

NORTH DAKOTA STATE CLIMATE OFFICE

Climate Summary



July

2026



The sun rises over a beautiful stand of wheat at Clyde 4SW NDAWN.

July 2026 ranked among the warmest and driest Julys on record across much of North Dakota, with temperatures several degrees above normal and numerous locations finishing in their top-10 warmest Julys. Highs frequently exceeded 100°F in the southwest, while 90°F days were common statewide. The heat was compounded by extreme dryness, as several areas received less than 10% of normal precipitation, sharply intensifying drought concerns. This prolonged combination of heat and moisture stress is expected to produce a noticeable reduction in crop yields at harvest.

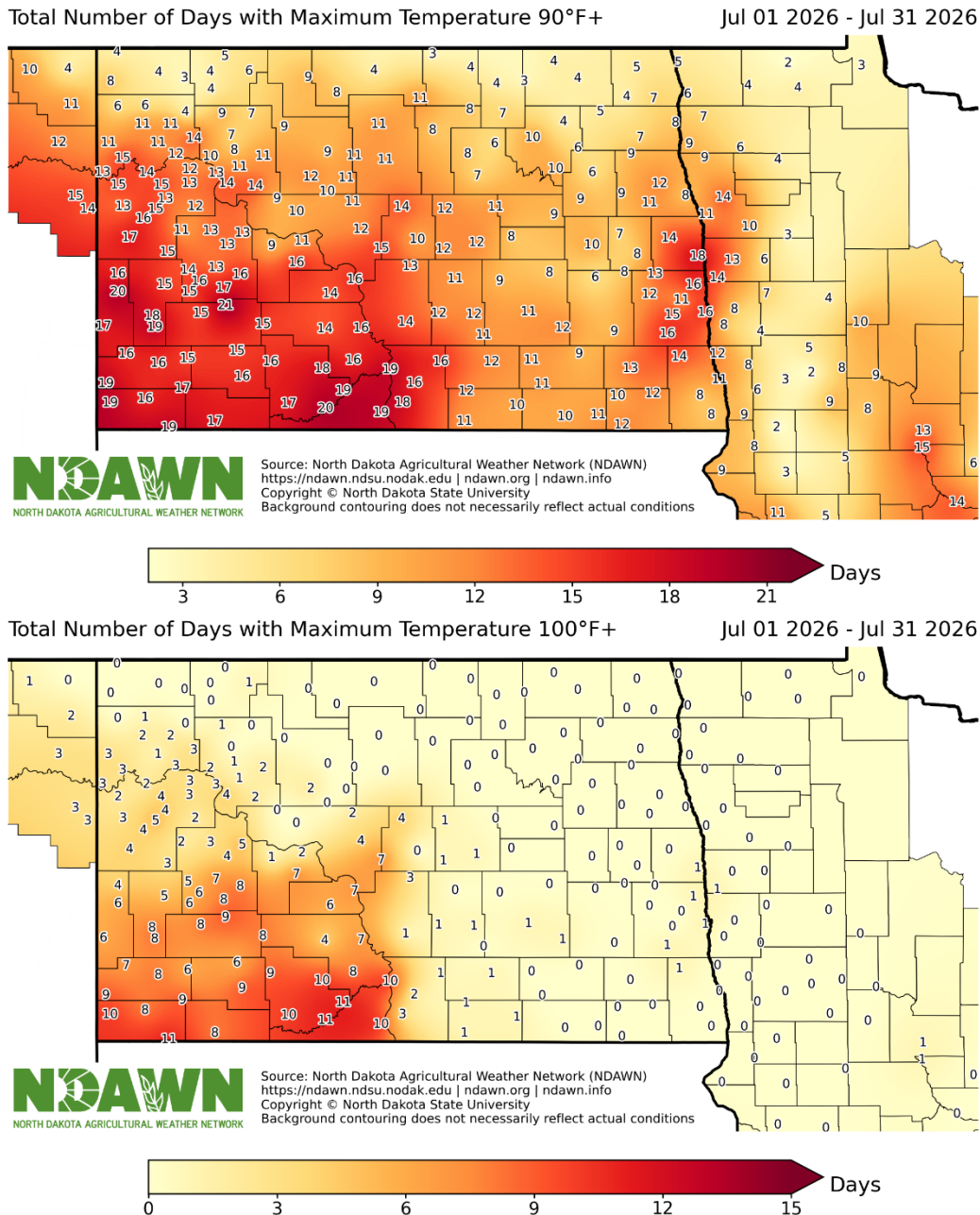


Figure 1: Total number of days a maximum temperature of 90°F+ or 100°F+ was measured at NDAWN stations in July

Precipitation Summary

July 2026 Statewide Average Precipitation: 1.25"

Percent of Normal Statewide Precipitation: 42%

July was a very dry month across most of the state, with only spotty thunderstorms providing rainfall, putting significant strain on soils and crops.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)

