



Drought Information Statement for Western and North Central Nebraska

Valid May, 18, 2025

Issued By: NWS-North Platte, NE

Contact Information:

- This product will be updated June, 19, 2025 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/LBF/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
 - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.
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- Drought conditions have deteriorated over all of western and north central Nebraska over the past month.



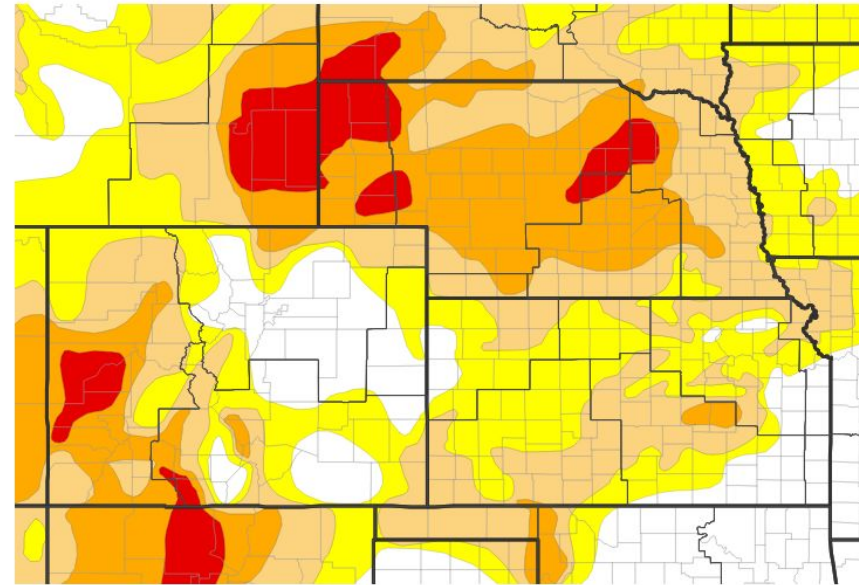


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: No counties in western and north central Nebraska.
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Western portions of Sheridan, western Garden, and portions of Holt, Garfield, Wheeler and Custer County.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Sheridan, Cherry, Brown, Rock, Holt, Boyd, Garfield, Loup, Blaine Thomas, Hooker, Grant, Garden, Arthur, McPherson, Logan, Custer, Deuel, Keith, Lincoln, Perkins, Hayes, and Frontier County.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Sheridan, Cherry, Brown, Rock, Keya Paha, Boyd, Holt, Perkins, Chase and Hayes County.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: None

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 05/13/25

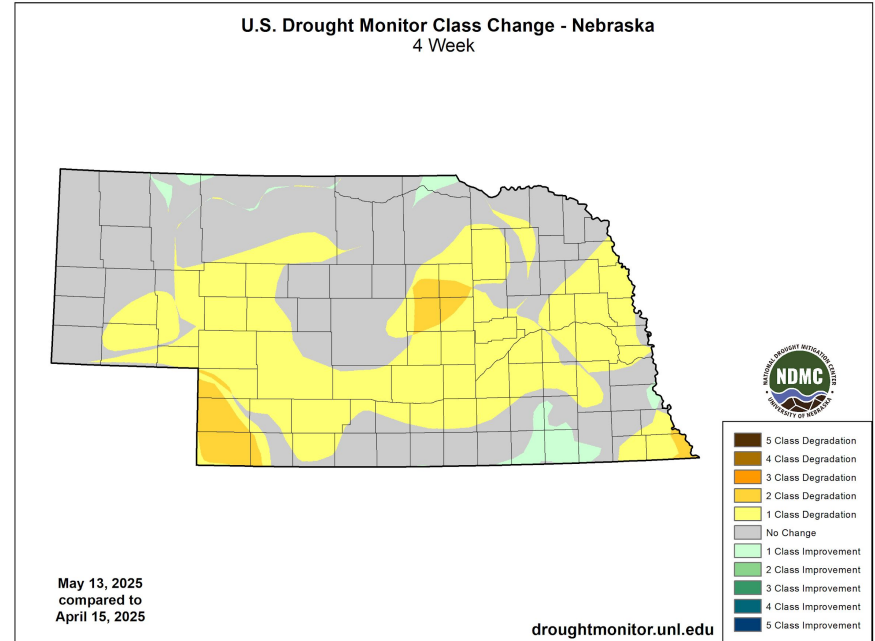




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for The High Plains

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: Sheridan, Cherry, Holt, Garden, Grant, Hooker, Loup, Wheeler, Arthur, McPherson, Custer, Deuel, Keith, Lincoln, Custer, Perkins, Chase, Hayes, and Frontier Counties.
 - No Change: Sheridan, Cherry, Brown, Rock, Keya Paha, Boyd, Holt, Thomas, Loup, Garfield, Garden, McPherson, Logan, Custer, Chase and Hayes Counties.
 - Drought Improved: Sheridan, Boyd and Holt Counties.

