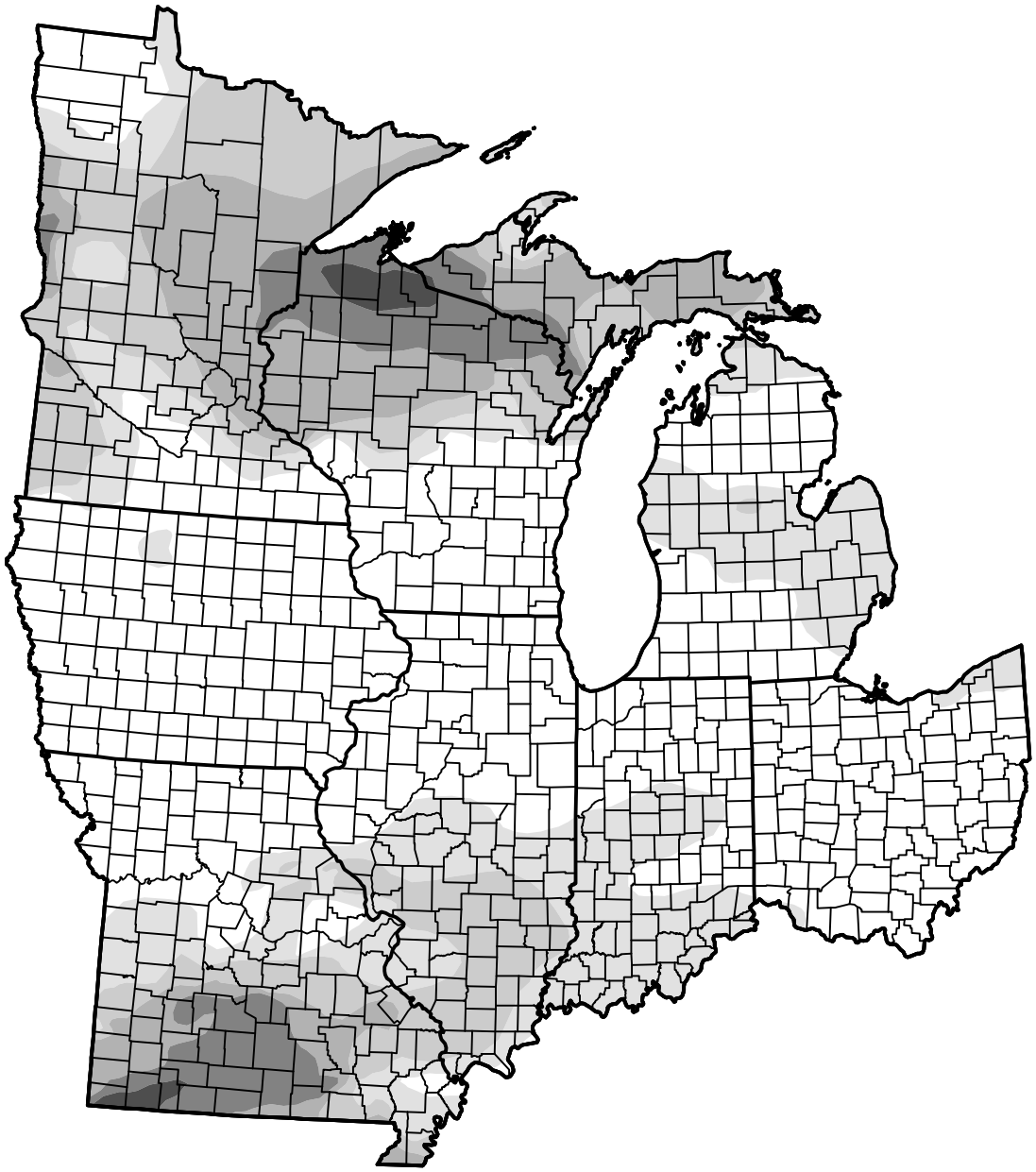
U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Midwest Climate Hub



October 20, 2026

(Released Thursday, Oct. 22, 2026)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	49.61	19.27	14.05	10.92	5.37	0.78
Last Week *10-13-2026*	53.16	15.51	14.05	11.16	5.39	0.73
3 Months Ago *07-21-2026*	65.15	21.32	10.13	3.40	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year *01-06-2026*	26.30	34.15	29.82	7.62	2.11	0.00
Start of Water Year *09-29-2026*	54.99	16.11	14.88	8.95	4.70	0.37
One Year Ago *10-21-2025*	23.71	36.99	28.70	8.74	1.86	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme 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.aspx

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droughtmonitor.unl.edu