

# Water Resources Coordinating Council

Thursday, June 13, 2024  
1:30 PM- 3:30 PM

## Meeting Notes

### **Call to Order and Virtual Meeting Logistics**

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM. There a total of 25 participants in the virtual meeting. Logistics were briefly discussed.

### **Brief Overview of Legislative Changes to WRCC**

Secretary Naig gave a short update on 2024 legislative changes to WRCC in Iowa Code. The only changes are elimination of WPAC and requirement that WRCC meets quarterly (now “as necessary”). Members were asked to consider desired meeting frequency and format and share either directly with IDALS or at our next meeting.

### **National Water Prediction Service Overview and Demonstration**

NWS will postpone this to a future meeting. Dr. Justin Glisan, IDALS, provided a quarterly weather and hydrologic update. A copy of those notes are included with the meeting notes.

### **WRCC Agency Updates (All)**

UNI (Clayton): Working with some student projects that will be shared at the next meeting. Tallgrass Prairie Center is hosting open house on June 20 at 4 PM.

DNR (Hall): Wastewater NRS Tour scheduled for October. Also starting to do some Nutrient Reduction Exchange projects with Des Moines and Cedar Rapids. DNR has moved into office space in far western Des Moines. Drought plan and update shows near removal of drought conditions in state. Consistently above normal precipitation has been responsible.

FSA (Goettsch): Planting wrapping up after delays. Crop reporting for FSA in full swing. Re-enrollment is ongoing for continuous CRP. Now batching enrollments in anticipation of a new farm bill. Coming up against national CRP acreage cap of 27 million acres.

HSEMD (Marwedel/Jackson): Looking for information on watershed planning and specific efforts in local areas that HSEMD can contribute flood impact data for. Working with DNR on RTTA (real-time technical assistance) geared at assisting communities with flood risk assessment. Also working to update statewide comprehensive flood mitigation strategy. Jeff Jackson provided a brief update on office of levee safety and current presidential disaster declarations due to severe storms, tornadoes, and flash flooding. FEMA has more than 200 workers in Iowa currently assisting lowans with recovery applications. Agricultural recovery stations are also opening in portions of the state.

IDOT (Solberg): Wet weather has delayed construction but going heavy now. Working with USACE on renewal of RGP7 for transportation activities. DOT has assigned Ken Brink as an NRCS Easement Coordinator to facilitate projects that impact NRCS easements.

HHS (Wickam): Council on Health and Human Services is now an advisory council and is in re-formation stages. Still heavily involved in realignment/merger activities. Still working to restore toxicology capacity and helping with HPAI coordination.

ISU Extension (Helmert): Meetings and field days are being adjusted to accommodate planting and weather delays. 20<sup>th</sup> year of Iowa Learning Farms is underway.

USACE Rock Island (Bishop): Col. Aaron Williams has assumed command at Rock Island district as of May. Three-year rotation. State of Iowa partnering meeting will be held on July 31. All USACE offices that touch Iowa will be present.

EPA Region 7 (Reed): Joint MS River watershed workshop scheduled in late June in St. Louis. EPA will be attending along with some Iowa staff. Looking at all aspects of river including but beyond water quality.

USGS (Nania): Lots of information to echo on current streamflow conditions. Research ongoing on water quality near Effigy Mounds/Yellow River in coordination with tribes. (future presentation?). Also looking at impacts of tire wear particles on fish health. No issues detected in Iowa. Looking at milkweed in areas for monarch habitat. Evaluating tissue for presence of PFAS/microplastics.

IDALS (Kozak):

- Covered SSCWQC Changes in Iowa Code. Discussed SSCWQC Summer Tour and potential for similar meeting opportunity with WRCC.
- 14 new urban conservation projects have been awarded \$2.2 million in new funding.
- Reviewing WQI Demo project applications. Six new project applications with decisions anticipated in mid-summer.
- Cover crop rates are increasing by \$5 per acre in statewide program and Year 2 of priority watershed cover crop programs underway. Hoping to determine impacts of cost-share on adoption.
- Provided HPAI brief update and extension to dairy herds. More industries impacted but some mitigation activities possible.

### **Nutrient Reduction Strategy Measures Update**

Rob Davis, ISU Extension, provided an update on measures collected in support of the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy and provided a demonstration of the updated online dashboard. The dashboard can be accessed at <https://www.nutrientstrategy.iastate.edu/>.

### **Public Comments**

There were no requests by the public to address the Council.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 PM. Next meeting TBD.

	<b>WRCC Representative</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Organization</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 Mike Naig	Secretary (WRCC Chair)	Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 Kim Reynolds <i>Lillie Brady</i>	Governor <i>Designee</i>	Governor's Office Governor's Office
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3 Kayla Lyon (Tim Hall) <i>Adam Schneiders</i>	Director <i>Designee</i>	Iowa Department of Natural Resources Iowa Department of Natural Resources
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4 Susan Kozak <i>Jake Hansen</i>	Director <i>Designee</i>	IDALS - Division of Soil Conservation & Water Quality IDALS - Division of Soil Conservation & Water Quality
<input type="checkbox"/>	5 Kelly Garcia <i>Tim Wickam</i>	Director <i>Designee</i>	IA Department of Public Health IA Department of Public Health
<input type="checkbox"/>	6 John Benson <i>Larry Giofreddi (Jim Marwedel)</i>	Acting Director <i>Designee</i>	Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7 Dan Robison <i>Jamie Benning (Matt Helmers)</i>	Dean <i>Designee</i>	College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, ISU College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, ISU
<input type="checkbox"/>	8 Edith Parker <i>Tom Peters</i>	Dean <i>Designee</i>	College of Public Health, University of Iowa College of Public Health, University of Iowa
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	9 John Fritsch <i>Maureen Clayton</i>	Dean <i>Designee</i>	College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences, UNI College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences, UNI
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	10 Scott Marler <i>Marc Solberg</i>	Director <i>Designee</i>	Iowa Department of Transportation Iowa Department of Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/>	11 Debi Durham <i>Jeff Geerts</i>	Director <i>Designee</i>	Iowa Economic Development Authority Iowa Economic Development Authority
<input type="checkbox"/>	12 Debi Durham <i>Tony Toigo</i>	Executive Director <i>Designee</i>	Iowa Finance Authority Iowa Finance Authority
<input type="checkbox"/>	13 Alec Scranton <i>Larry Weber</i>	Dean <i>Designee</i>	College of Engineering, University of Iowa College of Engineering, University of Iowa
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	14 Jon Nania <i>Steve Kalkhoff</i>	Director <i>Designee</i>	USGS, Iowa-Illinois Water Science Center USGS, Iowa-Illinois Water Science Center
<input type="checkbox"/>	15 Jon Hubbert <i>Scott Cagle</i>	State Conservationist <i>Designee</i>	USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	16 Matt Russell (Curt Goettsch)	State Executive Director	USDA, Farm Service Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	17 Theresa Greenfield <i>Kate Sand</i>	State Director <i>Designee</i>	USDA, Rural Development USDA, Rural Development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	18 Meg McCollister <i>Amanda Reed</i>	Regional Administrator <i>Designee</i>	EPA-Region 7 EPA-Region 7
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	19 Colonel Jesse Curry <i>Heather Bishop</i> <i>Philip Brown</i>	Rock Island District Commander <i>Designee</i> <i>Designee</i>	US Army Corps of Engineers Rock Island District US Army Corps of Engineers Rock Island District US Army Corps of Engineers
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Jeff Zogg</i>	<i>Designee</i>	National Weather Service



# Iowa River and Weather Briefing

June 12, 2024  
10:34 AM



## National Weather Service

Des Moines, IA

June 13, 2024



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

National Weather Service  
Iowa

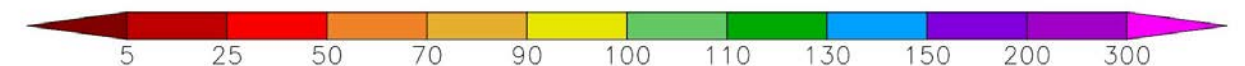
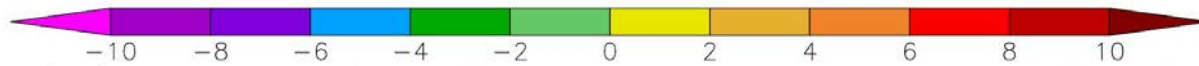
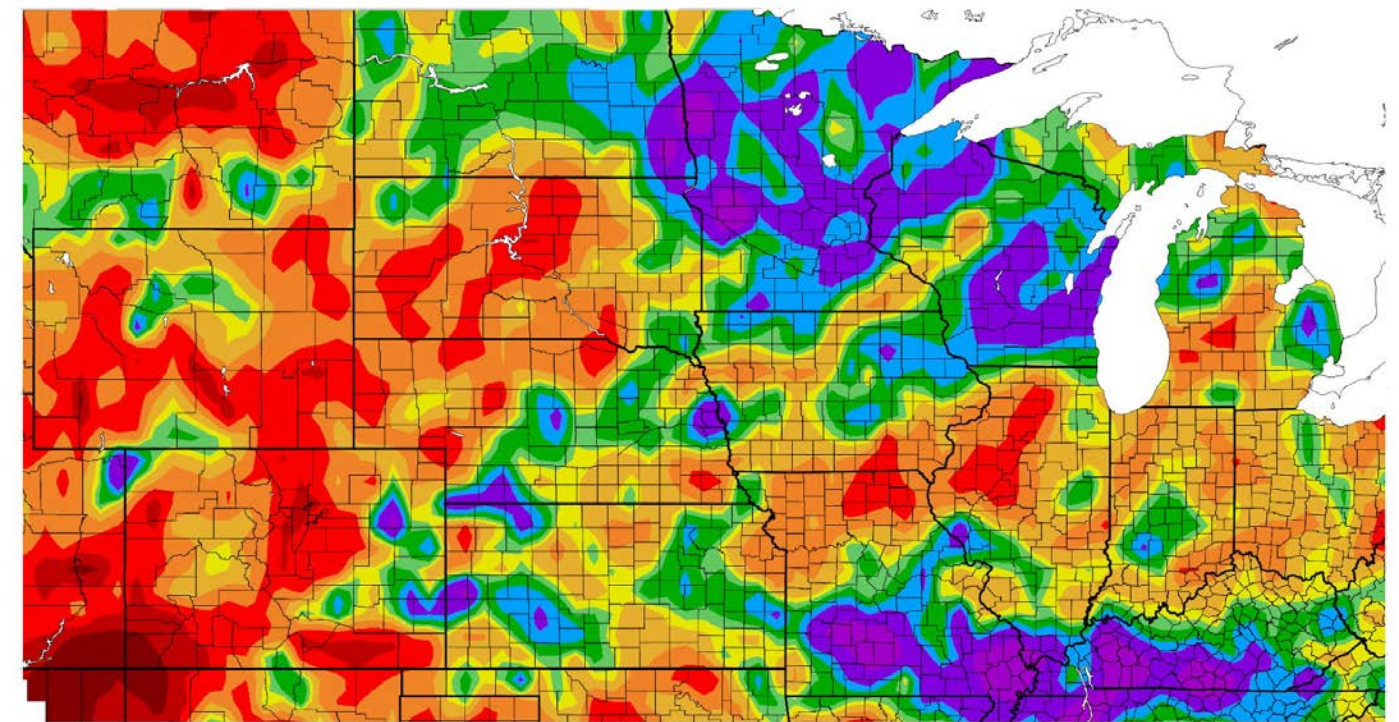
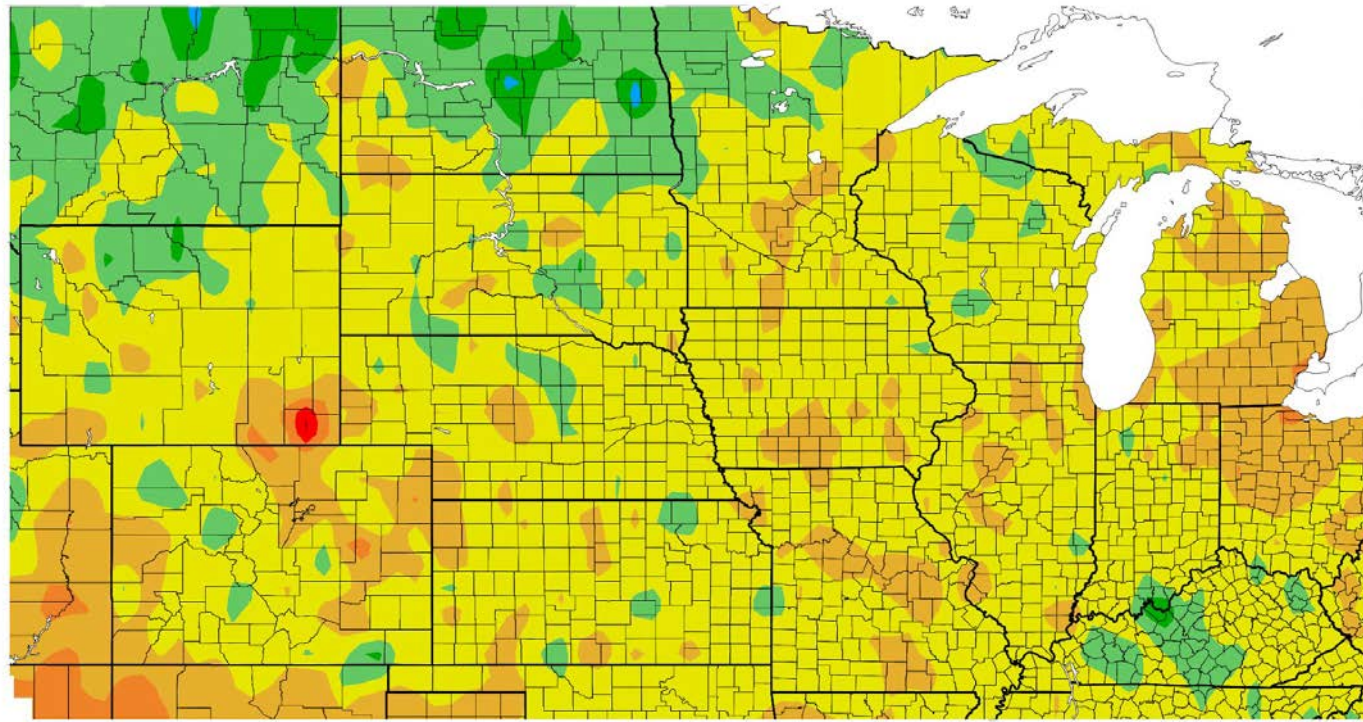


# Observed Temp & Precip Departure

## Departure from normal

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
5/14/2024 – 6/12/2024

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
5/14/2024 – 6/12/2024



Generated 6/13/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Generated 6/13/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

