



Drought Information Statement for Portions of Western NY

Valid October 31, 2025

Issued By: NWS Buffalo

Contact Information: bufstorm.report@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated November 7, 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.

- Recent and ongoing rainfall has resulted in an improvement in drought conditions across portions of western NY...near Lake Erie southwest of Buffalo
- Longer term drought impacts have resulted in a drought degradation across southern portions of Oswego and Lewis Counties

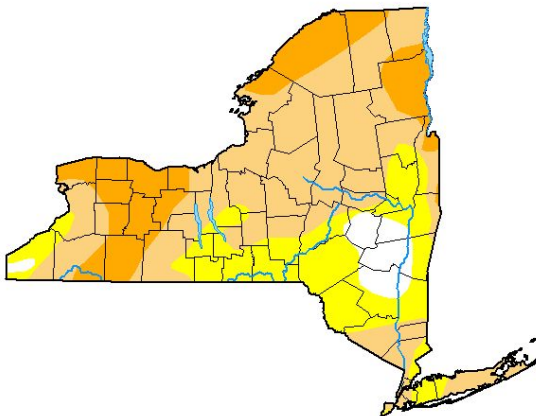


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

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

U.S. Drought Monitor New York



October 28, 2025

(Released Thursday, Oct. 30, 2025)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	5.57	94.43	70.04	20.47	0.03	0.00
Last Week 10-21-2025	6.08	93.92	63.88	25.18	0.03	0.00
3 Months Ago 07-29-2025	90.12	9.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2025	47.17	52.83	9.46	1.92	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-30-2025	1.10	98.90	41.76	7.84	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 10-29-2024	39.84	60.16	6.43	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought

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>

Author:

Richard Tinker
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 Conditions Worsened:
 - Southeastern Oswego and southern Lewis Counties.
- Drought improvement across Erie, Chautauqua, western Wyoming and western Cattaraugus Counties.

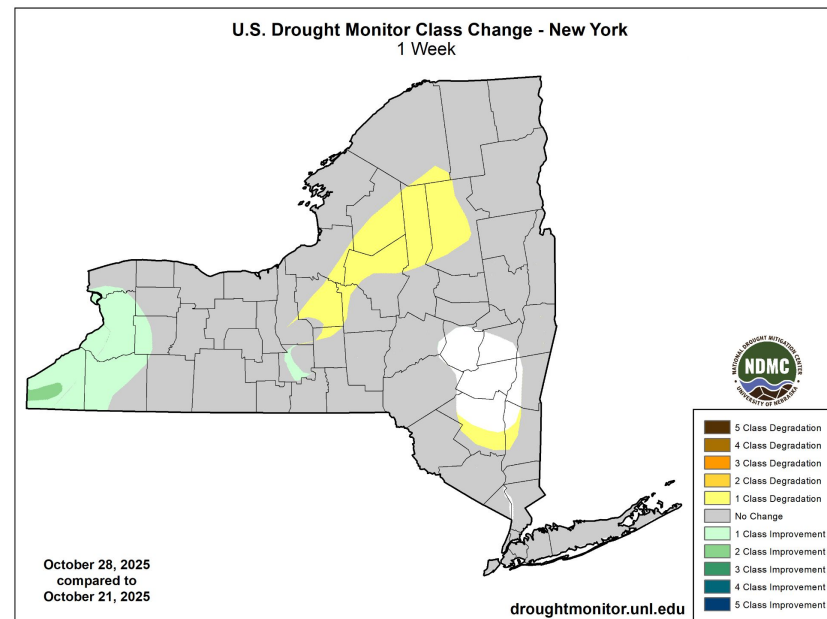


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 1-week change map from Oct 21, 2025 to Oct 28, 2025.



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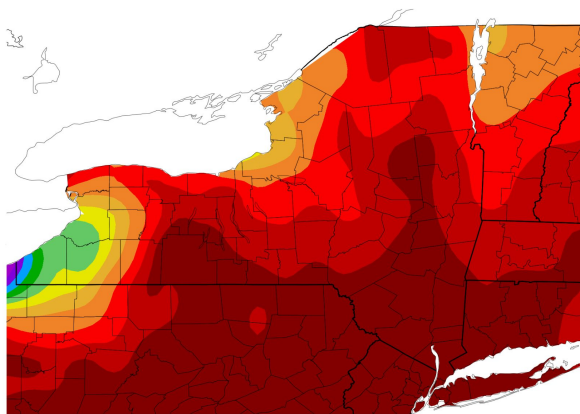


