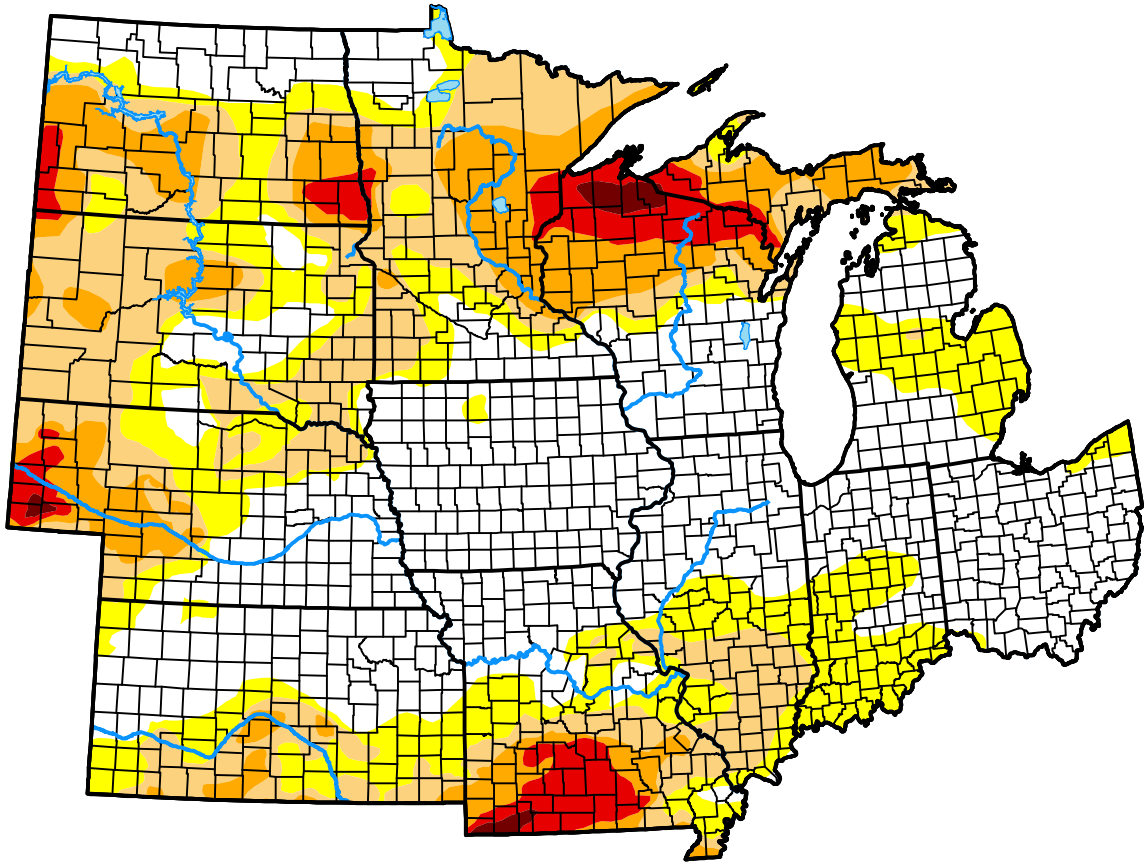
U.S. Drought Monitor

North Central States



October 20, 2026

(Released Thursday, Oct. 22, 2026)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	43.30	20.21	19.85	11.82	4.29	0.53
Last Week *10-13-2026*	44.85	17.59	20.01	12.61	4.41	0.53
3 Months Ago *07-21-2026*	51.60	23.02	14.30	8.10	2.69	0.30
Start of Calendar Year *01-06-2026*	38.60	31.26	23.21	5.66	1.26	0.00
Start of Water Year *09-29-2026*	43.19	17.78	21.71	12.90	4.10	0.32
One Year Ago *10-21-2025*	44.33	29.26	20.01	5.29	1.11	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

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