

Drought Information Statement for Central and Southern Minnesota and Western Wisconsin

Valid April 17, 2025

Issued By: NWS Twin Cities / Chanhassen, MN

Contact Information:

- This product will be updated May 15, 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.
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- Wet pattern going back through March continues to slowly chip away at drought conditions across the region



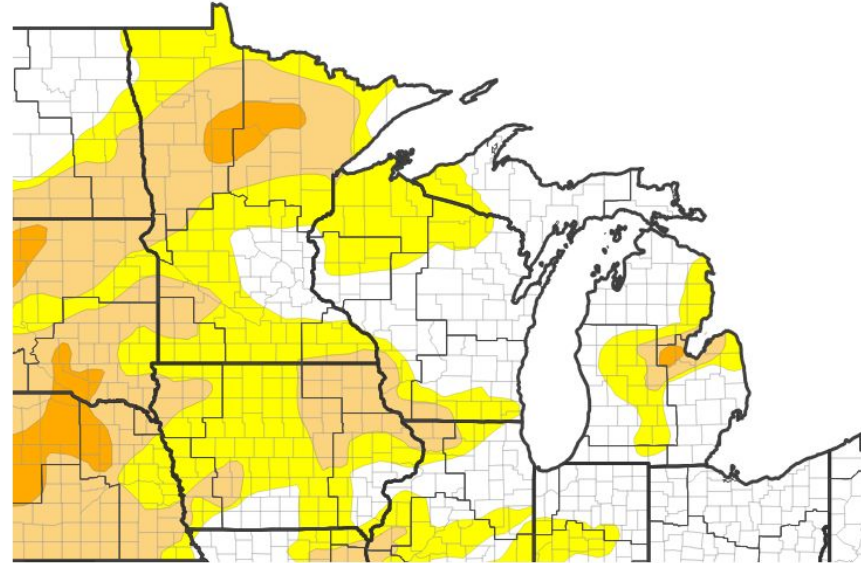


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Small portions of west central Minnesota continue to be in Moderate Drought
 - **D0 (Abnormally Dry)**: Central and south central Minnesota and northwest Wisconsin

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 04/15/25



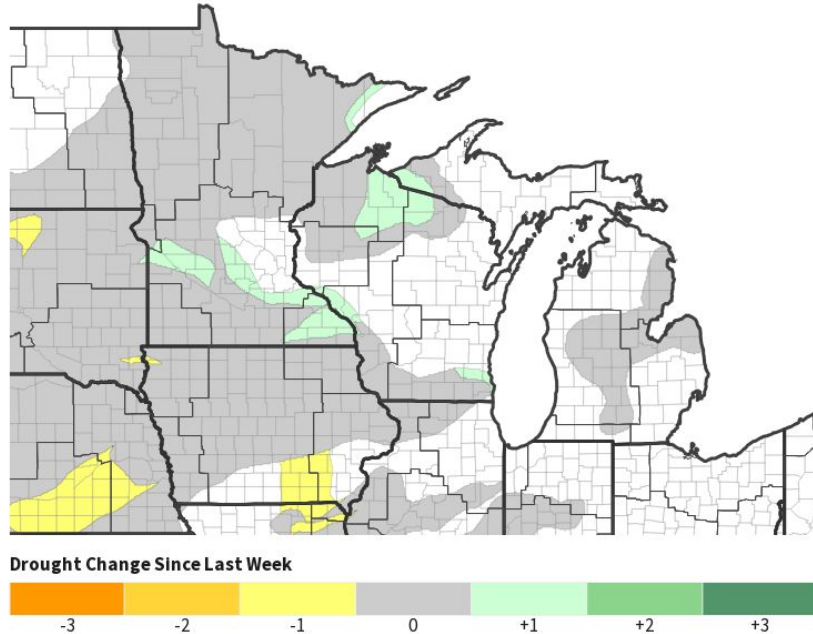


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- A mix of wet and continued dry conditions over the last month has resulted in a mix of degradation and improvement across central and southern Minnesota

