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

Valid December 18, 2025

Issued By: NWS Northern Indiana on December 19, 2025

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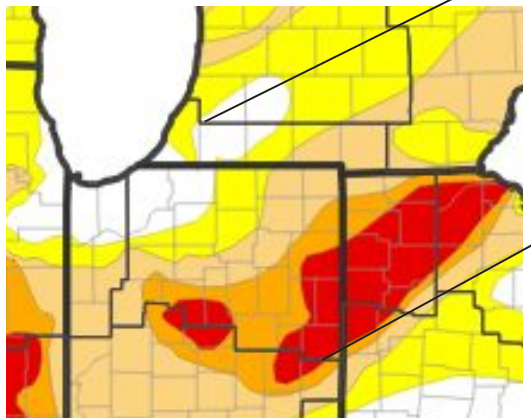
- This product will be updated on or after January 2, 2026.
- Please see all currently available products at https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements.
- Please visit https://www.weather.gov/iwx/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.
- Please visit https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates for regional drought status updates.

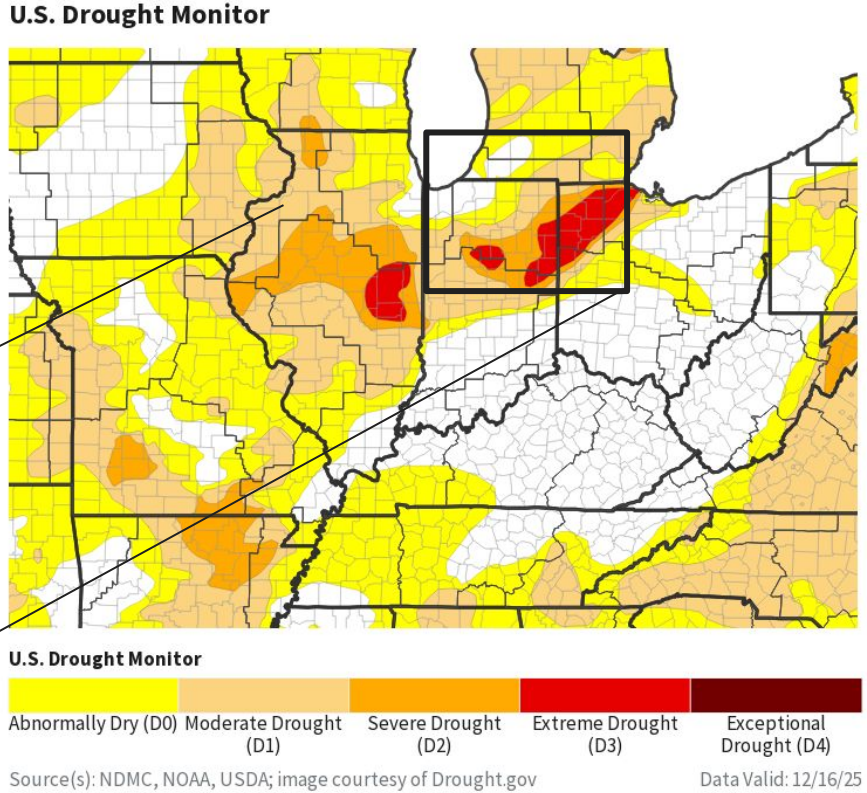
- The Drought Monitor remains largely unchanged from mid-November; Severe to Extreme Drought (levels 2 and 3 of 4) persists along and south of US 24
- Drought impacts are less pronounced in winter, but deficits remain problematic
- Fort Wayne remains on pace for its driest year on record with a precipitation deficit of nearly 15” year-to-date

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)** and **D2 (Severe Drought):** All Indiana and Ohio counties along and south of US 24
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Southern Lower Michigan and northeast Indiana through central Indiana
  - **D0 (Abnormally Dry):** Portions of north-central Indiana and southern Lower Michigan

