

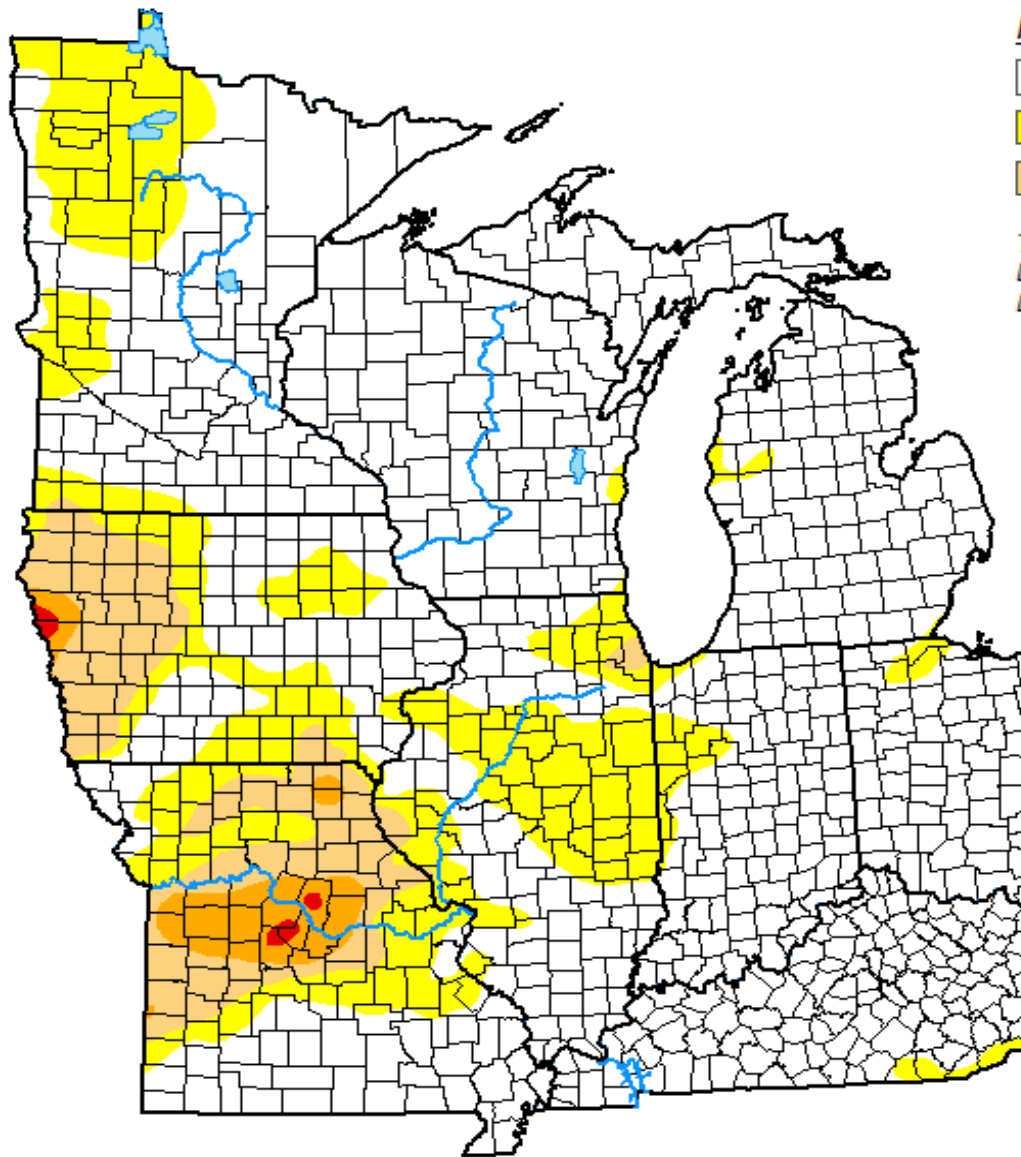


# Drought Briefing

May 26, 2023  
1:10 PM

Update as of May 26

## Drought Rapidly Forming Across Portions of Illinois and Indiana

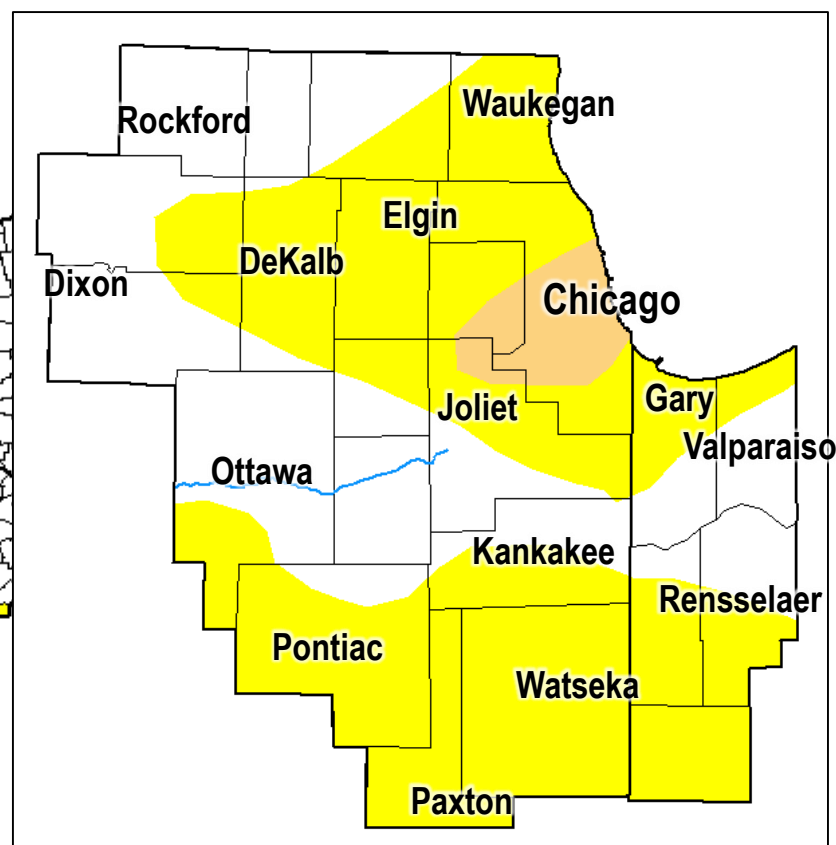


### Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate 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>

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



### ! Key Drought Messages:

- Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions rapidly expanding across portions of northeast and central Illinois, and portions of northwest Indiana. Moderate Drought (D1) conditions now exist in portions of DuPage, Will, and Cook counties.