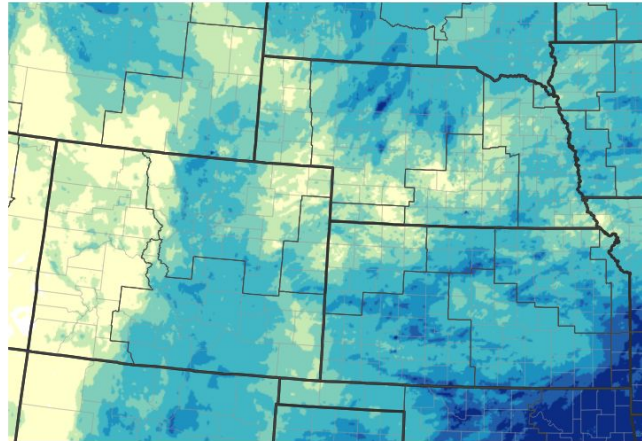




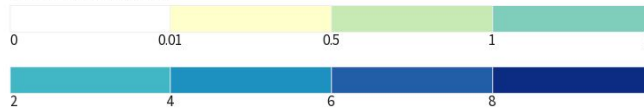
Precipitation

- Precipitation amounts for the past 30 days were under an inch roughly south of a line from Chappell, to North Platte, to Broken Bow and Bartlett.
- Precipitation was generally 0 to 75 percent of normal south of a line from Antioch, to Spencer. North of that line, precipitation was 75 percent to 150 percent of normal.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

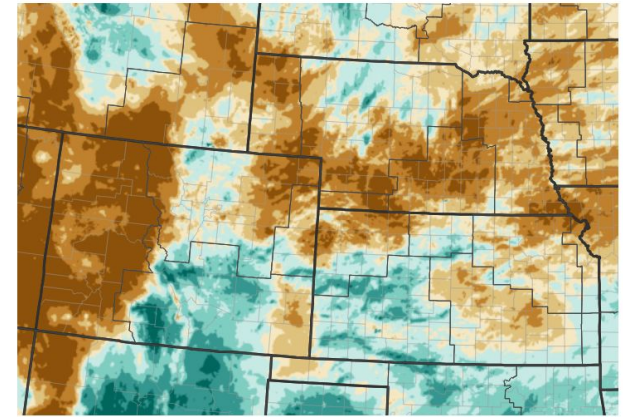


Inches of Precipitation

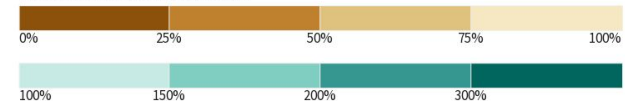


Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; Last Updated: 05/17/25
image courtesy of Drought.gov

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; Last Updated: 05/17/25
image courtesy of Drought.gov

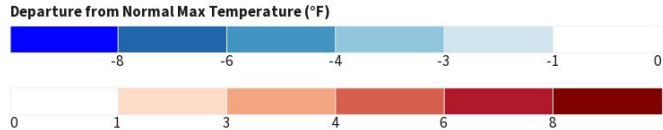
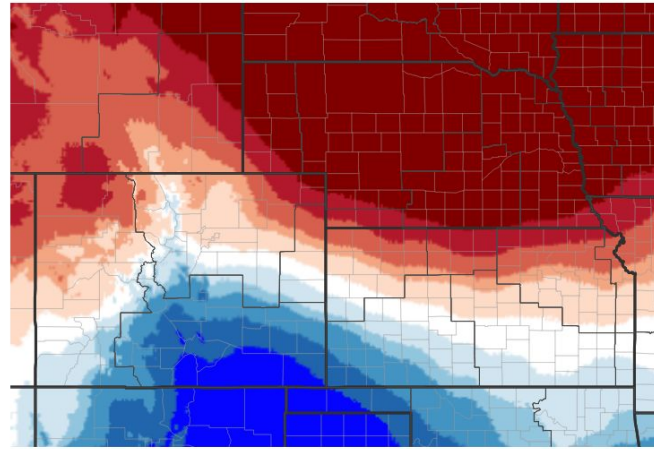




