



Drought Information Statement for SE SD, SW MN, NW IA, Far NE Neb

Valid April 9, 2026

Issued By: WFO Sioux Falls, SD

Contact Information: w-fsd.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated as conditions warrant.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/fsd/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.

- BELOW NORMAL WATER YEAR (SINCE OCTOBER 1ST) PRECIPITATION HAS RESULTED IN EXPANDING AND DEGRADING DROUGHT CONDITIONS ENTERING THE NEW GROWING SEASON
- LONG RANGE OUTLOOKS FAVOR DROUGHT CONDITIONS PERSISTING





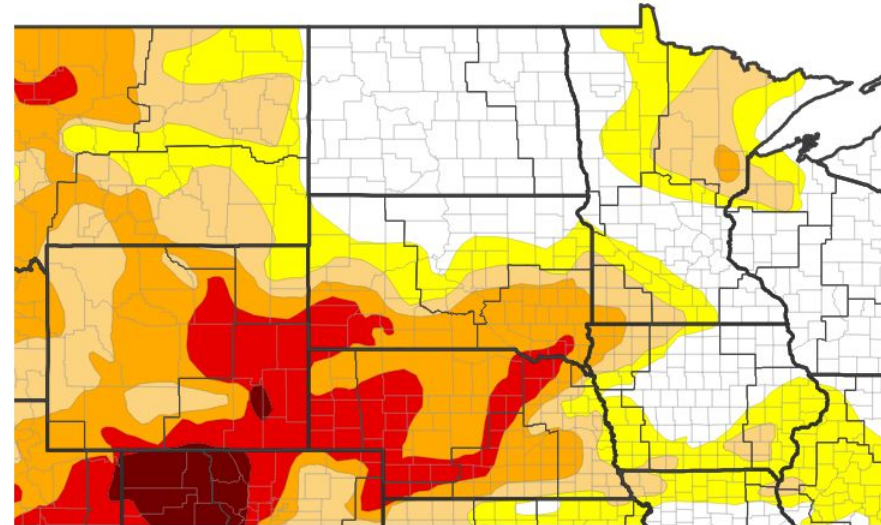
U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for SE South Dakota, SW Minnesota, NW Iowa, far NE Nebraska

...Widespread Moderate to Severe Drought Conditions with Localized Extreme Drought...

- Drought Intensity and Extent
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** Extreme southeast South Dakota into portions of northeast Nebraska
 - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Much of southeast South Dakota into northeast Nebraska, northwest Iowa and far southwest Minnesota.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Most location near and south of Hwy 14 in southeast South Dakota, southwest Minnesota and northwest Iowa
 - **D0 (Abnormally Dry):** Remaining areas not in more substantial drought coverage in eastern South Dakota and southern Minnesota.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 04/07/26

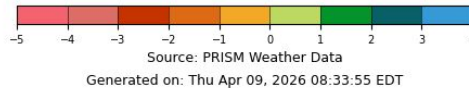
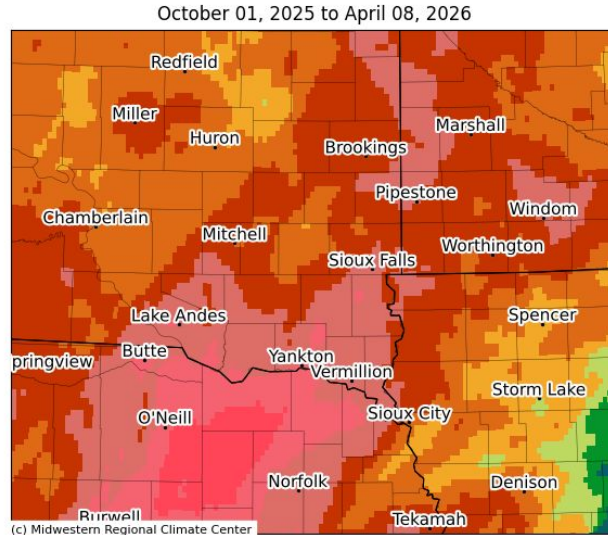