- Continued dry weather could cause drought to worsen rapidly.

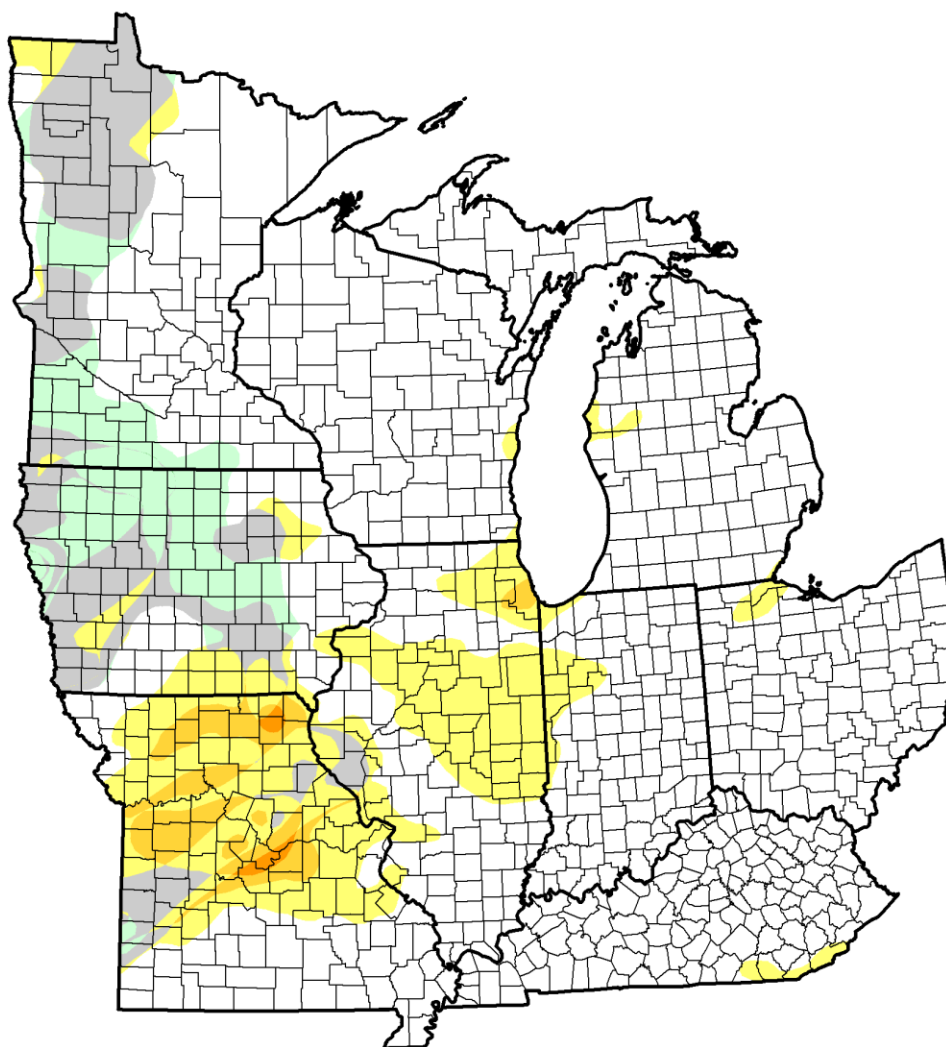


# Drought Briefing

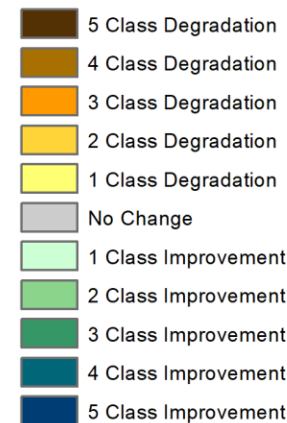
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## Change in Drought Status Since Last Month

U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - Midwest  
4 Week



May 23, 2023  
compared to  
April 25, 2023



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

## **NEW** Drought Changes

- Drought conditions have worsened across central and northeast Illinois and across northwest Indiana.