07-01-2026 - 07-31-2026

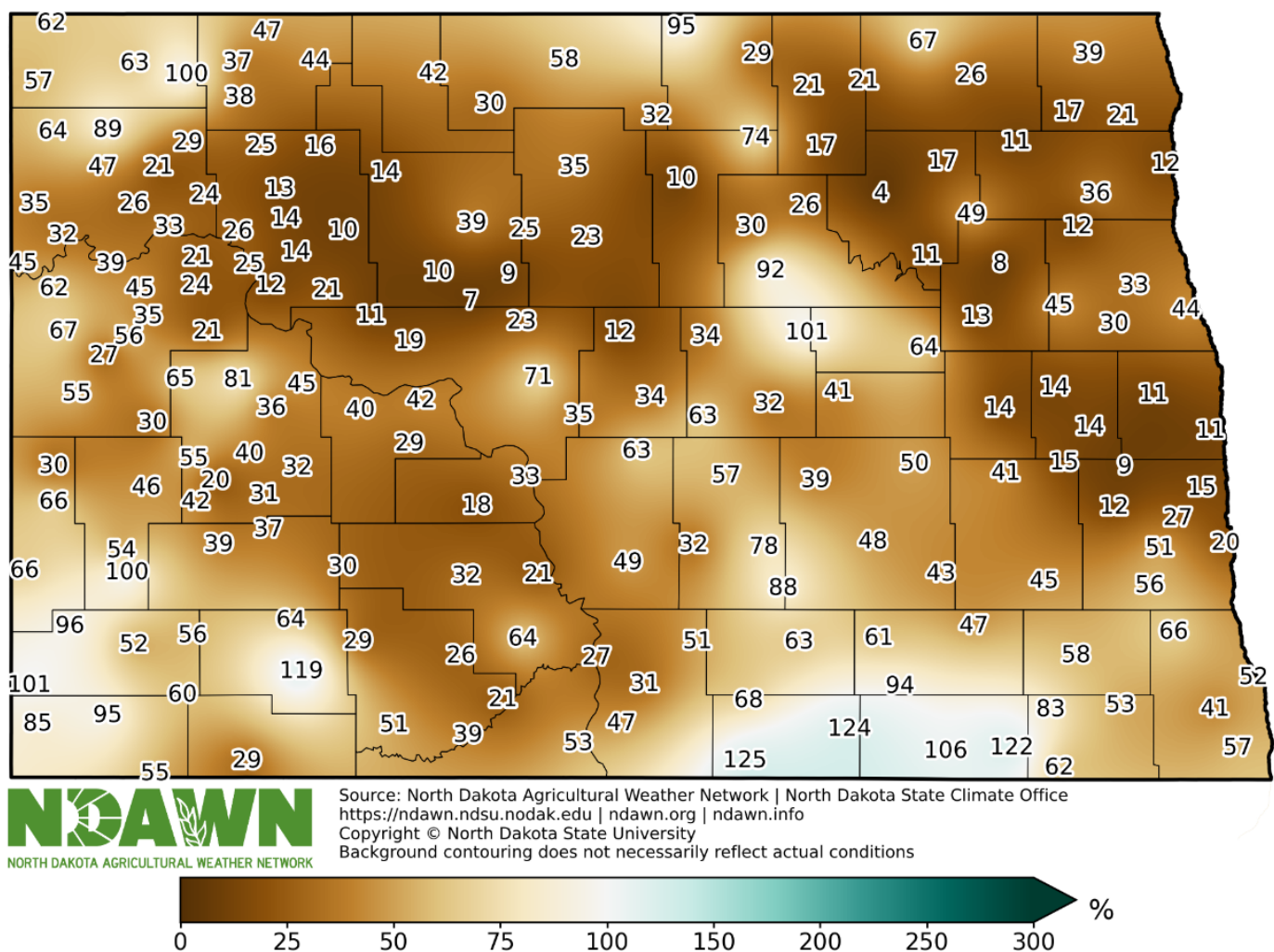


Figure 2: Percent of Normal Precipitation measured at NDAWN stations in July 2026

Precipitation

3



The maximum monthly precipitation recorded by the North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN) in North Dakota during the month of July was 4.30 inches at the Oakes 4S station in Dickey County, 122% of normal. The minimum monthly precipitation recorded by NDAWN in North Dakota was in Ramsey County at the Webster 1N station with 0.15 inches of precipitation, 4% of normal (Figure 3).

Total Precipitation (in)

07-01-2026 - 07-31-2026

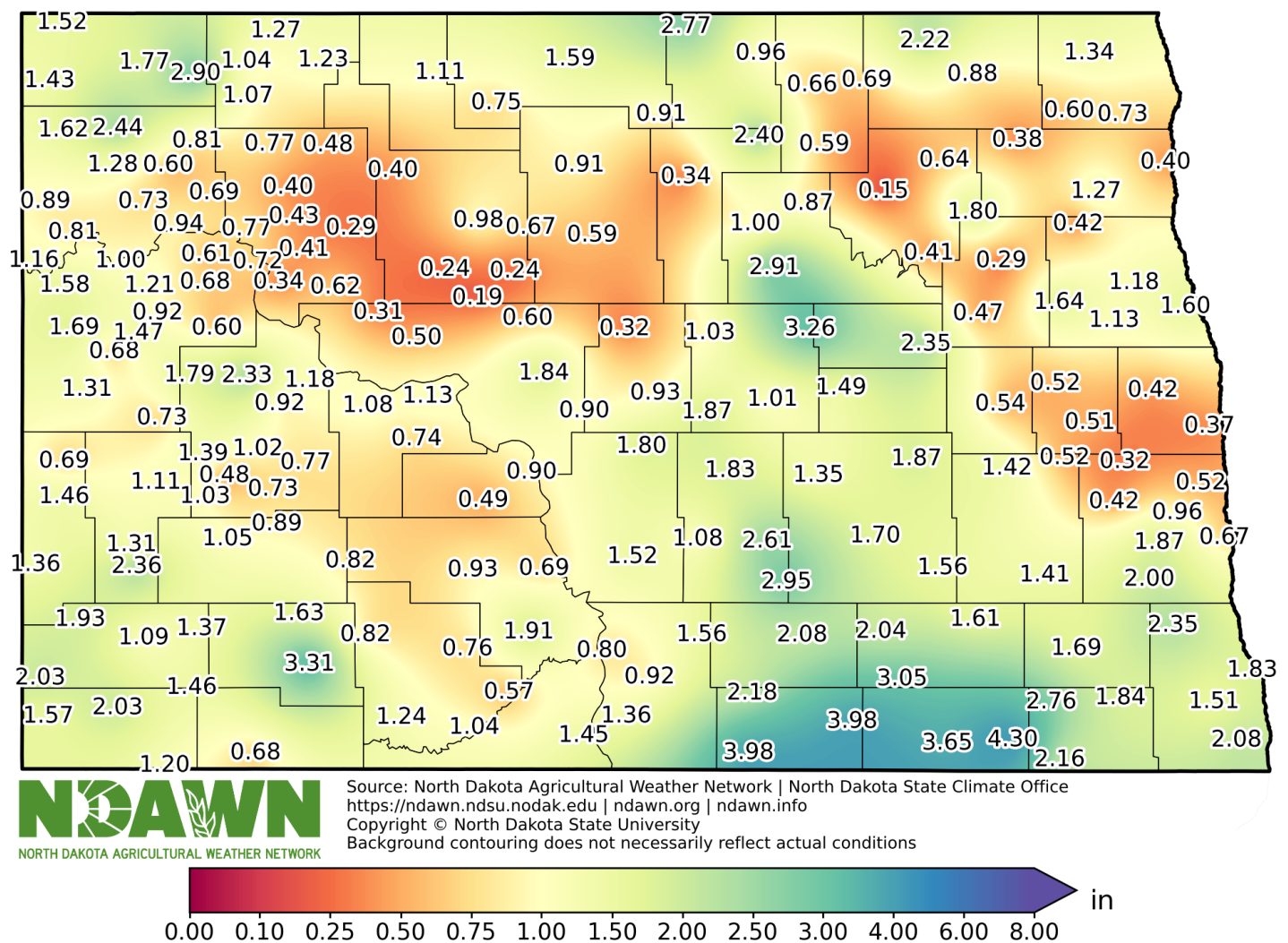


Figure 3: Total Precipitation measured at NDAWN stations in July 2026

From a long-term perspective, precipitation for the past 3 months has been about 70% of normal, with only 6.4" averaged statewide. For the current water year, the statewide average precipitation is sitting at 13.0", 86% of normal. (Figure 4).

