

# Midwest and Great Plains Climate & Drought Outlook 15 October 2020



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*Sunrise near Aberdeen, SD. Photo by Laura Edwards*



**United States Department of Agriculture  
Midwest Climate Hub**

# Agenda

- Recent Conditions
- Impacts
- Outlooks
  - 1-3 months
  - Winter season

Cameron Peak fire, 10/14/20  
Photo by Henry Reges



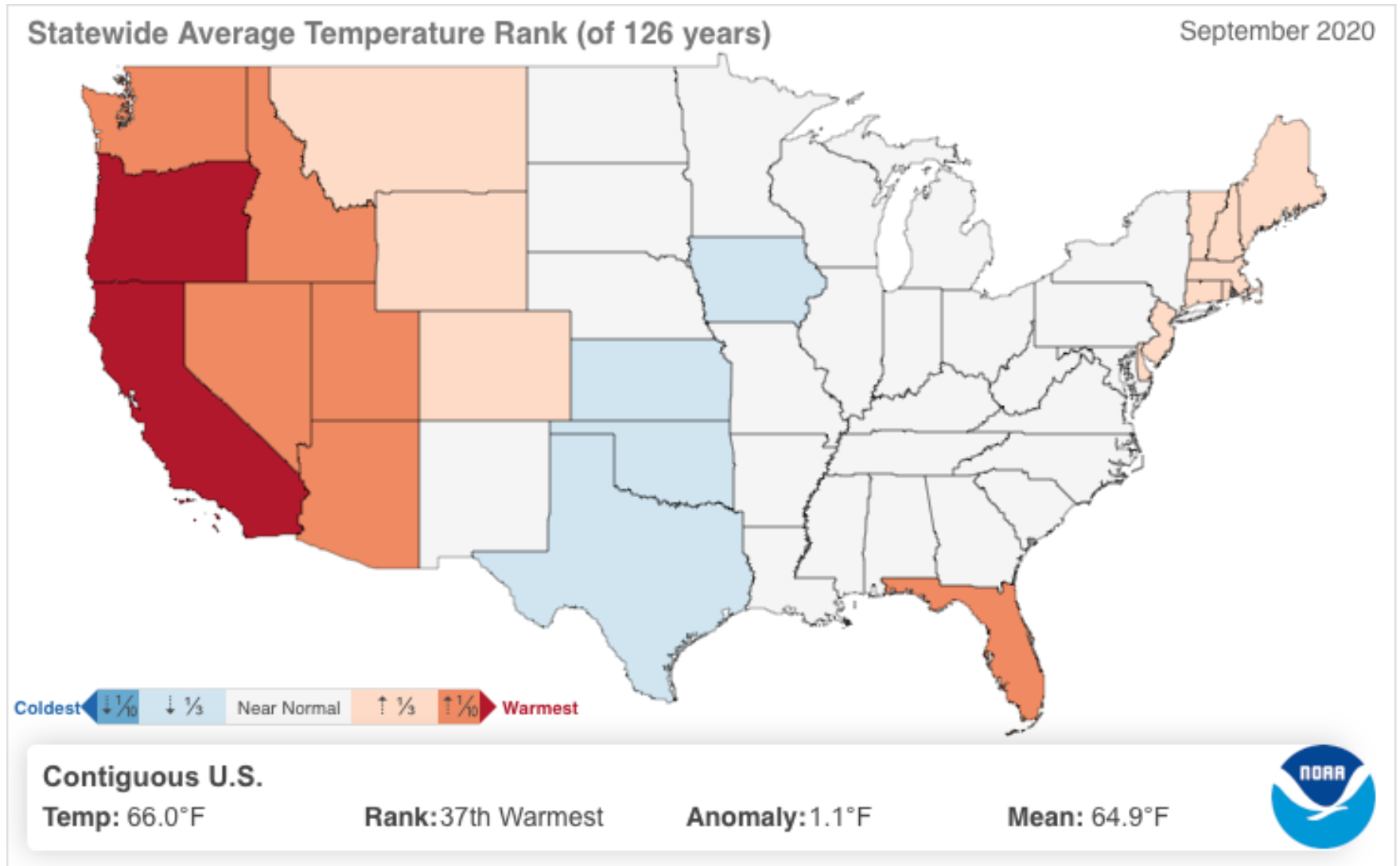


# A look back

Recent Conditions

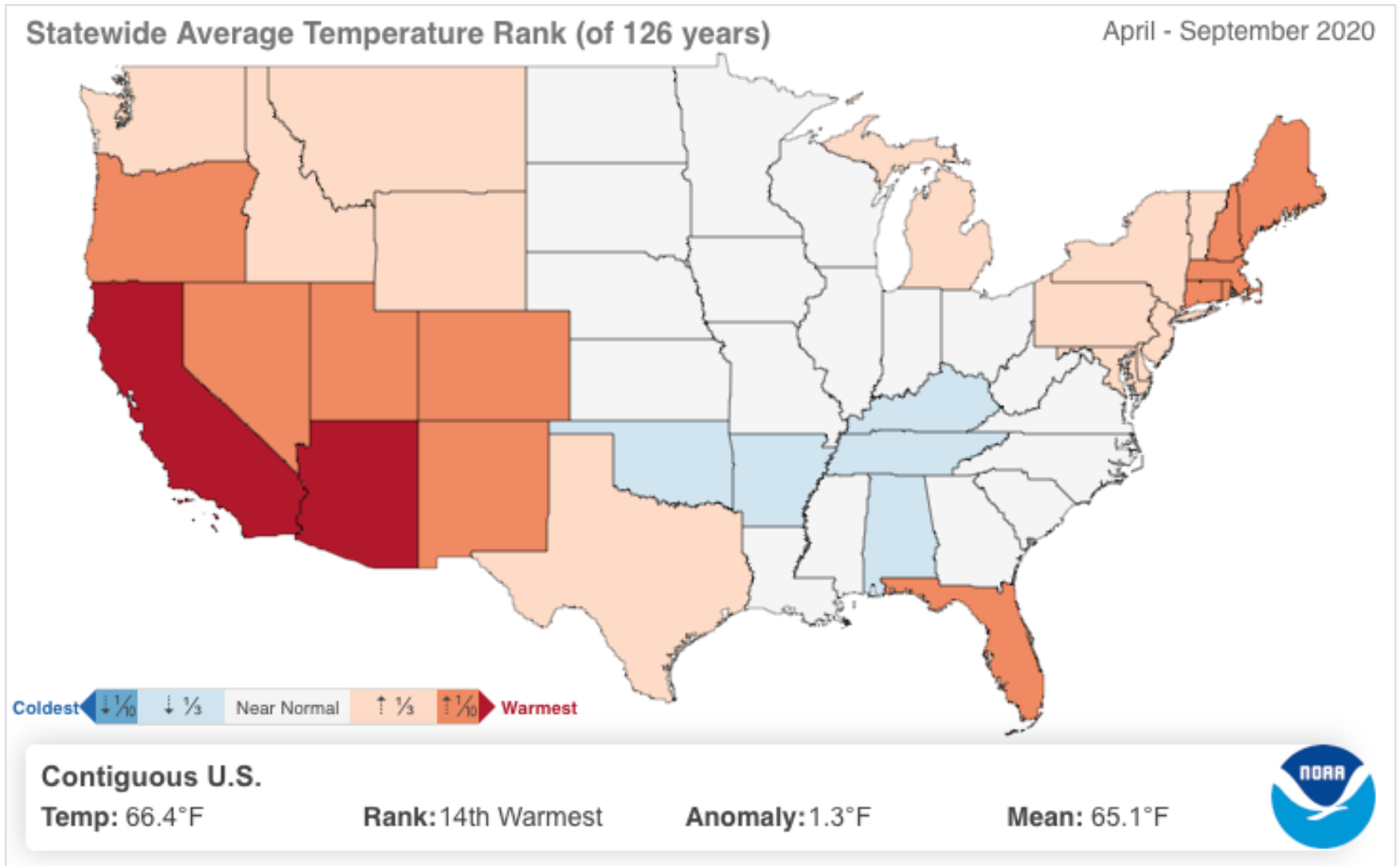
Post-fire corn field, southwest MN  
Photo by Andrew Heine, @heine\_andrew

# September Temperature Ranks

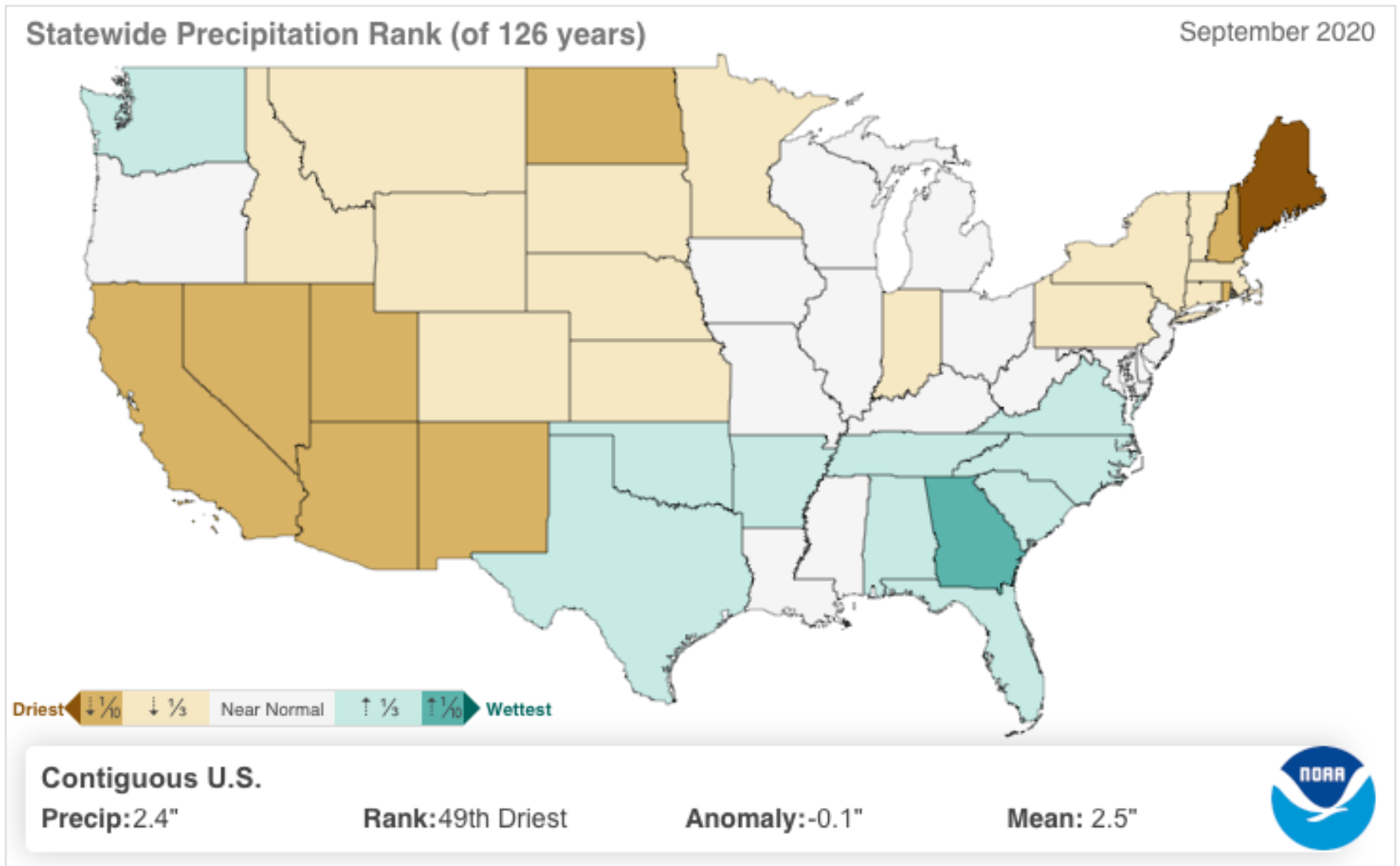




# Growing Season Temperature Ranks



# September Precipitation Ranks

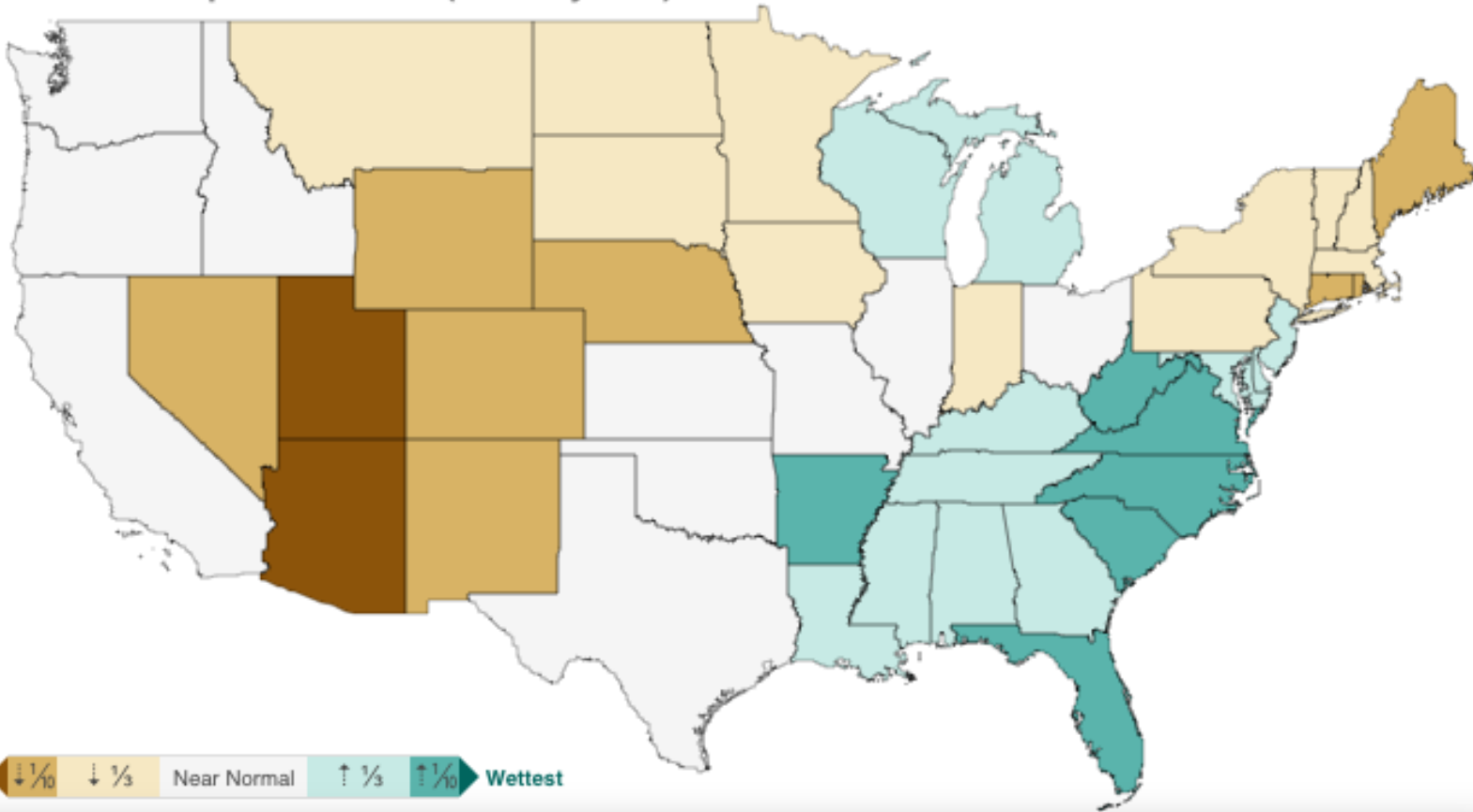




# Growing Season Precipitation Ranks

Statewide Precipitation Rank (of 126 years)

April - September 2020



Driest  $\downarrow \frac{1}{10}$   $\downarrow \frac{1}{3}$  Near Normal  $\uparrow \frac{1}{3}$   $\uparrow \frac{1}{10}$  Wettest

**Contiguous U.S.**

**Precip: 16.0"**

**Rank: 52nd Driest**

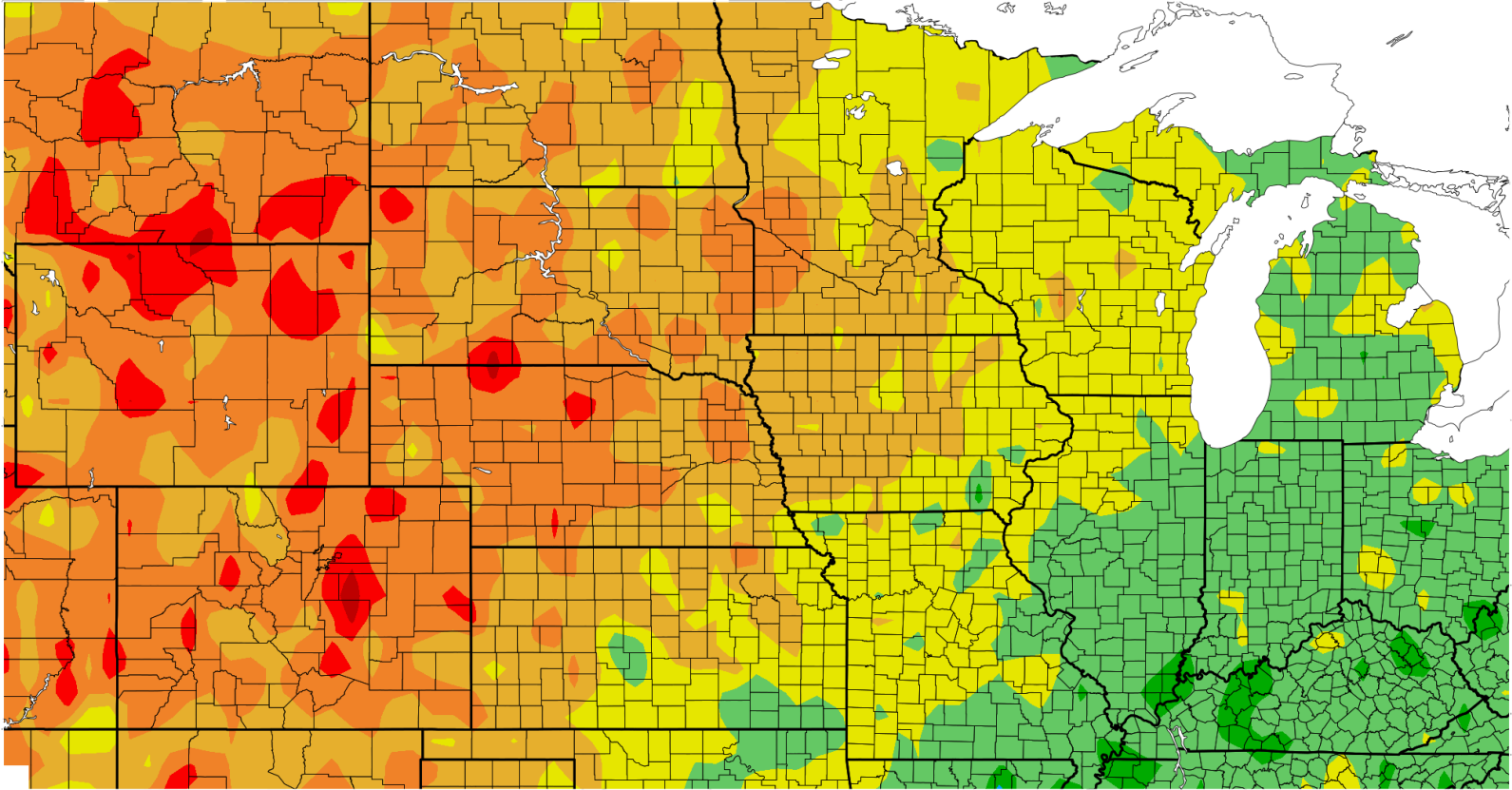
**Anomaly: -0.2"**

**Mean: 16.2"**



# Departure from Normal Temperature (F)

9/14/2020 – 10/13/2020



Generated 10/14/2020 at HPRCC using provisional data.

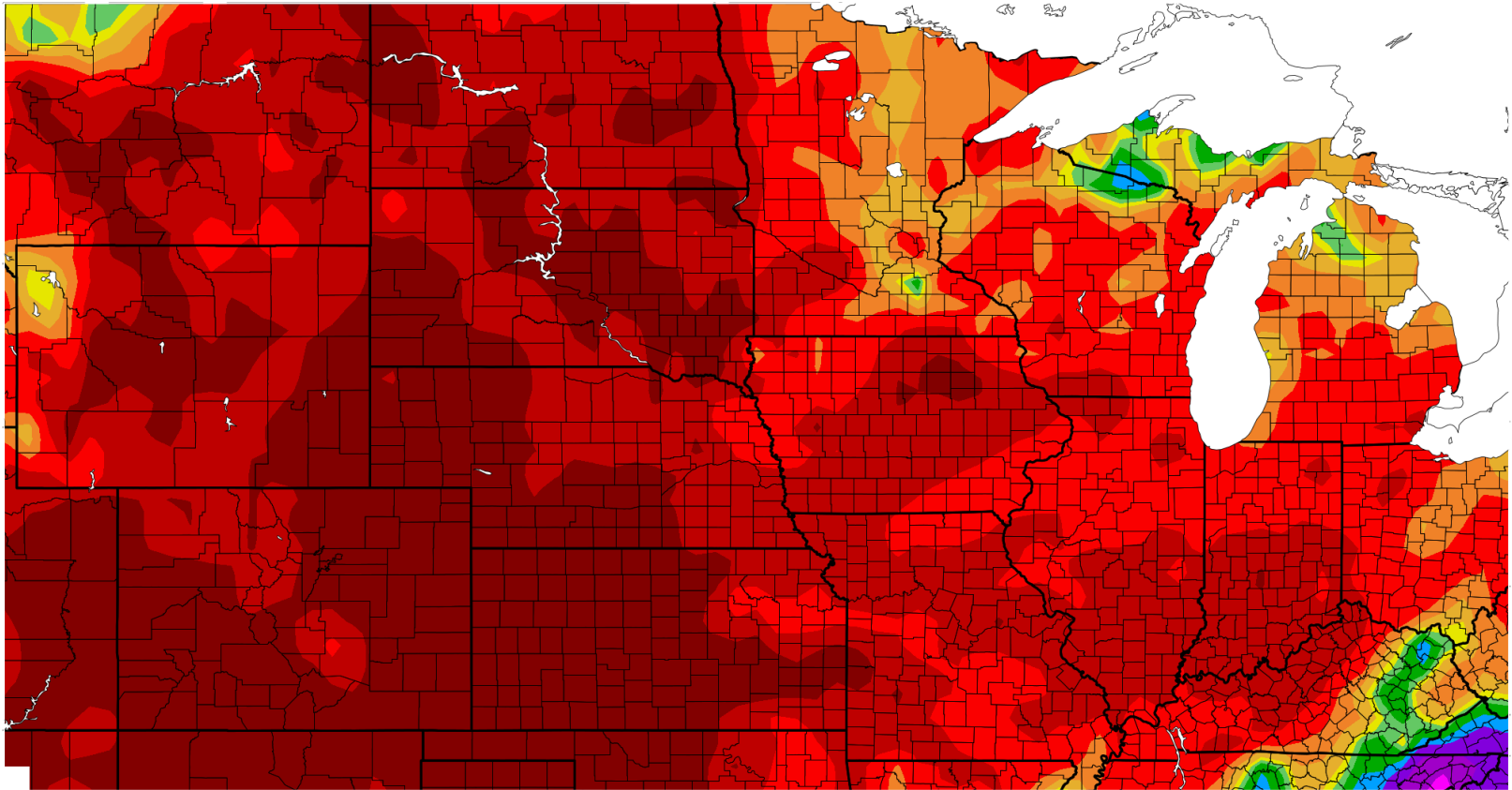
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

<https://hprcc.unl.edu/maps.php?map=ACISClimateMaps>



# Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)

## 9/14/2020 – 10/13/2020



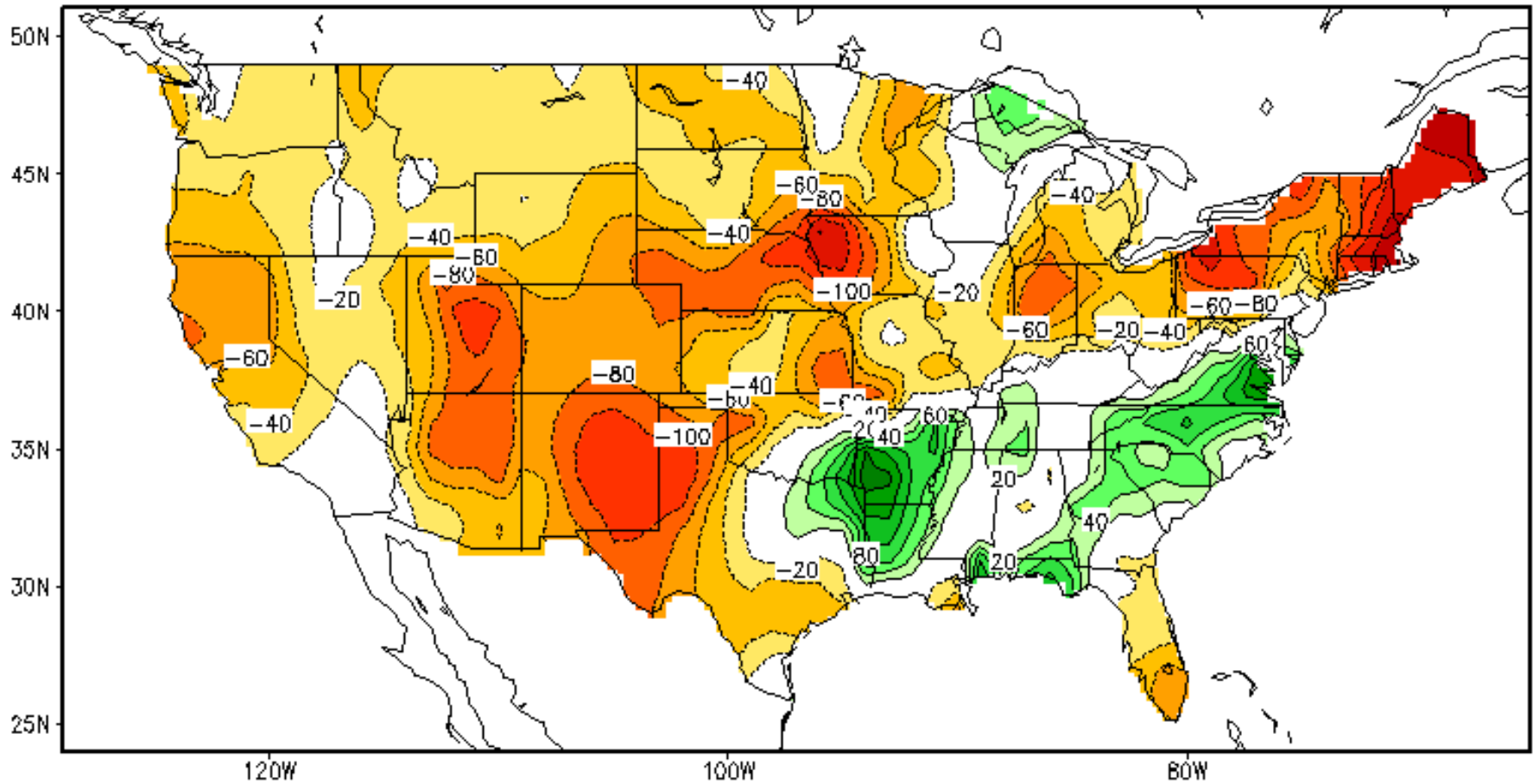
Generated 10/14/2020 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

<https://hprcc.unl.edu/maps.php?map=ACISClimateMaps>

# Soil Moisture

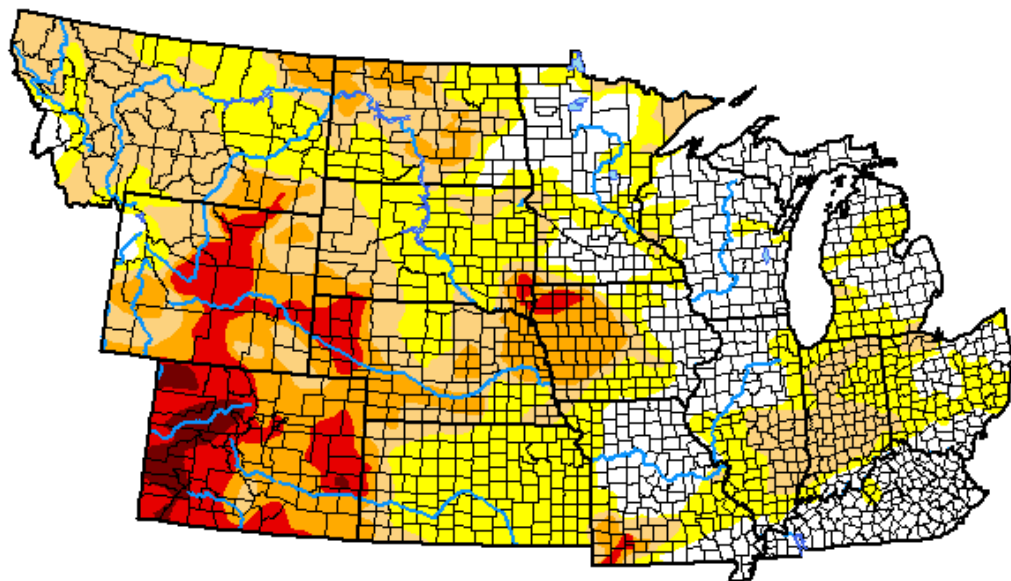
Calculated Soil Moisture Anomaly (mm)  
OCT 14, 2020





# U.S. Drought Monitor NWS Central Region

**October 13, 2020**  
(Released Thursday, Oct. 15, 2020)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	24.59	75.41	44.85	22.26	8.93	1.51
<b>Last Week</b> <i>10-06-2020</i>	28.88	71.12	39.74	21.10	8.43	1.51
<b>3 Months Ago</b> <i>07-14-2020</i>	47.45	52.55	19.58	7.46	3.53	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> <i>12-31-2019</i>	87.81	12.19	5.33	2.11	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> <i>09-29-2020</i>	29.60	70.40	37.34	17.96	7.13	0.24
<b>One Year Ago</b> <i>10-15-2019</i>	80.40	19.60	8.44	1.91	0.14	0.00

*Intensity:*



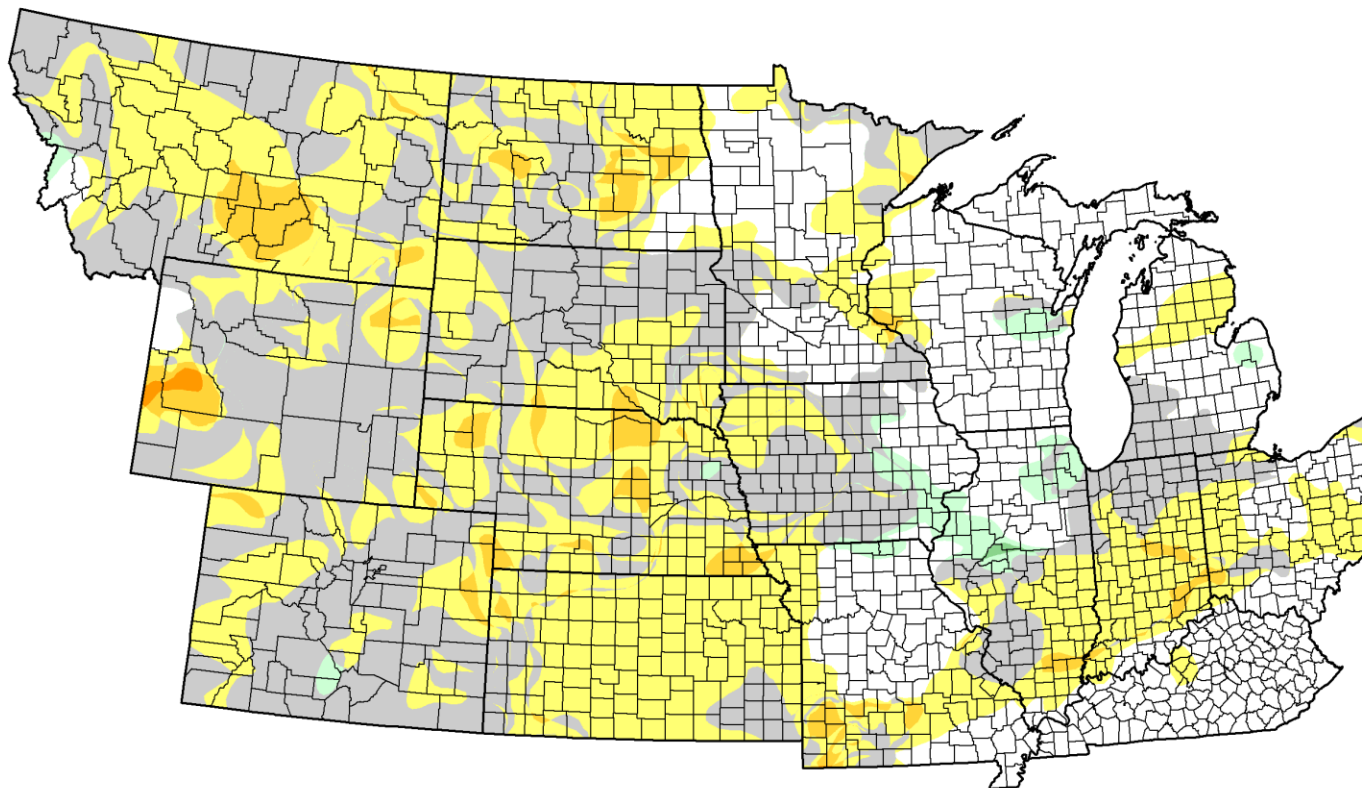
*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>*

