



Drought Information Statement for Central and Northeast Wisconsin

Valid February 26, 2026

Issued By: WFO Green Bay, WI

Contact Information: nws.greenbay@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated around March 12, 2026 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/grb/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/drought-status-update-midwest-2024-04-25>

Recent rain and snow has brought an end to the Severe Drought (D2) across southern Forest and far northwest Marinette counties. Abnormally Dry (D0) and Moderate Drought (D1) continues across much of north-central and northeast WI due to long term precipitation deficits.



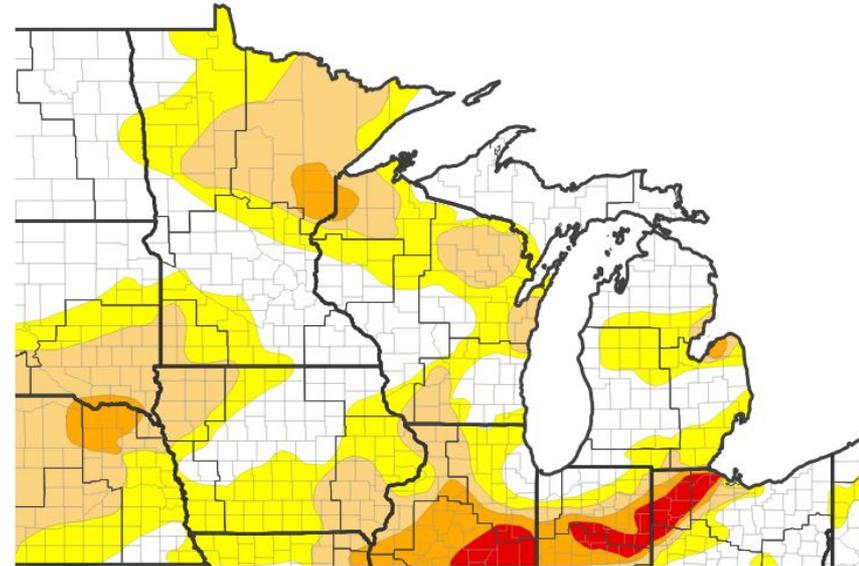


U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Midwest

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: None.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: From Rhinelander and Merrill through Antigo to northern Marinette and northern Oconto counties. From Green Bay and Chilton east to the lakeshore.
 - **D0 (Abnormally Dry)**: Areas shaded in yellow on the map that surround Moderate Drought (D1).
 - **No Category of Drought**: Northern Door and Vilas, the southwest third of Marathon, Portage except far northeast, southwest third of Waupaca, western two thirds of Waushara and all of Wood counties.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 02/24/26

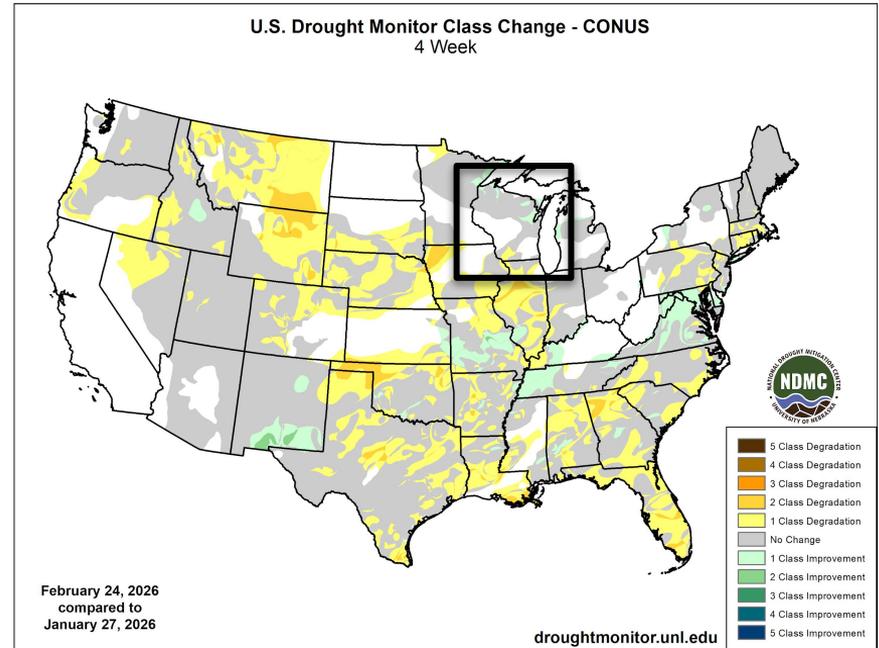




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#)