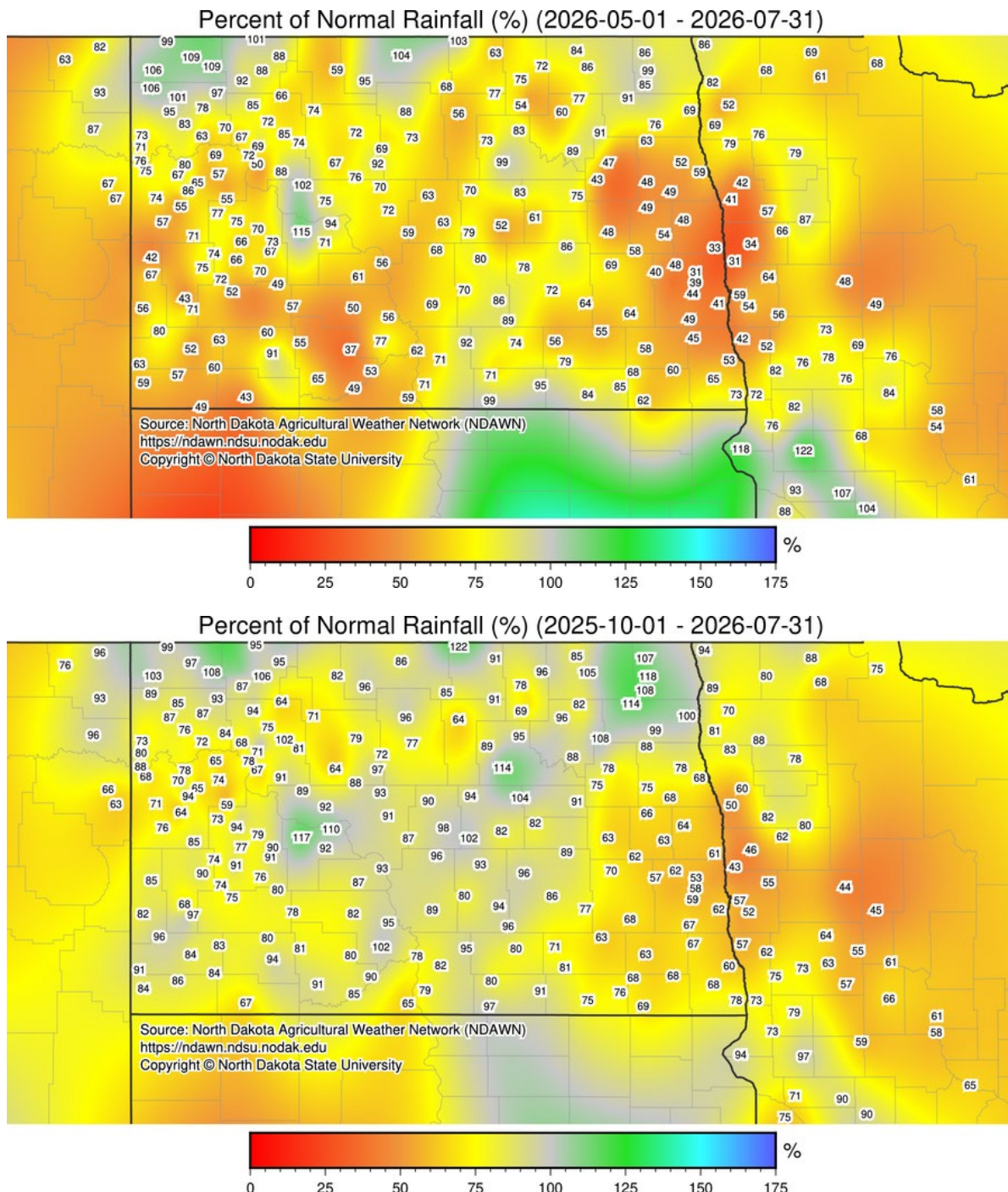


Figure 4: Percent of Average Precipitation measured at NDAWN stations since May 1, 2026 and October 1, 2025

The prolonged dryness has exacerbated drought conditions across North Dakota, with nearly 80% of the state classified between Abnormally Dry (D0), Moderate Drought (D1), and Severe Drought (D2) (Figure 5).

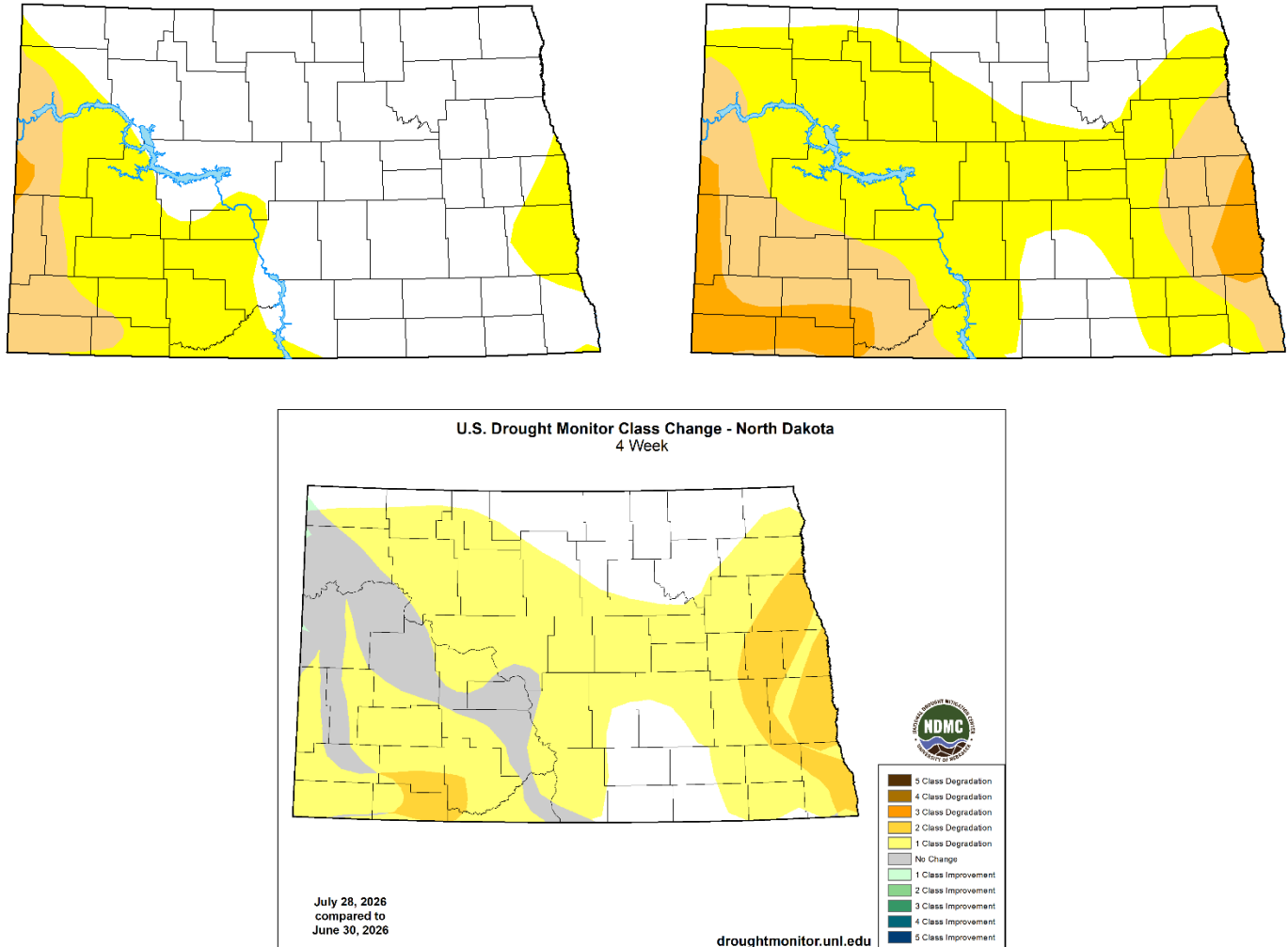


Figure 5: U.S. Drought Monitor conditions June 30, 2026 (top left), July 28, 2026 (top right), and Class Change (bottom)

Week	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
2026-06-30	67.80	23.40	8.45	0.35	0.00	0.00
2026-07-28	21.93	49.69	19.86	8.52	0.00	0.00
Change	-45.87	+26.29	+11.41	+8.17	0.00	0.00

Table 1: Categorical Percent Area and change between June 30, 2026 and July 28, 2026 in the U.S. Drought Monitor

Temperature Summary

July 2026 Statewide Average Temperature: 73.6°F

Departure from Normal Statewide Temperature: 4.4°F above normal

Most of the state finished well above average for July, with only Williams County finishing near average temperature-wise. Both the average daily maximums and minimums were well above average.

