



Drought Information Statement for Portions of Western NY

Valid October 16, 2025

Issued By: NWS Buffalo

Contact Information: bufstorm.report@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated October 24, 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/buf/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
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- Given recent rainfall, little change in drought conditions this week across the area, outside of some D2 expansion across northern Jefferson County.





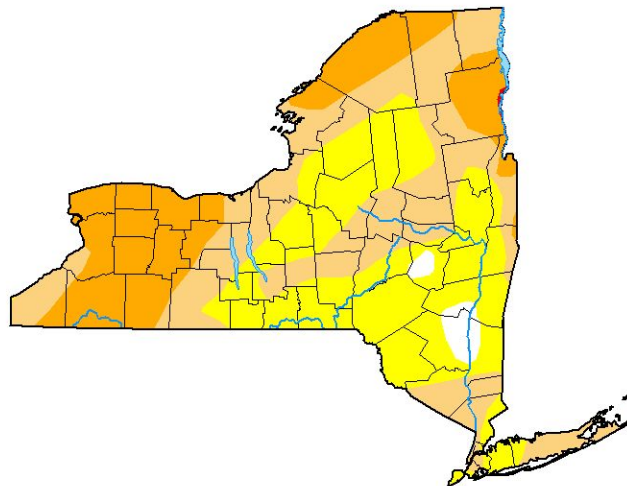
U.S. Drought Monitor

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

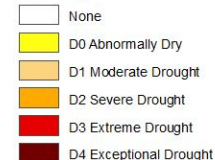
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Niagara, Orleans, Monroe, Genesee, Wyoming, Livingston, as well as most of Erie, Cattaraugus and Allegany Counties, southeastern Chautauqua, western Wayne, western Ontario and northern Jefferson Counties.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Western Chautauqua, southwestern Erie, extreme northwestern Cattaraugus, extreme southeastern Allegany, eastern portions of Ontario and Wayne, Northern Cayuga, northern Lewis, western Oswego and southern Jefferson Counties.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Western eastern Oswego and southern Lewis Counties.

U.S. Drought Monitor New York

October 14, 2025
(Released Thursday, Oct. 16, 2025)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Intensity:



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



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Buffalo, N.Y.



Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [1-week change map](#)

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Degraded:
 - Northern Jefferson County.
 - Drought conditions remained largely unchanged for the remainder of the area.

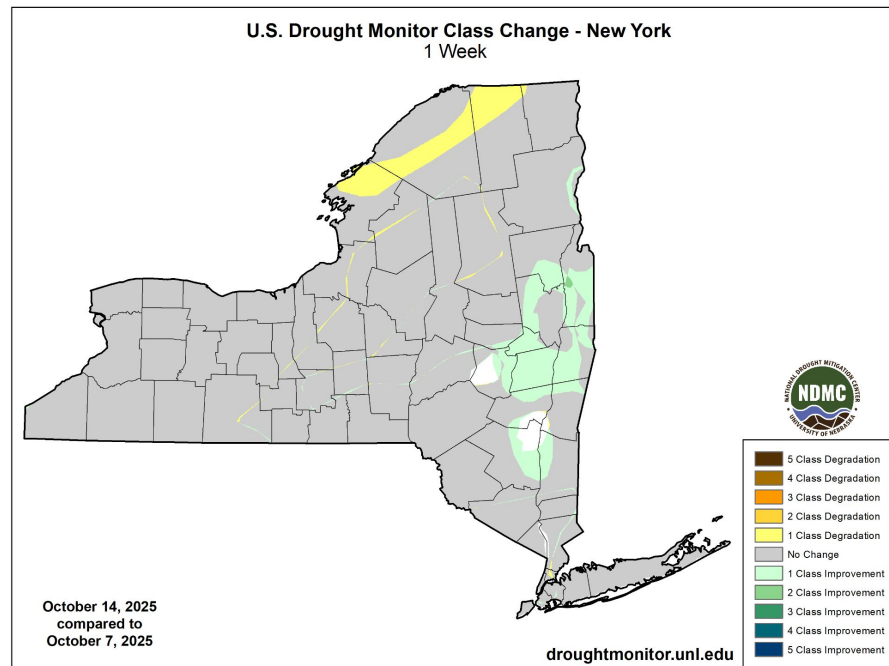


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 1-week change map valid Oct 14, 2025.