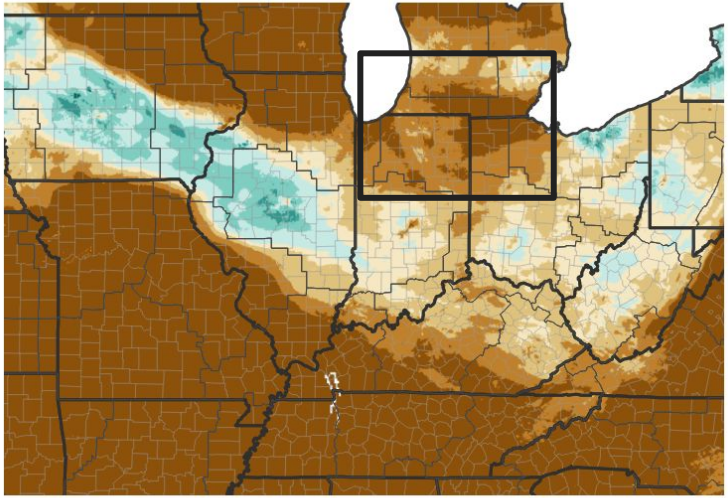




Precipitation

- In the past 7 days, precipitation has been minimal, with a clipper system passing through central Indiana and some lake effect snow
- Lake effect snow resulted in above-normal precipitation for some counties in the last 30-days
- Northwest Ohio continues to experience below-normal precipitation

7-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions

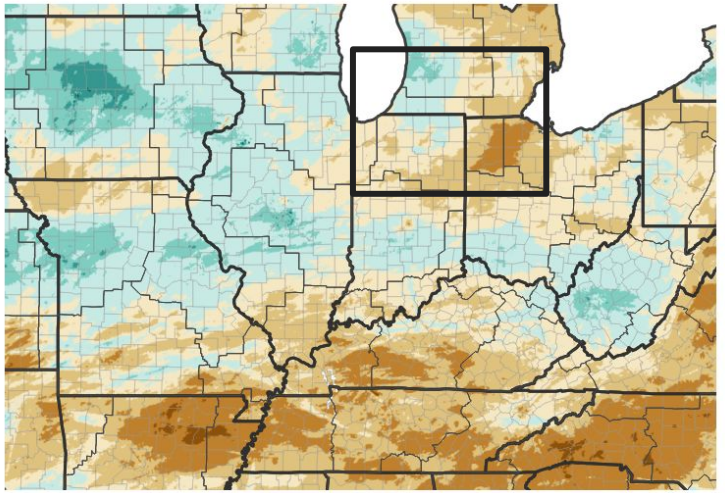
0% 25% 50% 75% 100%

100% 150% 200% 300%

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

Last Updated: 12/19/25

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



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Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows (unless frozen), continue to be well below normal according to USGS data

Agricultural Impacts

- No known impacts at this time.

Fire Hazard Impacts

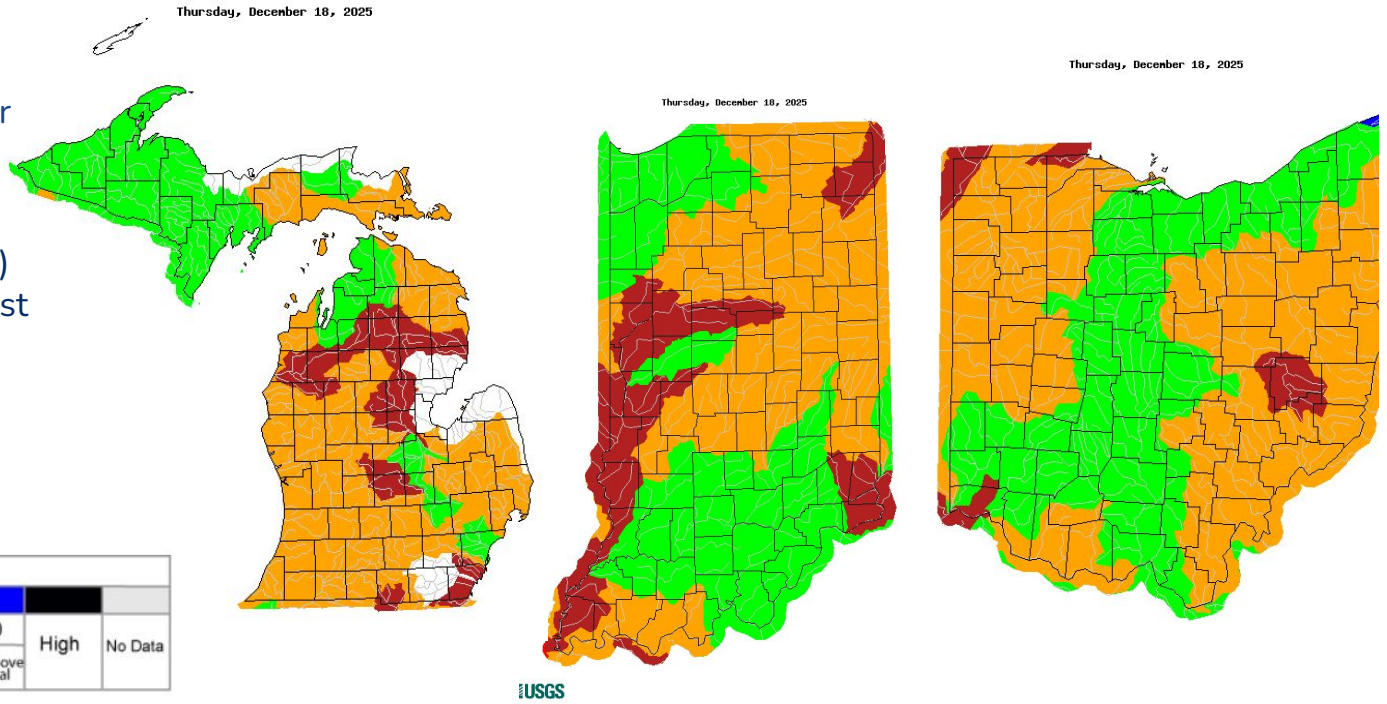
- No known impacts at this time.

