



Drought Information Statement for Northern IN, Southern MI, Northwest OH

Valid September 30, 2025

Issued By: NWS Northern Indiana on October 2nd, 2025

Contact Information: nws.northernindiana@noaa.gov 574-834-1104

- This product will be updated on or after October 9, 2025.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/iwx/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.

- Drought conditions have worsened as Extreme Drought (level 3 of 4) has expanded into Fort Wayne, IN and into NW Ohio along the US 24 corridor
- The areas of Moderate to Severe Drought (levels 1 and 2 of 4) remain largely unchanged.
- There was some improvement this week in parts of Noble, Dekalb, and Steuben Counties in northeast Indiana where localized rainfall amounts of up to 3-4" fell last week.
- Very little rain is expected in the next week (only 0.25"-0.50" total through October 9th).

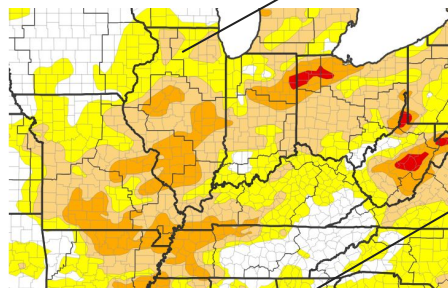




U.S. Drought Monitor

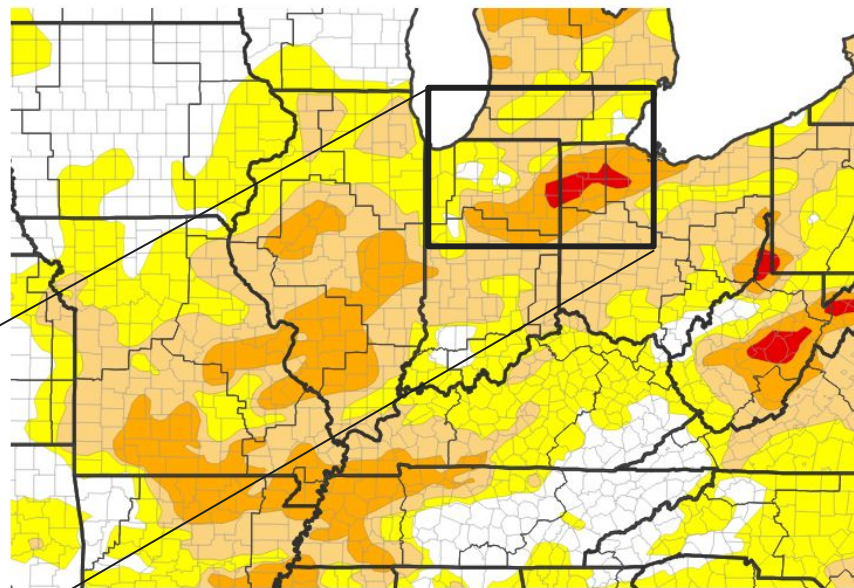
Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for northern Indiana, southern Michigan, and northwest Ohio

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** In northwest Ohio along US 24 and parts of Allen and Adams counties in Indiana
 - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Many Indiana and Ohio counties along and south of US 24
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Most of southwest Lower Michigan
 - **D0 (Abnormally Dry):** A small portion of counties in northwest Indiana and parts of far northeast Indiana



U.S. Drought Monitor

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 09/30/25





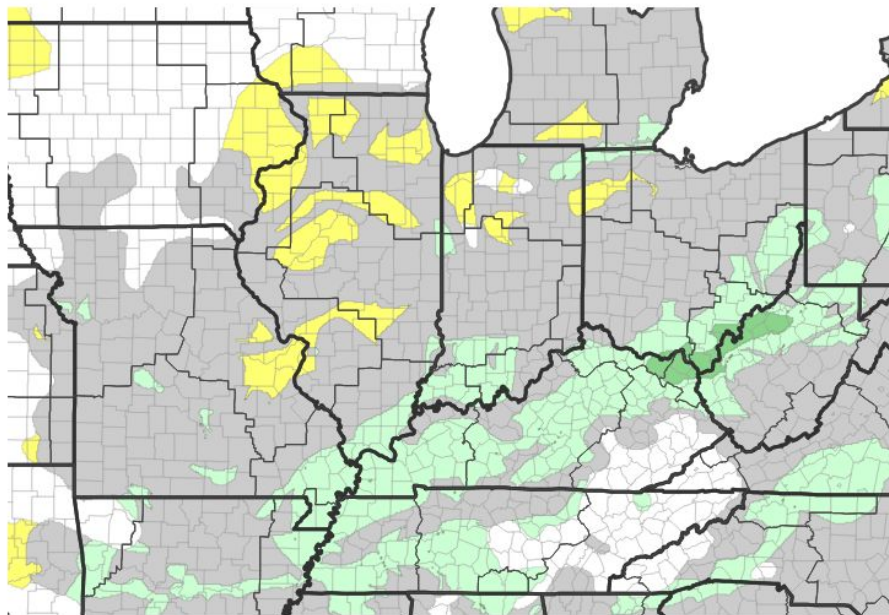
Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for northern Indiana, southern Michigan, and northwest Ohio