Precipitation

Over the last 30 days

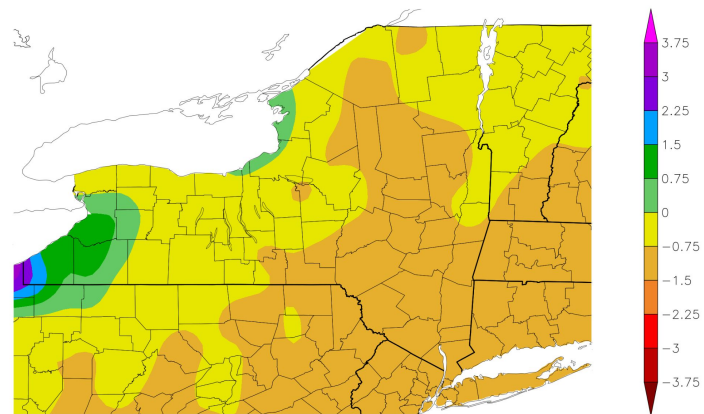
- Significant lake effect rain east of Lake Erie has resulted in drought improvements across these areas. Some lake effect rain east of Lake Ontario has helped however not yet improved drought conditions.
- Note: Rainfall on Oct. 30 and 31 not included in this drought monitor update.

Precipitation (in)
10/23/2025 – 10/29/2025



Generated 10/30/2025 using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
10/23/2025 – 10/29/2025



ACIS Web Services Generated 10/30/2025 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 Lake Ontario drainage basins is running in the below normal range for streamflow, with some basins in the moderate to severe hydrologic drought conditions east of Lake Ontario. Some groundwater wells are still running below to extremely below normal. However, 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 Low Risk of Fire Danger across western NY and the eastern Lake Ontario Region.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

Mitigation Actions

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

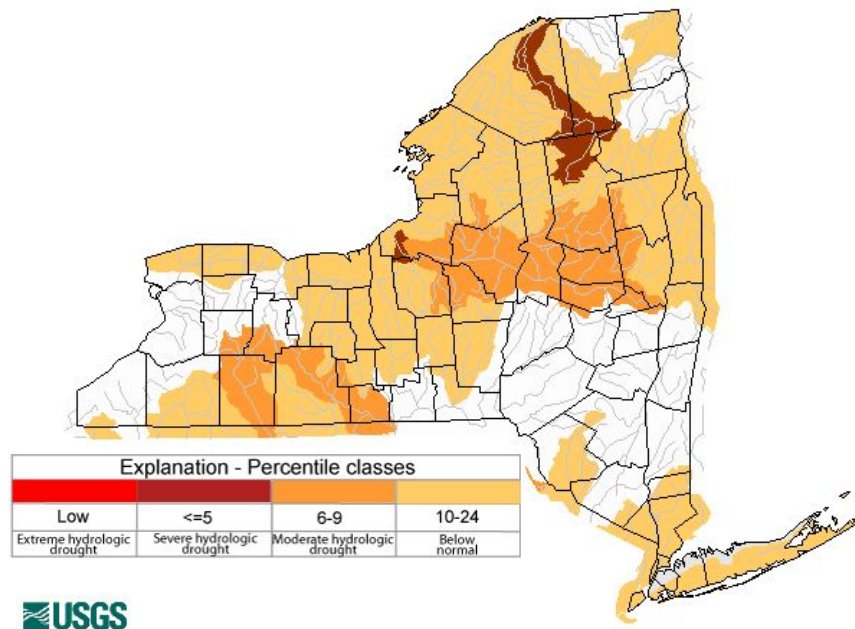




Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

- Recent rainfall has allowed streamflow across western NY to improve over the last week, across the lower Genesee, the Buffalo Creeks Basins.
- Lingering moderate drought conditions in the upper Genesee and upper Mohawk basins, and severe drought conditions in the Oswego River Basin..