*Author:*

Curtis Riganti  
National Drought Mitigation Center



# U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - NWS Central Region 1 Month



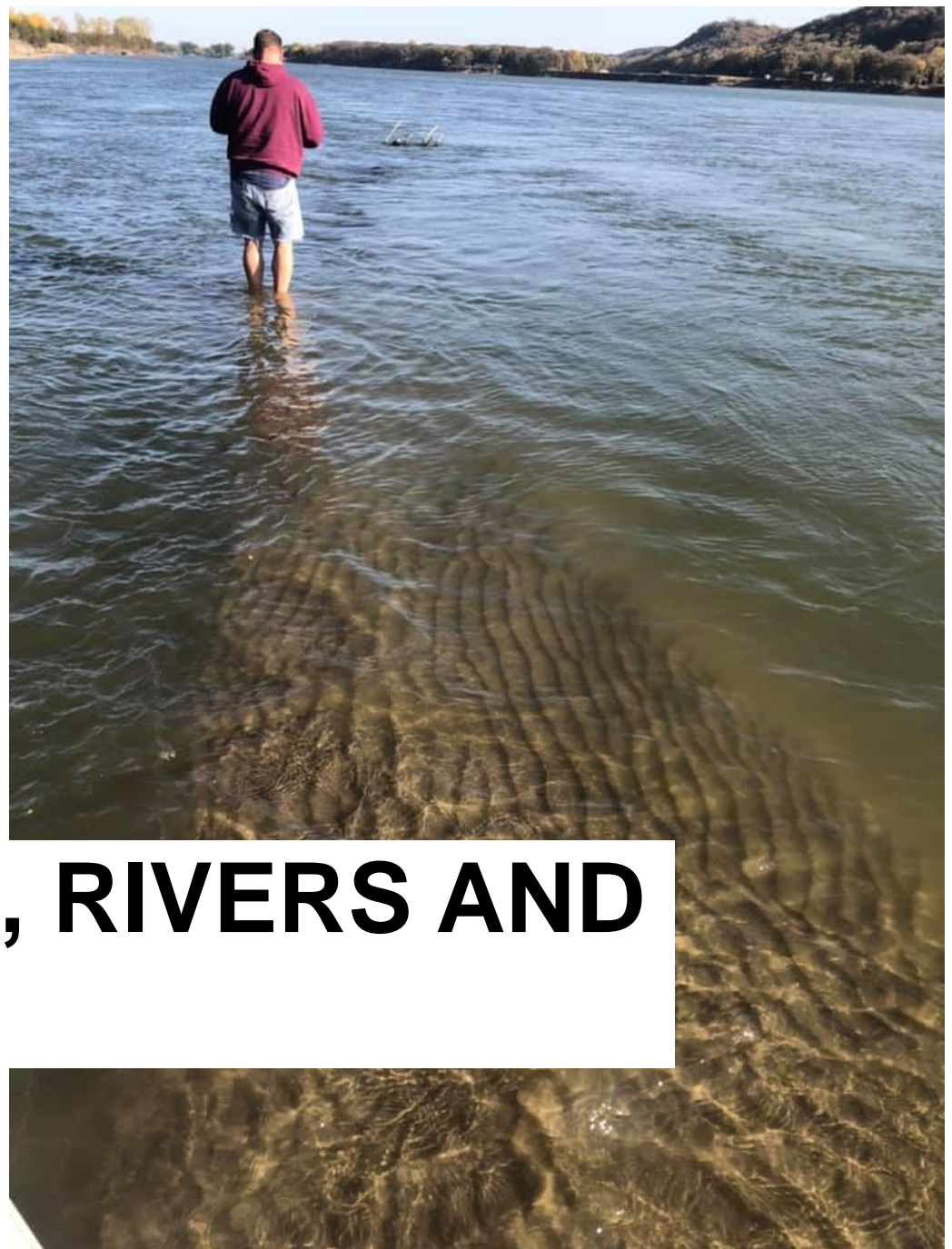
October 13, 2020  
compared to  
September 15, 2020

[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

- 5 Class Degradation
- 4 Class Degradation
- 3 Class Degradation
- 2 Class Degradation
- 1 Class Degradation
- No Change
- 1 Class Improvement
- 2 Class Improvement
- 3 Class Improvement
- 4 Class Improvement
- 5 Class Improvement

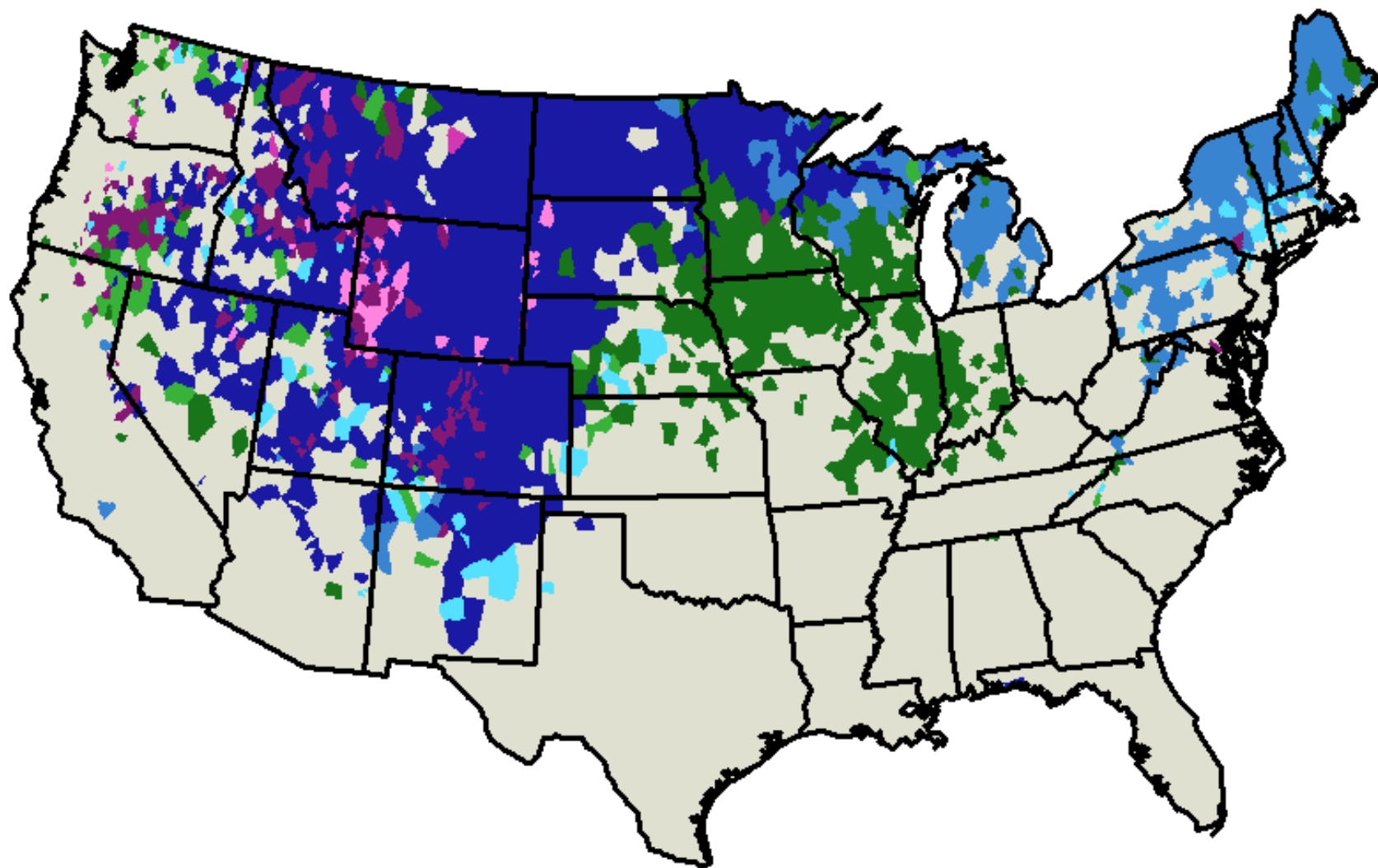
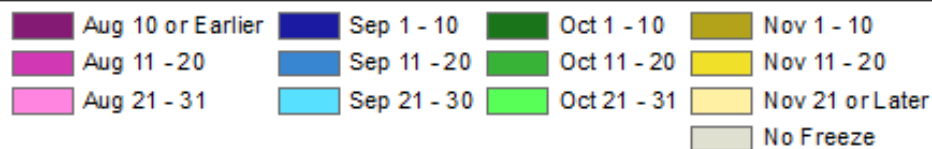
Impacts

# FROST, FIRE, RIVERS AND LAKES



USS Northern Alabama sunk in 1870. Missouri River between Vermilion and Yankton, SD, 10/11/20. Photo by Stephanie Rissler

# Date of First 32°F Freeze for period 7/1/20 to 10/14/20



MRCC Experimental Freeze Guidance:

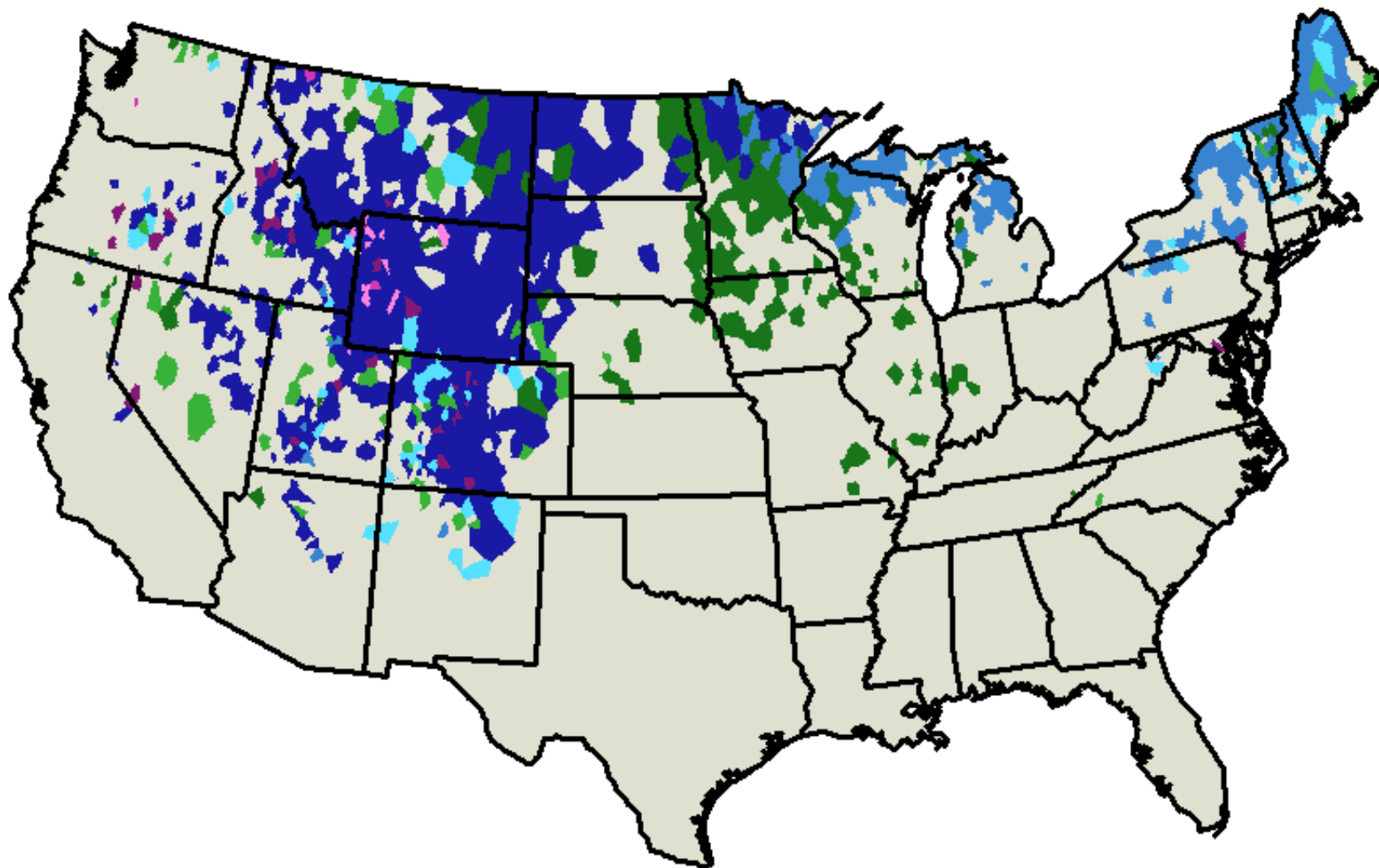
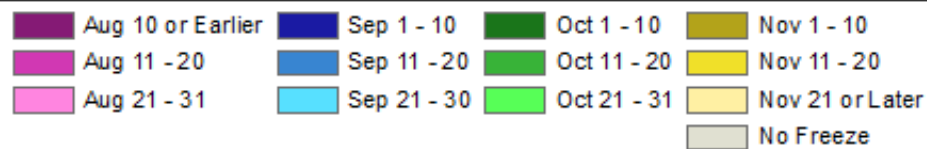
These experimental maps may be utilized as a guide to local and regional freeze conditions but should NOT be used by themselves for decision processes.



[https://mrcc.illinois.edu/VIP/frz\\_maps/freeze\\_maps.html](https://mrcc.illinois.edu/VIP/frz_maps/freeze_maps.html)



# Date of First 28°F Freeze for period 7/1/20 to 10/14/20



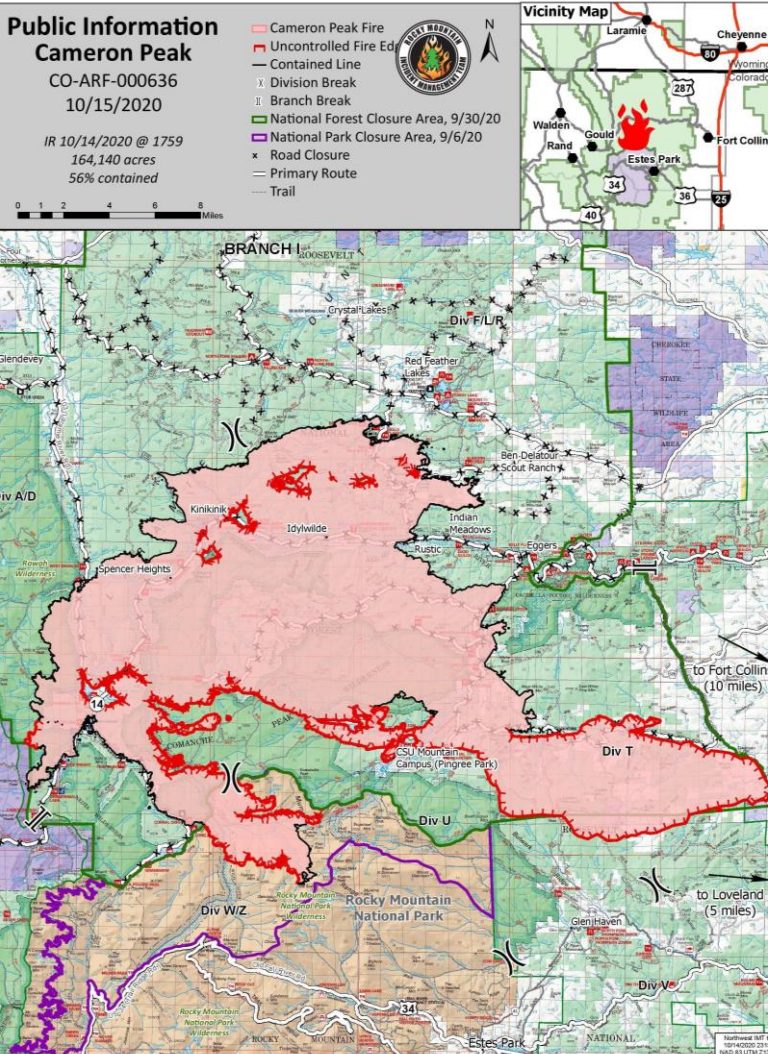
MRCC Experimental Freeze Guidance:

These experimental maps may be utilized as a guide to local and regional freeze conditions but should NOT be used by themselves for decision processes.



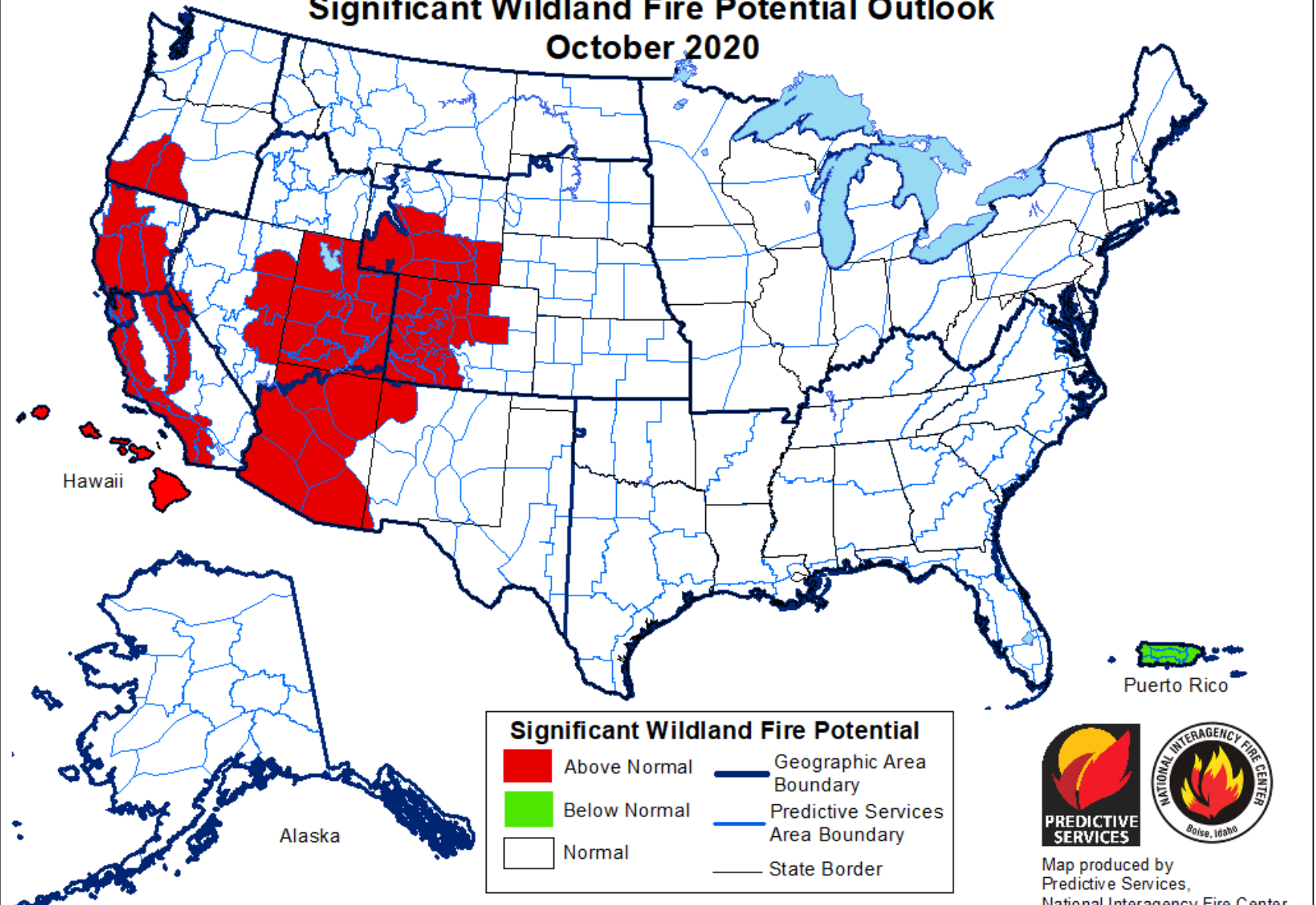
[https://mrcc.illinois.edu/VIP/frz\\_maps/freeze\\_maps.html](https://mrcc.illinois.edu/VIP/frz_maps/freeze_maps.html)

# Wildland Fires



- Cameron Peak fire, largest in CO history. 164,140 acres (8 am on 10/15)
- Mullen fire, 176,371 acres, 34% contained in WY & CO. 25 mi from Cameron Peak fire
- Regionally (N. Rockies & Rocky Mtn areas):
  - 5,726 fires
  - 1,172,161 acres
  - MT, ND, SD, NE, WY, western and northern CO

# Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook October 2020

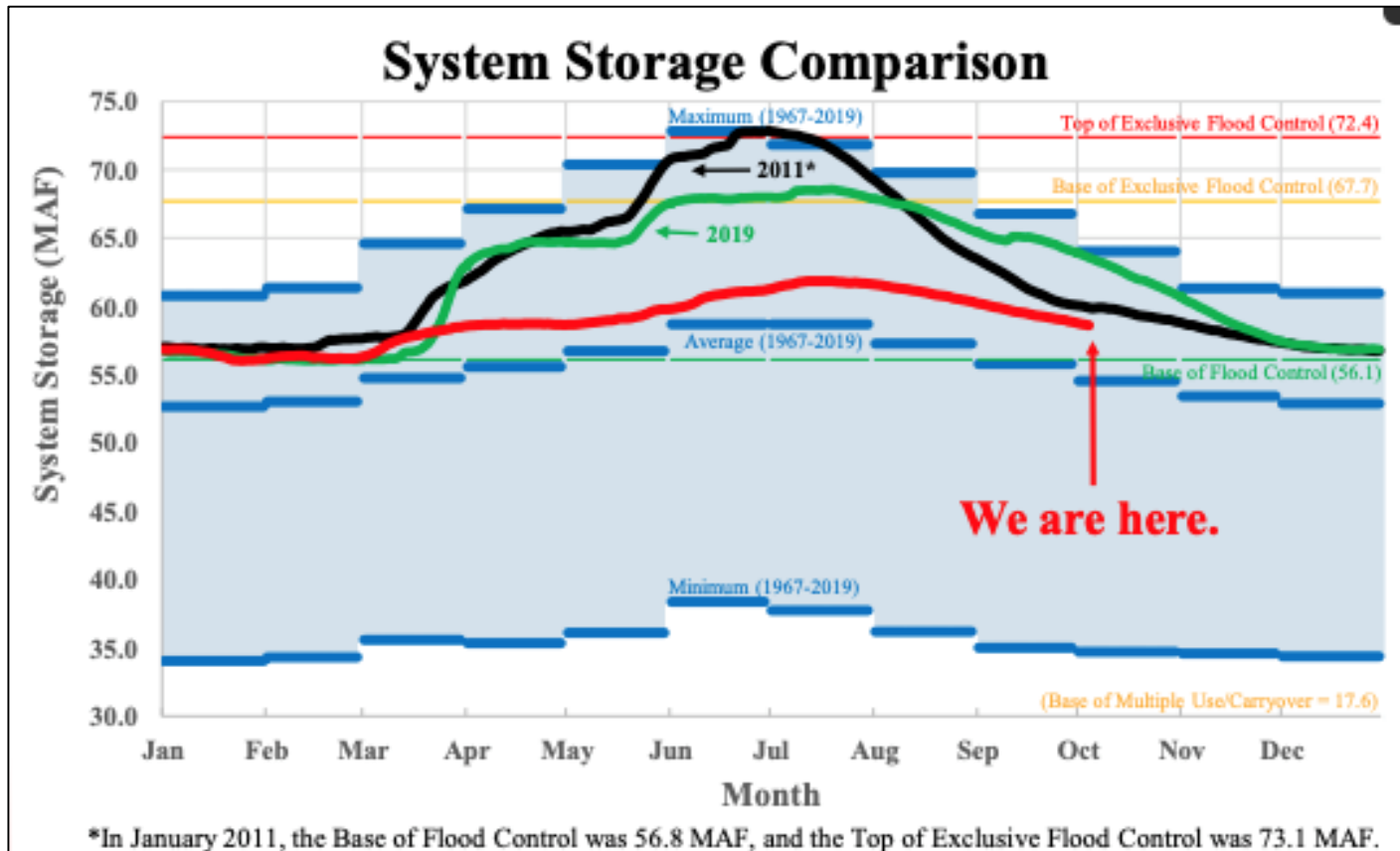


Above normal significant wildland fire potential indicates a greater than usual likelihood that significant wildland fires will occur. Significant wildland fires should be expected at typical times and intervals during normal significant wildland fire potential conditions. Significant wildland fires are still possible but less likely than usual during forecasted below normal periods.



Map produced by  
 Predictive Services,  
 National Interagency Fire Center  
 Boise, Idaho  
 Issued October 1, 2020  
 Next issuance November 1, 2020

# Missouri River



Missouri Mainstem Reservoir Status (as of 10/6/20):

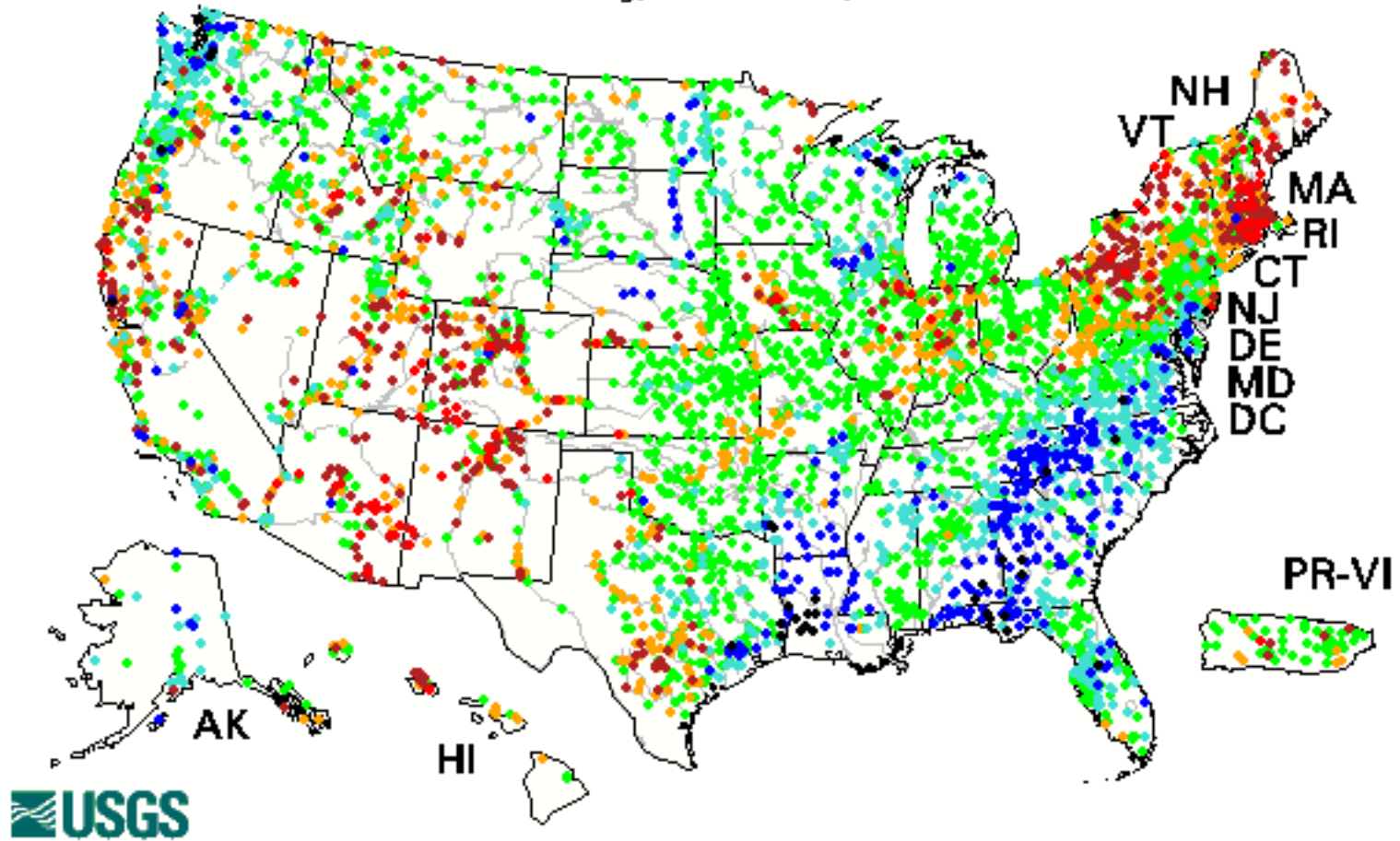
2020 runoff forecast = 117% of average

[http://www.nwd-mr.usace.army.mil/rcc/reports/pdfs/weeklyupdate\\_previous.pdf](http://www.nwd-mr.usace.army.mil/rcc/reports/pdfs/weeklyupdate_previous.pdf)



# 28-day Average Streamflow

Wednesday, October 14, 2020

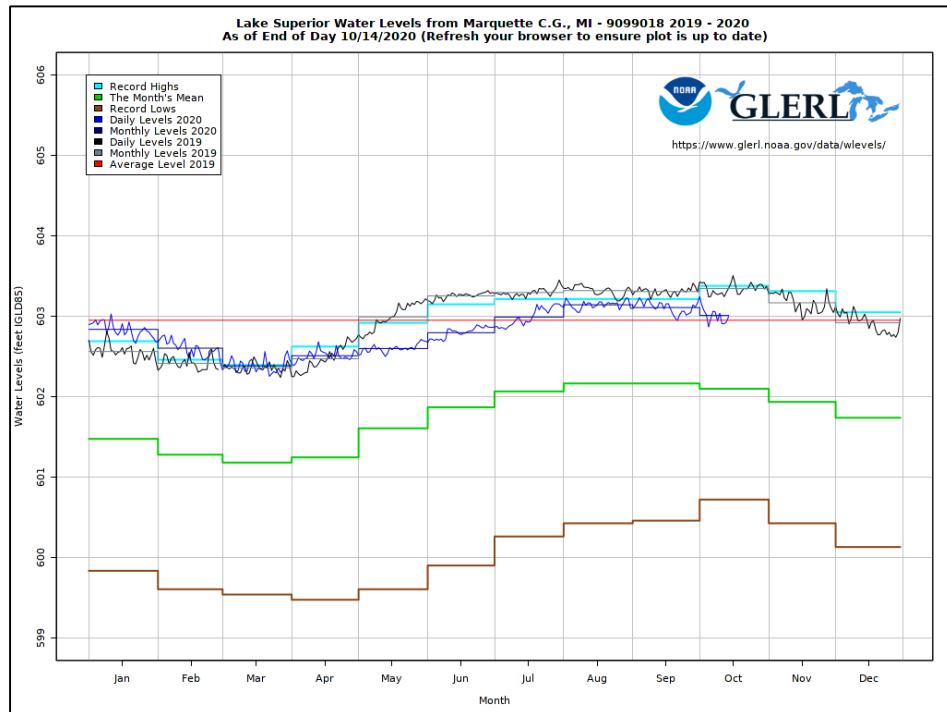


Explanation - Percentile classes						
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

