



Drought Information Statement for Southern Indiana and Central Kentucky

Valid January 18, 2024

Issued By: WFO Louisville KY

Contact Information: nws.louisville@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated at least once a month or when drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- You may visit <https://www.weather.gov/lmk/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.

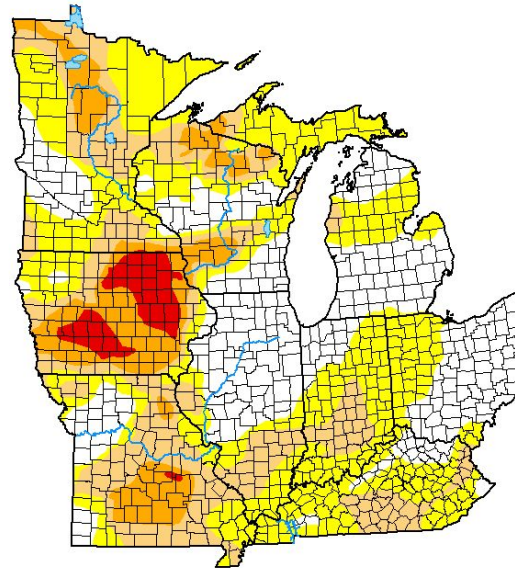




U.S. Drought Monitor

- Widespread rainfall, and some snow, has lessened the drought in southern Indiana and central Kentucky
- Moderate drought remains from the Lake Cumberland region northwestward to around Rough River Lake and Barren River Lake, including Mammoth Cave National Park.
- Moderate drought is also affecting Hoosier National Forest and points east in southern Indiana.
- There is no longer any severe drought in the Ohio Valley.

U.S. Drought Monitor Midwest



January 16, 2024
(Released Thursday, Jan. 18, 2024)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	29.77	70.23	34.28	13.38	3.24	0.00
Last Week 01-09-2024	23.52	76.48	50.51	20.42	4.04	0.00
3 Months Ago 10-17-2023	17.46	82.54	50.00	18.25	4.66	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-02-2024	22.92	77.08	50.25	20.76	4.20	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	16.82	83.18	54.98	23.81	6.21	0.13
One Year Ago 01-17-2023	50.91	49.09	18.94	5.73	1.00	0.06

Intensity

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.asp>

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NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

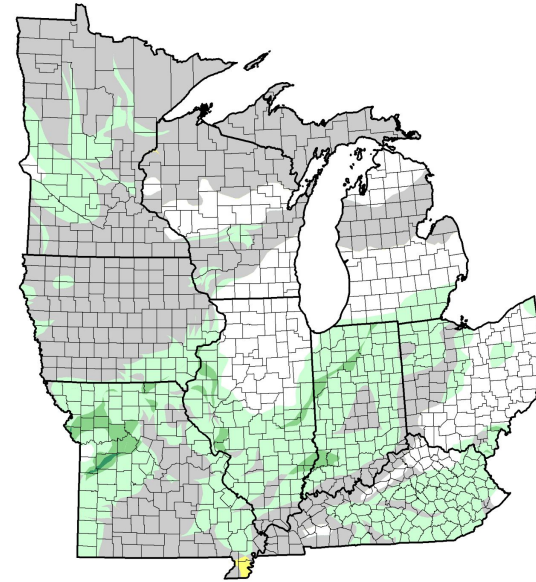




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change
 - Widespread and frequent precipitation January 6 through 15 improved drought conditions in many areas.

U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - Midwest Climate Region
4 Week



January 16, 2024
compared to
December 19, 2023

droughtmonitor.unl.edu



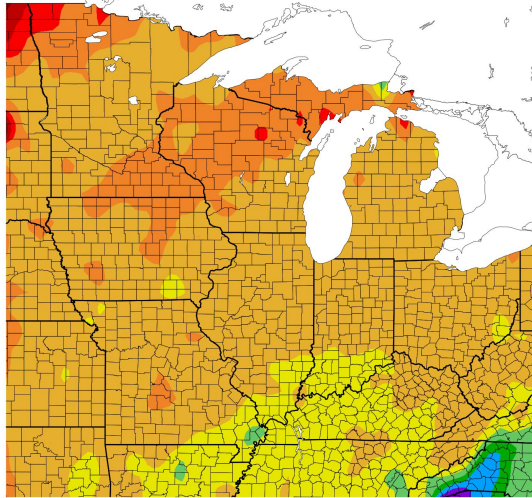


Precipitation

Precipitation is now above normal for the most recent 30-day period in most locations.

