



Drought Information Statement for Eastern Nebraska and Western Iowa

Valid November 11, 2025

Issued By: NWS Omaha/Valley

Contact Information: nws.omaha@noaa.gov or 1-800-452-9074

- This product will be updated only when drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at drought.gov/drought-information-statements
- Please visit weather.gov/Omaha/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.
- Please visit drought.gov/drought-status-updates?dews_region=41 for regional drought status updates

- **AFTER A WET SUMMER, DRIER CONDITIONS ARE REDEVELOPING**
- **DROUGHT CONDITIONS ARE BEING REINTRODUCED TO PORTIONS OF NORTHEAST NEBRASKA**



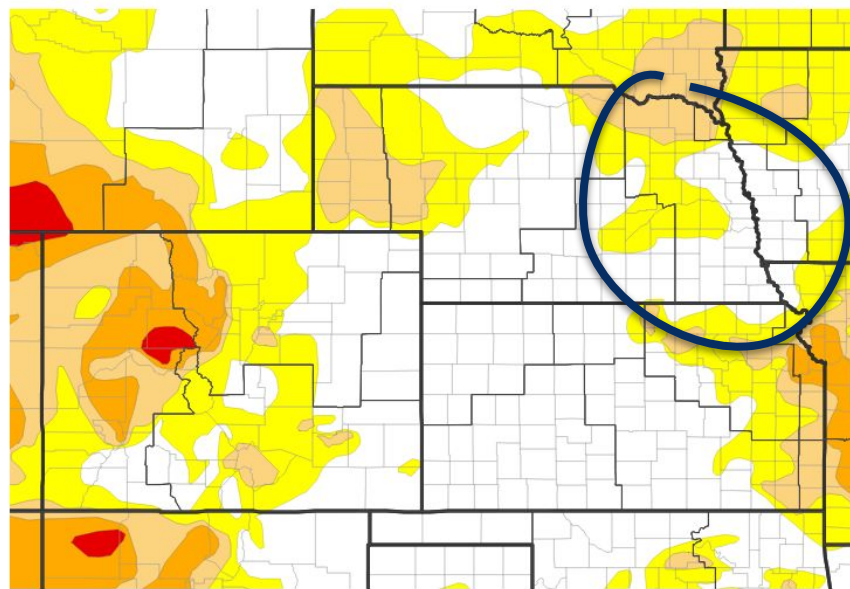


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- The area was drought free in early September with only 2% of the area considered “abnormally dry”.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought):** None
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** None
 - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Severe drought was completely removed from the area on July 15, 2025.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Moderate drought was reintroduced to northeast Nebraska on October 21st and has been expanding since.
 - **D0 (Abnormally Dry):** The area considered to be “abnormally dry” has also been expanding since early September, generally expanding from north to south.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 11/11/25



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

National Weather Service
Omaha/Valley, NE

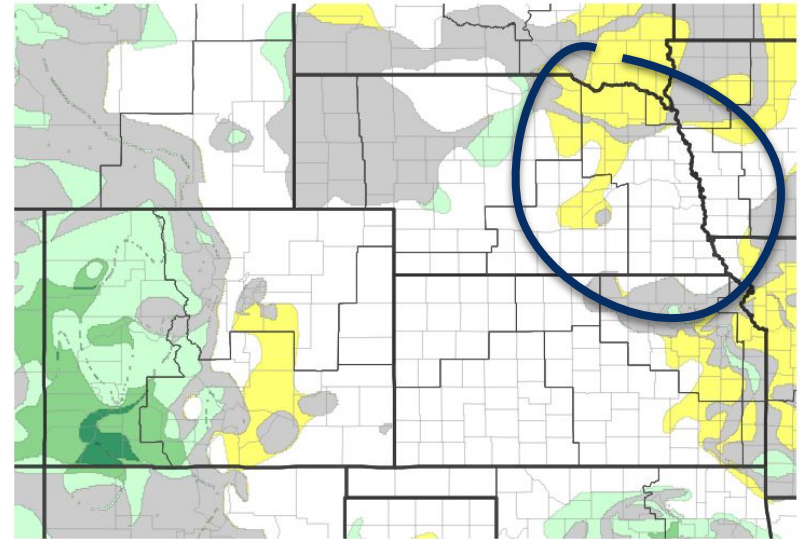


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [1-week change map](#)

