

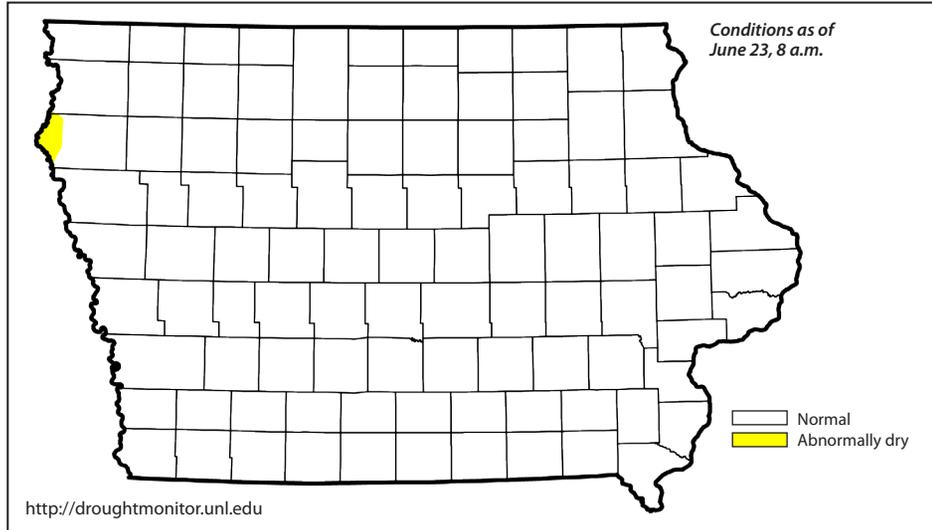
# WATER SUMMARY UPDATE

No. 53

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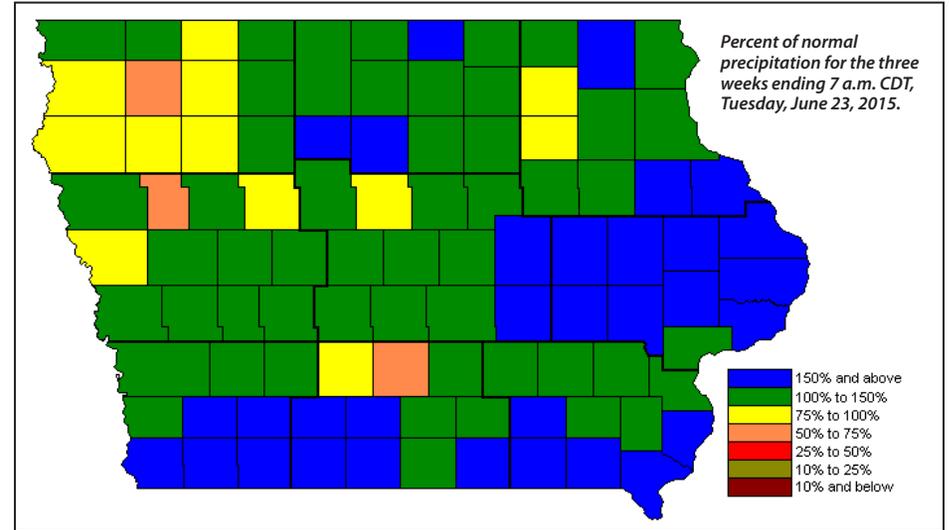
## Drought Monitor