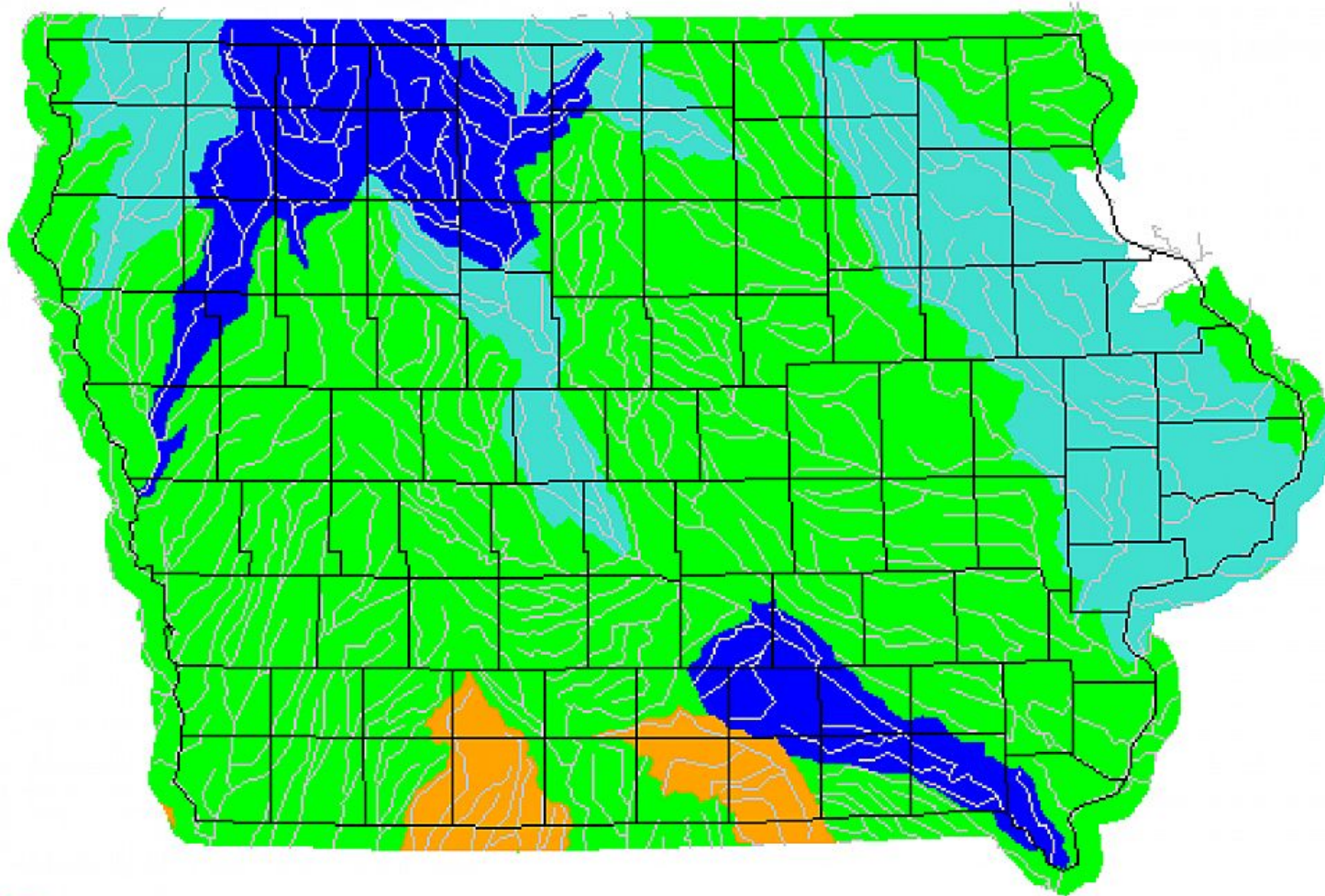




# Current & Past Streamflows

Compared to climatology-percentiles

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

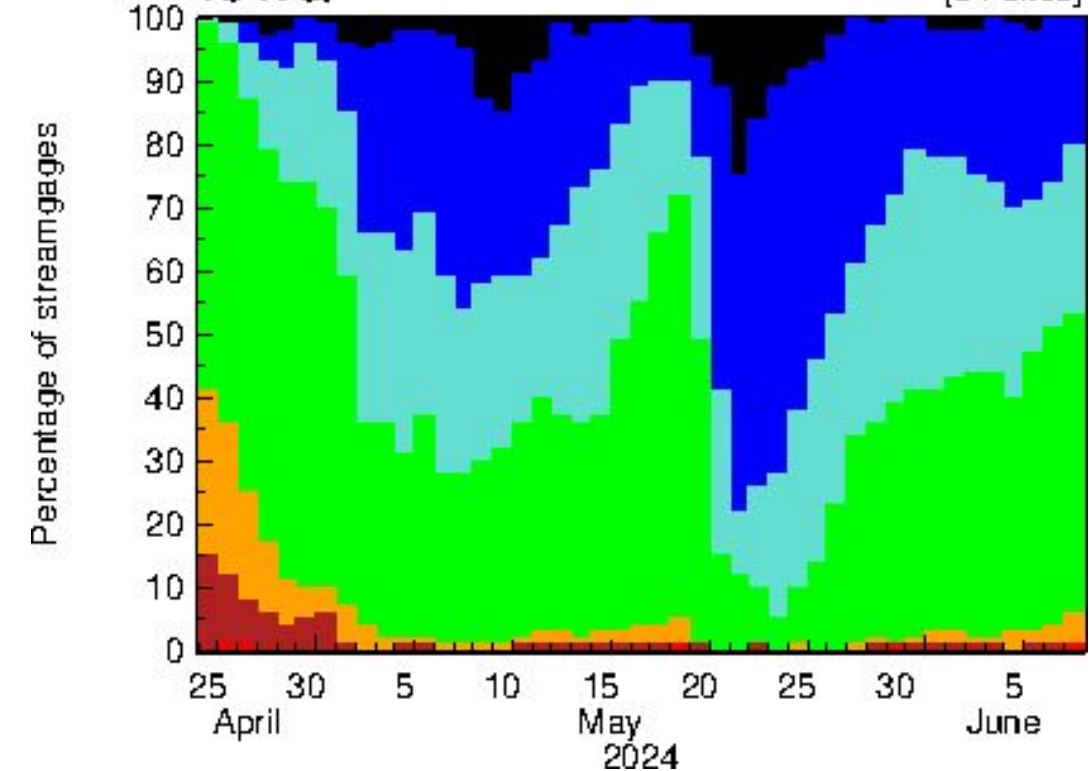


Generally near to above normal stream flows across Iowa

Last 45 Days

Iowa

[81 sites]



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

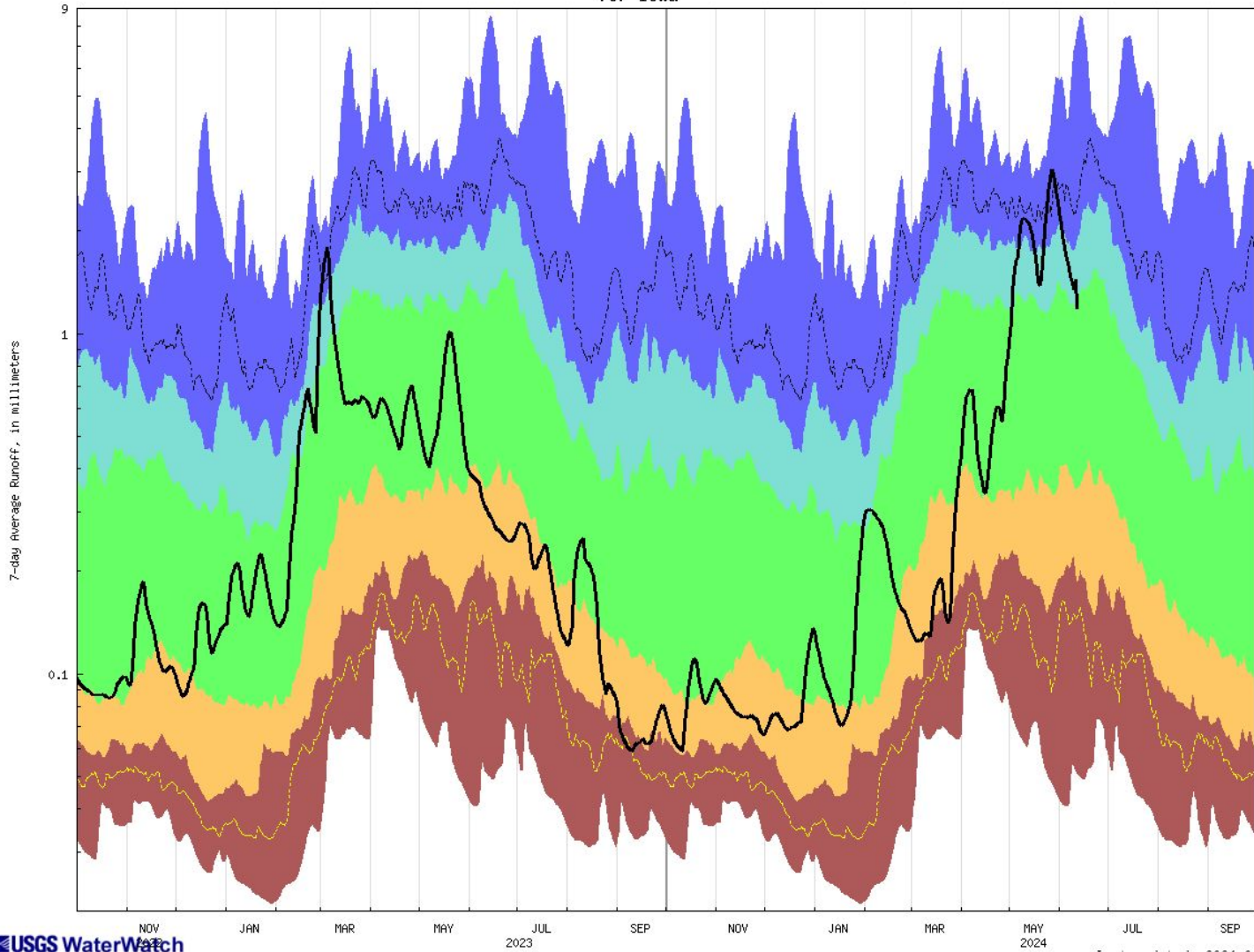




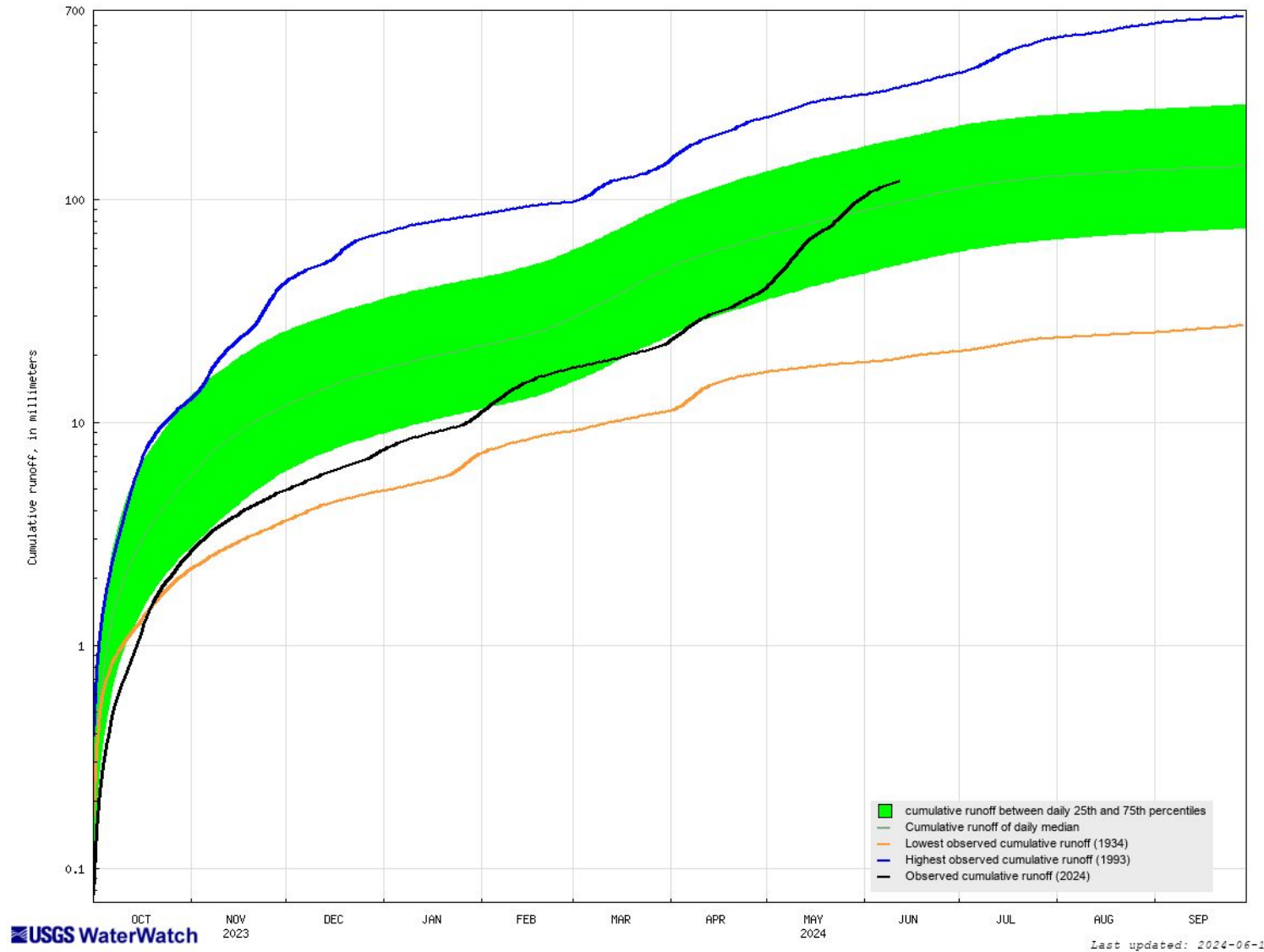
# Current & Past Statewide Runoff

## Compared to climatology–percentiles

Duration hydrograph of 7-day average runoff for Iowa



Hydrograph of cumulative 7-day average runoff for Iowa



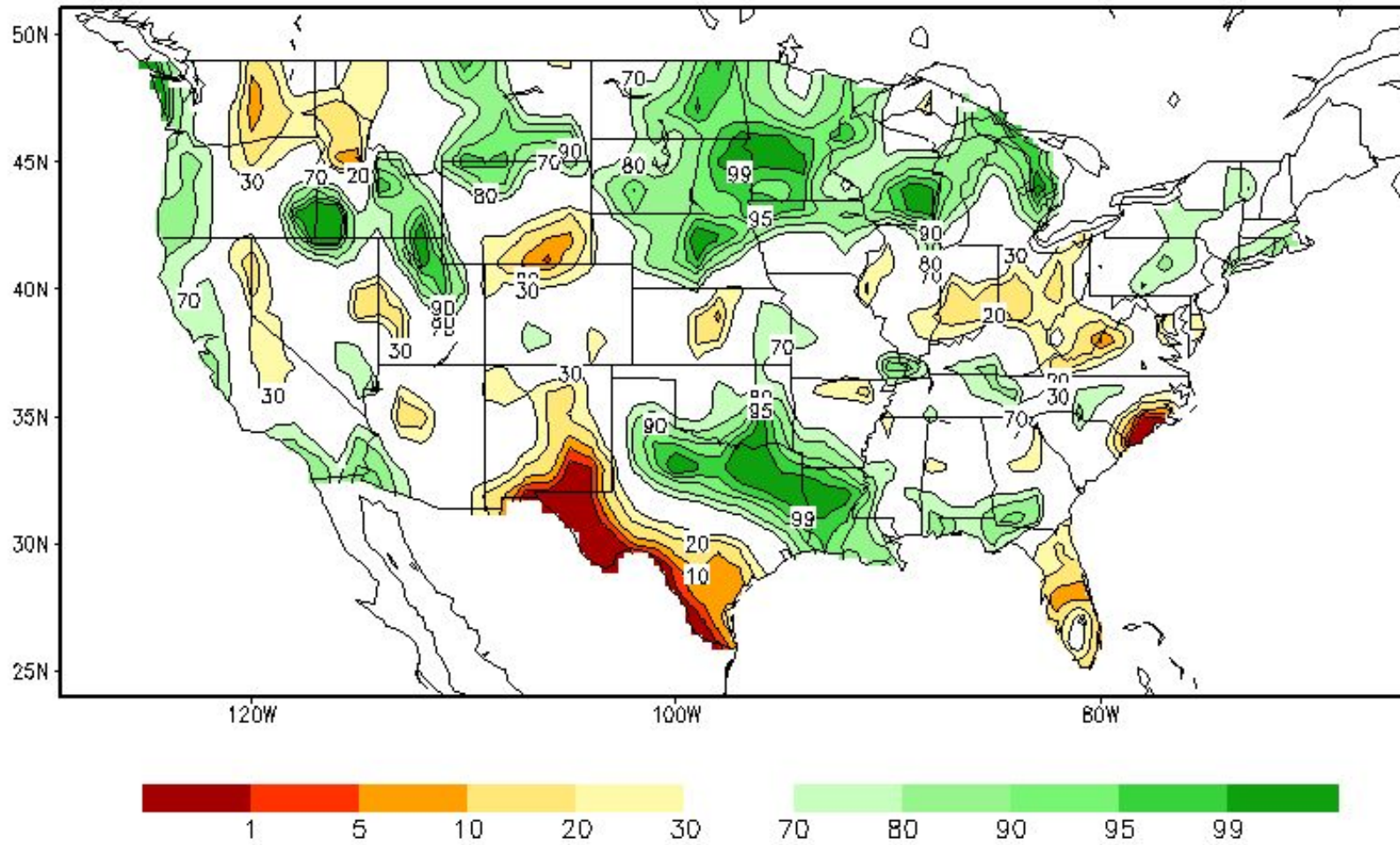
Explanation - Percentile classes						
lowest-10th percentile	5	10-24	25-75	76-90	95	90th percentile-highest
Much below Normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		Runoff



