



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Division of Ecological and Water Resources



Hydrologic Conditions Report

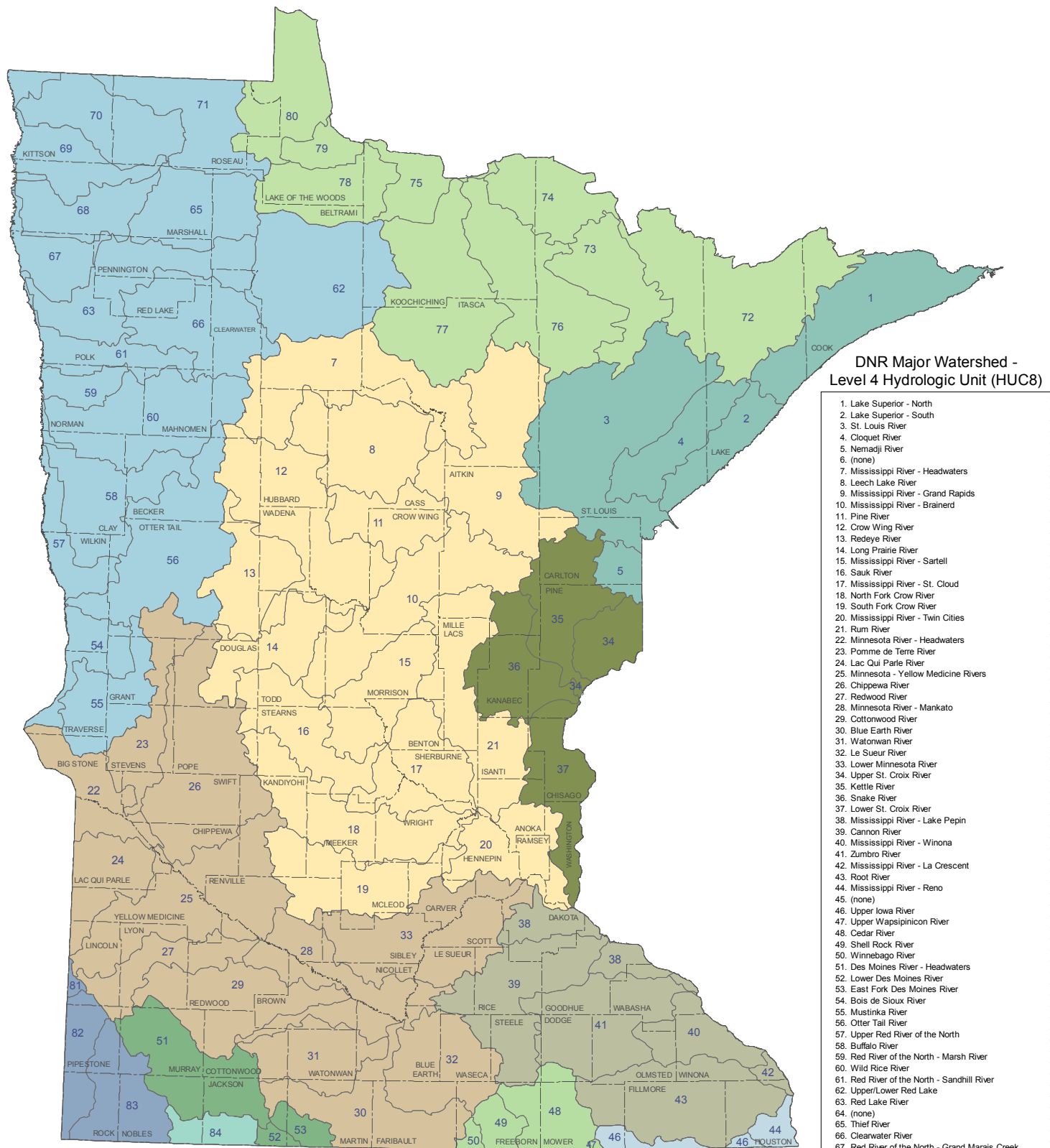
July 2025

Previous reports at: https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/current_conditions/hydro_conditions.html