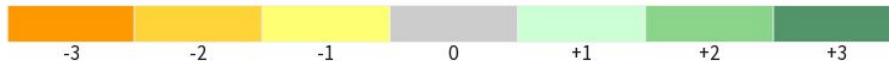
- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change:

- Drought conditions have worsened in Allen and Adams counties in Indiana and into NW Ohio along the US 24 corridor
- There was some improvement this week in parts of Noble, Dekalb, and Steuben Counties in northeast Indiana where localized rainfall amounts of up to 3-4" fell last week.

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: 09/30/25

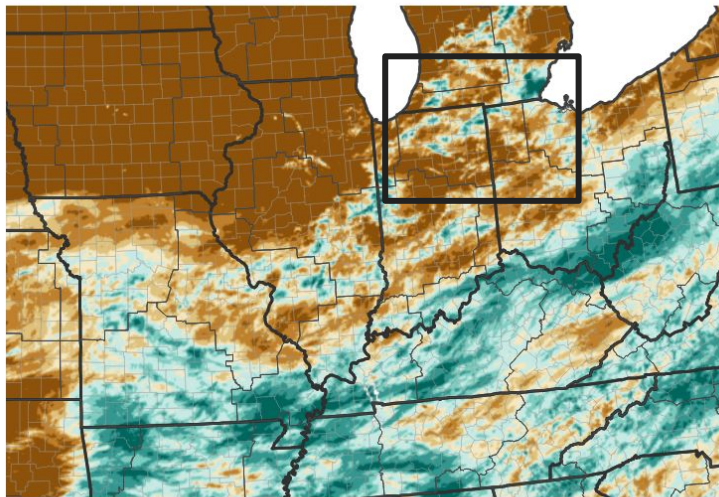




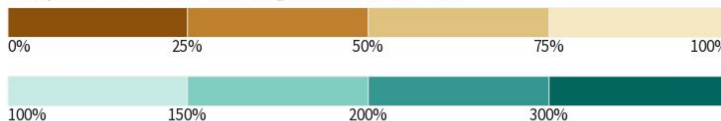
Precipitation

- Very localized rainfall amounts of 2-4 inches occurred on Sept 23rd in northeast and north central Indiana
- No significant rainfall has occurred in the past week, thus a drying trend continues
- For a majority of the area, 30-day rainfall has been only 25-50% of normal or less

7-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



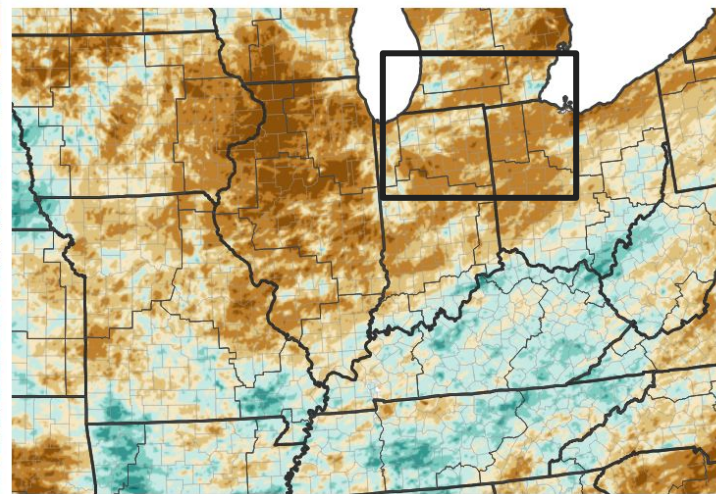
Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions



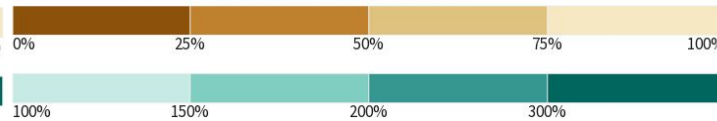
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System;
image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 10/02/25

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: 10/02/25





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- 28-day streamflows, according to USGS data, are in the 10th to 25th percentile.
- Pond levels are low and some creeks have stopped flowing according to [CoCoRaHS Condition Monitoring](#) reports.

