

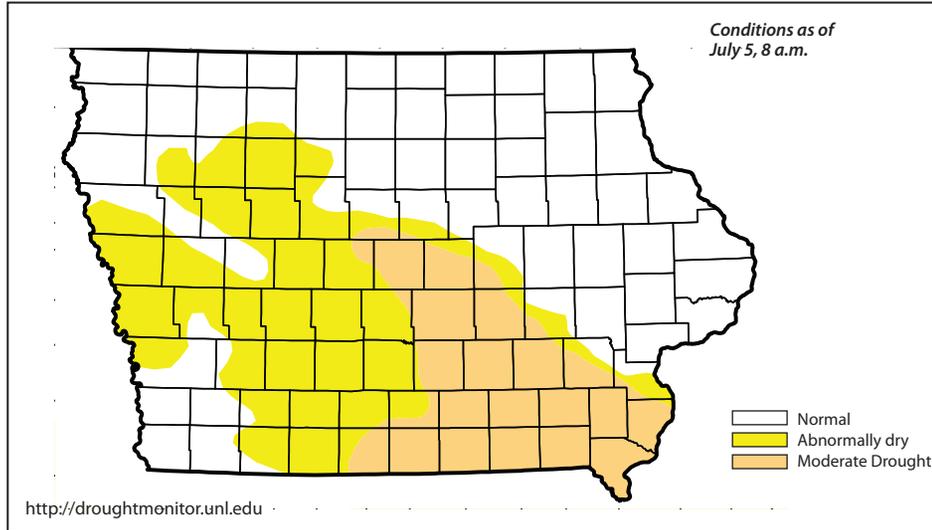
WATER SUMMARY UPDATE

No. 65

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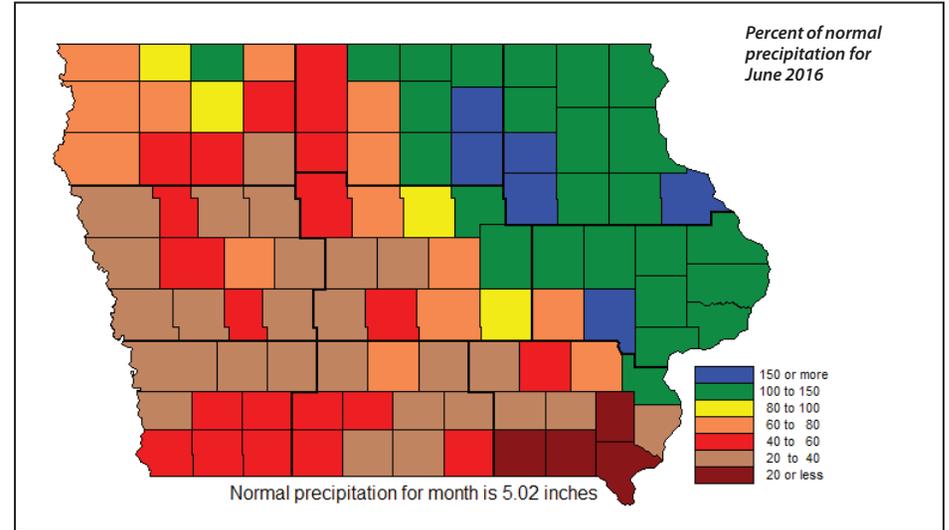
Drought Monitor