- The bulk of Minnesota saw above-normal precipitation in July 2025, with a few exceptions. The preliminary statewide average was 5.15 inches, 1.09 inches above normal. Pockets of the state—particularly in south-central, central, and northeast Minnesota—were especially wet. The wettest location identified so far was Sherburn in Martin County, with 11.36 inches, or 7.31 inches above normal. In contrast, some areas missed the thunderstorms entirely; one of the driest was Sandstone in Pine County, with 2.28 inches, 3.27 inches below normal. The U.S. Drought Monitor map released on July 29 showed 5% of the state in the “Abnormally Dry” category and 2.4% in “Moderate Drought.” One year ago, the entire state was free of drought. The Drought Monitor blends scientific data with expert judgment, assigning categories such as “Moderate” or “Severe” based on multiple indicators.
- For the month of July 2025, 16 watersheds ranked High flows (\geq 90th percentile), 23 watersheds ranked Above Normal (75th - 90th percentile), and 40 watersheds ranked Normal (25th - 75th percentile). Additionally, 2 watersheds had insufficient data for ranking.
- Of the 20 lakes in the Lake Level Status map with July lake levels, 12 were at Normal percentiles, 3 were Below Normal, 4 were Above Normal, and 1 was High. Statewide, 417 lakes reported July 2025 levels, all with records suitable for statistical comparison. Of these, 57% were at a Normal percentile relative to their historic July records, 17% were Low or Below Normal, and 26% were High or Above Normal. Compared to their full historic records, 61% of lakes were above average in July 2025, while 39% were at or below average.
- In July 2025, 100 of Minnesota’s 337 groundwater observation wells reported water-level measurements. Of these, 10% ranked as High (>90 th percentile), 11% as Above Normal (75th–90th percentile), 39% as Normal (25th–75th percentile), 19% as Below Normal (10th–25th percentile), and 21% as Low (≤ 10 th percentile).

The information in this report is provided by DNR through long term programs committed to recording and tracking the long term status of our water resources. The current conditions of precipitation, stream flows, lake levels, and groundwater levels in this report provide valuable information for natural and economic resource management on a state, county, and watershed level. If you have questions on the content of this report please contact the report team: csg.dnr@state.mn.us













Minnesota Counties and Major Watershed Index



DNR Major Watershed - Level 4 Hydrologic Unit (HUC8)