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change:
 - **Drought Worsened:** Most of northeast Nebraska
 - **No Change:** Most of southwest Iowa and southeast Nebraska
 - **Drought Improved:** None
- Changes are more pronounced on longer timelines: View the [Change Maps](#)

U.S. Drought Monitor 4-Week Change Map



Drought Degradation



Drought Improvement



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

Data Valid: 11/04/25

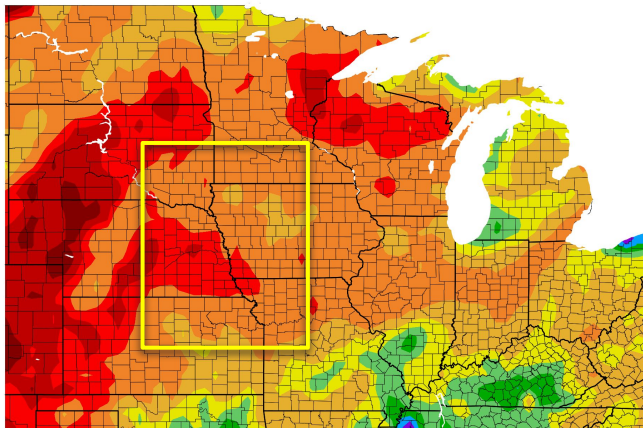




Precipitation

Over the Past 30 Days

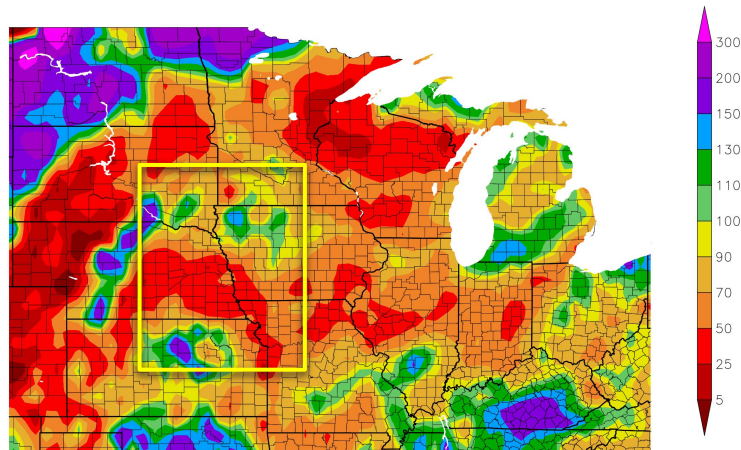
Precipitation (in)
10/14/2025 – 11/12/2025



Generated 11/13/2025 using provisional data.

ACIS Web Services

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
10/14/2025 – 11/12/2025



Generated 11/13/2025 using provisional data.

ACIS Web Services

- A wet summer was welcomed, but things have dried considerably since then. Farmers trying to harvest their field often prefer drier autumns.
- October precipitation: Norfolk: 0.85" / Departure of -1.30"
Omaha: 1.78" / Departure of -0.54"
Lincoln: 1.94" / Departure of -0.20"



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

National Weather Service
Omaha/Valley, NE



Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- None

Agricultural Impacts

- U.S. winter wheat could use a moisture recharge for successful development. About 45% of US winter wheat growing areas are in some form of drought. ([BrownfieldAgNews.com](#))

Fire Hazard Impacts

- There are no current burn bans in the area.

Other Impacts

- Drought is blamed for the death of a 380-year-old burr oak tree at Ponca State Park in northeast Nebraska earlier this spring - one of the state's oldest. ([NebraskaExaminer.com](#))

Mitigation Actions

- As of 11/13/25, Shenandoah, IA remains in stage 4 water restrictions. ([KMAland.com](#))
- As of 8/20/25, Auburn, NE ended its water emergency that had been in place for about 11 months because of ample rainfall in July and August. ([Auburn.NE.gov](#))
- Regional Water announced that it has downgraded the "Level Red" advisory to "Level Yellow", the next lower conservation level of its Emergency Water Conservation Plan. Included are the western Iowa communities of Avoca, Portsmouth, Westphalia, Kirkman, Tennant, Panama, Earling, Persia, Exira, and Brayton. ([RWRWA.org](#))