Some spots have seen more than 125% of normal precipitation.

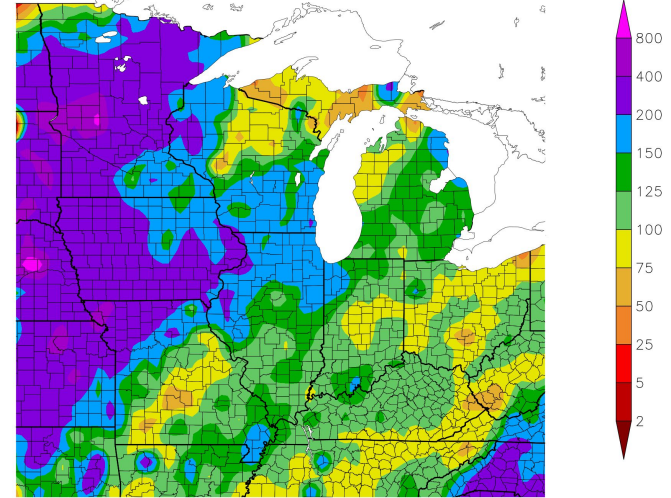
Precipitation (in)
12/20/2023 – 1/18/2024



Generated 1/19/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
12/20/2023 – 1/18/2024



Generated 1/19/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Center:

Data Courtesy Midwest Regional Climate Center.

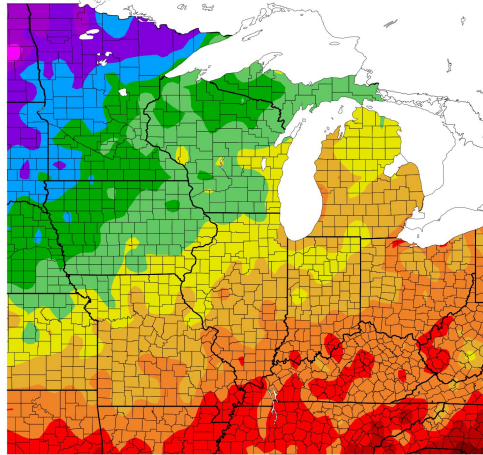




Temperature

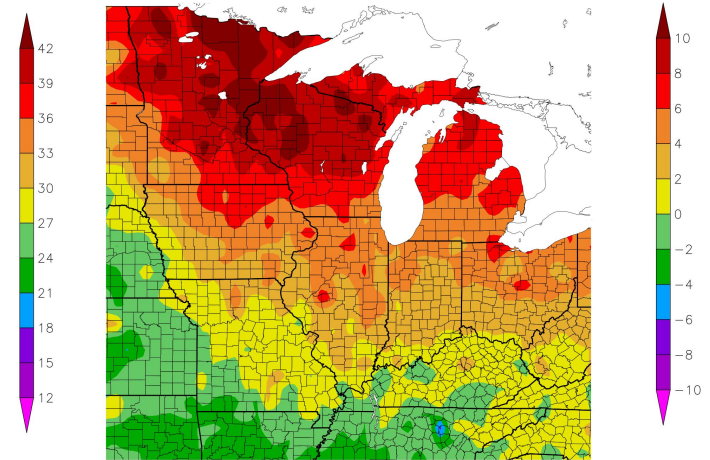
- Overall, temperatures have averaged near normal over the past month.
- A significant cold snap began on January 13 and continued through the third week of January.

Temperature (F)
12/20/2023 – 1/18/2024



Generated 1/19/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
12/20/2023 – 1/18/2024



NOAA Regional Climate Centers ³²⁴ at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Data Courtesy Midwest Regional Climate Center.





Summary of Impacts

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows have surged to near- and above-normal. A CoCoRaHS volunteer in Hardin County, KY reported increased streamflow turbidity.

Agricultural Impacts

- Soils have begun to recharge. A CoCoRaHS volunteer in Logan County, KY reported wet ground and some water standing in fields.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- No current fire hazards.

Other Impacts

- No known other impacts.