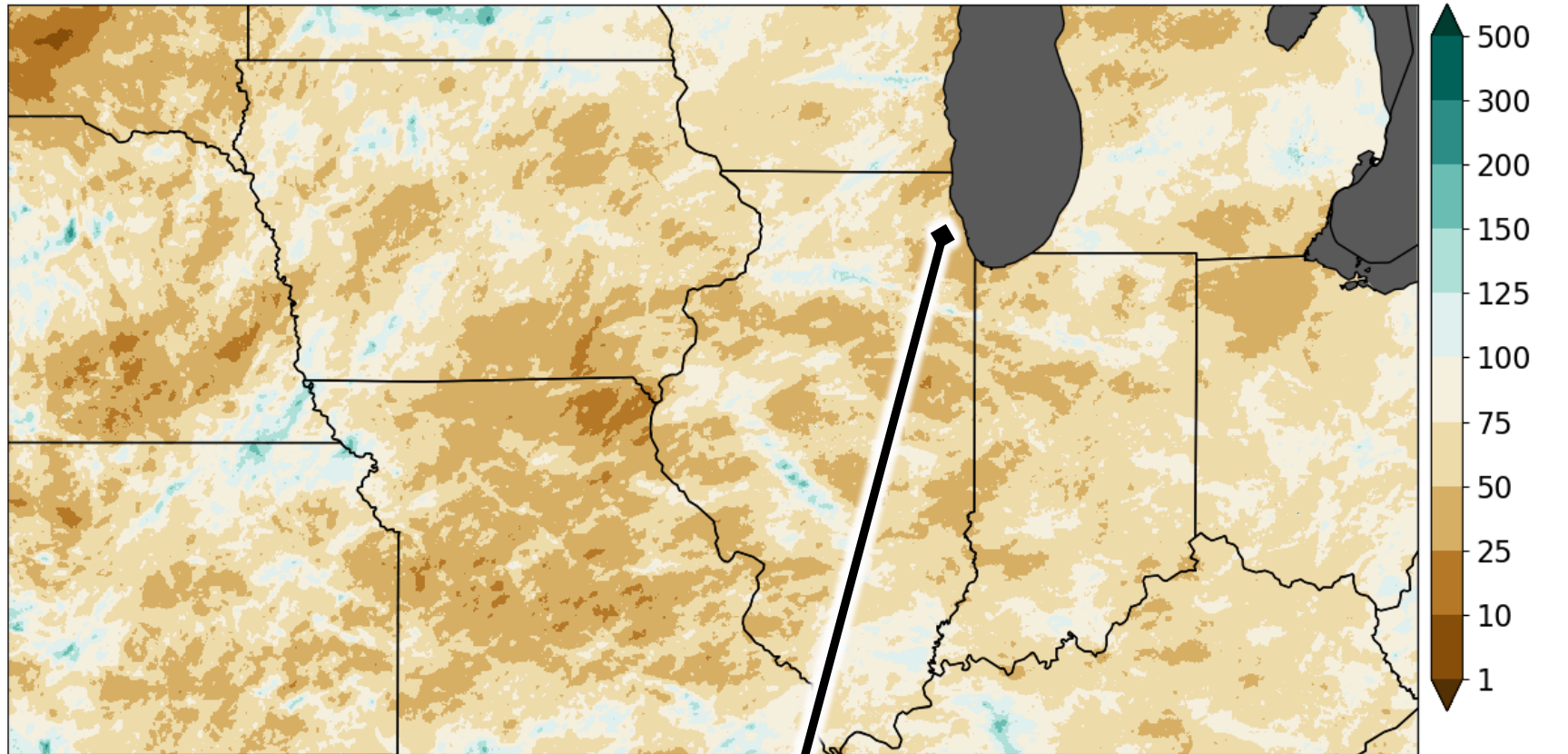
# Drought Briefing

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## Rainfall Since April 1st

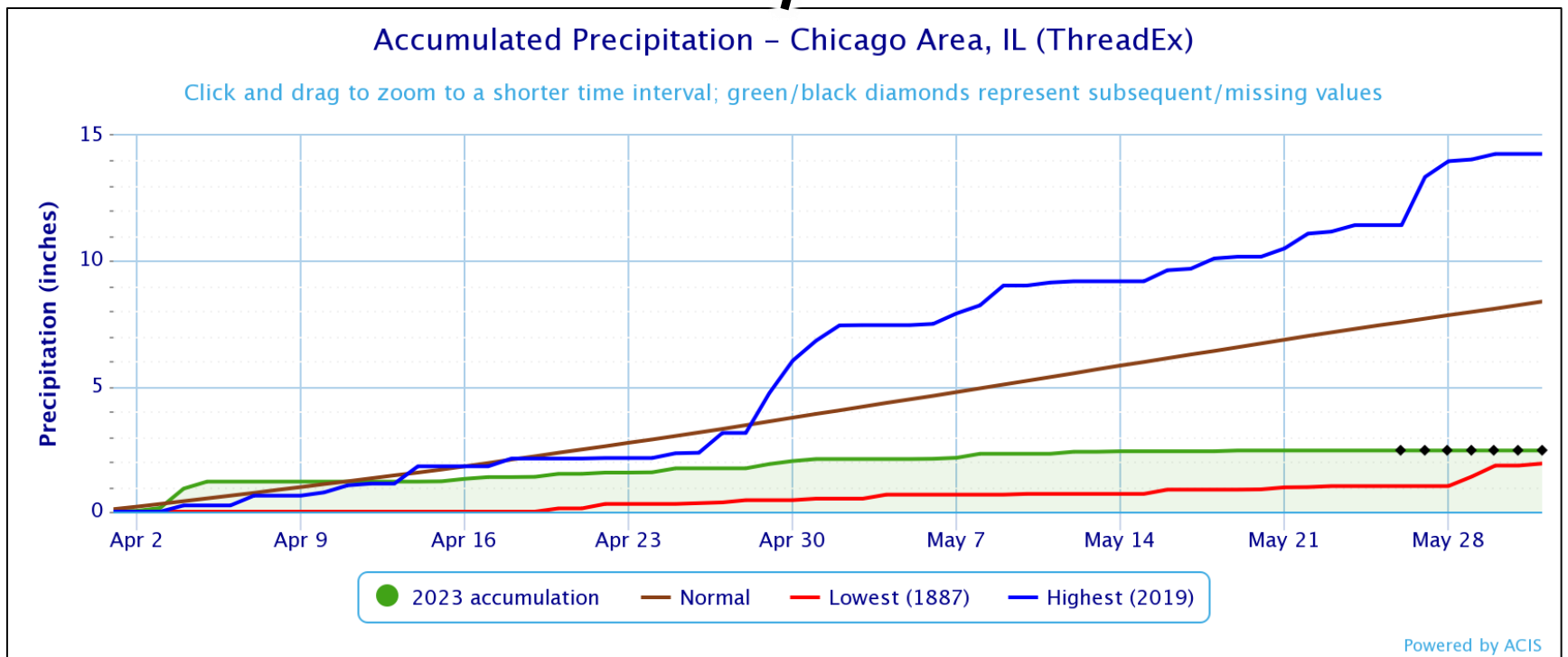


MRMS Q3:: 1 Apr to 25 May 2023 (inclusive) Precip Percent of Average [%]  
Data from NOAA MRMS Project, MultiSensorPass2 and RadarOnly



Generated at 26 May 2023 12:35 PM CDT in 26.29s

data units :: percent  
IEM Autoplot App #84



*Precipitation at Chicago O'hare Airport since April 1 has been among the lowest recorded since the late 1800s.*