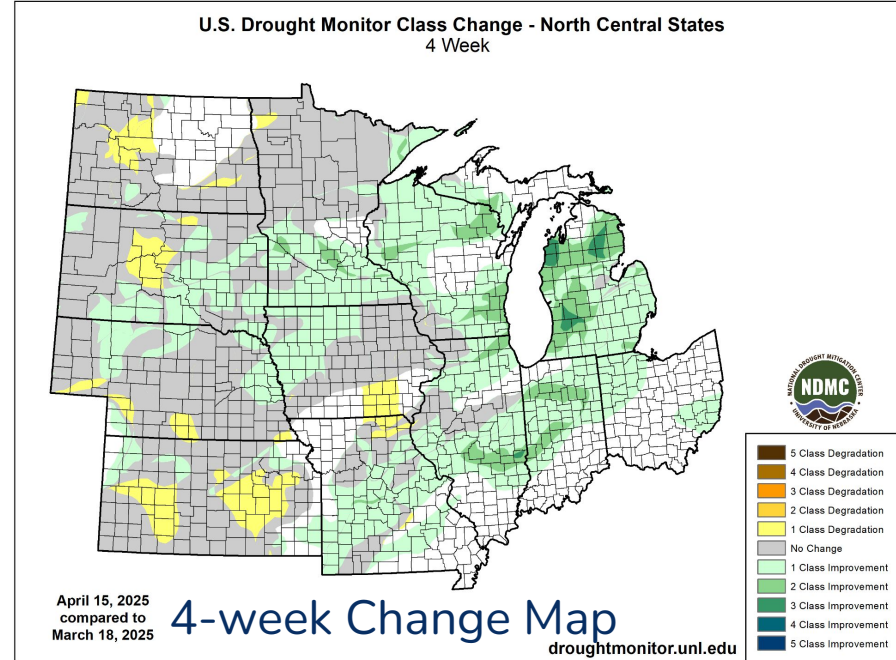
U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



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

Data Valid: 04/15/25

U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - North Central States 4 Week



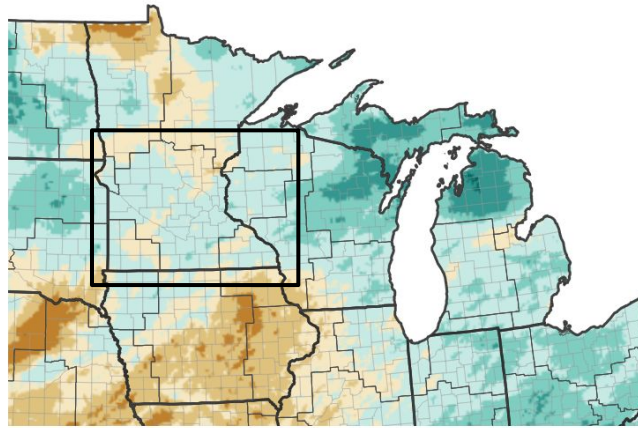


Precipitation Departures

1-month and 3-month percent of normal precipitation

- Recent wet weather from March into April has nearly removed all precipitation deficits going back the last 30 and 90 days

30-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)