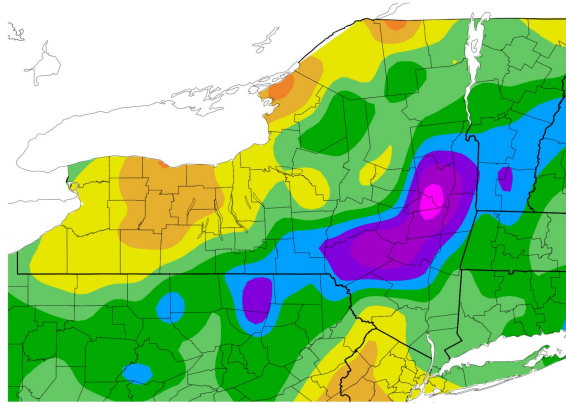




Precipitation

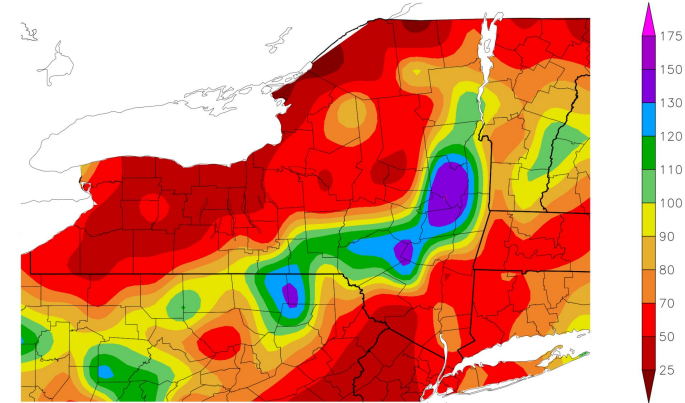
- Despite additional rainfall over the weekend, precipitation deficits still exist across the area.

Precipitation (in)
9/16/2025 – 10/15/2025



Generated 10/16/2025 using provisional data.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
9/16/2025 – 10/15/2025



ACIS Web Services Generated 10/16/2025 using provisional data.

ACIS Web Services

Image Captions:
Left - 30 day Precipitation Amounts
Right - 30 day Precipitation Departure from Normal
Data Courtesy Regional Climate Center ACIS.





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Seven-day streamflow from the USGS of smaller streams and creeks in the Great Lakes drainage basins, generally running below to much below normal range for streamflow, with groundwater wells running much below to extremely below normal. Larger rivers including the Black and Genesee are closer to normal.

Agricultural Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

Fire Hazard Impacts

- NY State DEC reports a Moderate Risk of Fire Danger across western NY and the eastern Lake Ontario Region.

Other Impacts

- The Town of Ripley has declared a State of Emergency due to low levels of the Ripley Reservoir.

Mitigation Actions

- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.

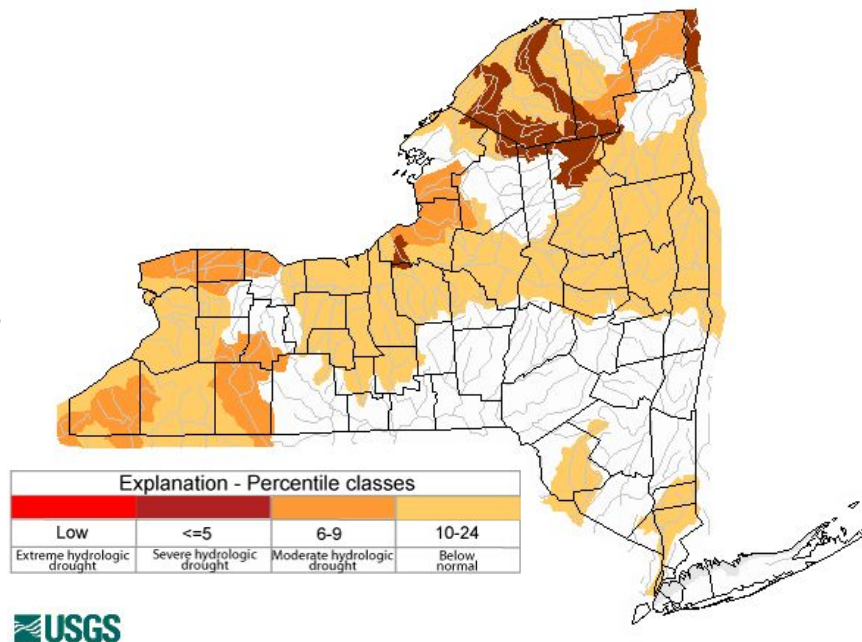




Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

- Recent rainfall has allowed streamflow across western NY to improve over the last week, across the middle Genesee and Black River Basins. Some additional slight improvement noted across the Buffalo Creeks Basins.
- Please note that the degradation of drought conditions on this map across Niagara, Orleans and Monroe Counties, is likely due to the end of releases by the NY Canal Corporation for their Fall Fishing Program.