<http://waterwatch.usgs.gov/index.php?id=pa07d>

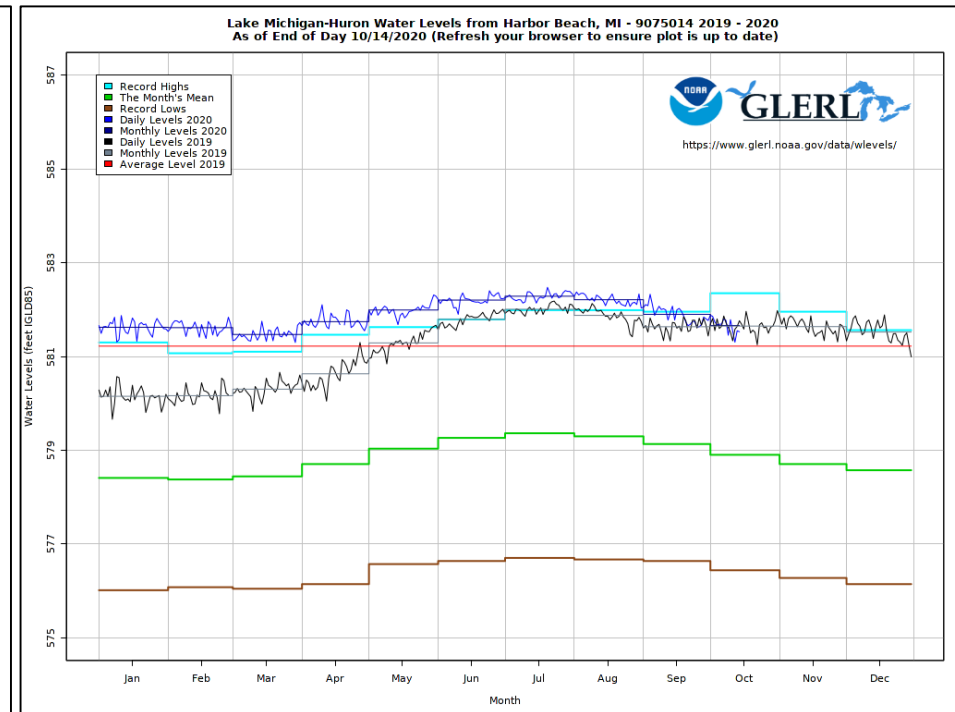
# Great Lakes Water Level

Lake Superior Water Levels from Marquette C.G., MI - 9099018 2019 - 2020  
As of End of Day 10/14/2020 (Refresh your browser to ensure plot is up to date)



Lake Superior

Lake Michigan-Huron Water Levels from Harbor Beach, MI - 9075014 2019 - 2020  
As of End of Day 10/14/2020 (Refresh your browser to ensure plot is up to date)



Lake Michigan-Huron

<https://www.glerl.noaa.gov/data/wlevels/levels.html#observations>



Photo by Laura Edwards

Looking Ahead

# CLIMATE OUTLOOKS

# Climate Outlooks

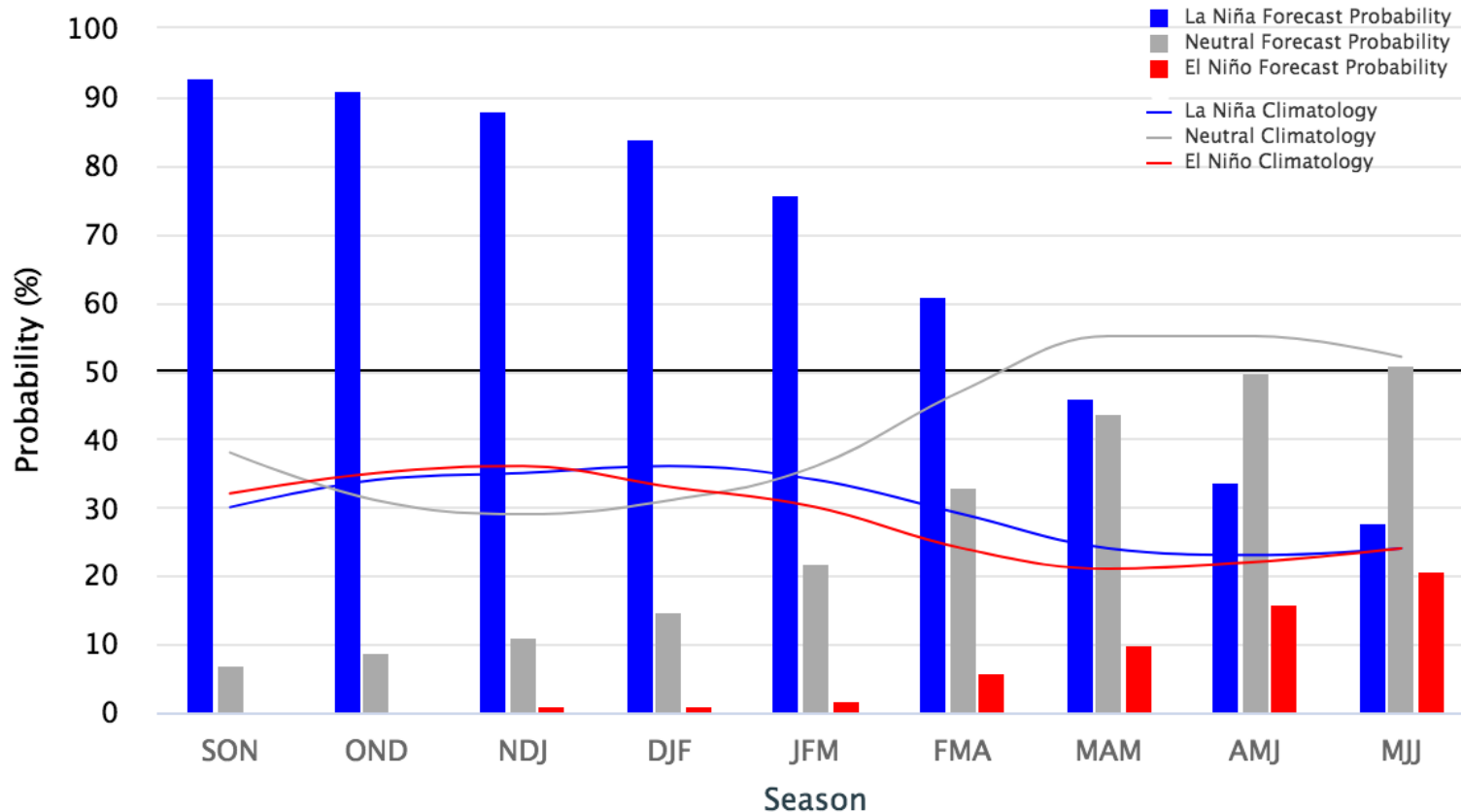
- La Niña
- 7-day precipitation forecast
- 8-14 day outlook
- November temperature and precipitation
- Winter season temperature and precipitation



# La Niña Advisory

Early-October 2020 CPC/IRI Official Probabilistic ENSO Forecasts

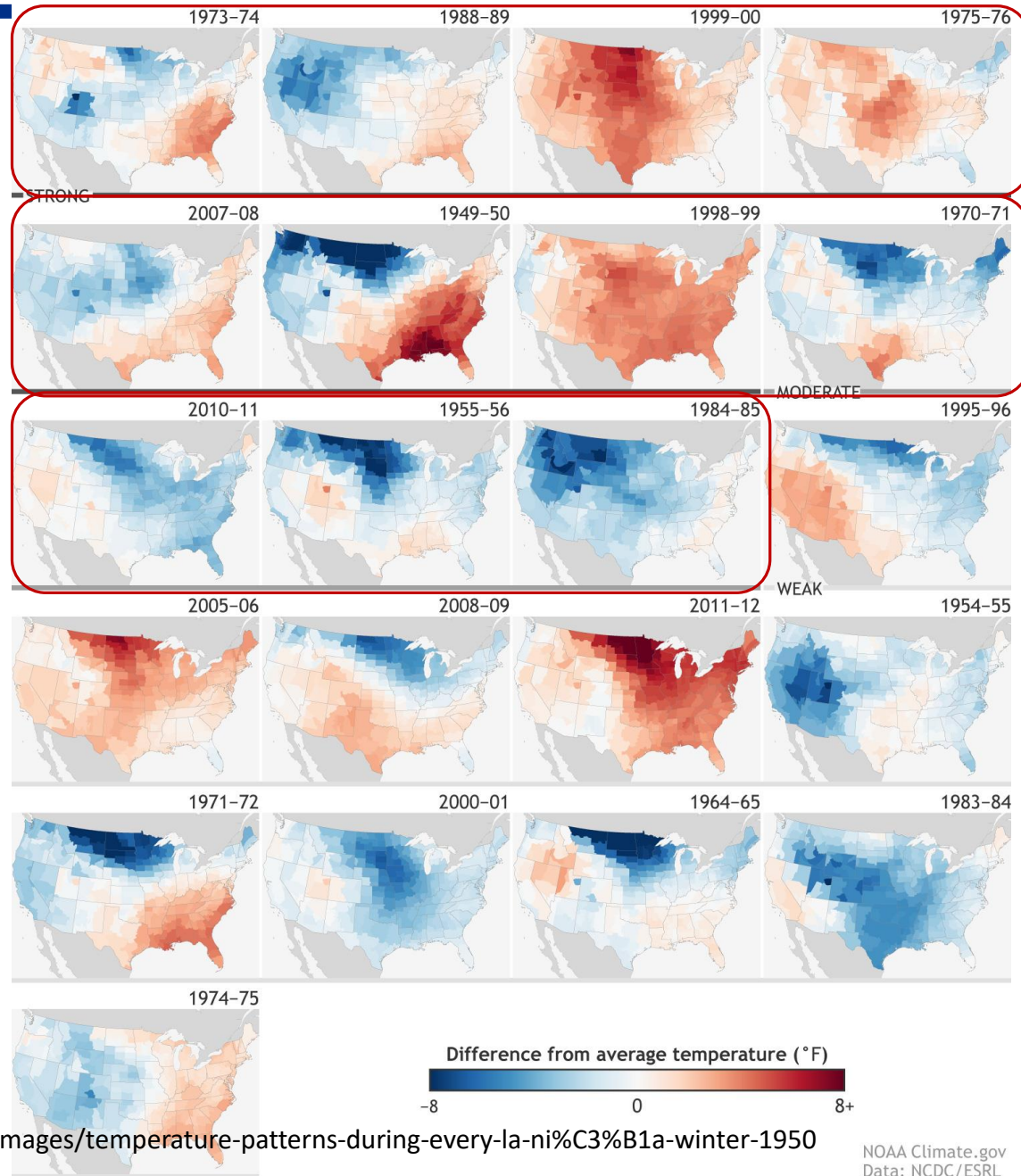
ENSO state based on NINO3.4 SST Anomaly  
Neutral ENSO:  $-0.5\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $0.5\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$



[https://iri.columbia.edu/our-expertise/climate/forecasts/enso/current/?enso\\_tab=enso-cpc\\_plume](https://iri.columbia.edu/our-expertise/climate/forecasts/enso/current/?enso_tab=enso-cpc_plume)

# La Niña Temperatures

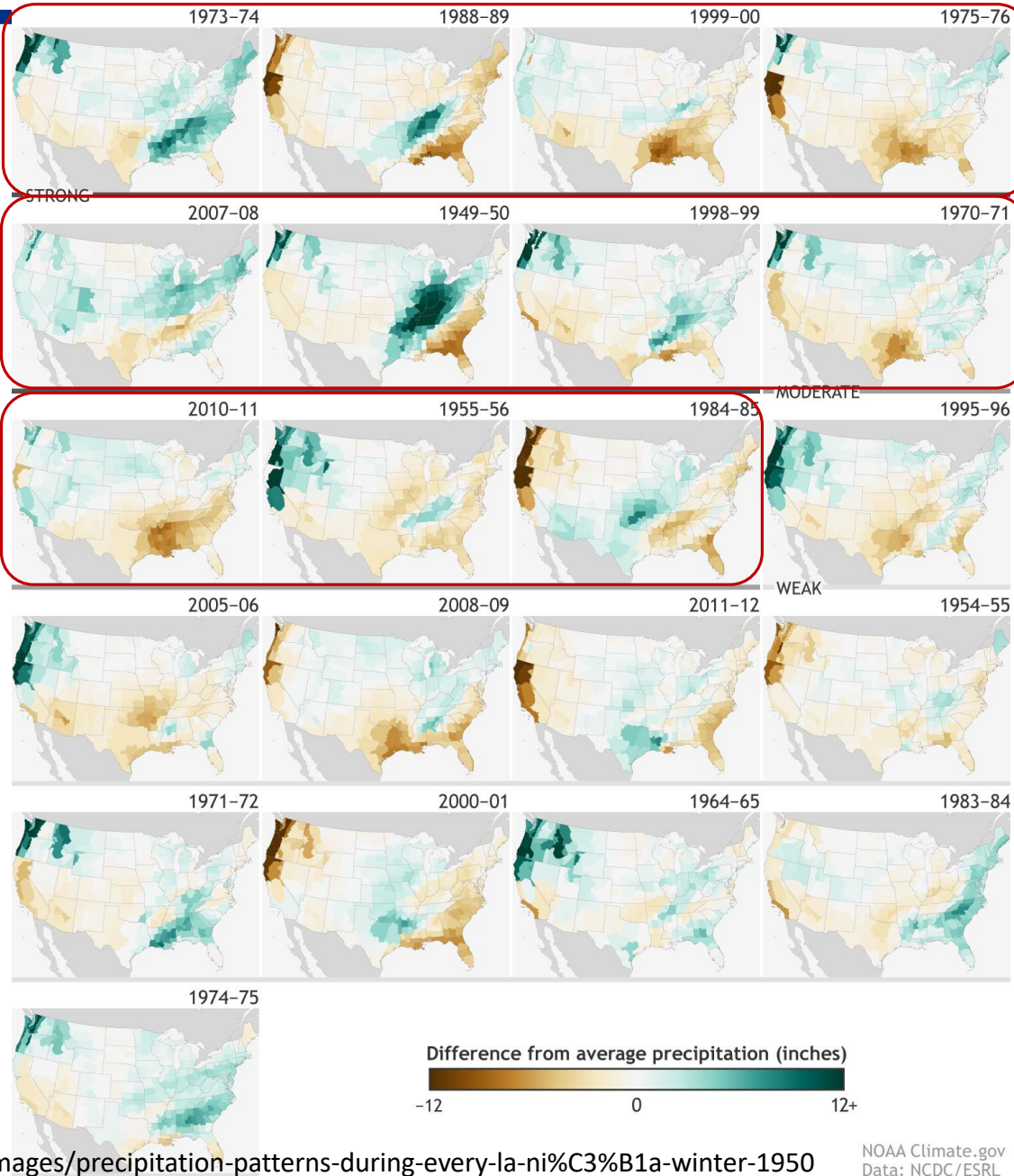
Winter (December-February) temperature during strong, moderate, and weak La Niñas since 1950



<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/featured-images/temperature-patterns-during-every-la-ni%C3%B1a-winter-1950>

NOAA Climate.gov  
Data: NCDC/ESRL

# La Niña Precipitation

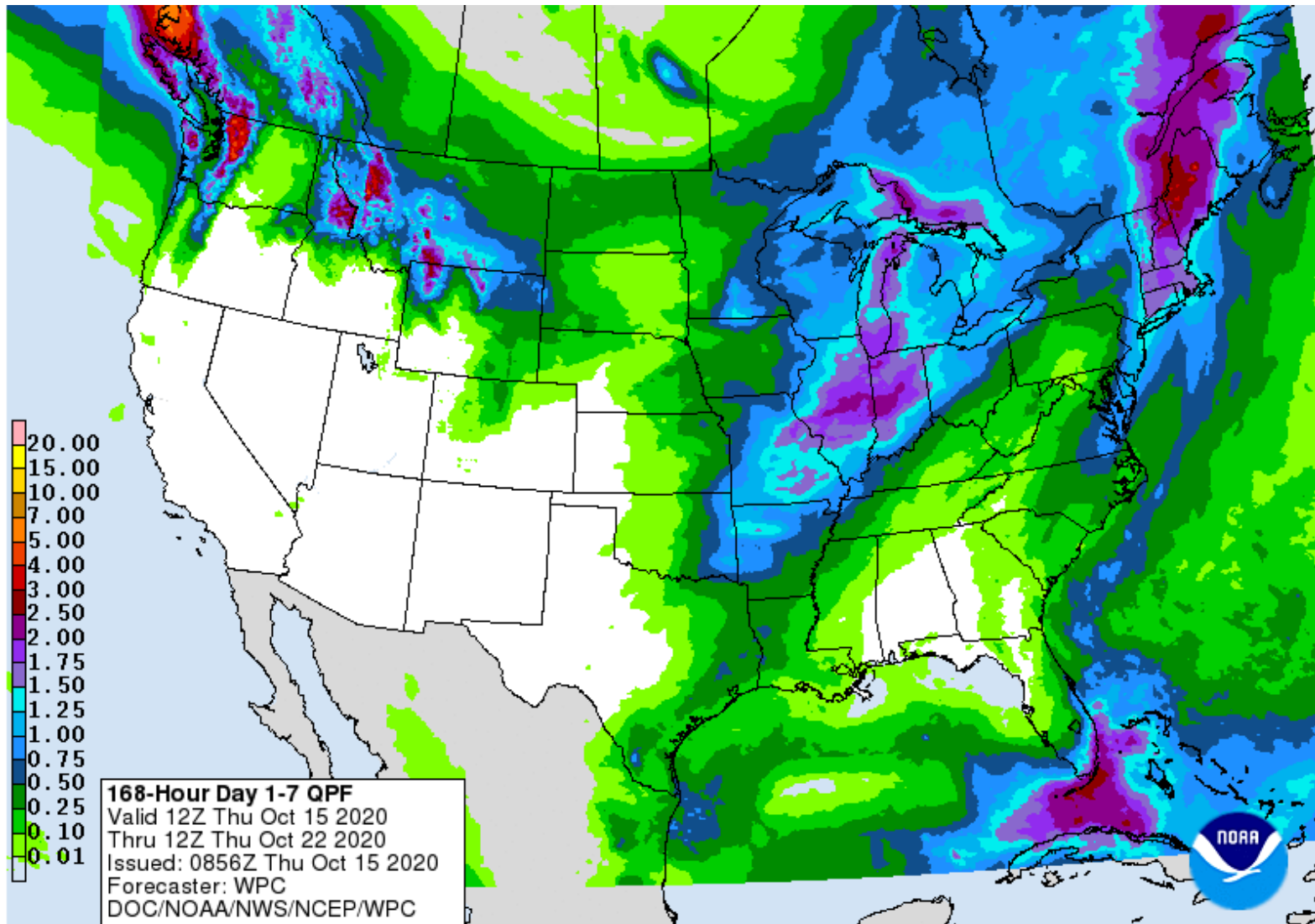


<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/featured-images/precipitation-patterns-during-every-la-ni%C3%B1a-winter-1950>

NOAA Climate.gov  
Data: NCDC/ESRL

# 7-day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast

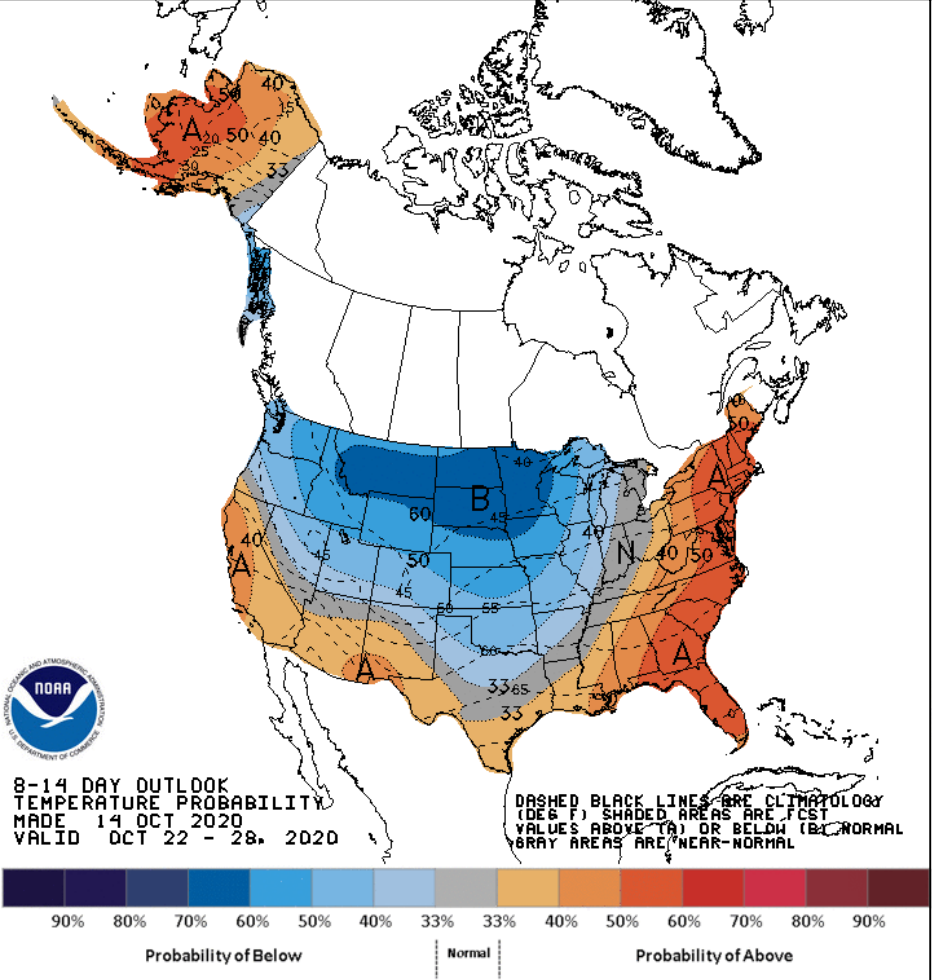
Valid: 15 Oct – 22 Oct



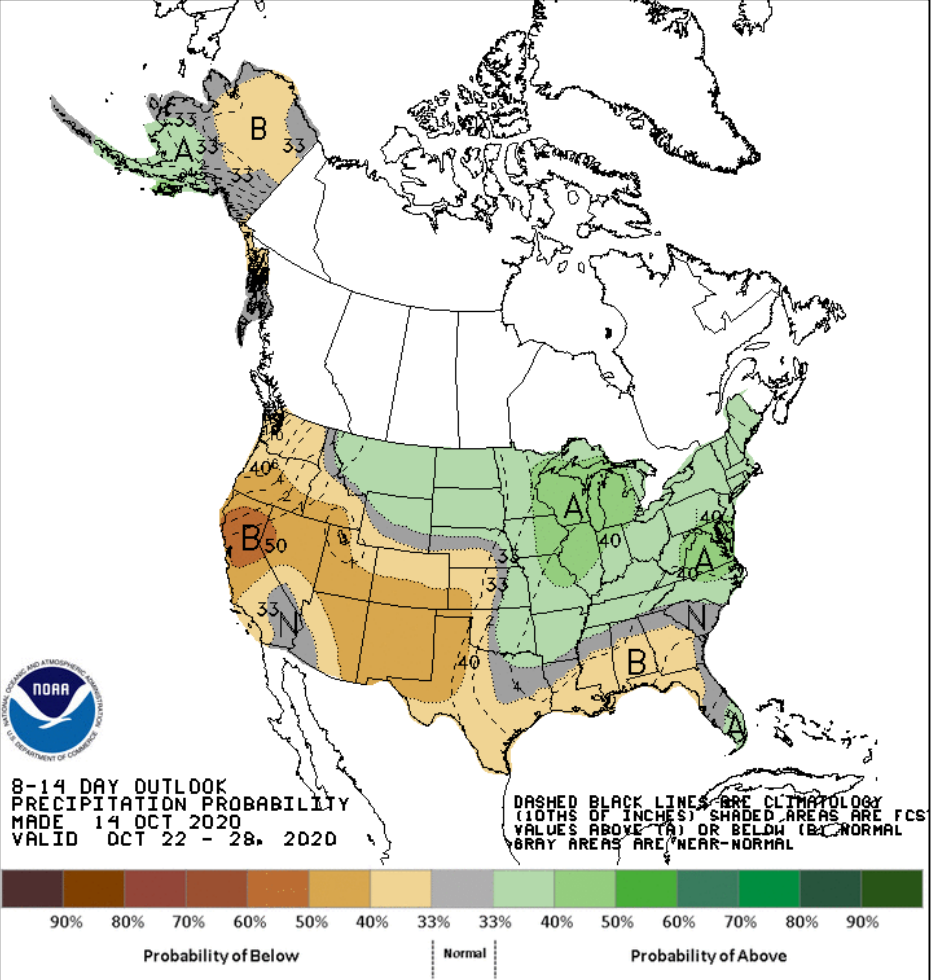
<http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/qpf/day1-7.shtml>



