



Drought Information Statement for Central and Northeast Wisconsin

Valid October 15, 2026

Issued By: WFO Green Bay, WI

Contact Information: nws.greenbay@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated around October 29, 2026 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/grb/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/drought-status-update-midwest-2024-04-25>

Extreme Drought (D3) continues across Oneida and Vilas counties eastward through Florence, the northern two-thirds of Forest and the northern third of Marinette counties. Exceptional Drought (D4) continued across northwest WI eastward to the Vilas/Iron County line. Moderate (D1) to Severe (D2) Drought continued north and east of a line from Babcock to Neopit to Green Bay to Algoma. To the south of this line, there was a very small area of Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions to no designation of drought across portions of central and east-central WI.





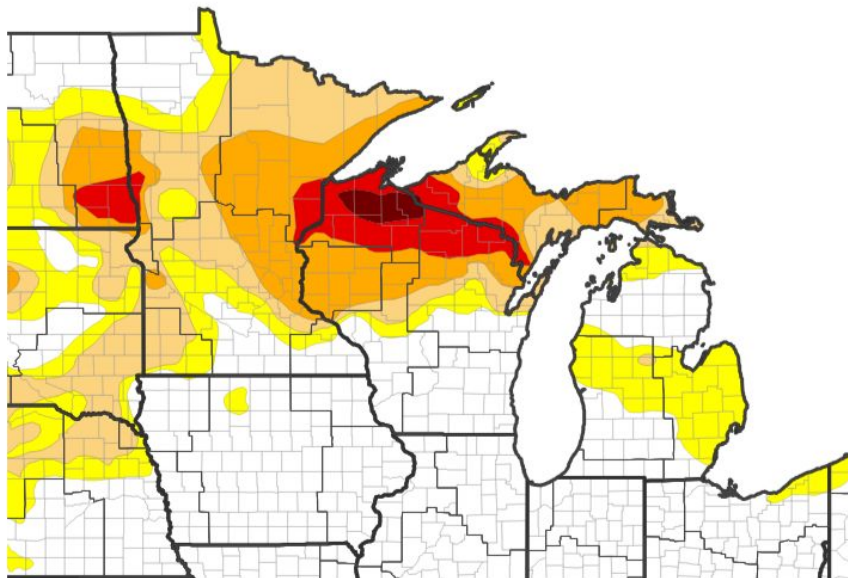
U.S. Drought Monitor

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

Drought intensity and Extent

- **D3 (Extreme Drought):** Oneida and Vilas counties eastward into Florence, the northern two-thirds of Forest and the northern third of Marinette counties.
- **D2 (Severe Drought):** Lincoln and northwest Marathon counties eastward into the southern third of Forest and the southern two-thirds of Marinette counties.
- **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Generally north of a line from Pittsville to Mosinee to Langlade to Green Bay to Algoma.
- **D0 (Abnormally Dry):** Small area south of the Moderate Drought (D1) area (shaded yellow on the map).
- **No Category of Drought:** Generally south of a line from Wisconsin Rapids to Stevens Point to Clintonville and Green Bay to Algoma.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 10/12/26