Temperature

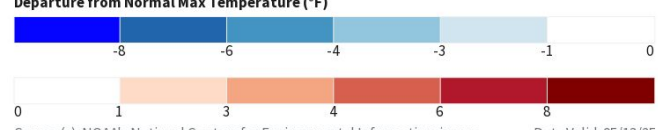
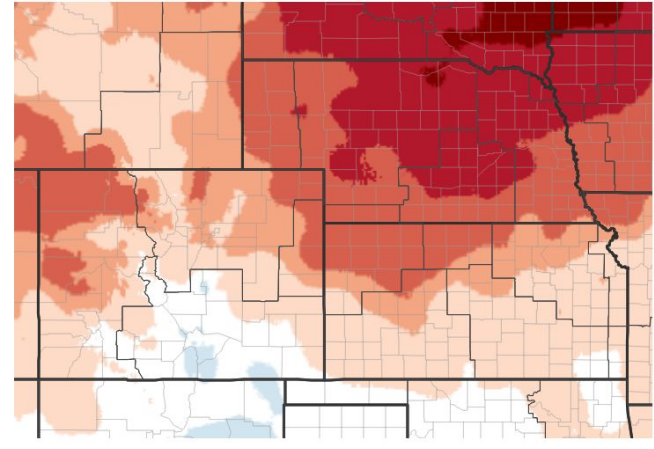
- Over the past week, temperatures have been well above normal across all of western and north central Nebraska.
- Over the past 30 days, temperatures were above normal across all of western and north central Nebraska.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 05/13/25

30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 05/13/25



Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- “There are no known impacts at this time”

Agricultural Impacts

- “There are no known impacts at this time”

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Local fire partners have indicated that fine fuels (grasses) are partially cured in western and southwestern Nebraska and will burn given the right wind and humidity conditions. Several range fires have occurred across western and north central Nebraska over the past month.

Other Impacts

- “There are no known impacts at this time”

Mitigation Actions

- “None reported”

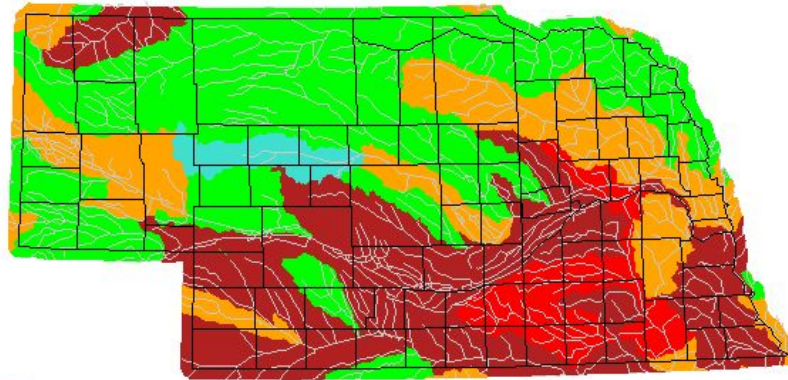




Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflow across the northern half of the area was normal to above normal for this time of year.
- Flows in the southern Loup, Elkhorn and Platte river system are below normal to much below normal for this time of year.
- Flows in the Medicine Creek, Frenchman, and Stinking Water Creeks' are much below normal for this time of year.

Friday, May 16, 2025



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

Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid 5 16 2025





Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Significant wildland fire potential is near normal for this time of year.

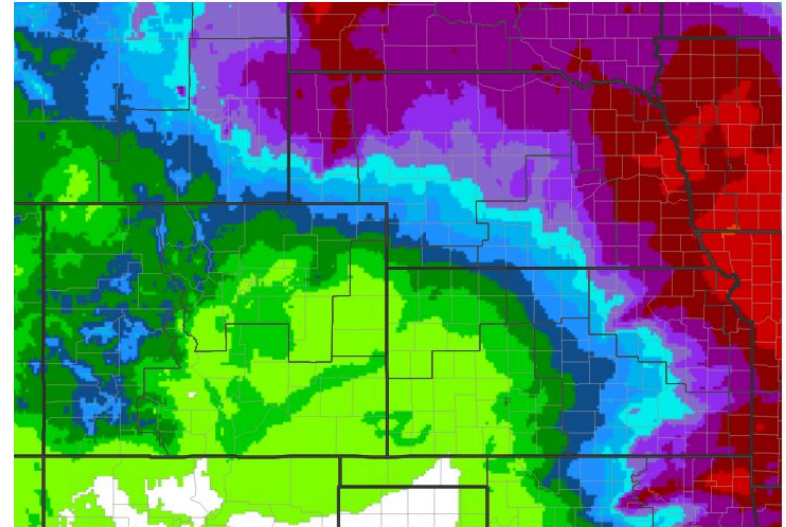




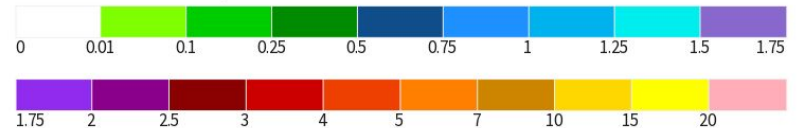
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- The precipitation forecast over the next 7 days calls for 1 to 2 inches of precipitation across all of western and north central Nebraska. The heaviest amounts are forecasted over north central Nebraska.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for May 17, 2025–May 24, 2025