# 8-14 Day Outlook



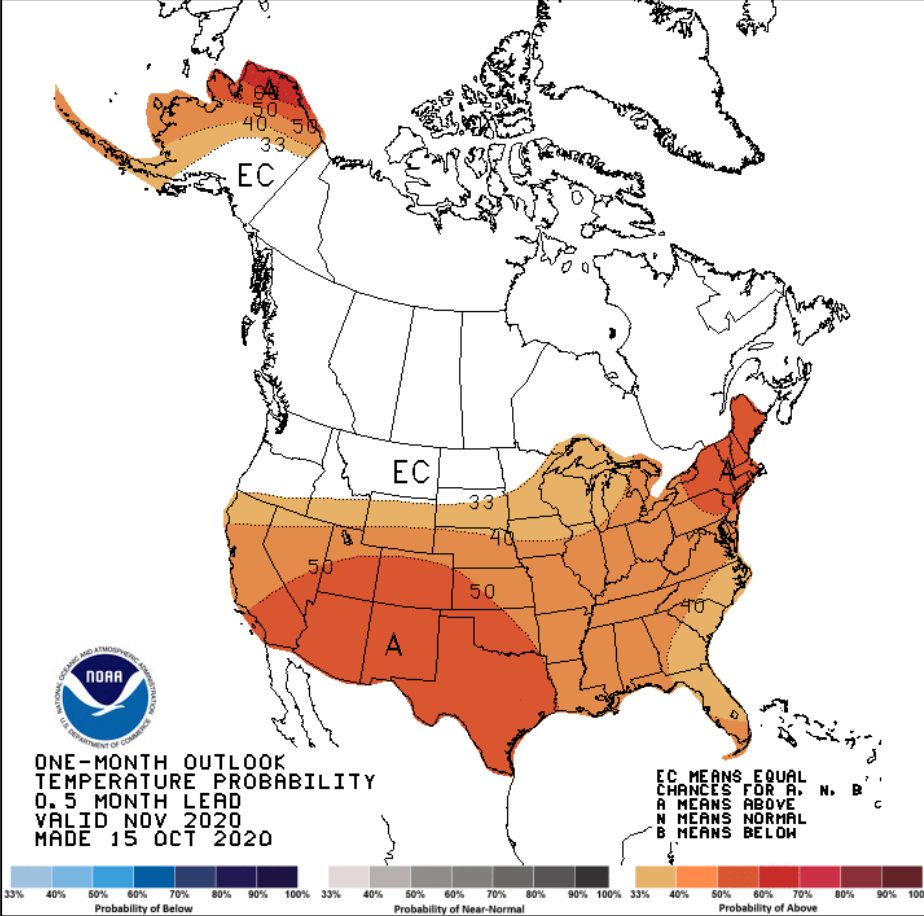
Temperature



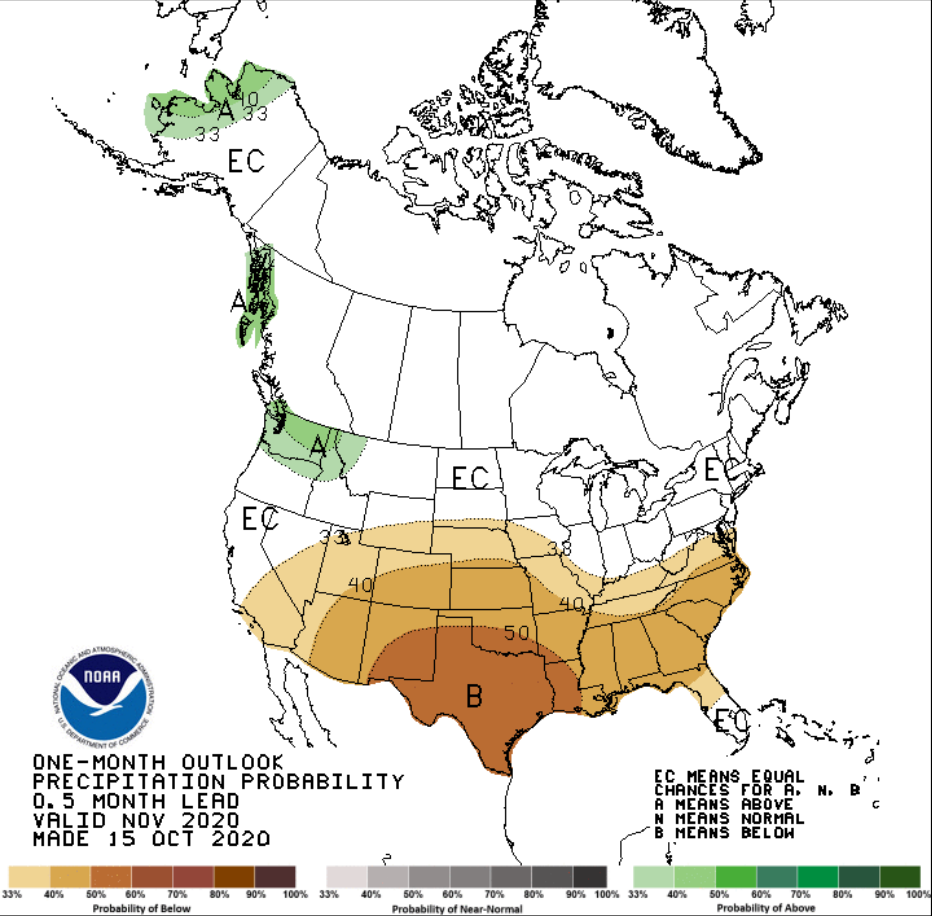
Precipitation

<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/814day/index.php>

# November Temperature and Precipitation Outlooks



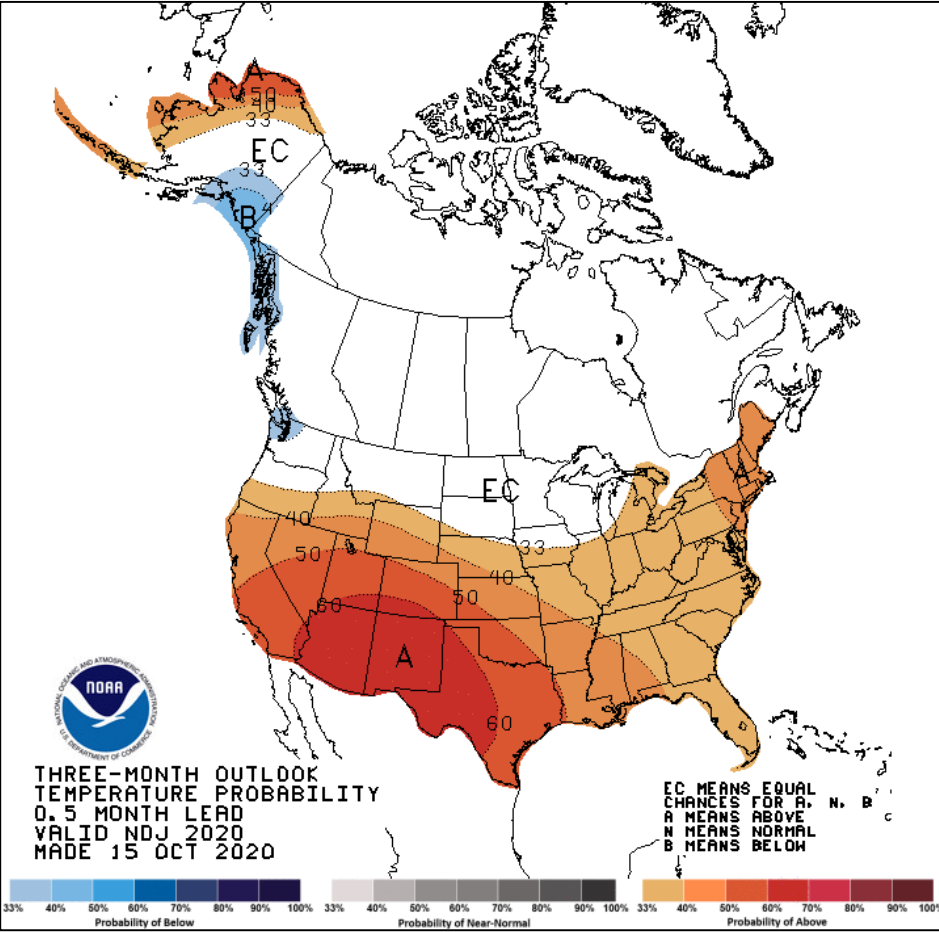
Temperature



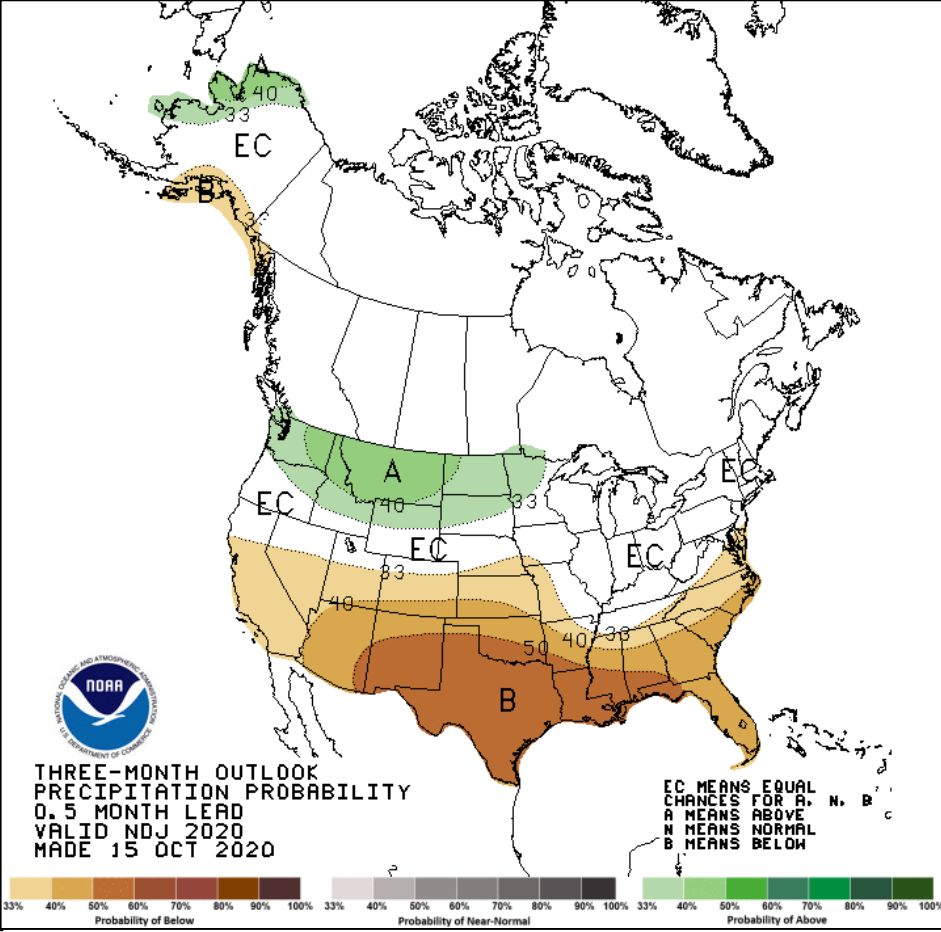
Precipitation

<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/30day/>

# 3 Month Temperature and Precipitation Outlooks, Nov-Jan



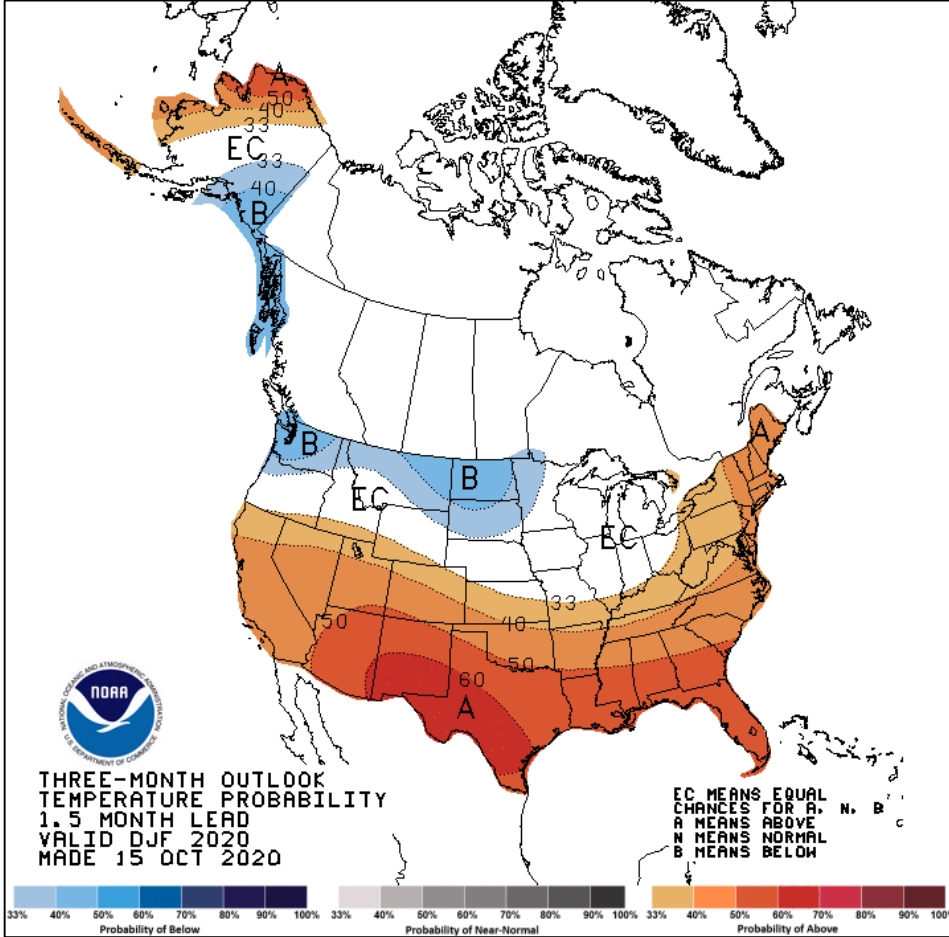
**Temperature**



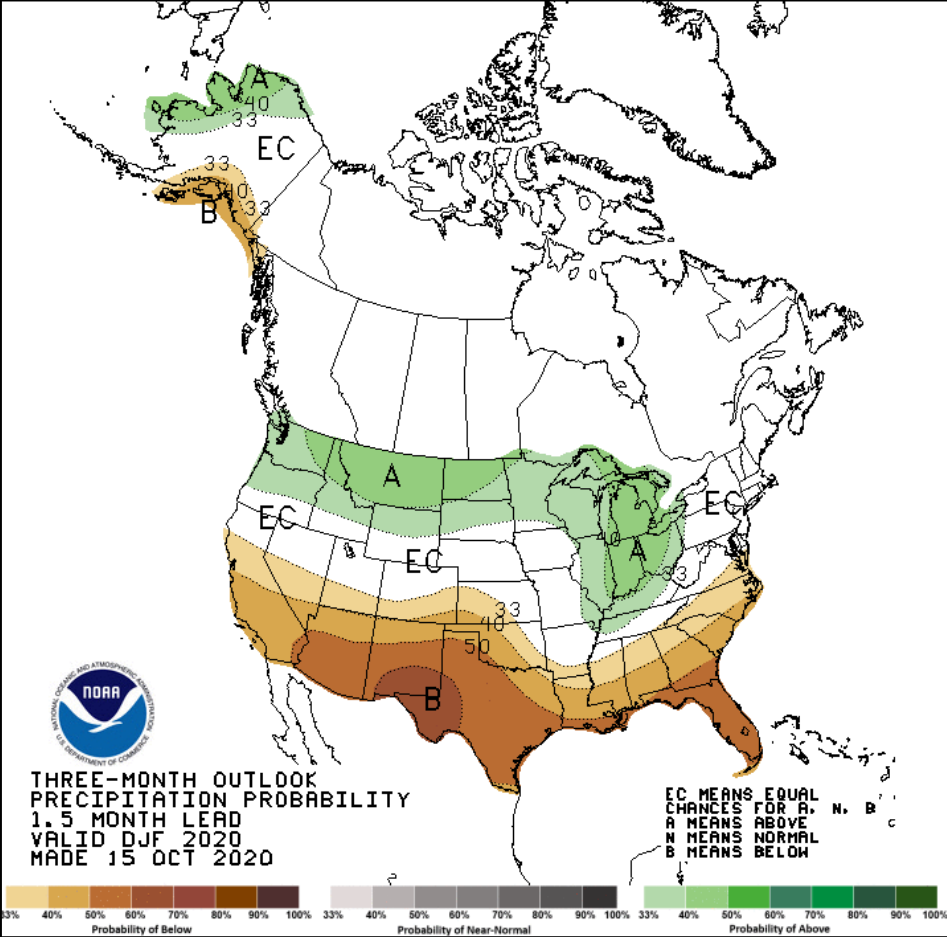
**Precipitation**

[http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long\\_range/seasonal.php?lead=2](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/seasonal.php?lead=2)

# 3 Month Temperature and Precipitation Outlooks, Dec-Feb



Temperature



Precipitation

[http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long\\_range/seasonal.php?lead=2](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/seasonal.php?lead=2)

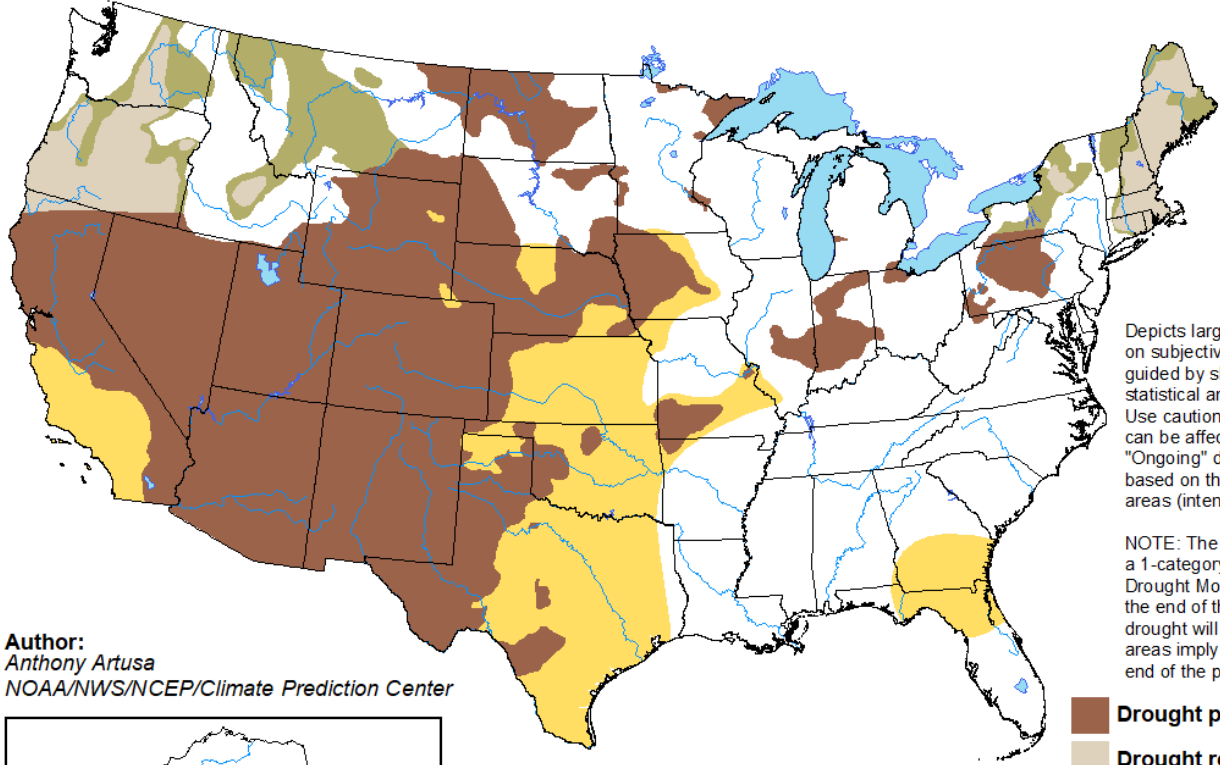


# Seasonal Drought Outlook



## U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

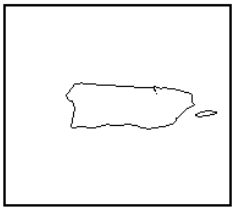
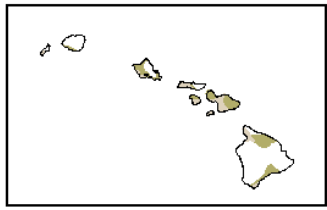
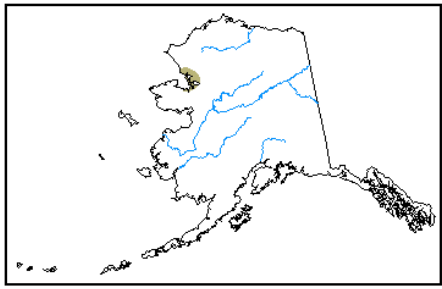
Valid for October 15, 2020 - January 31, 2021  
Released October 15, 2020



Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

Author:  
Anthony Artusa  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center



- Drought persists
- Drought remains but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

[http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert\\_assessment/season\\_drought.png](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert_assessment/season_drought.png)

## Further Information - Partners

- **Today's and Past Recorded Presentations:**
- <http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/webinars.htm>  
<http://www.hprcc.unl.edu>
- **Next webinar: November 19, 2020 with Justin Glisan, Iowa State Climatologist**
  
- NOAA's Climate Prediction Center: [www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov)
- Climate Portal: [www.climate.gov](http://www.climate.gov)
- U.S. Drought Portal: [www.drought.gov](http://www.drought.gov)
- National Drought Mitigation Center: <http://drought.unl.edu/>
- State climatologists
  - <http://www.stateclimate.org>
- Regional climate centers
  - <http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu>
  - <http://www.hprcc.unl.edu>

# Thank You and Questions?

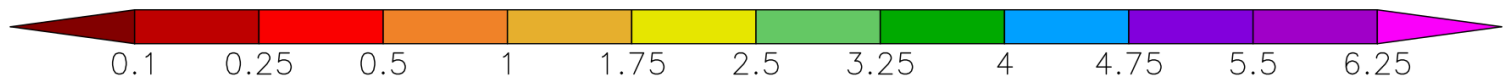
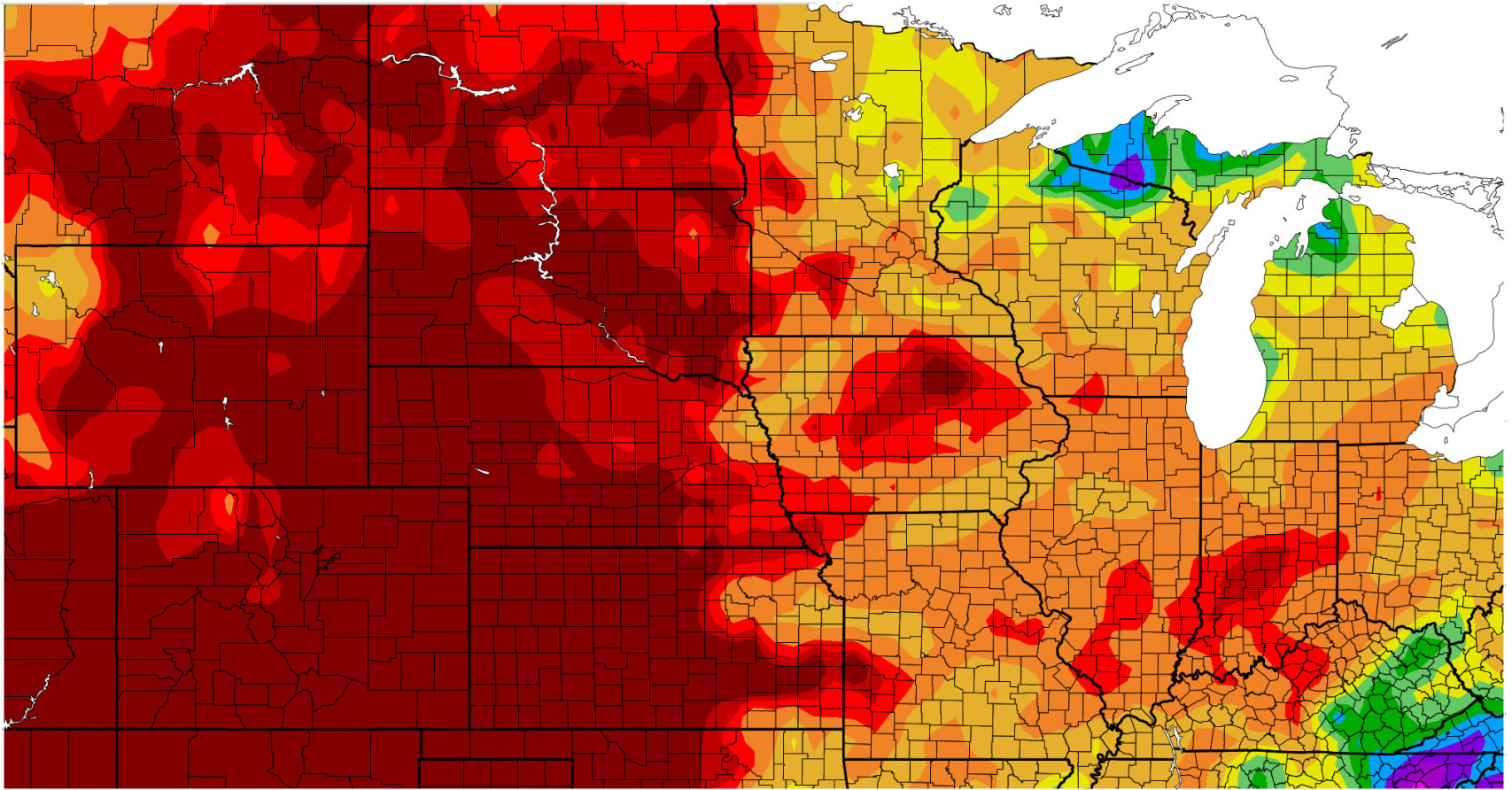
- Questions:
  - **Climate:**
    - Laura Edwards: [laura.edwards@sdstate.edu](mailto:laura.edwards@sdstate.edu), 605-626-2870
    - Dennis Todey: [dennis.todey@ars.usda.gov](mailto:dennis.todey@ars.usda.gov) , 515-294-2013
    - Doug Kluck: [doug.kluck@noaa.gov](mailto:doug.kluck@noaa.gov), 816-994-3008
    - Mike Timlin: [mtimlin@illinois.edu](mailto:mtimlin@illinois.edu); 217-333-8506
    - Natalie Umphlett: [numphlett2@unl.edu](mailto:numphlett2@unl.edu) ; 402 472-6764
    - Brian Fuchs: [bfuchs2@unl.edu](mailto:bfuchs2@unl.edu) 402 472-6775
  - **Weather:**
    - [crhroc@noaa.gov](mailto:crhroc@noaa.gov)





# Precipitation (in)

9/14/2020 – 10/13/2020



# General Information

- **Providing climate services to the Central Region**
  - Collaboration Activity Between:
    - State Climatologists/American Association of State Climatologists
    - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
    - USDA Climate Hubs
    - Midwest and High Plains Regional Climate Centers
    - National Drought Mitigation Center
- **Next Regular Climate/Drought Outlook Webinar**
  - November 19, 2020 (1 PM CDT)
- **Access to Future Climate Webinars and Information**
- HPRCC: <https://hprcc.unl.edu/webinars.php>
- MRCC: <http://mrcc.illinois.edu/multimedia/webinars.jsp>
- **Open for questions at the end**



## **Midwest/Great Plains Agricultural Update, Oct. 15, 2020**

**Ear of Corn in Stafford County, VA, Oct. 9, 2020. Photo by B. Rippey, USDA.**



**2020: A “good” year for U.S. agriculture; far from perfect**

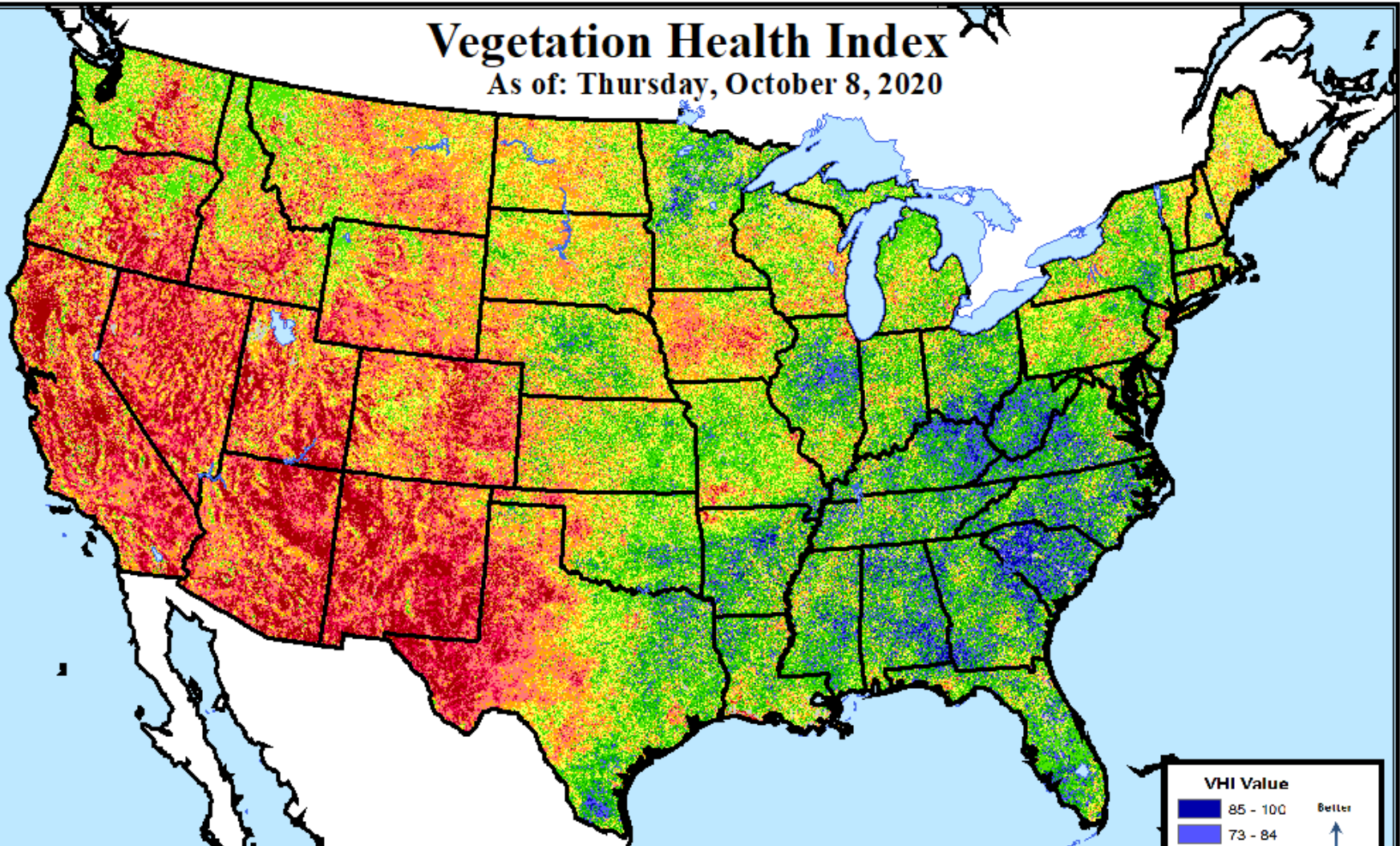
- **Record U.S. yield for corn (178.4 bushels/acre) and soybeans (51.9 bushels/acre)**
- **Very little heat stress (<95°F)**
- **Quick planting w. Corn Belt**
- **Some adversity in e. Corn Belt (e.g. spring flooding/replanting, mid-May frost, dryness during grain/pod filling stage)**
- **Drought struck Iowa, etc.**
- **Damage from Aug. 10 derecho**
- **Frost in Dakotas, Sep. 8-9**
- **Worsening drought, High Plains**
- **Late-summer, autumn drought reduces hay production and limits moisture for wheat.**





# Vegetation Health Index

As of: Thursday, October 8, 2020

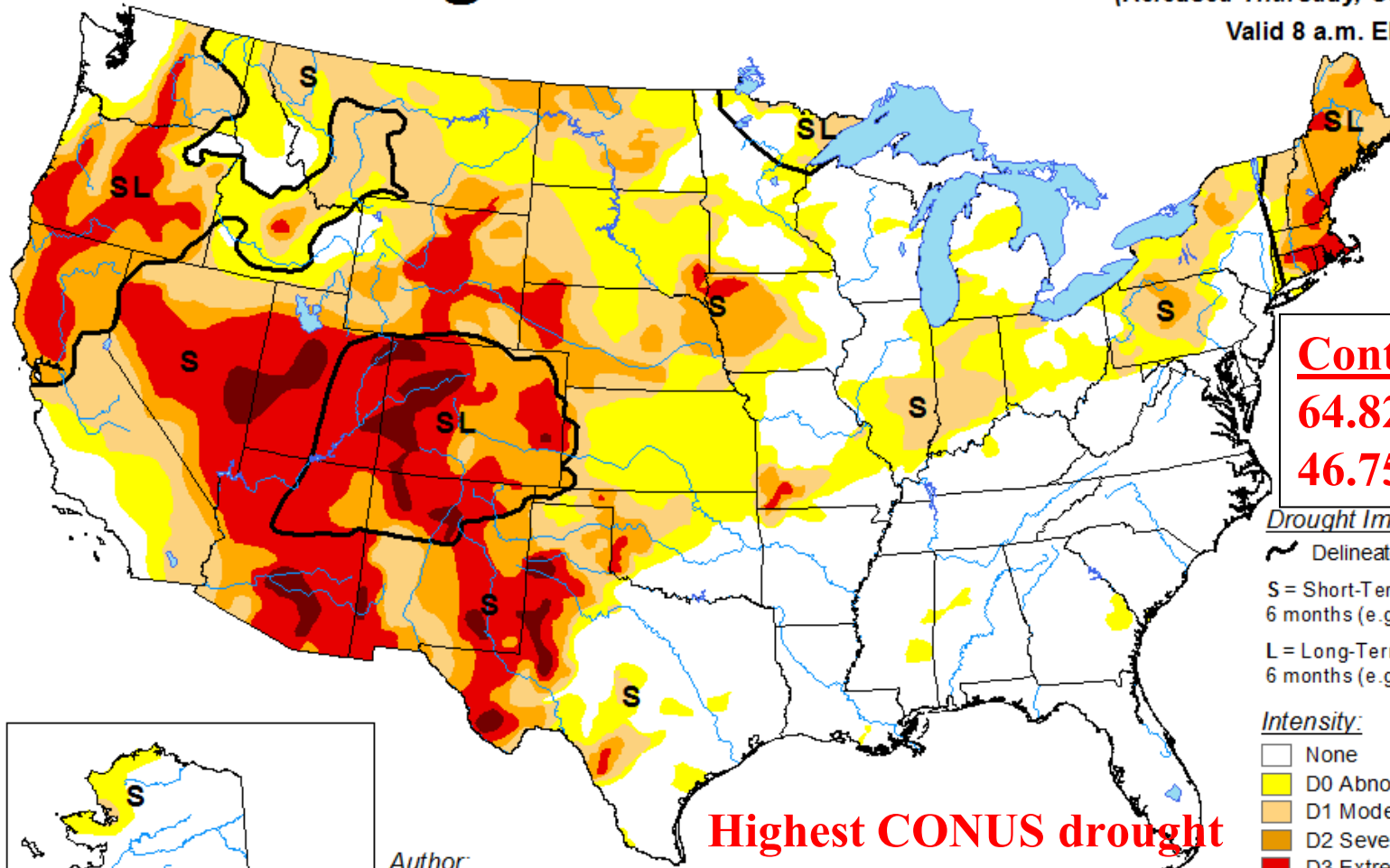


**October 2020: Drought (poor rangeland condition) dominates the High Plains. Iowa's drought and derecho damage is clear. Crops in the western Corn Belt are mature and being harvested, leading to a "less-green" signal than usual for early October.**

# U.S. Drought Monitor

October 13, 2020  
 (Released Thursday, Oct. 15, 2020)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



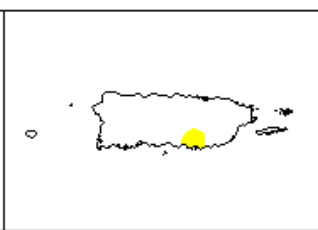
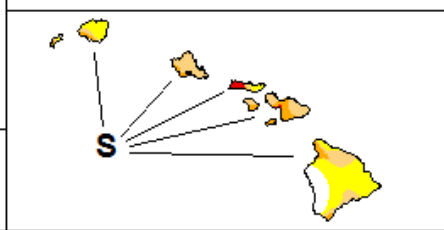
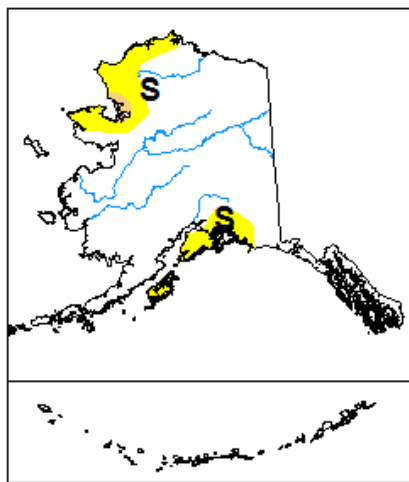
**Contiguous U.S.**  
**64.82% D0 – D4**  
**46.75% D1 – D4**

Drought Impact Types:  
 ~ Delineates dominant impacts  
 S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)  
 L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

Intensity:  
 None  
 D0 Abnormally Dry  
 D1 Moderate Drought  
 D2 Severe Drought  
 D3 Extreme Drought  
 D4 Exceptional Drought

**Highest CONUS drought coverage since Sep. 2013**

Author:  
 Curtis Riganti  
 National Drought Mitigation Center



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>



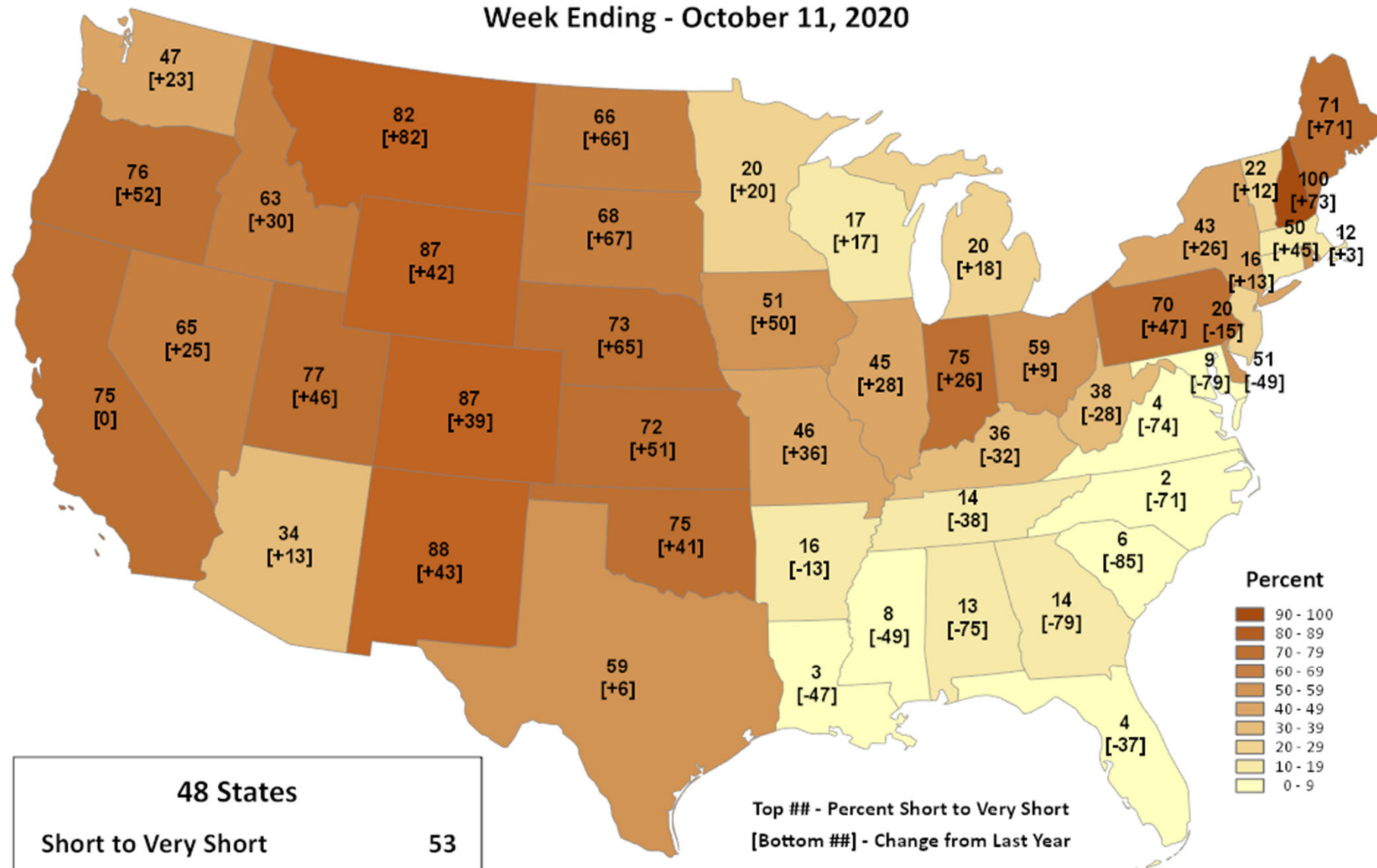
[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)



