



The Hoosier Observer
Indiana CoCoRaHS monthly e-newsletter

June 2023

May 2023 Statistics

Total observers reporting	560
Observers with no missing reports	347
Percent of total	62
Average Daily Reports per Day	452
Max # of Daily Reports and Day	478/20
Significant Weather Reports	7
Condition Monitoring Reports	47
E-T Reports	152

June Coordinator Update

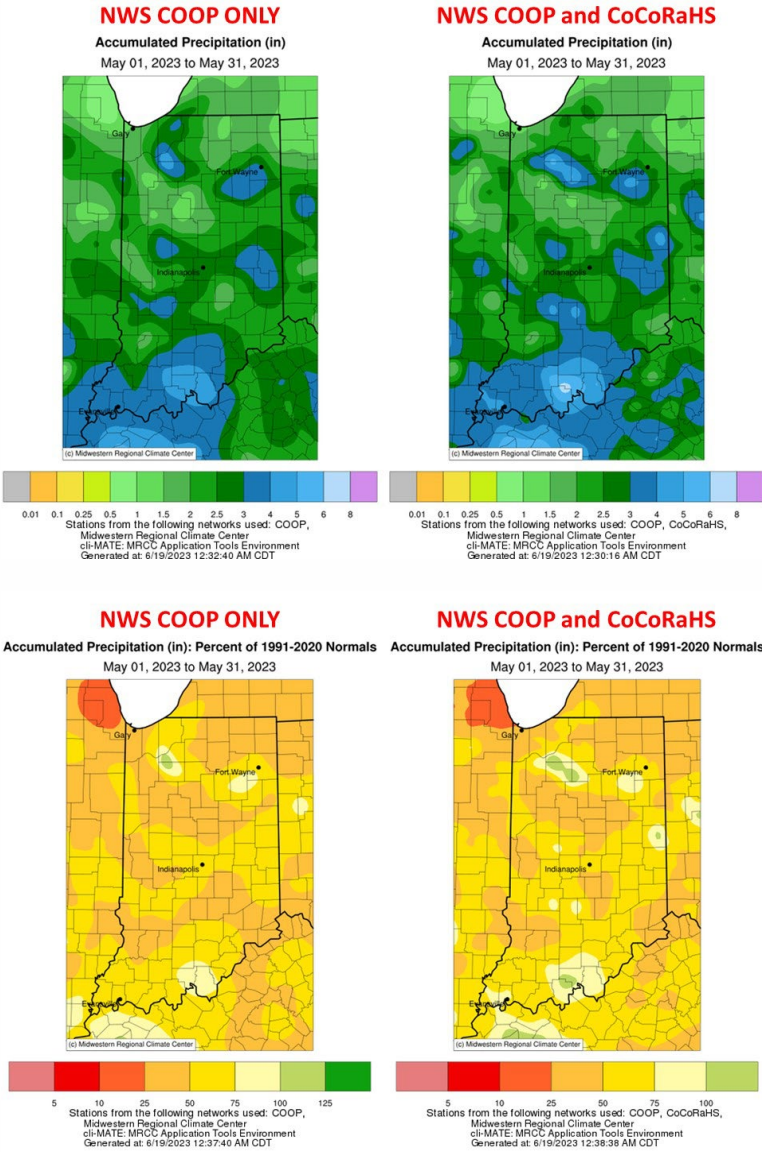
As always, we'd like to start this section out by thanking everyone for their observations this month. We've seen a lot of you start back up in the last month but we are looking for just a few more that stopped reporting in the last few months to get back into the swing of things.

One huge accomplishment we made last year was getting several days with 500 daily reports, and now that our total number of observers reporting is back over 500, we'd love to see more of those days this summer. One possible day that we could have reached our goal was on June 12th when we were just 10 reports away from that 500 number. When you can, please report daily whether it precipitates or not.

