

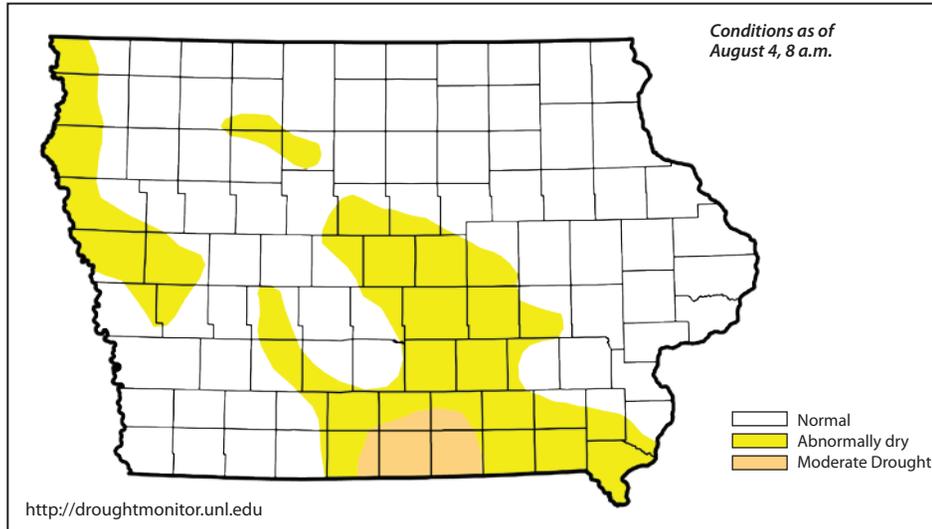
WATER SUMMARY UPDATE

No. 66

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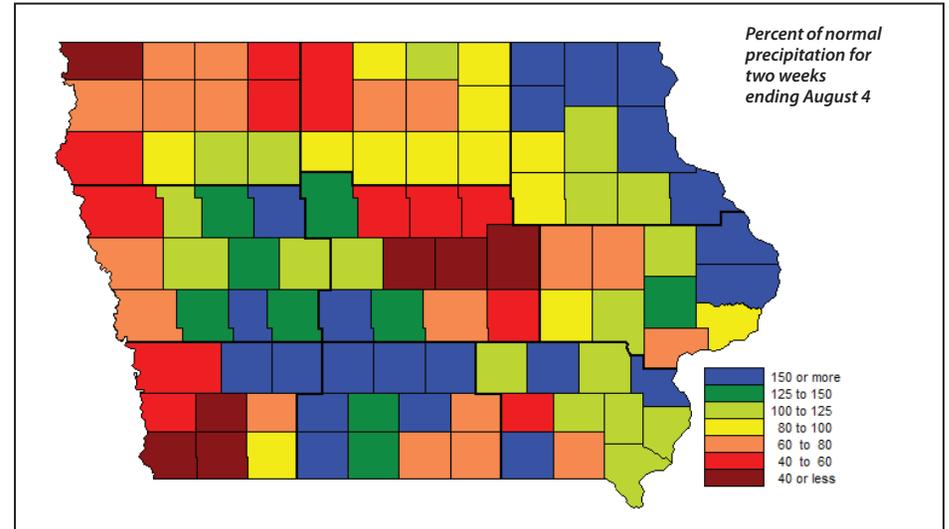
Drought Monitor

National Drought Mitigation Center and partners



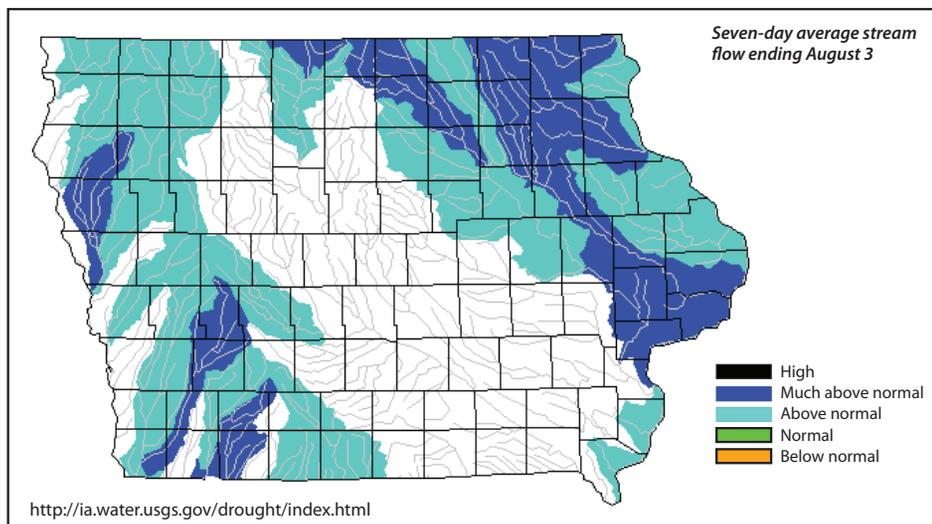
Precipitation

State Climatologist



Stream Flow

US Geological Survey



Shallow Groundwater

Iowa DNR and IHR-Hydroscience and Engineering



Recent Developments and Changes

Summary:

The relatively normal July promoted the gradual elimination of moderate drought conditions for parts of the state. Only 3 % of the State remains in “moderate drought”. Iowa continues to have abundant soil moisture reserves, high stream flow and a substantial groundwater supply thanks to a record wet 2015 fall.

Streamflow conditions are normal for the majority of the state. Portions of the Des Moines, Skunk, Fox and Chariton rivers are now in the below normal condition.

Shallow groundwater levels in parts of southeast and central Iowa recover, while levels in northwest and southwest Iowa continue to be above normal, and conditions in east central and northeast Iowa are normal.

Precipitation and Temperature:

The past 2 weeks were on the warm side of normal, with a very hot and humid period from July 20-24. Rainfall showed typical summertime variability. The reporting period began with widespread wet weather through July 23, a dry spell from July 24 to 31, and finished with widespread rain over west central

and south central Iowa for the first 2 days of August. Rain totals over this two week period varied from 0.09 inches between Sidney and Randolph in Fremont County to 7.02 inches just north of Atlantic in Cass County and 6.40 inches at the Yellow River State Forest in Allamakee County. The statewide average precipitation was 2.10 inches, or slightly more than the 2 week normal (1.92 inches).

Shallow Groundwater:

Heavy rainfall during the last week of July and the first week of August has improved shallow groundwater conditions in south central and south east Iowa to normal condition. Shallow groundwater levels in most of northwest, southwest, and northeast Iowa remain at or above normal.

Current Stream Flow:

Streamflow conditions were above normal for the majority of the state. Since the last water summary update, streamflow conditions across the most of the state remained in the above normal conditions. Streams in the northeast portion of the state have moved into the much above normal condition. USGS crews have been making additional streamflow measurements as a result of rain events in order to validate real-time values.

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