# Topsoil Moisture

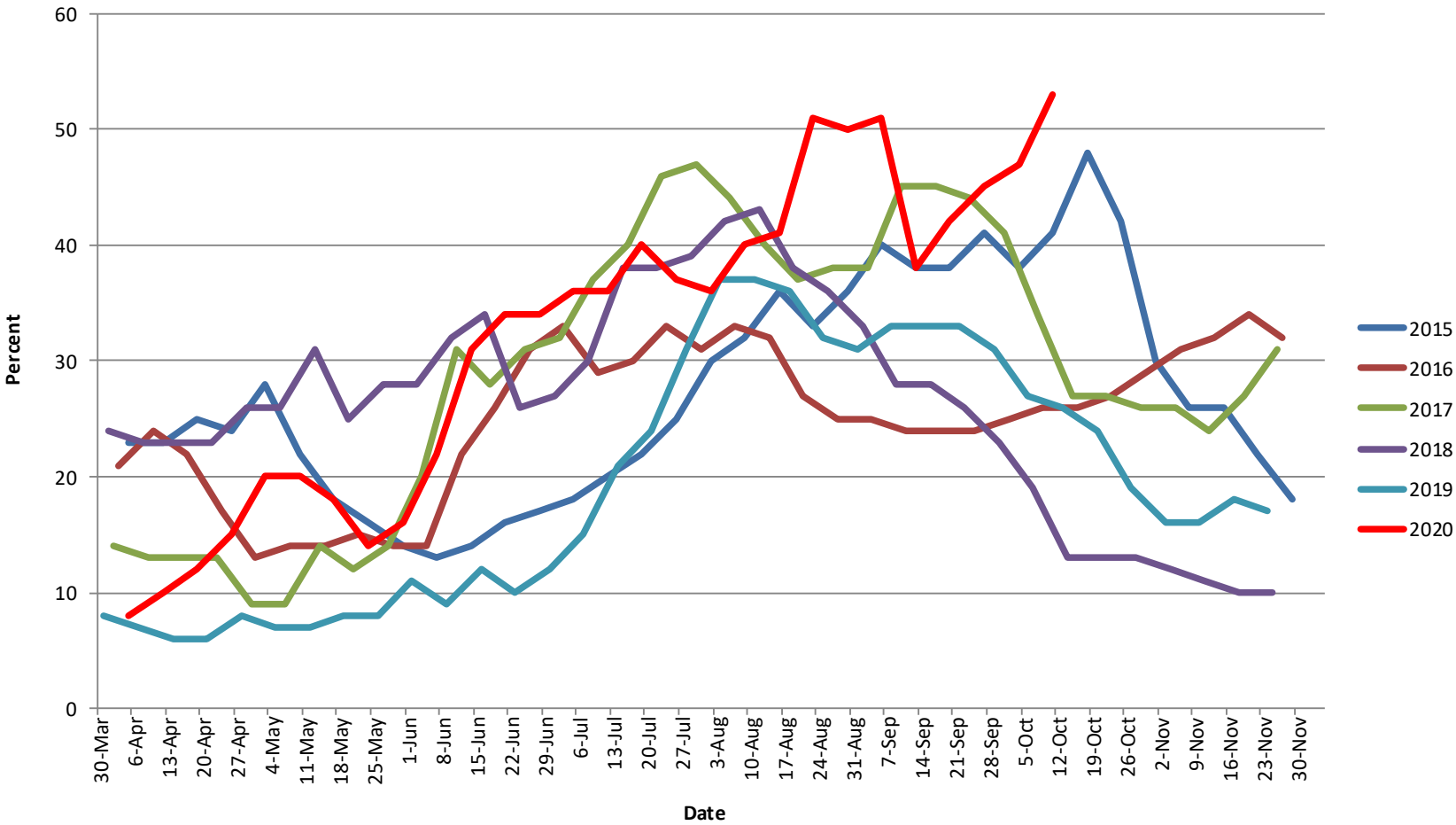
## Percent Short to Very Short

### Week Ending - October 11, 2020



*Data obtained from USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service weekly Crop Progress reports.*

# U.S. Topsoil Moisture: Percent Short-Very Short



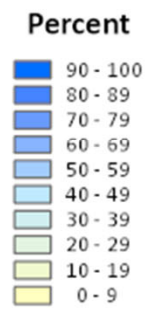
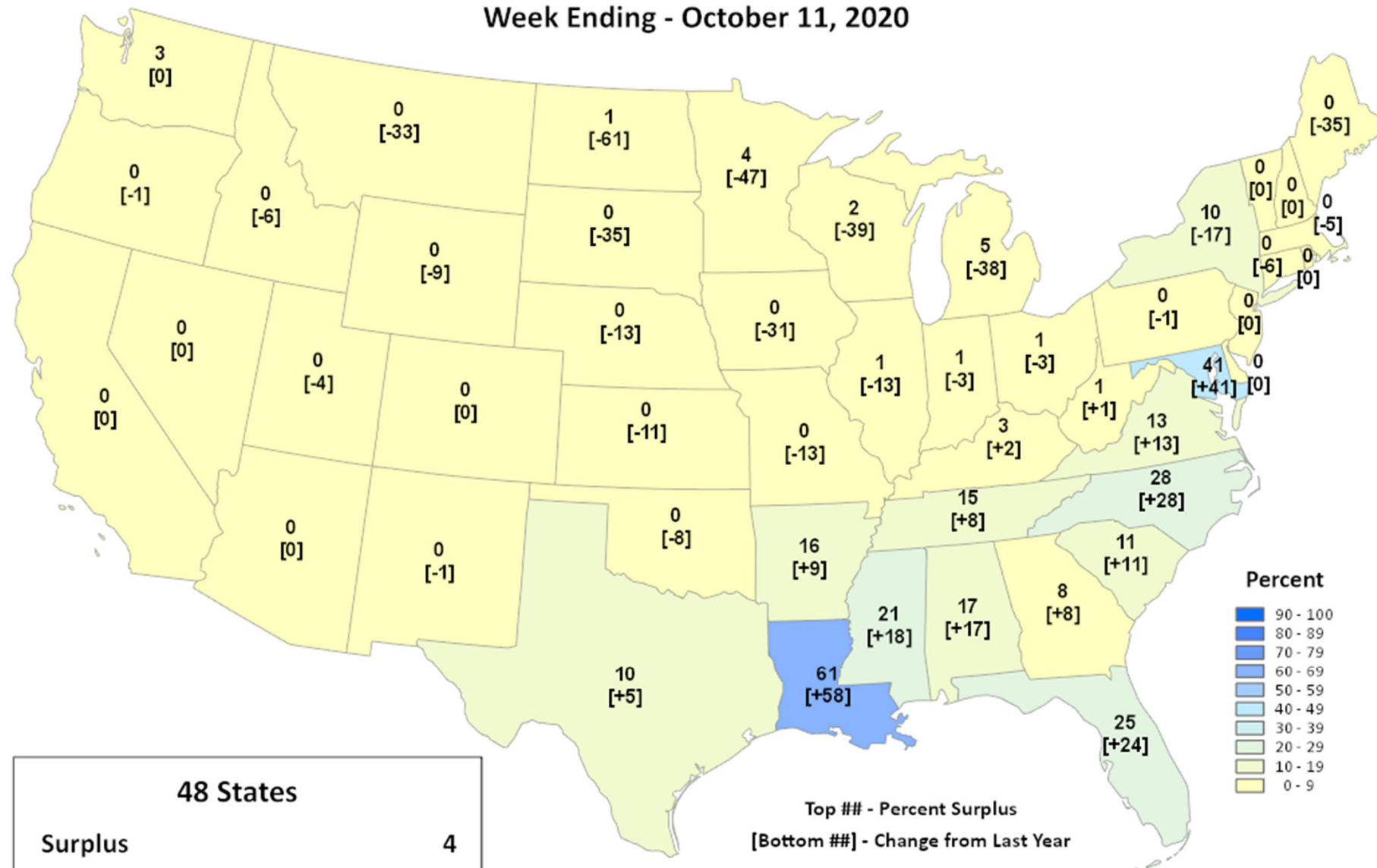
Based on NASS crop progress data.



# Topsoil Moisture

## Percent Surplus

Week Ending - October 11, 2020

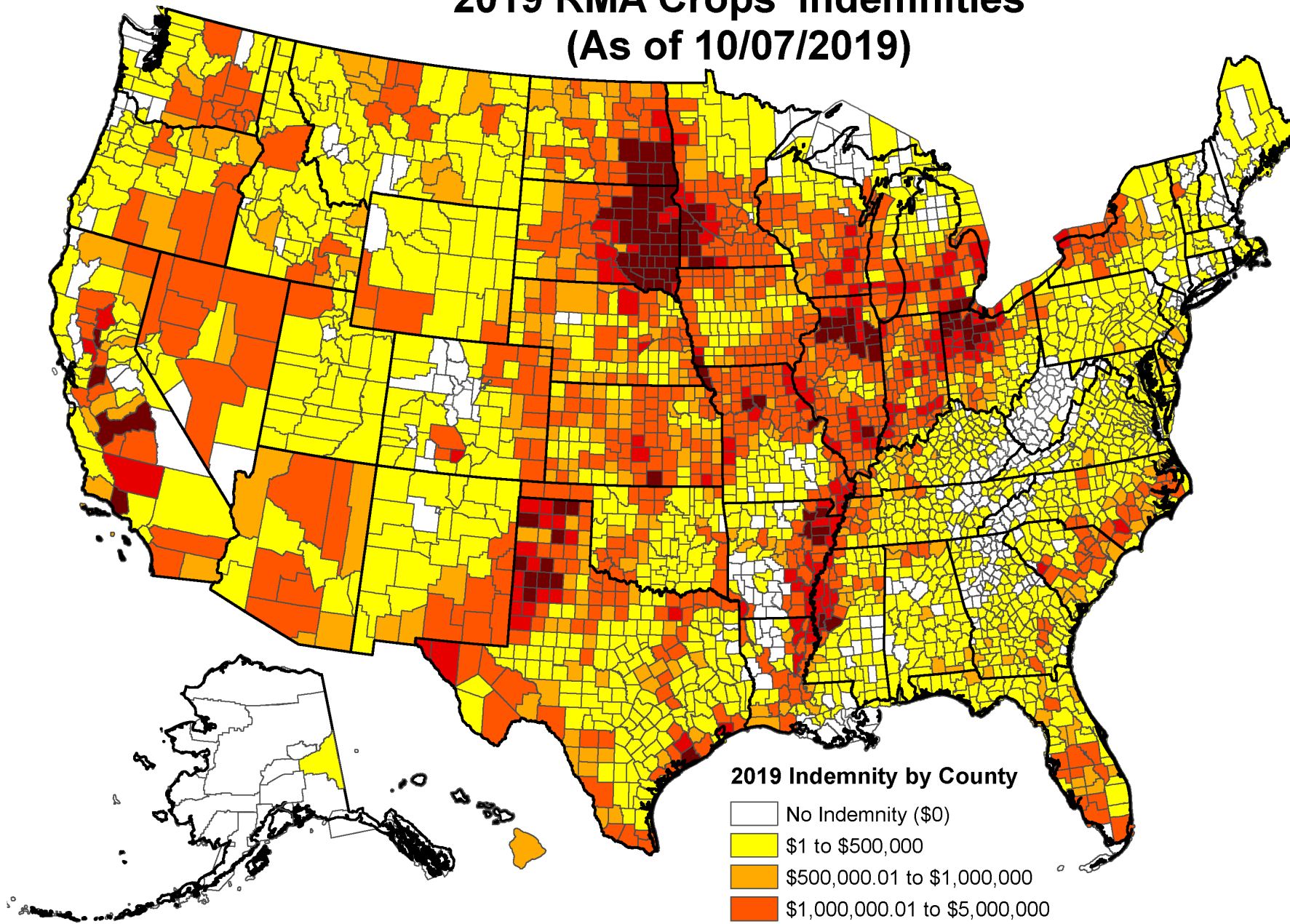


<b>48 States</b>	
Surplus	4
Change from Last Year	-15

Top ## - Percent Surplus  
[Bottom ##] - Change from Last Year

*Data obtained from USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service weekly Crop Progress reports.*

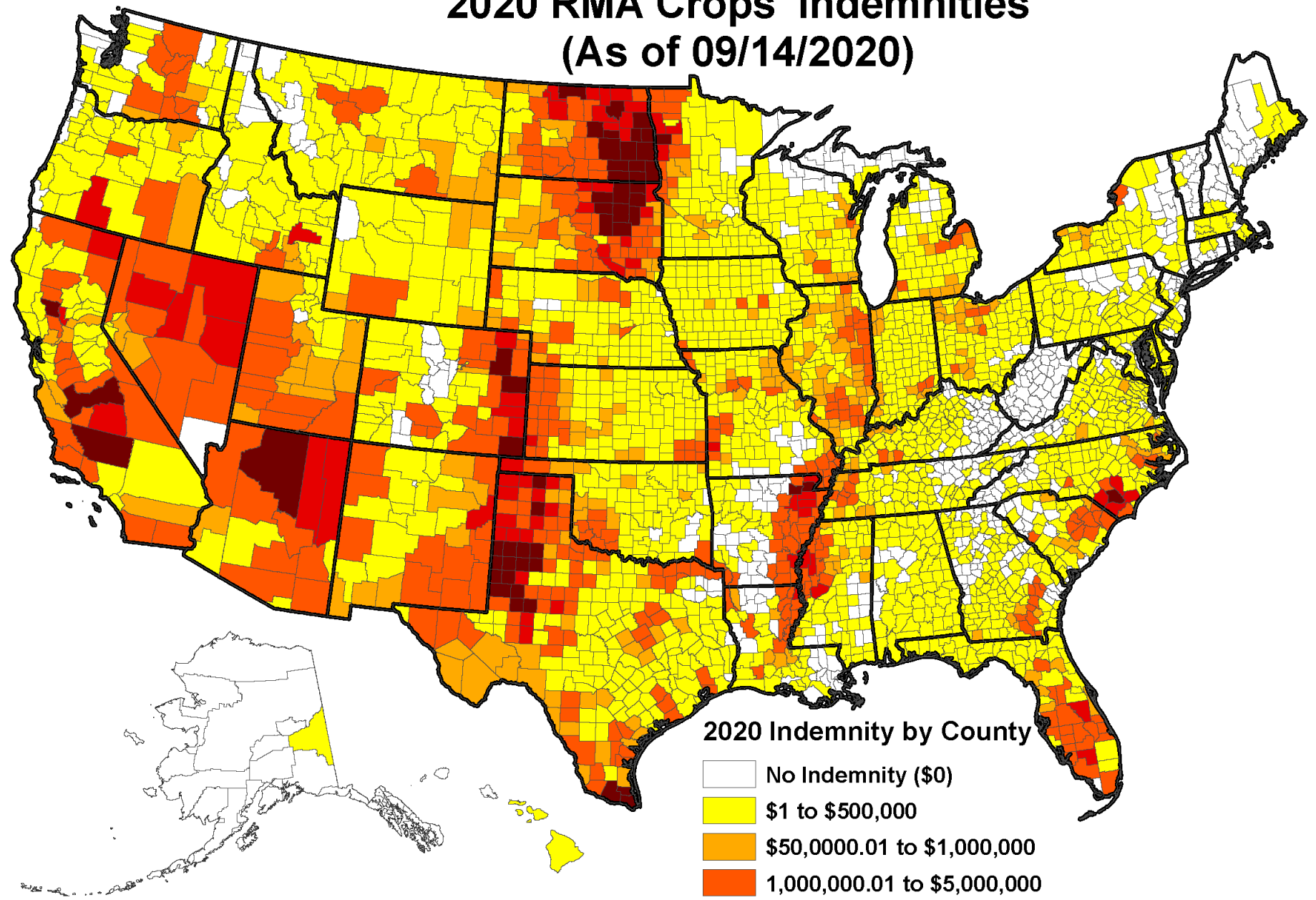
# 2019 RMA Crops' Indemnities (As of 10/07/2019)



## 2019 Indemnity by County

- No Indemnity (\$0)
- \$1 to \$500,000
- \$500,000.01 to \$1,000,000
- \$1,000,000.01 to \$5,000,000
- \$5,000,000.01 to \$10,000,000
- over \$10,000,000.01

# 2020 RMA Crops' Indemnities (As of 09/14/2020)



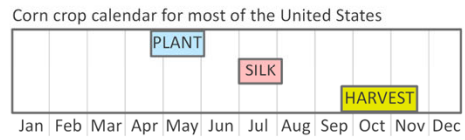
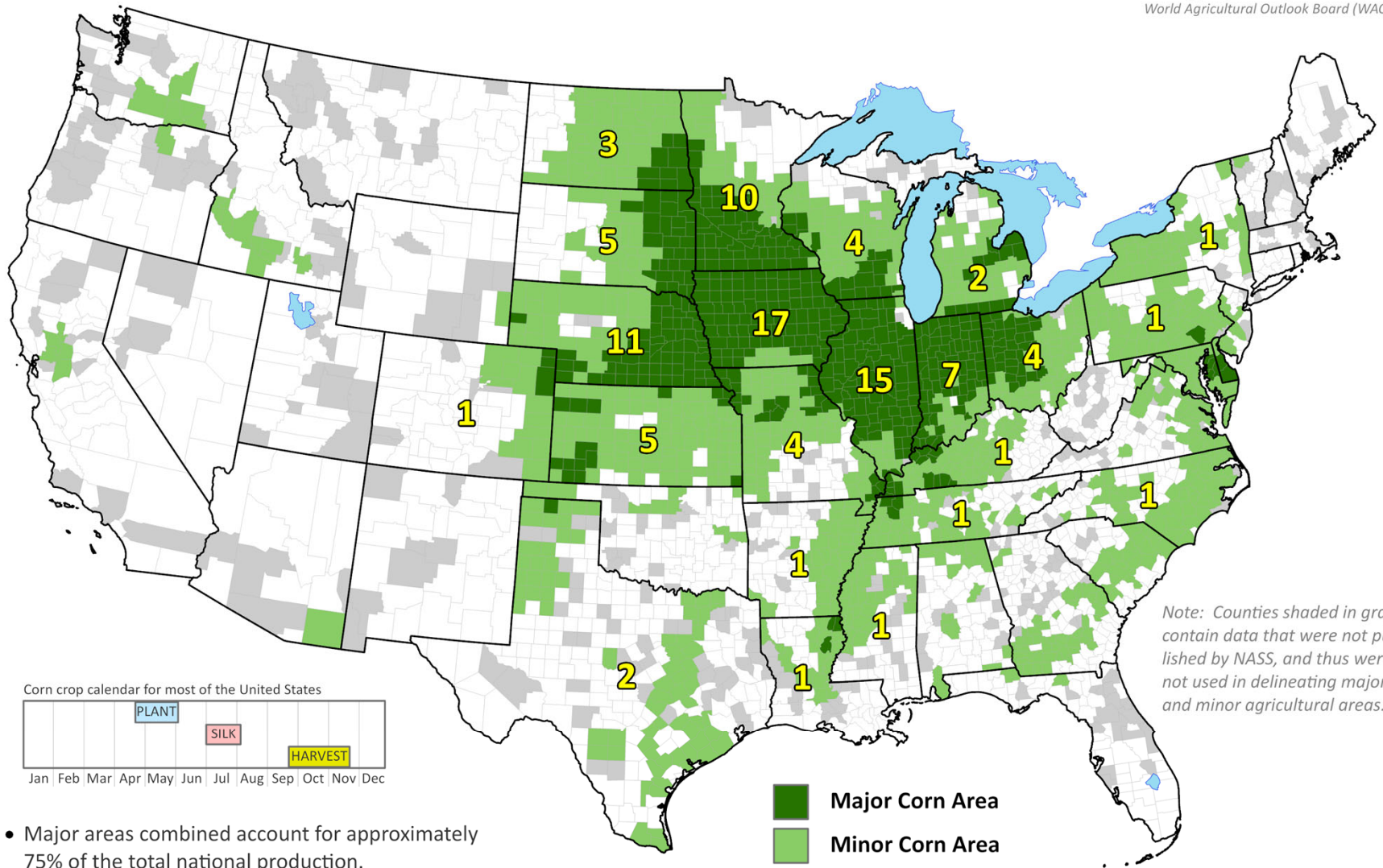
2020 Indemnity by County

- No Indemnity (\$0)
- \$1 to \$500,000
- \$50,000.01 to \$1,000,000
- 1,000,000.01 to \$5,000,000
- 5,000,000.01 to \$10,000,000
- over \$10,000,000.01



# United States: Corn

*This product was prepared by the USDA Office of the Chief Economist (OCE) World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB)*



*Note: Counties shaded in gray contain data that were not published by NASS, and thus were not used in delineating major and minor agricultural areas.*

- Major areas combined account for approximately 75% of the total national production.
- Major and minor areas combined account for approximately 99% of the total national production.
- Major and minor areas and state production percentages are derived from NASS 2017 Census of Agriculture data.

**Major Corn Area**  
**Minor Corn Area**

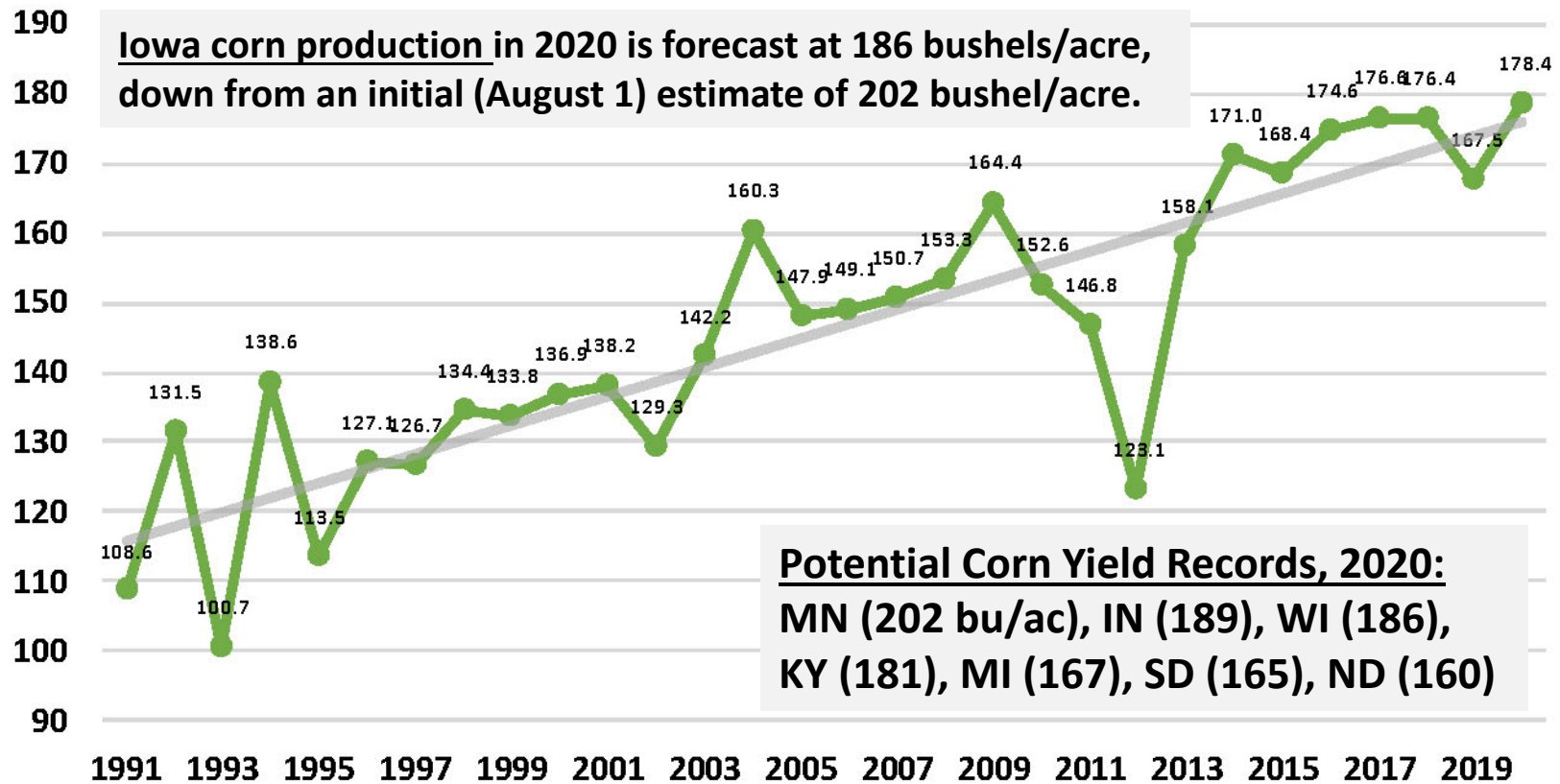
Yellow numbers approximate the percent each state contributed to the total national production. States not numbered contributed less than 1% to the national total or the state production was not disclosed by NASS.



# October 2020 Corn Yield United States



## Bushels per Acre



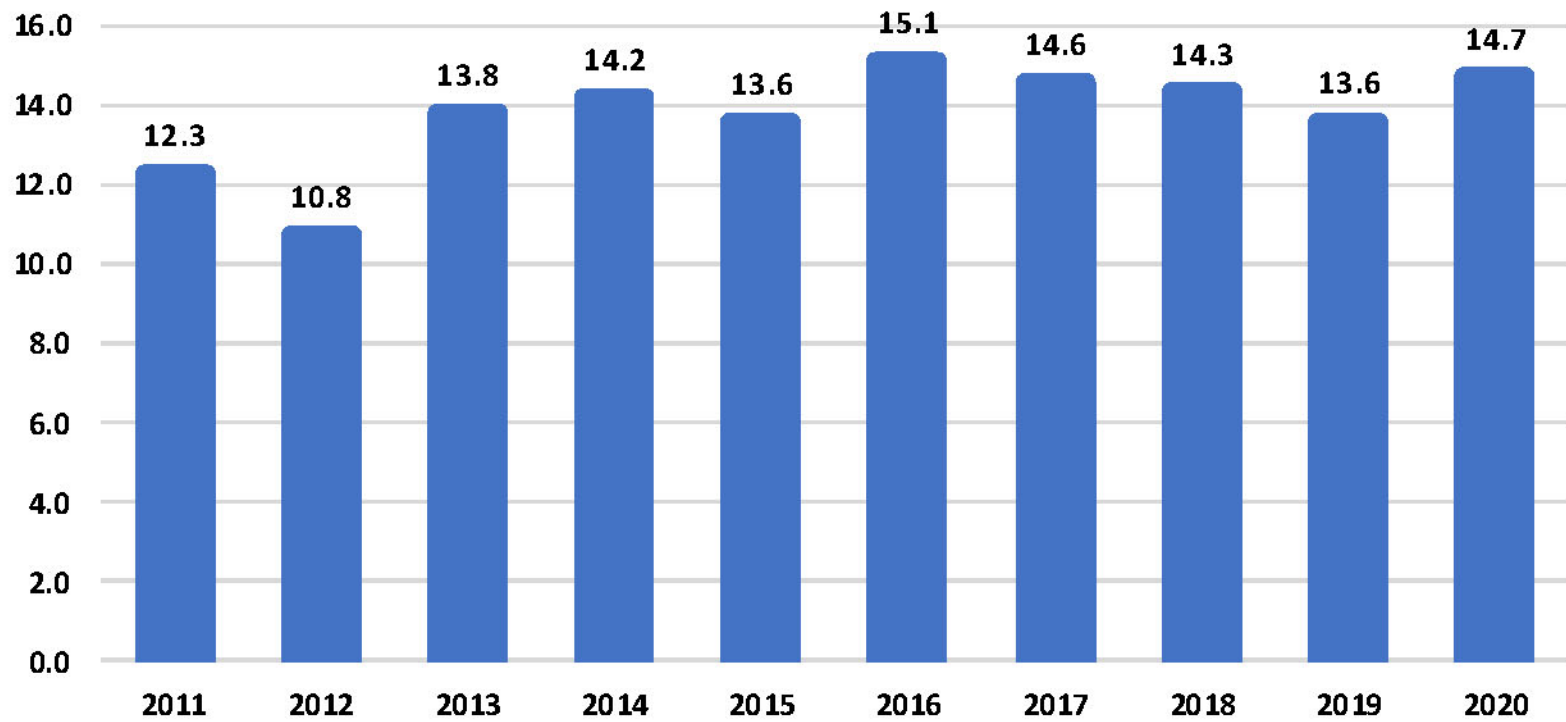




# October 2020 Corn Production United States



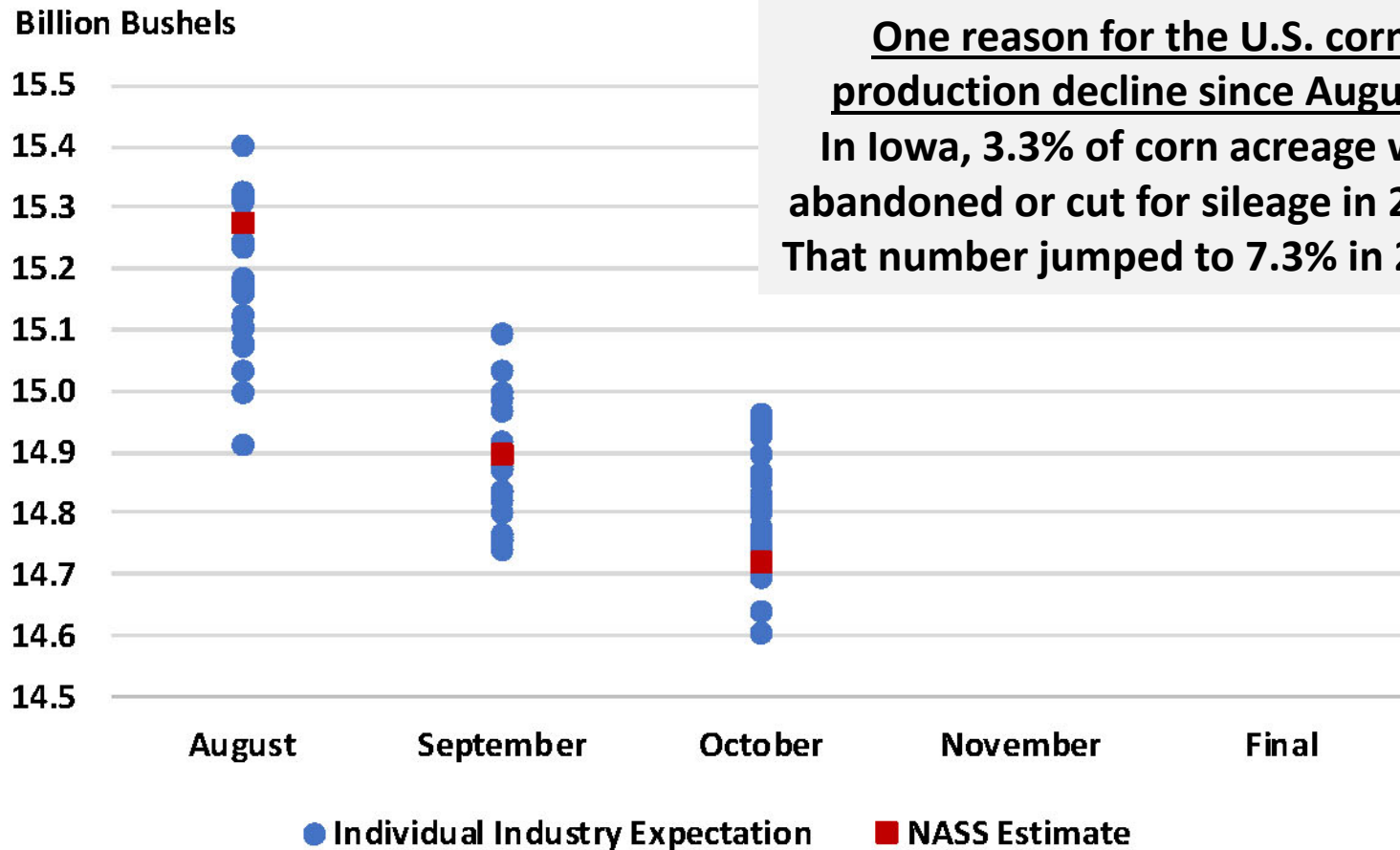
**Billion Bushels**





# 2020 U.S. Corn Production

## Industry Expectations vs NASS

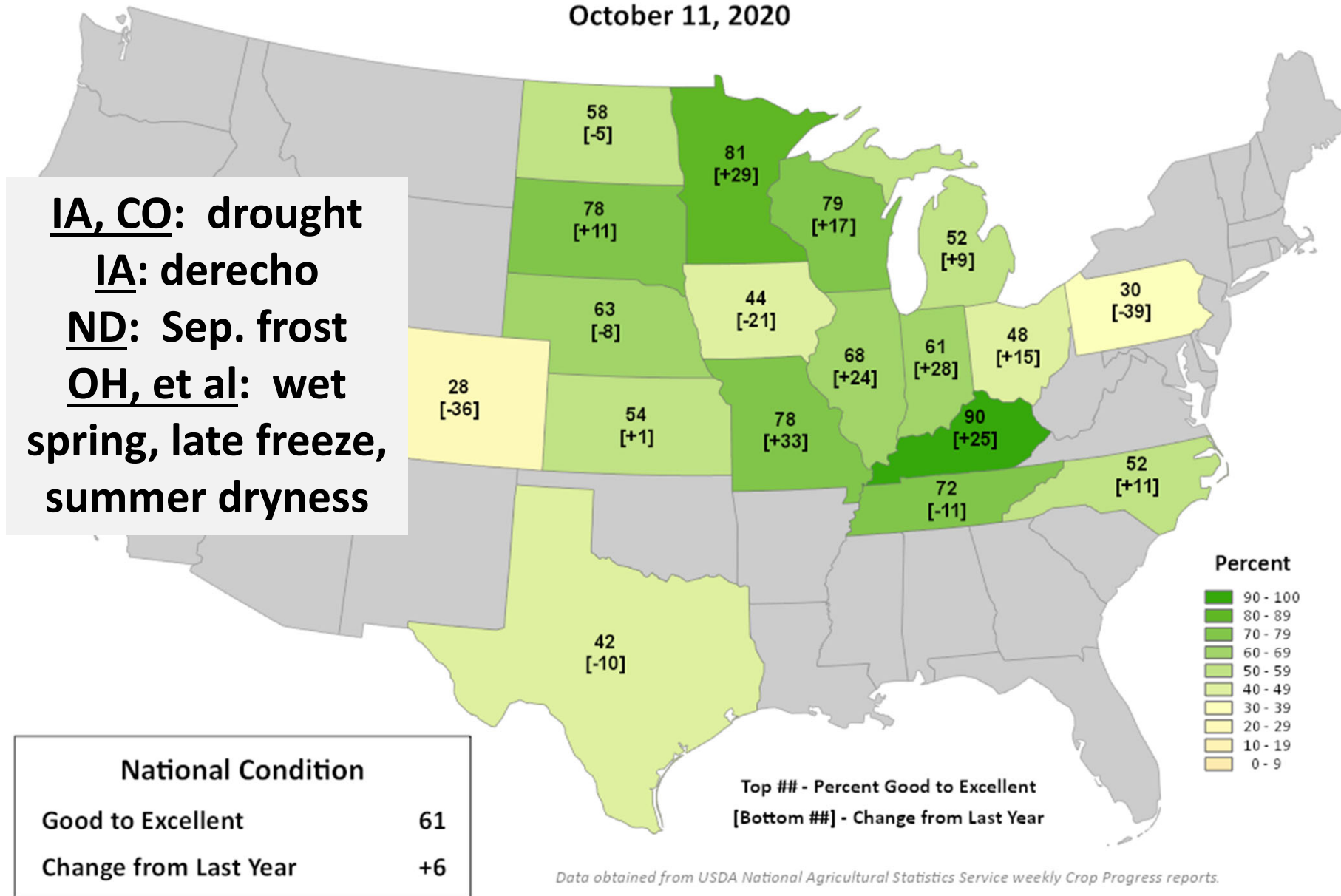


**One reason for the U.S. corn production decline since August:**  
In Iowa, 3.3% of corn acreage was abandoned or cut for silage in 2019. That number jumped to 7.3% in 2020.