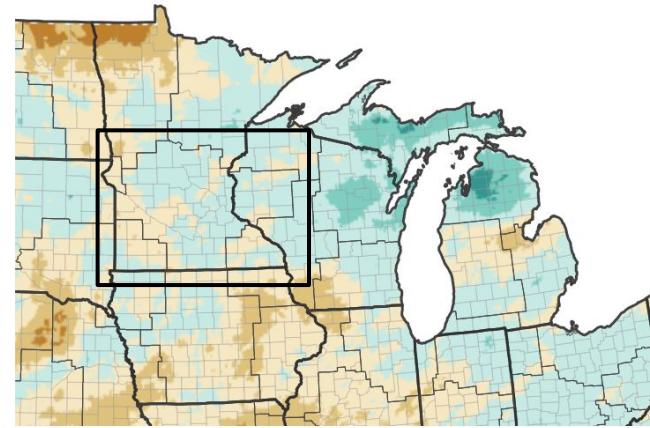
0% 25% 50% 75% 100%

100% 150% 200% 300%

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

Data Valid: 04/16/25

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: 04/16/25



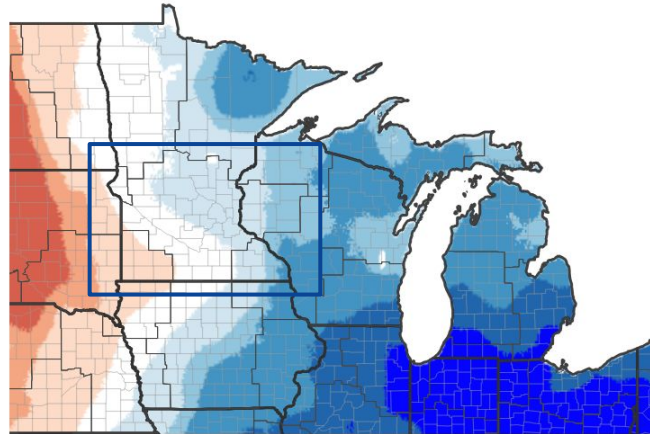


Temperature Departures

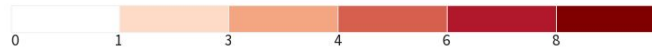
1-week and 1-month temperature departure

- Though the last week has been cooler, over the last 30 days, temperatures have run slightly above normal
- These warmer temperatures have not been warm enough though to provide water stress across the region

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



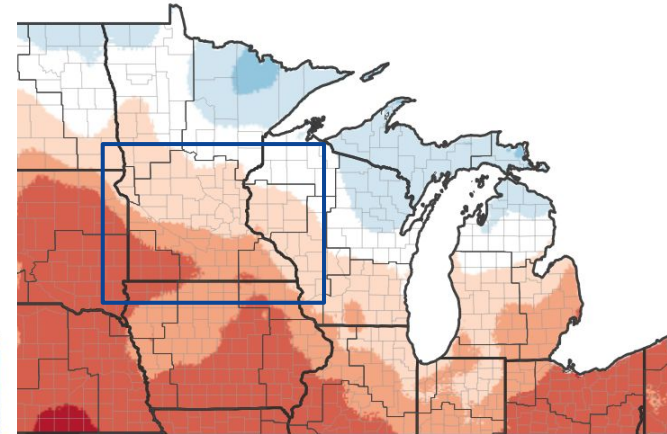
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 04/12/25

30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 04/12/25





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- A lack of snow to melt this Spring has resulted in rivers generally running near to a little below normal for what is our typical high flow time of year ([USGS Streamflow](#)).

Agricultural Impacts

- We are just beginning to see field work starting for the season, so it is still too early to see agriculture impacts ([State USDA Crop Reports](#)).

Fire Hazard Impacts

- We are in heart of the Spring fire season until sufficient green-up of the grasses occur ([MN Fire Danger](#), [WI Fire Danger](#)).
- Some portions of southern Minnesota currently have burn restrictions for all but recreational fires

Other Impacts

- No known additional impacts.

Mitigation Actions

- None Currently in place.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

Average streamflow for the past 7 days

- A lack of a deep snowpack to melt has resulted in no snow melt flooding this Spring
- Rivers across southern Minnesota and western Wisconsin are generally running near normal