National Drought Mitigation Center and partners



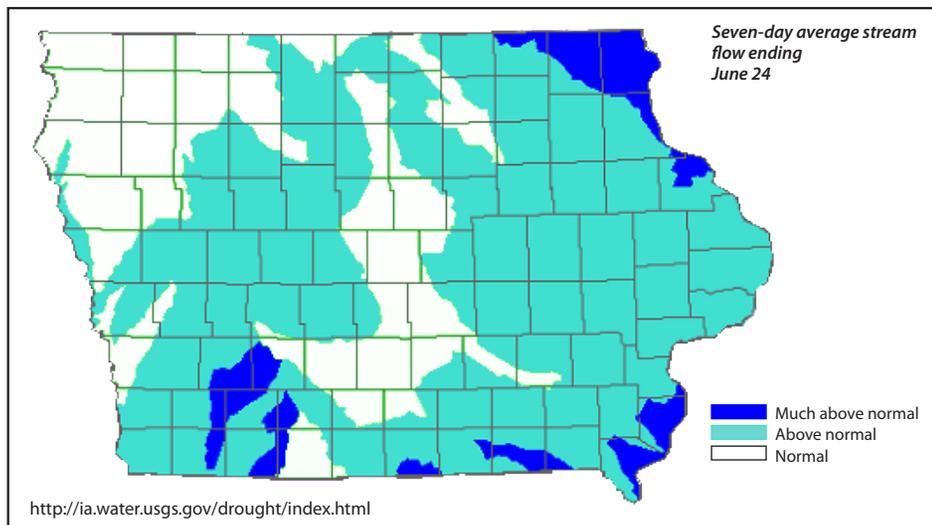
## Precipitation

State Climatologist



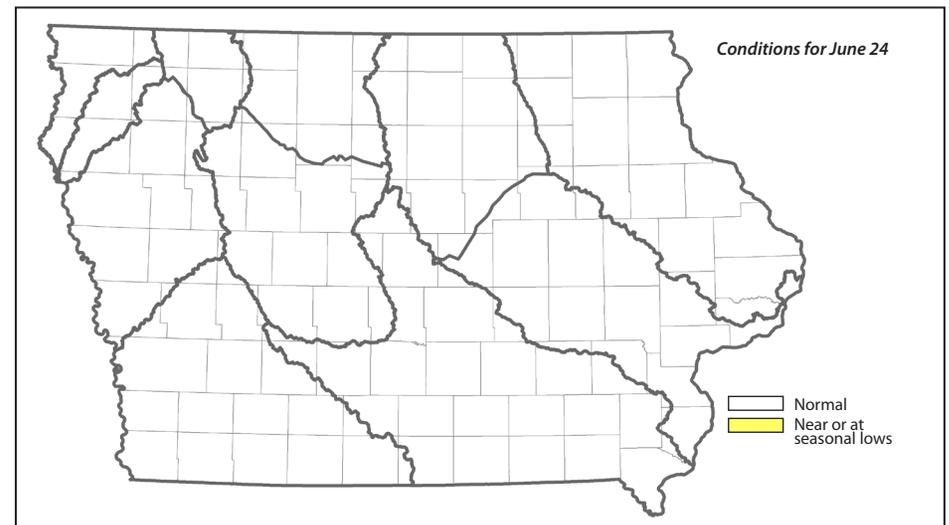
## Stream Flow

US Geological Survey



## Shallow Groundwater

Iowa DNR and IHR-Hydroscience and Engineering



# Recent Developments and Changes

## Overall Conditions

Recent rains have continued to sustain the drought free conditions in Iowa. The Drought Monitor, streamflow, and shallow groundwater conditions are near normal for most of the state. The far northwestern corner of the state continues to be slightly drier than average, although groundwater conditions are now considered to be near normal. The entire North Central Region of the country shows significant improvement in what had been a dry region two months ago. The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship is reporting that topsoil moisture levels are 71 percent adequate and 27 percent surplus, while subsoil moisture levels are 76 percent adequate and 21 percent surplus.

## Drought Monitor

Continued rainfall over the past three weeks has maintained the nearly completely drought free conditions in Iowa. A very small area of less than one percent of the State in northwest Iowa remains classified as “abnormally dry,” with 99.7 percent of the State free of any dryness or drought. The states around Iowa have seen significant reductions in drought and dryness over the last two months. The 15 states in the National Drought Mitigation Center’s North Central Region declined from almost 67 percent in some form of drought in early April to less than 9 percent now. In fact, on a national basis, nearly all of the drought conditions are in the states west of the Rocky Mountains.