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Atmospheric Administration
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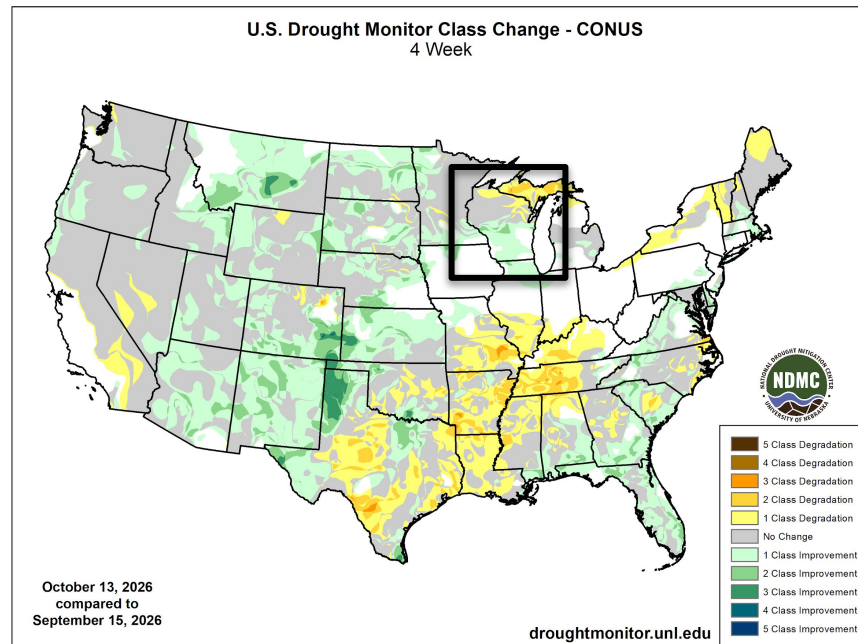
National Weather Service
Green Bay



Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#)

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - **Drought Improvement:** Portions of central, east- central and northeast WI.
 - **No Change:** Portions of north-central and far northeast WI.
 - **Worsening:** Vilas County into far northeast WI including Florence, Forest, Oconto and Marinette counties.



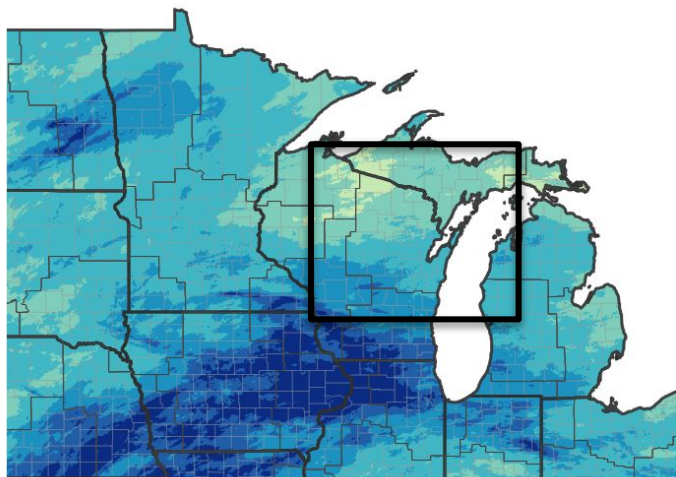


Precipitation

- Precipitation over the last 30 days was at or above normal south of a line from Marshfield to Green Bay to Algoma.
- Precipitation was well below normal across the north.
- The lowest percent of normal precipitation extended from Vilas and Oneida counties eastward into Florence, Forest and northern Marinette counties.

30 Day Precipitation Accumulation (inches)

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



Inches of Precipitation

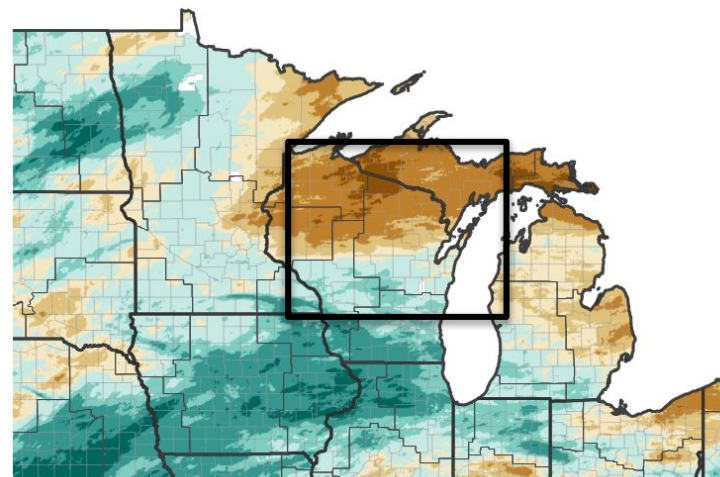


Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System;
image courtesy of Drought.gov

