Indiana Water and Soil Moisture Conditions

May 7, 2026

Over the week of April 30 – May 6, 2026, northern and southwestern Indiana received near to below normal precipitation and central Indiana received above normal precipitation. Indiana received 0.50”-6.00” of precipitation with the highest amounts in the southern part of the state.

Mean temperatures for the week were below to much below normal and ranged from 45.6F in northwest Indiana to 56.4°F in southwest Indiana. Departure from normal temperature ranged from -10.9°F to -5.5°F. The highest maximum temperature was 83°F recorded in Porter County on May 5, 2026, and the lowest minimum was 21°F in Howard County on April 30, 2026.

Soil moisture data from the NASA SPORT Real-time 3km Land Information System ranges from 40% to 65% for the 0-100cm Relative Soil Moisture. The highest percentages were reported in central and southeastern Indiana. The lowest relative soil moistures are in northwest and southwest Indiana.

4” soil water content from the Indiana Mesonet Data Hub on May 7, 2026, indicates a range of 5.2% (very sandy soil) to 42.9% available water with a statewide average of 33.9%.

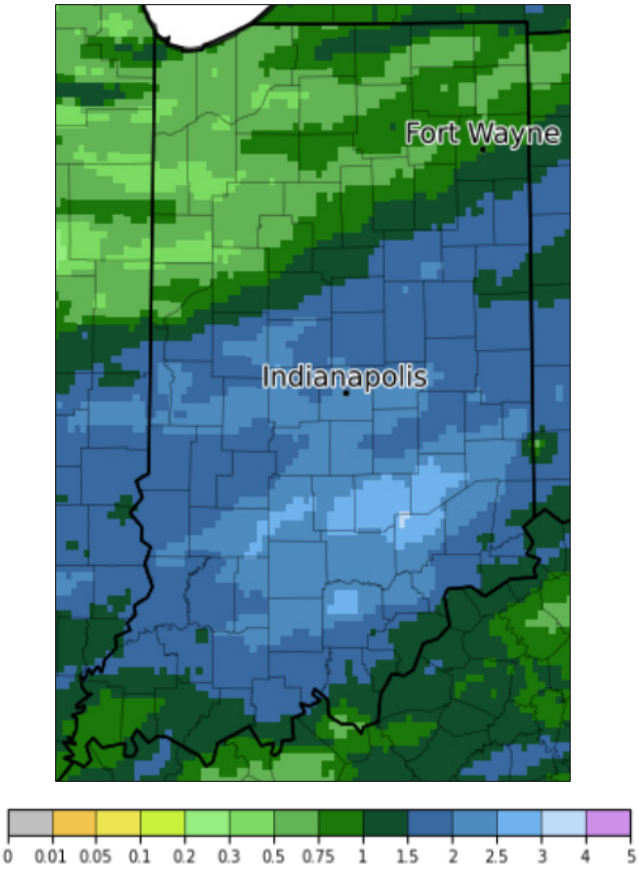


Figure 1. Accumulated precipitation (in.) for April 30 – May 6, 2026, from MRCC.

