



Drought Information Statement for Northeast IA, Southeast MN, & Western, WI

Valid March 14, 2024

Issued By: WFO La Crosse, WI

Contact Information: w-arx.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated April 4, 2024 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/ARX/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.



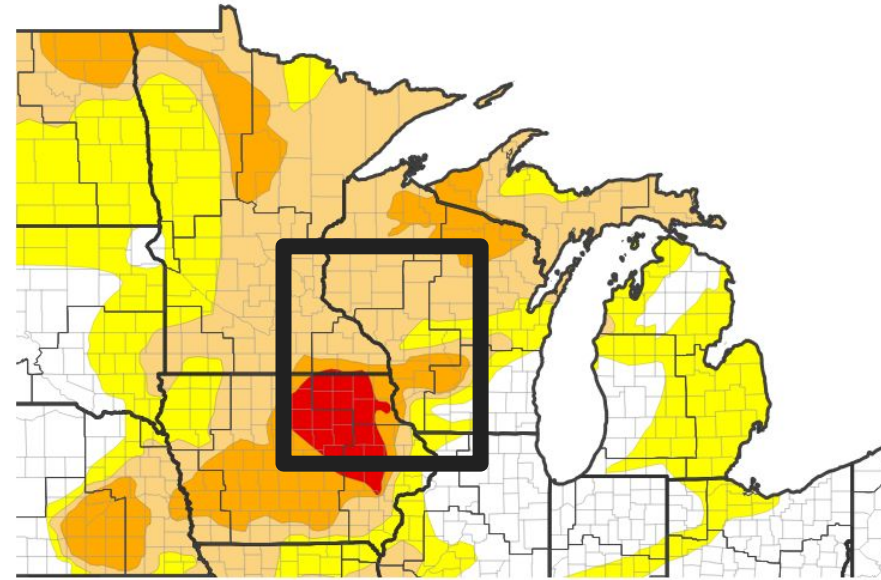


U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Northeast IA, southeast MN, & Western IA

- Drought intensity and extent:
 - Northeast Iowa: Severe (D2) to extreme (D3) drought.
 - Southeast Minnesota: moderate (D1) to extreme (D3) drought.
 - Western Wisconsin: Abnormally dry (D0) to severe (D2) drought. The worst of the drought is south of Interstate 90.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 03/12/24



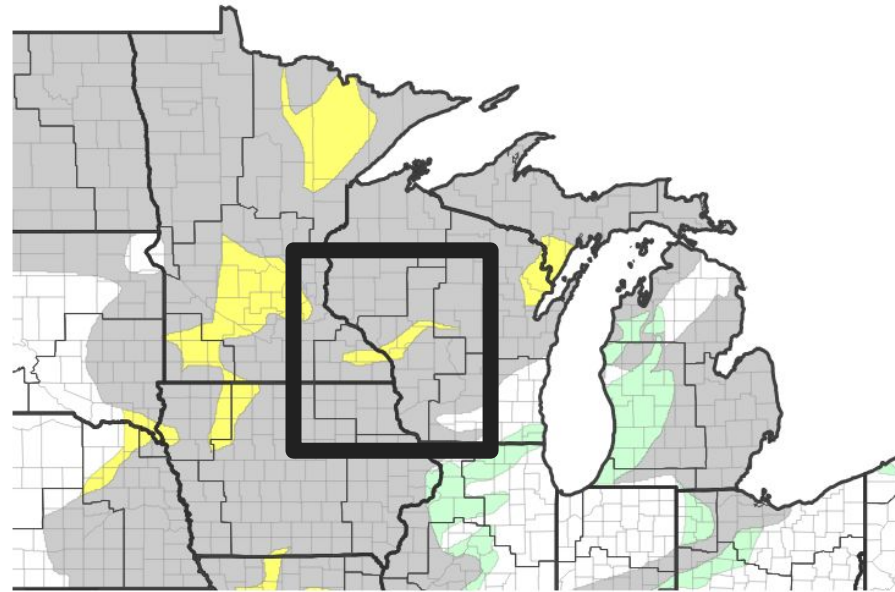


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

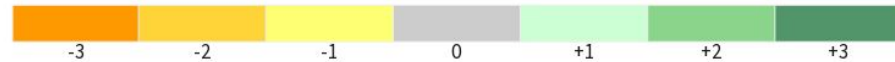
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Northeast IA, southeast MN, & Western IA

