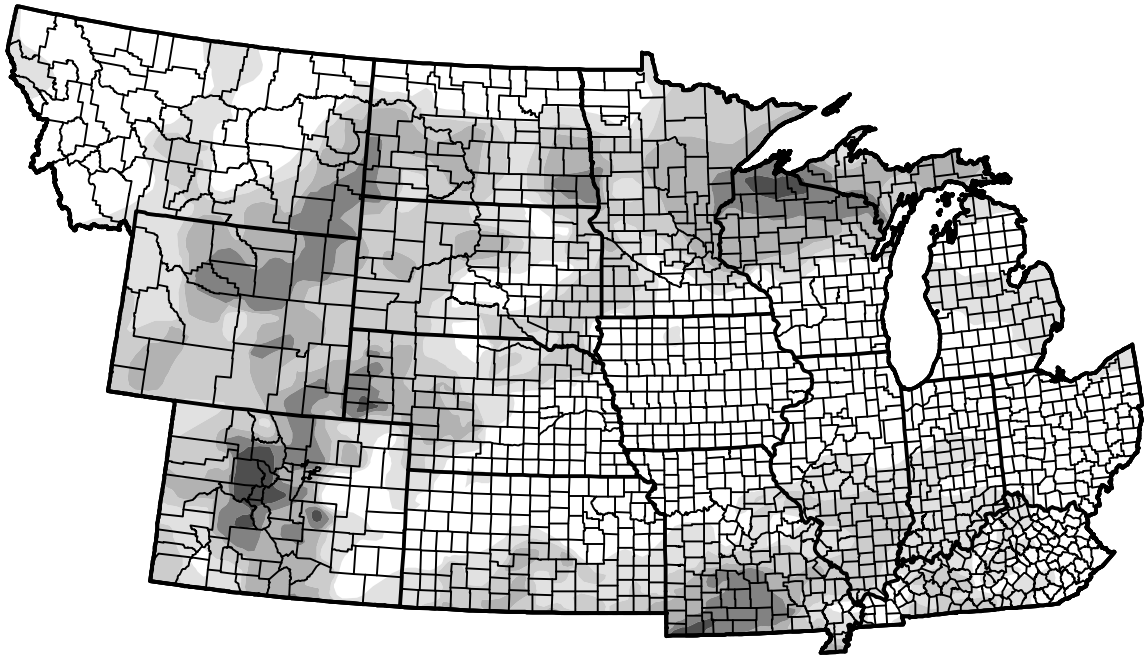
U.S. Drought Monitor

NWS Central



October 20, 2026

(Released Thursday, Oct. 22, 2026)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	39.52	20.45	19.46	13.52	6.17	0.89
Last Week *10-13-2026*	40.05	18.16	18.73	15.06	6.89	1.12
3 Months Ago *07-21-2026*	40.24	20.26	14.95	14.14	9.11	1.29
Start of Calendar Year *01-06-2026*	38.91	31.63	21.00	7.05	1.35	0.06
Start of Water Year *09-29-2026*	35.98	18.05	22.54	14.91	7.41	1.11
One Year Ago *10-21-2025*	44.44	25.91	18.81	8.89	1.95	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