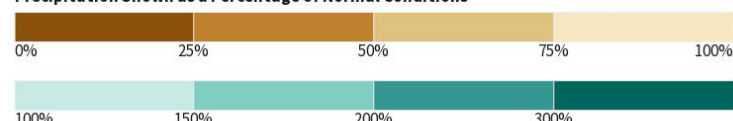
Last Updated: 10/16/26

30 Day Percent of Normal Precipitation

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System;
image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 10/16/26



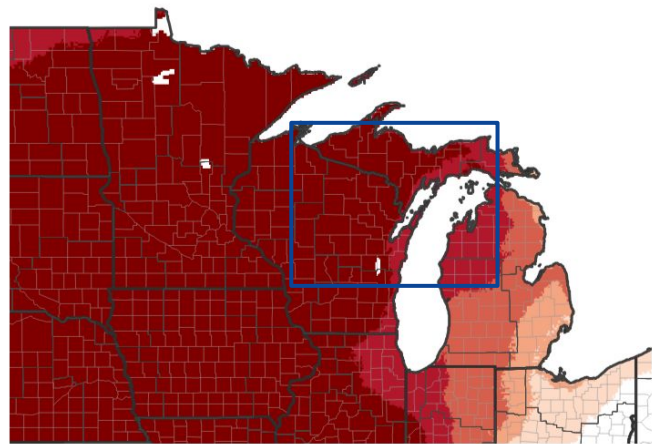


Temperature

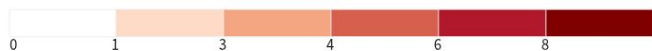
Temperature anomalies during the past week (left image) were running 6 to 8 degrees above normal.

The 30 day temperature anomalies (right image) indicated temps were running 3 to 6 degrees above normal across north-central and far northeast WI to 1 to 3 degrees above normal across east-central and portions of northeast WI.

7 Day Temperature Anomaly
7-Day Temperature Anomaly



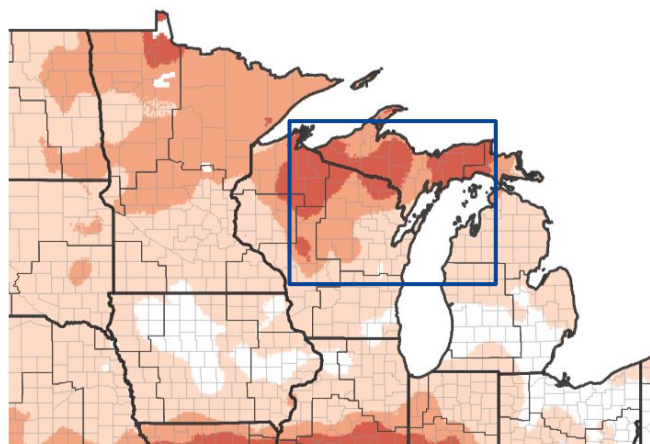
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



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

Data Valid: 10/12/26

30 Day Temperature Anomaly
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: 10/12/26



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Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Dam operators have reduced the flows through the dams over the summer and so far this fall. The impacts are expected to continue for the foreseeable future due to long term precipitation deficits since July. River levels across east-central WI returned to near normal levels due to the heavy rainfall in September and sporadic rainfall in October.

