

Drought Information Statement for Central and Southern Minnesota and Western Wisconsin

Valid December 23, 2024

Issued By: NWS Twin Cities / Chanhassen, MN

Contact Information:

- This product will be updated January 16, 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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- Drought conditions have stabilized with the onset of winter



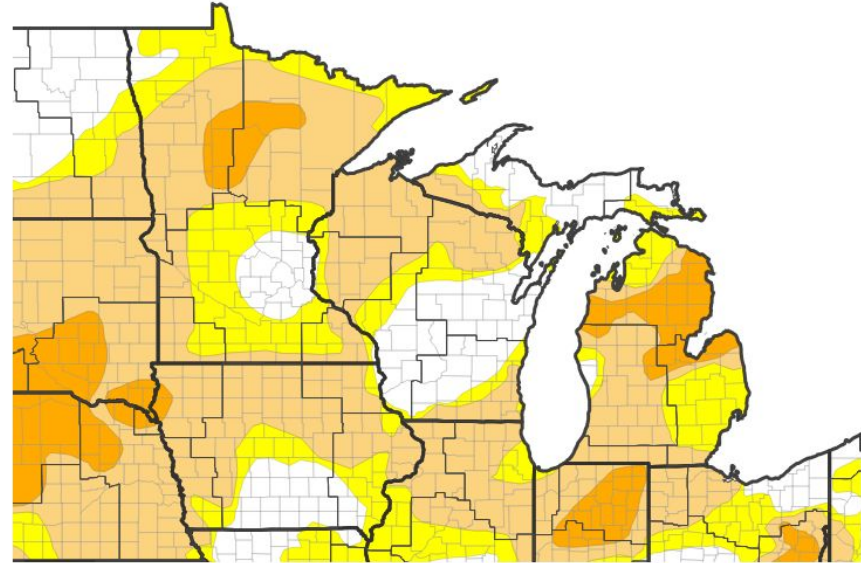


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 12/17/24



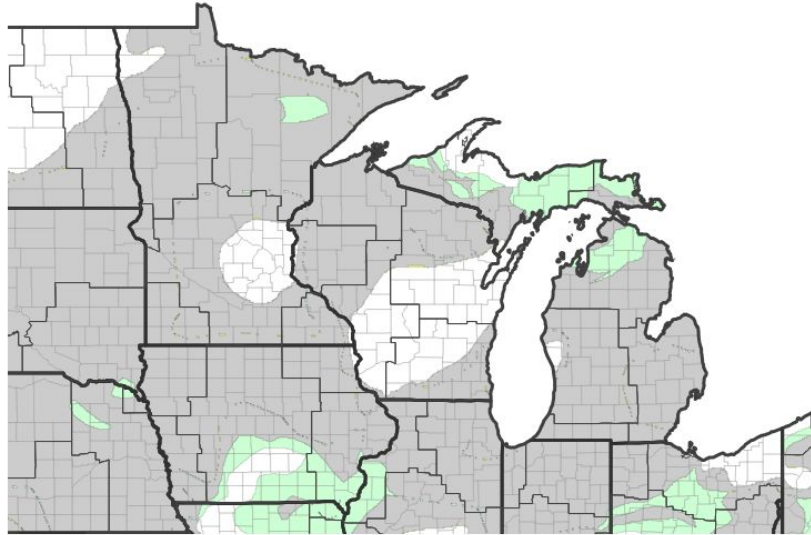


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

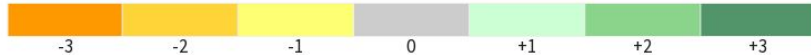
Link to the latest [1-week change map](#) and [4-week change map](#) for the NWS Twin Cities Region

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

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



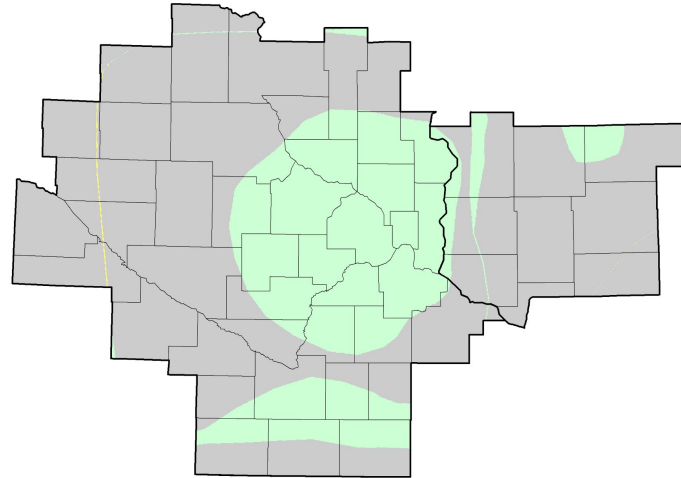
Drought Change Since Last Week



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

Data Valid: 12/17/24

U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - Twin Cities/ Chanhassen MN WFO