# Current Soil Moisture

Wetness percentiles

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile  
JUN 12, 2024



**Above normal across northern Iowa, slightly below normal across the far southeast, near normal elsewhere**

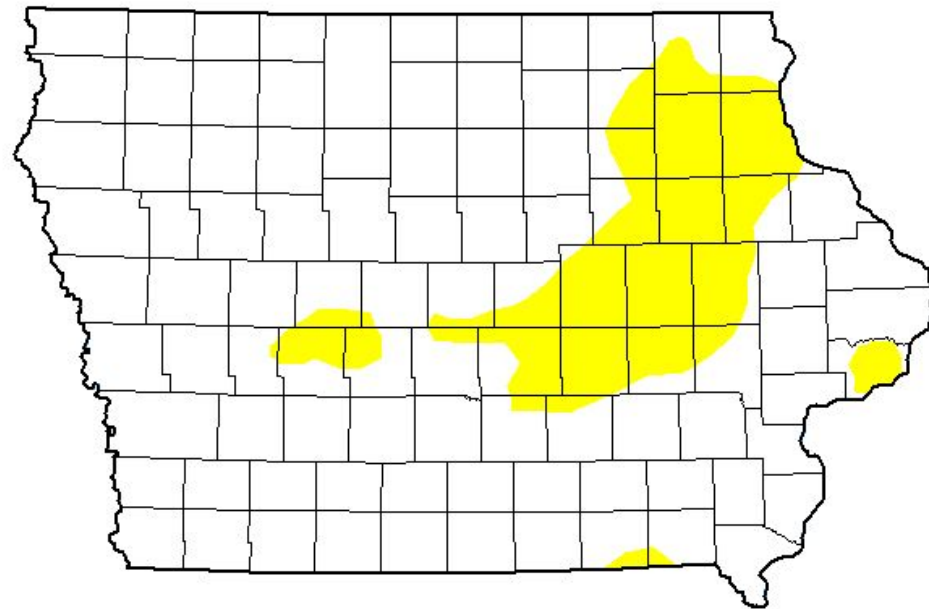




# Current Drought Monitor

## U.S. Drought Monitor Iowa

**June 11, 2024**  
(Released Thursday, Jun. 13, 2024)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	83.65	16.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 06-04-2024	76.97	23.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 03-12-2024	0.86	99.14	84.39	56.37	20.18	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-02-2024	2.77	97.23	83.41	65.09	35.18	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-26-2023	0.01	99.99	95.65	67.41	25.00	1.17
<b>One Year Ago</b> 06-13-2023	1.80	98.20	67.56	14.37	0.78	0.00

Intensity:

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

Author:

Richard Tinker  
CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



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

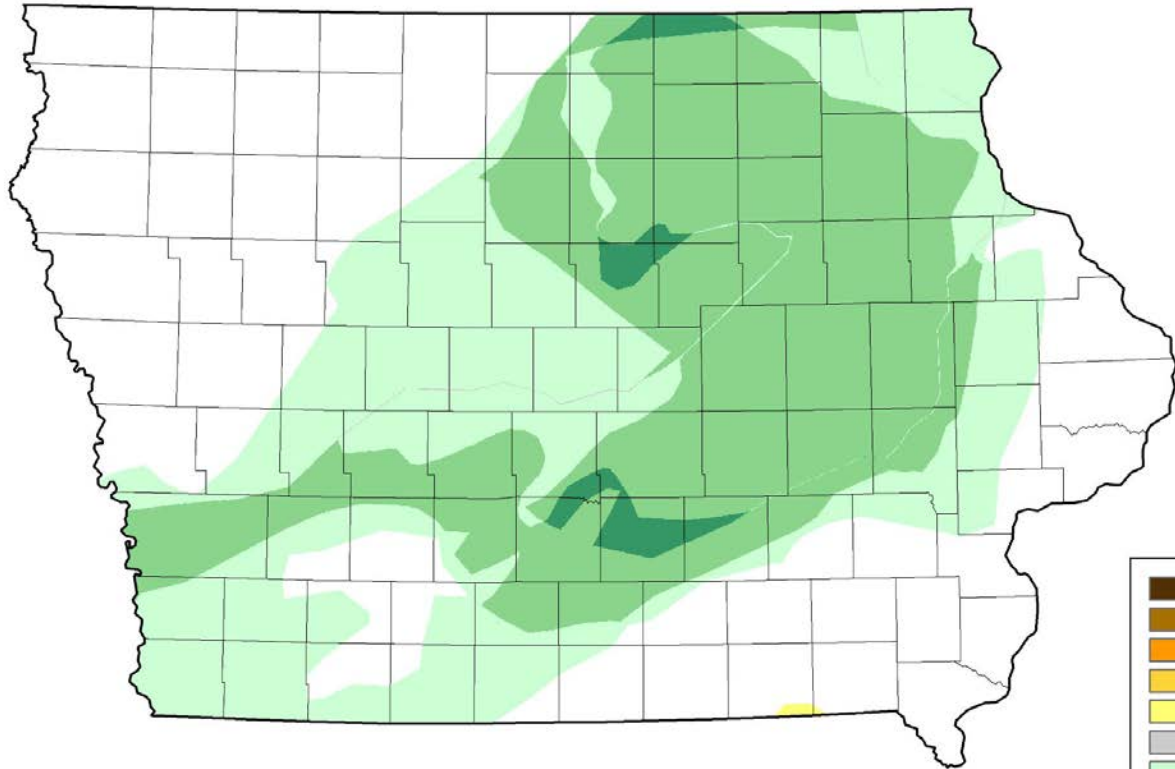
Category	Historically observed impacts
D0	Corn shows drought stress; soil is dry
D1	Soybeans abort pods; corn test weights are struggling
	Grasses are brown; more grass fires occur; burn bans are issued Pond levels decline
D2	Dryland corn has extremely low yields; commodity shortages are noted; livestock is stressed
	Fire danger is high Fewer mosquitoes are observed Surface water levels are low; algae blooms increase; voluntary water conservation is requested
D3	Pastures are dry; producers sell cattle; crops are tested for toxins; crops have pest infestation
	Seasonal allergies are worse; farmers are stressed about high feed prices Trees drop leaves; acorns are underdeveloped Warm water leads to fish kills; streambeds are low to dry
D4	Row crop yields and forage production have significant impacts
	Extreme measures are taken to conserve water Aquatic invertebrates in waterways increase



# Drought Monitor Class Change

## 1-month and 6-month

### U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - Iowa 4 Week

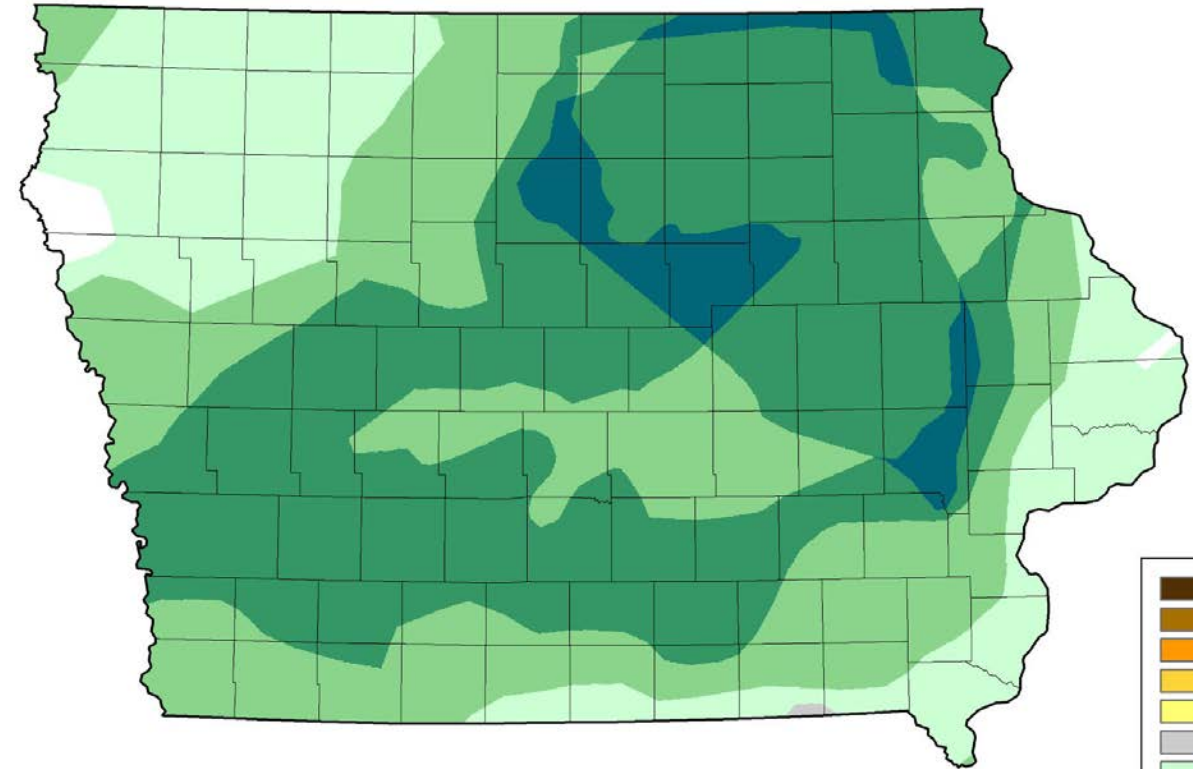


- 5 Class Degradation
- 4 Class Degradation
- 3 Class Degradation
- 2 Class Degradation
- 1 Class Degradation
- No Change
- 1 Class Improvement
- 2 Class Improvement
- 3 Class Improvement
- 4 Class Improvement
- 5 Class Improvement