- 1-Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - During the past week, there was a slight expansion of the moderate (D2) drought from southeast Olmsted County in southeast Minnesota northeast Jackson and southern Clark counties in central Wisconsin.

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



Drought Change Since Last Week



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

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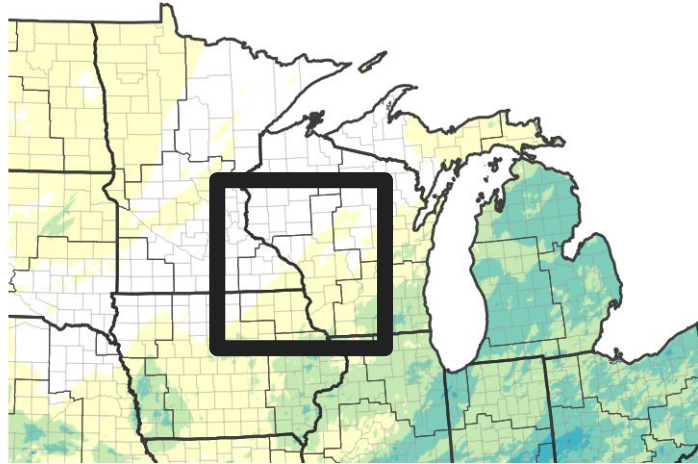




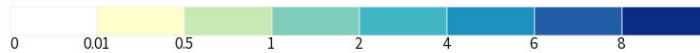
Precipitation

- From February 14 through March 13, precipitation totals ranged from 0.03" at Minnesota City Dam 5, MN to 1.62" near Waukon, IA.
- During this period, typically 1.2 to 1.8" of precipitation falls.

7-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



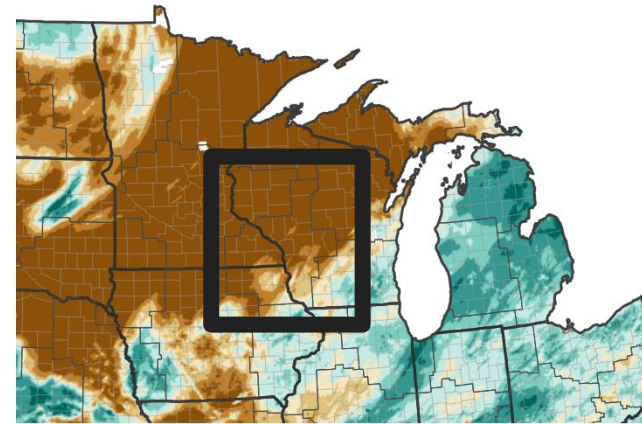
Inches of Precipitation



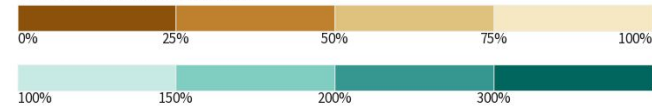
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 03/14/24

7-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 03/14/24

From April 1, 2023, through March 13, 2024, precipitation departures range from near-normal to 11" below normal north of Interstate 90, and from 8 to just over 20" below normal across the remainder of the area.





Temperature

- During the past month (February 13 through March 13), temperatures ranged from 6°F to 10°F warmer than normal.

