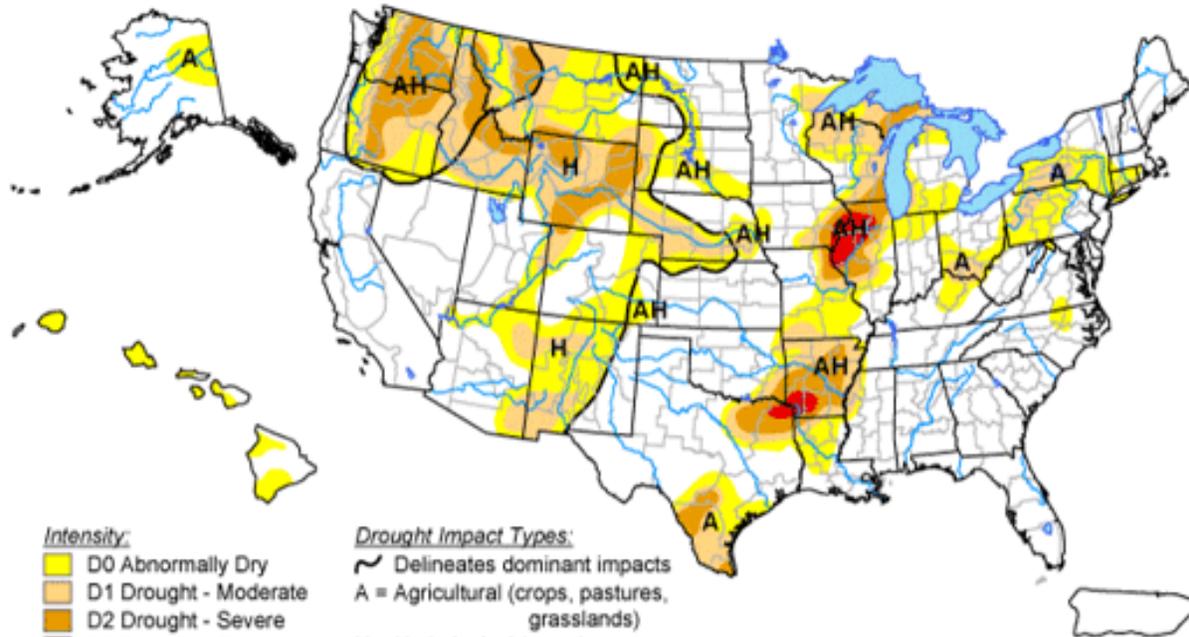


# U.S. Drought Monitor

August 30, 2005  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

Drought Impact Types:

- Delineates dominant impacts
- A = Agricultural (crops, pastures, grasslands)
- H = Hydrological (water)
- (No type = Both impacts)

*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.*

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>



**Released Thursday, September 1, 2005**  
Author: Brad Rippey, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Figure 1. U.S. Drought Monitor