Agricultural Impacts

- Local farmers indicated that the corn, soybean and oat crops were extremely stressed by the dry conditions until the heavy rainfall across central and portions of northeast Wisconsin.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- The Significant Wildland Fire Potential remains above normal across northern WI. The continued extremely dry weather has brought a little higher potential for fires despite “green up”. If drier than normal conditions continue through the fall, there would be an increased risk of fires especially on mild, windy days with low humidity after a frost or freeze into early winter until a snowpack arrives.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

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

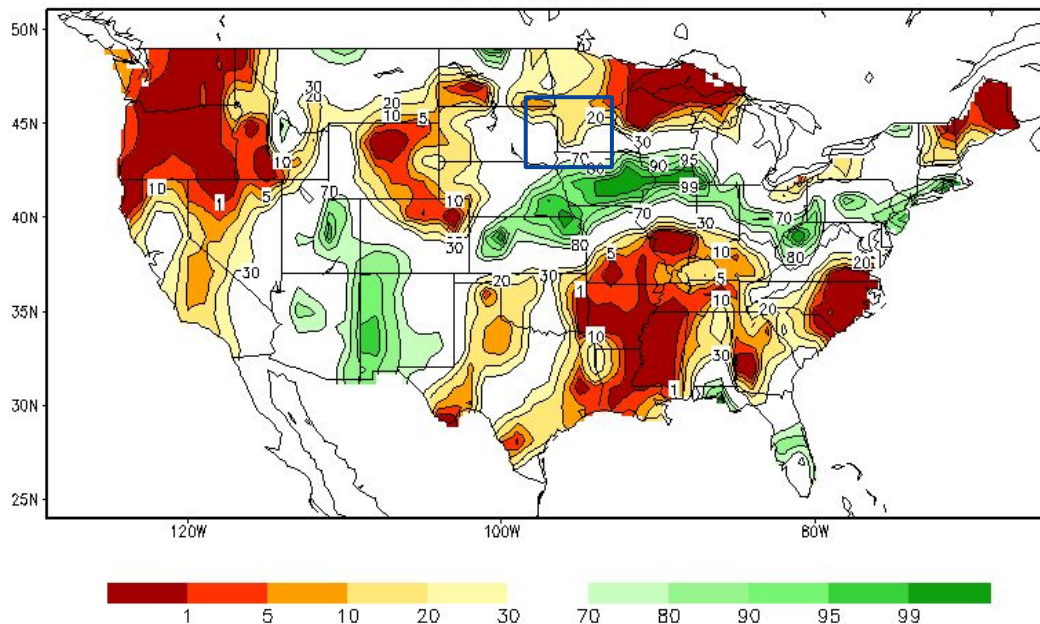




Agricultural Impacts

- A tale of two stories during September into early October, with extremely dry conditions over the far north and wetter conditions over central into east-central.
- The soil moisture across Vilas and Oneida counties eastward into Forest and Florence counties were in the less than 20% percentile, and in some cases less than 10% percentile.
- However, the wetter than normal conditions over central and east-central WI have disappeared due to the recent dry weather over the past week.
- This analysis did not include the rainfall from Oct 15th into the morning of the 16th where over an inch of rain fell in spots.

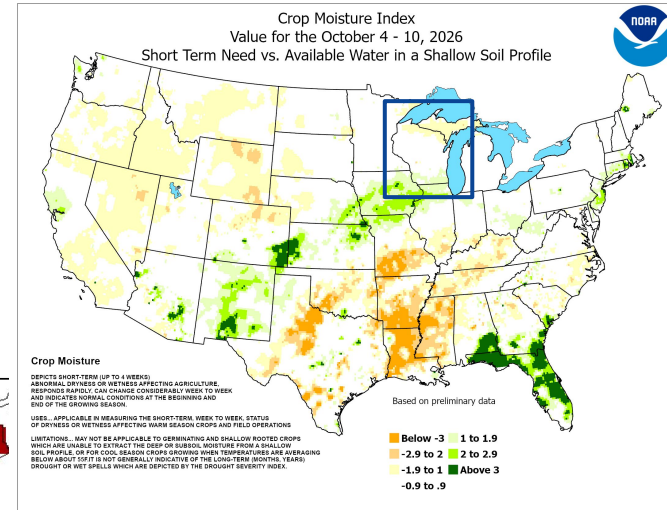
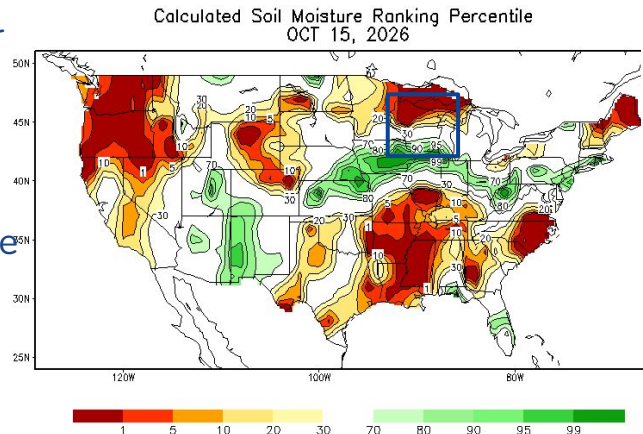
Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
OCT 15, 2026