December 17, 2024
compared to
November 19, 2024

4-week Change Map

droughtmonitor.unl.edu



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Twin Cities / Chanhassen

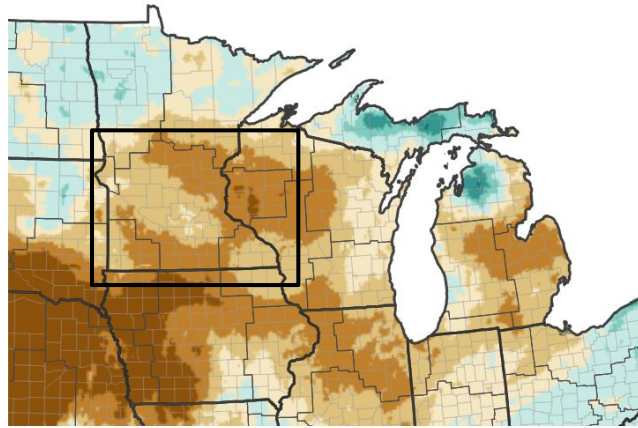


Precipitation Departures

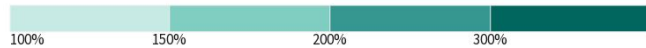
1-month and 3-month percent of normal precipitation

- It has started to dry out over the last 30 days, but as we approach our dry season, this has resulted in precipitation deficits of generally a half inch or less.
- For the last 90 days, precipitation deficits remain, though are smaller than what have been seen for the last 30 days

30-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal



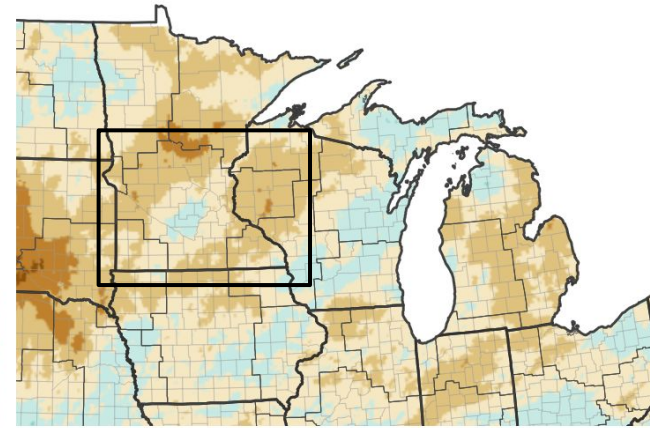
Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



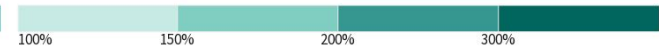
Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 12/22/24

90-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



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

Data Valid: 12/22/24



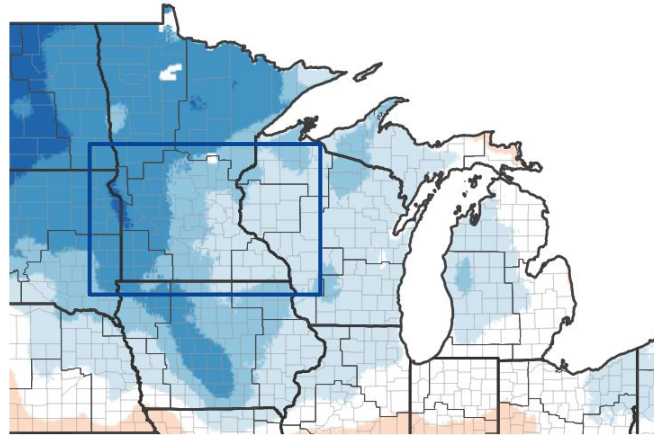


Temperature Departures

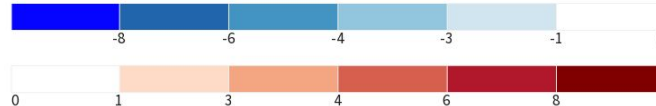
1-week and 1-month temperature departure

