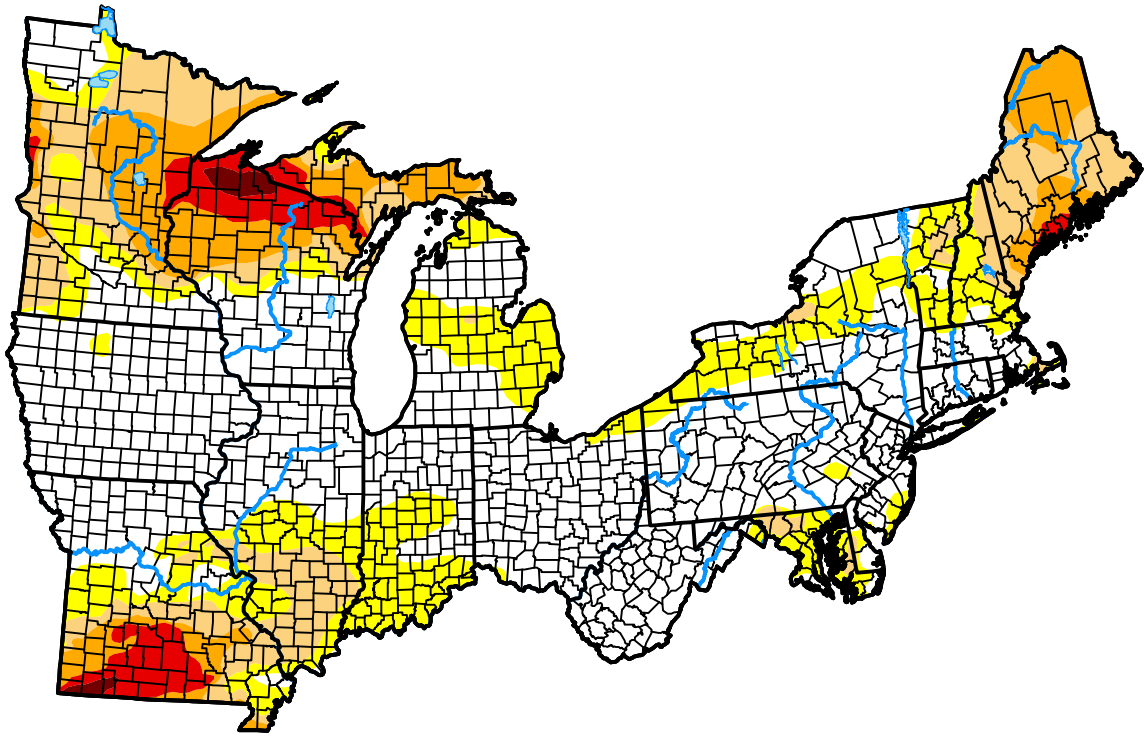
U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Northern Forests Climate Hub



October 20, 2026

(Released Thursday, Oct. 22, 2026)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	52.88	47.12	27.64	14.31	4.49	0.54
Last Week *10-13-2026*	54.31	45.69	28.47	14.32	4.47	0.51
3 Months Ago *07-21-2026*	64.90	35.10	15.89	4.93	0.34	0.00
Start of Calendar Year *01-06-2026*	25.79	74.21	41.84	12.43	1.52	0.00
Start of Water Year *09-29-2026*	56.54	43.46	26.58	10.66	3.76	0.26
One Year Ago *10-21-2025*	18.54	81.46	46.93	18.40	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