Departure from Normal Average Air Temperature (°F) 07-01-2026 - 07-31-2026

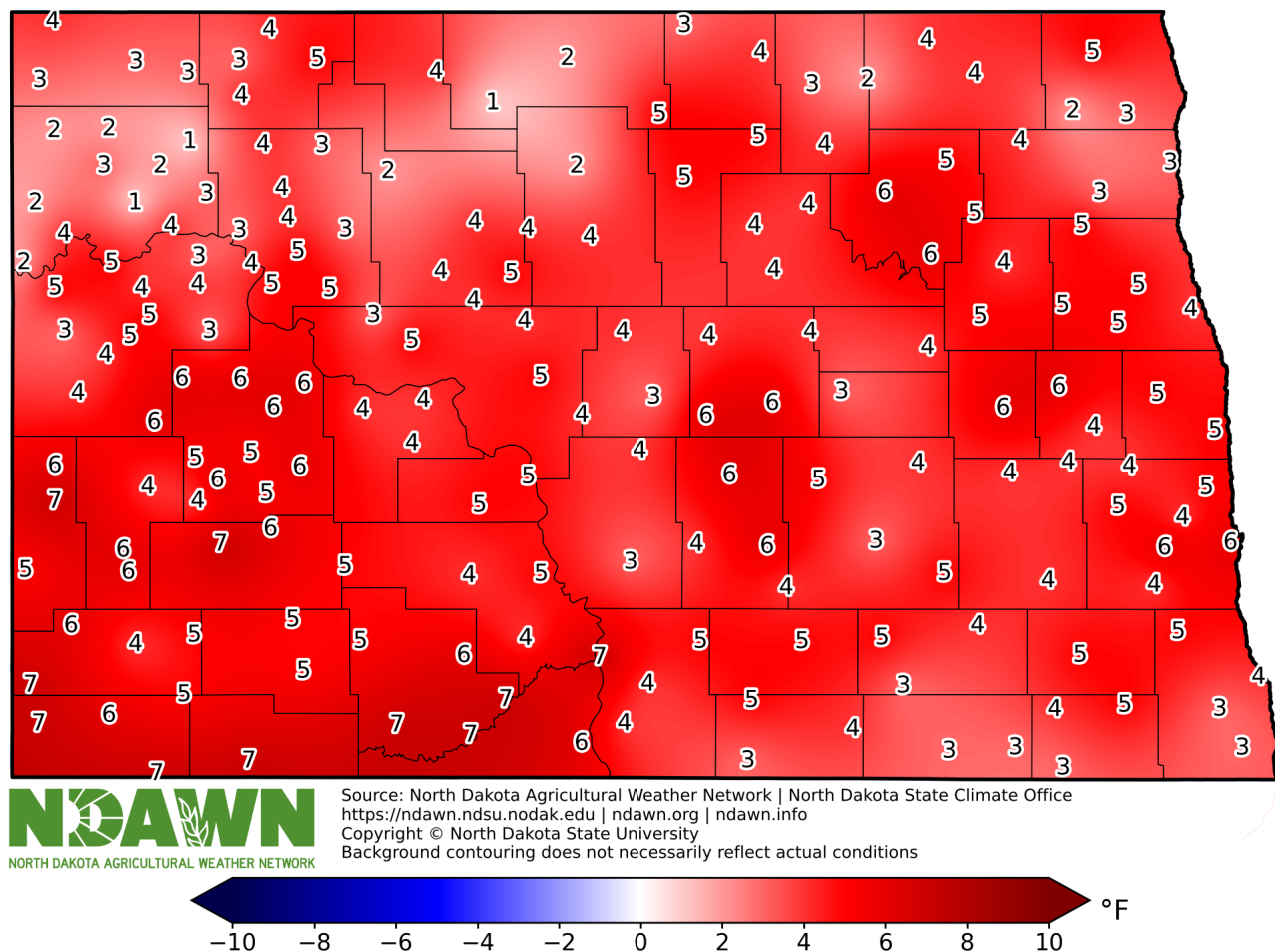
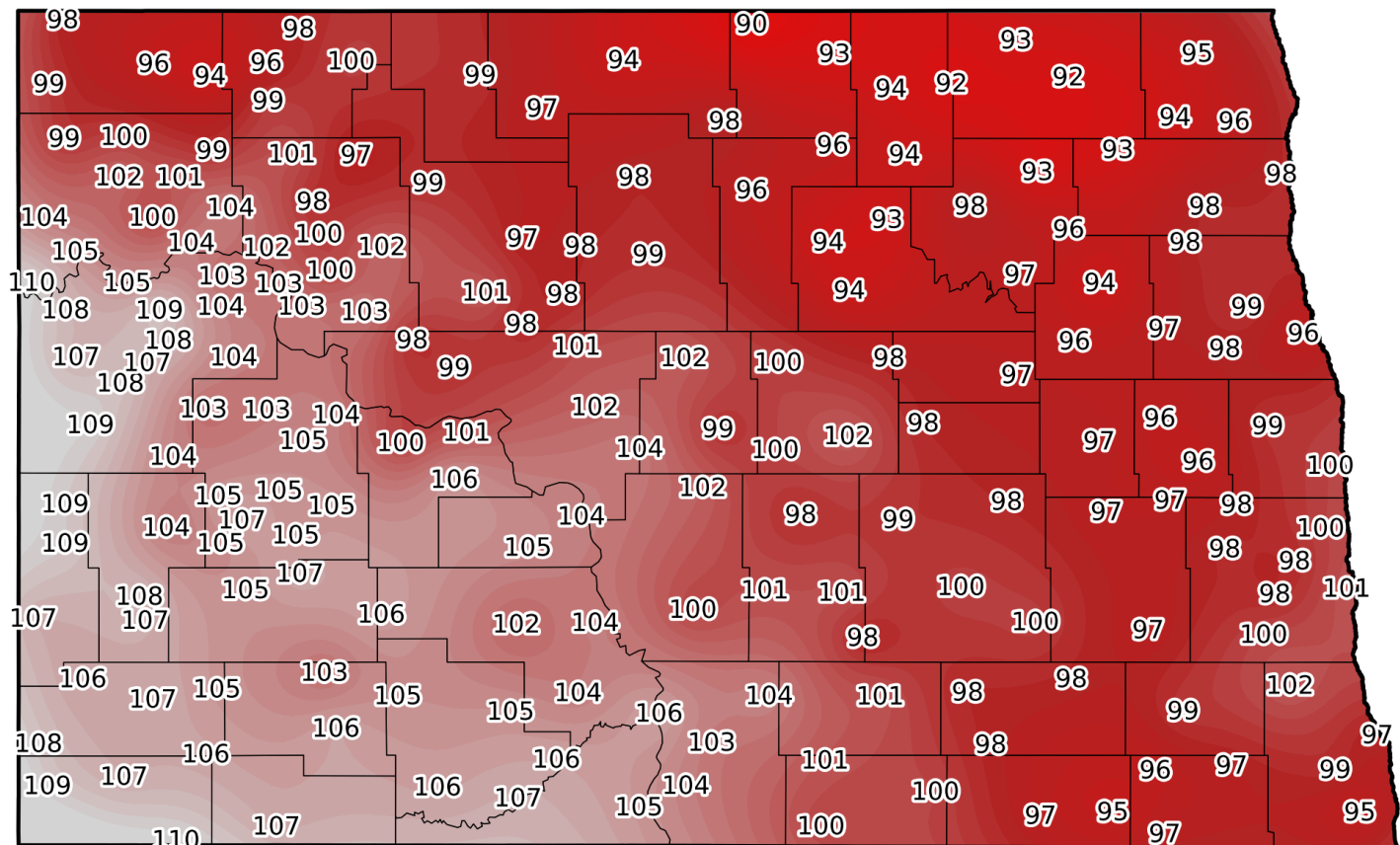