June 4, 2024  
compared to  
May 7, 2024

droughtmonitor.unl.edu

### U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - Iowa 13 Week



- 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

June 4, 2024  
compared to  
March 5, 2024

droughtmonitor.unl.edu



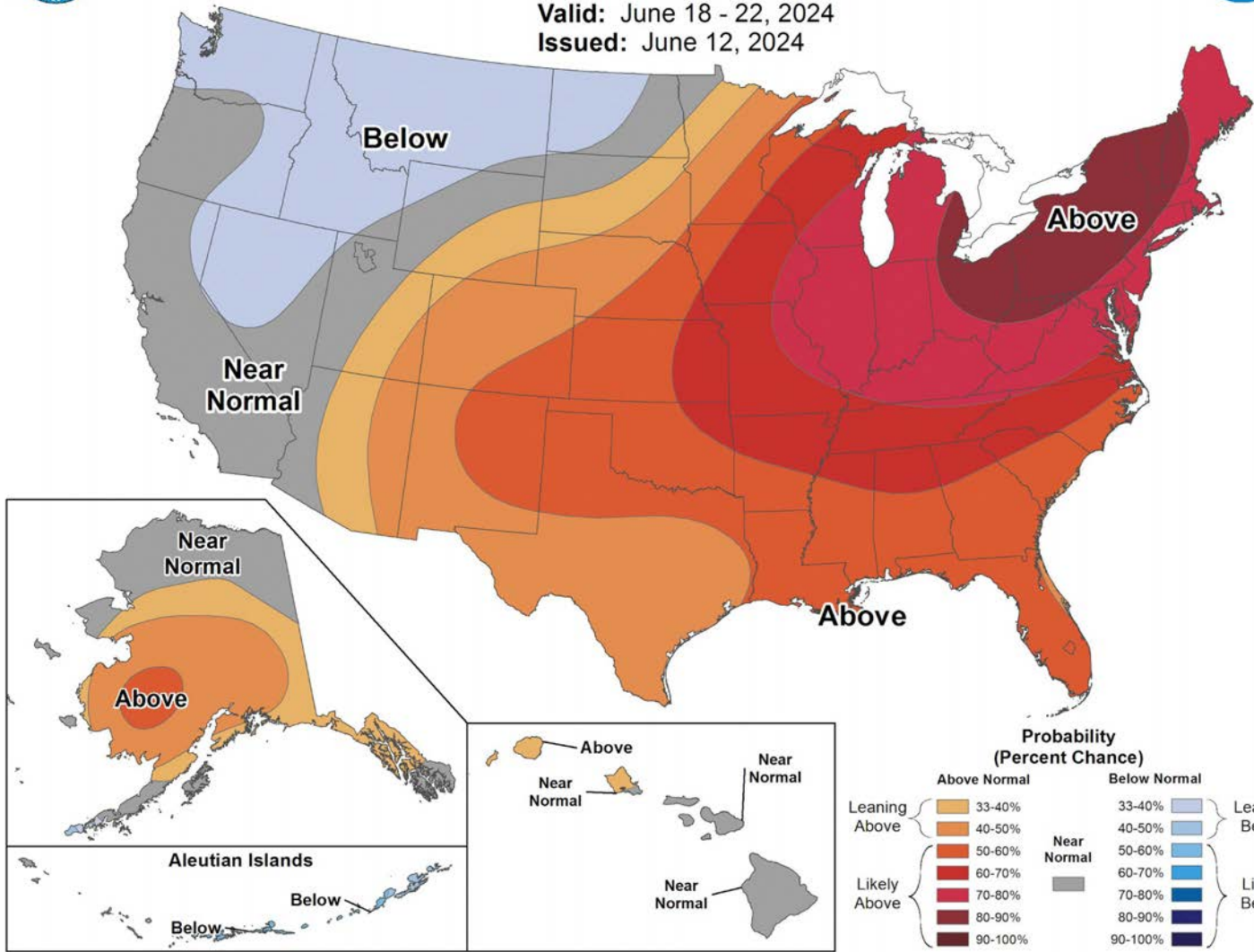


# 6-10 Day Temp & Precip Outlooks



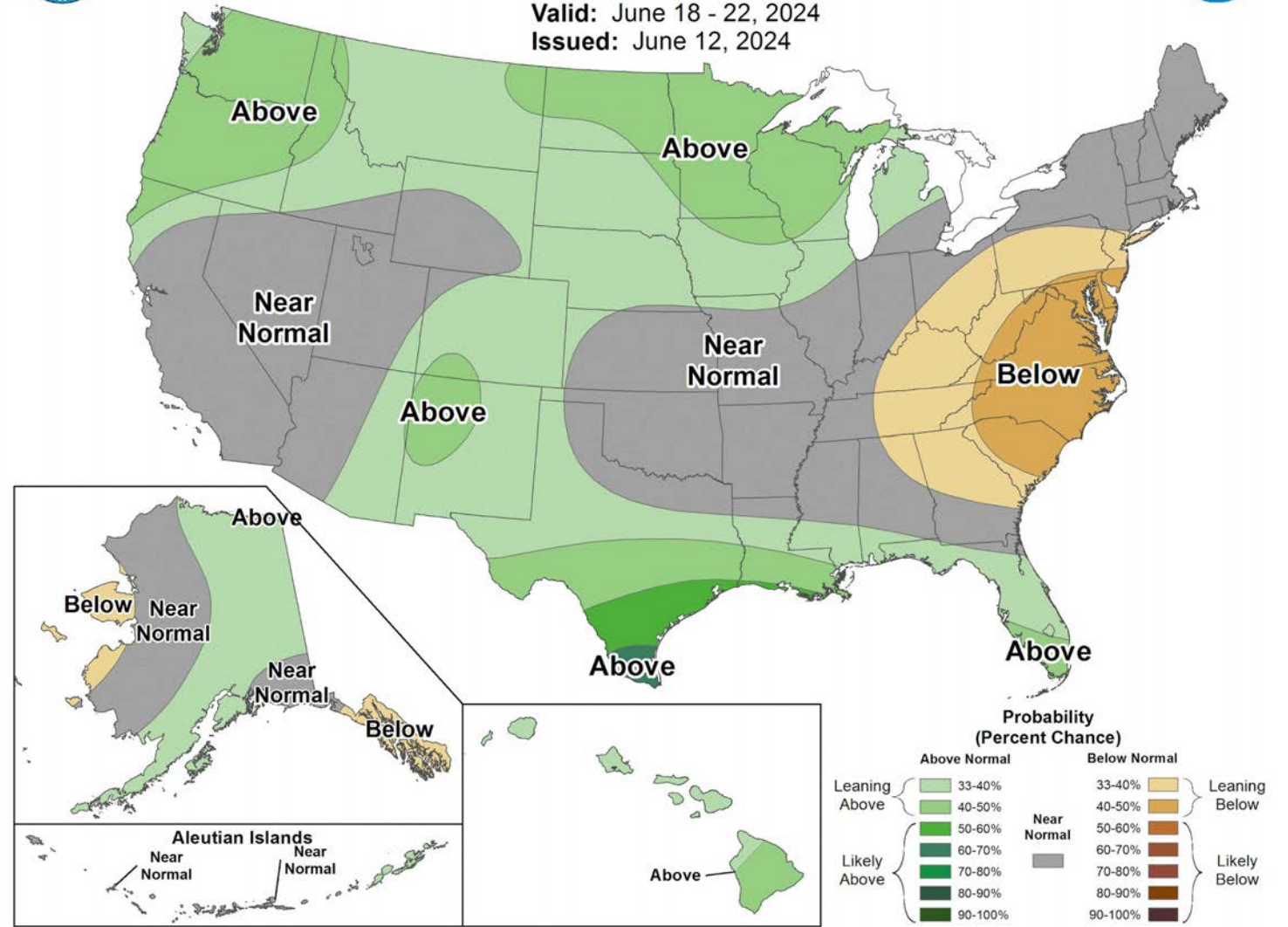
## 6-10 Day Temperature Outlook

Valid: June 18 - 22, 2024  
Issued: June 12, 2024



## 6-10 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: June 18 - 22, 2024  
Issued: June 12, 2024



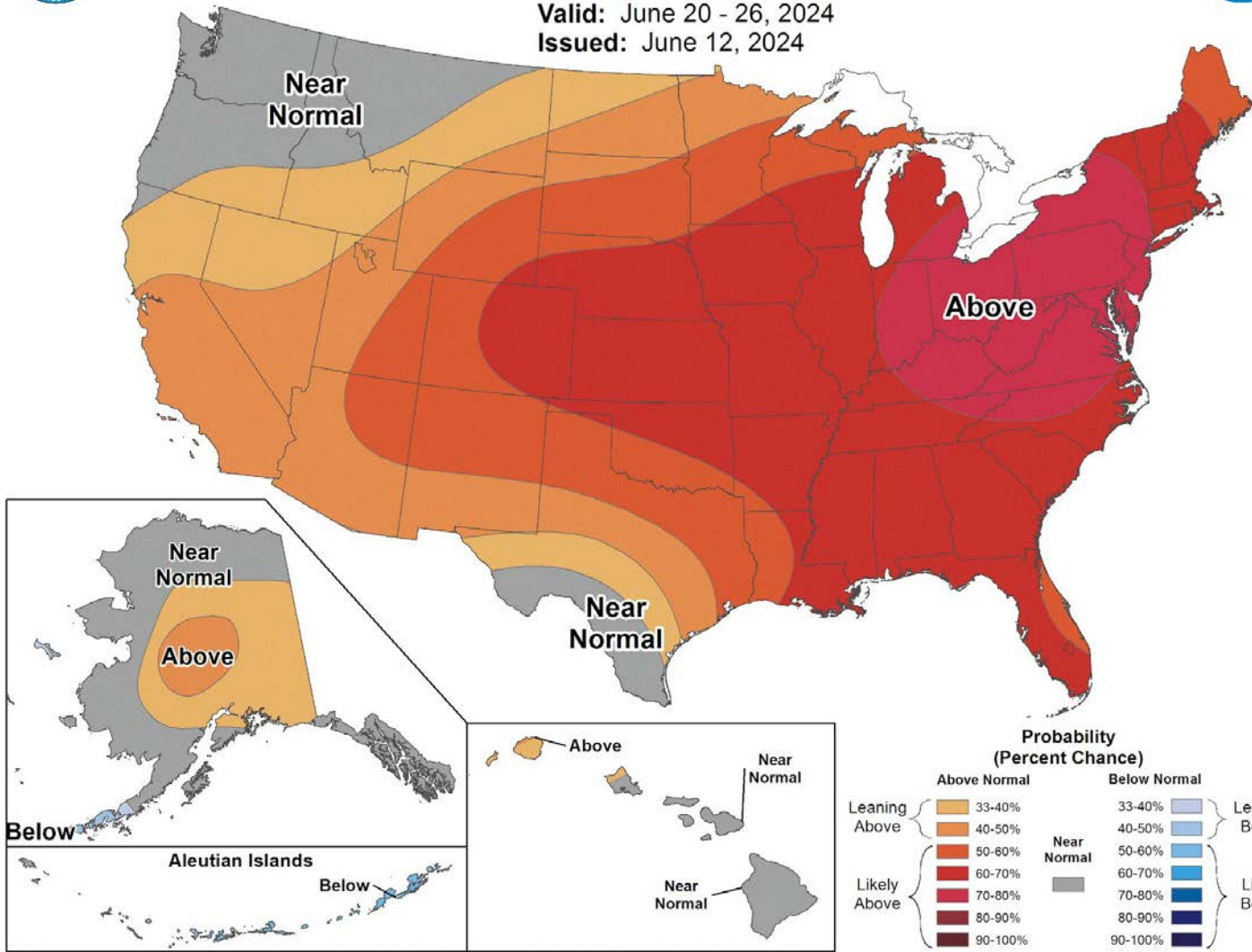


# 8-14 Day Temp & Precip Outlooks



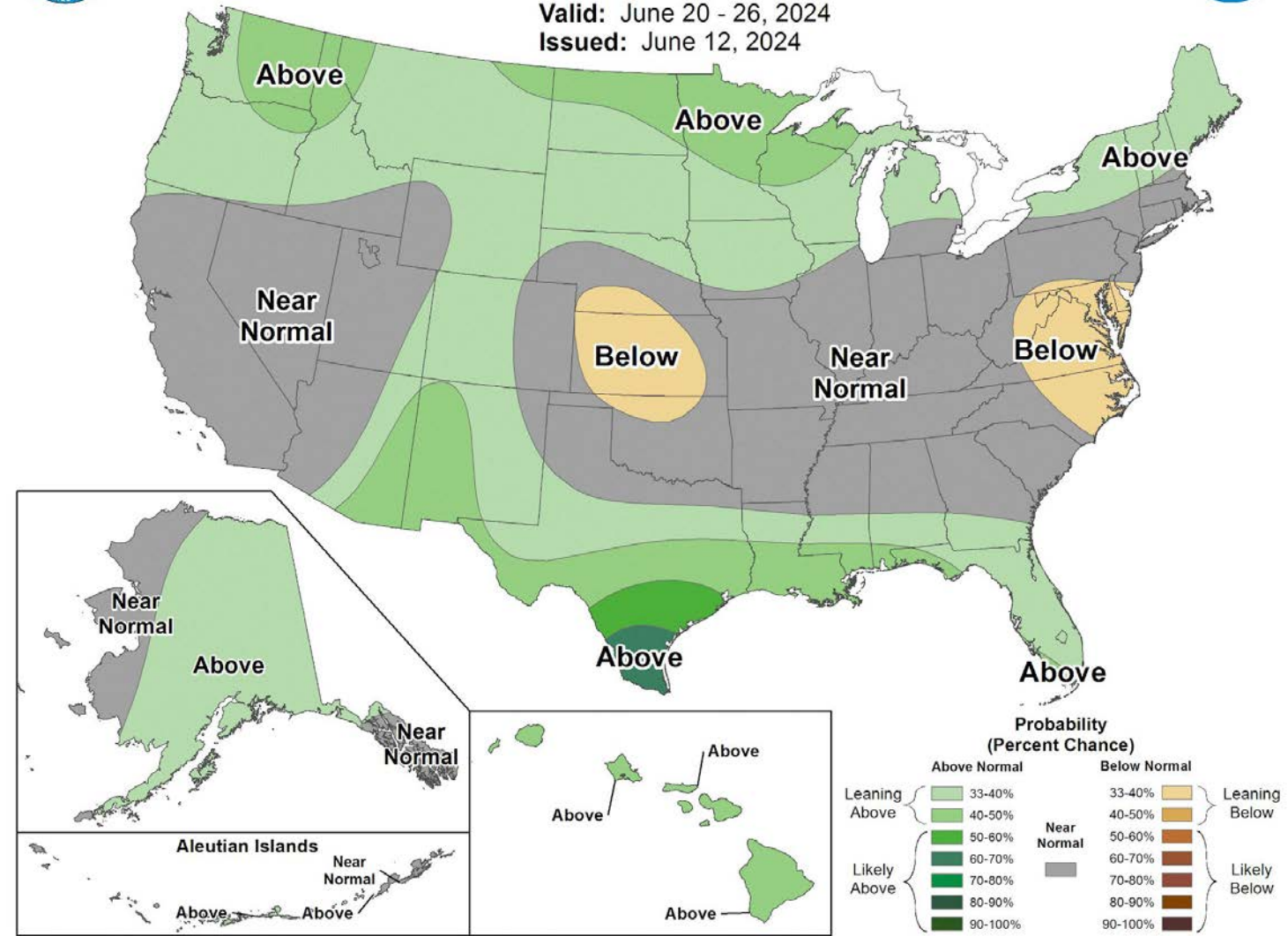
## 8-14 Day Temperature Outlook

Valid: June 20 - 26, 2024  
Issued: June 12, 2024



## 8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: June 20 - 26, 2024  
Issued: June 12, 2024





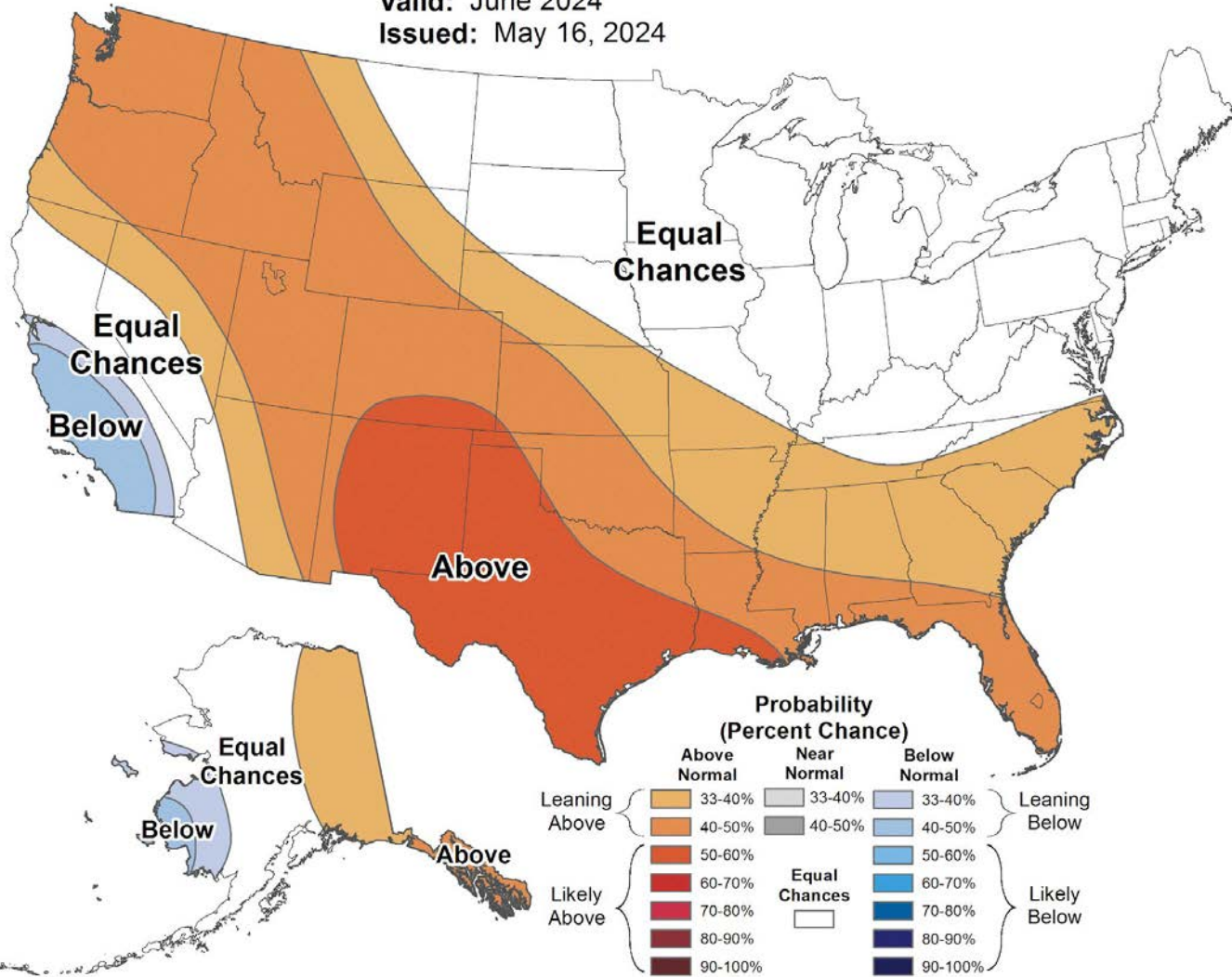
# Monthly Temp & Precip Outlooks



## Monthly Temperature Outlook



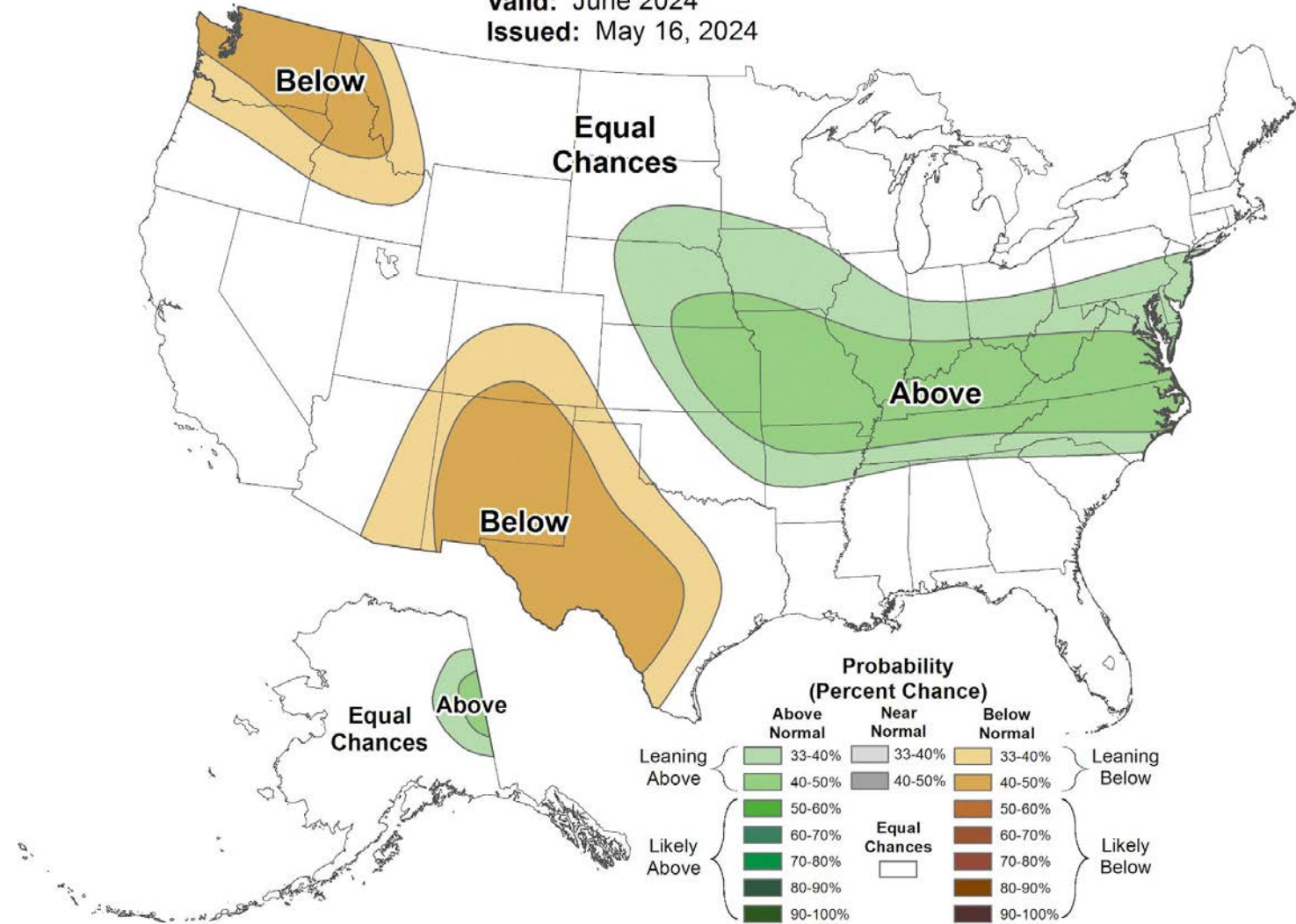
Valid: June 2024  
Issued: May 16, 2024



## Monthly Precipitation Outlook



Valid: June 2024  
Issued: May 16, 2024





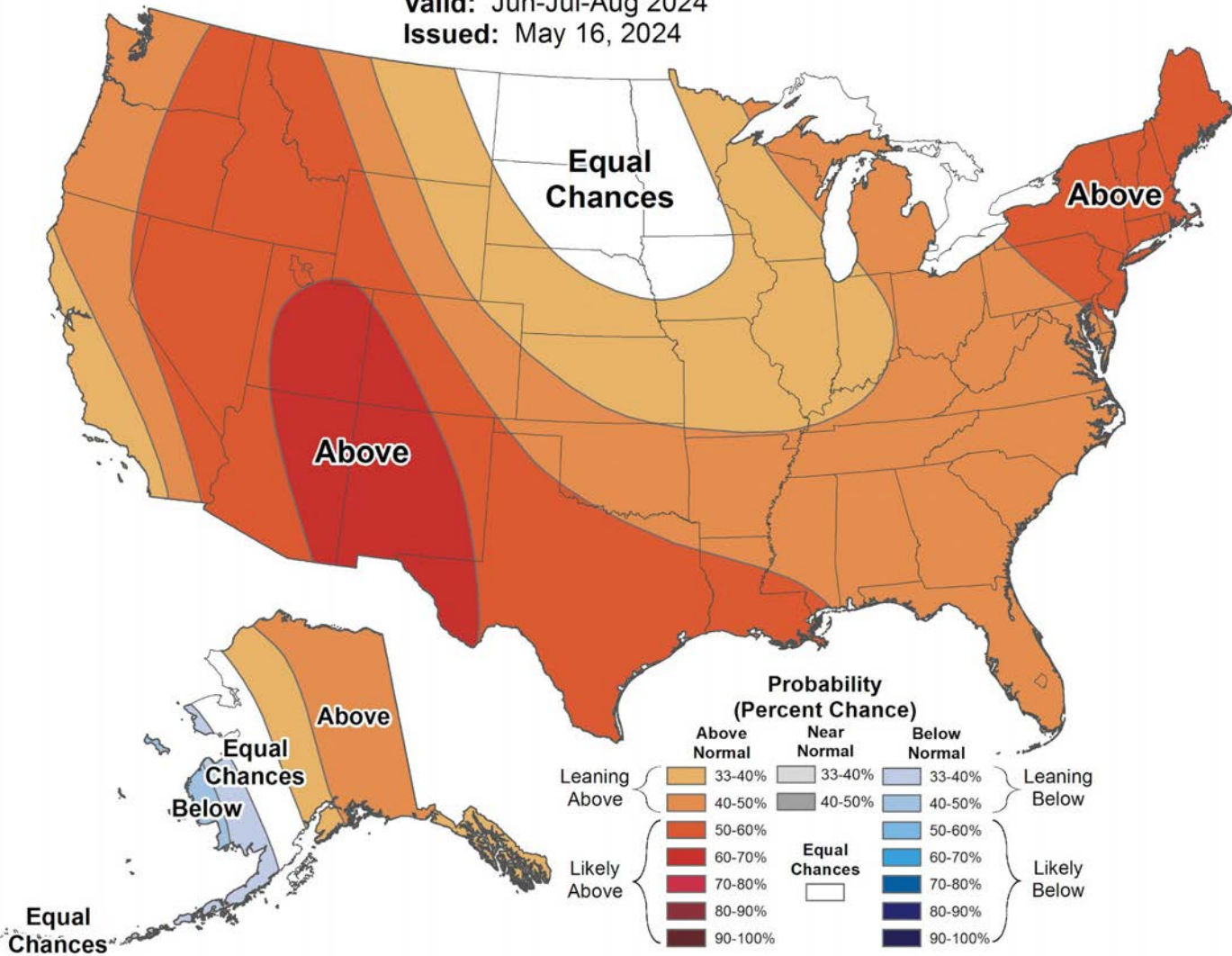
# Seasonal Temp & Precip Outlooks



## Seasonal Temperature Outlook



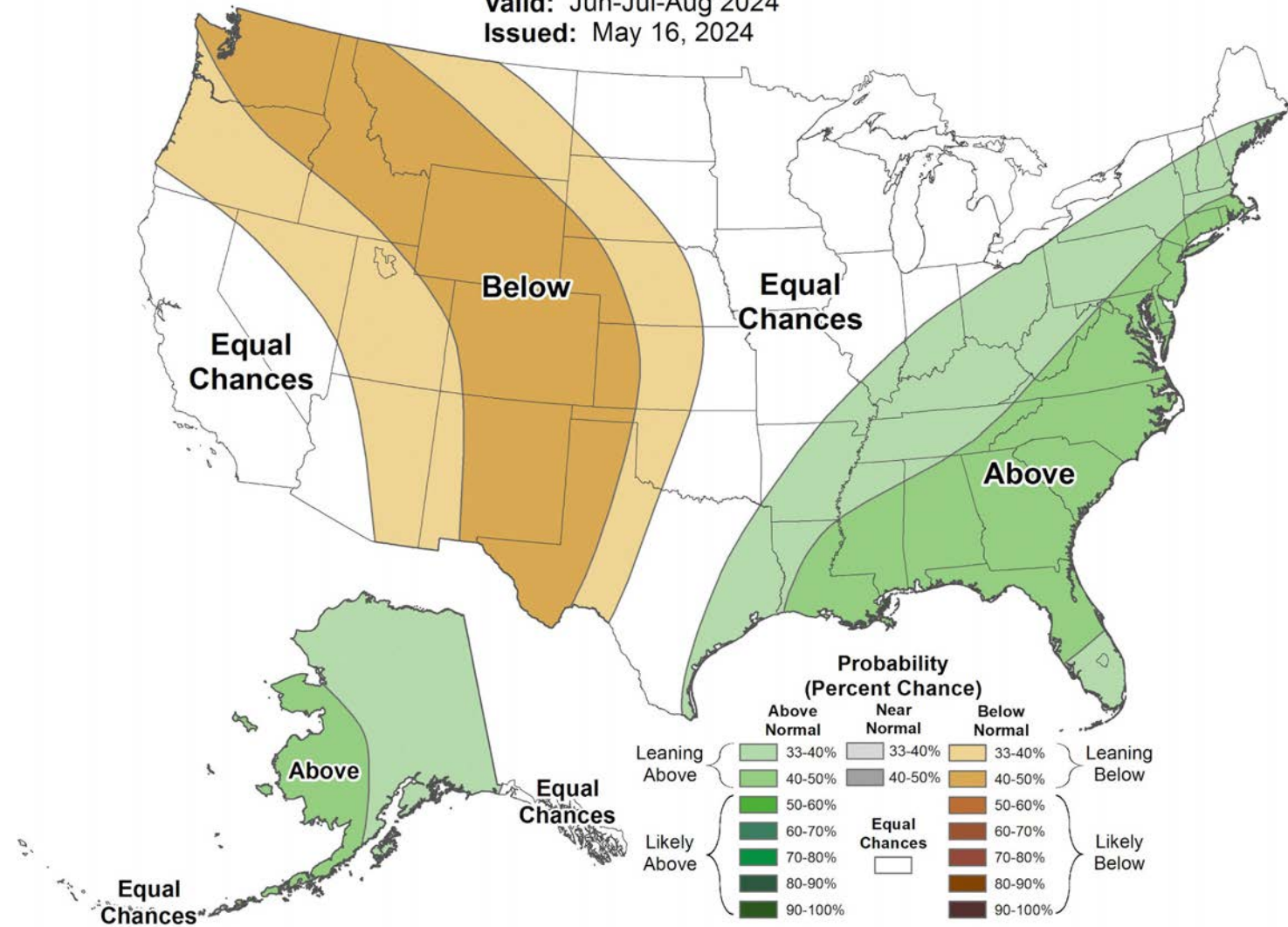
Valid: Jun-Jul-Aug 2024  
Issued: May 16, 2024



## Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



Valid: Jun-Jul-Aug 2024  
Issued: May 16, 2024

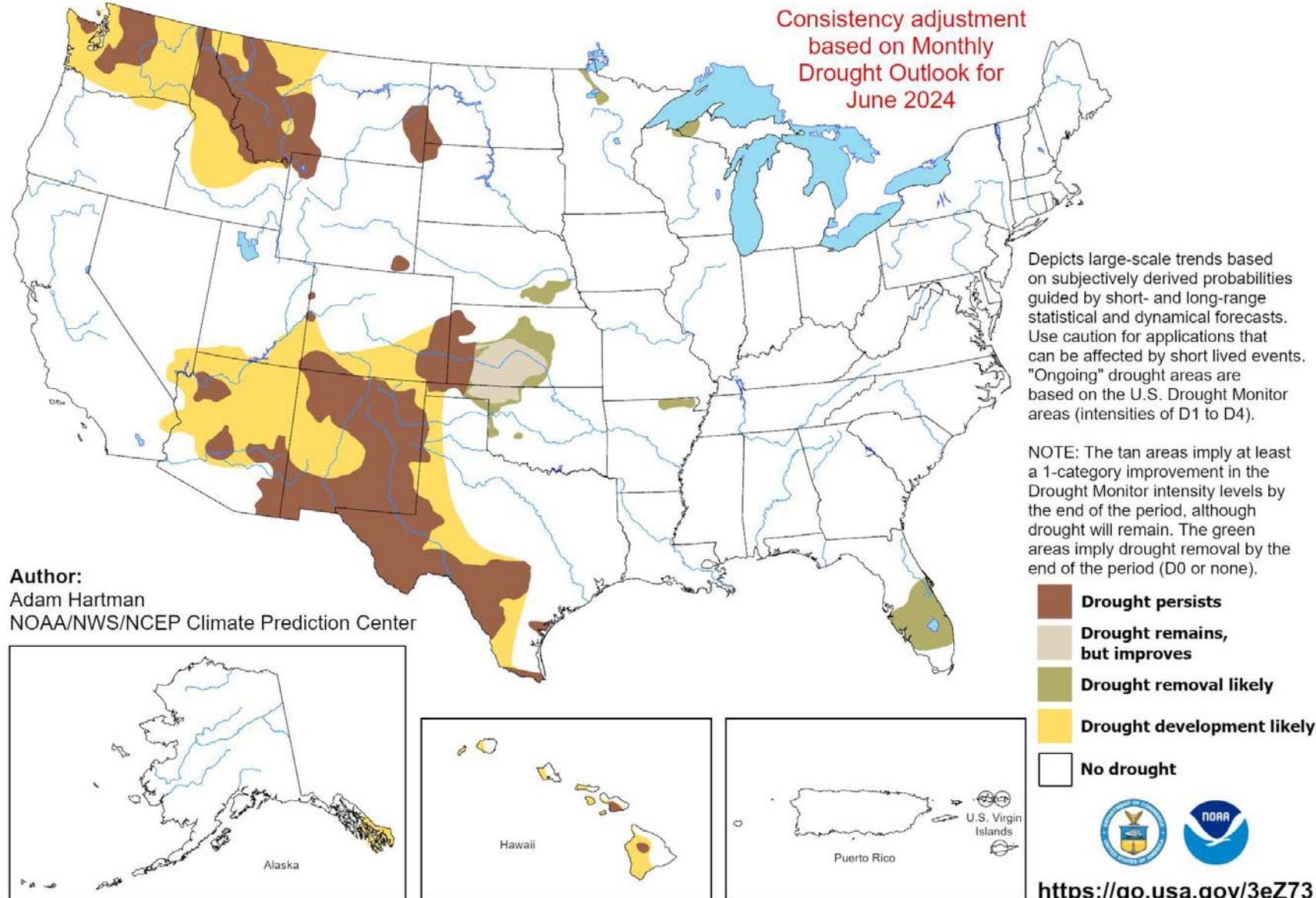




# Seasonal Drought Outlook

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

Valid for June 1 - August 31, 2024  
Released May 31, 2024



**No change in drought conditions expected across the state**

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