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - **Drought Improvement:** Southern Forest and northern Marinette counties. From Shawano and Clintonville northeast to Oconto to near Marinette.
 - **No Change:** Across much of the area except in central WI where there was no designation of drought.
 - **Worsening:** None.



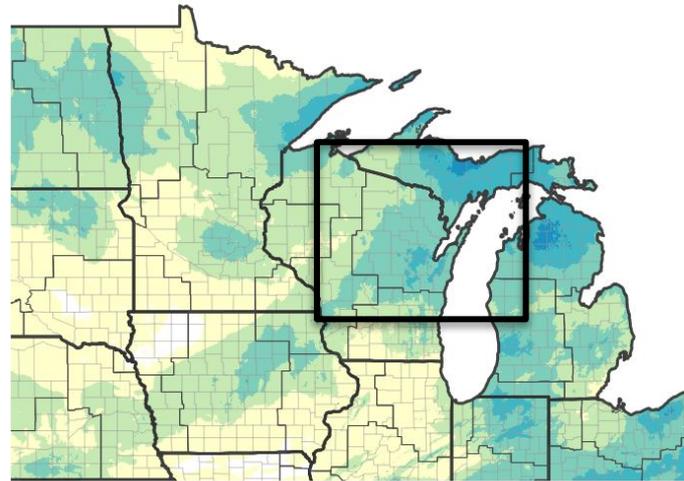


Precipitation

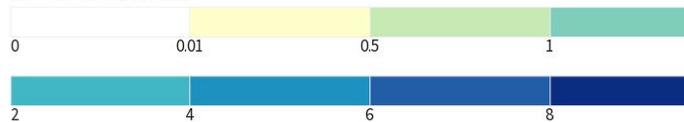
- Precipitation totals over the last month were above normal (100-175%) from central WI northeast into Marinette and Oconto counties, with the greatest departures from normal from Appleton to Clintonville and Shawano. Precipitation was 50-90% of normal across north-central WI.

30 Day Precipitation Accumulation (inches)

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



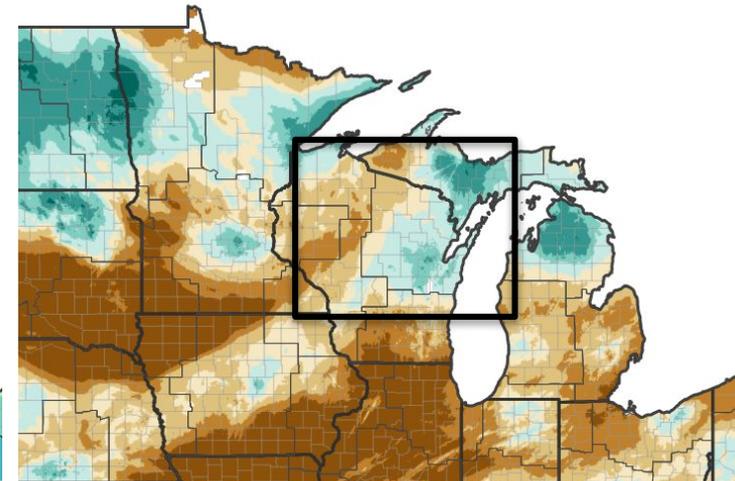
Inches of Precipitation



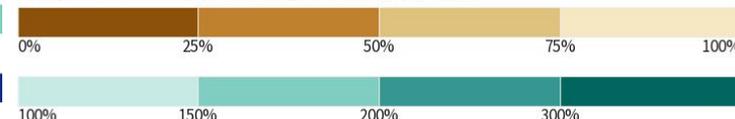
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 02/26/26

30 Day Percent of Normal Precipitation

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 02/26/26



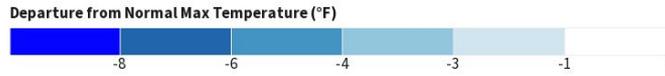
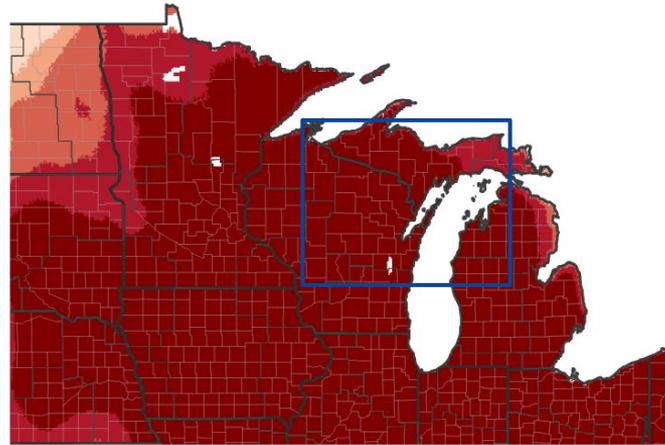


Temperature

Temperature anomalies (left image) of 6 to 8 degrees over the past 7 days were observed across the entire state due to the recent very mild spell from Feb 16-19th.

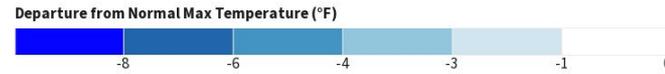
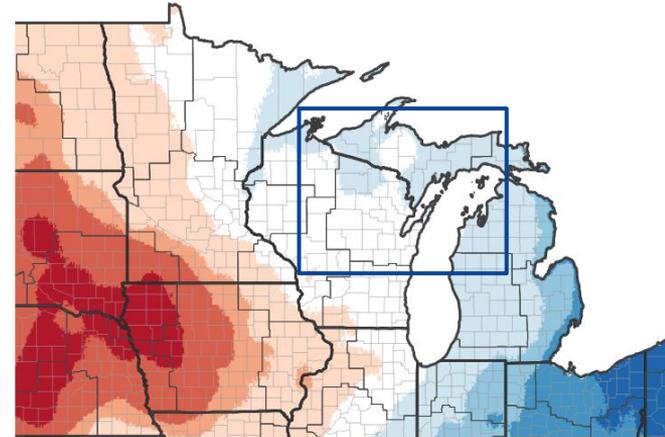
The 30 day temperature anomalies (right image) were close to normal, except across far northern Wisconsin where temperatures were running a degree or two below normal.

7 Day Temperature Anomaly
7-Day Temperature Anomaly



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 02/22/26

30 Day Temperature Anomaly
30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 02/22/26





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Recent rain/snow and a few periods of snowmelt in January and February brought stream flows closer to normal for late February.

Agricultural Impacts

- There should be minimal impacts to agricultural interests.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- The risk of fires is very low due to the recent precipitation and snowpack across the region.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Recent rain/snow and a few periods of snowmelt has streamflows near normal for late February.

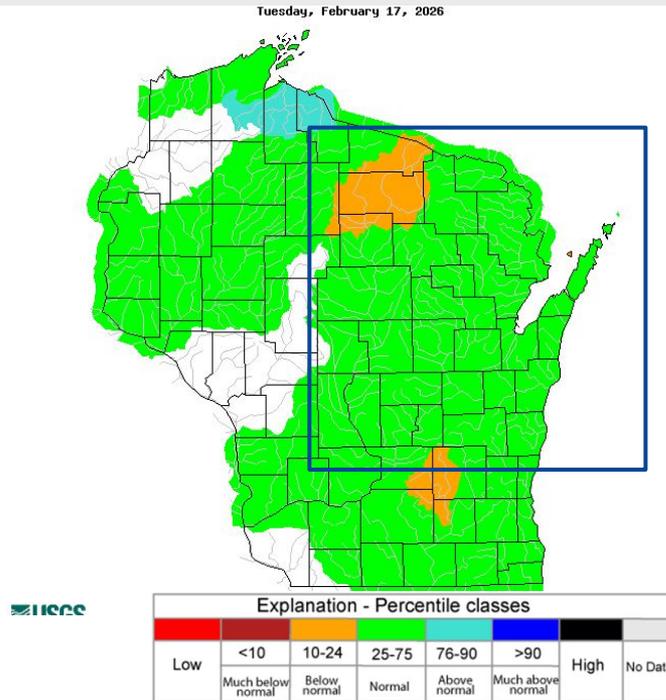


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid 2 17 2026

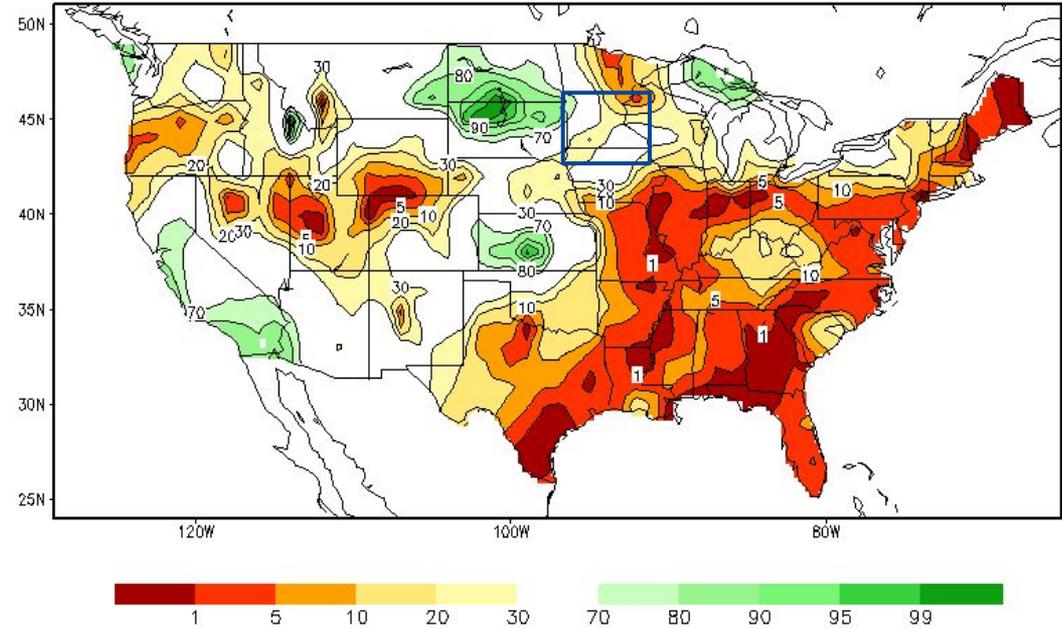




Agricultural Impacts

- Much of the recent rain/snow and a few periods of snowmelt since the middle of December has not significantly increased soil moisture since the ground is frozen at most places.
- Frost depth at times reached at least 1 to 3 ft.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
FEB 18, 2026

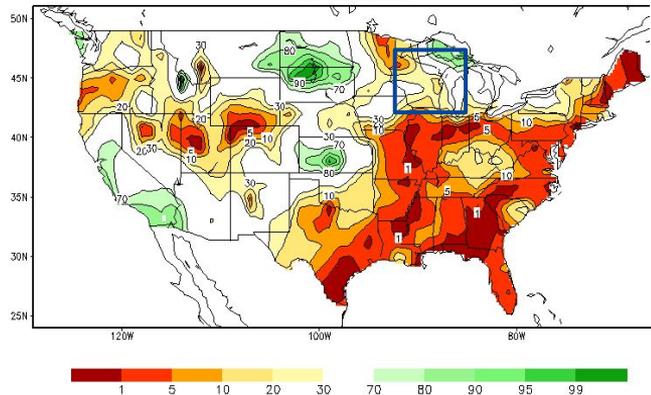




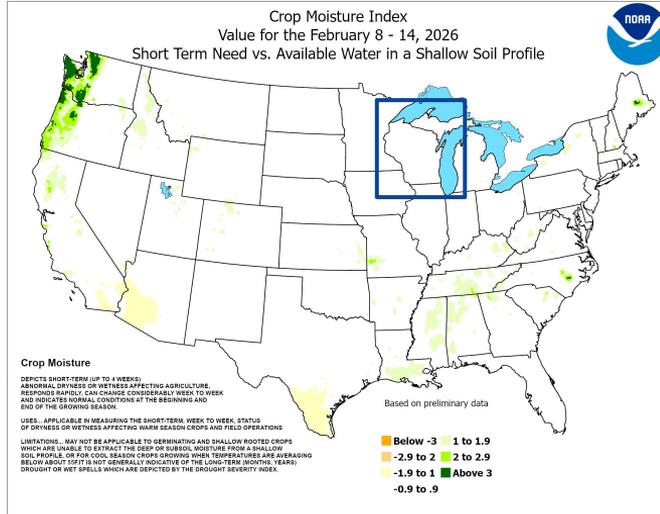
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Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
FEB 18, 2026



Crop Moisture Index
Value for the February 8 - 14, 2026
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

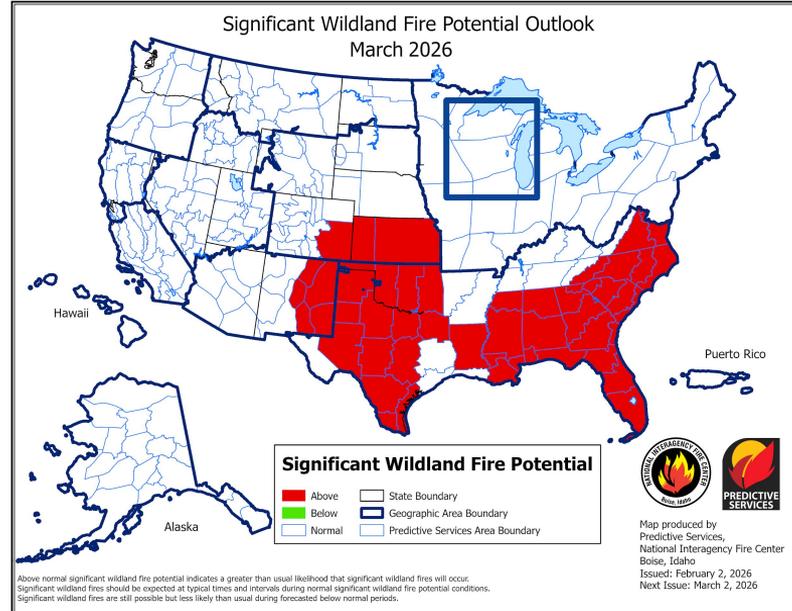




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- The risk of wildland fires is low due to a snowpack and recent precipitation across the region.



[Wisconsin Fire Danger Map](#)