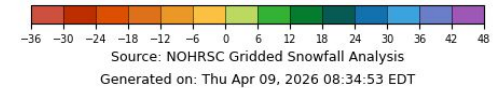
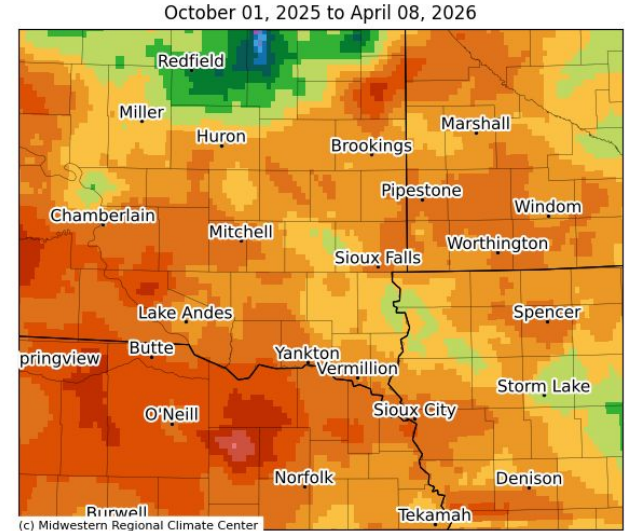
Precipitation - Water Year (Since October 1st)

- Overall precipitation, including snowfall, has been below, to well below, normal through the water year (since October 1st) thus far.
- With many locations already running a precipitation deficit from late summer and fall months of last year, this has allowed for expanding and degrading drought conditions.

Accumulated Precipitation (in): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals



Accumulated Snowfall (in): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals



Images Via: [Midwest Regional Climate Center](#)



Summary of Impacts.

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- River and stream levels remain at or below normal levels coming out of winter freeze-up. A below normal runoff is forecast by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the Missouri River, with water conservation measures in place for the reservoir system.

Agricultural Impacts

- Sporadic reports of dry to very dry conditions with initial assessment of field status by farmers.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Several late winter and early spring grass fires have occurred. Burn bans have been, or remain, in effect in some locations.

Other Impacts

- There are no reported impacts at this time

Mitigation Actions

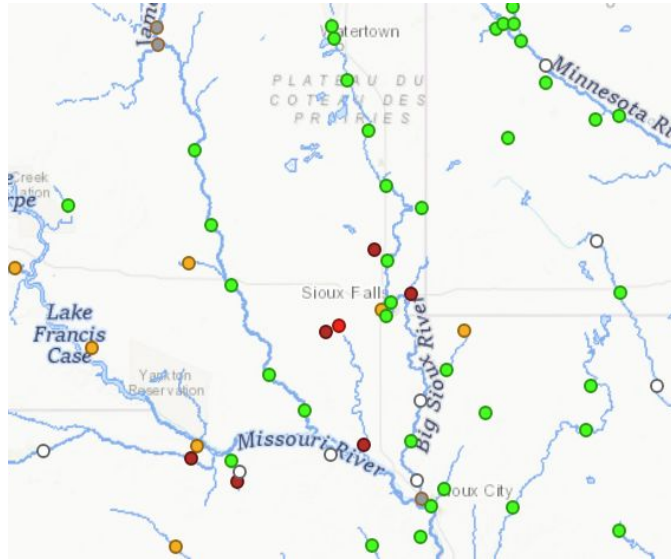
- None reported





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

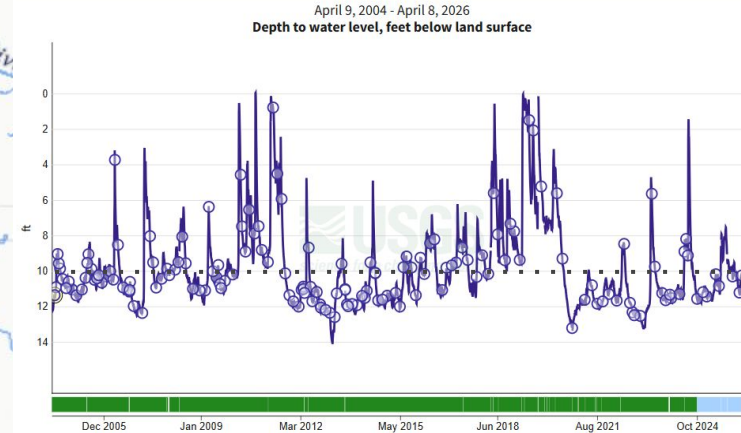
- Most waterways across the region are running at or below normal levels for this time of year.
- Groundwater well data from Renner, SD is generally comparable to April values from the past few years.



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

USGS Streamflow Status Map
valid 04/09/2026

Renner GW Well NO.2 Near Renner, SD - USGS-433726096444501



USGS Groundwater Well near Renner, SD
valid 04/09/2026

USGS Streamflow Data:

[National Water Dashboard](#)

Groundwater Wells Data:

[Renner, SD](#)

[Near Huron, SD](#)





Agricultural and Soil Moisture Impacts

SD

As of April 6th	Very Short Moisture	Short Moisture	Adequate Moisture	Moisture Surplus
Topsoil	22%	26%	44%	5%
Subsoil	26%	26%	41%	1%

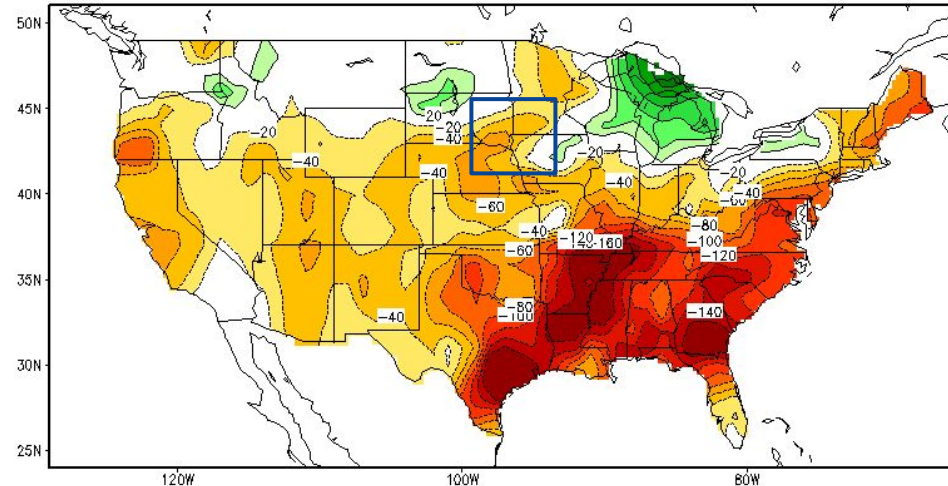
IA

As of April 6th	Very Short Moisture	Short Moisture	Adequate Moisture	Moisture Surplus
Topsoil	4%	19%	63%	2%
Subsoil	8%	28%	57%	2%

MN

As of April 6th	Very Short Moisture	Short Moisture	Adequate Moisture	Moisture Surplus
Topsoil	2%	19%	59%	5%
Subsoil	4%	24%	63%	3%

Calculated Soil Moisture Anomaly (mm) APR 08, 2026



USDA Crop Progress and Condition Reports

[South Dakota](#)

[Minnesota](#)

[Iowa](#)

[Nebraska](#)



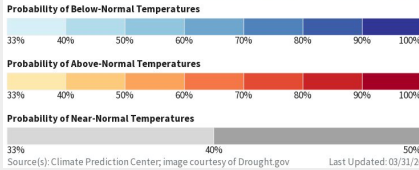
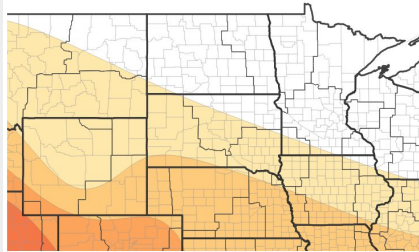


Medium and Long-Range Outlooks

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

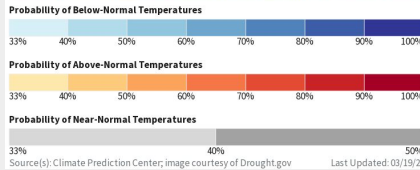
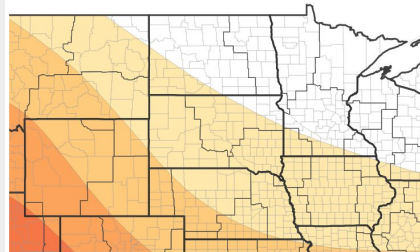
Temperature