# For the Most Recent Forecast

- For the most recent information for your area please visit <http://weather.gov/desmoines> and enter your location.

The screenshot shows the National Weather Service website header with the NOAA logo and the text "NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION". A navigation menu includes links for HOME, FORECAST, PAST WEATHER, SAFETY, INFORMATION, EDUCATION, NEWS, SEARCH, and ABOUT. Below the menu, there is a search box for local forecasts with a "Go" button and a "Location Help" link. A "News Headlines" section lists three items: "Stay Safe this Winter!", "Get the NWS on Your Mobile Phone!", and "Become a Weather-Ready Nation Ambassador". The main content area is titled "NWS Forecast Office Des Moines, IA" and includes the text "MY FORECAST 2 Miles NNE Des Moines IA" and "Des Moines, IA Weather Forecast Office".

Type	Example
City	Modesto, CA
ZIP code *	83204
County *	Valley County, MT





# For the Most Recent Forecast

- For the most recent information for your area please visit <http://weather.gov/desmoines> and enter your location.

Bookmark this page and/or resultant URL for further updates. This will always be the latest information.

**NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE**  
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

HOME FORECAST PAST WEATHER SAFETY INFORMATION EDUCATION NEWS SEARCH ABOUT

Go

News Headlines

- Join Safe This Winter
- Get the NWS on Your Mobile Phone
- Become a Weather-Ready Nation Ambassador

Hazardous Weather Conditions

- Wind Advisory until December 29, 05:00 PM CST
- Hazardous Weather Outlook

Current conditions at Ames, Ames Municipal Airport (KAMW)  
Lat: 41.997°N, Lon: 93.82°W, Elev: 948ft.