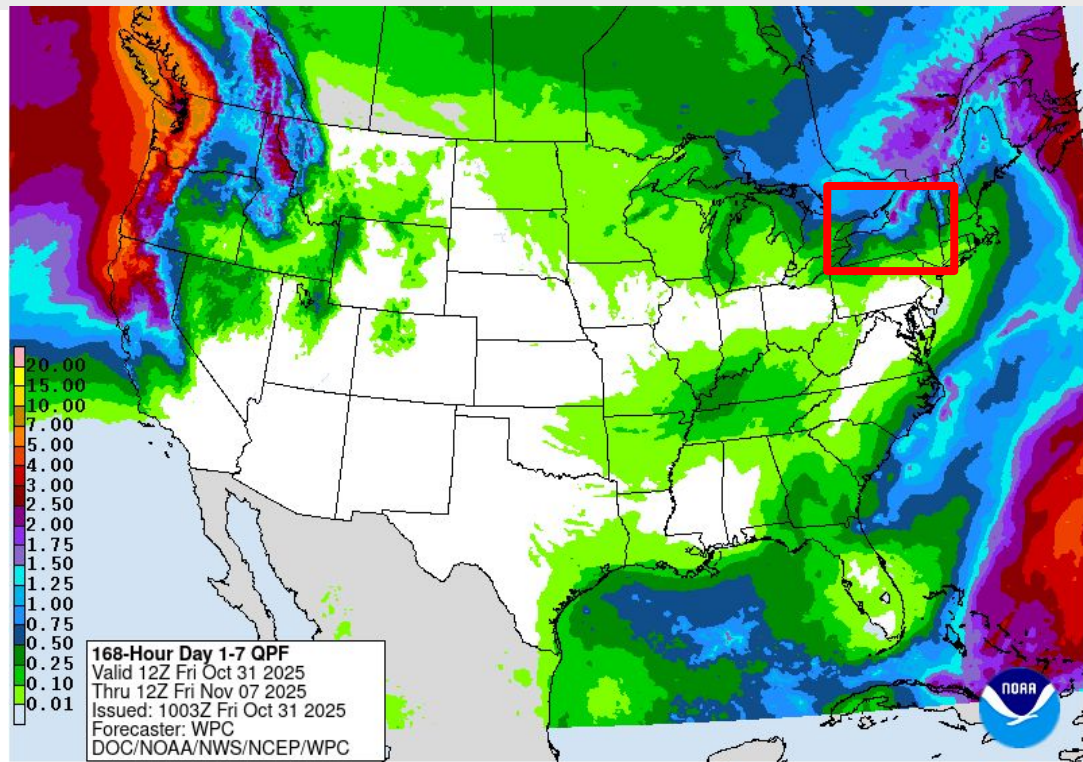
Map of USGS 7-day average compared to historical streamflow





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Lingering precipitation today and tonight as well as precipitation chances for the start of next week are expected. Higher precipitation amounts are expected around the Tug Hill
- Additional rain chances toward the middle of next week, however there is still some uncertainty in the actual precipitation amounts.



Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid Friday Oct. 31st through Friday Nov. 7th.





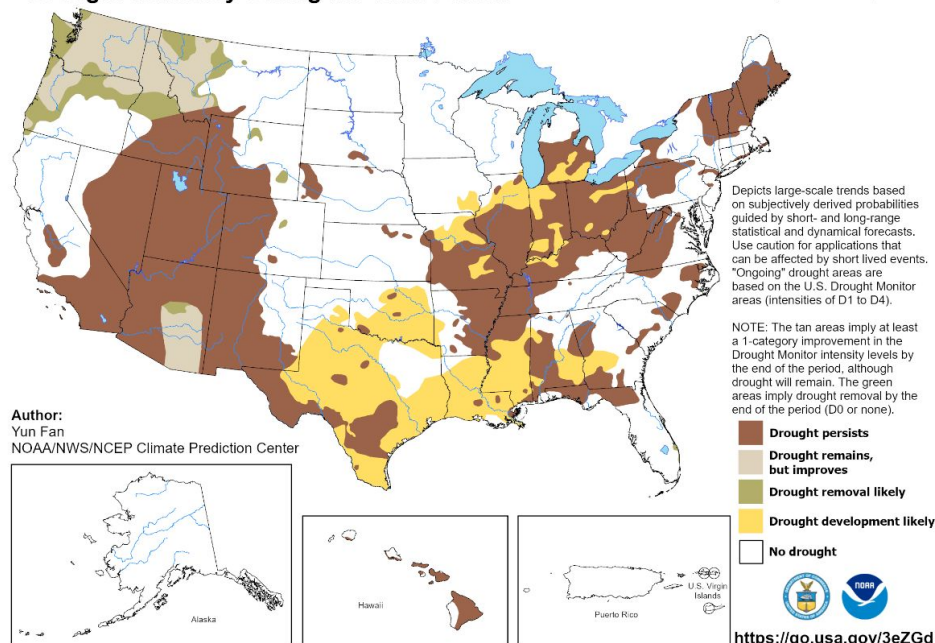
Drought Outlook

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

- The 6 to 10 day precipitation outlook is hinting at near normal precipitation.
- Ongoing precipitation from October 30 through the weekend, will be taken into consideration for the drought monitor next week.

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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