# Corn Conditions

## Percent Good to Excellent

October 11, 2020

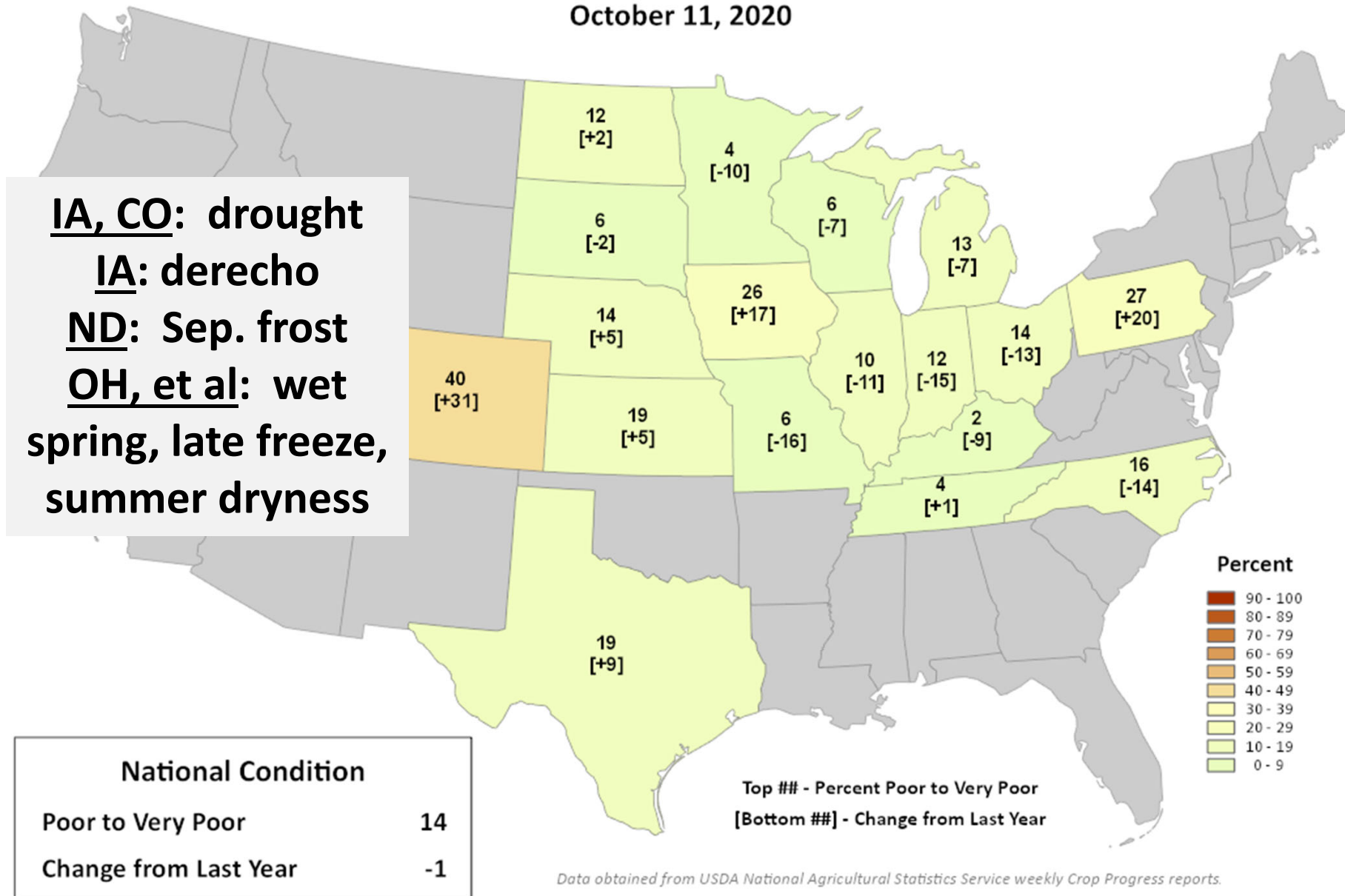


*Data obtained from USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service weekly Crop Progress reports.*

# Corn Conditions

## Percent Poor to Very Poor

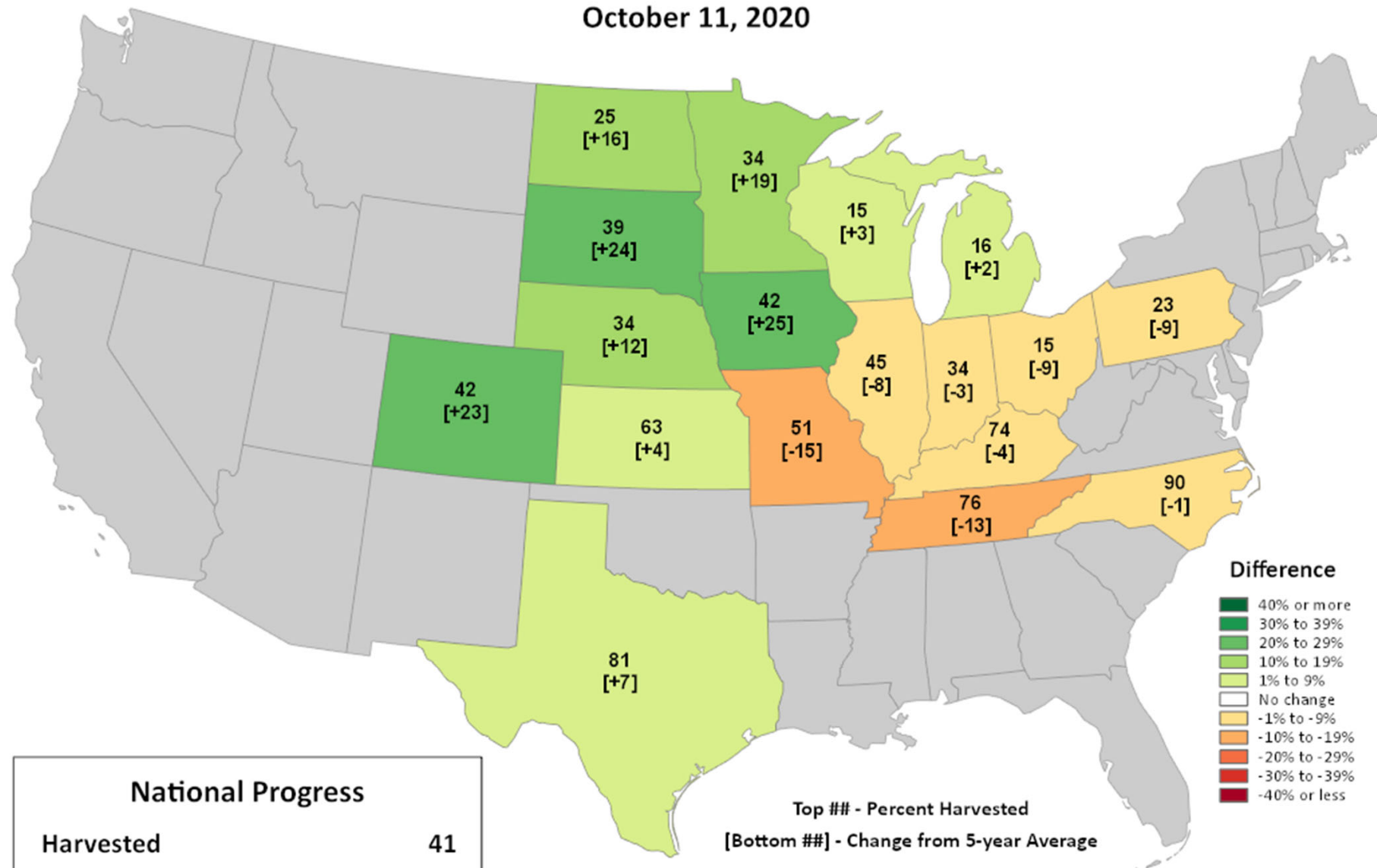
October 11, 2020



# Corn Progress

## Percent Harvested

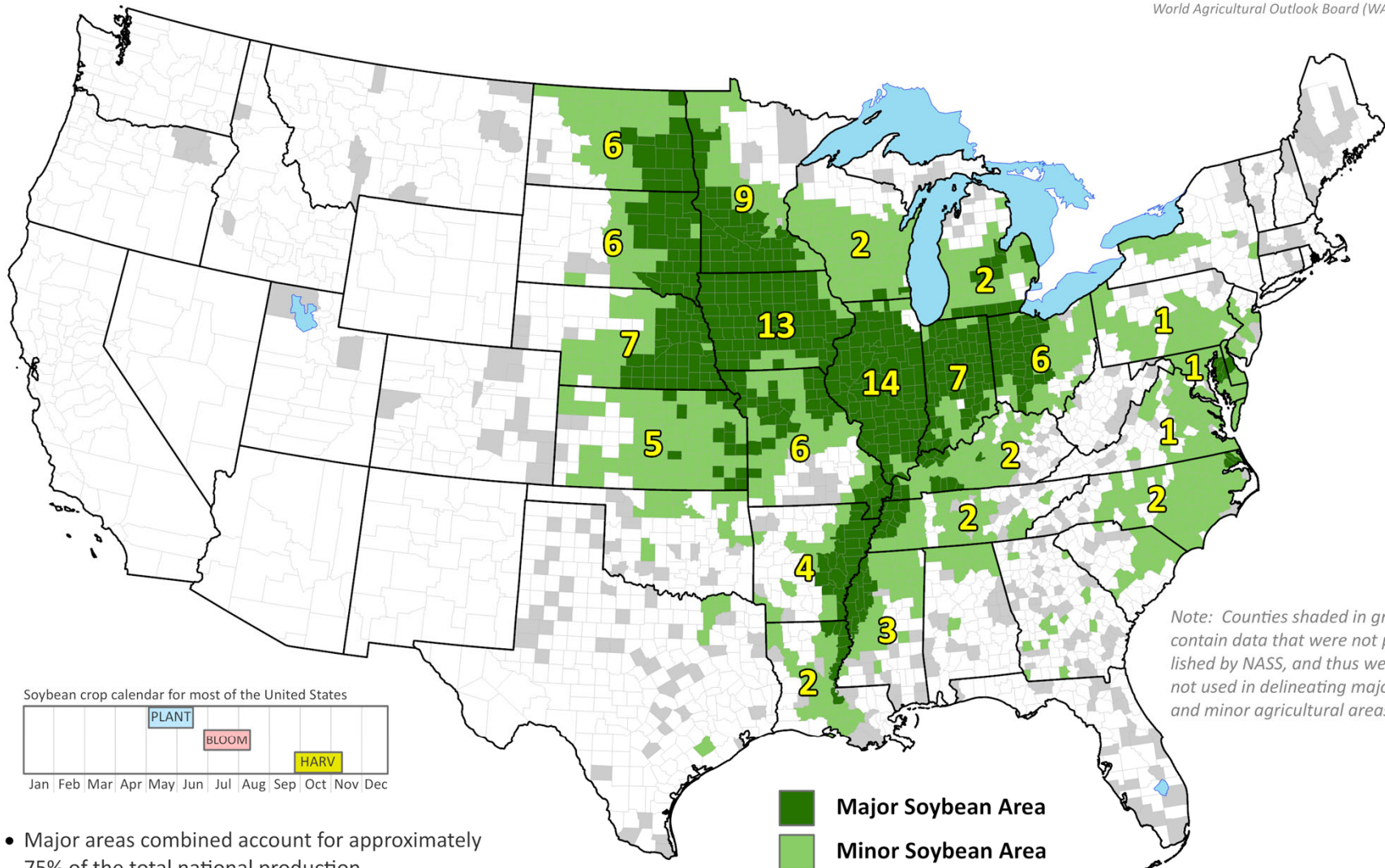
October 11, 2020



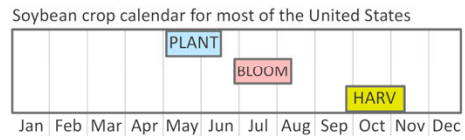
*Data obtained from USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service weekly Crop Progress reports.*



# United States: Soybeans



*Note: Counties shaded in gray contain data that were not published by NASS, and thus were not used in delineating major and minor agricultural areas.*



- Major areas combined account for approximately 75% of the total national production.
- Major and minor areas combined account for approximately 99% of the total national production.
- Major and minor areas and state production percentages are derived from NASS 2017 Census of Agriculture data.

**Major Soybean Area**  
**Minor Soybean Area**

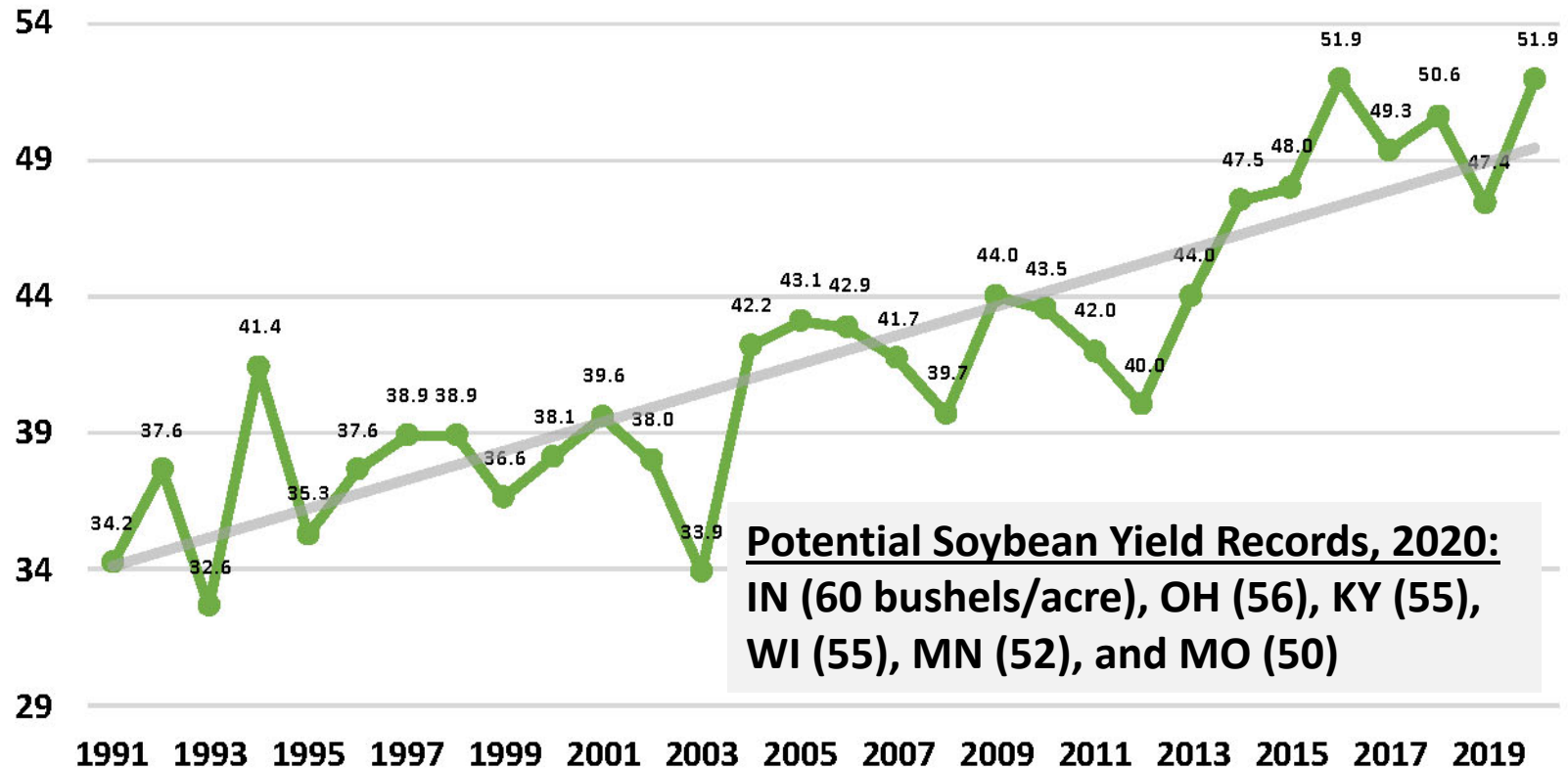
Yellow numbers approximate the percent each state contributed to the total national production. States not numbered contributed less than 1% to the national total or the state production was not disclosed by NASS.



# October 2020 Soybean Yield United States



## Bushels per Acre

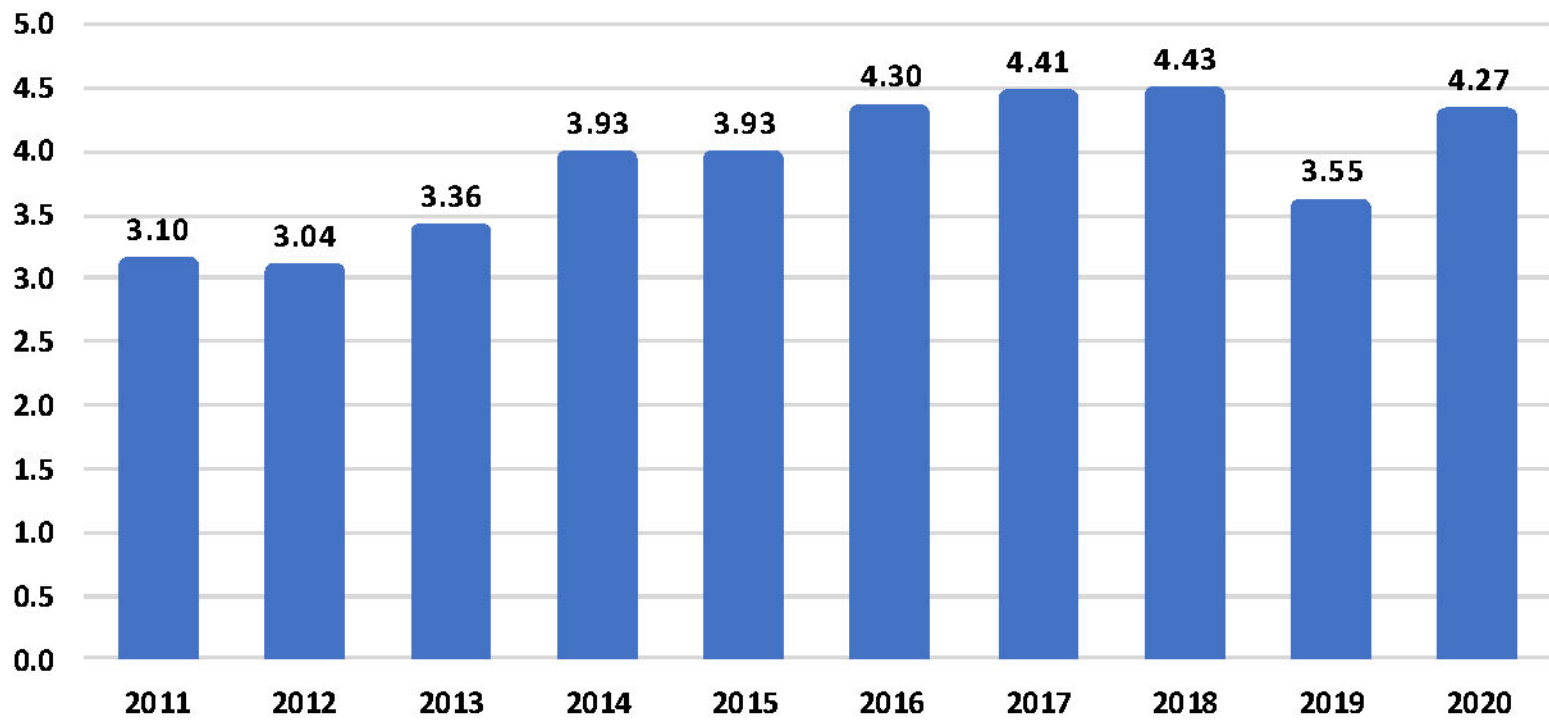




# October 2020 Soybean Production United States



**Billion Bushels**

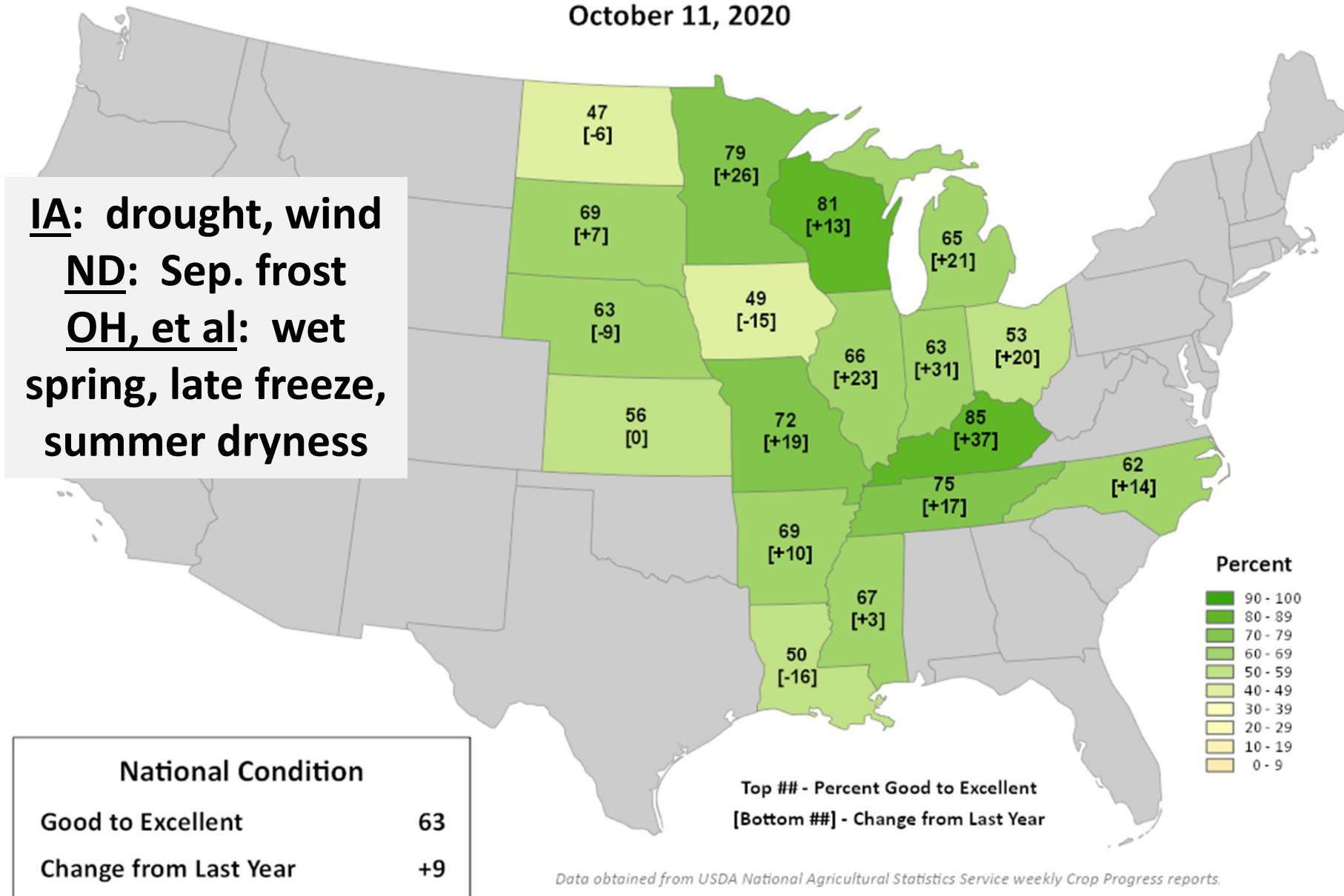


# Soybean Conditions

## Percent Good to Excellent

October 11, 2020

**IA: drought, wind**  
**ND: Sep. frost**  
**OH, et al: wet  
spring, late freeze,  
summer dryness**



*Data obtained from USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service weekly Crop Progress reports.*



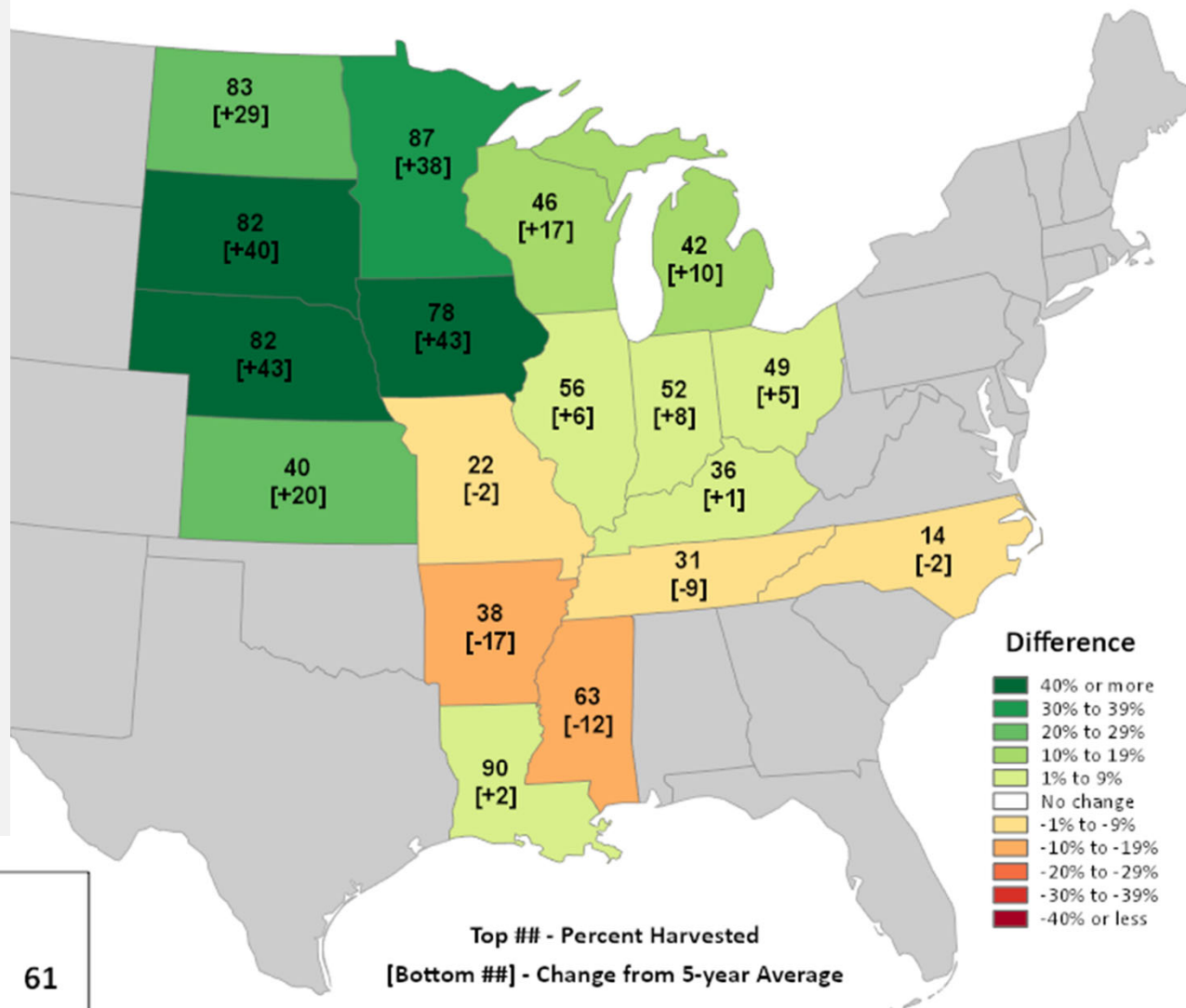
# Soybeans Progress

## Percent Harvested

October 11, 2020

### Most U.S. Soybeans Harvested by October 11, 1996-2020

1. 69% in 2010
2. 65% in 2012
3. 65% in 2000
4. 65% in 2005
5. 62% in 2015
6. **61% in 2020**



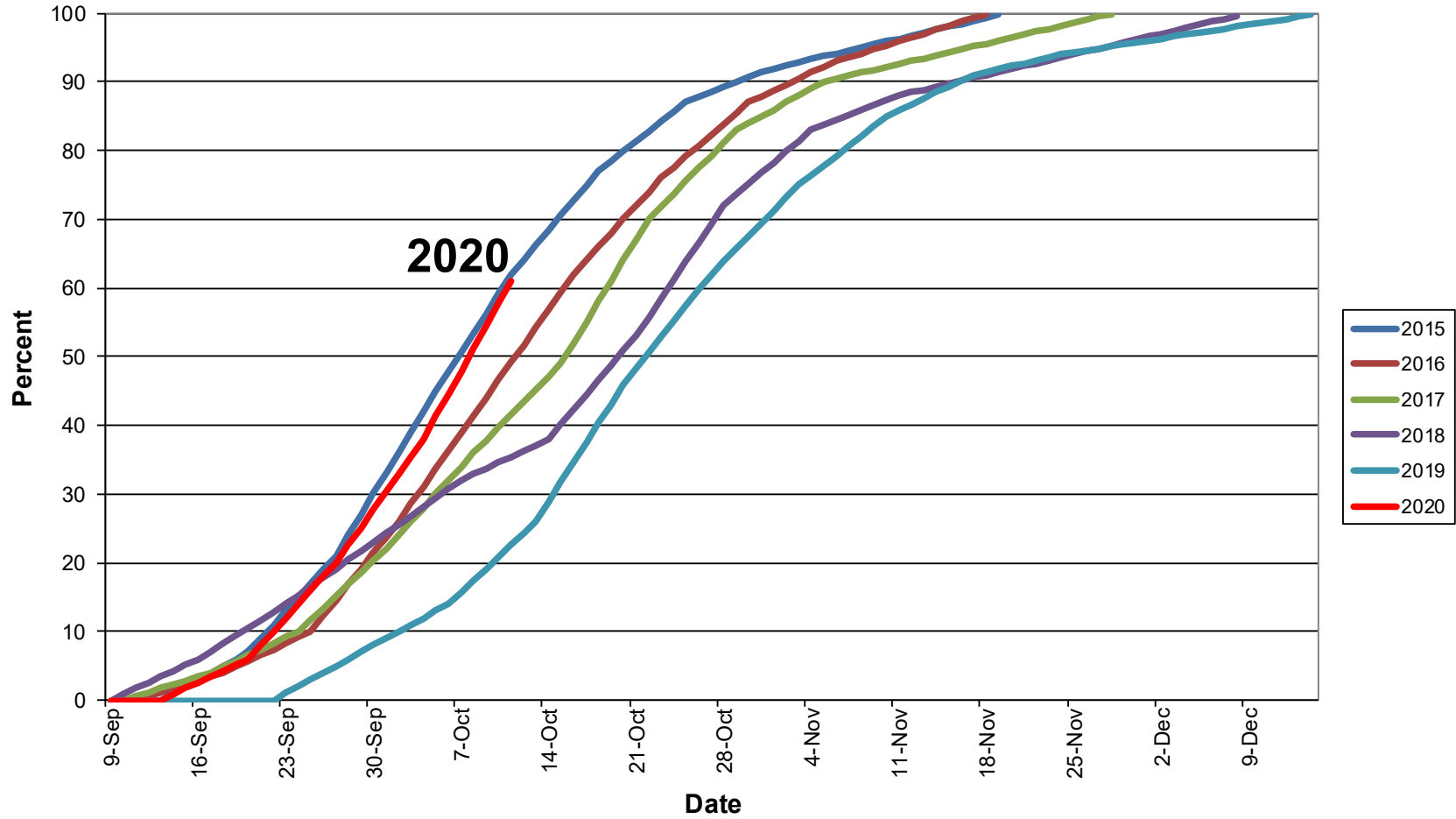
### National Progress

Harvested	61
Change from 5-year Average	+19

Top ## - Percent Harvested  
[Bottom ##] - Change from 5-year Average

*Data obtained from USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service weekly Crop Progress reports.*

# U.S. SOYBEANS: Percent Harvested



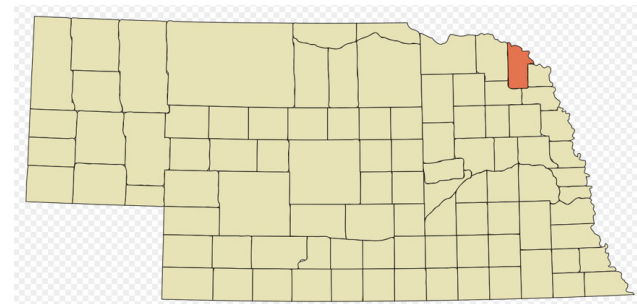
Based on NASS crop progress data.