Fair and Breezy  
**34°F**  
1°C

Humidity 64%  
Wind Speed NW 23 G 36 mph  
Barometer 30.11 in (1020.3 mb)  
Dewpoint 22°F (-5°C)  
Visibility 10.00 mi  
Wind Chill 22°F (-4°C)  
Last update: 29 Dec 9:53 am CST

More information:  
[Local Forecast Office](#)  
[More Local Wx](#)  
[3 Day History](#)  
[Mobile Weather](#)  
[Hourly Weather Forecast](#)

Extended Forecast for Ames IA

Click here for hazard details and duration

Today	Tonight	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday	Saturday Night	New Year's Day	Sunday Night
Mostly Sunny and Windy High: 36 °F	Mostly Clear and Windy Low: 21 °F	Mostly Sunny High: 33 °F	Mostly Cloudy Low: 26 °F	Mostly Sunny High: 31 °F	Mostly Clear Low: 18 °F	Mostly Sunny High: 35 °F	Mostly Cloudy then Chance Snow Low: 27 °F

Detailed Forecast

<b>Today</b>	Mostly sunny, with a high near 36. Windy with a west northwest wind 23 to 26 mph, with gusts as high as 39 mph.
<b>Tonight</b>	Mostly clear, with a low around 21. Windy, with a west northwest wind 18 to 23 mph decreasing to 9 to 14 mph after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 32 mph.
<b>Friday</b>	Mostly sunny with a high near 35. West wind 8 to 13 mph becoming south in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 24 mph.
<b>Friday Night</b>	Mostly cloudy with a low around 26. South wind around 10 mph becoming west northwest after midnight.
<b>Saturday</b>	Mostly sunny, with a high near 31. Northwest wind 8 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.
<b>Saturday Night</b>	Mostly clear, with a low around 18.
<b>New Year's Day</b>	Mostly sunny, with a high near 35.
<b>Sunday Night</b>	A 30 percent chance of snow after 1am. Mostly cloudy with a low around 27.

Topographic  
Click Map For Forecast



# Additional NWS Information



**Web:** [weather.gov/desmoines](https://weather.gov/desmoines)



**Facebook:** [facebook.com/NWSDesMoines](https://facebook.com/NWSDesMoines)



**Twitter/X:** [@NWSDesMoines](https://twitter.com/NWSDesMoines)

**Latest river & stream observations & forecasts:** [weather.gov/desmoines/water](https://weather.gov/desmoines/water)

**Past precipitation information/estimates:** [weather.gov/desmoines/pastprecip](https://weather.gov/desmoines/pastprecip)

**Decision support information:** [weather.gov/dmx/dsscurren](https://weather.gov/dmx/dsscurren)





# Thank You



For questions & additional information:

NWS Des Moines, IA

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

Phone: 515-270-4501



# Iowa Drought Update



# The Good News . . . .

After 4 years of drought, the most recent 8 months have turned things around.

Drought conditions are gone – only a bit of dryness left!!



# Iowa Drought Plan

## Multiple Drought Indicators

- Standardized Stream Flow Index (SSI)
- US Drought Monitor
- Precipitation
- Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI)
- **\*\*Soil Moisture – future indicator as data is available**

# Can Be Used For

When we enter a drought . . .

When we exit a drought . . .



# So how do you know when a drought is over?

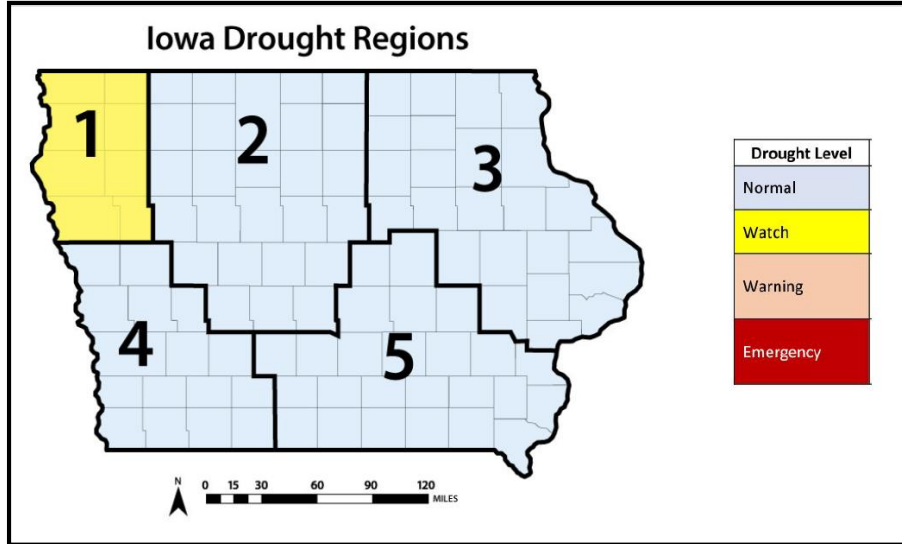
Not a hunch  
Not a guess

Data Driven

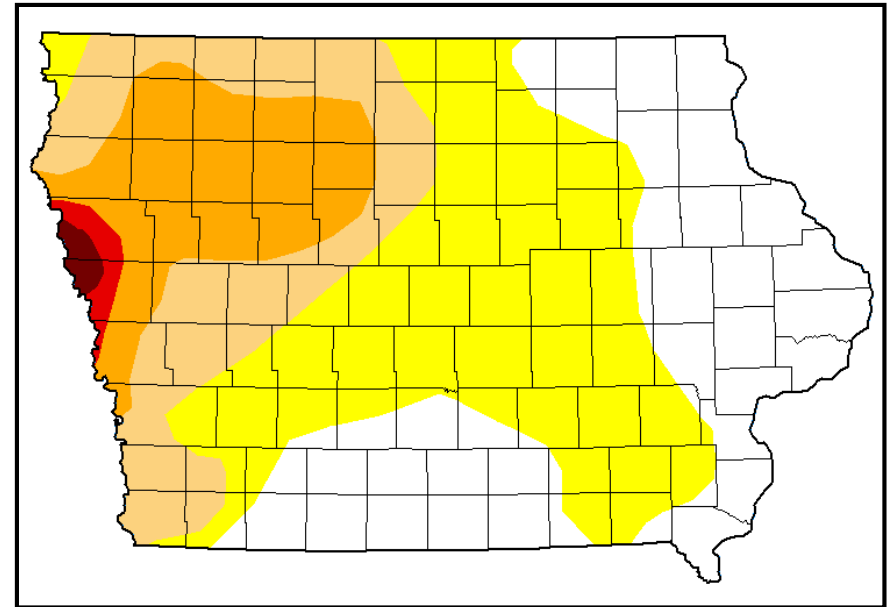




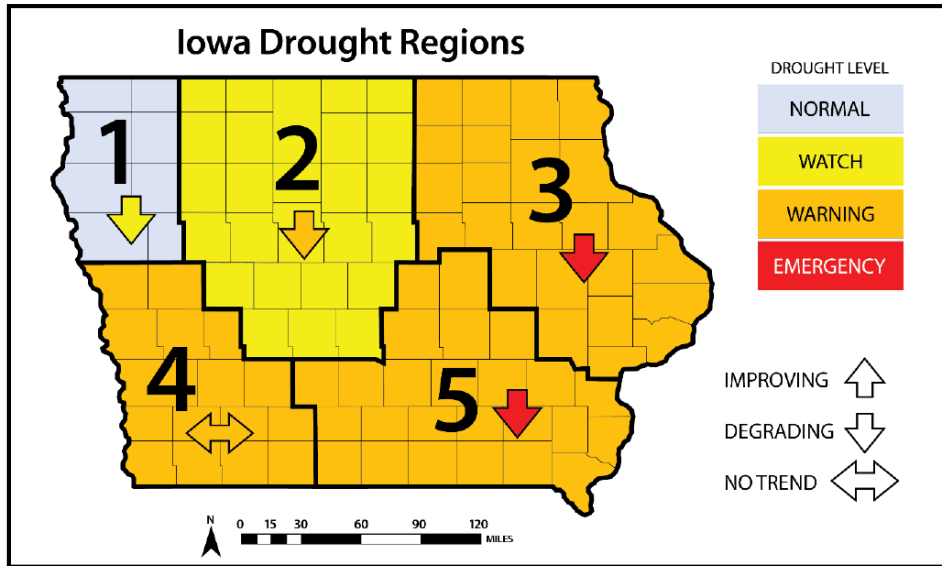
# Iowa Drought Plan and the US Drought Monitor



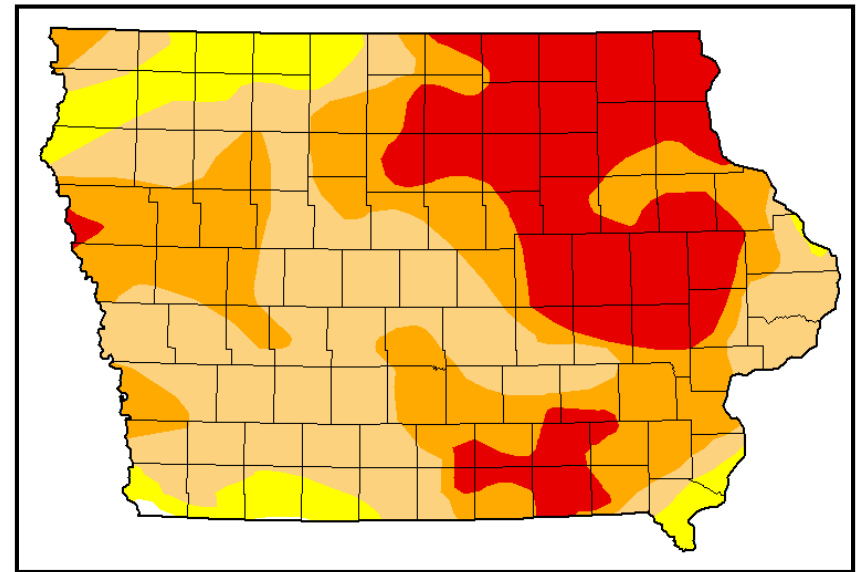
February 2023



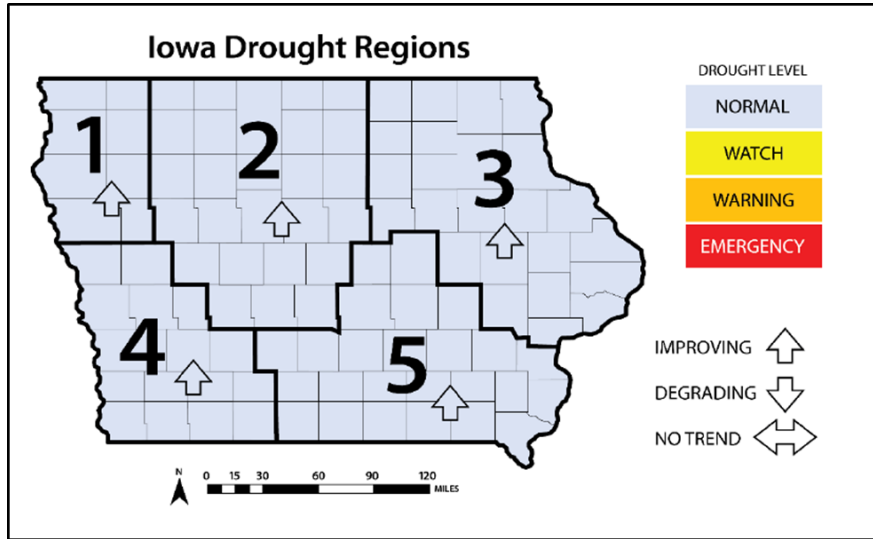
# Iowa Drought Plan and the US Drought Monitor



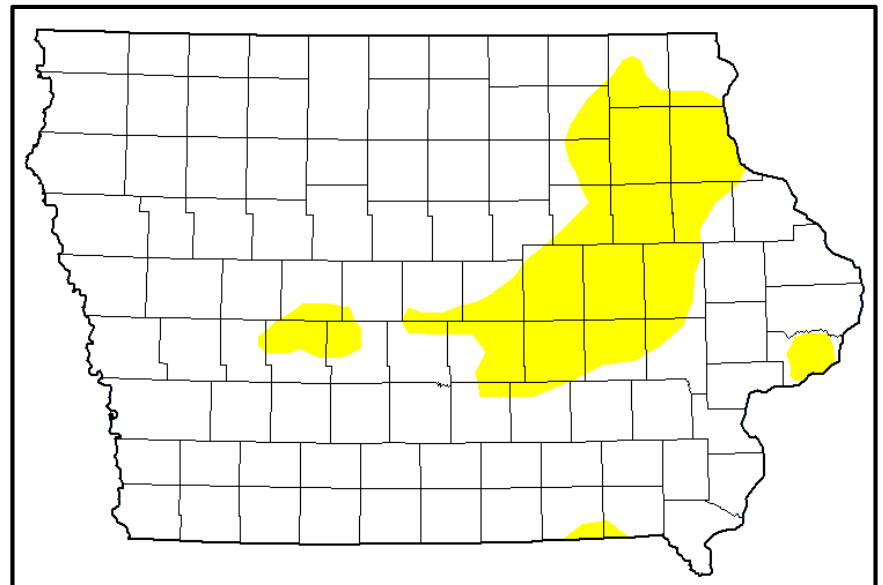
August 2023



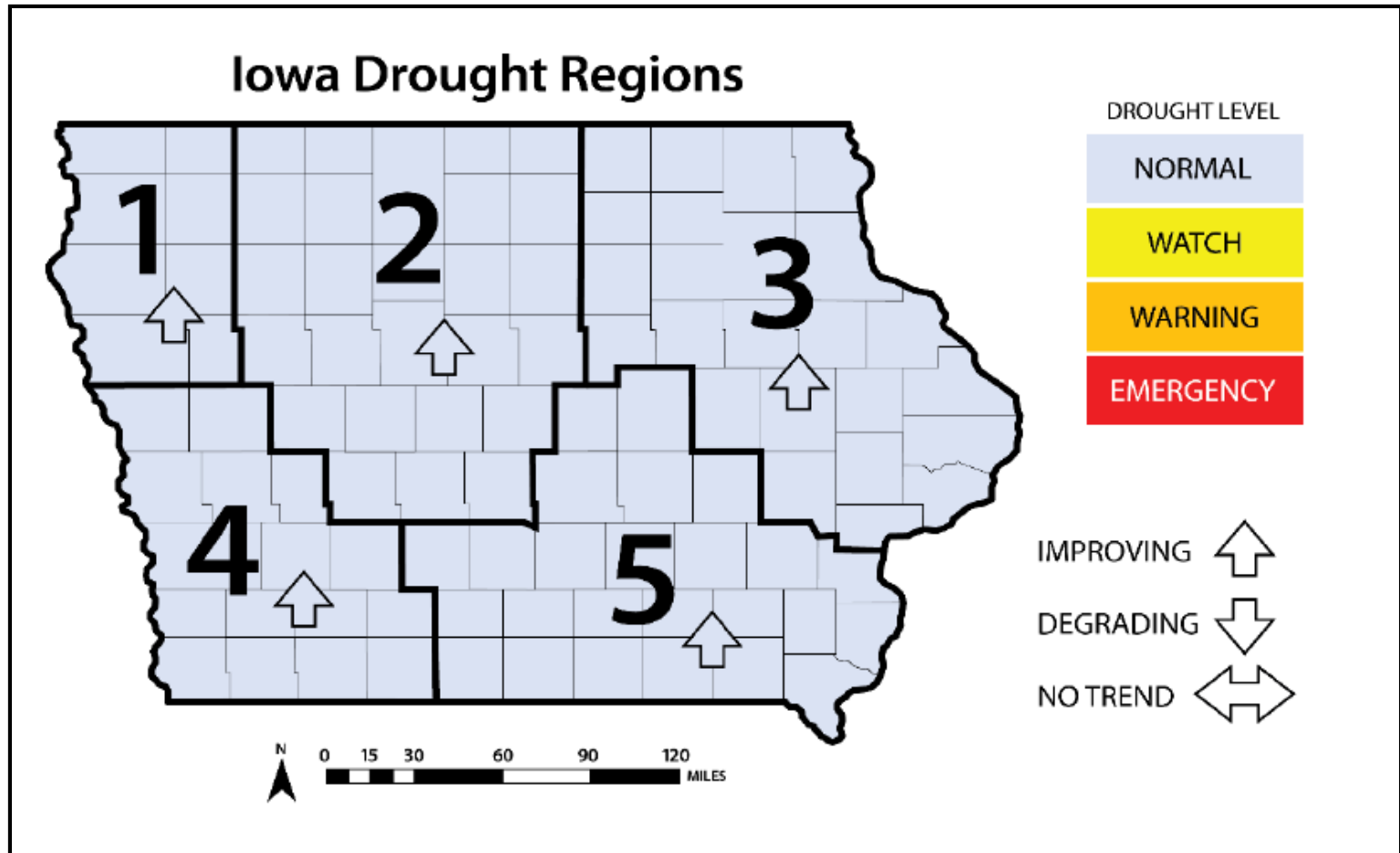
# Iowa Drought Plan and the US Drought Monitor