Other Impacts

- No known impacts at this time.

Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflows are reading less than 10% of normal (red) in portions of the Wabash and Maumee River basins.
- Streamflows are reading 10-24% of normal (orange) in northwest Ohio, northeast Indiana, and southern Michigan.

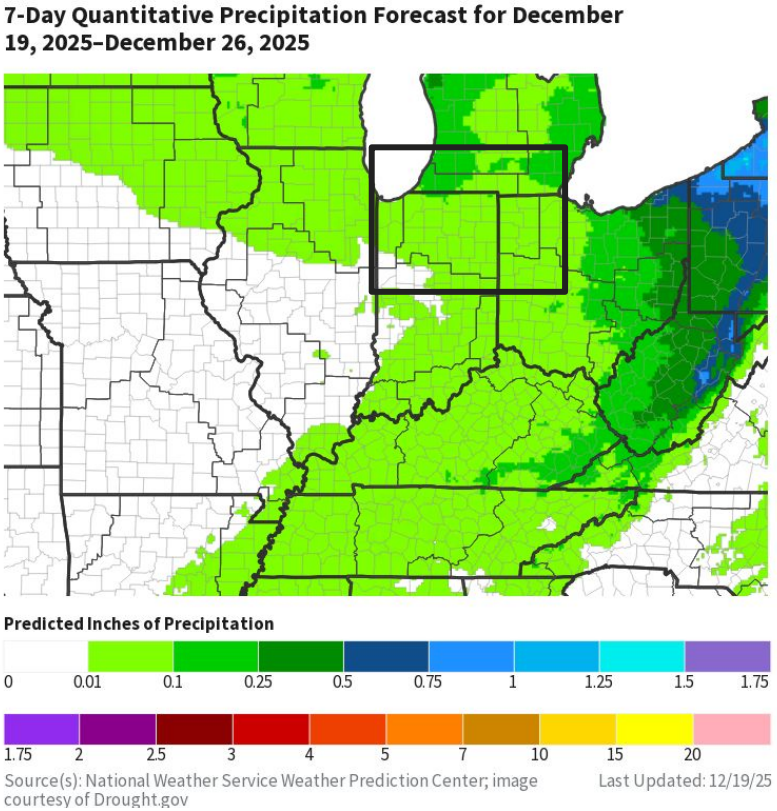


Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid December 18

Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

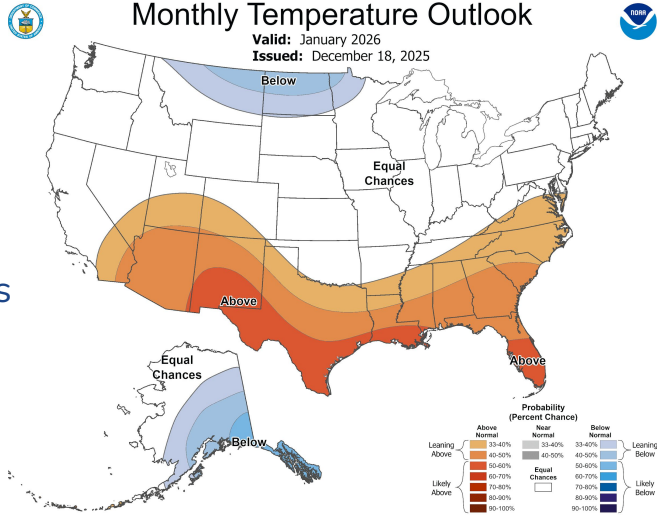
- Precipitation chances will be minimal through December 26