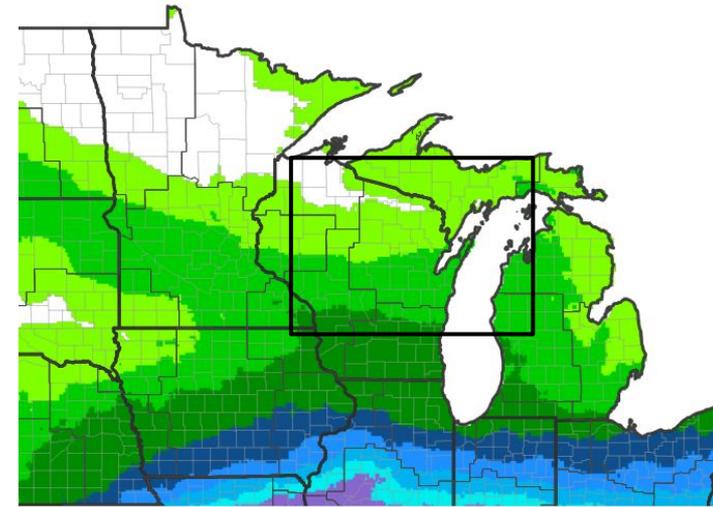




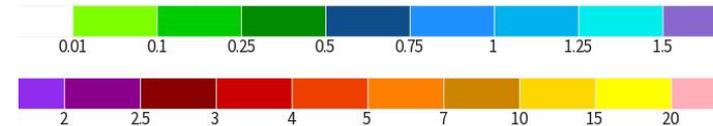
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Through March 5th, light precipitation amounts under a tenth of an inch are expected across northern WI, while 0.25 to 0.50 inches is expected south of a Wausau to Marinette line.

Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for February , 2026–March 5, 2026



dicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 02/2





Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

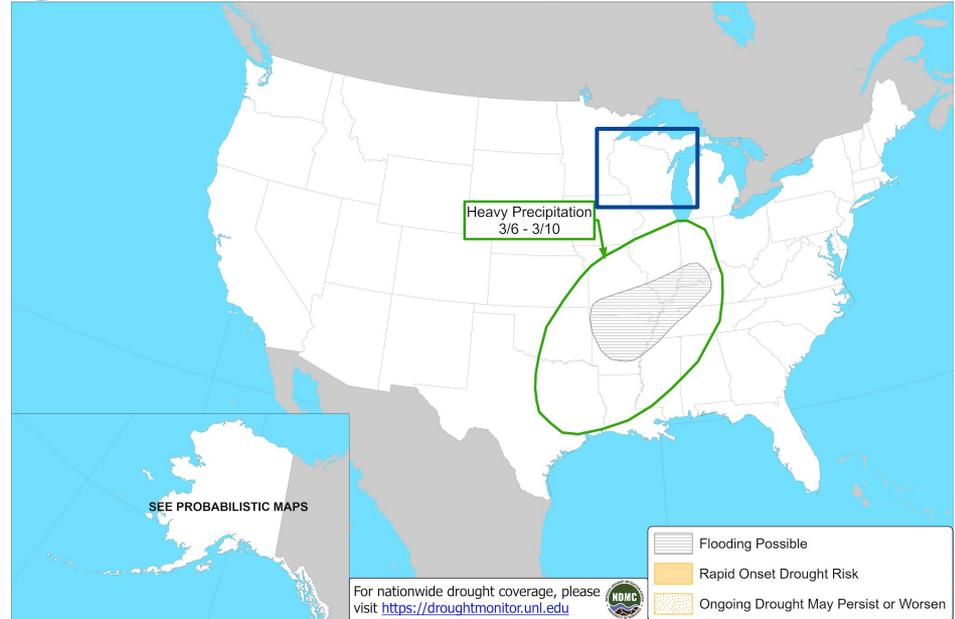
Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- Looking out for the next two weeks suggests only minor changes in drought conditions across north-central and northeast WI.



Days 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook

Valid: March 6 - 12, 2026



Climate Prediction Center

Released: February 26, 2026 3:00 PM EST

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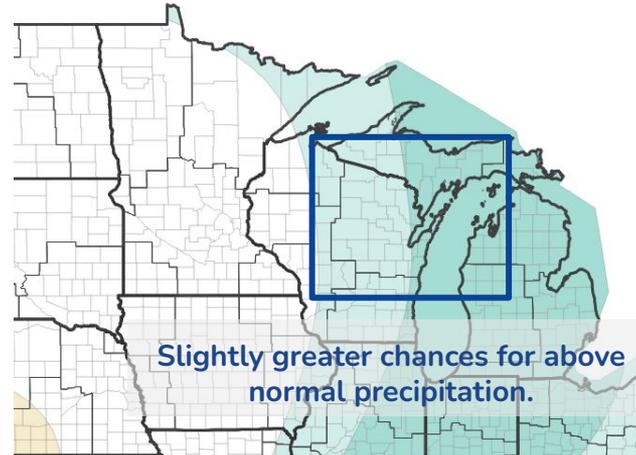


Long-Range Outlooks

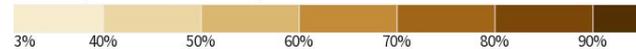
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- There is a greater chance for above normal precipitation in March.
- There is a slightly greater chance for above normal temperatures during March across central and east-central WI. Nearly equal chances of above, below or near normal temperatures across northern Wisconsin.