USDM for the State of Indiana

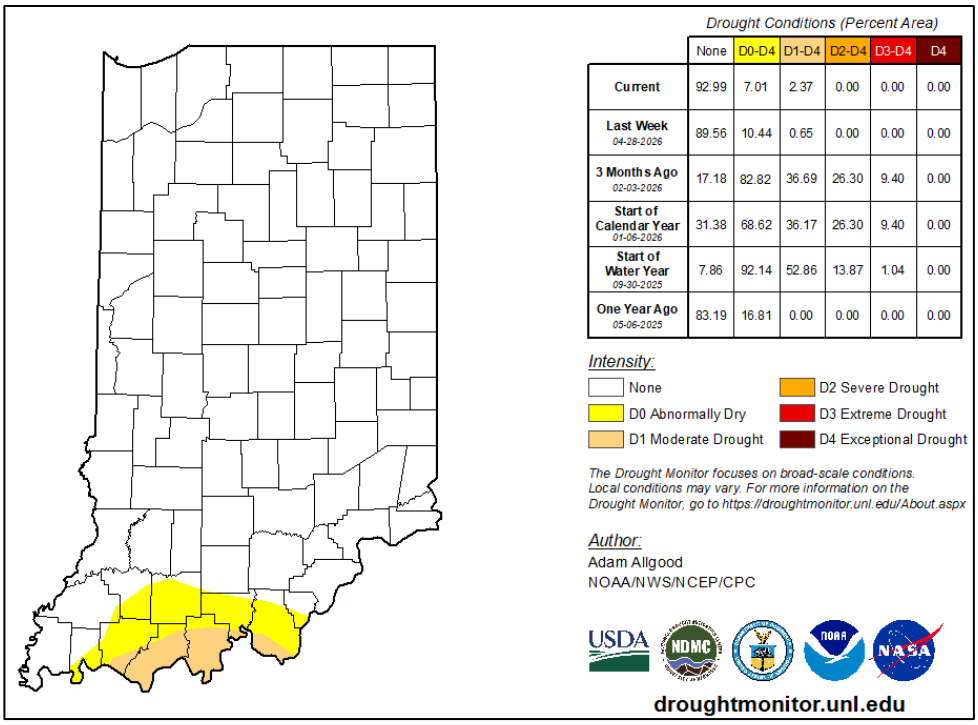


Figure 2. US Drought Monitor for the State of Indiana May 5, 2026.

The US Drought Monitor for the State of Indiana generally indicates improving drought conditions. A small area of moderate drought conditions, surrounded by an area of abnormally dry conditions, were reported along the Ohio River in the center of the southern border. The remaining 93 percent of Indiana indicates no drought conditions.

Reservoir Levels as of May 7, 2026

Table 1. Reservoirs managed by United States Army Corp of Engineers.

Reservoir	Brookville	Cecil Harden	Cagles Mill	Monroe	Patoka	JE Roush	Salamonie	Mississinewa
Winter Pool[1]	740.0	640.0	636.0	538.0	532.0	737.0	730.0	712.0
Summer Pool[1]	748.0	662.0	639.5	538.0	536.0	749.0	755.0	737.0
Current Pool[1]	740.0	664.0	646.7	546.1	535.6	751.75	756.76	739.85
% Utilization[2]	4.01	5.30	7.74	38.77	10.69	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table 2. Reservoirs managed by Citizens Energy Group and NIPSCO**.*

Reservoir	Eagle Creek[3*]	Geist[3*]	Morse[3*]	Lake Freeman[4**]	Lake Schafer[4**]
Normal Pool	790	784.26	809.44	610.35	645.15
Current Pool	790.65	785.06	810.50	610.35	645.17
% Utilization[2]	3.0%	--	--	--	--

[1]All units in feet and datum NGVD29

[2]Percent of designed flood storage utilized. The other named reservoirs are not designed for flood storage.

[3]All units in feet and datum NAVD88.

[4]All units in feet Local Datum.

Groundwater Monitoring Network as of May 5, 2026

Groundwater wells across the state range from low to near normal. Data is reported from the U.S. Geological Survey Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Water Science Center.

*Table 2. Groundwater level rankings relative to normal. Does not include: **Cass 3 or Delaware 4***

Low <5%		
Benton 4 Boone 17 Clark 20 Hamilton 7 Jasper 13	Morgan 4 Morgan 5 Parke 6 Posey 3 Tippecanoe 18	Vigo 7 Wayne 6 Wells 4 Whitley 3
Much Below 5-10%	**Below 10-25%**	**Near Normal 25-75%**
Randolph 3	Decatur 2 Fulton 7 Grant 8 Harrison 8 Jefferson 5 Knox 7 Knox 8 La Porte 9 Martin 5 Noble 8 Pulaski 7 Vanderburgh 7	Bartholomew 4 Elkhart 4 Grant 10 LaGrange 2 Lake 13 Marion 35 Marion 39 Newton 8 Shelby 2
Above 75-90%	**Much Above 90-95%**	**High >95%**
None	None	None