Welcome to our eight new Indiana observers who joined CoCoRaHS in the last month in the counties of Benton, Elkhart, Hendricks, La Porte, Madison, Montgomery, St. Joseph, and Tippecanoe. Thanks

May 2023 Precipitation in Indiana

Statewide, May 2023 precipitation ran 2.07 inches below normal or 53 percent of normal. Heaviest totals occurred in southern Indiana, but a few isolated locations in northern Indiana were impacted by heavy rains associated with localized convective storms. May 2023 state precipitation maps (accumulated precipitation and percent of normal) are included below for NWS COOP ONLY (left) and NWS COOP and CoCoRaHS (right). In short, your data matters and helps provide higher resolution precipitation maps! Outside of areas impacted by storms that sat for long periods of time, most of the state had less than 75 percent of normal precipitation.



Data from stations that had 100% reporting for May are as follows: The highest precipitation total in Indiana (7.02 inches) was measured at ENGLISH 7.9 SSW, located in Crawford County. This observer

for joining the team!

Archived Newsletters

If you are ever interested in viewing past issues of *The Hoosier Observer*, visit the [State Newsletter Archive](#) on the CoCoRaHS website and scroll down to Indiana. You may also access other state newsletters from this website as well.

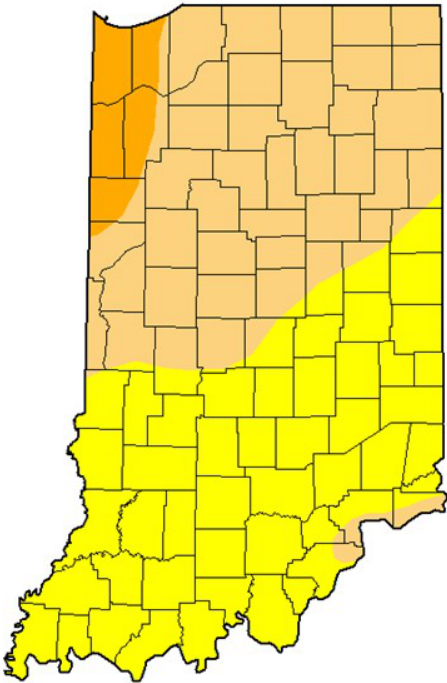
measured 2.07 inches on May 14. NASHVILLE 6.6 WNW, located in Brown County, measured the second most precipitation, 6.24 inches (2.58 inches was reported on May 14). UNION CITY 3.6 WSW (Randolph County) measured 3.34 inches on May 13, which was the highest single day total in May 2023.

MOUNT AYR 1.6 NNE, located in Newton County, measured 0.86 inches, which was 3.43 inches below normal for the month and took home the title of lowest precipitation total in the state for May 2023. There are several stations with less precipitation, but did not have 100 percent of data reported for the month. Be sure to report zeros on days when no precipitation fell! See the "Zeros are Data, Too" article included in this newsletter.

Drying Continues, Drought Expands in Indiana

The dry trend continued through the first 18 days of June, as the state average precipitation of 2.58 inches was 1.39 inches below normal. The June 13 US Drought Monitor had 100 percent of the state in Abnormally Dry (D0), Moderate Drought (D1), or Severe Drought (D2) categories. Impacts reported varied from locally issued burn bans in northwestern and west central Indiana, browning lawns, low pond and creek levels, reduced hay quality and yields, and crop stress. Weekly US Drought Monitor maps can be obtained [here](#).

U.S. Drought Monitor
Indiana



June 13, 2023
(Released Thursday, Jun. 15, 2023)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	49.65	5.35	0.00	0.00
Last Week 06-06-2023	3.32	96.68	21.68	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 03-14-2023	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2023	6.84	93.16	58.37	1.34	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-27-2022	80.92	19.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 06-14-2022	94.23	5.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:
None D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

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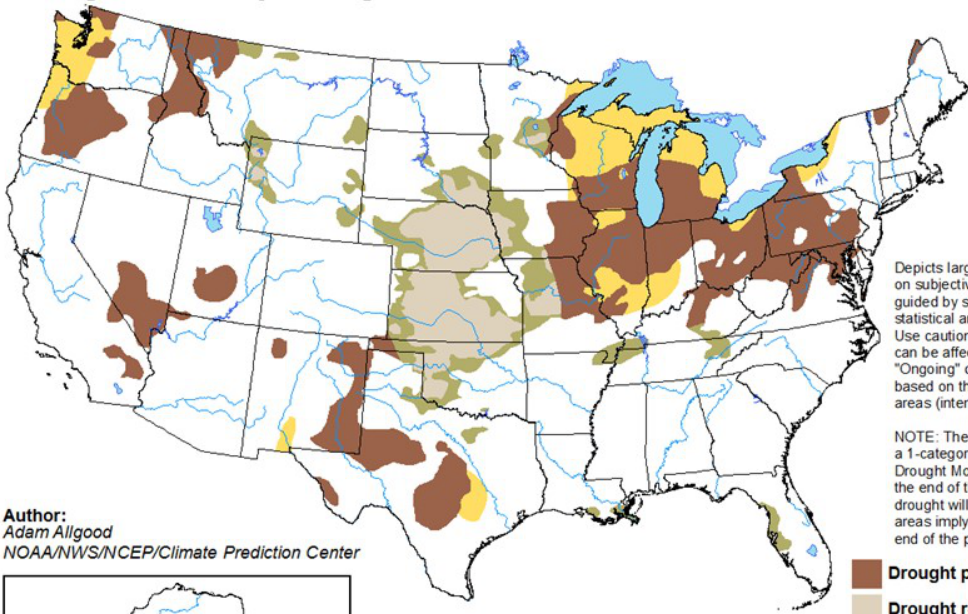


The Climate Prediction Center has elevated chances in near-normal to above-normal precipitation over the next two weeks. Despite this, drought is expected to expand and persist in a large majority of Indiana throughout the summer months.

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for June 15 - September 30, 2023
Released June 15



Author:
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Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

- Drought persists
- Drought remains but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

Zeros are Data, Too

By Steve Hilberg

Zero measurements are just as important as those that are more than zero. Submitting your report of zero unambiguously states that you had no precipitation. No report, a missing observation, tells users nothing. In other words, **if you do not report on a day we cannot assume zero**. It takes only seconds to enter that zero report. If you haven't been on the computer for a few days and need to enter zero reports, an easy way to do this is with the Monthly Zeros report. Select this report, and just check the box on the days on which you had zero. Hit **Submit**, and you're done! The Monthly Zeros report is not available on the mobile app.



New Feature for Hail Reports — You Can Submit Photos

By Steve Hilberg, Adapted by Austin Pearson



As you know "hail" is part of the CoCoRaHS name. Spring and early summer is prime time for hail, especially the large variety. We often see observers mention hail in their comments, but then forget to submit a separate hail report. The CoCoRaHS hail database is the only one of its kind in the country. When you observe hail, please submit a hail report as soon as possible with as much information as you can provide (you can always go back and add to or edit your report later). As soon as you submit the hail report it is also transmitted to your local National Weather Service office. These reports are critical in severe weather situations and may be one of the triggers for a severe thunderstorm warning, for example. You can find the link to the hail report in the left-hand menu once you log in on the web site. It is not available on the app.

Now, you can now submit up to four photos with your hail reports. These can be actual photos of hail, or photos of your hail pad. Only one photo will be viewable with the report, selected by CoCoRaHS staff. The remaining

photos will be retained and associated with your report, and may be shared with the National Weather Service. For your photos to be as useful as possible, please follow these guidelines below for taking photos of hail and hail pads.

There were reports of hail on June 15 in Adams County, IN that covered the road like snow (about 2 inches thick). The average size reported was quarter sized, but the largest hail stone reported was half dollar sized. There were pictures out of Wells County where crops were ripped to shreds. Unfortunately, none of these observations made it into the CoCoRaHS hail reports. In Ashland, Ohio (OH-AS-8), the largest hail size measured and reported in CoCoRaHS was 1.25 inches in diameter.



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