Figure 6: Departure from Normal Average Air Temperature measured at NDAWN stations in July 2026

The highest temperature recorded during July at NDAWN stations in North Dakota was 109.9°F at Haley 3W NDAWN in Bowman County on July 12 (Figure 7). Temperatures exceeding 90°F were common this month, but especially in southwestern North Dakota and the central Red River Valley. Southwest and South Central North Dakota also recorded a pronounced stretch of 100°F+.

Maximum Temperature (°F)

07-01-2026 - 07-31-2026



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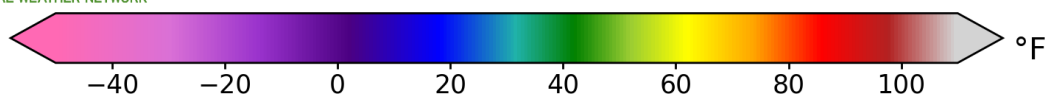
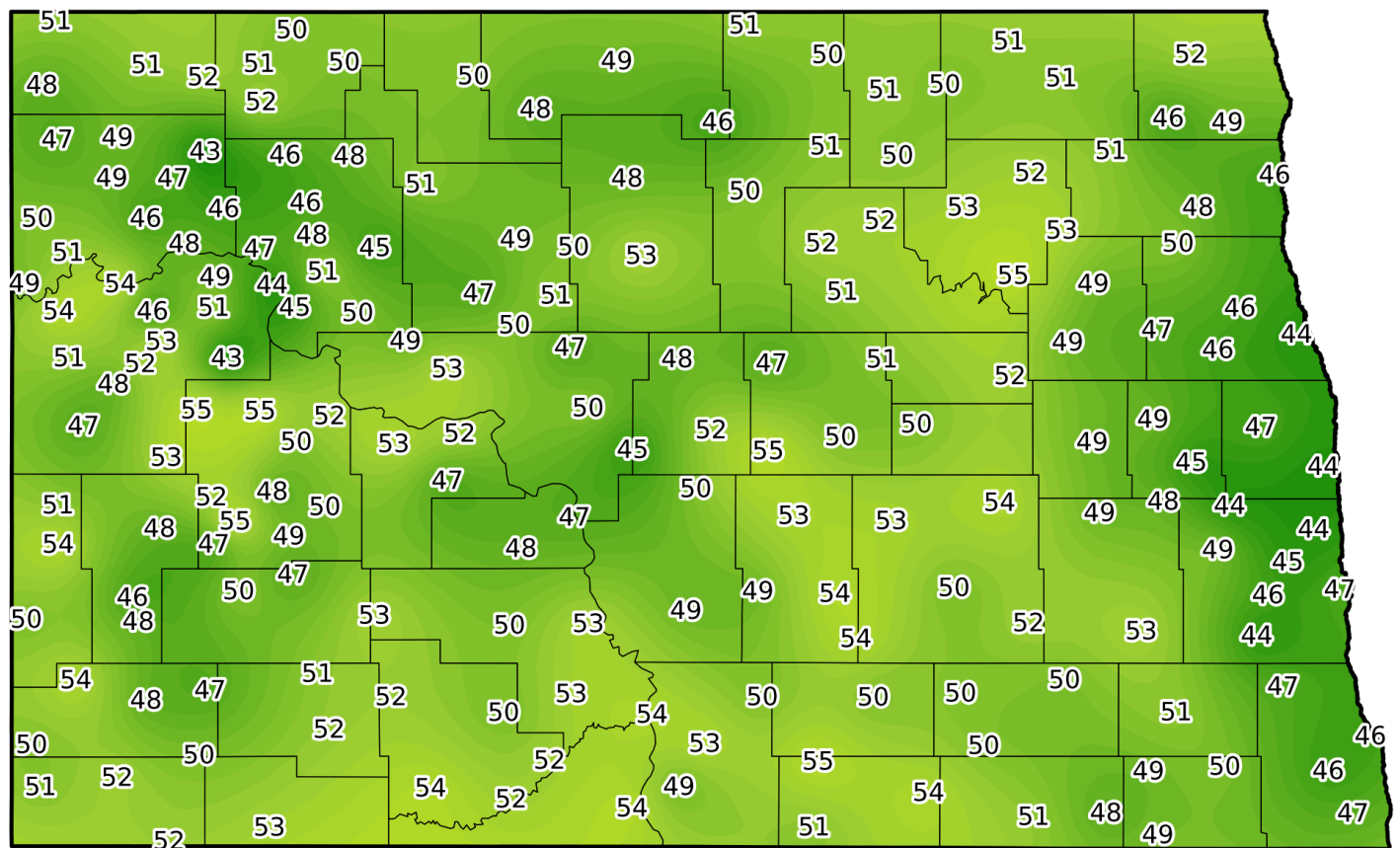


Figure 7: Maximum Air Temperature measured at NDAWN stations in July 2026

The lowest temperature recorded during July at NDAWN stations in North Dakota was 42.6°F on July 22 at Tioga 7NW NDAWN in Williams County (Figure 8). Multiple nights did not drop below 70°F across some parts of the state.

Minimum Temperature (°F)

07-01-2026 - 07-31-2026



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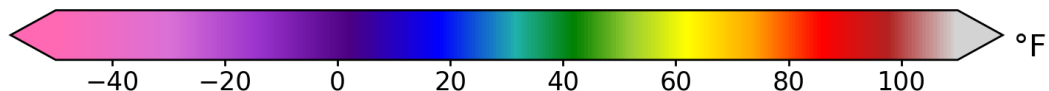


Figure 8: Minimum Air Temperature measured at NDAWN stations in July 2026

North Dakota July 2026 Summary

Precipitation	Total	Normal	Anomaly	Rank	Record
	1.25"	2.98"	-1.73"	122nd Wettest	7.97" (1993)
				12th Driest	0.64" (1936)
Temperature	Average T	Avg Max T	Avg Min T	Maximum	Minimum
	73.6°F	86.9°F	60.3°F	109.9°F	42.6°F
	Anomaly	+4.4°F	+5.2°F		
Rank					
Warmest	6th Warmest	11th Warmest	5th Warmest		
Coolest	127th Coolest	122nd Coolest	128th Coolest		
Record					
Warmest	80.1°F (1936)	96.6°F (1936)	63.7°F (1936)	121°F (Steele, 1936)	20°F (Dunn Center, 1919)
Coolest	61.8°F (1992)	72.2°F (1993)	50.3°F (1992)		

Table 2: July precipitation & temperature summary for North Dakota. 2026 statistics from NDAWN station data. Ranking and records based on NCEI climate data (1895-2026) (NOAA).

