



Drought Information Statement for Central and Southeast Illinois

Valid October 9, 2025

Issued By: WFO Lincoln, IL

Contact Information: nws.lincoln@noaa.gov

- The next update will be Thursday, October 16, if conditions persist or worsen.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/ilx/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.

Key Messages:

- Expansion of drought conditions continues to take place over central and southeast Illinois.
- Dry weather is expected through most of the next week, potentially worsening the drought across the forecast area.





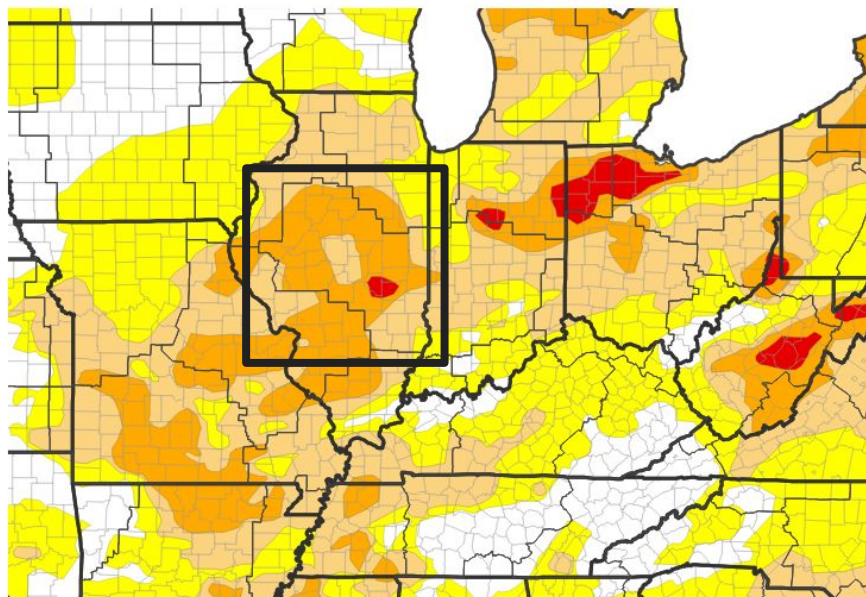
U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for central and southeast Illinois

- **Drought Intensity and Extent:**

- **D4 (Exceptional Drought):** N/A
- **D3 (Extreme Drought):** Small area of central & eastern Illinois between Decatur and Paris
- **D2 (Severe Drought):** Much of central Illinois and the I-57 Corridor
- **D1 (Moderate Drought):** The remainder of central, eastern and southeast IL
- **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** Small area in southeast Illinois around

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 10/07/25



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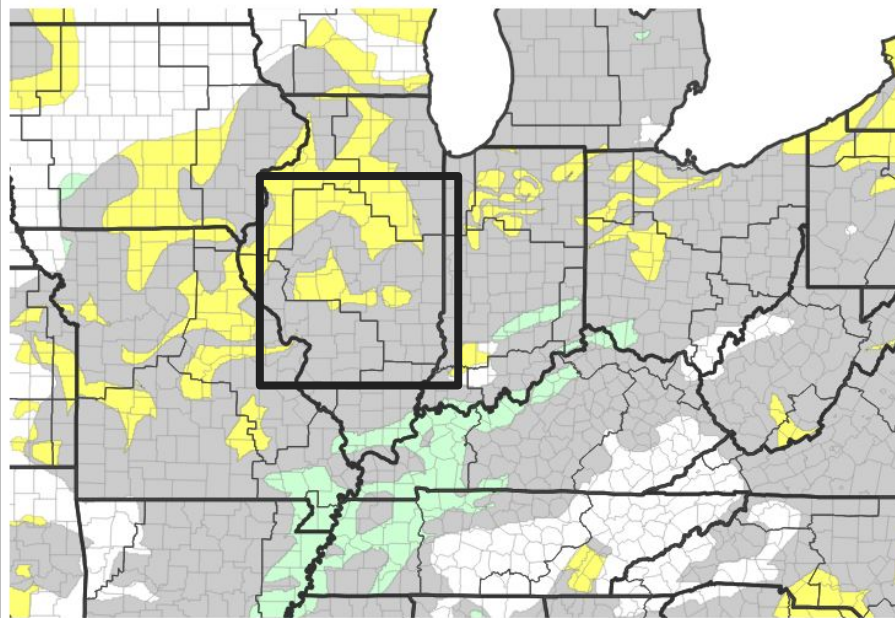