Agricultural Impacts

- A tale of two stories in September with extremely dry conditions across the far north, and very wet conditions across east-central WI.
- Rainfall totals in September were 30-60% of normal over the far north and 150-300% of normal across portions of central and east-central WI.
- So far in October (through the 14th), most locations have received less than an inch of rain. The area received beneficial rain on the 15th.

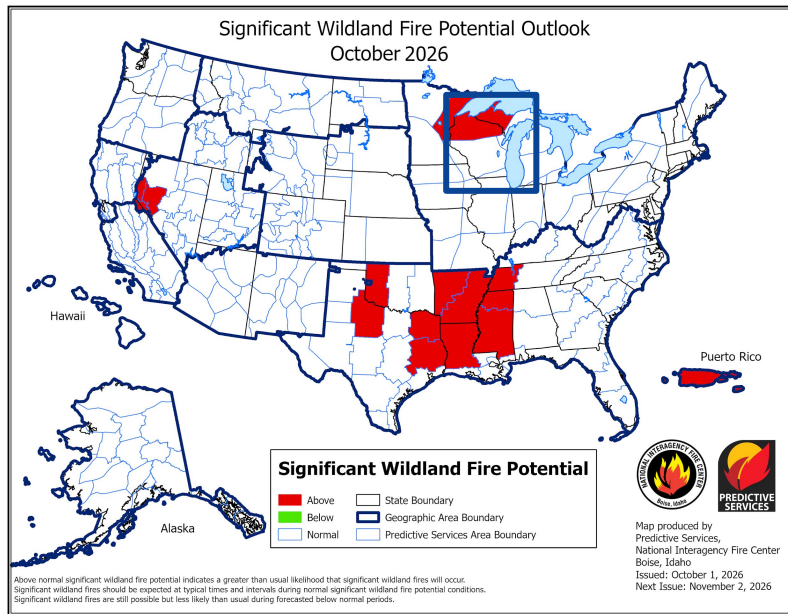




Fire Hazard Impacts

Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#).

- The risk of wildland fires continues to run above normal in October due to the extremely dry conditions across north-central and far northeast WI.
- If drought conditions continue or worsen, there would be a continued increase risk of wildfires deep into the fall or early winter, especially after a solid frost or freeze on mild windy days with low afternoon relative humidity values.



Wisconsin Fire Danger Map



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

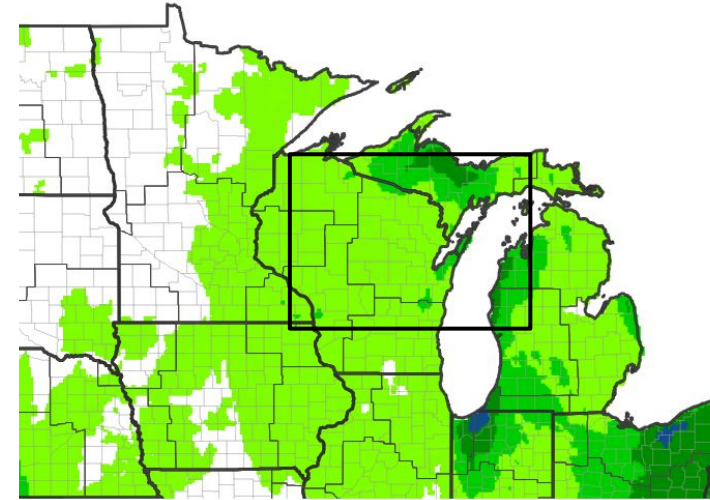
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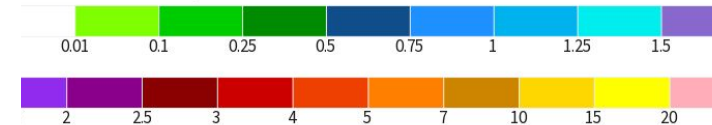
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- The next chance for rainfall will not be until the middle of next week at the earliest.
- The dry weather will be accompanied by above normal temperatures next week.

Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for October 16,
26-October 23, 2026



dicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 10/1





Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

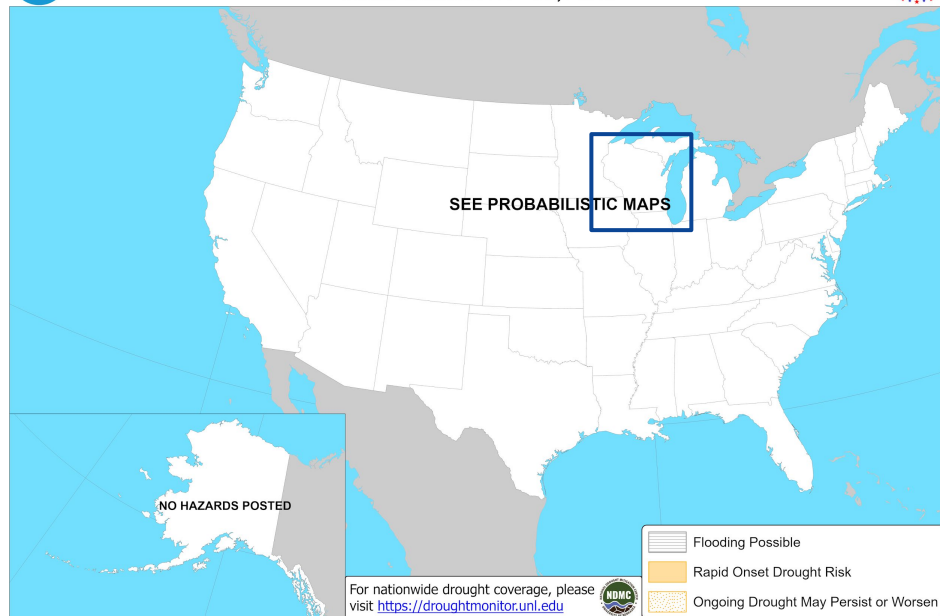
Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- No significant changes in drought conditions are expected over the next week, although conditions could worsen across the north due to the potential for dry days with low humidity values at times.



Days 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook

Valid: October 24 - 30, 2026



Climate Prediction Center

Released: October 16, 2026 3:00 PM EDT

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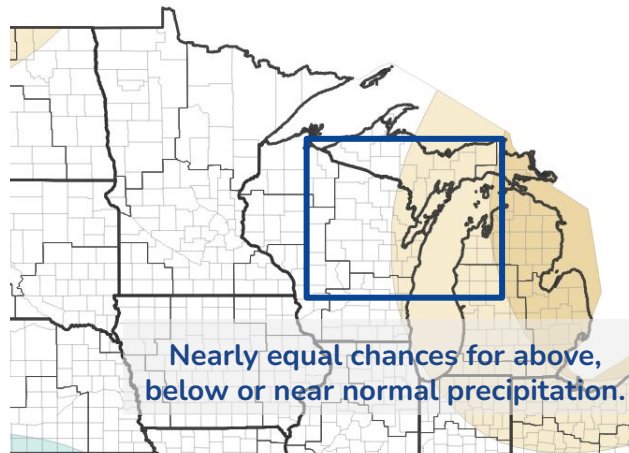


Long-Range Outlooks

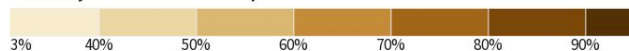
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- There is a slightly greater chance for below normal precipitation in November across eastern WI. The rest of the area will have nearly equal chances for above, below or near normal rainfall.
- There is a 50-60% chance for above normal temperatures in November.