National Drought Mitigation Center and partners



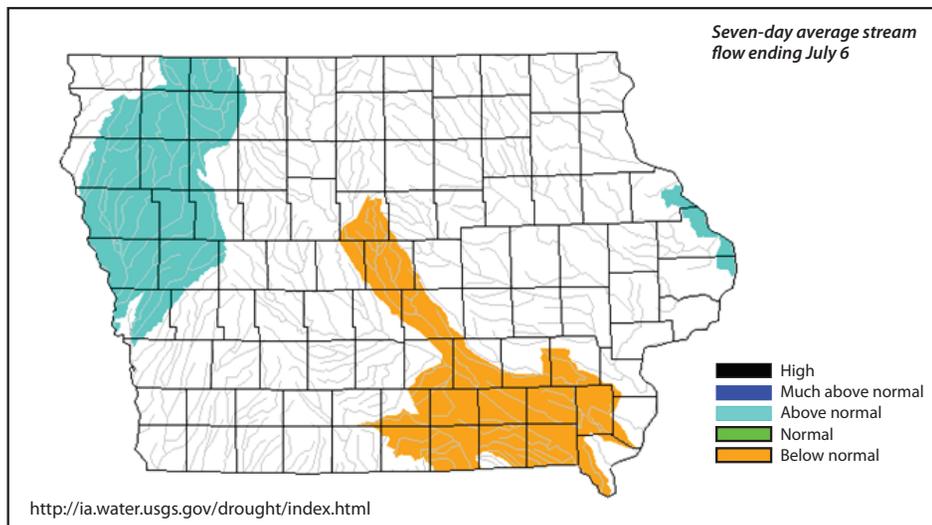
Precipitation

State Climatologist



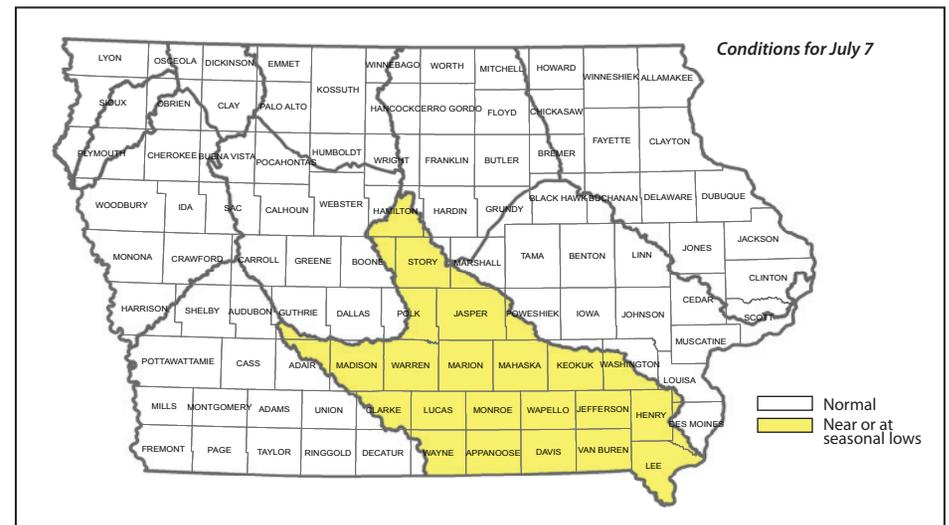
Stream Flow

US Geological Survey



Shallow Groundwater

Iowa DNR and IHR-Hydroscience and Engineering



Recent Developments and Changes

Summary:

Iowa entered 2016 with abundant soil moisture reserves, high stream flow and a substantial groundwater supply thanks to a record wet 2015 Fall. Precipitation has been below normal for most of the year over parts of central, south central and southeast Iowa where year-to-date precipitation totals are the lowest since 1988 in many areas. At Albia the first one-half of the year brought slightly less than one-half of normal precipitation for the period.

The National Drought Monitor for Iowa shows more than half the state is in some form of dry condition, with 18 percent of Iowa currently designated as D1 – Moderate Drought. Conditions seem to have stabilized despite recent rains, with the U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook not indicating a trend toward drought development through the end of September, 2016.

Drought Monitor:

Over the last two weeks the National Drought Monitor (DM) shows conditions to be generally stable in Iowa. The area of D0 (Abnormally Dry) has decreased, while the area of D1 (Moderate Drought) has increased, and now covers about 18 percent of Iowa. The cutoff for the DM is 8:00 am on Tuesday, with the DM published on Thursday mornings. Rains which fall after the cutoff are reflected in the next DM. Updated DM maps can be accessed after 7:30 on Thursday mornings at <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

Current Stream Flow:

Streamflow conditions are normal for the majority of the state. Since the last water summary update, streamflow conditions across the most of the state have decreased from above normal to normal conditions, and portions of the Des Moines, Skunk, Fox, and Chariton Rivers are now in the below normal condition. Streams in the northwest portion of the state remain in the above normal condition. On July 4 the Iowa average streamflow index dropped below the normal line, the first time it has been below normal since May 14, 2015.

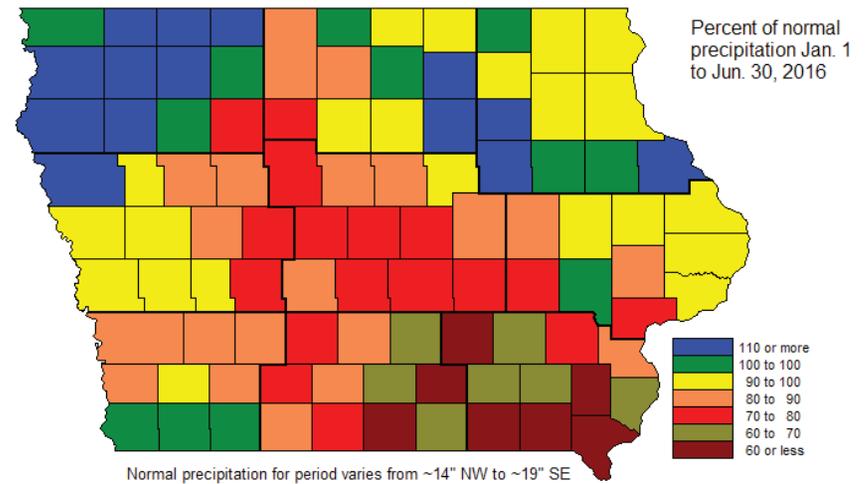
Shallow Groundwater:

Shallow groundwater levels in parts of southeast and central Iowa continue to deteriorate and have been downgraded to slight drought conditions. Shallow groundwater levels in northwest and southwest Iowa continue to be above normal for July, and conditions in east central and northeast Iowa are normal.

Precipitation and Temperature:

June of 2016 brought frequent rain to about the northeast one-third of Iowa and below normal precipitation to most of the remainder of the state. June rain totals varied from only 0.25 inches at Salem in Henry County to 11.22 inches at Cedar Falls. Overall the statewide average precipitation for June was 3.69 inches or 1.33 inches less than normal. The last drier June came in 2012. At Mount Pleasant this was the driest June (0.30 inches) among 141 years of records at that location (old record 0.68 in 1988). June was also an unusually warm month, averaging nearly as warm as is typical for July and was the warmest June since 1991. The unusually warm and mostly dry June promoted the development of moderate drought conditions for much of southeastern Iowa with abnormal dryness extending over much of the west central, central and southwest portions of the state.

Observations from Northwest Iowa show that rainfall in that area has been highly variable, with some areas experiencing abundant rainfall, and some areas beginning to show dryness and a need for rainfall.



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