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

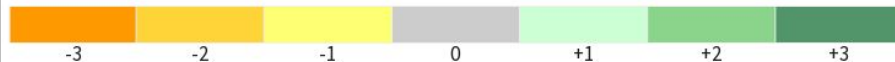
Link to the latest [1-week change map](#) for central and southeast Illinois

- **One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.**
 - Drought Worsened:
 - Along and north of I-74 west of I-55 and along I-72 west of Springfield
 - Drought Improved:
 - None
 - No Change:
 - The rest of central and southeastern IL

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: 10/07/25





Recent Precipitation

Last 7 days and 30 days

- Some precip was observed over northern portions of central Illinois over the past week, however much of the remainder of central Illinois west of I-55 received little precip.
- 30-day precip continues to run well below normal for nearly all of central and southeast Illinois.

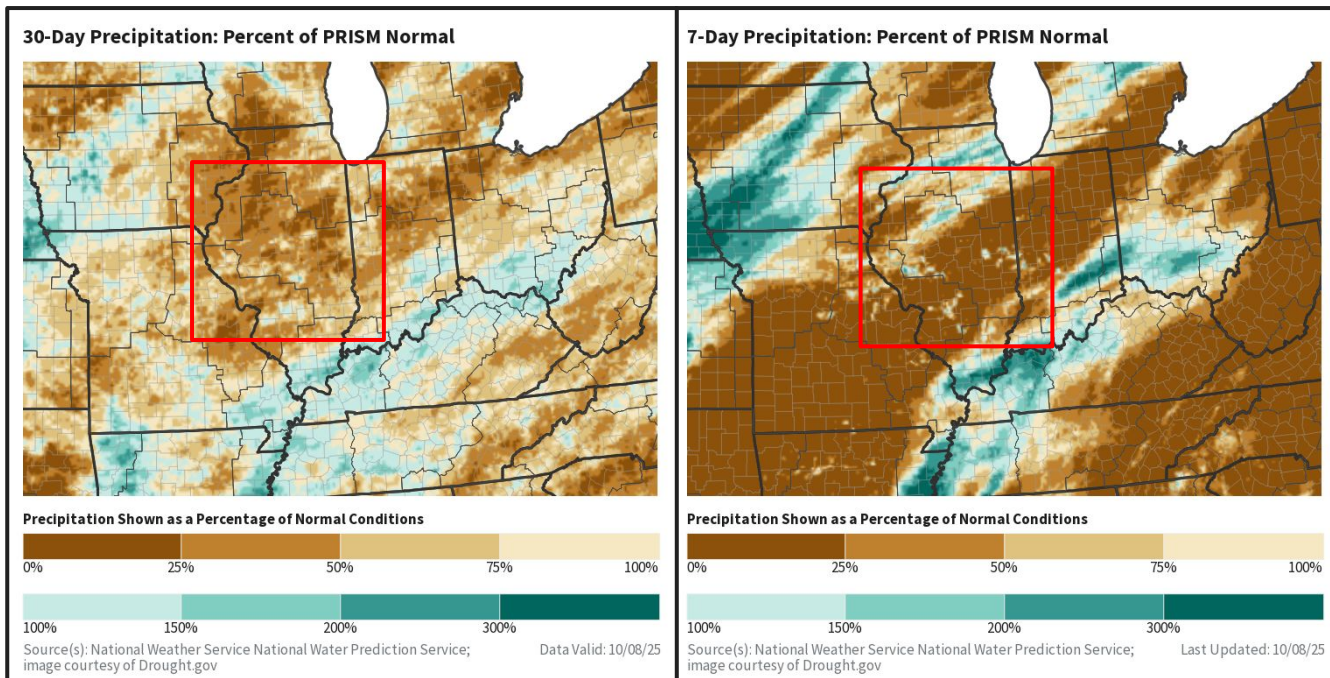


Image Caption: Total precipitation as a percentage of normal, as of October 8. Left image is a 30 day average, right image the last 7 days. Images from Drought.gov.