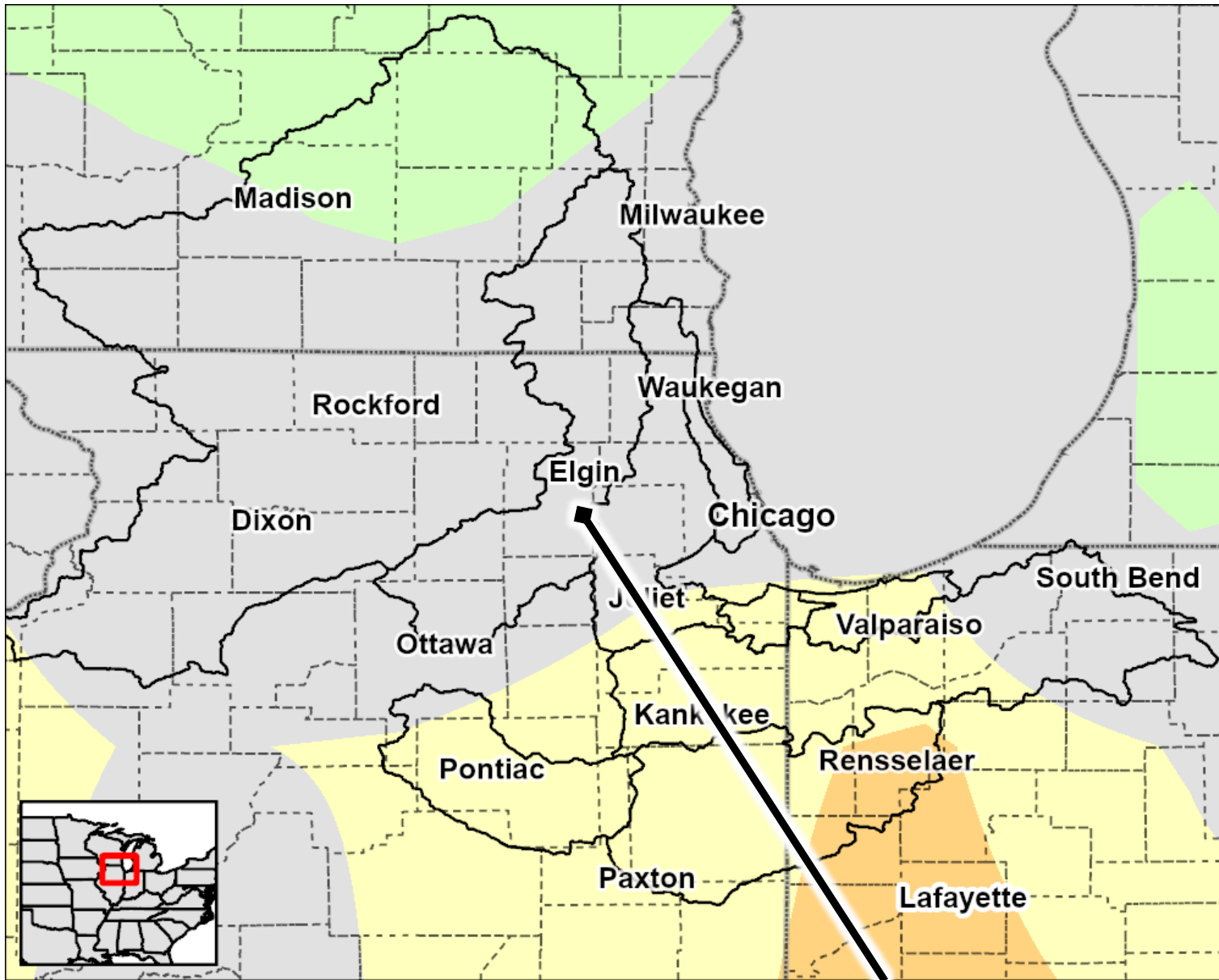
Image Source: Iowa Environmental Mesonet; National Weather Service



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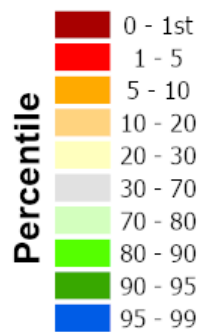
## Modeled and Measured Soil Moisture



### Soil Moisture

2023/05/26

Source: CPC



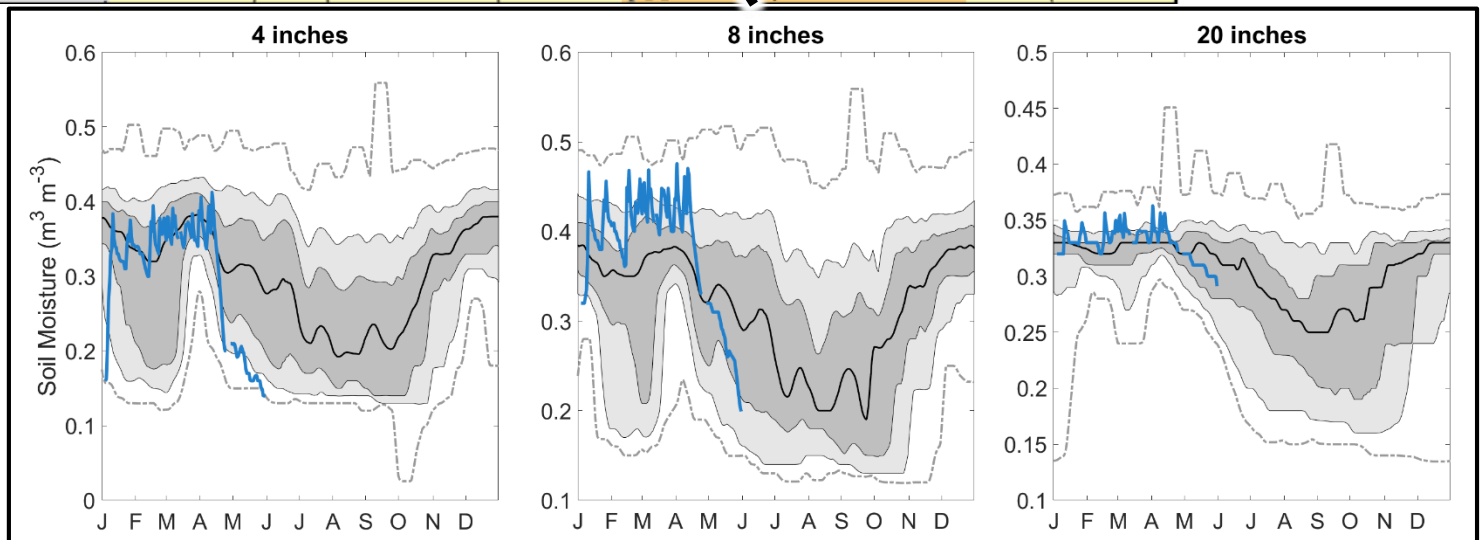
weather.gov/Chicago

Created:  
2023/05/26 12:34 PM

### Measured Soil Moisture

### Median Value

### Range of Past Values



*NOTE: Soil moisture map sometimes lags behind observed soil moisture conditions near the surface, because it also includes deeper soil layers. Very low soil moisture values are currently observed in the upper 8 inches of soil.*