- After a record warm fall, temperatures since the end of November have been running near to a little below normal

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



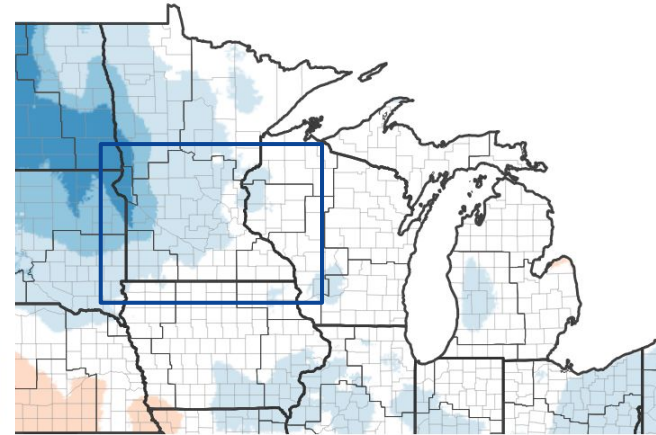
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



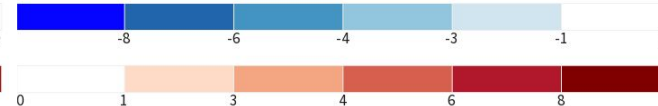
Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 12/19/24

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: 12/19/24





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Cold weather in December has resulted in significant buildup of ice on streams and rivers across Minnesota and Wisconsin ([USGS Streamflow](#)).

Agricultural Impacts

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

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Widespread snow cover has finally brought about the usual minimal wildfire hazards we see throughout the winter. ([MN Fire Danger](#), [WI Fire Danger](#)).

Other Impacts

- No known additional impacts.

Mitigation Actions

- None Currently in place.

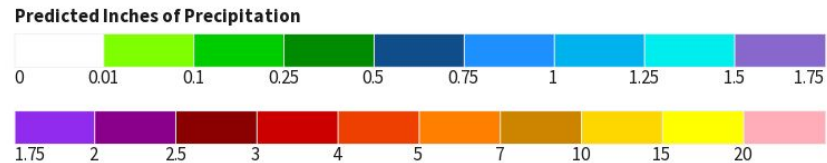
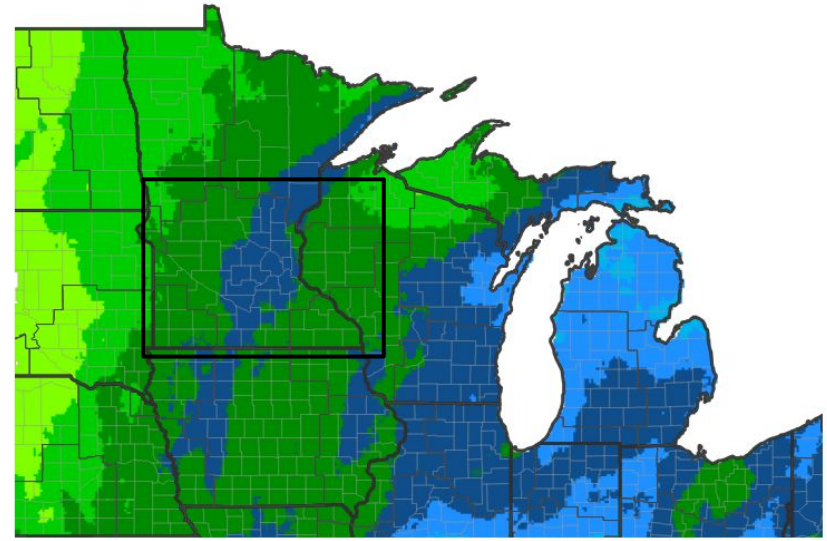




Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Most of the precipitation over the next week will come Friday into Saturday (December 27th and 28t) and is expected to be rain.
- This precipitation will help keep the trend of little change to the drought monitor going.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for December 23, 2024-December 30, 2024