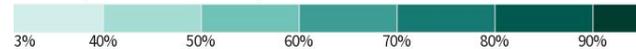
Monthly Precipitation Outlook for March 1, 2026–March 31, 2026



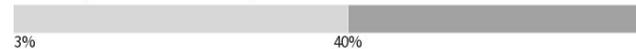
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation

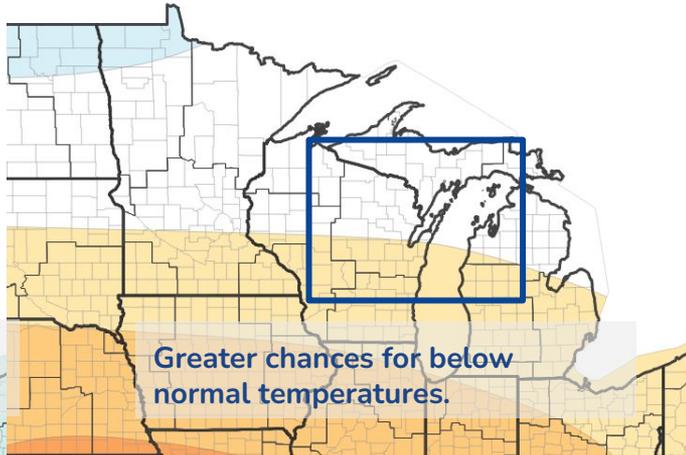


Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

Monthly Temperature Outlook for March 1, 2026–March 31, 2026



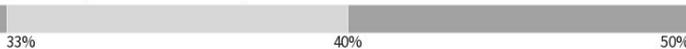
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

Last Updated: 02/19/26



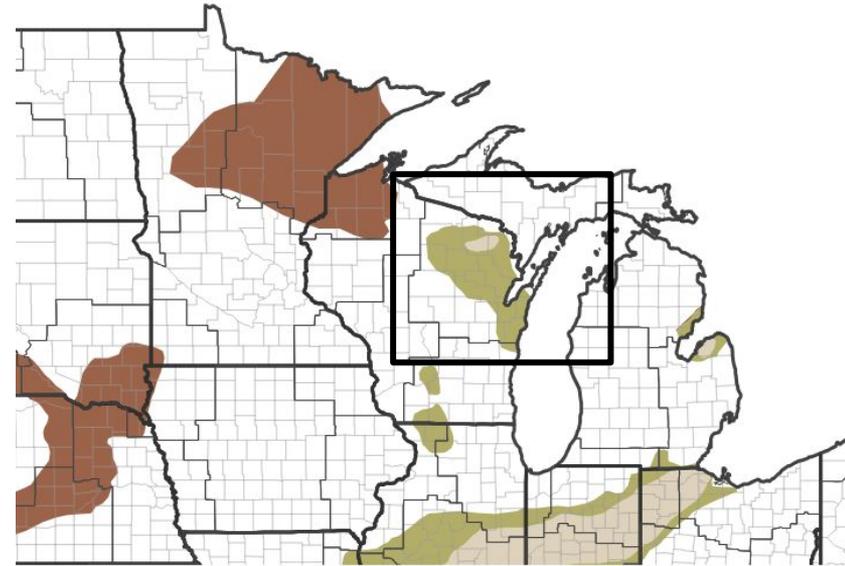


Drought Outlook

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

- The latest Drought Outlook for the spring is calling for an improvement or an end to the drought across north-central and northeast WI.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for January 31, 2026-April 30, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 01/31/26

Links to the latest:

- [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)
- [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