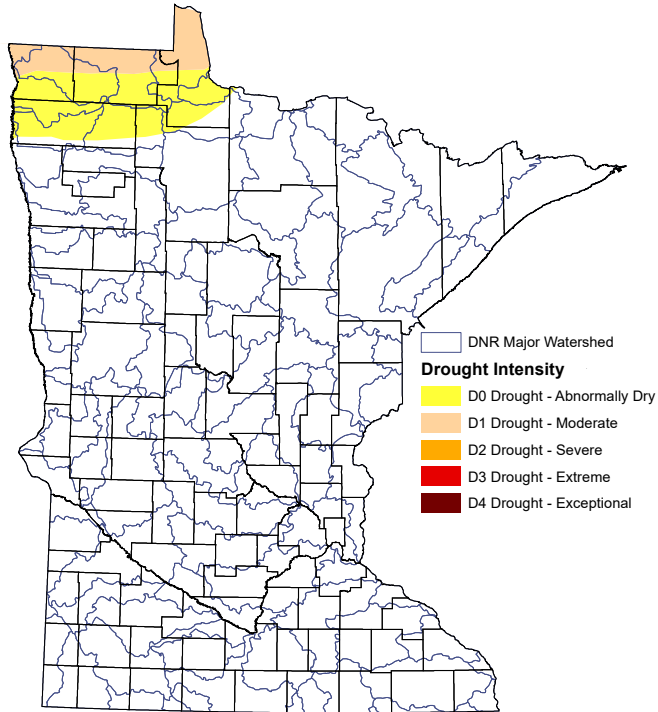
1. Lake Superior - North
2. Lake Superior - South
3. St. Louis River
4. Cloquet River
5. Nemadji River
6. (none)
7. Mississippi River - Headwaters
8. Leech Lake River
9. Mississippi River - Grand Rapids
10. Mississippi River - Brainerd
11. Pine River
12. Crow Wing River
13. Redeye River
14. Long Prairie River
15. Mississippi River - Sartell
16. Sauk River
17. Mississippi River - St. Cloud
18. North Fork Crow River
19. South Fork Crow River
20. Mississippi River - Twin Cities
21. Rum River
22. Minnesota River - Headwaters
23. Pomme de Terre River
24. Lac Qui Parle River
25. Minnesota - Yellow Medicine Rivers
26. Chippewa River
27. Redwood River
28. Minnesota River - Mankato
29. Cottonwood River
30. Blue Earth River
31. Watonwan River
32. Le Sueur River
33. Lower Minnesota River
34. Upper St. Croix River
35. Kettle River
36. Snake River
37. Lower St. Croix River
38. Mississippi River - Lake Pepin
39. Cannon River
40. Mississippi River - Winona
41. Zumbro River
42. Mississippi River - La Crescent
43. Root River
44. Mississippi River - Reno
45. (none)
46. Upper Iowa River
47. Upper Wapsipinicon River
48. Cedar River
49. Shell Rock River
50. Winnebago River
51. Des Moines River - Headwaters
52. Lower Des Moines River
53. East Fork Des Moines River
54. Bois de Sioux River
55. Mustinka River
56. Otter Tail River
57. Upper Red River of the North
58. Buffalo River
59. Red River of the North - Marsh River
60. Wild Rice River
61. Red River of the North - Sandhill River
62. Upper/Lower Red Lake
63. Red Lake River
64. (none)
65. Thief River
66. Clearwater River
67. Red River of the North - Grand Marais Creek
68. Snake River
69. Red River of the North - Tamarac River
70. Two Rivers
71. Roseau River
72. Rainy River - Headwaters
73. Vermilion River
74. Rainy River - Rainy Lake
75. Rainy River - Black River
76. Little Fork River
77. Big Fork River
78. Rapid River
79. Rainy River - Baudette
80. Lake of the Woods
81. Upper Big Sioux River
82. Lower Big Sioux River
83. Rock River
84. Little Sioux River

Level 2 Hydrologic Unit (HUC4)

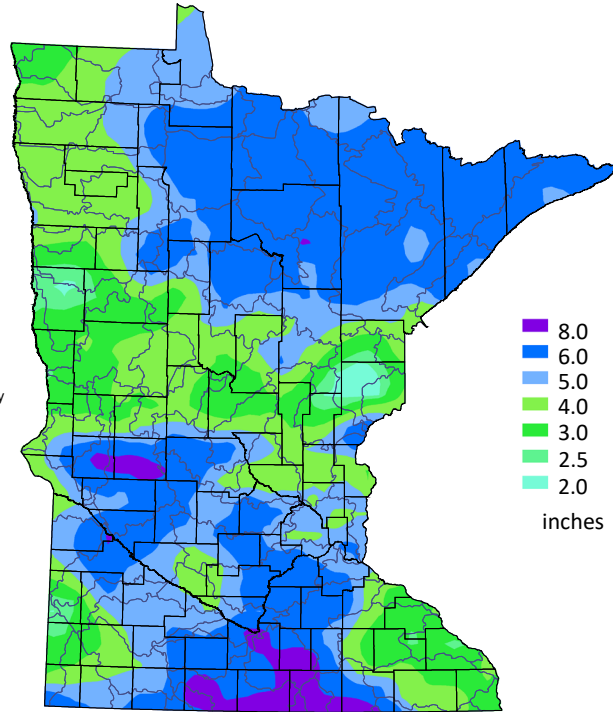
- | | |
|---|--|
|  Cedar River |  Missouri - Big Sioux Rivers |
|  Des Moines River |  Missouri - Little Sioux Rivers |
|  Lower Mississippi River |  Rainy River |
|  Minnesota River |  Red River of the North |
|  Mississippi - Upper Iowa Rivers |  St. Croix River |
|  Mississippi River - Headwaters |  Western Lake Superior |