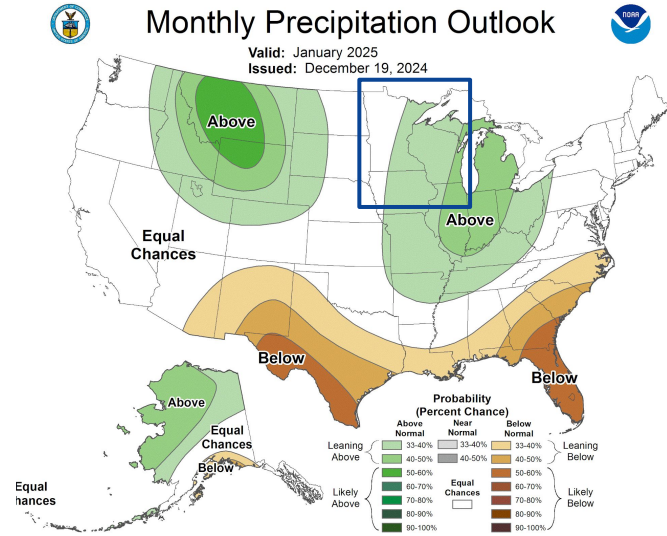
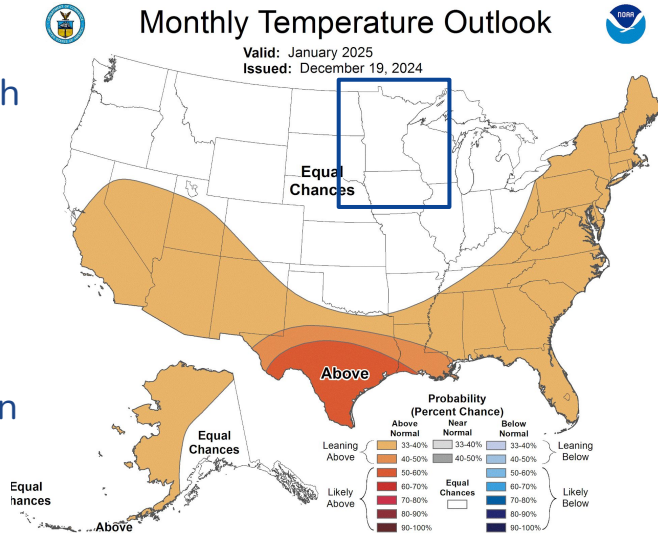
Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 12/23/24



January Outlooks

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

- There are mixed signals with what temperatures will look like in January, with both cold snaps and thaws looking likely, which may end up balancing each other out
- The precipitation pattern across the US is expected to take on a La Niña look, with the best chances for above normal precipitation over the northern Rockies and the Ohio Valley and Great Lakes



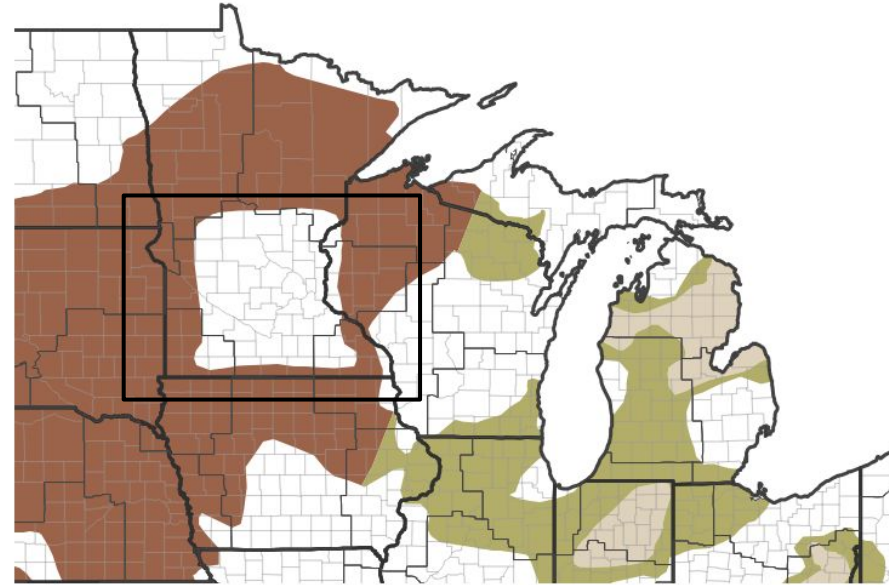


Drought Outlook

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

- As we approach winter, the lower precipitation amounts we typically see this time of year makes it hard to move the drought needle one way or the other

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for December 19, 2024–March 31, 2025



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 12/19/24

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 / Chanhasen



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.