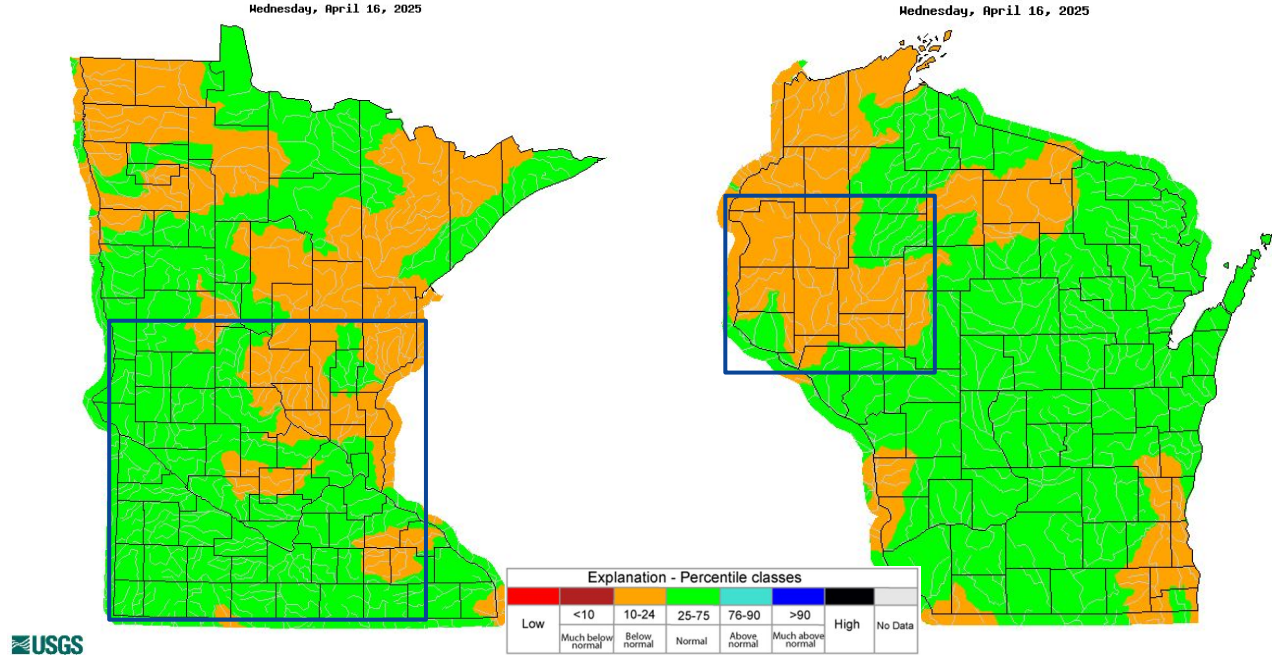


Image Caption: USGS 7-day Streamflow departure from normal for MN. Valid December April 16, 2025

Image Caption: USGS 7-day Streamflow departure from normal for WI. Valid April 16, 2025





Fire Hazard Impacts

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

[Wildfire Danger for WI](#)

- With the snow gone and grasses still not green, fire danger remains high as we are in the peak of the Spring fire season