Image Source: Climate Prediction Center; Illinois State Water Survey



# Drought Briefing

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## River Levels/Streamflow

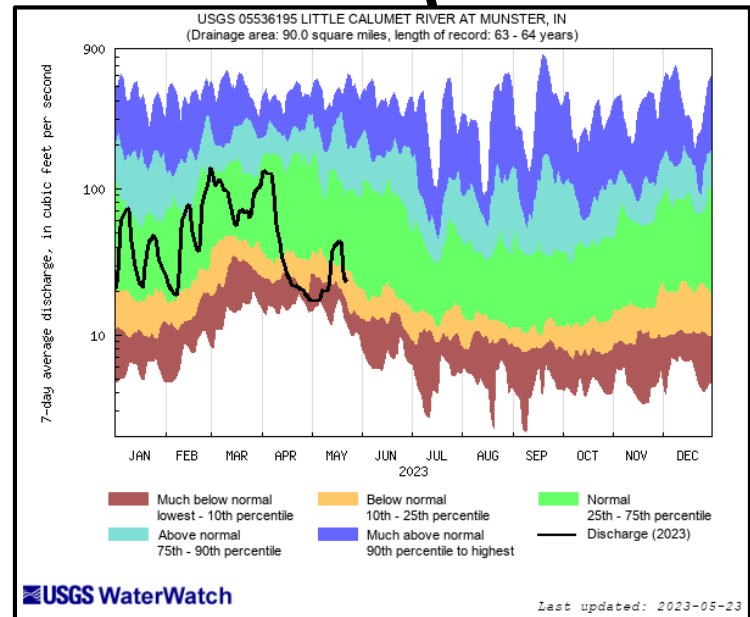
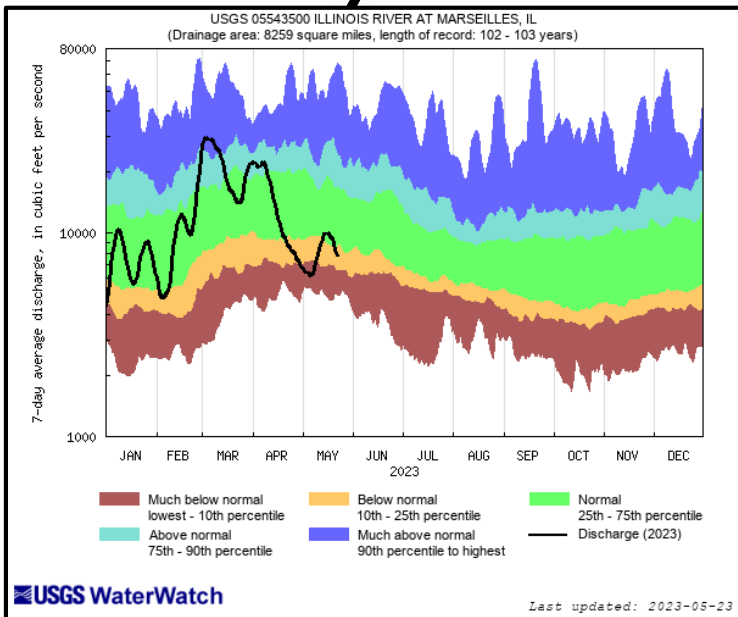
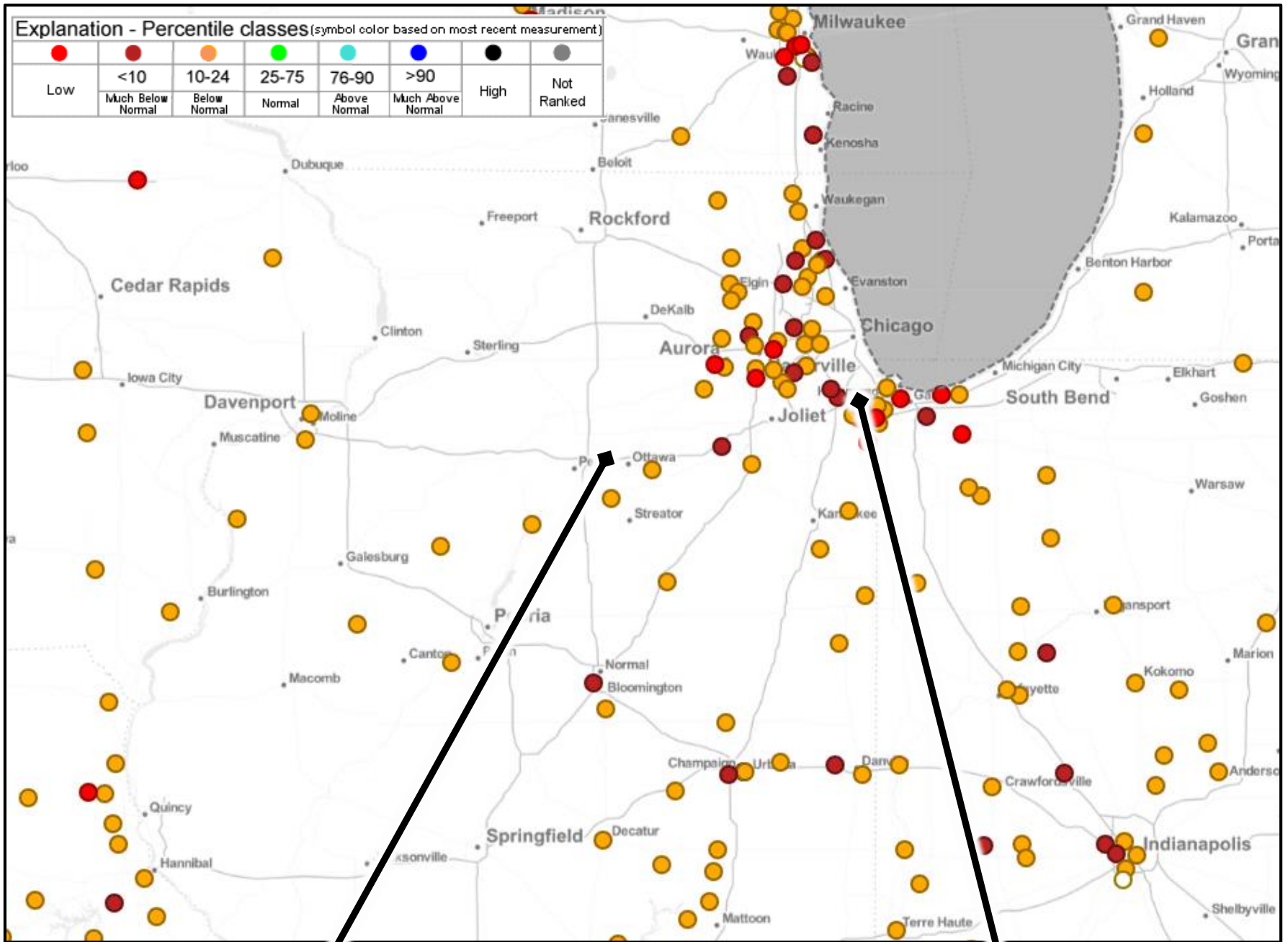