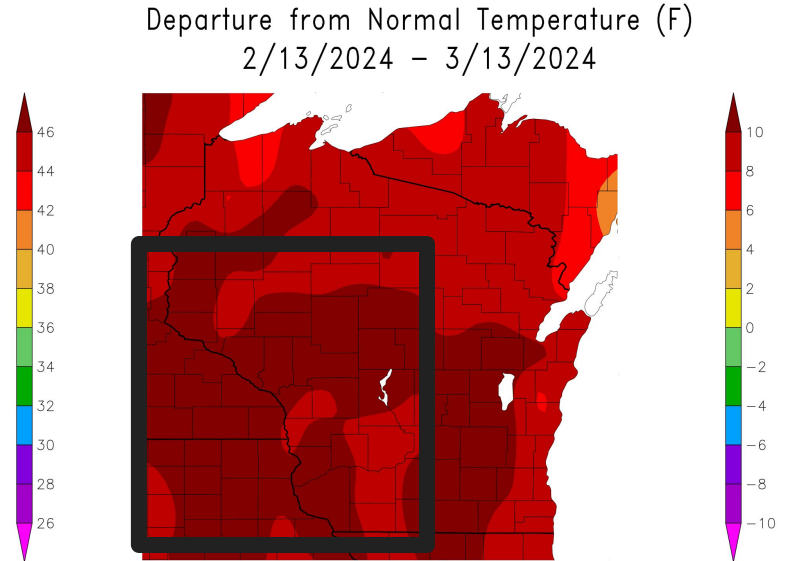
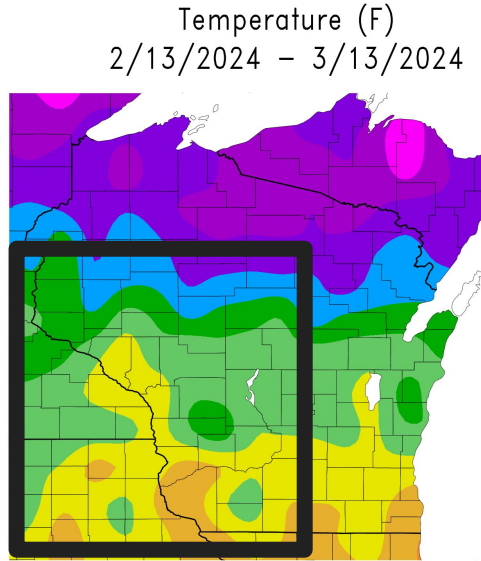


Image Captions:

- Left - [Average Temperature for northeast IA, southeast MN, & Western WI](#)
- Right - [Departure from Normal Temperature for northeast IA, southeast MN, & Western WI](#)
- Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
- Data over the past 30 days ending March 13, 2024





Summary of Impacts

Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

Fire Hazard Impacts

- As of the morning of March 13, fire danger was very high (fires start easily and spread at a very fast rate) in Adams County in central Wisconsin.
- High fire danger (fires start easily and spread at a high rate) was indicated across southeast Minnesota and the remainder of southwest and central Wisconsin.
- Moderate fire danger (fires start easily and spread at a moderate rate) was indicated in northeast Iowa.

Hydrologic Impacts

- As of the morning of March 13, rivers and stream flows ranged from much below to below normal in northeast Iowa, and from much below normal to normal in southeast Minnesota and western Wisconsin.