Climatology

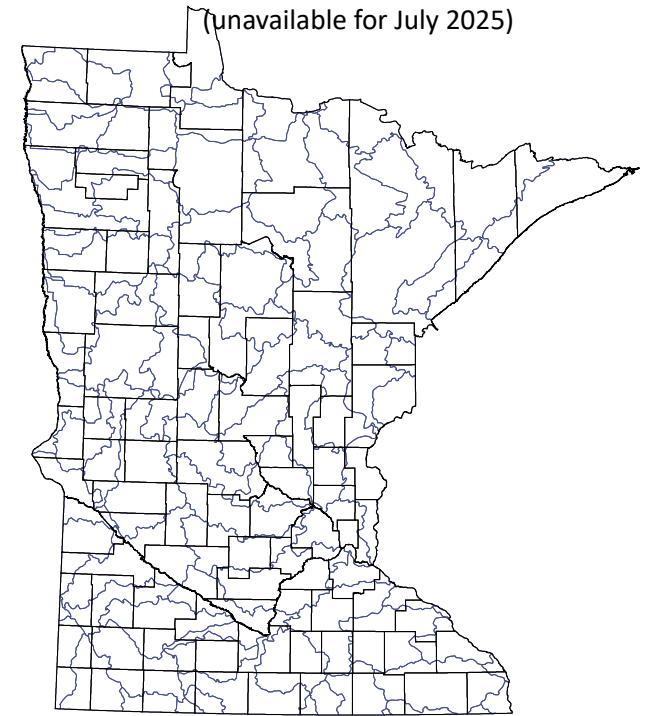
U.S. Drought Monitor
July 29, 2025



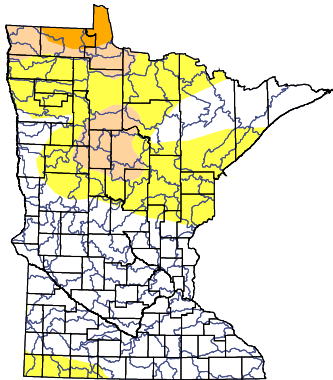
Total Precipitation
July 2025
(preliminary)