## KCAU STAFF

Posted: Oct 9, 2020 / 06:38 PM CDT

EMERSON, Neb. (KCAU) – The drought across Siouxland led to two different combine fires this afternoon. The first fire was reported a little after 3 p.m. on 220th and M Avenue near Hubbard. Fire crews were then called to a second combine fire around 4 p.m., this time in rural **Dixon County** near Emerson, making the situation especially challenging is the fact Emerson Fire Volunteers were at the Hubbard Fire when the second fire was reported. Both pieces of equipment were seriously damaged, but no injuries were reported in either fire.

Copyright 2020 Nexstar Inc.

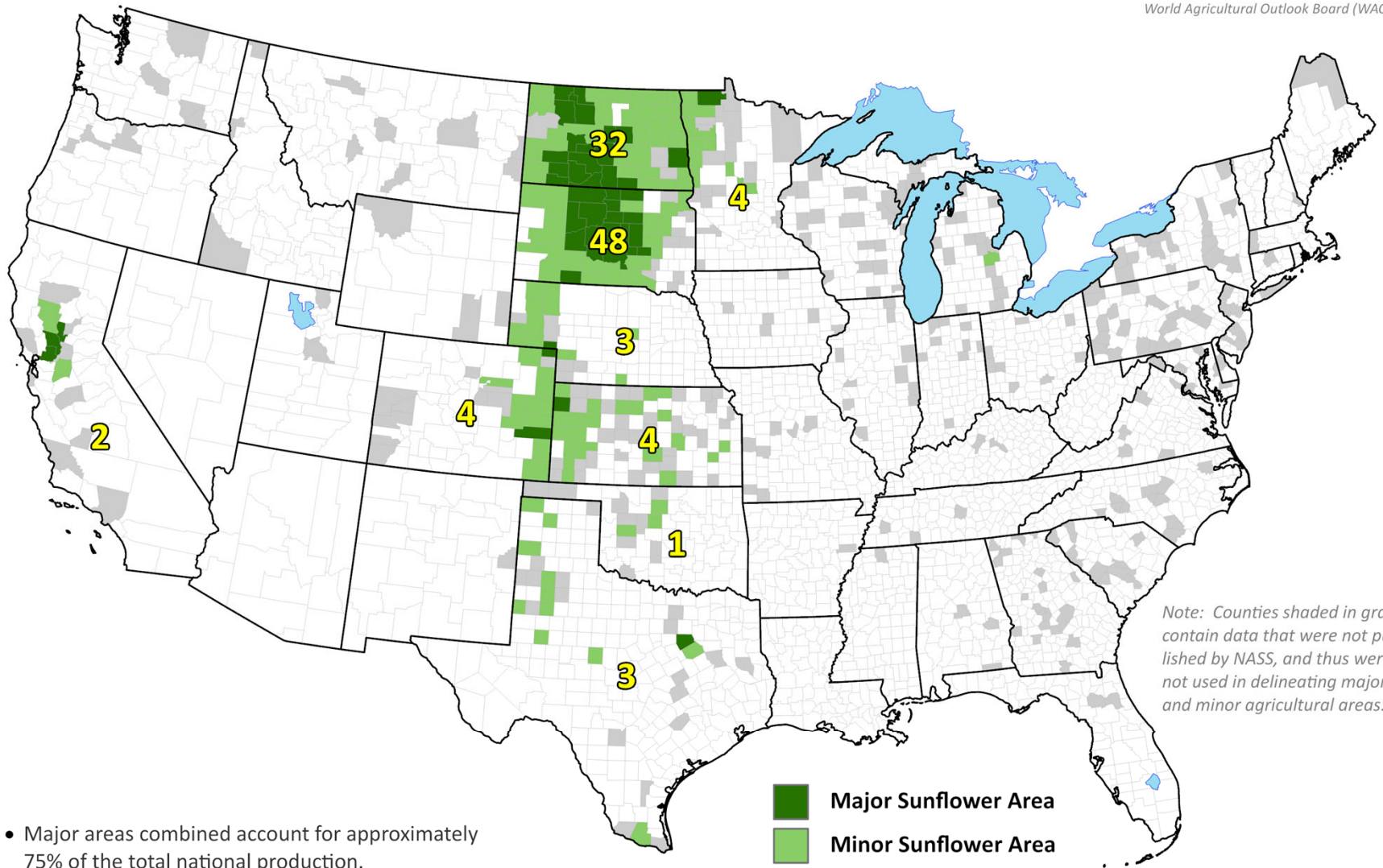


## Other Current Agricultural Highlights

- **Spring wheat** harvest was far faster than last year and was 96% complete by September 20.
- **Sunflower** production is expected to be up 43.5% from last year (10.9% yield increase and 29.4% increase in harvested area).
- **Sugarbeet** harvest is nearly done in the Red River Valley and far ahead of 2019. Production estimate is up 25.2% from 2019.
- **Sorghum** production is forecast to be up 8.5% from 2019, though much of the change is from a 7.0% increase in harvested area.
- **Winter wheat** is emerging in most major production areas—but autumn establishment has been hampered by dry conditions.
- **Rangeland and pastures** are in rough shape across the region's western areas, along with parts of Iowa and environs. Still, U.S. hay yield was nearly unchanged from 2019; production: up 1.4%.



# United States: Sunflowers



*Note: Counties shaded in gray contain data that were not published by NASS, and thus were not used in delineating major and minor agricultural areas.*

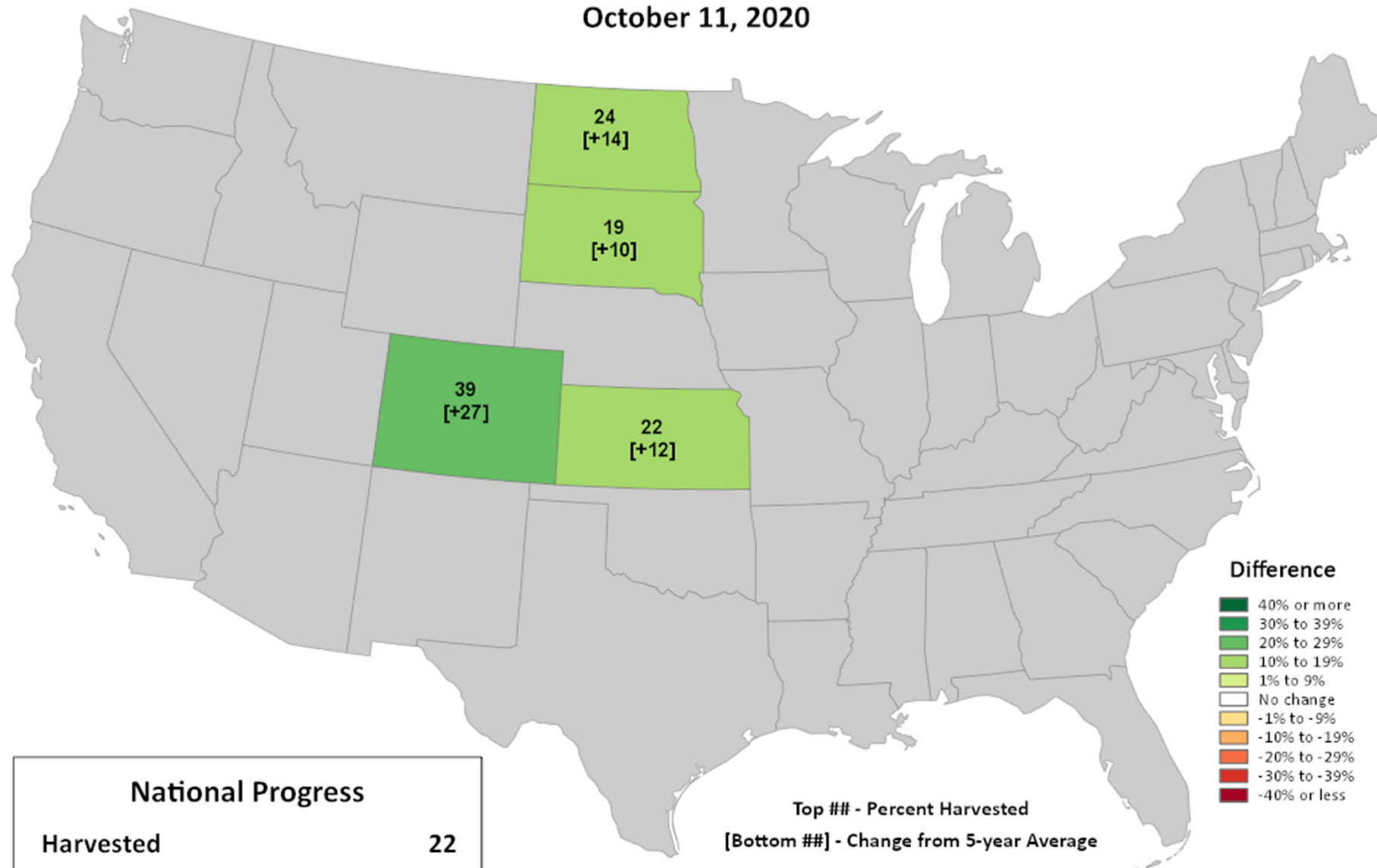
- Major areas combined account for approximately 75% of the total national production.
- Major and minor areas combined account for approximately 99% of the total national production.
- Major and minor areas and state production percentages are derived from NASS 2017 Census of Agriculture data.

Yellow numbers approximate the percent each state contributed to the total national production. States not numbered contributed less than 1% to the national total or the state production was not disclosed by NASS.

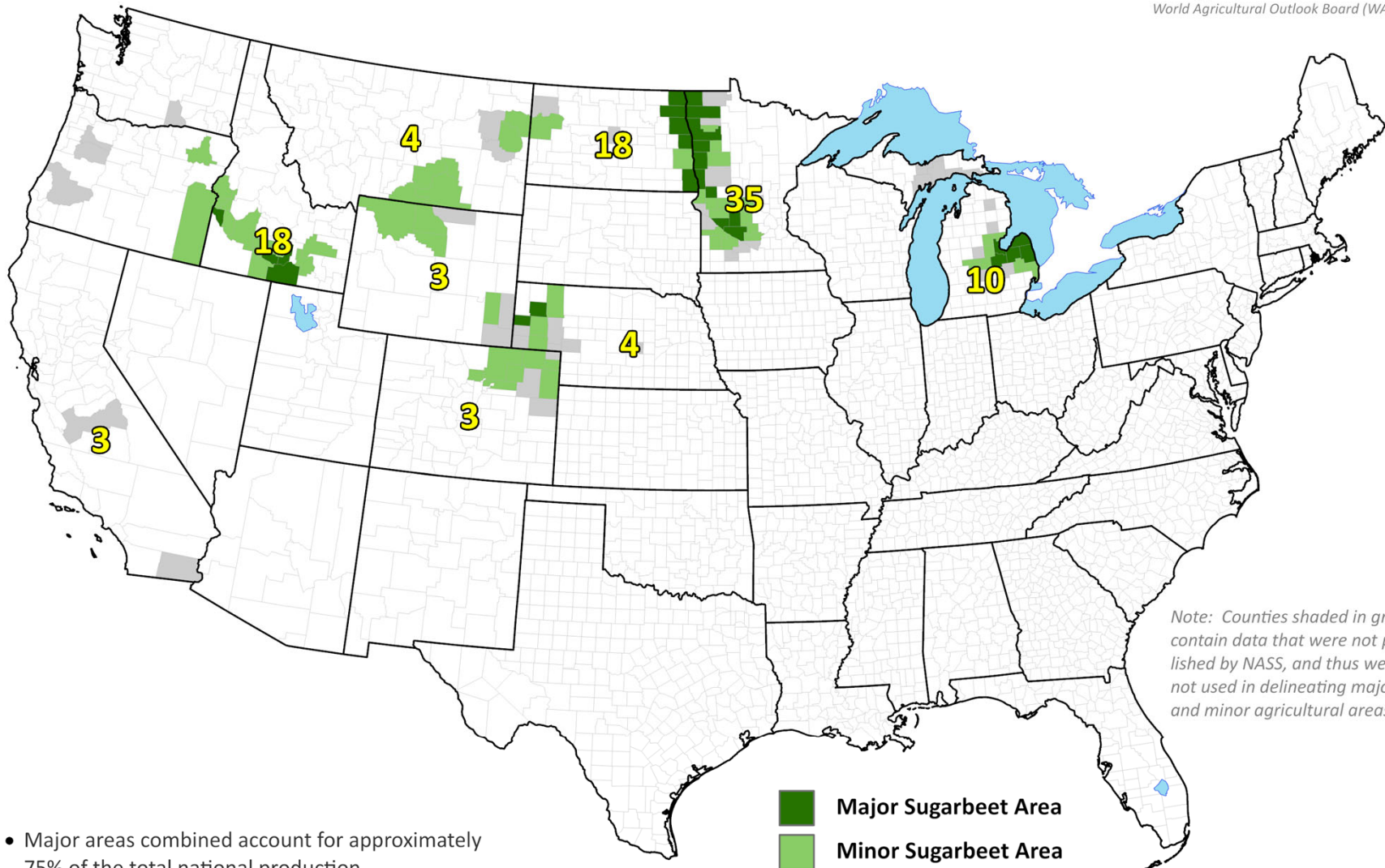
# Sunflowers Progress

## Percent Harvested

October 11, 2020



# United States: Sugarbeets



*Note: Counties shaded in gray contain data that were not published by NASS, and thus were not used in delineating major and minor agricultural areas.*

- Major areas combined account for approximately 75% of the total national production.
- Major and minor areas combined account for approximately 99% of the total national production.
- Major and minor areas and state production percentages are derived from NASS 2017 Census of Agriculture data.

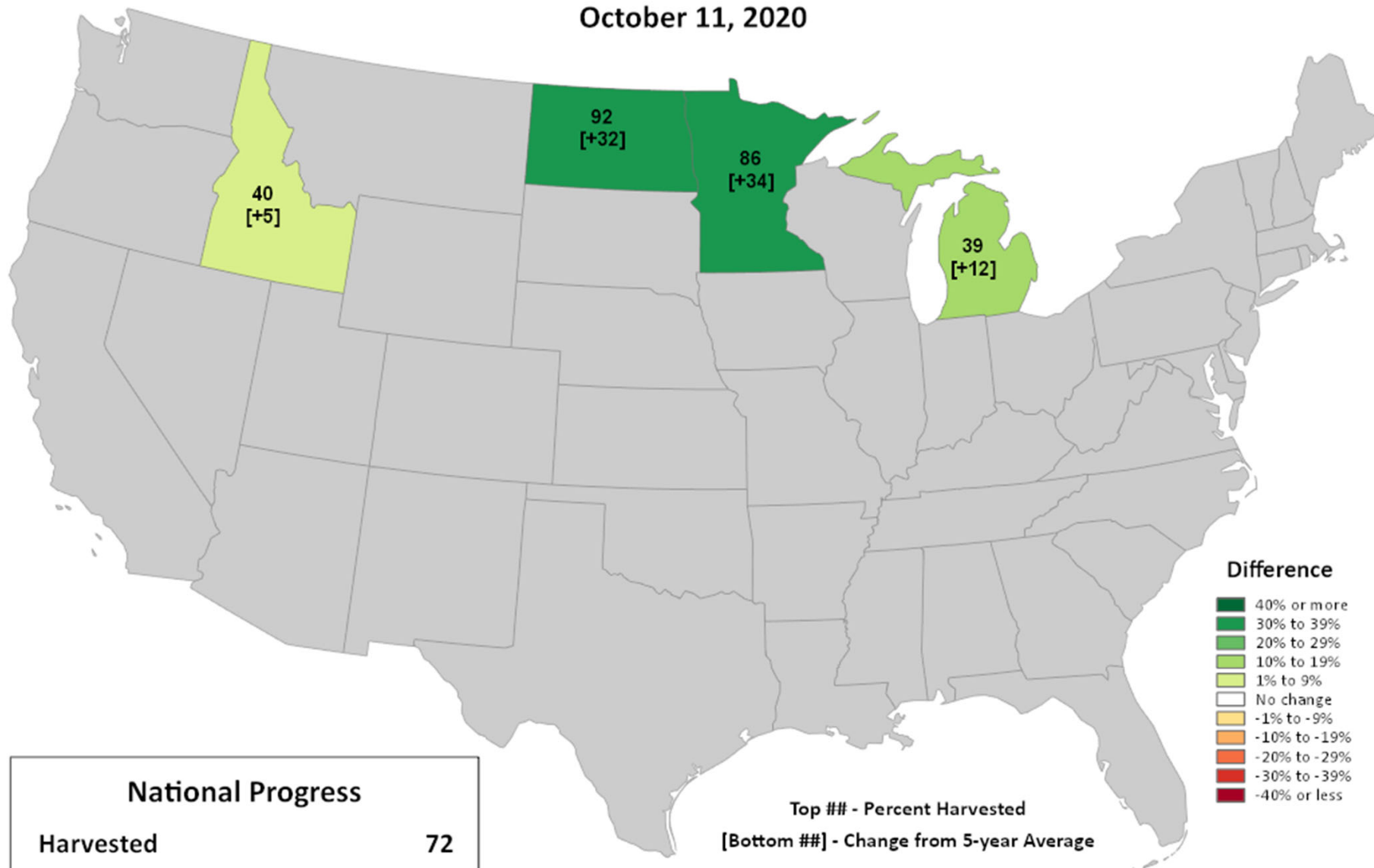
**Major Sugarbeet Area**  
**Minor Sugarbeet Area**

Yellow numbers approximate the percent each state contributed to the total national production. States not numbered contributed less than 1% to the national total or the state production was not disclosed by NASS.

# Sugarbeets Progress

## Percent Harvested

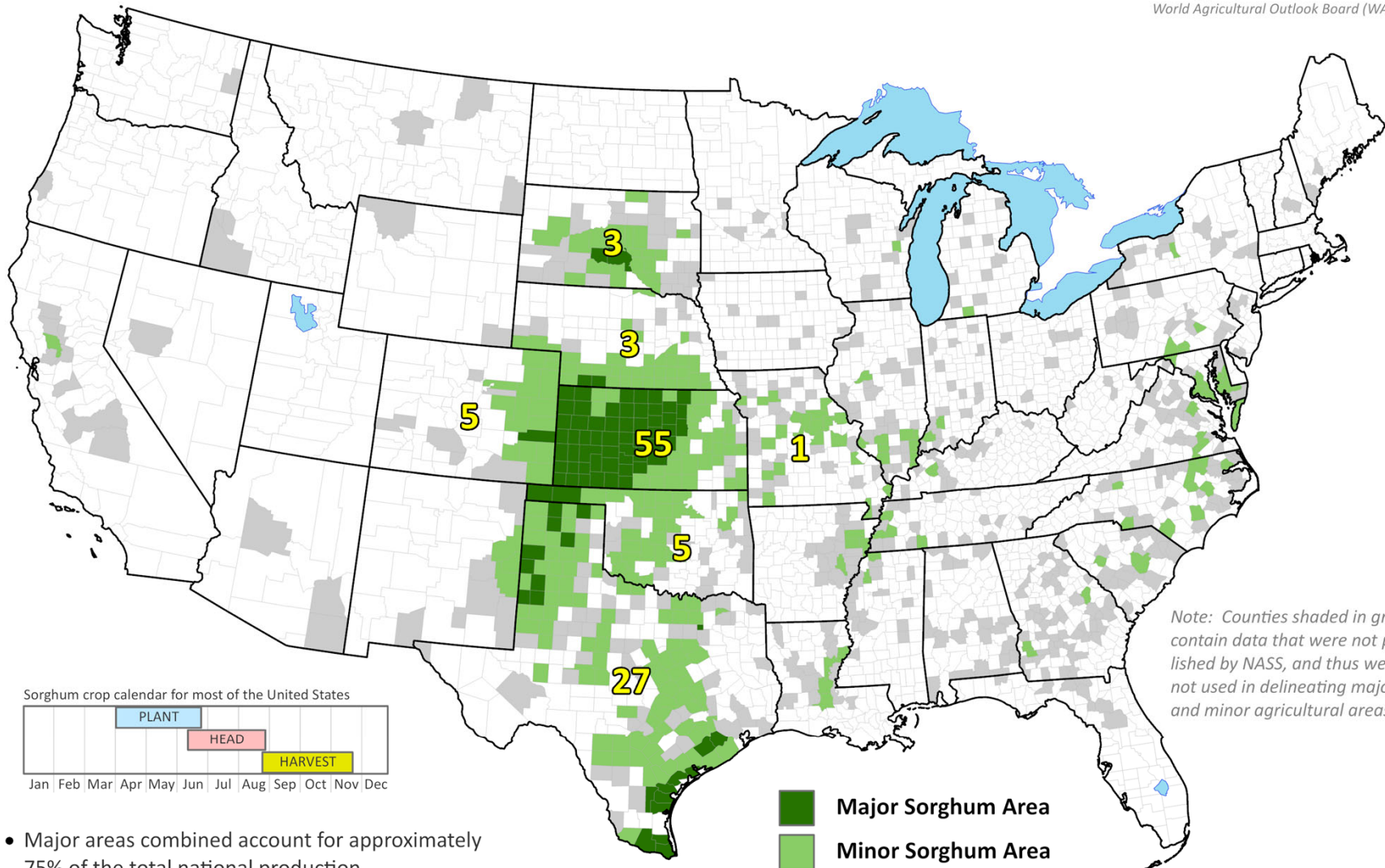
October 11, 2020



*Data obtained from USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service weekly Crop Progress reports.*



# United States: Sorghum



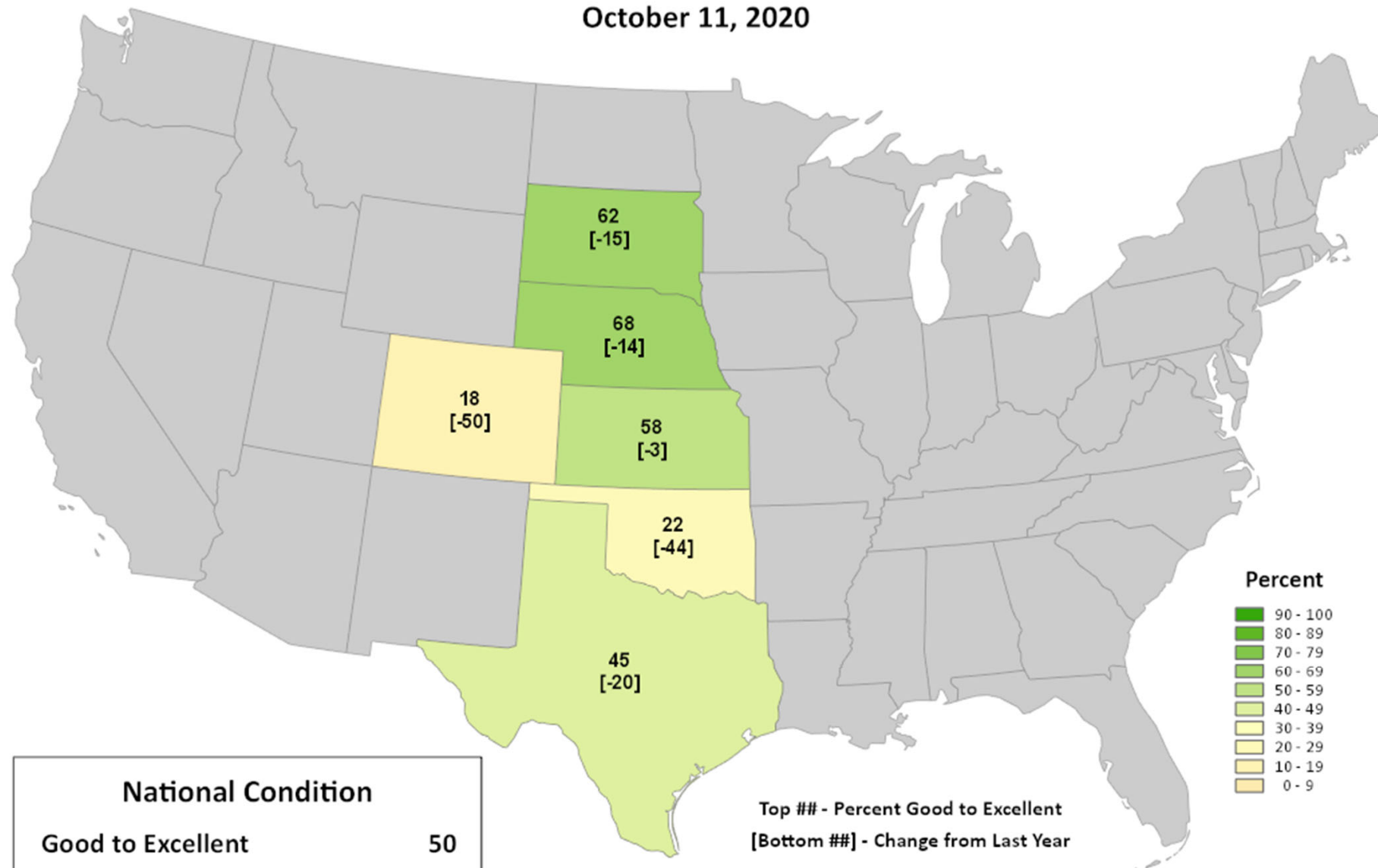
- Major areas combined account for approximately 75% of the total national production.
- Major and minor areas combined account for approximately 99% of the total national production.
- Major and minor areas and state production percentages are derived from NASS 2017 Census of Agriculture data.

Yellow numbers approximate the percent each state contributed to the total national production. States not numbered contributed less than 1% to the national total or the state production was not disclosed by NASS.

# Sorghum Conditions

## Percent Good to Excellent

October 11, 2020



*Data obtained from USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service weekly Crop Progress reports.*



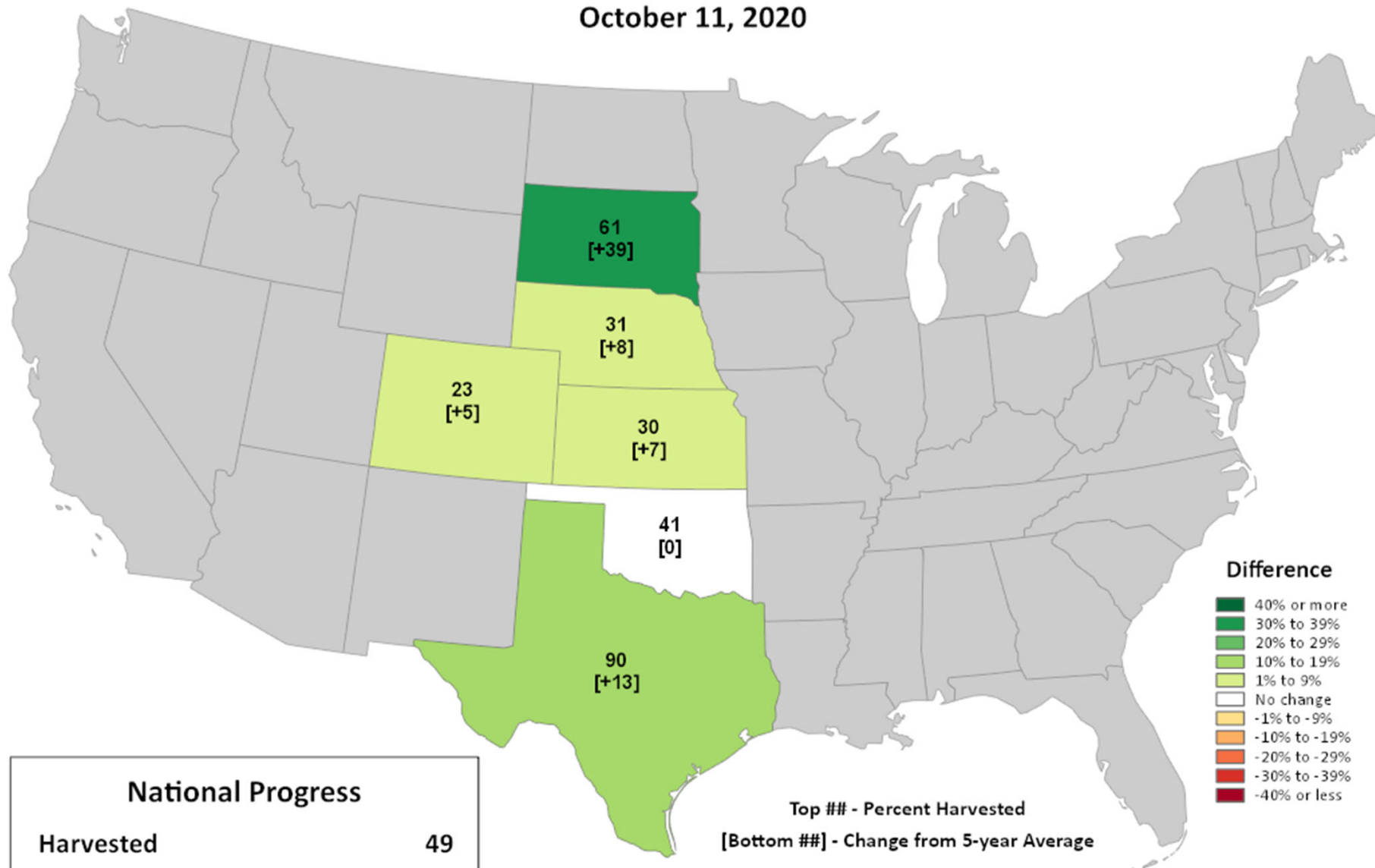
United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

This product was prepared by the  
USDA Office of the Chief Economist (OCE)  
World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB)

# Sorghum Progress

## Percent Harvested

October 11, 2020

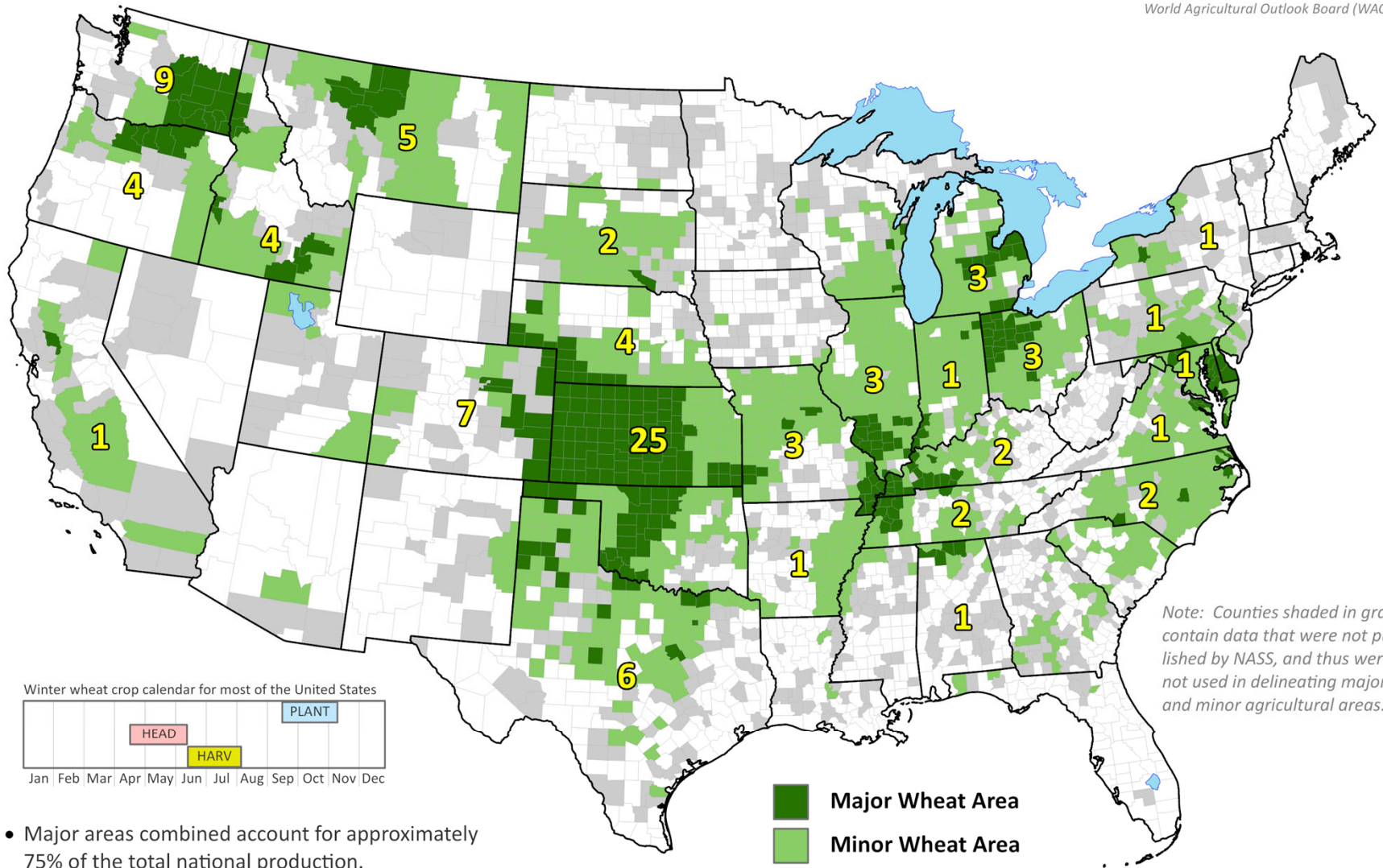


Data obtained from USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service weekly Crop Progress reports.