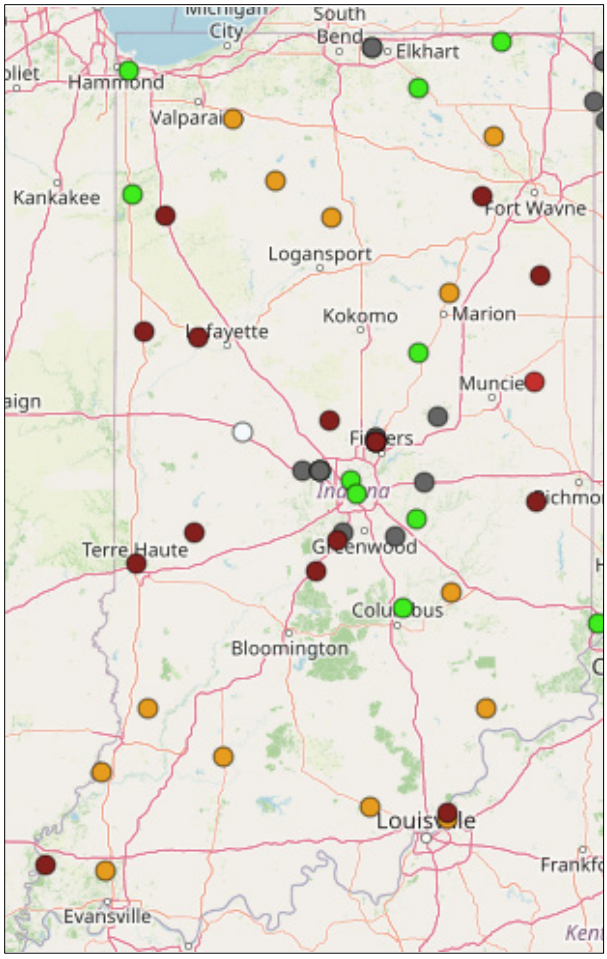


Figure 3. Map of USGS real-time groundwater monitoring wells.

Streamflow Conditions as of May 7, 2026

Streamflow conditions were generally near to above normal across the state. There are 38 gauges reporting normal conditions for the date. There are 39 reporting above normal, 46 reporting much above normal, 0 reporting an all-time high for the date, 0 reporting below normal, 1 reporting much below normal, and 1 reporting an all-time low for the date.

Currently, 18% of stream gauges indicate steady flow conditions; 13% are increasing, and 67% are decreasing.

USGS/NWS reports 21 streams in “action” stage, 5 streams in “minor” stage, and no streams in “moderate” or “major” flood stage.

The NWS Flood Forecast predicts 11 stream gauges to experience “action” stage and 20 stream gauges to experience “minor” flood stage in the next 10-14 days.

The NWS Long Range Flood Outlooks indicates a 50% or greater chance of 19 gauges exceeding minor flood levels in western and southern Indiana through July.