Current

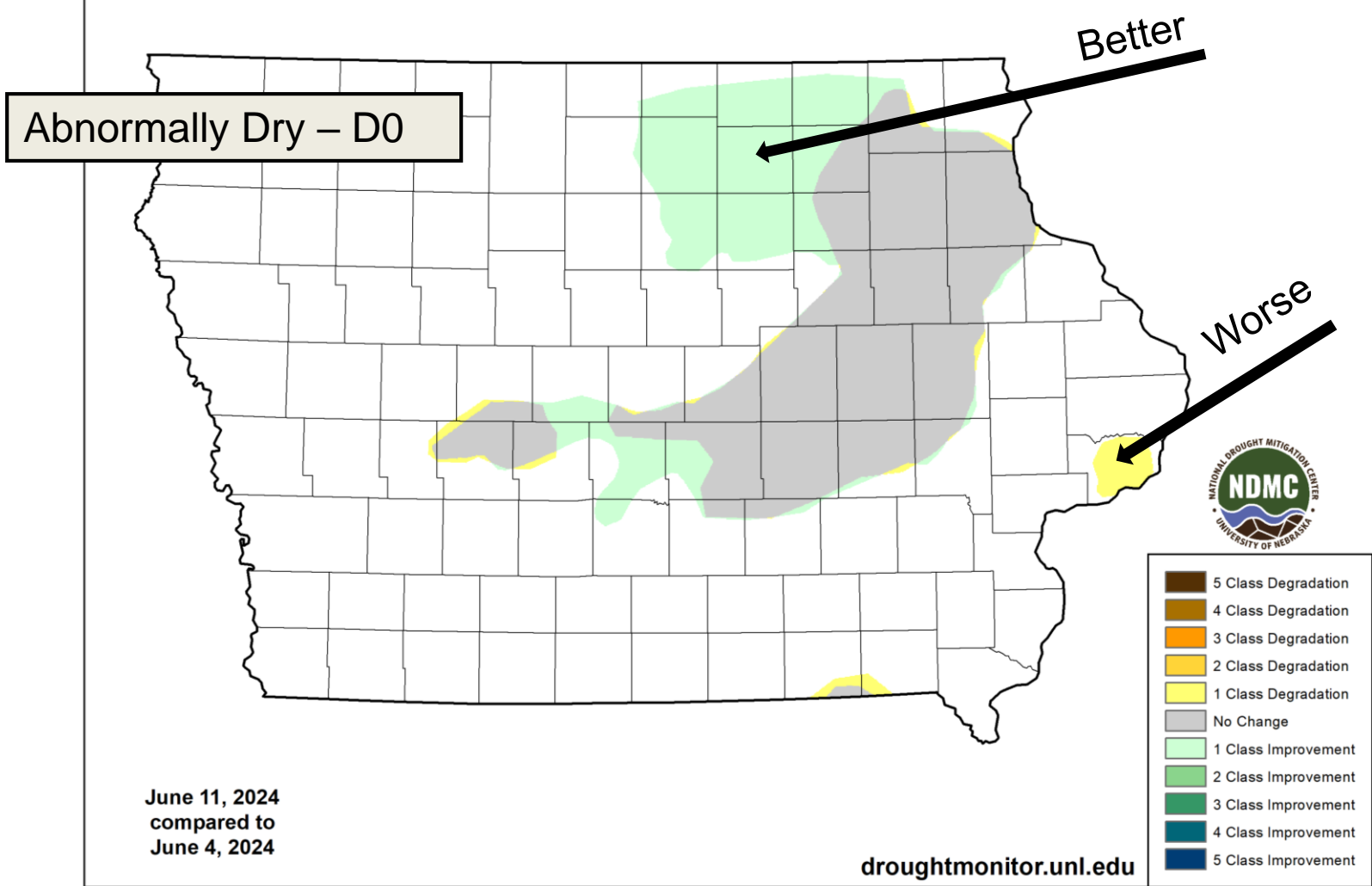


# The Iowa Drought Plan – from last week



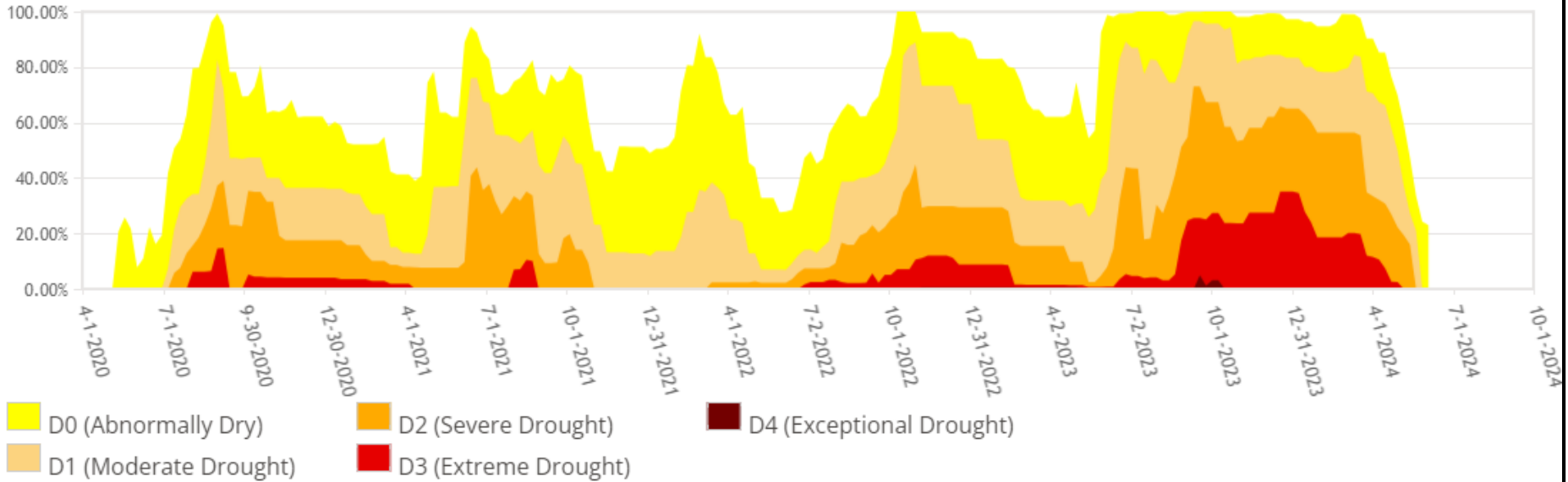
# US Drought Monitor – from this morning

U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - Iowa  
1 Week



# The US Drought Monitor

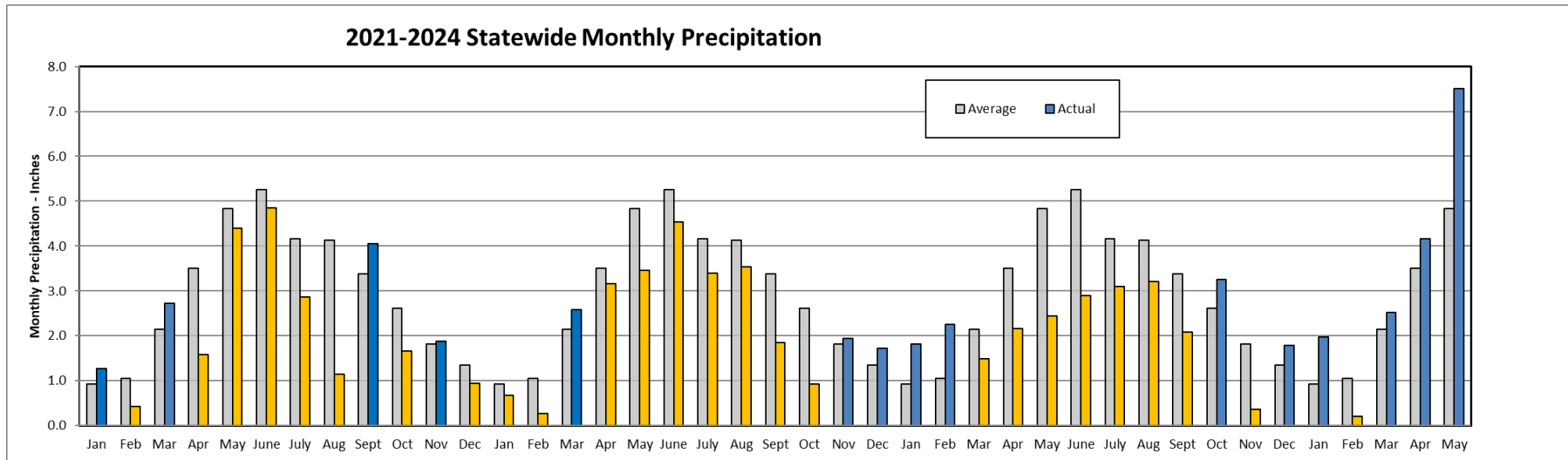
Iowa Percent Area in U.S. Drought Monitor Categories



From the U.S. Drought Monitor website, <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/DmData/TimeSeries.aspx>, 6-11-2024



