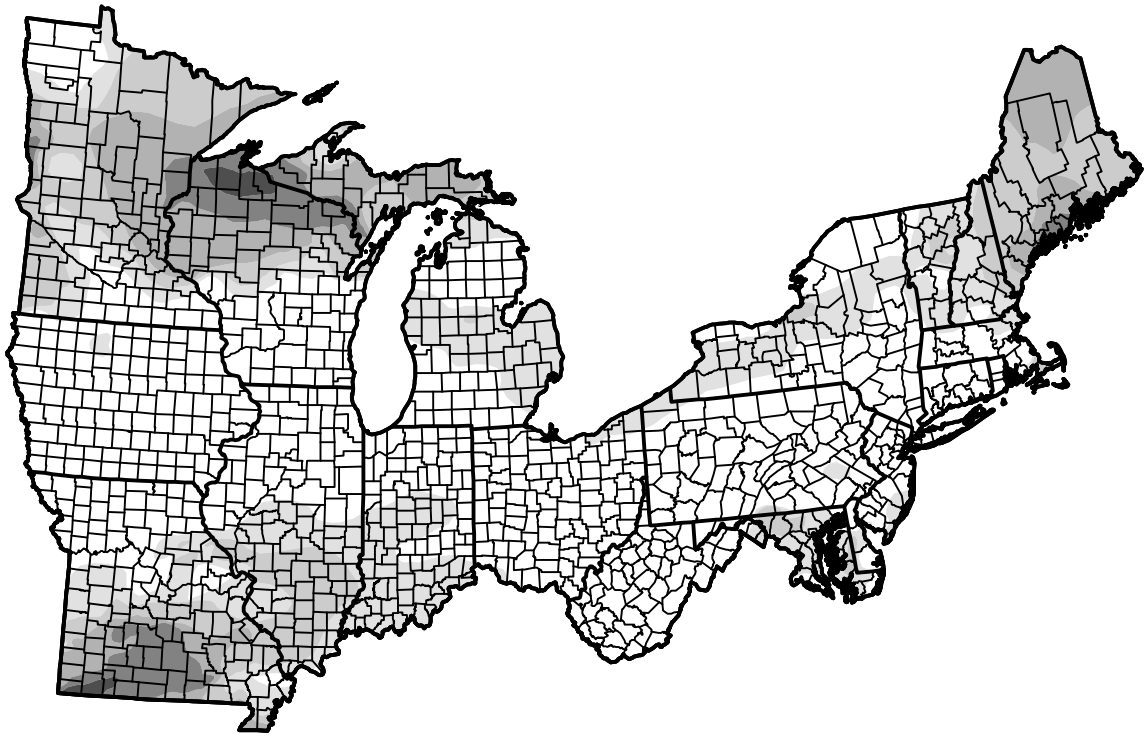
U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Northern Forests 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	52.88	19.48	13.33	9.83	3.95	0.54
Last Week *10-13-2026*	54.31	17.22	14.15	9.85	3.96	0.51
3 Months Ago *07-21-2026*	64.90	19.21	10.96	4.60	0.34	0.00
Start of Calendar Year *01-06-2026*	25.79	32.37	29.40	10.91	1.52	0.00
Start of Water Year *09-29-2026*	56.54	16.88	15.92	6.91	3.50	0.26
One Year Ago *10-21-2025*	18.54	34.52	28.53	13.54	4.86	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