Total Precipitation
Departure from Normal:
July 2025



July 1, 2025

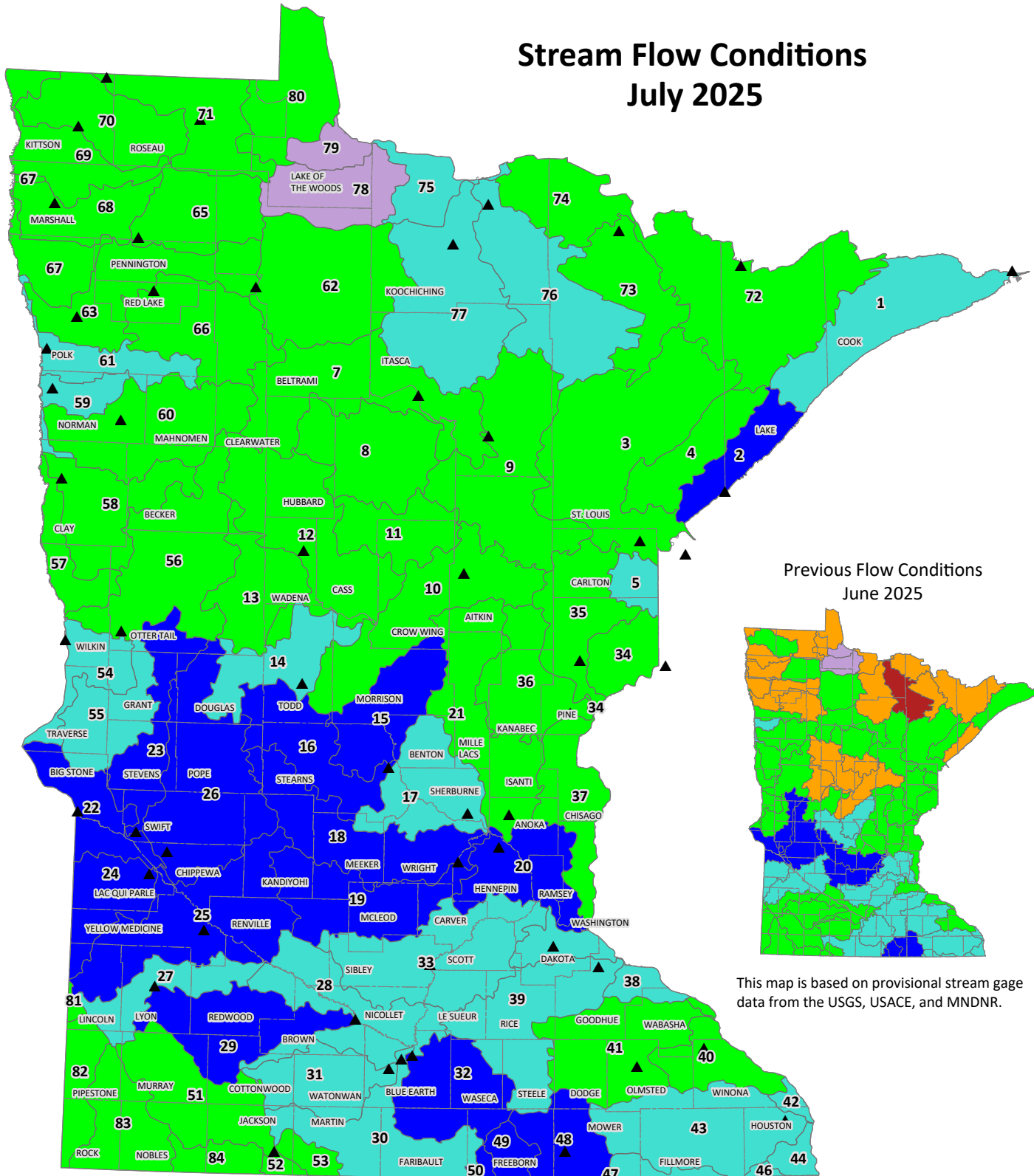


The bulk of Minnesota saw above-normal precipitation in July 2025, with a few exceptions. The preliminary statewide average was 5.15 inches, 1.09 inches above normal. Pockets of the state—particularly in south-central, central, and northeast Minnesota—were especially wet. The wettest location identified so far was Sherburn in Martin County, with 11.36 inches, or 7.31 inches above normal. In contrast, some areas missed the thunderstorms entirely; one of the driest was Sandstone in Pine County, with 2.28 inches, 3.27 inches below normal.

The U.S. Drought Monitor map released on July 29 showed 5% of the state in the “Abnormally Dry” category and 2.4% in “Moderate Drought.” One year ago, the entire state was free of drought. The Drought Monitor blends scientific data with expert judgment, assigning categories such as “Moderate” or “Severe” based on multiple indicators.

Surface Water: Stream Flow

Stream Flow Conditions July 2025



Previous Flow Conditions
June 2025

This map is based on provisional stream gage data from the USGS, USACE, and MNDNR.

▲ Designated major watershed gage

* Percentile ranking based on mean daily flows for the current month averaged and ranked with all historical mean daily flows for that month.