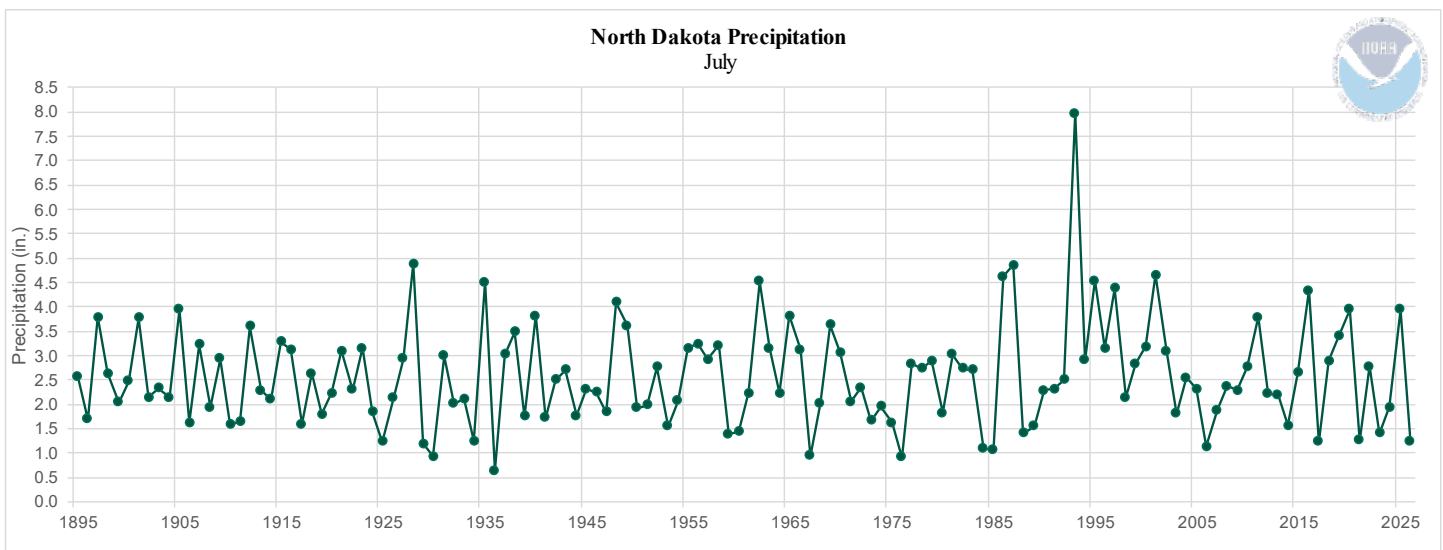
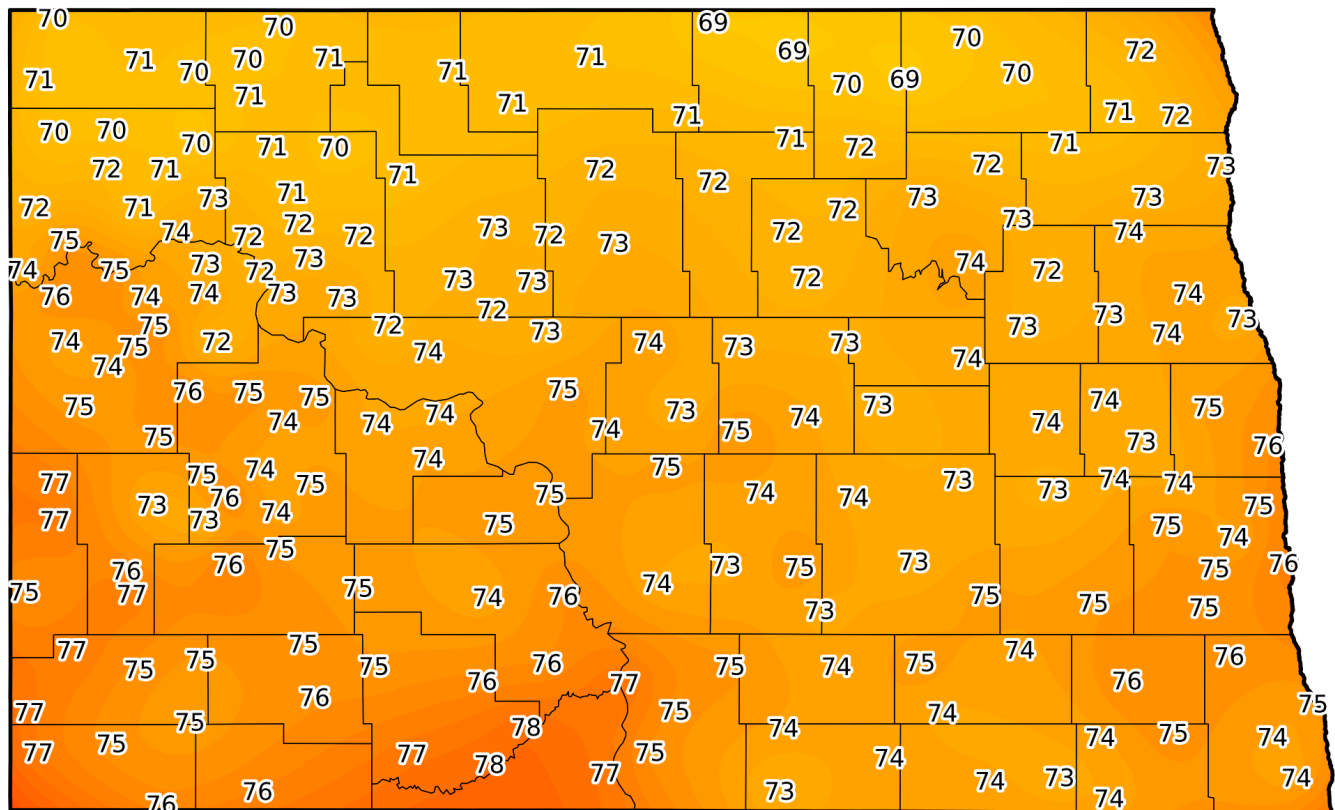


Figure 9: Average Precipitation in North Dakota for July (via NCEI)

Average Air Temperature (°F)