Agricultural Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Burn bans are in effect for a few Indiana counties, according to the [Indiana Department of Homeland Security](#).
- Several field fires have occurred in the past week, especially in Putnam and Van Wert counties in Ohio, per local emergency management and fire departments.

Other Impacts

- Grass is very dry and in some instances, especially in the Extreme Drought area, going dormant.
- Fall foliage may not reach peak color this year. Many trees are losing leaves prematurely; recent observations state leaves change from green to a dull yellow or brown and then drop.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflows are below normal (orange), reading only 10% to 24% of normal in northeast Indiana and northwest Ohio

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		

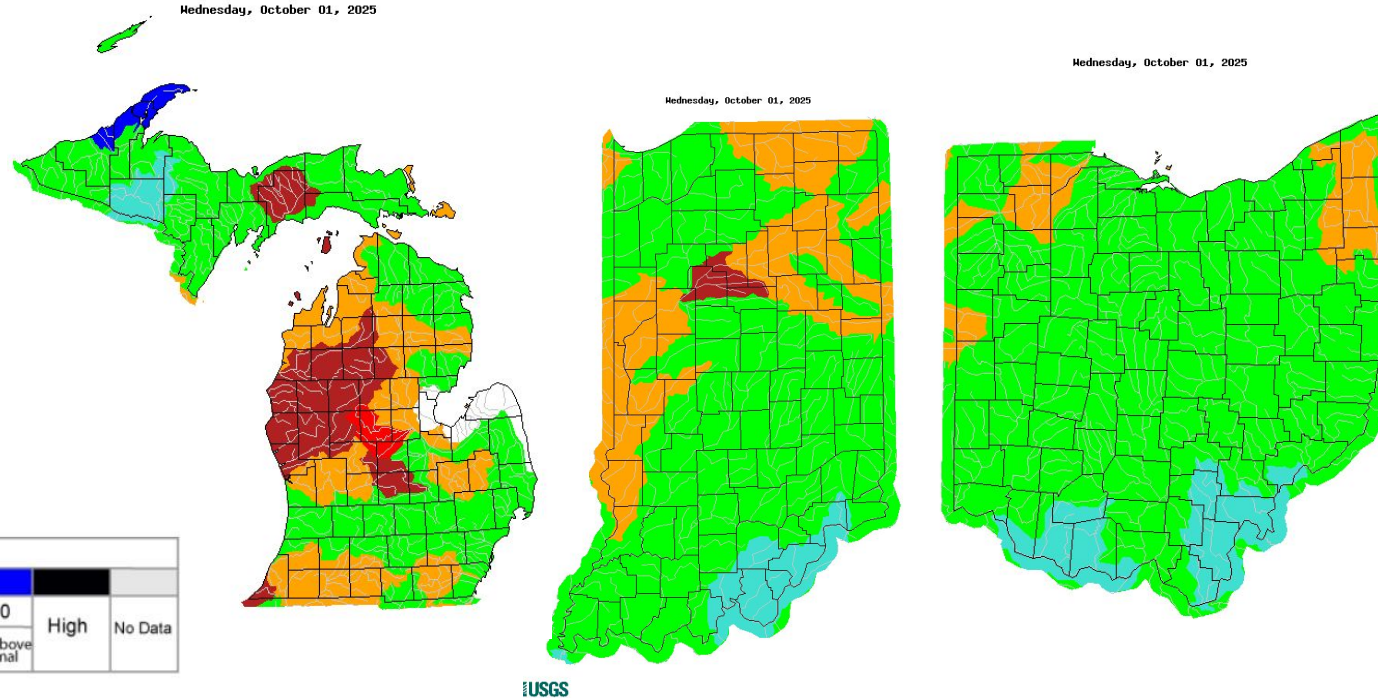


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid April 9, 2025

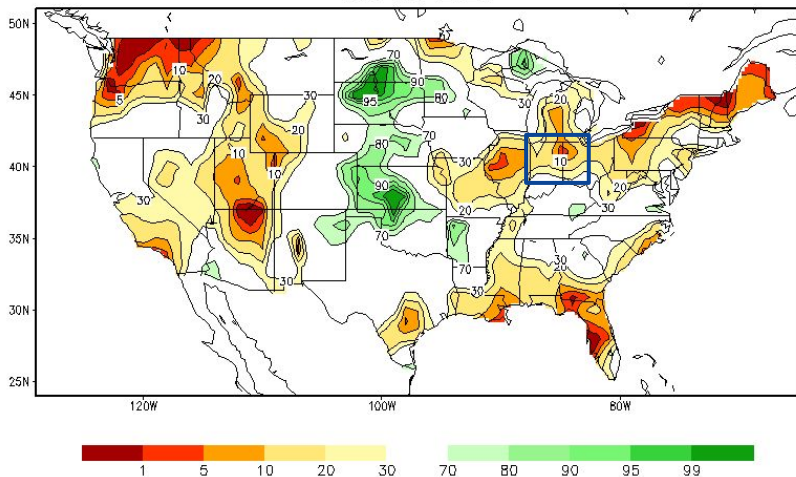




Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture continues to deteriorate, especially in northeast Indiana and northwest Ohio.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
OCT 01, 2025



Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending OCT 26, 2024
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

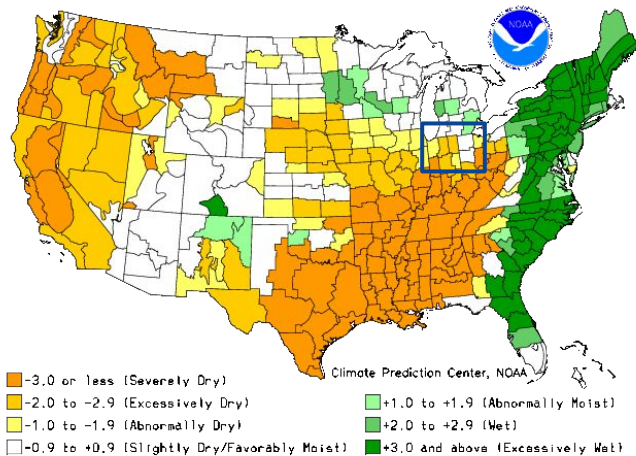


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid September 18, 2024

Above: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending September 14, 2024

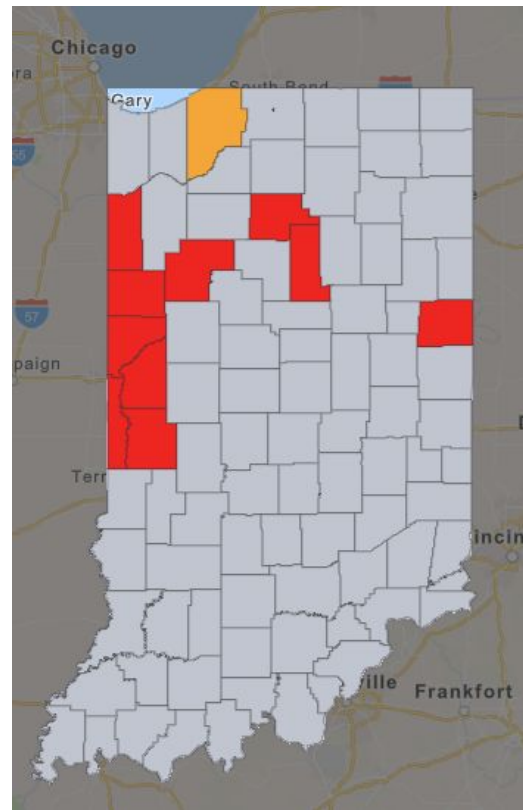
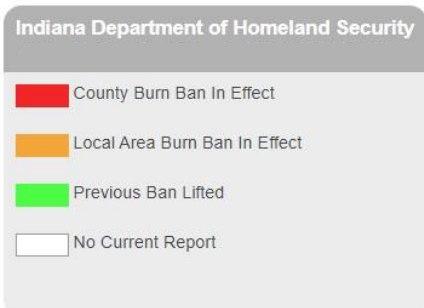




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Some counties are choosing to enact local burn bans as a result of ongoing drought. The Indiana Burn Ban Map as of 11 AM EDT October 2nd shows burn bans in place for Jay, Miami, and Fulton counties. Local area bans are in effect in La Porte County. See the [latest map at here](#). Burn bans are in effect for the counties highlighted in red.
- Ohio and Michigan residents can contact local officials regarding any possible local restrictions.