Mitigation Actions

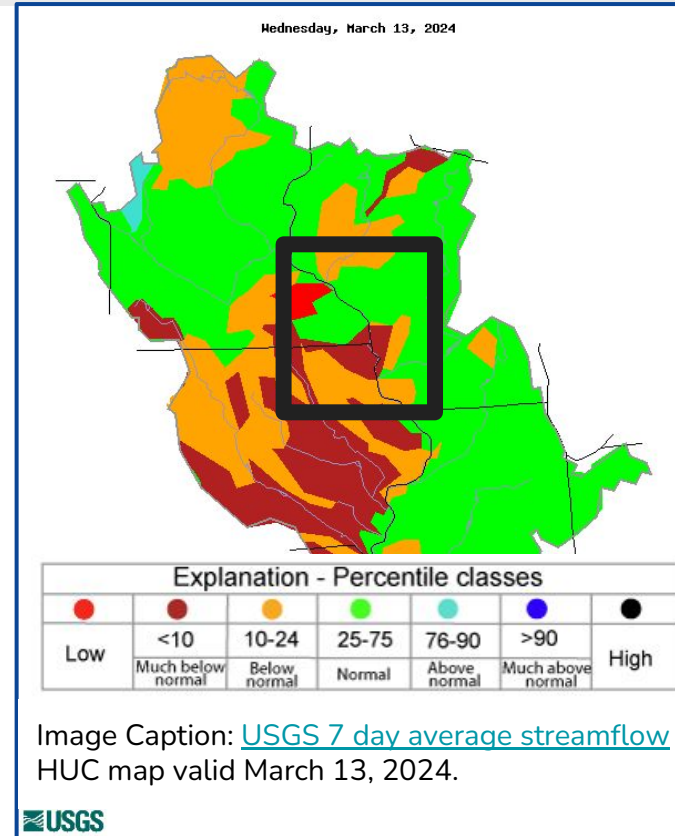
- No known actions are currently taking place in northeast Iowa, southeast Minnesota, and western Wisconsin.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- As of the morning of March 13, rivers and stream flows ranged from much below to below normal in northeast Iowa, and from much below normal to normal in southeast Minnesota and western Wisconsin.
- The rapid downward trends are due to mainly the fact that streamflows have been nearly steady or decreased during a time when they are normally increasing. The normal increase is due to normal snowmelt and precipitation. We have lacked a widespread, statewide moderate precipitation event for a while. If the dry conditions continue then the downward trends will continue.

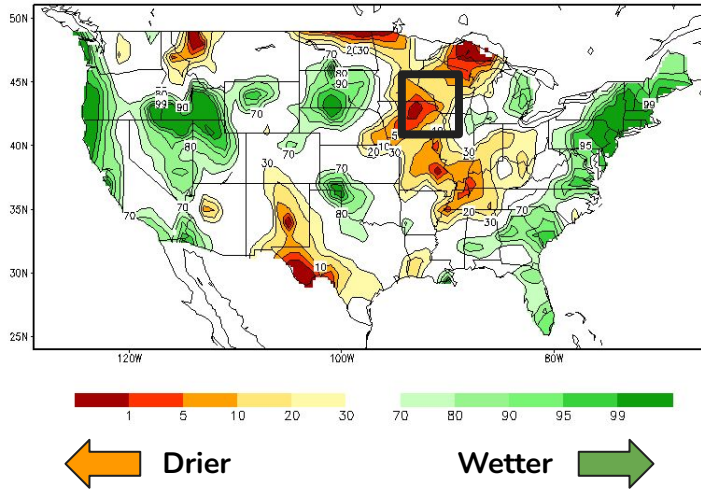




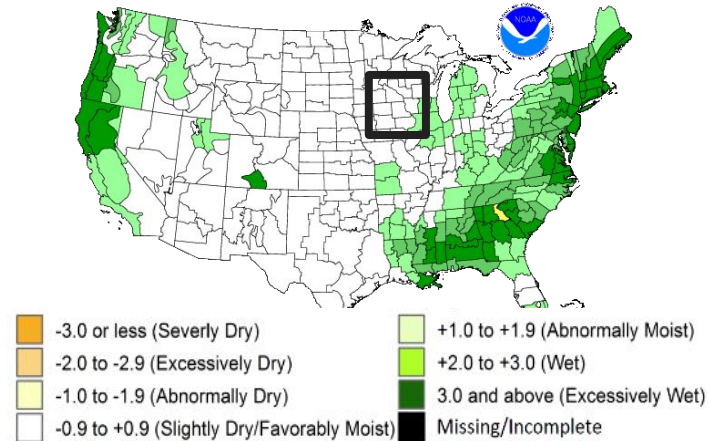
Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture remains below to well-below normal along and south of Interstate 90.
- The driest areas are in northeast Iowa.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
MAR 13, 2024



Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending MAR 9, 2024
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile



For more details:

- [Iowa](#)
- [Minnesota](#)
- [Wisconsin](#)





Fire Hazard Impacts

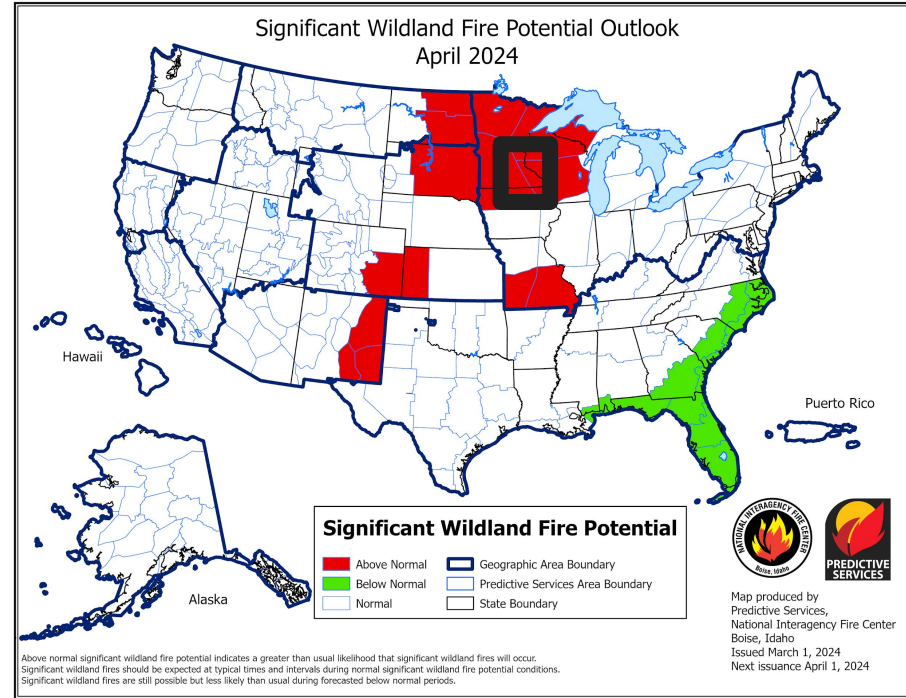
Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#).

As of the morning of March 13, 2024.

- Very high fire danger (fires start easily and spread at a very fast rate) was indicated in Adams County in central Wisconsin.
- High fire danger (fires start easily and spread at a high rate) was indicated across southeast Minnesota and the remainder of southwest and central Wisconsin.
- Moderate fire danger (fires start easily and spread at a moderate rate) was indicated in northeast Iowa.

For updated DNR Fire Conditions consult the following Web Sites:

- [Iowa](#)
- [Minnesota](#)
- [Wisconsin](#)