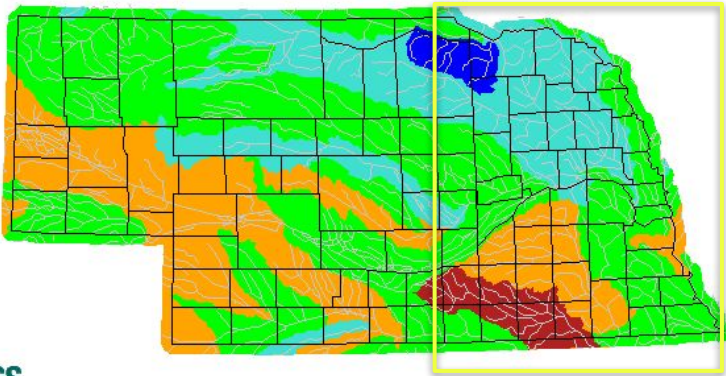




Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

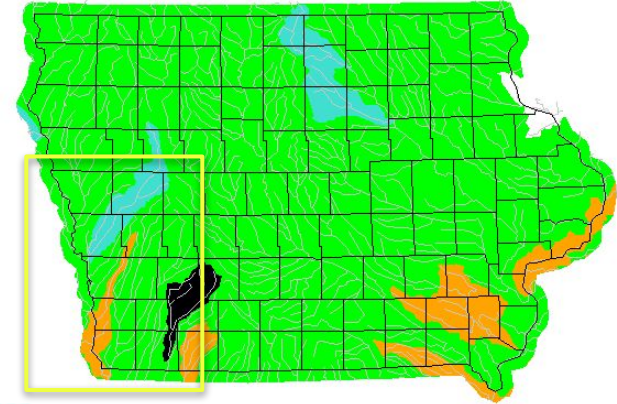
- Interestingly, despite the dry conditions developing in northeast Nebraska and northwest Iowa, that same area is reporting above normal stream flow.
- Rivers and streams south of I-80 are running drier than seasonal norms.

Hednesday, November 12, 2025



USGS

Hednesday, November 12, 2025



USGS

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 Captions:

Left USGS 7 day average streamflow NE HUC map

Right USGS 7 day average streamflow IA HUC map





Drought Outlook

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

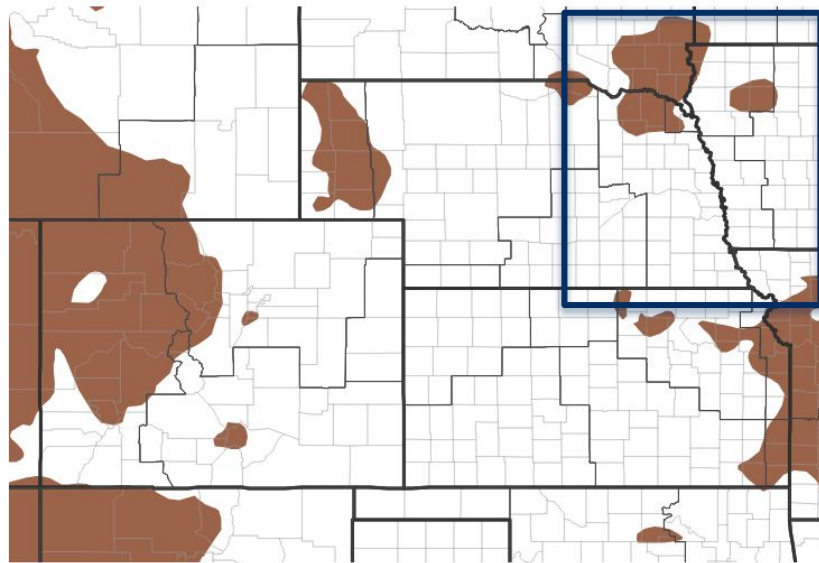
- Winter outlooks for eastern Nebraska and western Iowa suggest no strong lean toward wetter/drier conditions or warmer/cooler conditions.
- For that reason, drought conditions are not forecast to improve or deteriorate in this part of the country.

Link to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

1-Month Drought Outlook for November 1, 2025–November 30, 2025



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 10/31/25