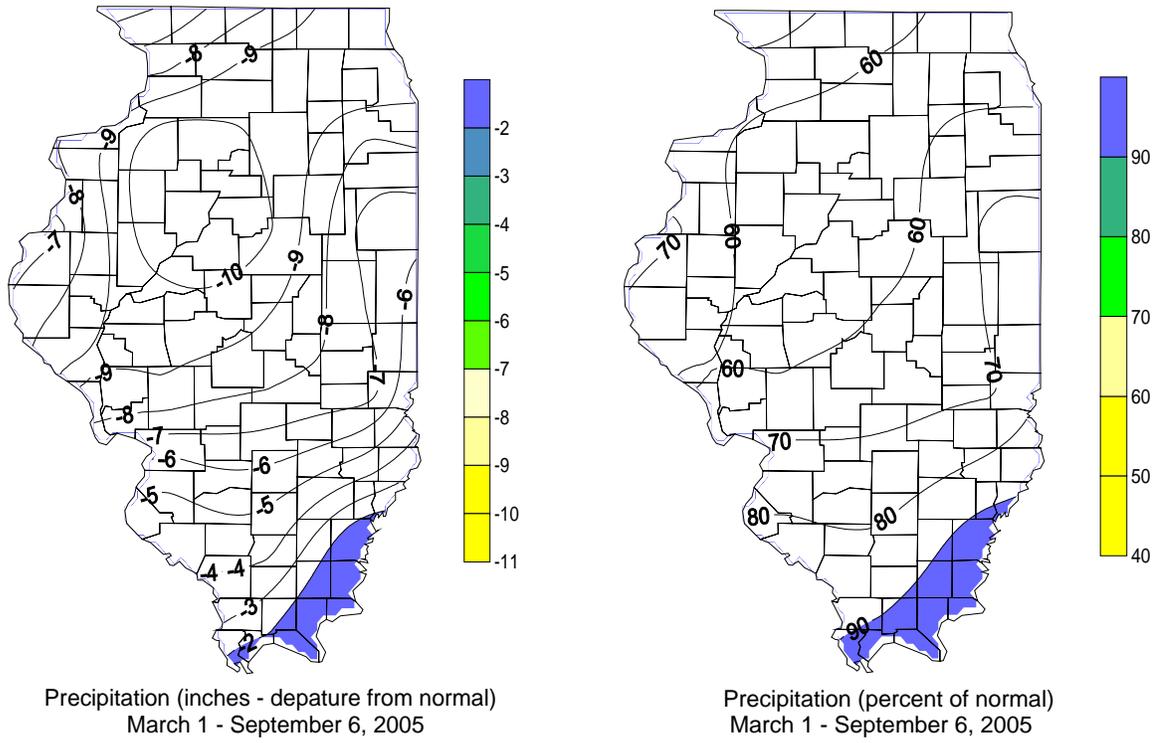


Figure 2. Precipitation departures and percent of normal since March 1, 2005.

**Figure 3. Ten driest March through August periods in Illinois (since 1895)**

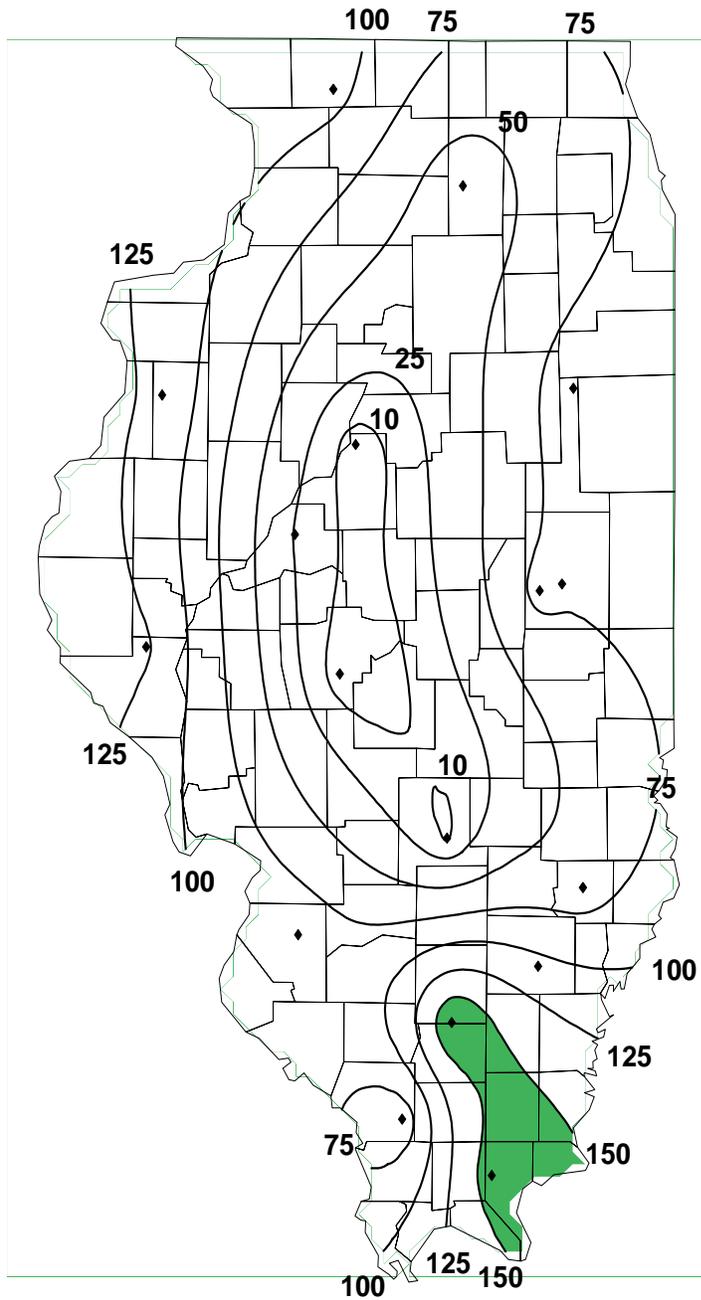
<i>Rank</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Precip (in)</i>
1	1936	11.62
2	1930	12.55
3	1988	13.03
4	1914	14.31
5	1901	14.86
6	1934	15.20
<b>7</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>15.55</b>
8	1971	16.11
9	1895	16.95
10	1925	17.02