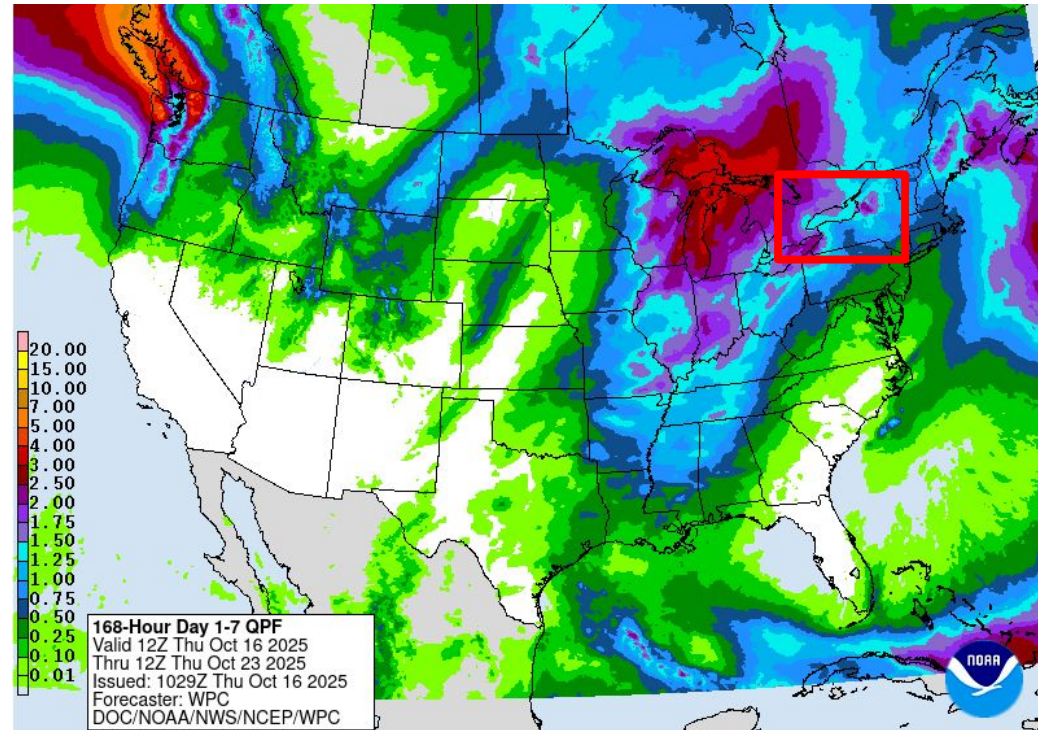
Map of USGS 7-day average compared to historical streamflow





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Precipitation indicated in the map to the right is possible this weekend and into next week, as a low pressure system tracks north of the area, and drags a cold front through NY State.
- An additional low pressure system is expected to bring the chance of additional precipitation Tuesday and Wednesday.
- There is still some uncertainty in the exact track of these storm systems, resulting in uncertainty in precipitation amounts.



Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid Thursday Oct. 16th through Thursday Oct. 23rd.





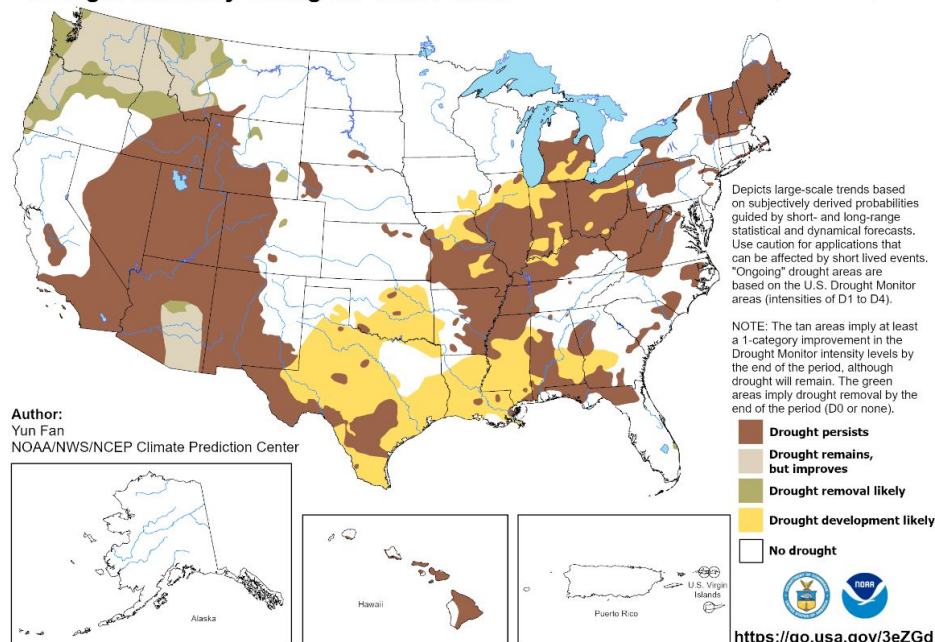
Drought Outlook

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

- The 6 to 10 day precipitation outlook is indicating a slightly higher change of above normal precipitation.

U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for October 2025
Released September 30, 2025



Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook Released
September 30, 2025 and is valid for the month of October 2025.

Links to the latest:

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



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