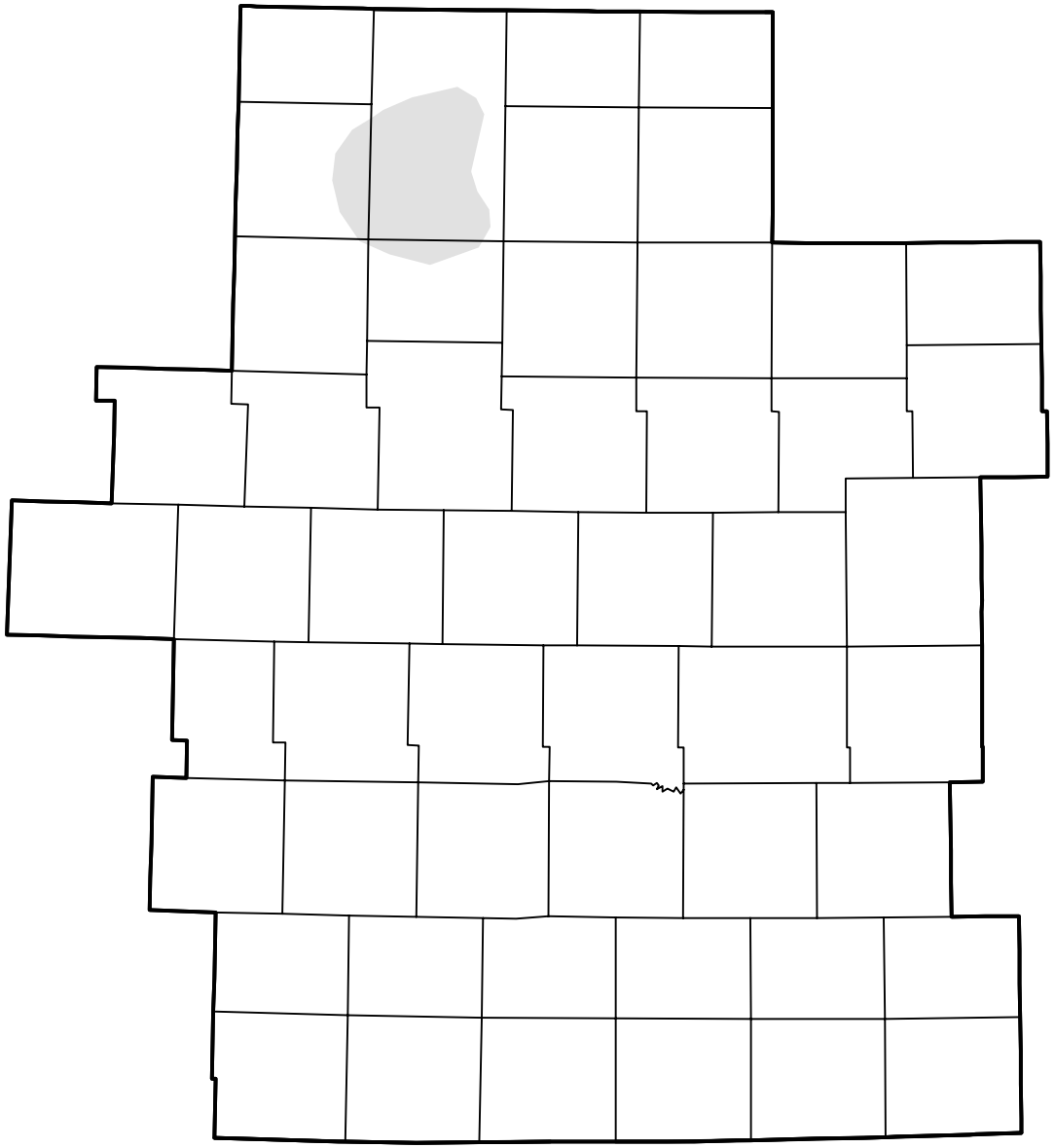
U.S. Drought Monitor

Des Moines, IA WFO

October 20, 2026

(Released Thursday, Oct. 22, 2026)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



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