07-01-2026 - 07-31-2026



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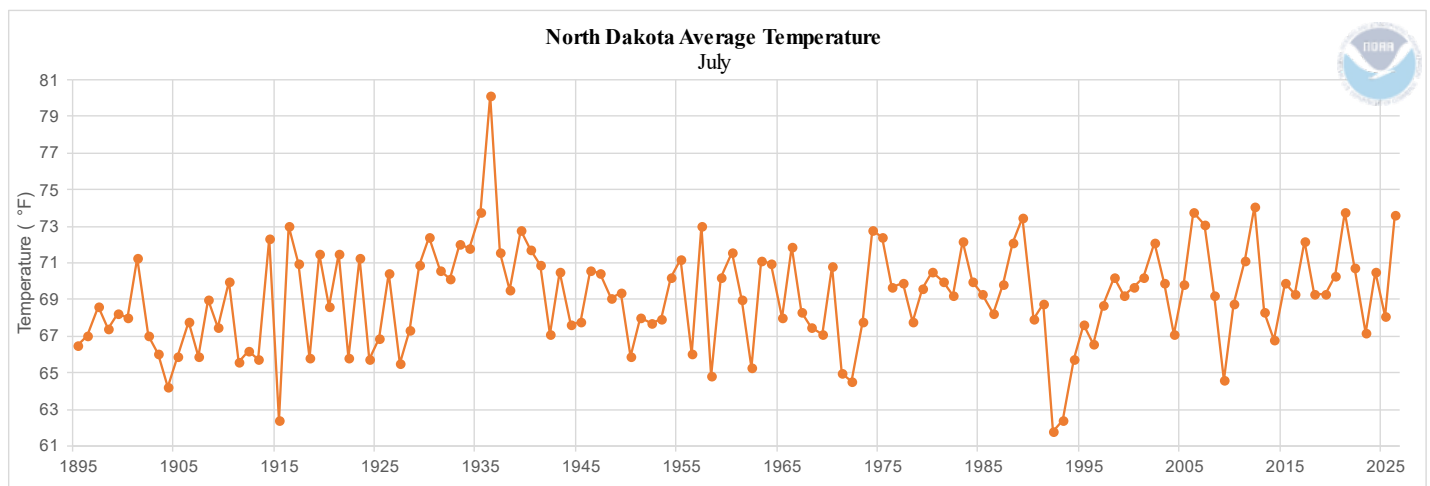
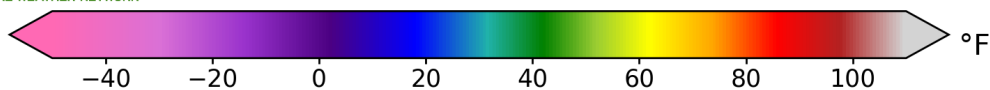
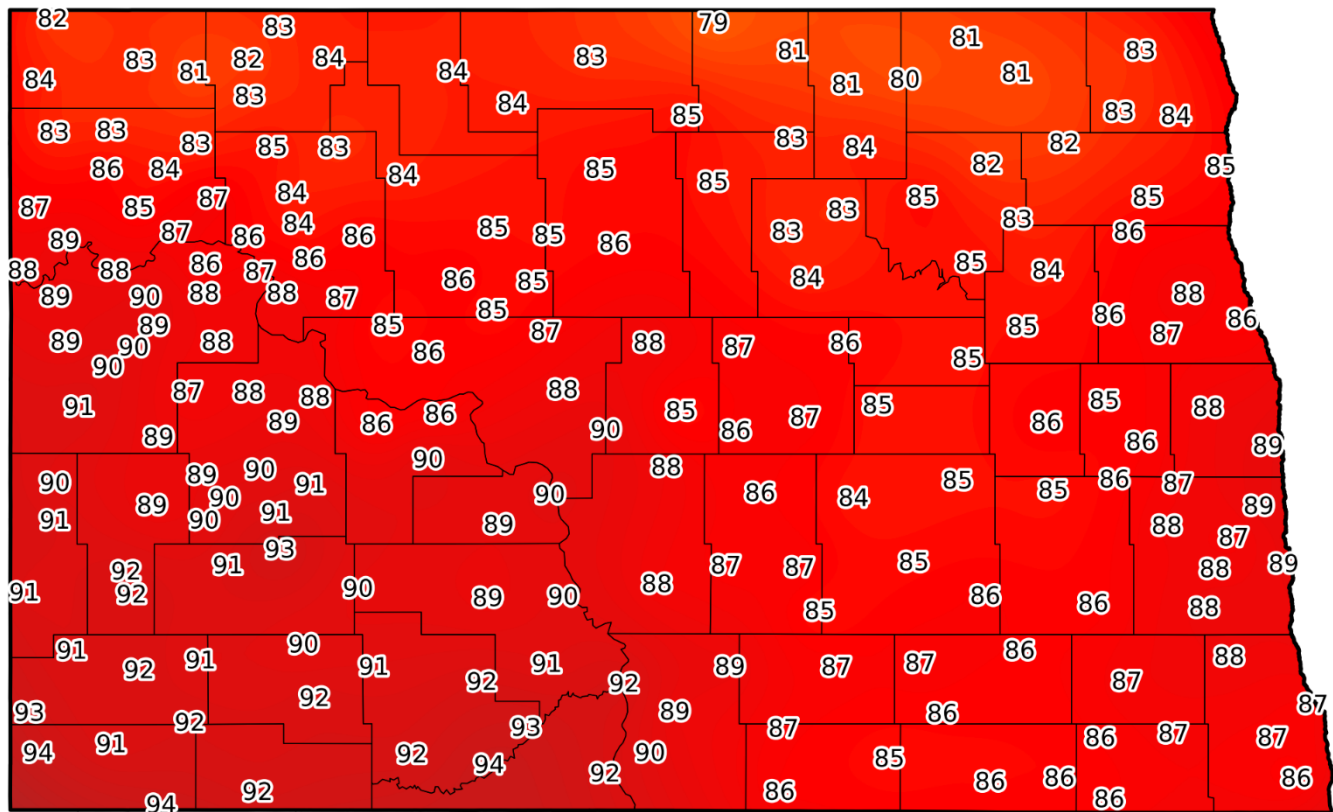


Figure 10: Average Air Temperature for July 2026 at NDAWN stations (top) and historically via NCEI (bottom)

Average Daily Maximum Temperature (°F)