Image Source: US Geological Society



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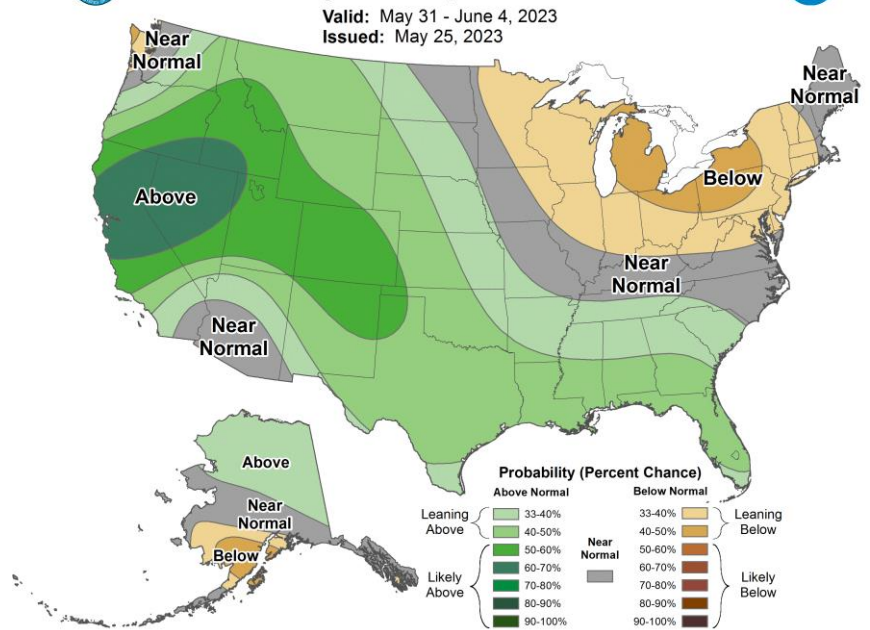
## Weather Forecast

### Forecaster Comments:

- Current weather forecast indicates that measurable precipitation is unlikely over the next 7 days.
- Otherwise, chances for rainfall over the next 1-2 weeks appears low.