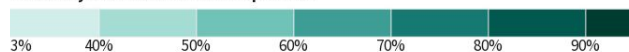
Monthly Precipitation Outlook for November 1, 2026–November 30, 2026



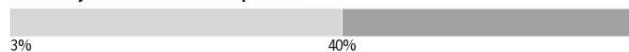
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation

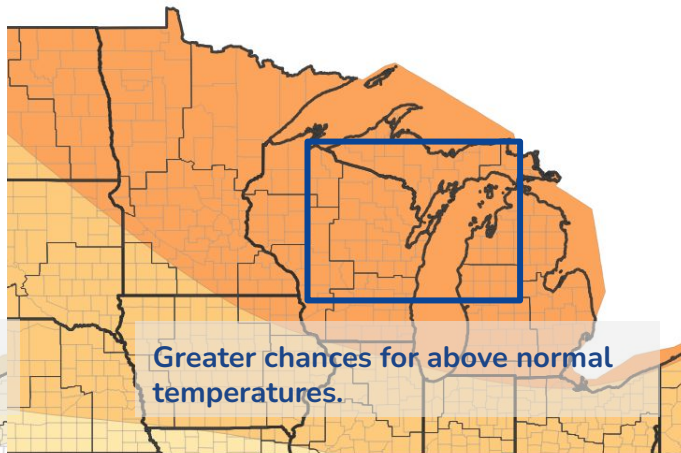


Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

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



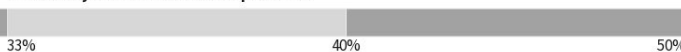
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



Last Updated: 10/15/26 Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 10/15/26



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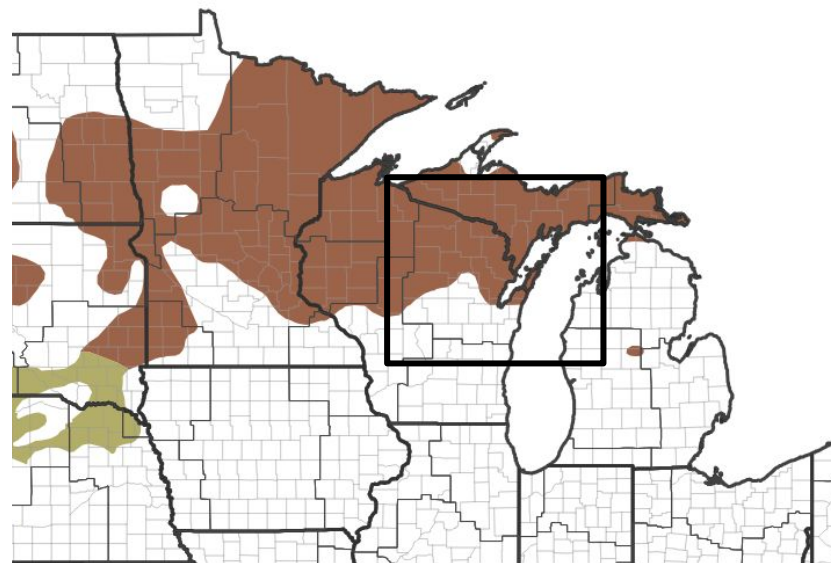


Drought Outlook

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

- The latest Drought Outlook for the fall is for drought to persist, especially across far northern WI.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for October 15, 2026–January 31, 2027



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 10/15/2026

Links to the latest:

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



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