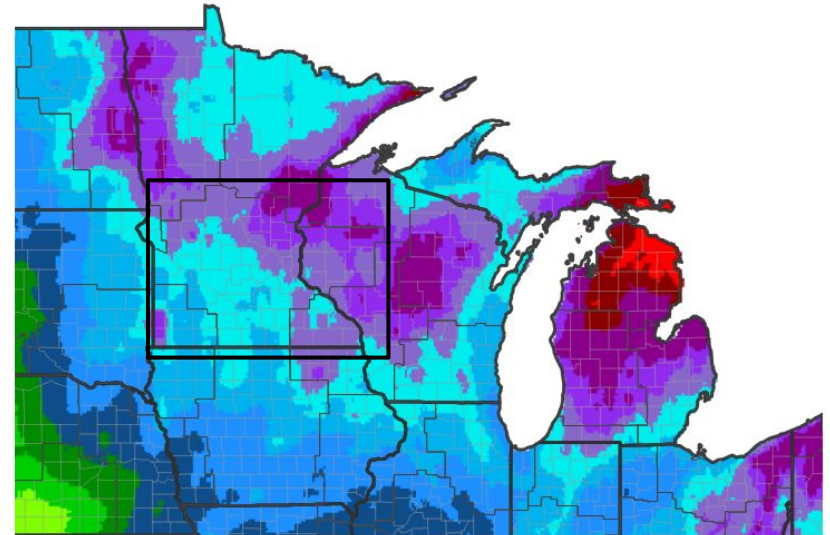




# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Another very wet system is expected to impact the region early during the week of April 15th, with widespread rainfall amounts of 1 to 2 inches expected.
- This system finally looks to bring some heavier precipitation to western and northwest Minnesota.

## 7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 04/11/24





# 8-14 Day Outlooks

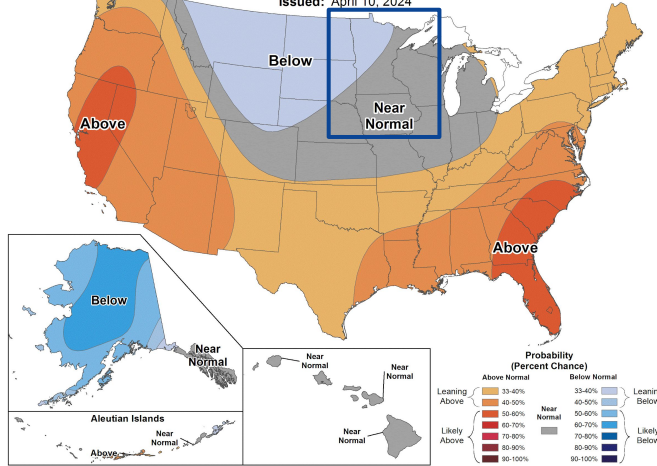
The latest weekly to seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- After the wet weather expected early in the week of April 15th, the weather pattern is expected to settle down for mid-April, with only a small favoring toward below normal temperatures and below normal precipitation.



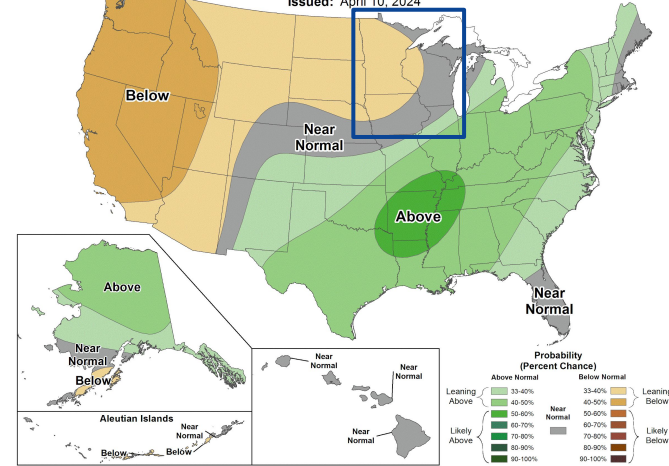
## 8-14 Day Temperature Outlook

Valid: April 18 - 24, 2024  
Issued: April 10, 2024



## 8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: April 18 - 24, 2024  
Issued: April 10, 2024



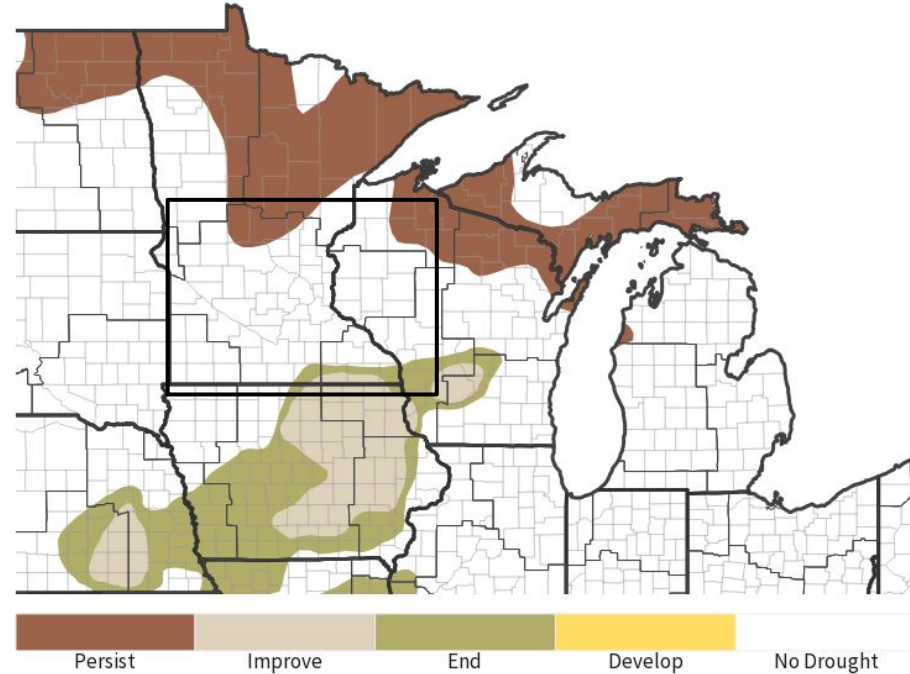


# Drought Outlook

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

- Drought conditions along the Iowa border are expected to improve over the next month, with the long-term drought in central and northern MN persisting.

## 1-Month Drought Outlook



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

Data Valid: 04/11/24

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:

<b>D0</b>	<b>Abnormally Dry</b>	<b>Going into drought:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Short-term dryness slowing planting, growth of crops or pastures</li> </ul>	<b>Coming out of drought:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some lingering water deficits</li> <li>Pastures or crops not fully recovered</li> </ul>
<b>D1</b>	<b>Moderate Drought</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some damage to crops, pastures</li> <li>Streams, reservoirs, or wells low, some water shortages developing or imminent</li> <li>Voluntary water-use restrictions requested</li> </ul>	
<b>D2</b>	<b>Severe Drought</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crop or pasture losses likely</li> <li>Water shortages common</li> <li>Water restrictions imposed</li> </ul>	
<b>D3</b>	<b>Extreme Drought</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Major crop/pasture losses</li> <li>Widespread water shortages or restrictions</li> </ul>	
<b>D4</b>	<b>Exceptional Drought</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exceptional and widespread crop/pasture losses</li> <li>Shortages of water in reservoirs, streams, and wells creating water emergencies</li> </ul>	

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.