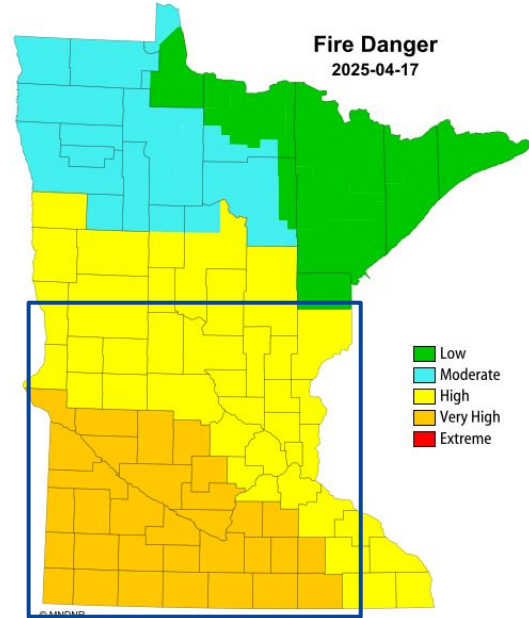


Image Caption: Wildfire Danger for MN. Valid April 17, 2025

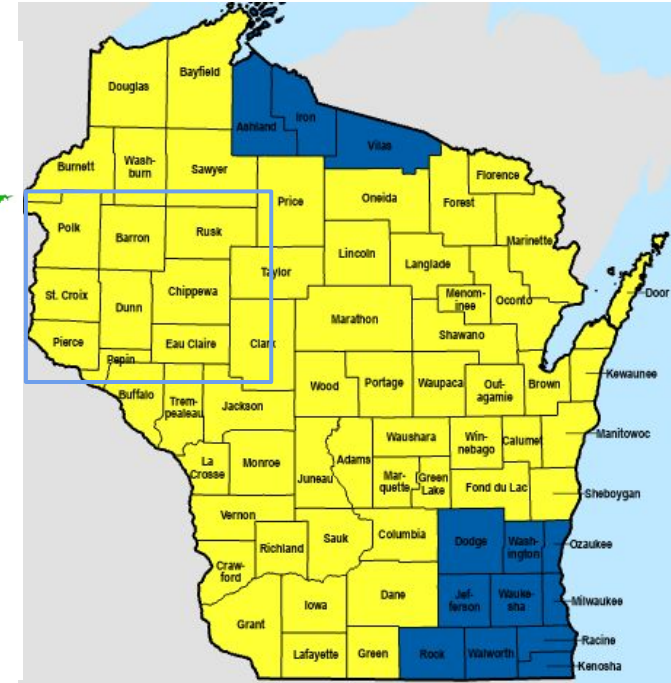


Image Caption: Wildfire Danger for WI. Valid April 17, 2025

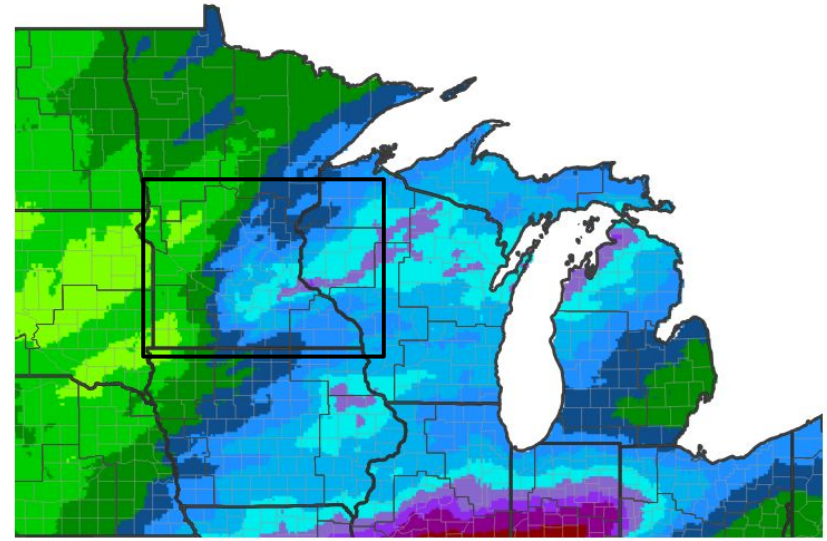




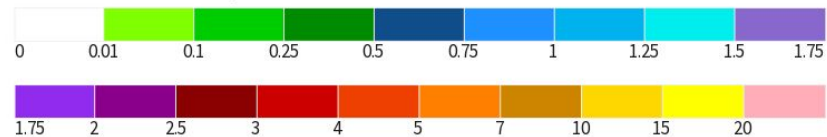
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- The heaviest precipitation over the next 7 days is expected across the eastern half of Minnesota and Wisconsin, where 1 to 1.5 inches of rain are possible
- Forecast amounts over the next 7 days falls to under a quarter of an inch in western Minnesota

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for April 17, 2025–April 24, 2025



