



USDM: U.S. Drought Monitor

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What is the USDM?

The USDM is a nationwide map of current drought conditions. The map provides a “snapshot” of conditions and is produced by meteorologists and climatologists weekly. These authors consider both weather conditions and reported impacts when updating the map to get an accurate picture of drought conditions.

Why the USDM Matters

- 1) The USDM is used to convey drought conditions across Wisconsin.
- 2) The USDM is used to determine eligibility for national drought assistance programs.
- 3) The USDM is used to advise the Wisconsin Governor’s Office on drought response.

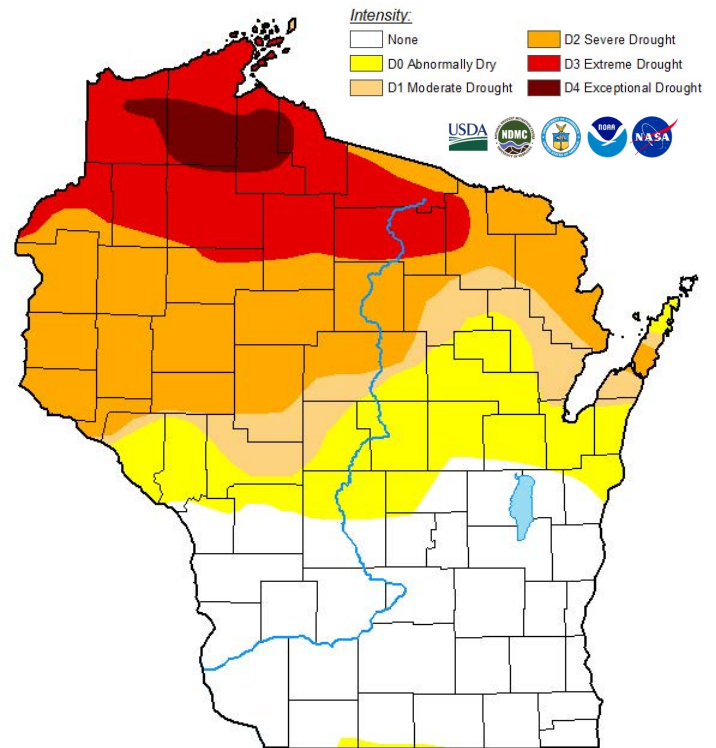


Figure 1: U.S. Drought Monitor map of Wisconsin on September 22, 2026 showing drought intensity across counties.

How can you contribute to the USDM?

On-the-ground reports from local experts and citizens are vital to the weekly USDM updates. You can report drought information for your location in the following ways:

- Reach out to the Wisconsin State Climatology Office (stclim@aos.wisc.edu)
- Submit Condition Monitoring Observer Reports (go.unl.edu/cmor_drought)
- Become a CoCoRaHS observer (cocoahs.org)
- Email the USDM authors (droughtmonitor@unl.edu)

How can the USDM work for you?

The USDM is a valuable resource to keep you informed on drought in your area. Understanding drought conditions can help you prepare for and respond to changes in your daily life

Learn more at: go.wisc.edu/usdm



Wisconsin State Climatology Office
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON