

No.	Historical Event	Area Affected	Recurrence Interval (years)	Damages (\$)	Comments	Source of Information
1	March 1930 - August 1931	Statewide	10 to 20		Began decade of low-flow conditions. Streamflow generally greater than 7-day, 10-year value in central and northern Indiana	U.S. Geological Survey Water Resources Division <a href="http://in.water.usgs.gov/drought/">http://in.water.usgs.gov/drought/</a>
2	June 1933 - September 1936	Statewide	25 to 60		Streamflow less than 7-day, 10-year value in central and northern Indiana	
3	May 1939 - January 1942	Statewide	20 to 60		Central Indiana severely affected. Most streams had less flow than 7-day, 10-year value	
4	April 1952 - March 1957	Statewide	10 to 60		Streamflow less than 7-day, 10-year value. Broken in northern Indiana in Oct. 1954 by floods.	
5	April 1962 - November 1966	Statewide	20 to 60		Streamflow less than 7-day, 10-year value. Floods occurred in 1963 and 1964 in central and southern Indiana.	
6	December 1986 - 1988	Statewide	Unknown		Ongoing. Nationwide attention. Affecting agriculture, water supply, and electric-power generation	
7	Drought 1988				Most of the State of Indiana was under extreme temperatures and prolonged periods of little or no rain. Several hundreds of thousands of dollars in crops and agricultueal losses.	Evansville - Vanderburgh County Community Comprehensive Hazard Analysis
8	1999 - No specific dates given Described as the Heat Wave of July 1999 in the Midwest Regional Climate Center	Statewide	Unknown		Palmer Index within report places Vanderburgh County in the worst drought since 1952 to 1957 episode. Bans on burning were issued in both 2002 and 1999.	Evansville - Vanderburgh County Community Comprehensive Hazard Analysis
	01-Aug-99	Southwest Corner of Indiana Gibson, Pike, Posey, Spencer, Vanderburgh, and Warrick Counties	Unknown		After one of the wettest Junes on record, the rest of the summer was very dry. By the end of August, Southwest Indiana was in a moderate drought, according to the Palmer Drought Index. Total rainfall at Evansville from July 1 through the end of August was around 2.5 inches, which is less than one third of the normal rainfall. <b>Effects on crop yields were mild.</b> The greatest effect was on soybeans, which mature relatively late. The corn crop fared relatively well, mainly due to heavy spring rains, which allowed it to mature before the drought set in. In those areas where drinking water supplies were taken from the Ohio River, <b>a degradation in water quality occurred.</b> This degradation was due to nearly stagnant river flows, which contributed to algae buildups that gave the water a poor taste and appearance. The <b>dry weather raised fire danger</b> into the high category at times. <b>A number of brush and field fires occurred</b> , including one near the junction of Interstate 64 and U.S. 41. A couple of bean and corn field fires scorched 5 to 10 acres each.	National Climatic Data Center
	01-Sep-99	Southwest Corner of Indiana Gibson, Pike, Posey, Spencer, Vanderburgh, and Warrick Counties	Unknown		The moderate summer drought <b>took a considerable toll on crops</b> across Southwest Indiana. Rainfall at Evansville for the three-month period from July through September was about 3 inches. This compares to a 3-month average of around 10 inches. Evansville received 0.39 inches in September, which was 3 inches below normal. The soybean crop suffered the greatest effects from the drought, with average yields estimated only about 20 percent of normal. Corn yields were much closer to normal, mainly due to heavy rains in June and early July, when the corn crop matures. <b>The fire danger reached extreme levels at times. The governor of Indiana declared a total burning ban</b> across all of Southwest Indiana. A wildland fire in mid-September scorched several hundred acres near Chandler, which is in Warrick County. <b>A field fire</b> early in the month occurred near Evansville at the junction of Interstate 164 and U.S. Highway 41. Although no evacuations were required, the westbound lanes of Interstate 164 were closed briefly due to smoke. A wildfire on September 27 burned about 150 acres just west of Owensville in Gibson County. Fire departments from throughout the area <b>worked to extinguish this fire</b> .	NCDC / Climate Resources / Climate Data / Events / Storm Events  <a href="http://www4.ncdc.noaa.gov/cgi-win/wwcgi.dll?wwevent~storms">http://www4.ncdc.noaa.gov/cgi-win/wwcgi.dll?wwevent~storms</a>
	01-Oct-99	Southwest Corner of Indiana Gibson, Pike, Posey, Spencer, Vanderburgh, and Warrick Counties	Unknown		The moderate to severe summer-long drought was greatly alleviated by heavy rain on October 8th and 9th, when 2 to 4 inches of rain fell during a 24-hour period. Unfortunately, no more rain occurred during the rest of October, which rekindled drought concerns. Before the heavy rain, a couple of wildland fires occurred in Spencer County during the first week of October. They were both field fires and were under control within several hours. The governor of Indiana lifted the burning ban once rainy conditions began.	

DROUGHT - 1

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8	01-Nov-99	Southwest Corner of Indiana Gibson, Pike, Posey, Spencer, Vanderburgh, and Warrick Counties	Unknown		The unseasonably warm and dry fall allowed drought conditions to worsen. The Palmer Drought Index fell deeper into the moderate drought category during the month. Total rainfall for the month of November at Evansville was 0.51 inches, which is 3.22 inches below normal. Since the official growing season was over, crop damage was no longer a major concern. As a result of temperatures in the 70s, gusty winds, and low humidity, wildfire activity was well above normal. Upon receiving a recommendation from the governor of Indiana, most counties in Southwest Indiana <b>banned outdoor burning</b> . Two of the largest fires occurred in rural Warrick and Spencer Counties, east of Evansville. These fires were near Elberfeld in Warrick County and near Gentryville in Spencer County. The fire near Gentryville consumed about 100 acres and required assistance from Warrick County firefighters.	National Climatic Data Center NCDC / Climate Resources / Climate Data / Events / Storm Events <a href="http://www4.ncdc.noaa.gov/cgi-win/wwcgi.dll?wwevent~storms">http://www4.ncdc.noaa.gov/cgi-win/wwcgi.dll?wwevent~storms</a>
	01-Dec-99	Southwest Corner of Indiana Gibson, Pike, Posey, Spencer, Vanderburgh, and Warrick Counties	Unknown		Moderate drought conditions continued to plague southwest Indiana into early winter. Heavy rainfall during mid month, up to 4 inches in some places, brought significant relief. Until then, <b>wildfire danger was especially high</b> . The <b>Christmas tree crop was damaged</b> by the long-term drought. Most tree seedlings died, but the larger trees fared remarkably well.	
	08/01/2002	Southwest Corner of Indiana Gibson, Pike, Posey, Spencer, Vanderburgh, and Warrick Counties	Unknown		Moderate drought conditions developed over southwest Indiana during August as a result of persistent dryness that began in June. At Boonville, which is about 15 miles east of Evansville, total rainfall during the month of August was 0.08 inches. Evansville reported 0.63 inches during the month, compared to a normal of 3.14 inches. This dry period came on the heels of a very wet first half of the year, when 24.90 inches fell from January through May. <b>The main effect of the drought was on agriculture</b> . Farmers anticipated substantial crop losses at harvest time. Heavy spring rains delayed planting of many crops until late May, which made them especially susceptible to the summer drought.	
	09/01/2002	Southwest Corner of Indiana Gibson, Pike, Posey, Spencer, Vanderburgh, and Warrick Counties	Unknown	70 million	A prolonged summer drought gradually worsened, becoming severe by early September. Many parts of southwest Indiana received little or no measurable rainfall during August. At Boonville, only 0.08 inch was measured in August. Evansville reported an August total of 0.63 inch. Rainfall was highly variable during the summer, and Evansville reported more rain than many other sites. <b>The main effect of the drought was on agriculture. Crop loss estimates totalled around 70 million dollars</b> . The corn crop, which was especially susceptible to the combined effects of heat and drought, took the biggest hit. About 50 million dollars in corn was lost in southwest Indiana. Another 20 million dollars was lost in soybean production. Some trees and shrubs died in the drought, especially newly planted ones with shallow root systems. However, <b>the effects of this drought on trees, shrubs, and wildfire danger was considerably less than the drought of 1999</b> . The remnants of Tropical Storm Isidore provided very heavy rainfall late in September. One to three inches of rain fell over most of southwest Indiana, which greatly eased the drought.	

**DROUGHT - 2**