# United States: Winter Wheat

*This product was prepared by the USDA Office of the Chief Economist (OCE) World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB)*



- Major areas combined account for approximately 75% of the total national production.
- Major and minor areas combined account for approximately 99% of the total national production.
- Major and minor areas and state production percentages are derived from NASS 2017 Census of Agriculture data.

Yellow numbers approximate the percent each state contributed to the total national production. States not numbered contributed less than 1% to the national total or the state production was not disclosed by NASS.







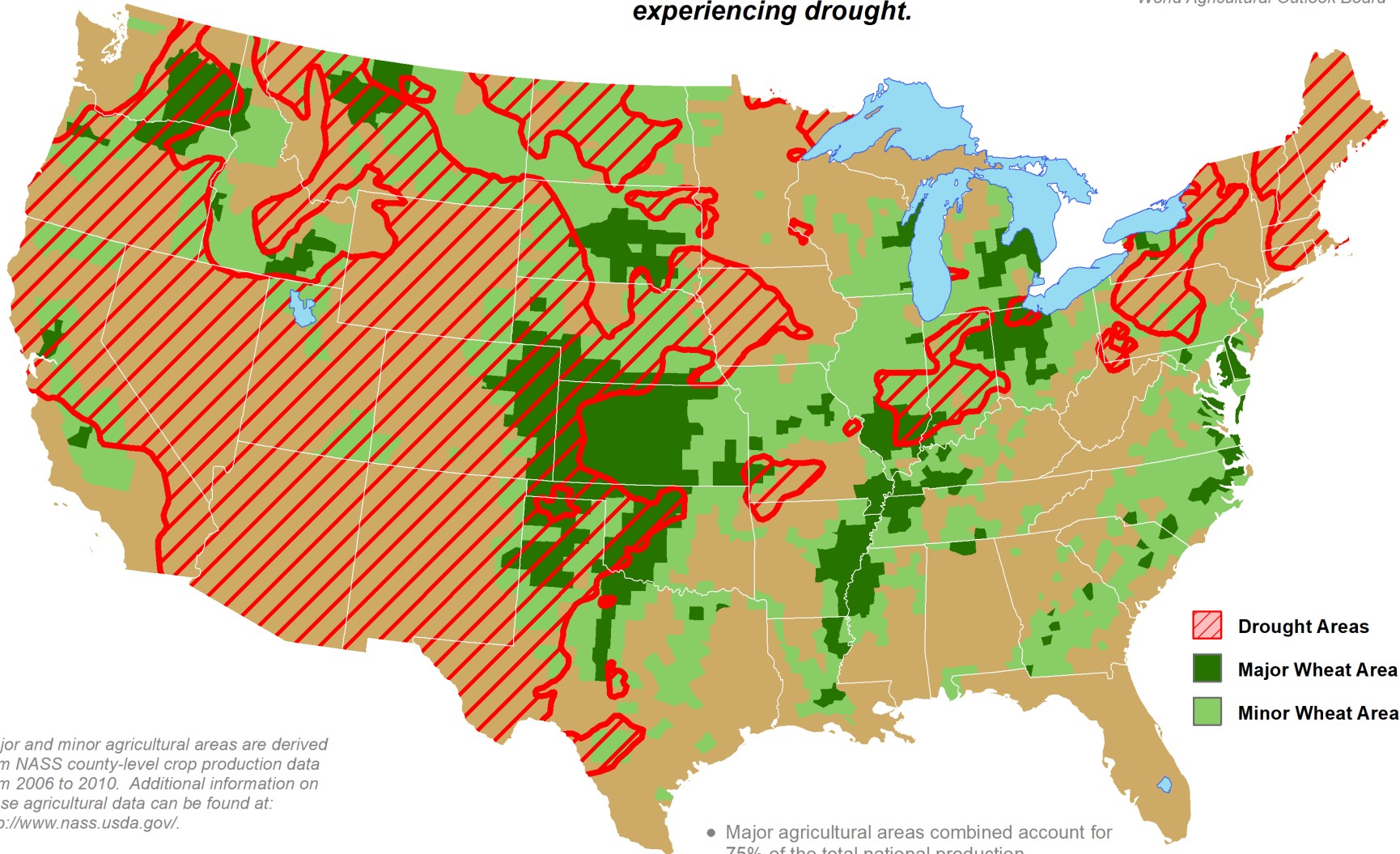
# U.S. Winter Wheat Areas Experiencing Drought



Reflects **October 13, 2020**  
U.S. Drought Monitor data

Approximately **41%** of winter wheat  
production is within an area  
experiencing drought.

This product was prepared by the  
USDA Office of the Chief Economist  
World Agricultural Outlook Board



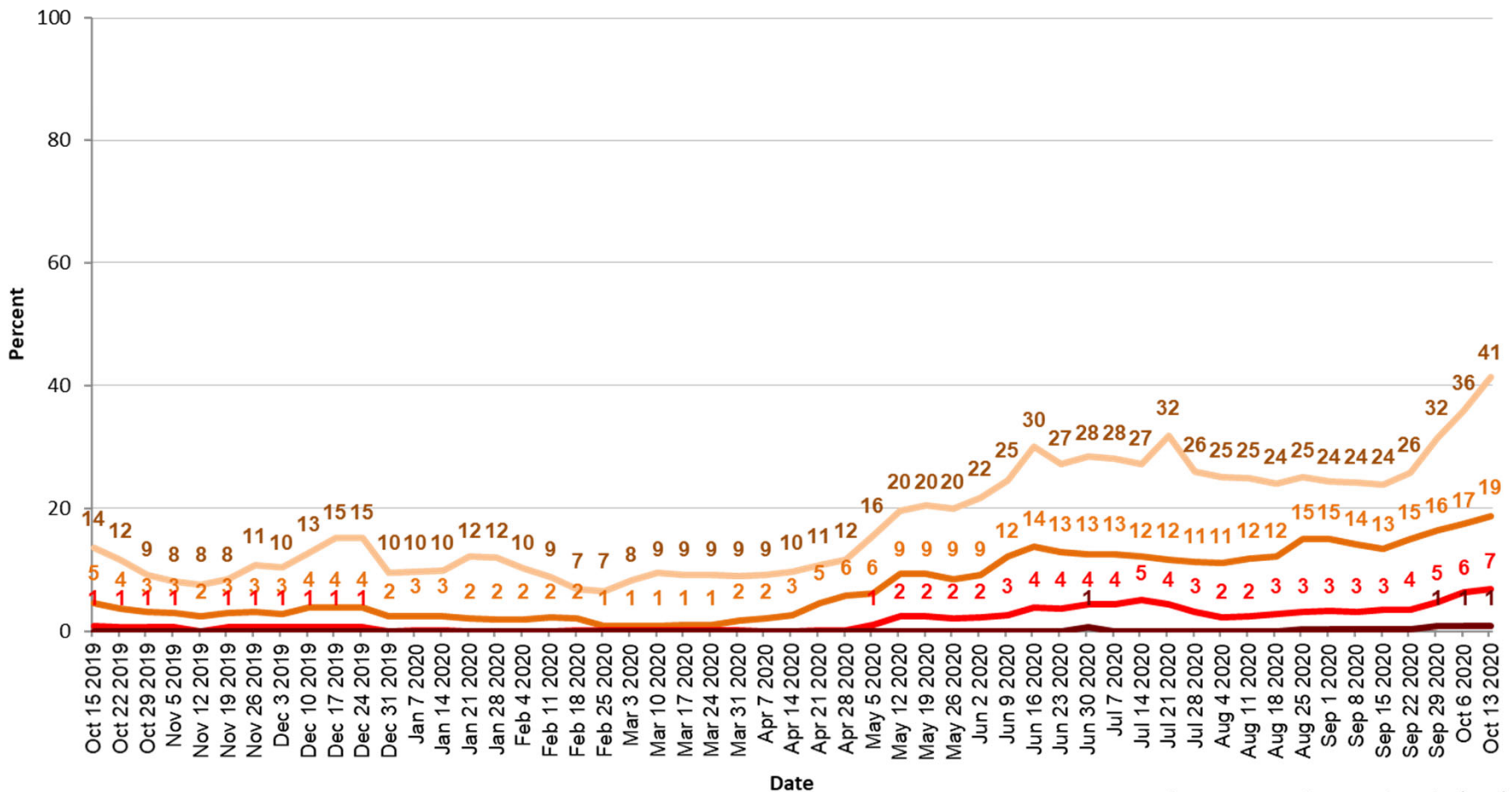
- Drought Areas
- Major Wheat Area
- Minor Wheat Area

Major and minor agricultural areas are derived from NASS county-level crop production data from 2006 to 2010. Additional information on these agricultural data can be found at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>.

Mapped drought areas are derived from the U.S. Drought Monitor product and do not depict the intensity of drought in any particular location. More information on the Drought Monitor can be found at: <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>.

- Major agricultural areas combined account for 75% of the total national production.
- Major and minor agricultural areas combined account for 99% of the total national production.

## United States Winter Wheat Areas Located in Drought

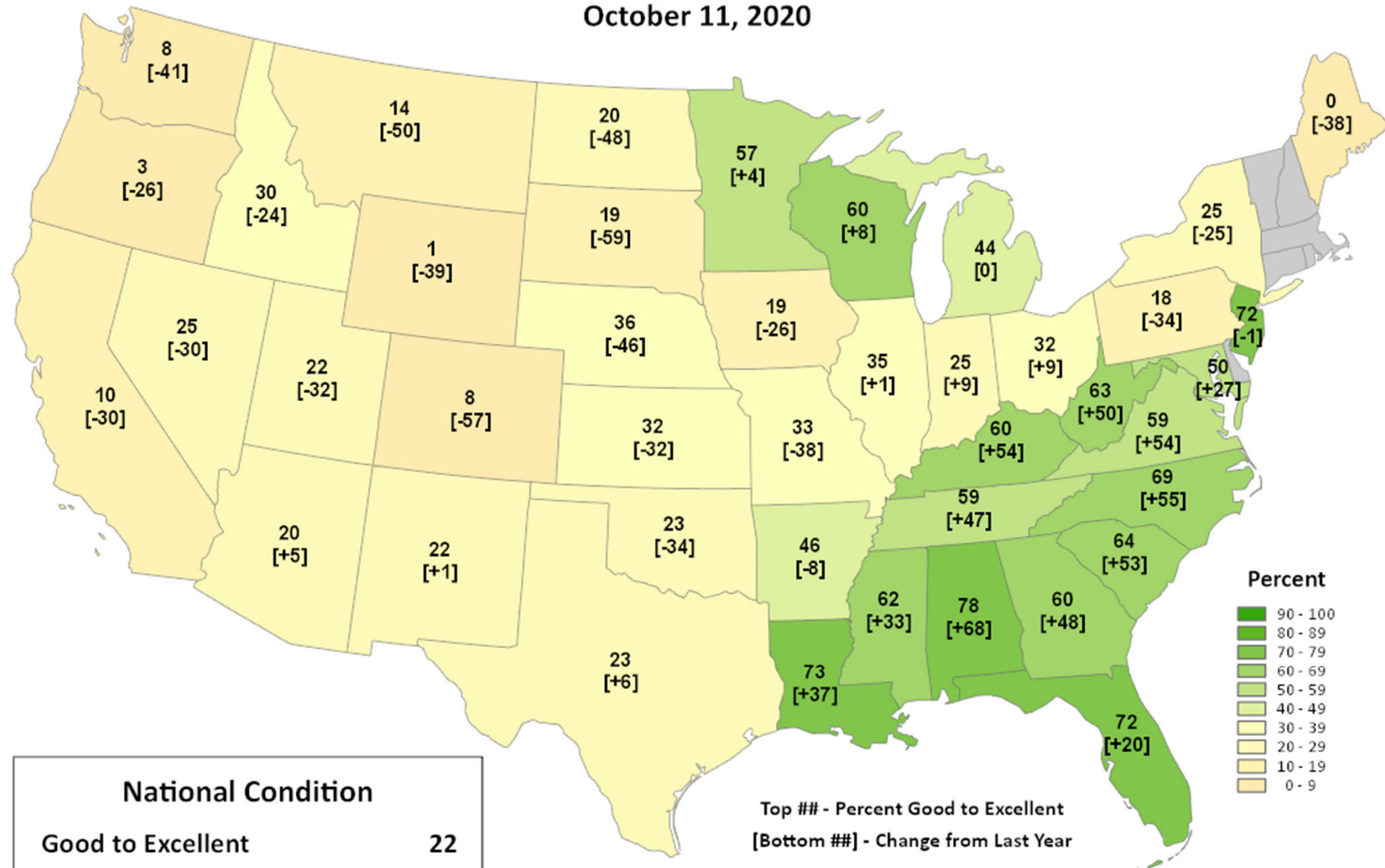




# Pasture and Range Conditions

## Percent Good to Excellent

October 11, 2020



National Condition	
Good to Excellent	22
Change from Last Year	-21

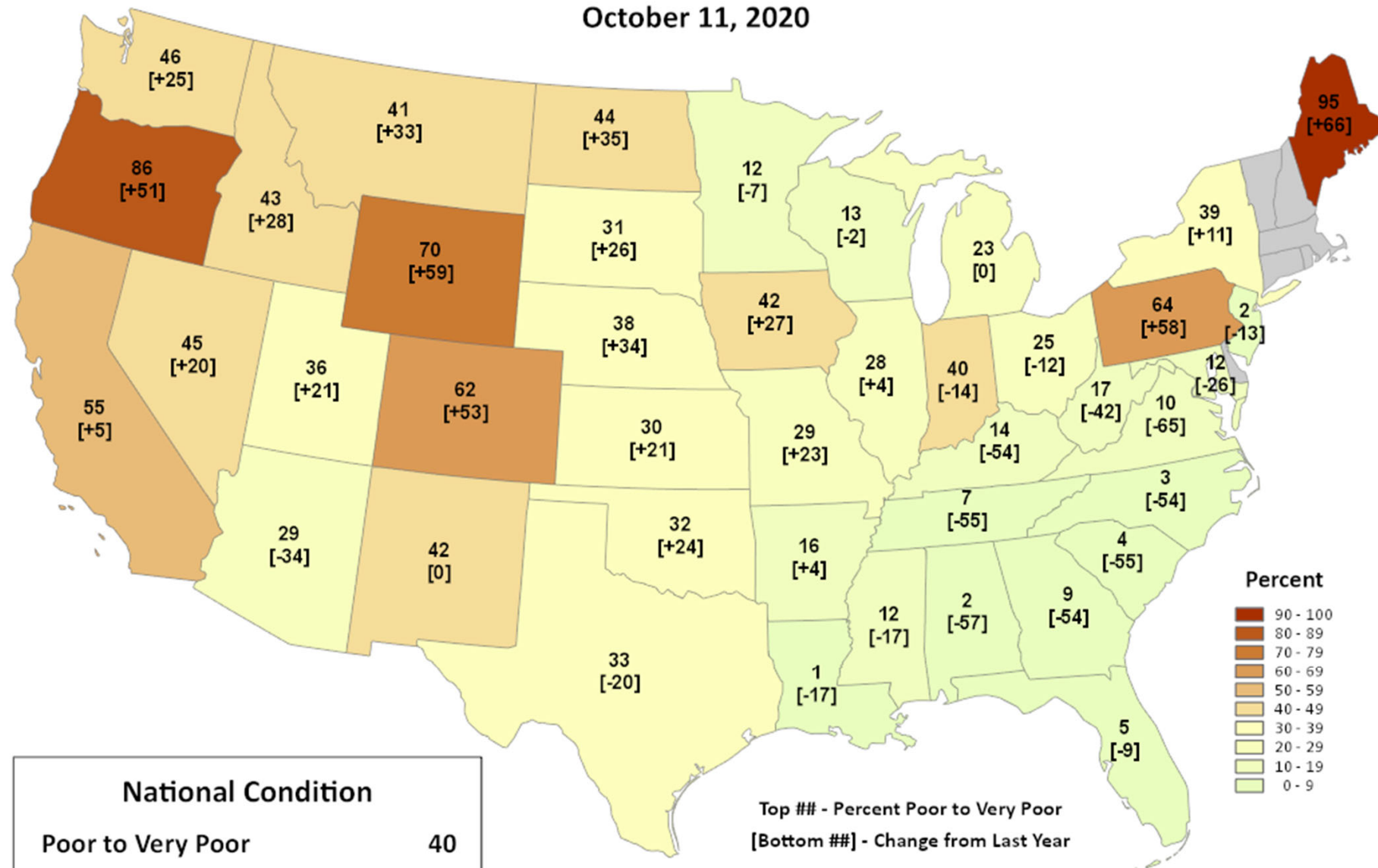
Top ## - Percent Good to Excellent  
[Bottom ##] - Change from Last Year

*Data obtained from USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service weekly Crop Progress reports.*

# Pasture and Range Conditions

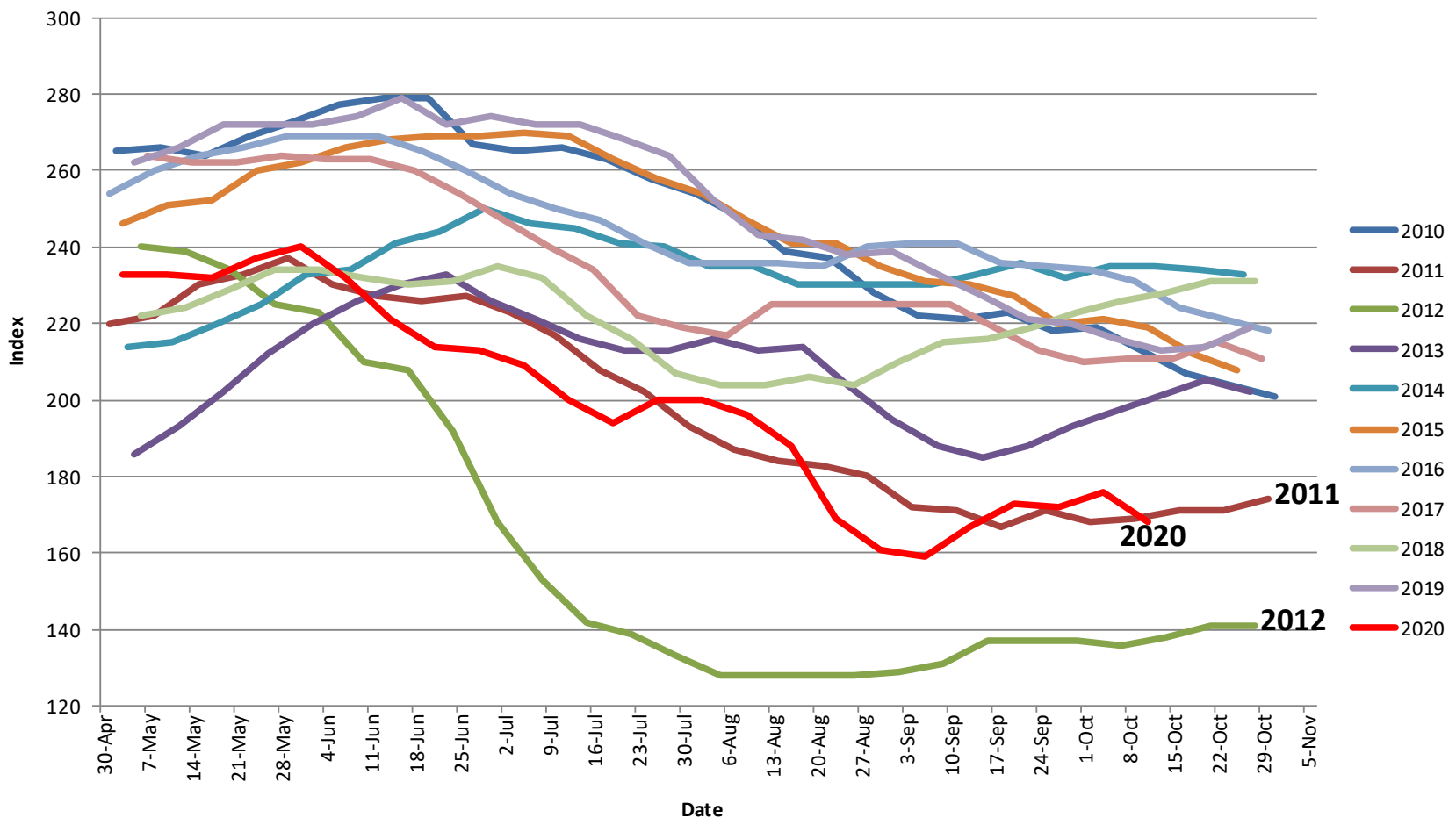
## Percent Poor to Very Poor

October 11, 2020



*Data obtained from USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service weekly Crop Progress reports.*

# U.S. PASTURE AND RANGE Condition Index



Based on NASS crop progress data.

Condition Index = 4\*Excellent + 3\*Good + 2\*Fair + 1\*Poor

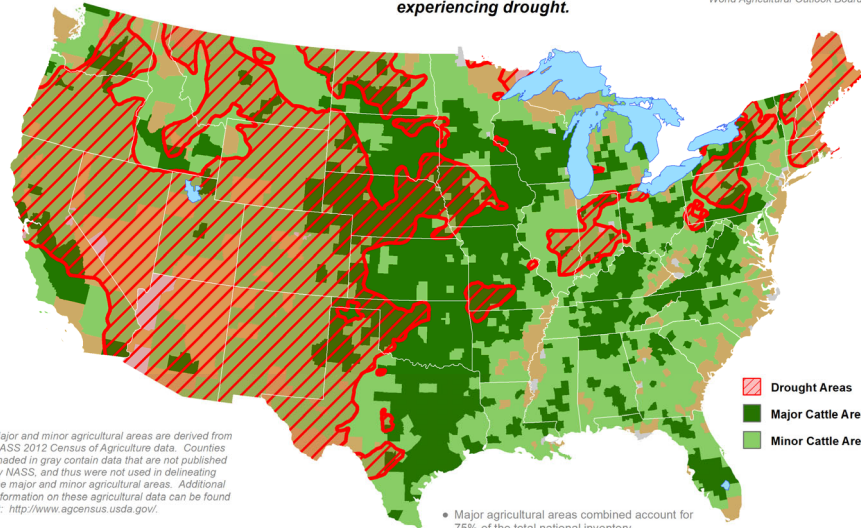
## U.S. Cattle Areas Experiencing Drought

Reflects October 13, 2020 U.S. Drought Monitor data

Approximately 40% of cattle inventory is within an area experiencing drought.



This product was prepared by the USDA Office of the Chief Economist World Agricultural Outlook Board



▨ Drought Areas  
■ Major Cattle Area  
■ Minor Cattle Area

Major and minor agricultural areas are derived from NASS 2012 Census of Agriculture data. Counties shaded in gray contain data that are not published by NASS, and thus were not used in delineating the major and minor agricultural areas. Additional information on these agricultural data can be found at: <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/>.

Mapped drought areas are derived from the U.S. Drought Monitor product and do not depict the intensity of drought in any particular location. More information on the Drought Monitor can be found at: <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>.

- Major agricultural areas combined account for 75% of the total national inventory.
- Major and minor agricultural areas combined account for 99% of the total national inventory.

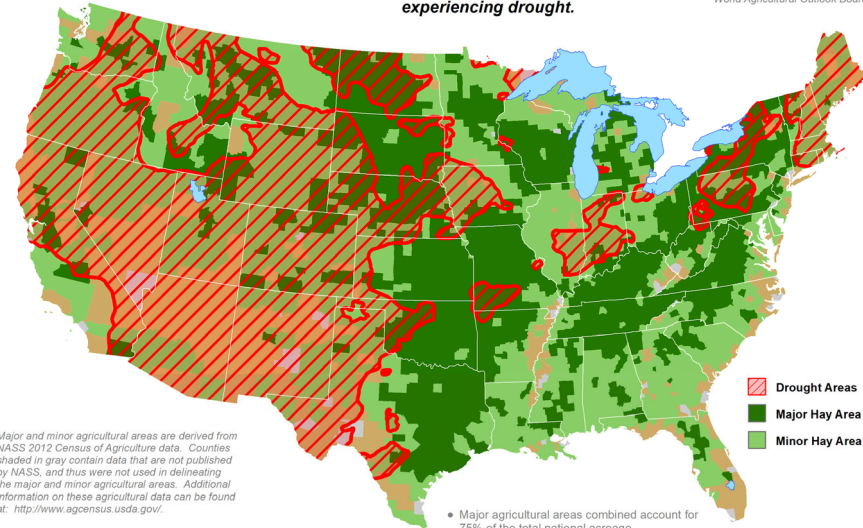
## U.S. Hay Areas Experiencing Drought

Reflects October 13, 2020 U.S. Drought Monitor data

Approximately 33% of hay acreage is within an area experiencing drought.



This product was prepared by the USDA Office of the Chief Economist World Agricultural Outlook Board



▨ Drought Areas  
■ Major Hay Area  
■ Minor Hay Area

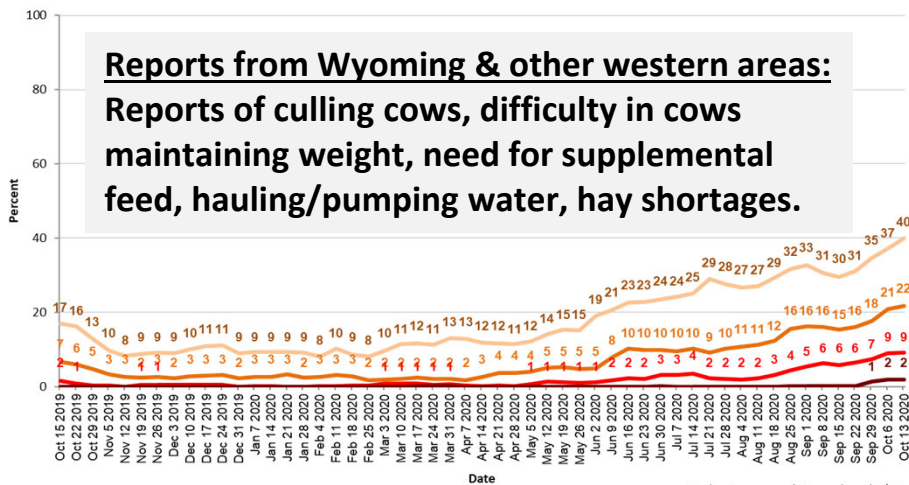
Major and minor agricultural areas are derived from NASS 2012 Census of Agriculture data. Counties shaded in gray contain data that are not published by NASS, and thus were not used in delineating the major and minor agricultural areas. Additional information on these agricultural data can be found at: <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/>.

Mapped drought areas are derived from the U.S. Drought Monitor product and do not depict the intensity of drought in any particular location. More information on the Drought Monitor can be found at: <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>.

- Major agricultural areas combined account for 75% of the total national acreage.
- Major and minor agricultural areas combined account for 99% of the total national acreage.

### United States Cattle Areas Located in Drought

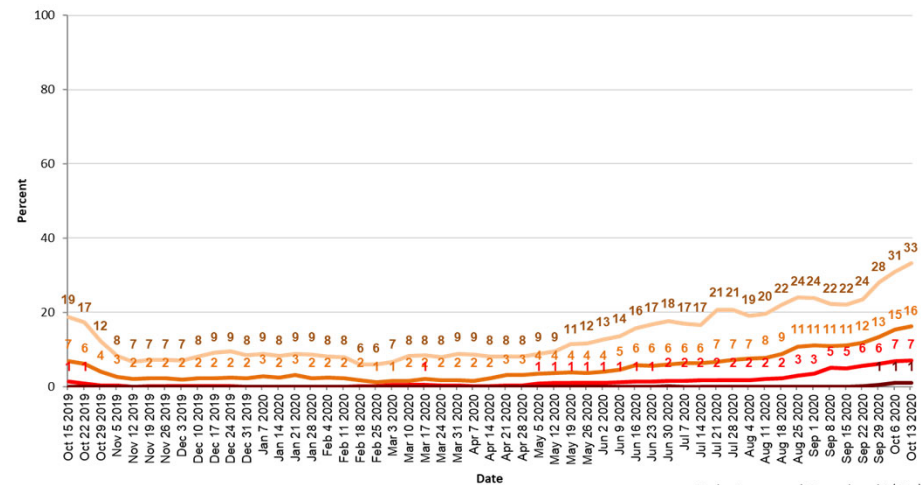
**Reports from Wyoming & other western areas: Reports of culling cows, difficulty in cows maintaining weight, need for supplemental feed, hauling/pumping water, hay shortages.**



USDA Agricultural Weather Assessments World Agricultural Outlook Board

— Moderate or more intense drought (D1+)  
— Severe or more intense drought (D2+)  
— Extreme or more intense drought (D3+)  
— Exceptional drought (D4)

### United States Hay Areas Located in Drought



USDA Agricultural Weather Assessments World Agricultural Outlook Board

— Moderate or more intense drought (D1+)  
— Severe or more intense drought (D2+)  
— Extreme or more intense drought (D3+)  
— Exceptional drought (D4)





**Contact information:**

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**Office of the Chief Economist**

**World Agricultural Outlook Board**

**Washington, D.C.**

**Phone: 202-720-2397**

**E-Mail: [brad.rippley@usda.gov](mailto:brad.rippley@usda.gov)**

**Corn Field Sunset  
September 27, 2020  
(photo by B. Rippey)**