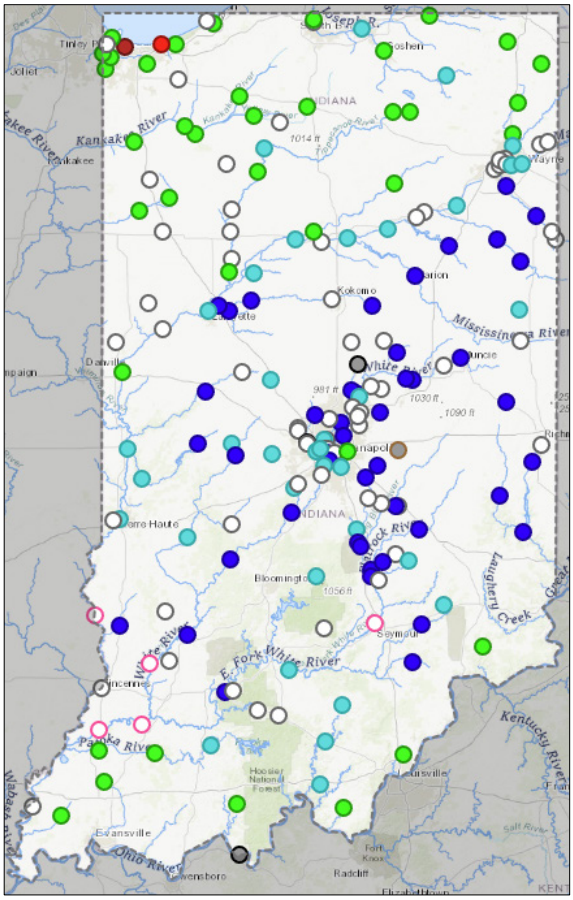


Figure 4. Map of USGS streamflow gauges for Indiana.

NOAA 7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast

For May 7, 2026, the 7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast valid for May 8-15, 2026, predicts 0.25”-1.50” with the highest amounts predicted across the central portion of the state. Precipitation is predicted to occur early in the week.

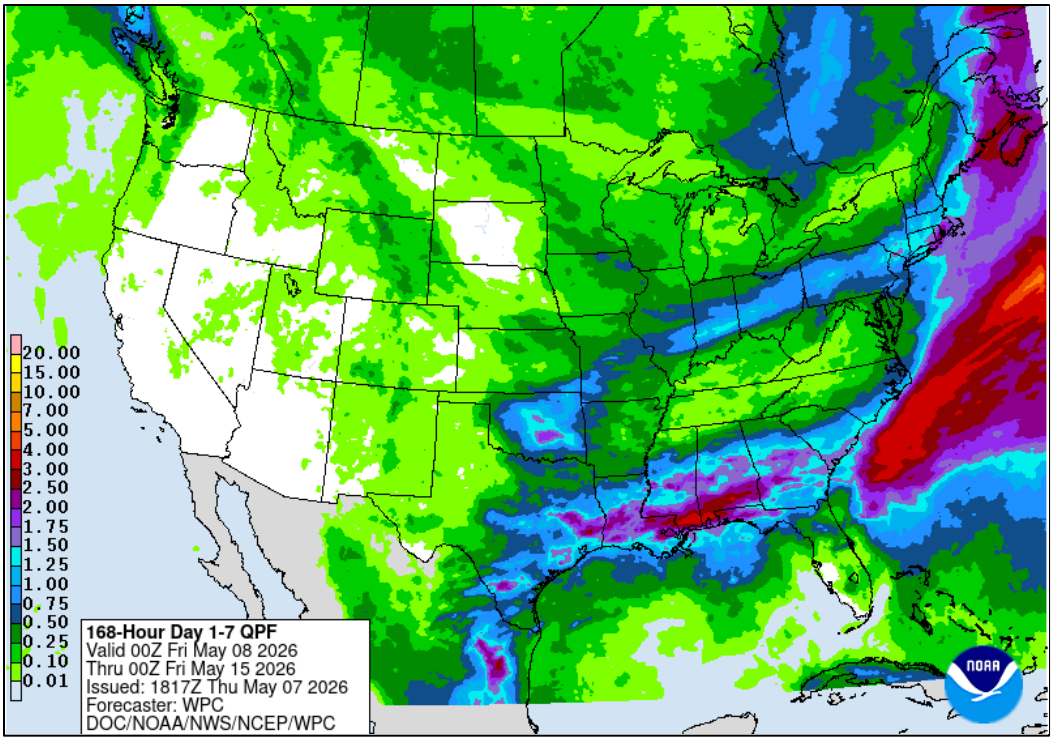
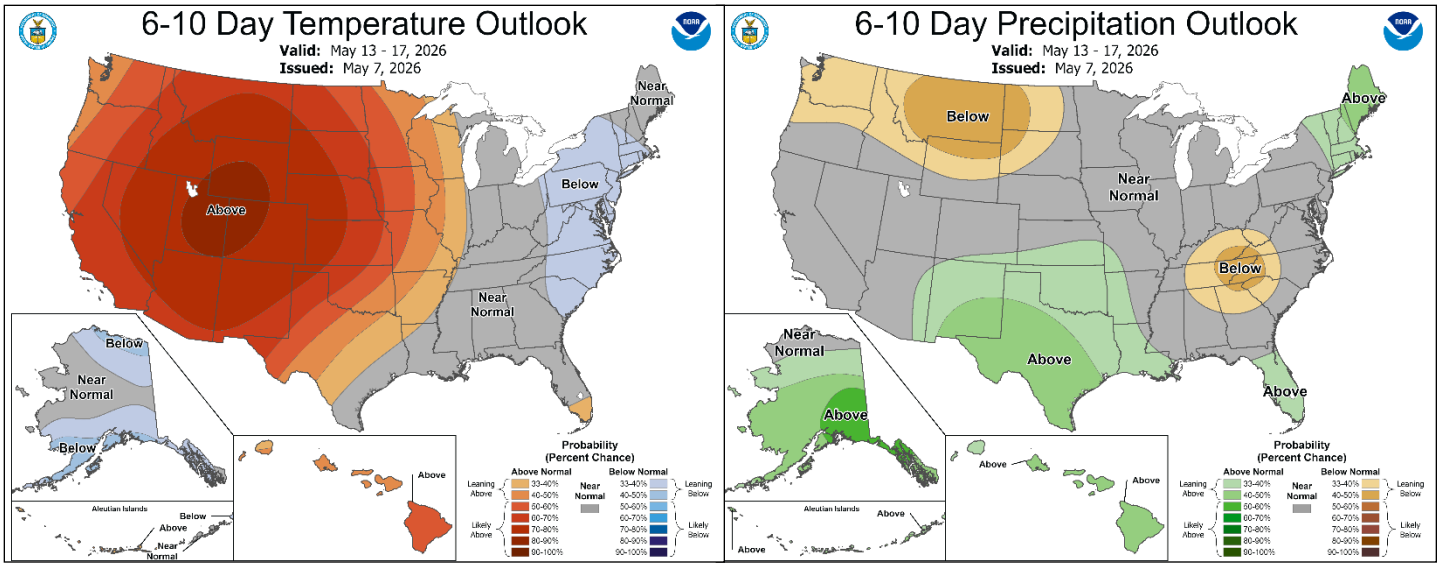


Figure 5. NOAA 7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast, May 7, 2026.

NOAA National Weather Service 6-10 Day Outlook

The 6-10 Day Temperature Outlook for May 13-17, 2026, projects near normal conditions across the state. The 6-10 Day Precipitation Outlook also projects near normal precipitation across the state.



Figures 6-7. 6-10 Day Temperature and Precipitation Outlook for the US

Acknowledgments:

Prepared by DNR-Division of Water, Resource Assessment with data from the following organizations:

Temperature and precipitation data:
Midwestern Regional Climate Center
CoCoRaHS Mapping System

Soil data:
NASA, Short-term Prediction Research and Transition Center
Indiana Mesonet Data Hub

Reservoir data:
US Army Corp of Engineers, Louisville District
US Army Corp of Engineers, Chicago District
Citizens Reservoirs at NWS River Observations
NIPSCO Hydro Plant Lakes

Groundwater data:
U.S. Geological Survey Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Water Science Center

Streamflow data:
USGS National Water Dashboard
NWS River Forecasts
USGS Water Watch

Drought data:
US Drought Monitor

Forecast:
National Weather Service, Climate Prediction Center
National Weather Service, Weather Prediction Center