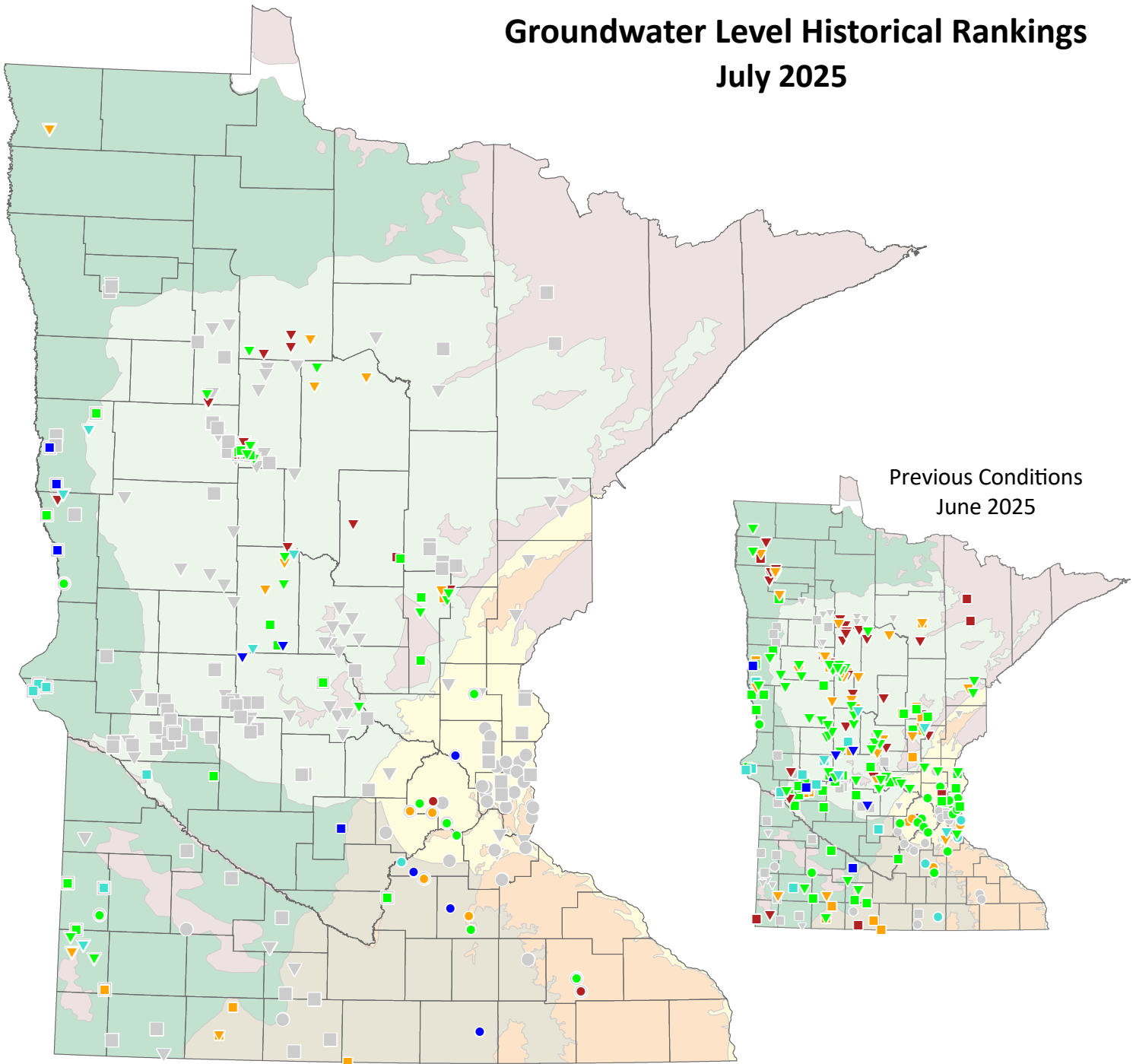
A watershed ranked at zero means that the present month flow is the lowest in the period of record; a ranking of 100 indicates the highest in the period of record.

A ranking at the 50th percentile (median) specifies that the present-month flow is in the middle of the historical distribution.

- High Flows (>90th percentile)
- Above Normal Flows (75 - 90th percentile)
- Normal Flows (25 - 75th percentile)
- Below Normal Flows (10 - 25th percentile)
- Low Flows (<= 10th percentile)
- Flow affected by ice
- Flow affected by backwater
- Rating being developed or revised
- No Data

Groundwater

Groundwater Level Historical Rankings July 2025



Minnesota Groundwater Provinces

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| East-central | Central |
| South-central | Western |
| Karst | Arrowhead-shallow bedrock |

* Percentile ranking based on last reported reading for the current month compared to all historical reported levels for that month. A water level ranked at zero means that the present reported level is the lowest in the period of record; a ranking of 100 indicates the highest in the period of record. A ranking at the 50th percentile (median) specifies that the present month reported water level is in the middle of the historical distribution.

Source data from: MN DNR Groundwater Level Monitoring Program

Percentile *

- High Water Levels (>90th percentile)
- Above Normal Water Levels (75 - 90th percentile)
- Normal Water Levels (25 - 75th percentile)
- Below Normal Water Levels (10 - 25th percentile)
- Low Water Levels (<= 10th percentile)
- No reading available

Aquifer Type

- Water Table
- Bedrock
- Buried Artesian