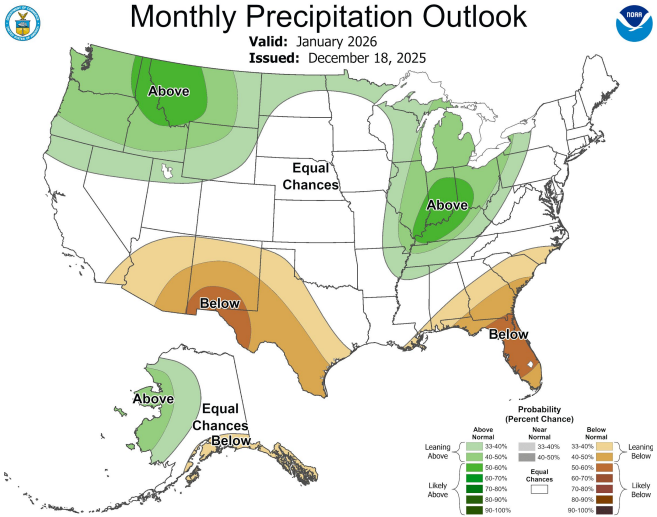


Long-Range Outlooks

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

- **Above normal precipitation** is favored for January, primarily due to ongoing La Niña conditions
- Precipitation could fall as either rain or snow
- For temperatures, there are equal chance for above or below normal temperatures
- A mild start to the month could give way to a colder end to January



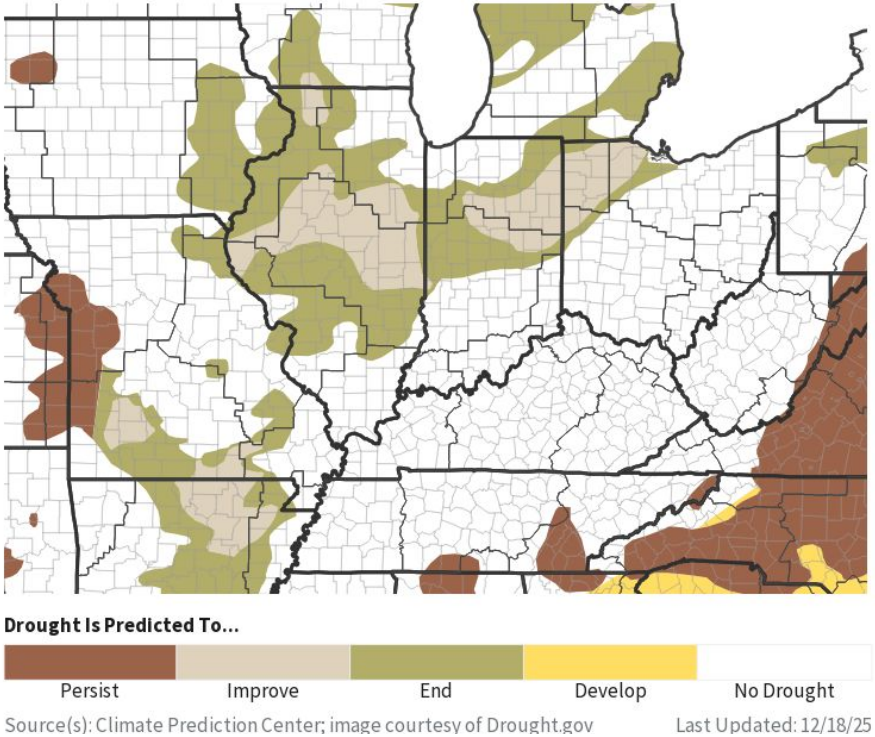


Drought Outlook

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

- Drought conditions are anticipated to improve, per the Climate Prediction Center. This is primarily due to typical La Niña conditions which favor above normal precipitation for the Midwest.
- Precipitation departures:
  - Year-to-date, Fort Wayne is experiencing the driest year on record (records began in 1897) with a deficit of nearly 15” for the year.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for December 18, 2025–March 31, 2026



Links to the latest:
Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook