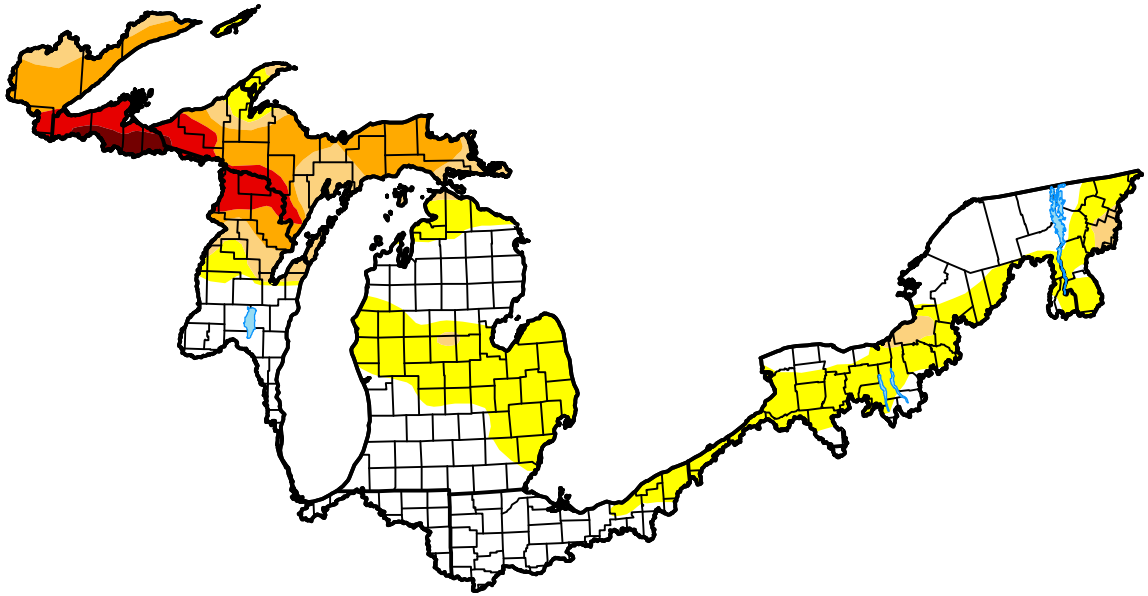
U.S. Drought Monitor

Great Lakes Watershed



October 20, 2026

(Released Thursday, Oct. 22, 2026)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	44.09	30.48	8.11	11.31	4.92	1.09
Last Week *10-13-2026*	40.65	32.62	9.40	11.31	4.92	1.09
3 Months Ago *07-21-2026*	77.98	13.37	7.89	0.76	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year *01-06-2026*	28.65	28.64	33.06	6.79	2.86	0.00
Start of Water Year *09-29-2026*	46.78	31.56	11.62	5.89	3.34	0.83
One Year Ago *10-21-2025*	18.00	29.26	32.14	14.49	6.11	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

Author:

Lindsay Johnson

High Plains Regional Climate Center

droughtmonitor.unl.edu