Monthly Temperature Outlook for April 1, 2026–April 30, 2026



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 03/31/26

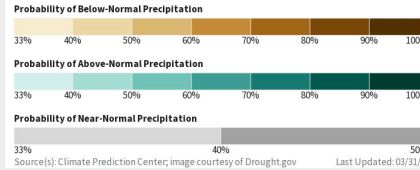
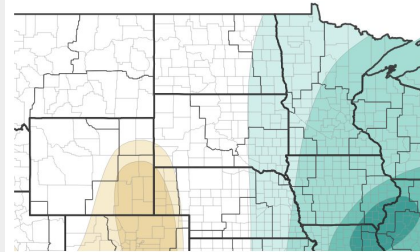
Seasonal (3-Month) Temperature Outlook for April 1, 2026–June 30, 2026



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 03/19/26

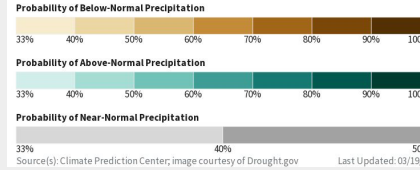
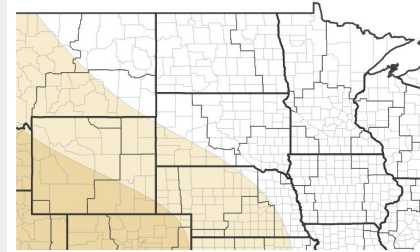
Precipitation

Monthly Precipitation Outlook for April 1, 2026–April 30, 2026



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 03/31/26

Seasonal (3-Month) Precipitation Outlook for April 1, 2026–June 30, 2026



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 03/19/26

Medium Range Outlook

→ Outlooks for the month of April generally reflect odds favoring near to above normal temperatures as well as near to above normal precipitation. This added precipitation may not be sufficient for meaningful drought improvement or removal however.

Seasonal Outlook

→ With a transition from La Nina to Neutral ENSO conditions, no clear signal in temperature or precipitation trends exists in the seasonal outlooks for the remainder of spring and early summer (through June) with only a slight lean toward above normal temperatures.



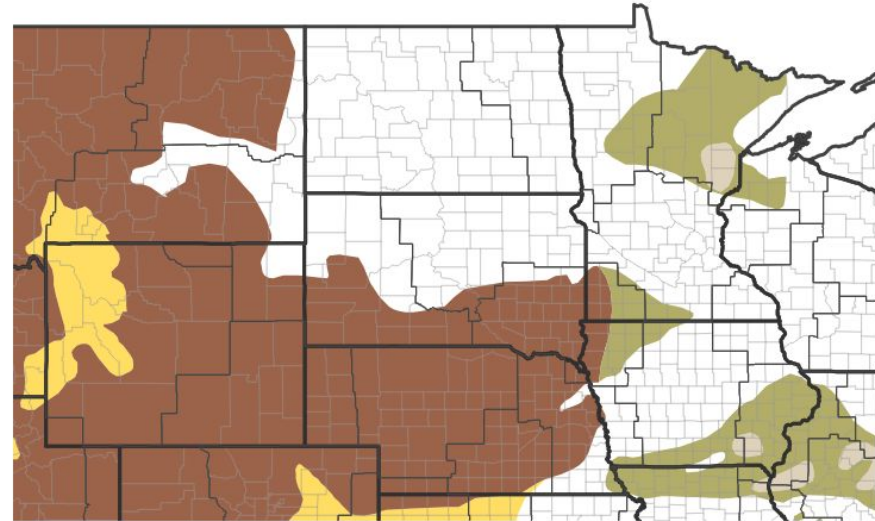


Drought Outlook.

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

- Below normal precipitation and above normal temperatures have resulted in expanding and degrading drought conditions over much of the region.
- While spring typically brings beneficial precipitation, at least some form of drought is favored to persist into the start of a new growing season.
- The latest drought-related information can be found at: weather.gov/fsd/drought. Additional Drought Statements will be issued as conditions warrant.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for March 31, 2026–June 30, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 03/31/26

Acknowledgements

The drought monitor is a multi-agency effort involving NOAA's National Weather Service and National Climatic Data Center, the USDA, state and regional center climatologists and the National Drought Mitigation Center. Information for this statement has been gathered from NWS and FAA observation sites, cooperative and volunteer observations, USDAFS, the USDA and USGS.



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
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