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 05/17/25





Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

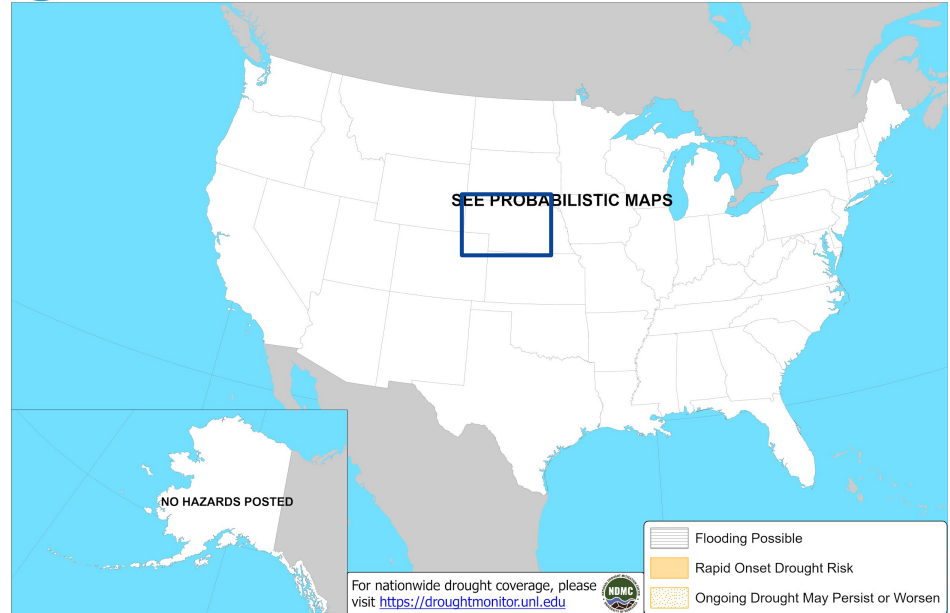
Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- Rapid onset of drought is not anticipated across western and north central Nebraska over the next couple of weeks.



Days 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook

Valid: May 24 - 30, 2025



Climate Prediction Center

Released: May 16, 2025 3:00 PM EDT

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North Platte, NE

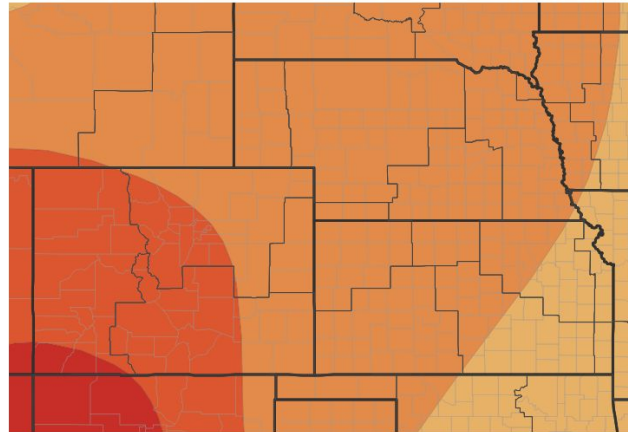


Long-Range Outlooks

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

- The outlook for June calls for above normal temperatures.
- The precipitation outlook for June calls for equal chances for above, below or near normal precipitation for most of the area. West of a line from Antioch to Hayes Center, below normal precipitation is forecast.

Monthly Temperature Outlook for June 1, 2025–June 30, 2025



Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



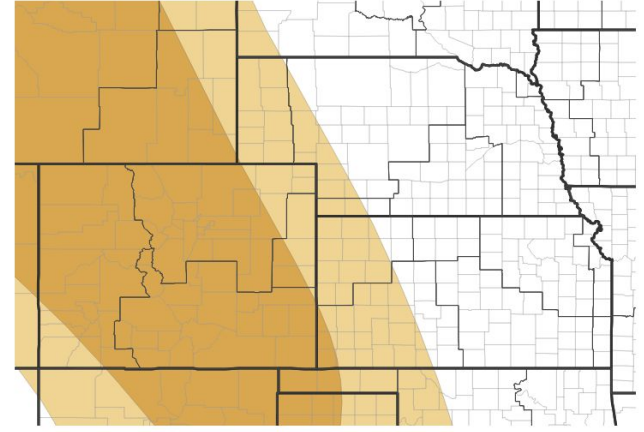
Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

Last Updated: 05/15/25

Monthly Precipitation Outlook for June 1, 2025–June 30, 2025



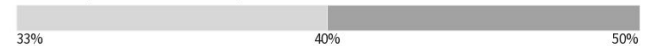
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 05/15/25