07-01-2026 - 07-31-2026



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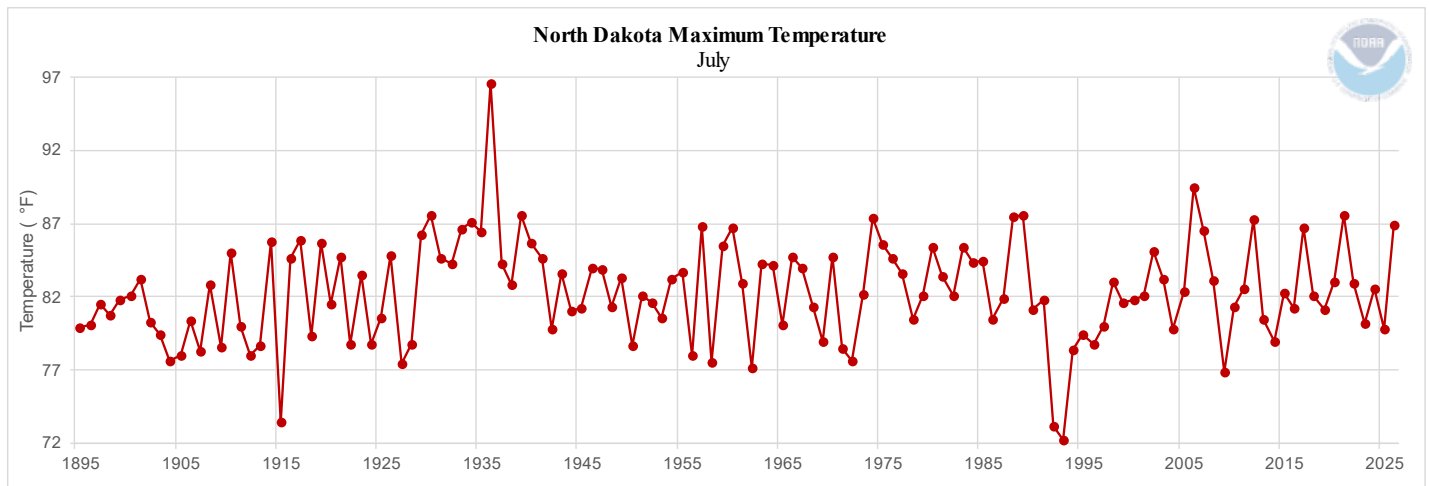
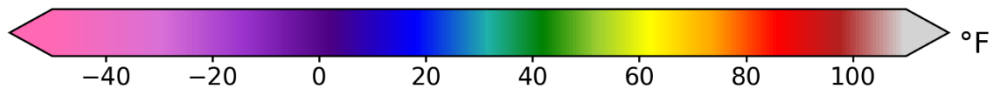
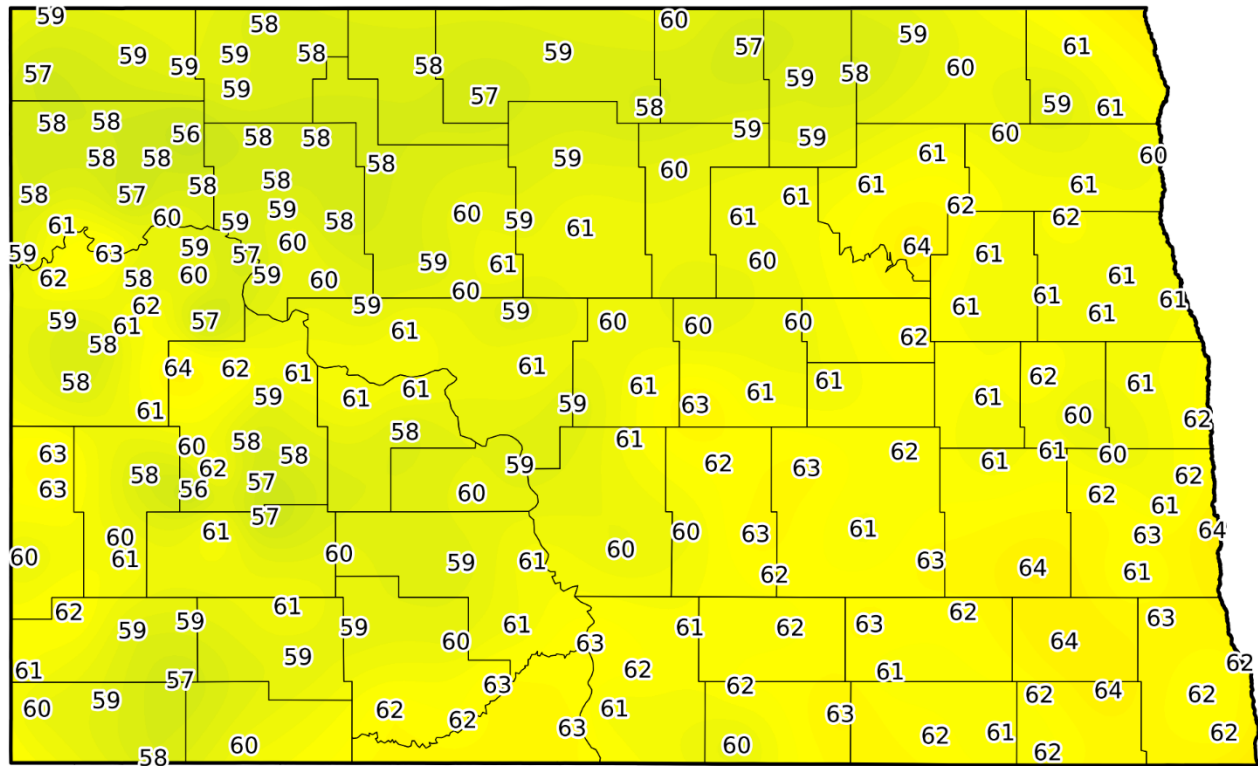


Figure 11: Average Maximum Temperature for July 2026 at NDAWN stations (top) and historically via NCEI (bottom)

Average Daily Minimum Temperature (°F)

07-01-2026 - 07-31-2026



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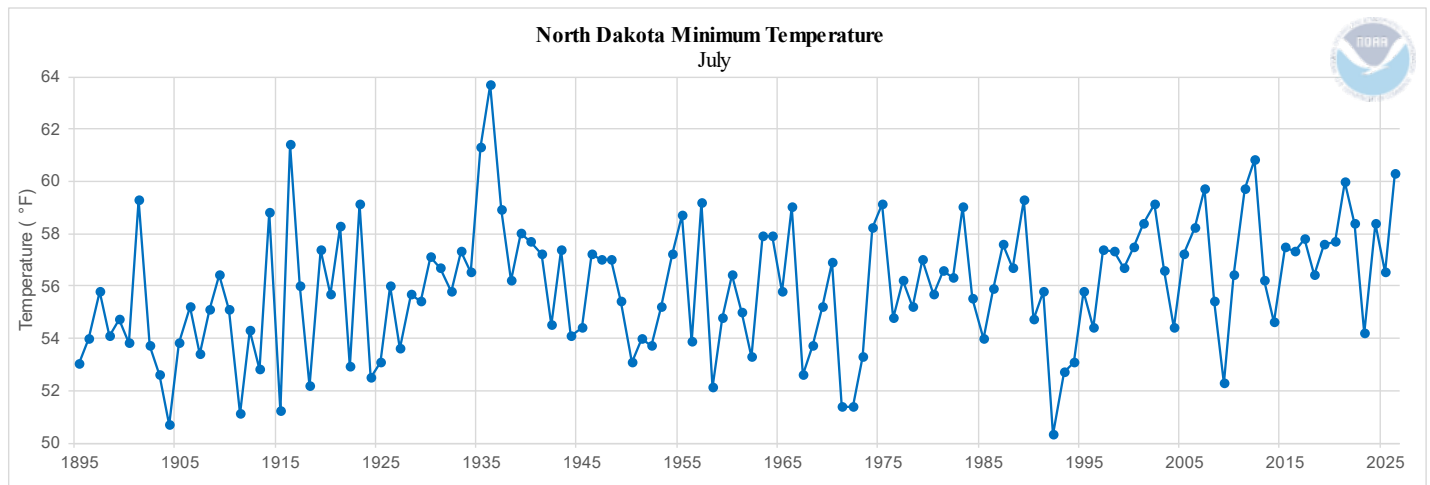
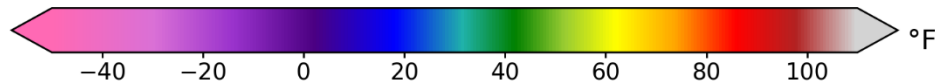


Figure 12: Average Minimum Temperature for July 2026 at NDAWN stations (top) and historically via NCEI (bottom)

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