# Statewide Monthly Precipitation



**2021**

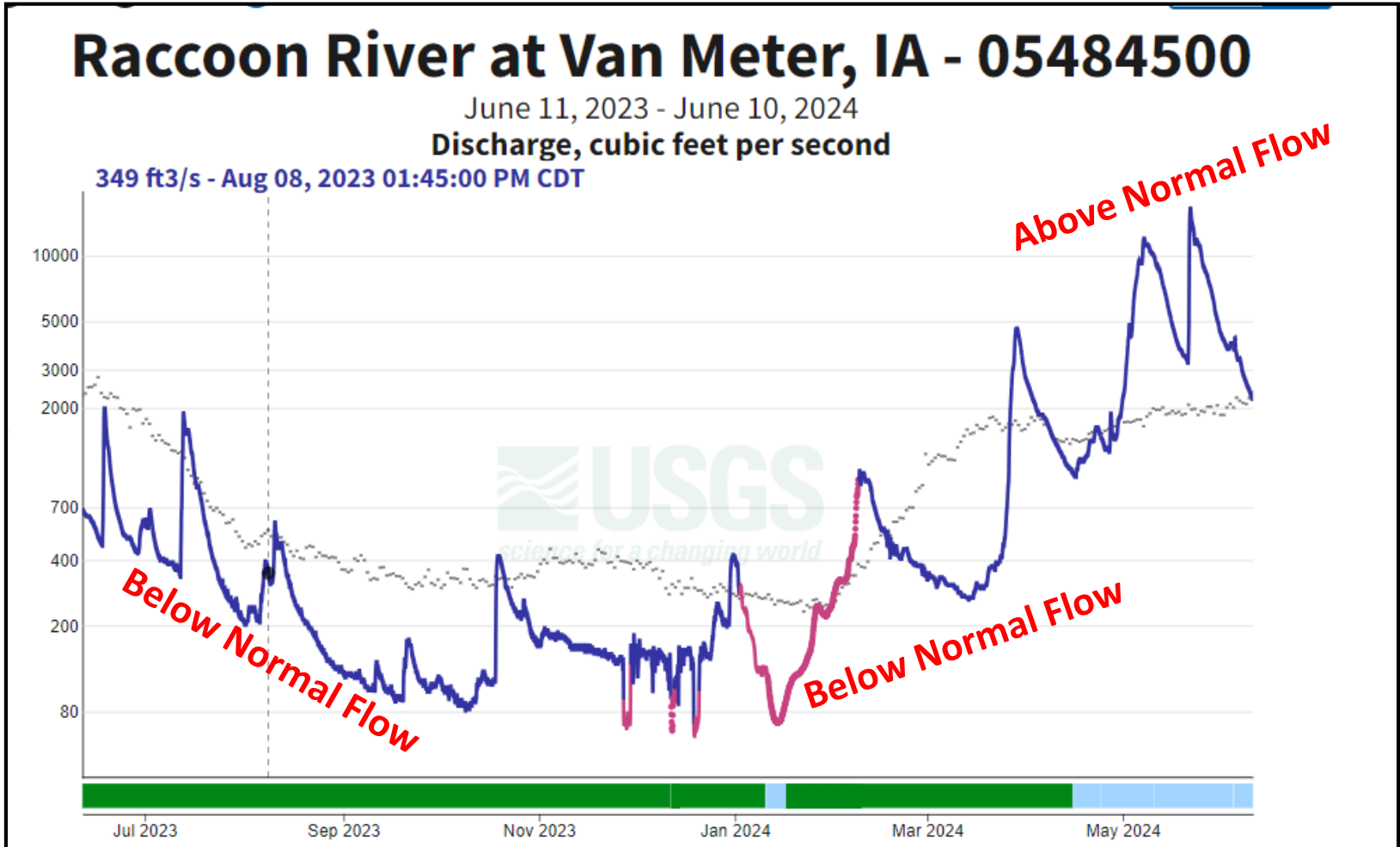
**2022**

**2023**

**2024**

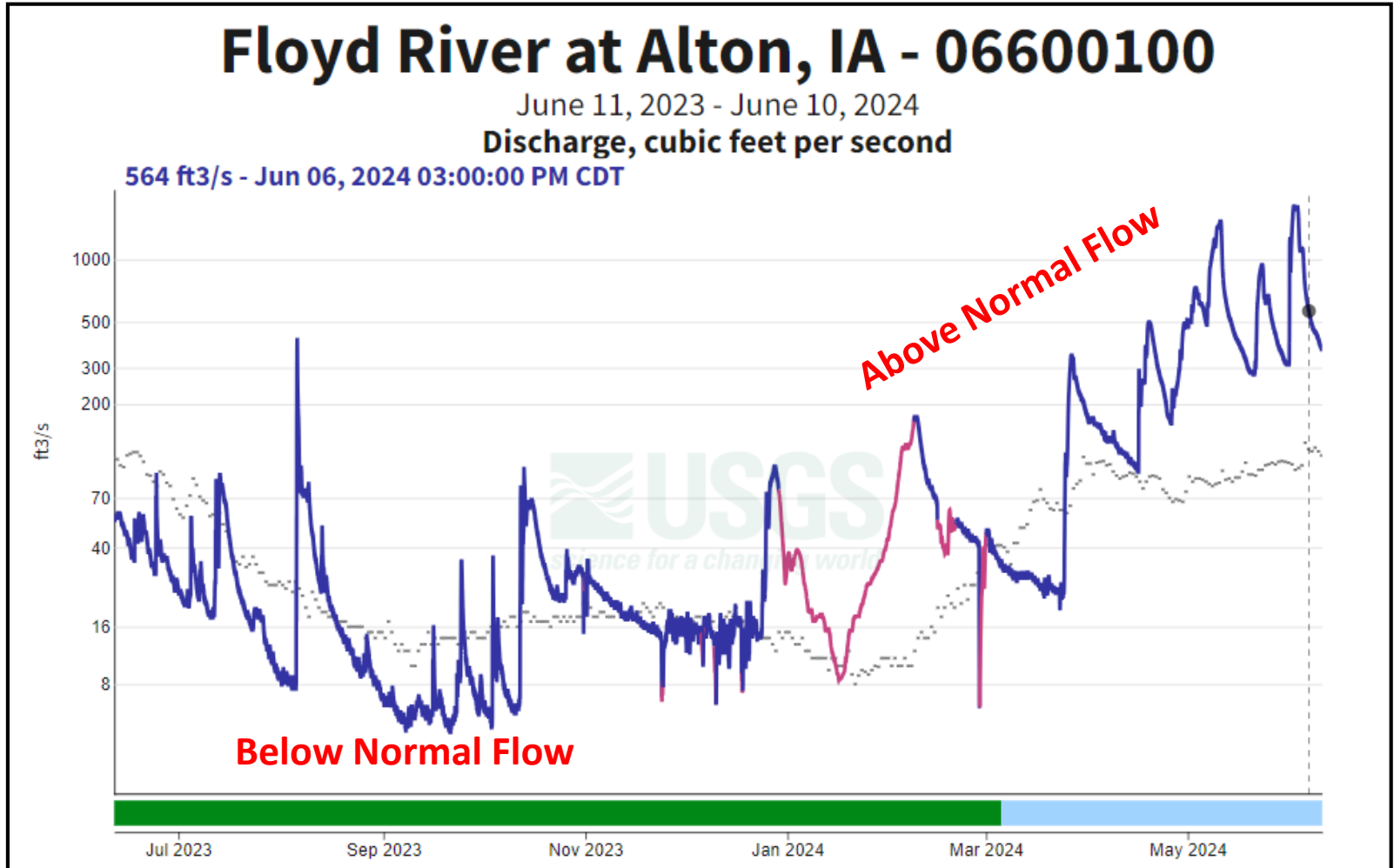


# Streamflow

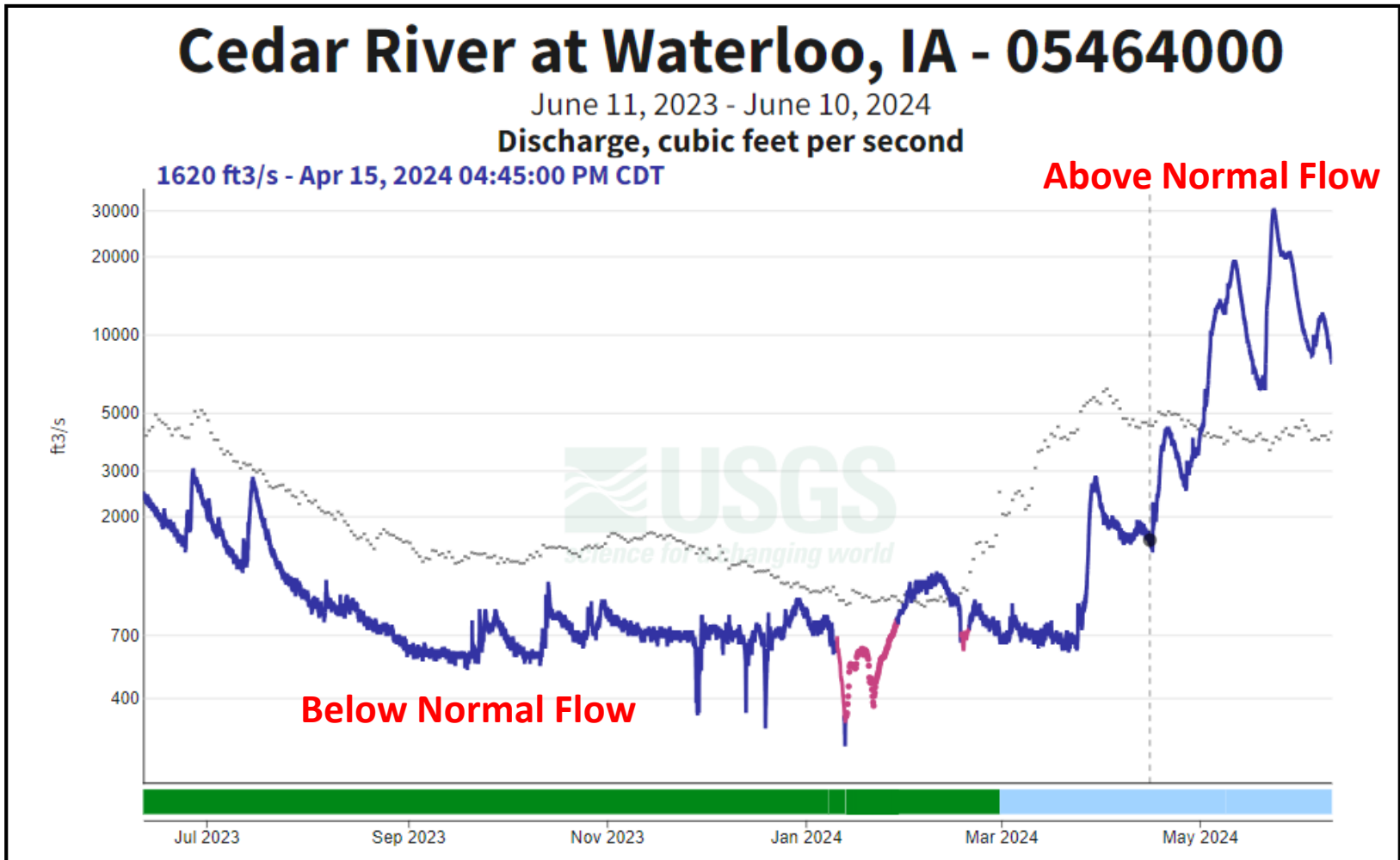




# Streamflow



# Streamflow

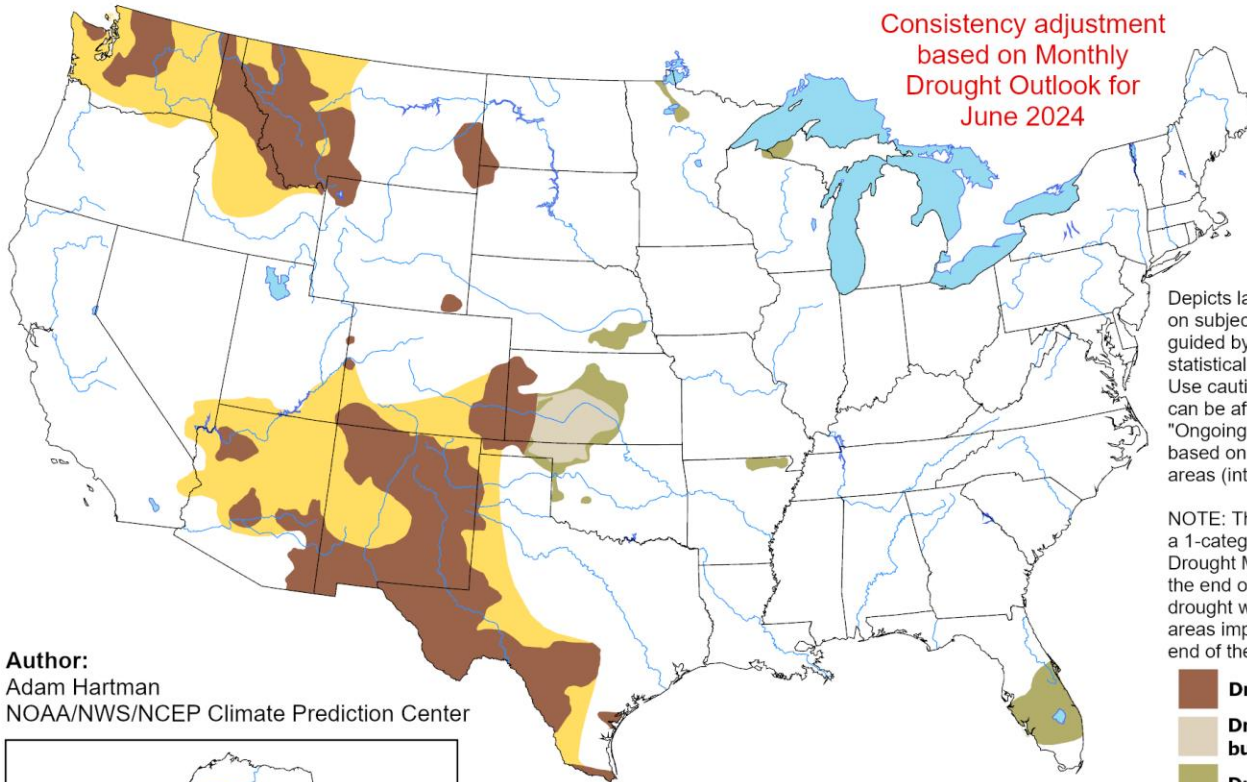


# U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

## Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for June 1 - August 31, 2024  
Released May 31, 2024

Consistency adjustment  
based on Monthly  
Drought Outlook for  
June 2024

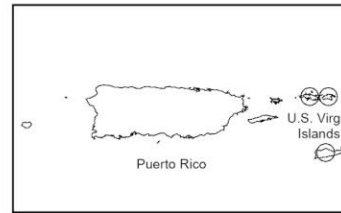
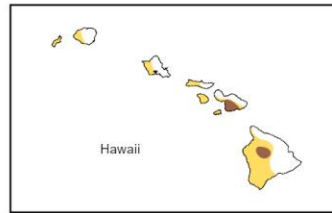


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to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

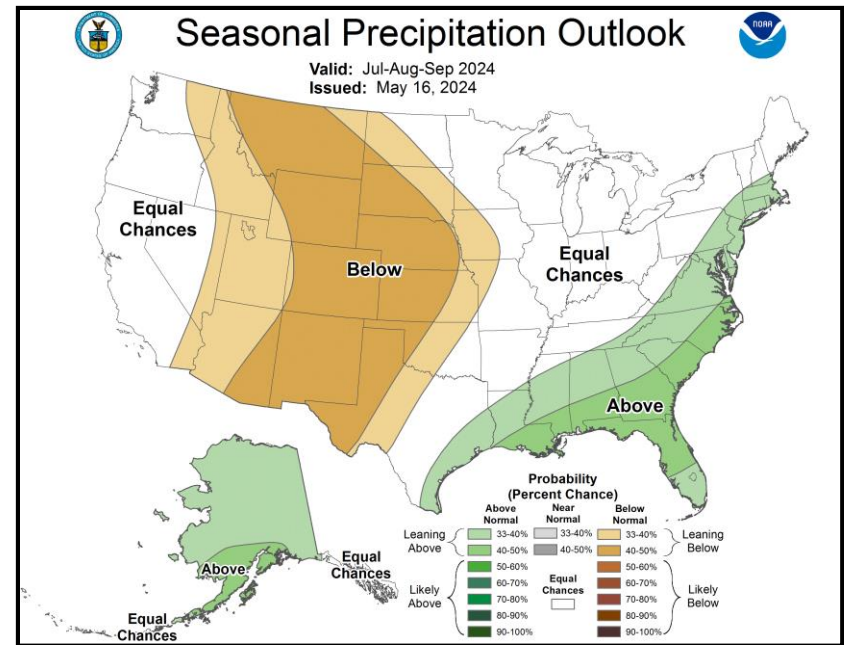
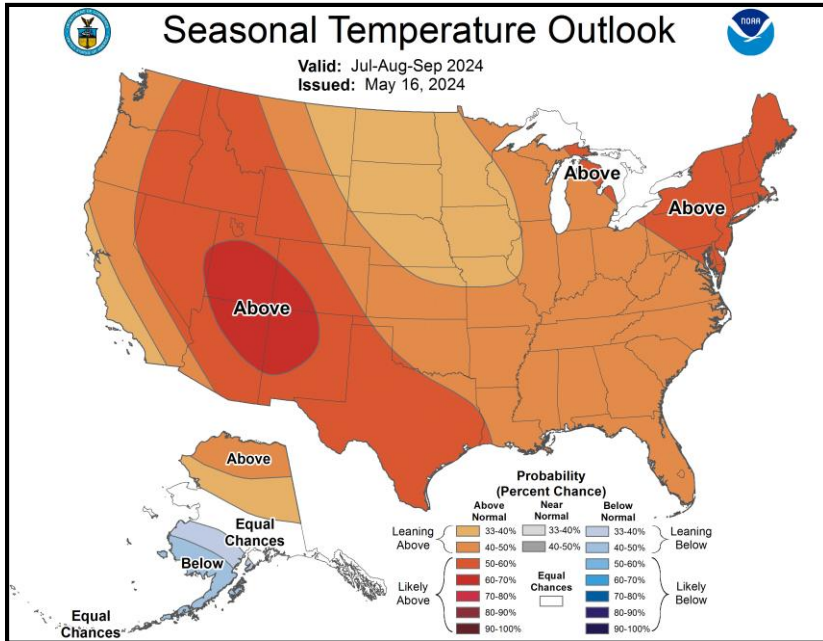
**Author:**  
Adam Hartman  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center

- Drought persists**
- Drought remains, but improves**
- Drought removal likely**
- Drought development likely**
- No drought**

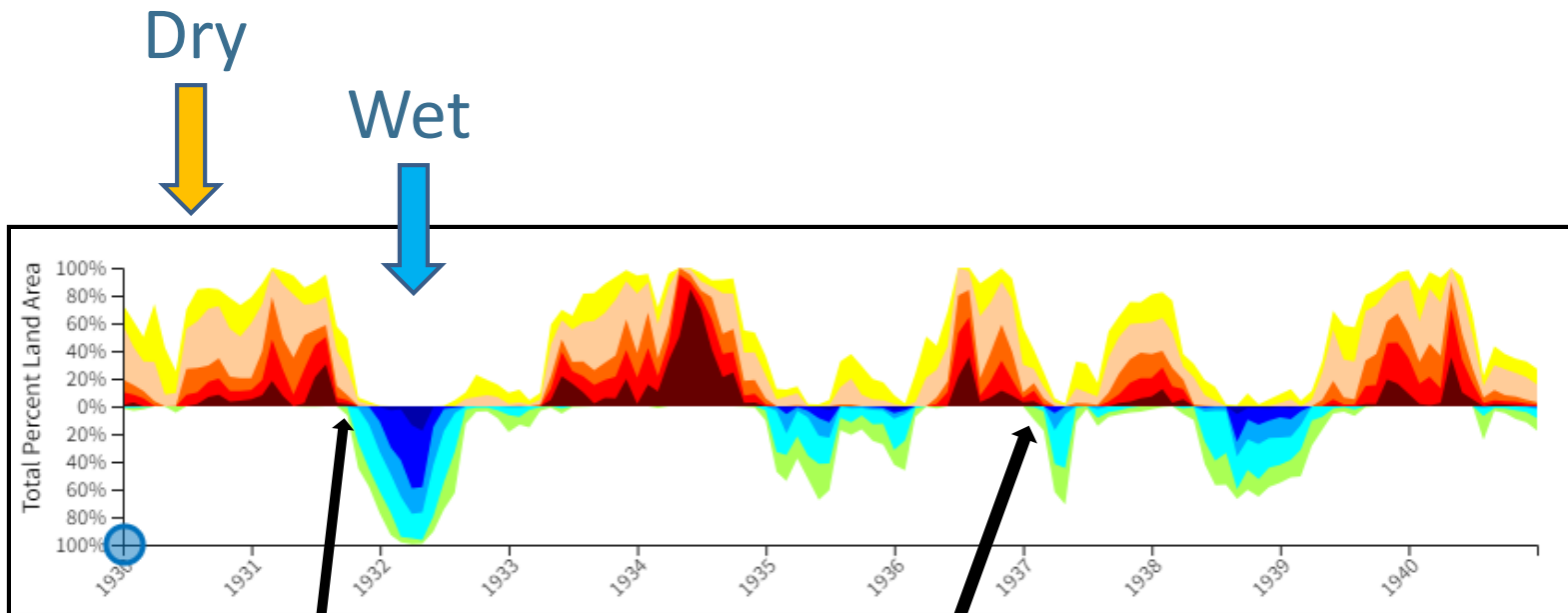


<https://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

# Outlooks – July – August - September



# But . . . a historical reminder – the 1930s:



**We could be here – or we could be here.**

# Reminder:

Just as Iowa exited a drought . . .



Iowa can enter another drought . . .



# Questions

## Comments

### Ideas



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**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE &  
LAND STEWARDSHIP**