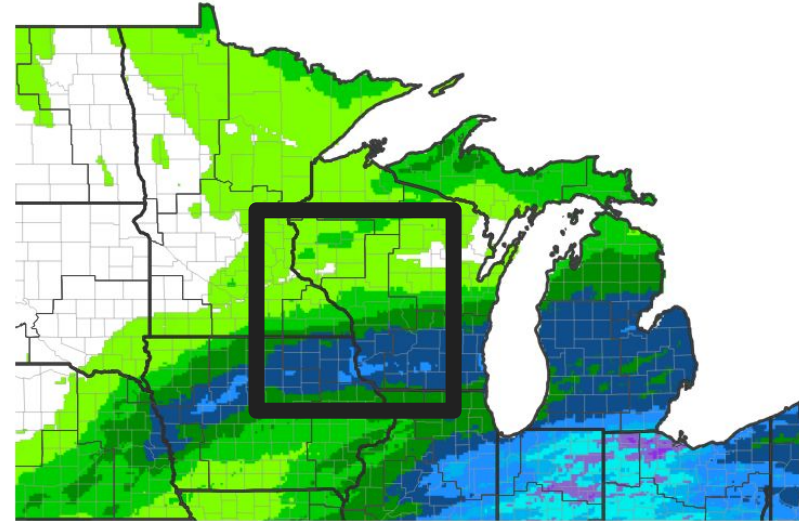




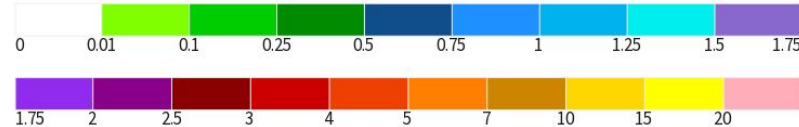
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- From March 14 through March 20, the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is forecasting anywhere from a ½ to 1” of rain south of Interstate 90.
- Much of that rain was expected to fall on March 14.
- Normal precipitation is around a ½” for this time period.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 03/14/24





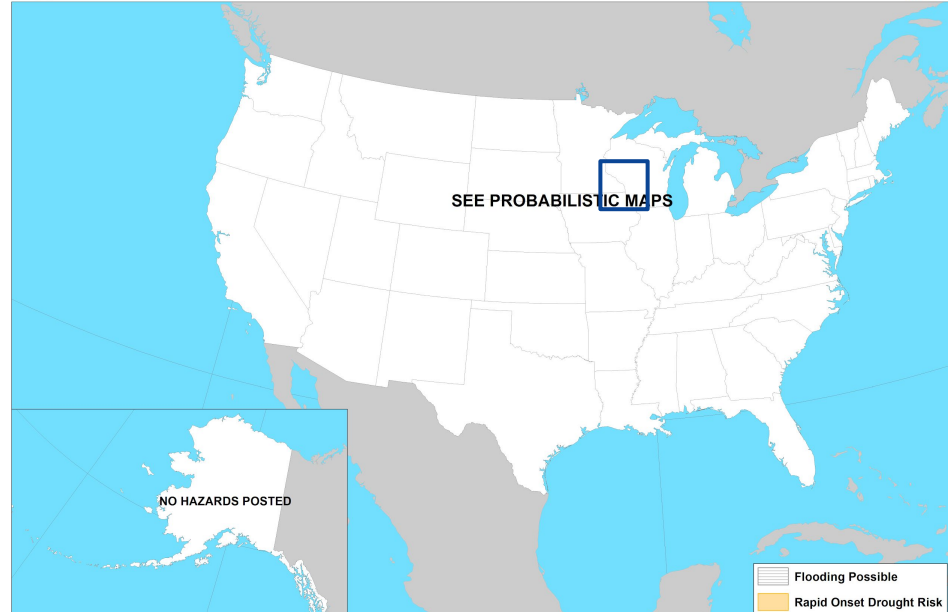
Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- With enhanced chances of above-normal precipitation from March 22-28, rapid onset drought (at least a 2-category degradation) is not expected.



Day 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook
Valid: 03/22/2024-03/28/2024



Climate Prediction Center
Made: 03/14/2024 3PM EDT

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www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov

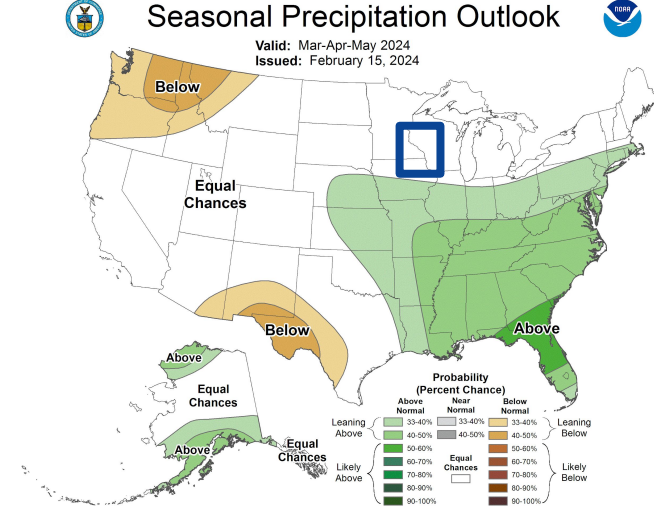
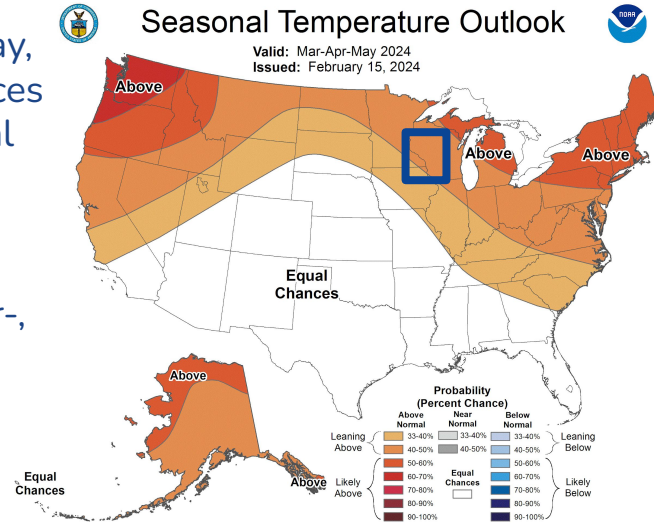




Long-Range Outlooks

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- From March through May, there is enhanced chances for warmer-than-normal temperatures.
- Meanwhile, there are equal chances of wetter-, near-, and drier-than-normal.



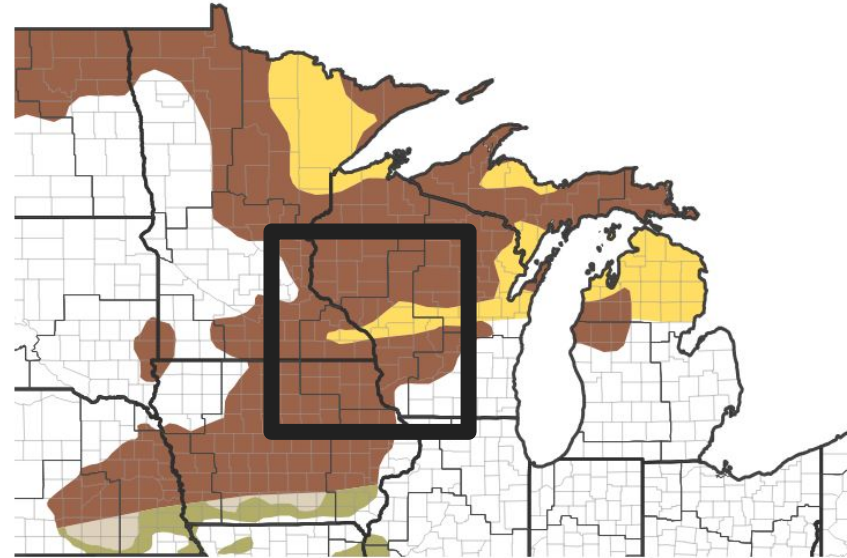


Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal drought outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- According to the latest U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook (March 1 through May 31), the drought is expected to persist across the region.
- Drought is expected to develop near Interstates 90 and 94 in Wisconsin.

1-Month Drought Outlook



Drought Is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 03/14/24