Mitigation Actions

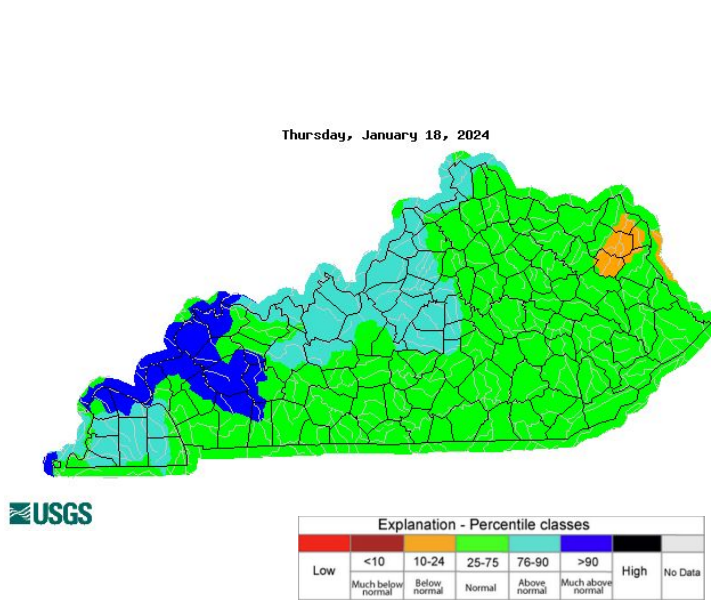
- Please refer to your municipality, water provider, or extension office for mitigation information.



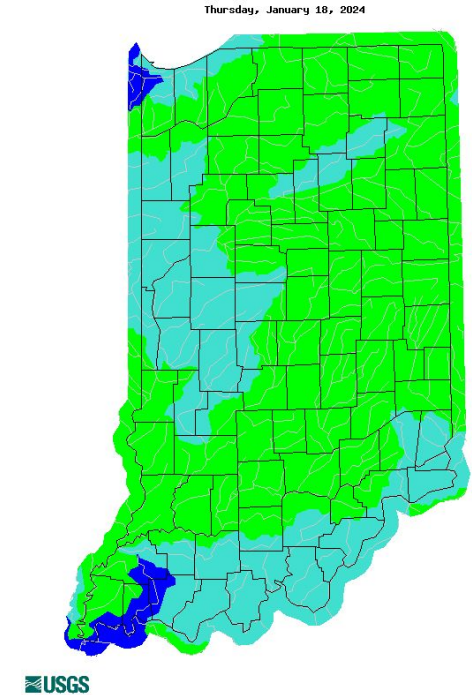


Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Recent precipitation has resulted in rapid improvements in streamflow.
- Streamflows are now at or above normal throughout the district.
- The Rough River at Dundee rose significantly and was above Action Stage January 12-13.



USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map

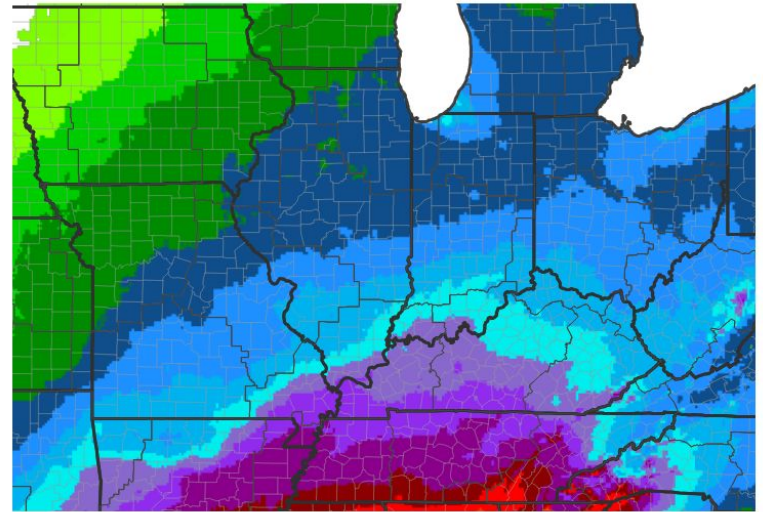




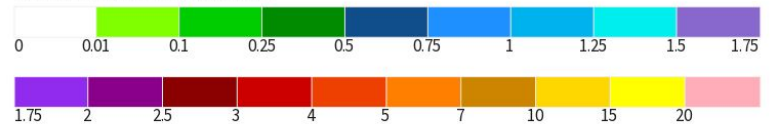
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Warmer temperatures and widespread rains are expected late Monday night through Friday, January 23-26.
- These rains will further ameliorate, and possibly end, the drought.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