**Figure 4. Rankings of driest March through August periods within Illinois climate divisions (since 1895)**

<i>Climate divisions</i>	<i>2005 rank</i>	<i>top 4 driest years</i>
Northwest	3	1988, 1936, <b>2005</b> , 1910
Northeast	3	1934, 1936, <b>2005</b> , 1895
West	6	1936, 1988, 1934, 1971
Central	3	1988, 1936, <b>2005</b> , 1914
East	9	1988, 1895, 1930, 1936
West-Southwest	6	1936, 1914, 1930, 1988
East-Southeast	12	1930, 1914, 1936, 1988
Southwest	22	1930, 1936, 1941, 1901
Southeast	43	1930, 1936, 1914, 1901

Source: Illinois State Water Survey

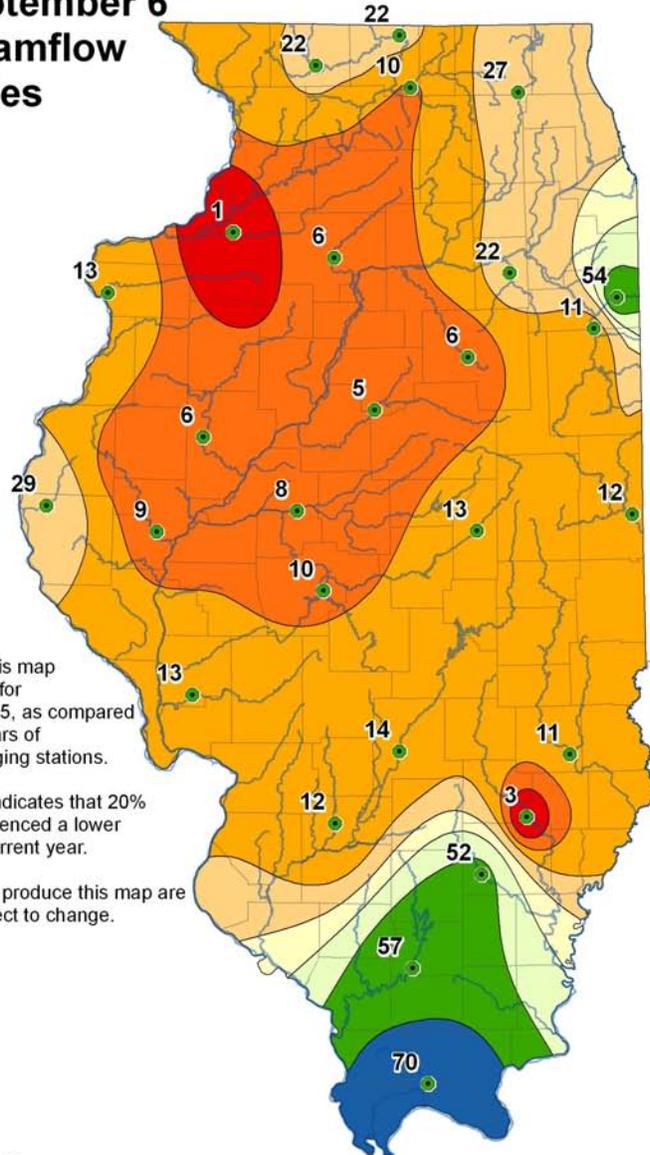
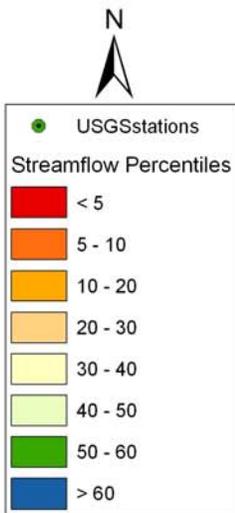
### 0 - 72 inch Soil Layer