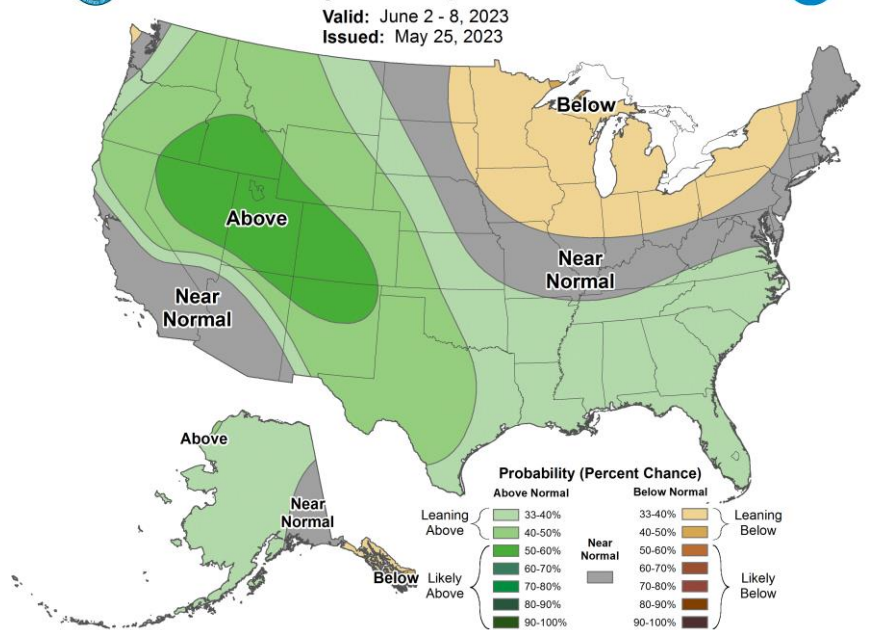
### 6-10 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: May 31 - June 4, 2023  
Issued: May 25, 2023



### 8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: June 2 - 8, 2023  
Issued: May 25, 2023



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

Valid for May 18 - August 31, 2023  
Released May 18

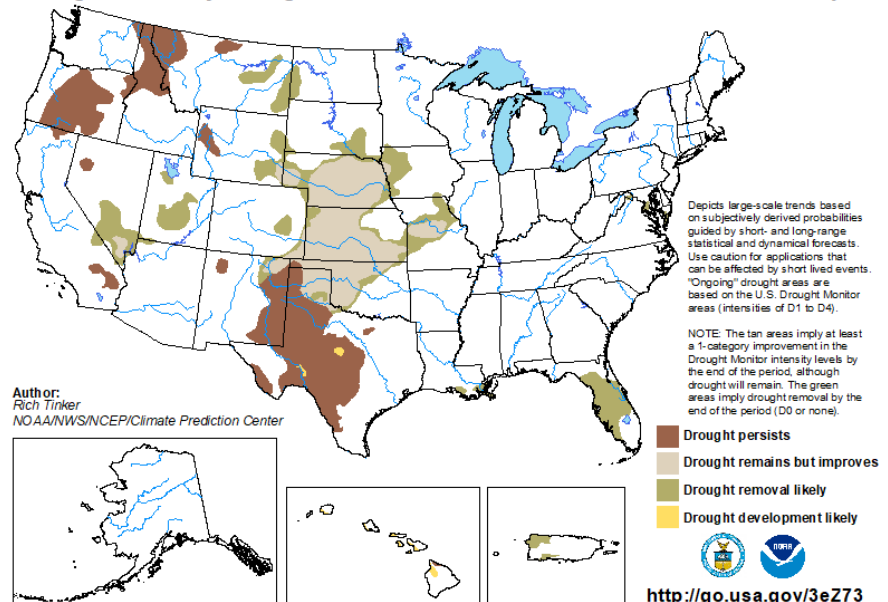


Image Source: Climate Prediction Center



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## Known Impacts

- Cracking, dry soil
- Low streams & ponds
- Minor crop/vegetation stress
- Possible impacts to agriculture beginning over the next few weeks.

Reports of drought impacts can be submitted multiple ways:

- National Drought Mitigation Center Condition Monitoring  
[go.unl.edu/cmor\\_drought](https://go.unl.edu/cmor_drought)
- National Drought Mitigation Center Visual Drought Atlas  
[go.unl.edu/photoatlas](https://go.unl.edu/photoatlas)
- CoCoRaHS  
[cocorahs.org/Content.aspx?page=condition](https://cocorahs.org/Content.aspx?page=condition)





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## Links and Contact Information

### Next Briefing

No additional briefings or products are currently scheduled.

### Additional Local Information

NWS Chicago Drought Page  
[weather.gov/lot/drought](https://weather.gov/lot/drought)

### Partners

Illinois State Climatologist's Office

[stateclimatologist.web.illinois.edu/](https://stateclimatologist.web.illinois.edu/)

Indiana State Climatologist's Office

[ag.purdue.edu/indiana-state-climate/](https://ag.purdue.edu/indiana-state-climate/)

National Drought Mitigation Center

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

National Integrated Drought Information System

[drought.gov/drought/](https://drought.gov/drought/)

Midwestern Regional Climate Center

[mrcc.purdue.edu/](https://mrcc.purdue.edu/)



National Weather Service  
Weather Forecast Office Chicago, IL



@NWSChicago



NWSChicago

[weather.gov/chicago](https://weather.gov/chicago)

[nws.chicago@noaa.gov](mailto: nws.chicago@noaa.gov)



National Oceanic and  
Atmospheric Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service  
Chicago, IL