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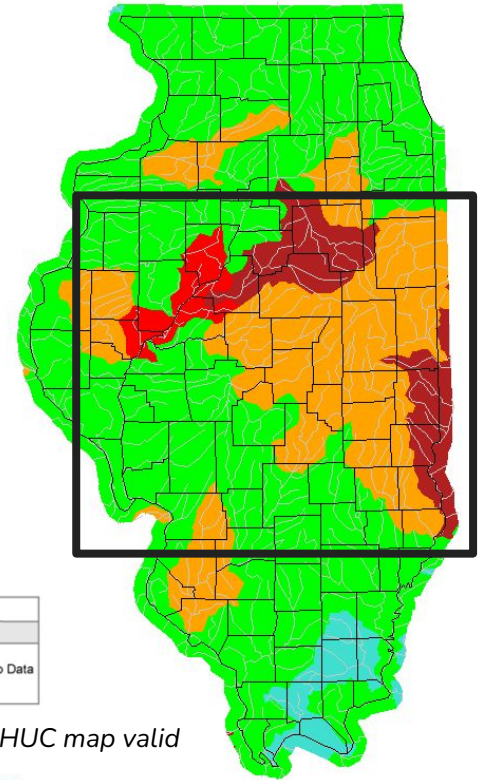
National Weather Service
Lincoln, Illinois



Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Most streamflows are below normal, however the most significant streamflow impacts are on portions of the Illinois, Mackinaw, and Wabash Rivers.

Wednesday, October 08, 2025



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		

Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid October 8, 2025.



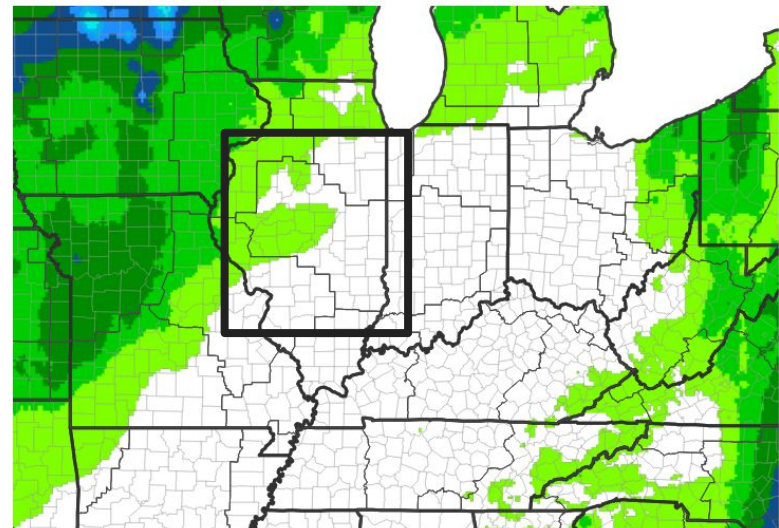


Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

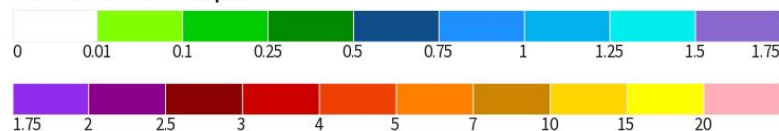
- Rainfall over the next 7 days is forecast to be little to none over most of central Illinois.
- A couple of weak cold fronts will push across the region over the next week, but rainfall amounts will be generally be less than one tenth of an inch and only in west central Illinois.