**Figure 5. September 1, 2005 observed percent of normal soil moisture based on 1985-1995 mean.**

**Source: Illinois State Water Survey**

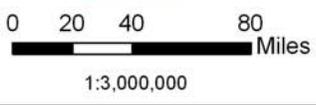
# August 24 - September 6 Average Streamflow Percentiles



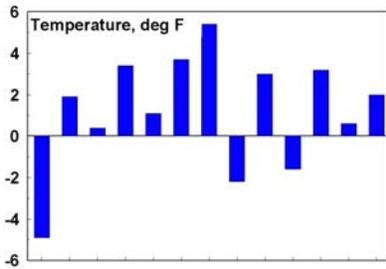
The percentage values on this map describe Illinois streamflows for August 24-September 6, 2005, as compared to the same period for all years of record at selected USGS gaging stations.

For example, a value of 20 indicates that 20% of the years on record experienced a lower total flow amount than the current year.

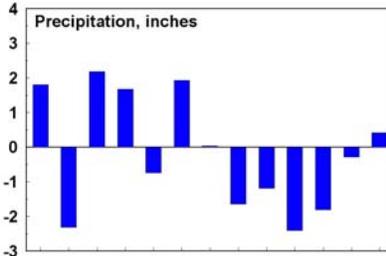
The streamflow data used to produce this map are provisional and may be subject to change.



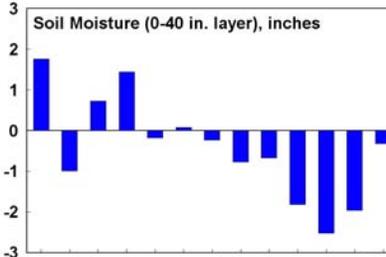
**Figure 7. August 2004 - August 2005 statewide monthly departures from normal.**



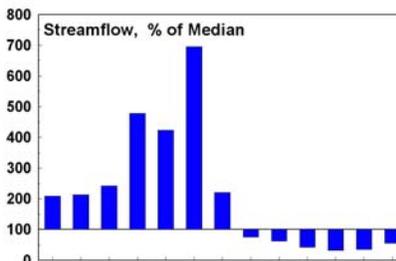
- Warmer temperatures in June and August 2005 enhanced evaporation.



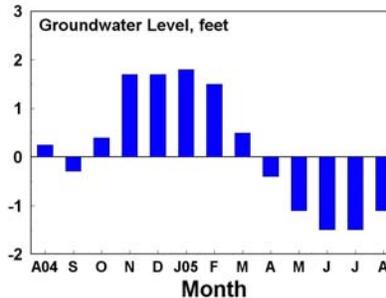
- Low statewide precipitation totals from March - June followed by near normal rainfall in July and August.



- Soil moisture levels following increased rainfall totals.



- Streamflow remains low.



- Groundwater levels remains low.

- Continued normal to above normal precipitation is required in future months for recovery / recharge within the hydrological cycle.

Source: Illinois State Water Survey