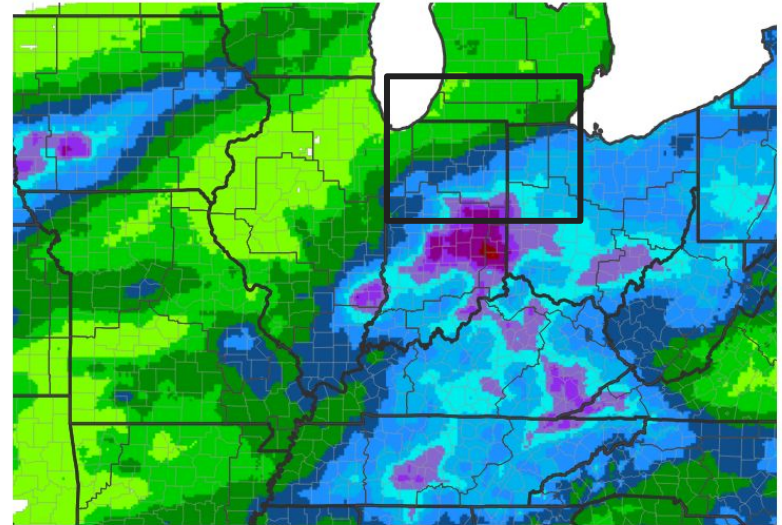




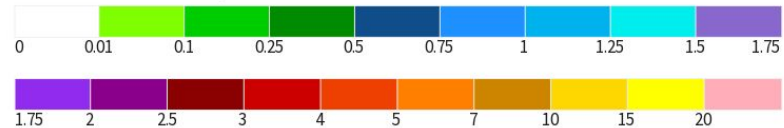
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Although 0.25-0.50" is forecast, 7-day precipitation will likely not be enough to offset ongoing drought.
- A strong ridge of high pressure remains in place through the upcoming weekend. Warm and dry conditions prevail.
- This ridge looks to break down sometime around October 7th or 8th. A much more active pattern may be ahead in the next 10 to 14 days with several instances of rain possible.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for October 2, 2025–October 9, 2025



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 10/02/25



**National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration**

U.S. Department of Commerce

**National Weather Service
Northern Indiana**

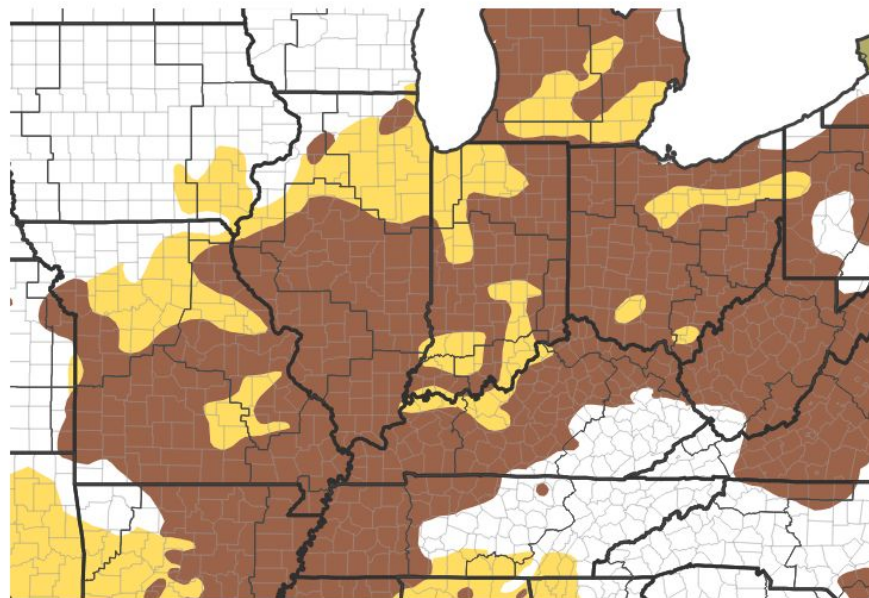


Drought Outlook

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

- Drought conditions are anticipated to develop and/or persist through the fall, according to the Climate Prediction Center
- Precipitation departures:
 - Fort Wayne has a rainfall deficit of over 11" for the year. They only picked up 0.98" of rain for the entire month of September.
 - South Bend is short about 5" year to date, and was about 2.25" below normal for the month of September.
- Note that September, October, and November are typically drier months for our area. Normal monthly precipitation is about 3" per month, compared to 4-4.5" in June, July, and August

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for September 30, 2025–December 31, 2025



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 09/30/25

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



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

National Weather Service
Northern Indiana