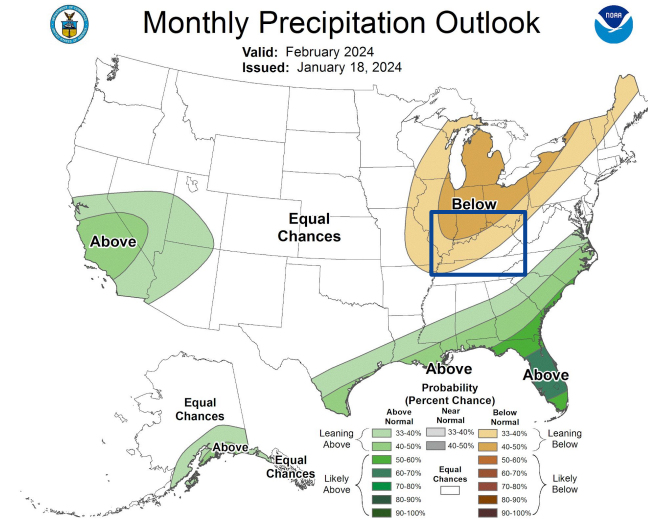
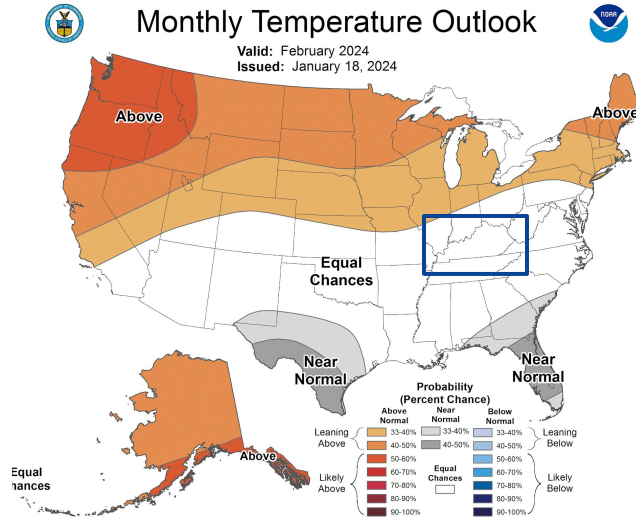
Data Valid: 01/19/24





Long-Range Outlooks

- There's no clear signal for temperature departures for February in southern Indiana and central Kentucky.
- Drier than normal conditions are favored in the Ohio Valley in February.

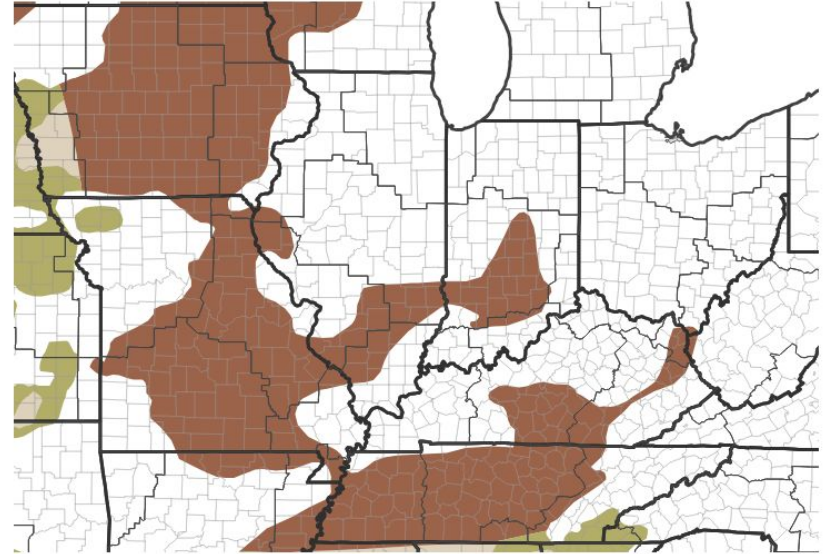




Drought Outlook

- Though the official 3-month forecast from the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) shows the possibility of drought persisting in southern Kentucky and south central Indiana, short-term forecasts for the next several days show that widespread rains may remove drought.
- It's possible that drought conditions could return later in the winter if dry weather sets back in, as is suggested by the CPC's February precipitation outlook shown on the previous slide. CPC's outlook for February through April also calls for increased chances of drier than normal weather.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Data Valid: 01/18/24