Image Caption: Expected rainfall over the next 7 days, valid through Wednesday, October 15. Check weather.gov/ilx for updated forecasts.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for October 8, 2025–October 15, 2025



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 10/08/25



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Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

- The lack of significant rainfall in the coming months should cause drought to persist or worsen.

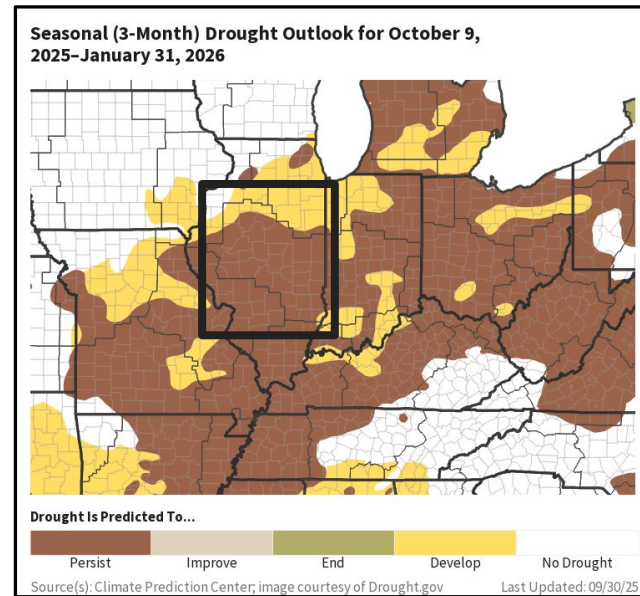
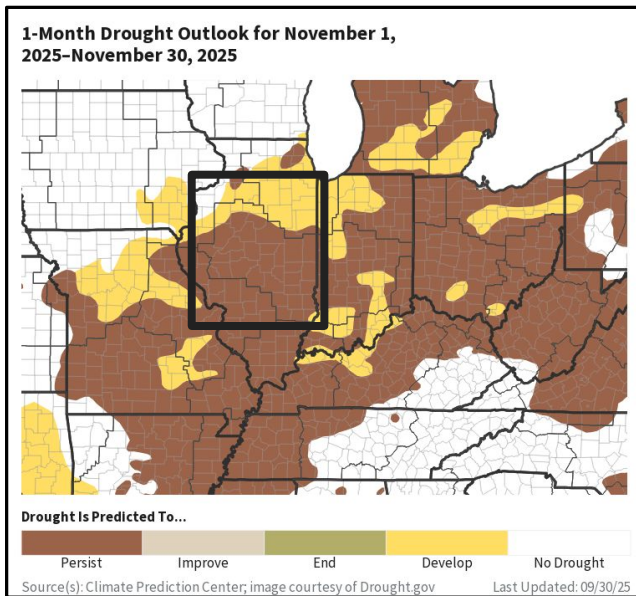


Image Caption:

(Left) Climate Prediction Center 1-Month Drought Outlook for November and (Right) Seasonal Drought Outlook released September 30, valid through January 31, 2026

Links to the latest:

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



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Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflow along the Illinois, Sangamon, Vermilion, Mackinaw, and Wabash Rivers is below normal, and some smaller creeks are near zero flow.
- Lake levels: Lake Decatur 2 to 3 feet below seasonal normals, Lake Shelbyville about 1.4 feet below, Lake Springfield near normal. Smaller lakes and ponds are low.

Agricultural Impacts

- Crops are drying rapidly with harvest efforts continuing.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Burn bans have been implemented in a number of counties and local municipalities.
- There is a field fire risk as farmers run hot equipment through dry fields during harvest.

Other Impacts

- Lawns are turning brown. Trees and landscaping plants are stressed.

Mitigation Actions

- Voluntary water conservation has been requested for Decatur residents due to low lake levels.