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 04/17/25

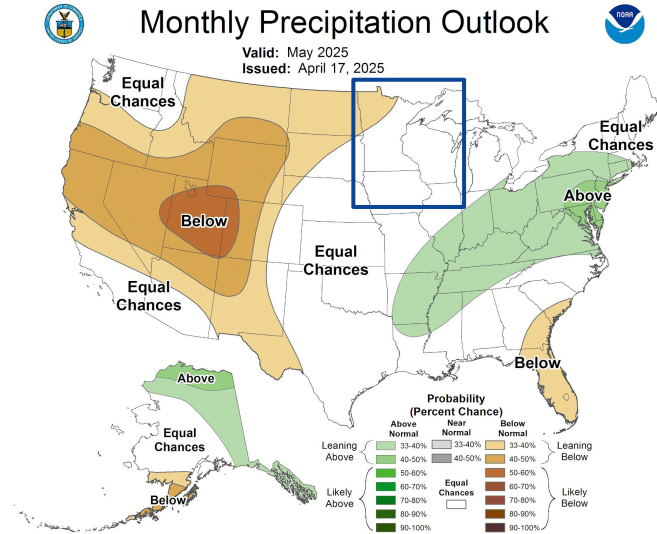
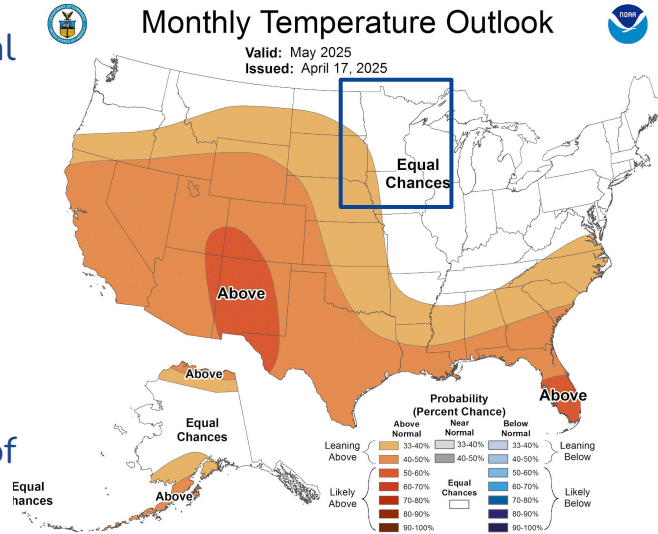




May Outlooks

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

- The May outlook is a low confidence one.
- There is no strong signal for above or below normal temperatures for the entire month of May, with all of MN and WI with Equal Chances in the temperature outlook.
- An active storm track is expected across the Ohio River valley.
- There is Equal Chances of above or below normal precipitation across most of MN & WI in May.



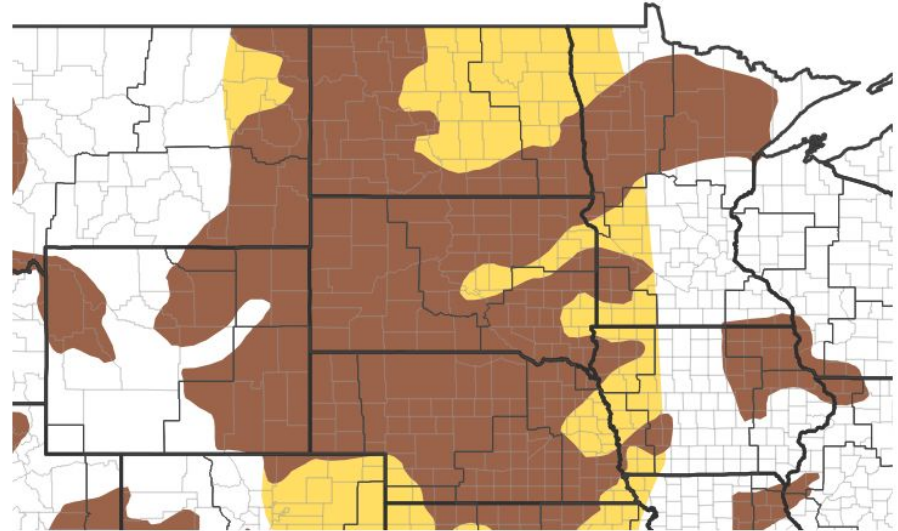


Drought Outlook

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

- Going through the rest of Spring, some expansion in drought conditions is possible in western Minnesota where the greatest long-term precipitation linger back into the Fall of 2024

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for April 17, 2025–July 31, 2025



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 04/17/25

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Twin Cities / Chanhasseen



Drought Definitions and State Resources

What do those categories mean?

Drought Category Definitions:

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