## Streamflow

Streamflow conditions were above normal for three quarters of the state. Since the last water summary update, streamflow conditions across the western half of the state have increased in a few basins from normal conditions, and moved into the above, and much above normal conditions. Streamflow conditions in the eastern portion of the state have increased to the above normal condition, with the northeast and southeast moving into the much above normal condition. As a result of the recent heavy rains, USGS field crews have been making several additional streamflow measurements to verify stage-discharge relations at many streamgages.

## Precipitation

The past three weeks were predominately wet and warm across Iowa. Rainfall was above normal over most of the state with greatest amounts across southwest and east central Iowa. Below normal rain totals were mostly confined to parts of the northwest one-third of the state. Precipitation was frequent and relatively evenly distributed through the period. Rain totals varied from 1.79 inches at Everly (Clay County) to 8.30 inches at Sidney (Fremont Co.), 9.64 inches at Bellevue (Jackson Co.) and 10.10 inches at Lost Nation (Clinton Co.). The statewide average precipitation was 4.81 inches while normal for the period is 3.54 inches. Meanwhile temperatures averaged 1.8 degrees above normal with temperatures reaching 99 degrees at Sioux City on the 9th, 97 degrees at Clarinda, Red Oak and Shenandoah on the 10th and again at Lamoni on the 20th.

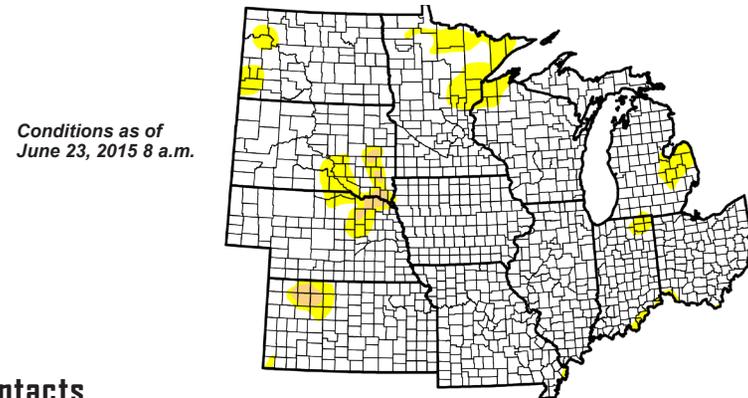
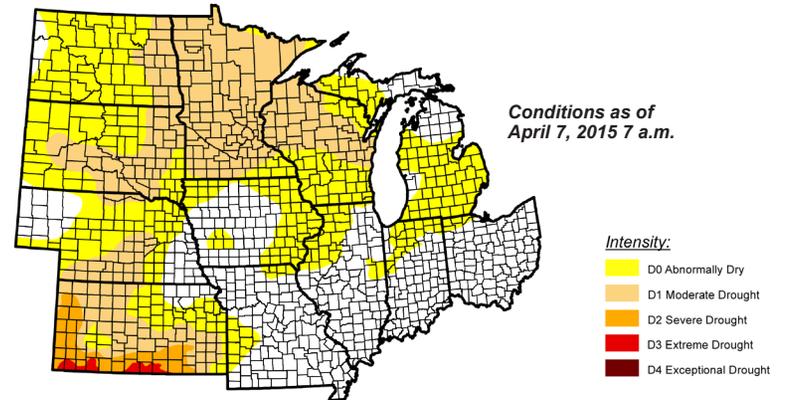
It should be noted that the cut-off date for this precipitation data was 7:00 am on Tuesday, June 23, so the heavy rainfall of the last two days is not included in this summary. That rainfall will be included in the next WSU.

## Shallow Groundwater

Substantial precipitation fell across most of Iowa over the last 2 weeks. Northwest Iowa has not received nearly as much rainfall, and parts of the Floyd and Ocheyedan River watersheds could benefit from additional precipitation.

## Other Observations

These maps show the significant improvement in regional drought conditions since early April.



## Contacts

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