

MN Interagency Guide for Determining Preparedness Level

	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV	Level V	5 Day Ave
Statewide						
BI (X) spring/pre-green	0 - 31	32 - 63	64 - 126	127 - 158	159 +	66.4
BUI after June 1	0 - 29	30 - 49	50 - 69	70 - 88	89 +	30.5
ERC (Y) after June 1	0 - 16	17 - 23	24 - 28	29 - 31	32 +	16.6
Arrowhead						
BI (X) spring/pre-green	0 - 27	28 - 56	57 - 111	112 - 143	144 +	57.7
BUI after June 1	0 - 12	13 - 24	25 - 49	50 - 68	69 +	31.7
ERC (Y) after June 1	0 - 15	16 - 22	23 - 27	28 - 30	31 +	14.3
East Central Hardwoods						
BI (X) spring/pre-green	0 - 34	35 - 68	69 - 137	138 - 166	167 +	67.6
BUI after June 1	0 - 39	40 - 59	60 - 79	80 - 100	101 +	40.3
ERC (Y) after June 1	0 - 16	17 - 23	24 - 29	30 - 31	32 +	20.0
North Central Woodlands						
BI (X) spring/pre-green	0 - 30	31 - 63	64 - 126	127 - 155	156 +	67.4
BUI after June 1	0 - 39	40 - 59	60 - 79	80 - 100	101 +	29.2
ERC (Y) after June 1	0 - 16	17 - 23	24 - 27	28 - 31	32 +	15.6
Northern Peatlands						
BI (X) spring/pre-green	0 - 29	30 - 62	63 - 123	124 - 155	156 +	66.3
BUI after June 1	0 - 24	25 - 54	55 - 69	70 - 85	86 +	21.2
ERC (Y) after June 1	0 - 16	17 - 23	24 - 28	29 - 31	32 +	15.5
Prairie Parklands						
BI (X) spring/pre-green	0 - 36	37 - 71	72 - 142	143 - 175	176 +	71.5
BUI after June 1	0 - 24	25 - 54	55 - 69	70 - 85	86 +	29.6
ERC (Y) after June 1	0 - 17	18 - 24	25 - 29	30 - 32	33 +	14.0
Southeast Hardwoods						
BI (X) spring/pre-green	0 - 38	39 - 75	76 - 150	151 - 184	185 +	76.0
BUI after June 1	0 - 39	40 - 59	60 - 79	80 - 100	101 +	36.8
ERC (Y) after June 1	0 - 17	18 - 24	25 - 30	31 - 33	34 +	22.7
Southwest Prairie						
BI (X) spring/pre-green	0 - 36	37 - 76	77 - 150	151 - 182	183 +	81.9
BUI after June 1	0 - 39	40 - 54	55 - 69	70 - 85	86+	46.7
ERC (Y) after June 1	0 - 17	18 - 24	25 - 30	31 - 33	34 +	21.2

MN Interagency Guide for Determining Preparedness Level

	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV	Level V	
8-14 day Weather Forecast	Winter conditions, most of State snow covered, temps below freezing OR full greenup with indices below thresholds.	Normal conditions for season, adequate precip. expected	Less than normal precip. and RH, higher than normal temps forecast	Dry weather patterns persisting, no change forecast	Dry pattern intensifying. Unstable weather forecast leading to extreme fire behavior conditions.	
MN FDRA Preparedness Levels	6 FDRA/Agencies at P.L. I	Two or more FDRA/Agencies at P.L. II	Two or more FDRA/Agencies at P.L. III	Two or more FDRA/Agencies at P.L. IV	Two or more FDRA/Agencies at P.L. V	
Eastern Area Prep. Level	I-II	I-III	I-IV	I-V	I-V	I
National Prep. Level	I-III	I-IV	I-V	I-V	I-V	II
Fire Occurrence (Initial Attack)	Rare, infrequent fire occurrence	Fires reported in scattered Areas. Generally less than 10 fires/day Statewide.	Multiple Areas/Agencies reporting fires. 10 to 20 fires/day Statewide	Multiple Areas/Agencies reporting fires. 20 to 30 fires/day Statewide	Multiple Areas/Agencies reporting fires. 30+ fires/day Statewide.	
Fire Occurrence (Extended attack fires)	None	Zero to 1 with resource commitment	1-2 fires requiring extended attack Statewide (more than mop-up)	3-5 fires requiring extended attack Statewide	5+ fires requiring extended attack Statewide	
Resource Availability	No shortages expected.	No shortages expected.	Moderate demand for some in-state resource types expected	Shortage of certain in-state resource types	Most in-state resources committed. Out of State assistance necessary.	
In-State Mobilization	Rare or infrequent.	Less than 5% of statewide resources assigned out of home unit.	Some short term movement occurring , 5-10% of statewide resources assigned out of home unit.	10-20% of statewide resources assigned out of home unit.	20%+ of statewide resources assigned out of home unit.	
Sociopolitical Considerations	<i>Statewide or Regional events such as fishing opener or the Fourth of July; natural events such as floods or windstorms; other unexpected or unusual events that may have large scale impacts should be considered.</i>					
Other Considerations or Comments	<p><i>Apply E during a declared State of Emergency</i></p> <p>4th of July week</p>					

Final Preparedness Level Determination

	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV	Level V
Statewide		II			
Arrowhead		II			
East Central Hardwoods			III		
North Central Woodlands		II			
Northern Peatlands		II			
Prairie Parklands		II			
Southeast Hardwoods		II			
Southwest Prairie			III		

Prepared By: Travis Verdegan
Date: Tuesday, October 13, 2026

Approved By: MNICS Taskforce
Date: Tuesday, October 13, 2026

Narrative

Overview

Precip over the last planning period remained with isolated trace amounts until yesterday's system moved across the northern 1/3rd of the state bringing widespread amounts of a quarter to half inch with a few locations seeing higher amounts. Fire activity went from near nil to levels more representative of an active fall fire season.

Precip this planning period is forecast to be minimal and isolated to the southern border. Fire activity is expected to continue with escalations being driven by available fuels and favorable fire weather with sustained build-up occurring throughout the period. Indices currently reflect a momentary deflection downward driven by recent precip and moderating fire weather in the short term.

CPC 6 – 10 and 8 – 14 Day Outlooks

CPC 6 – 10 day and 8 -14 day outlooks show a trend switch to strong signals for above normal temps and indications of above normal precip.

Drought Monitor

The latest drought monitor shows little change over the previous week.

NFDRS values including both BI – X and ERC – Y are a double set of peaks and valleys. One for the period we just went through ending in a valley and another for the coming period that establishes another peak.

CFFDRS

BUI trends show a similar up and down pattern to NFDRS indices, although only in the northern FDRAs that received adequate precip. Southern FDRAS show a continuous ramping upward towards significant buildup.

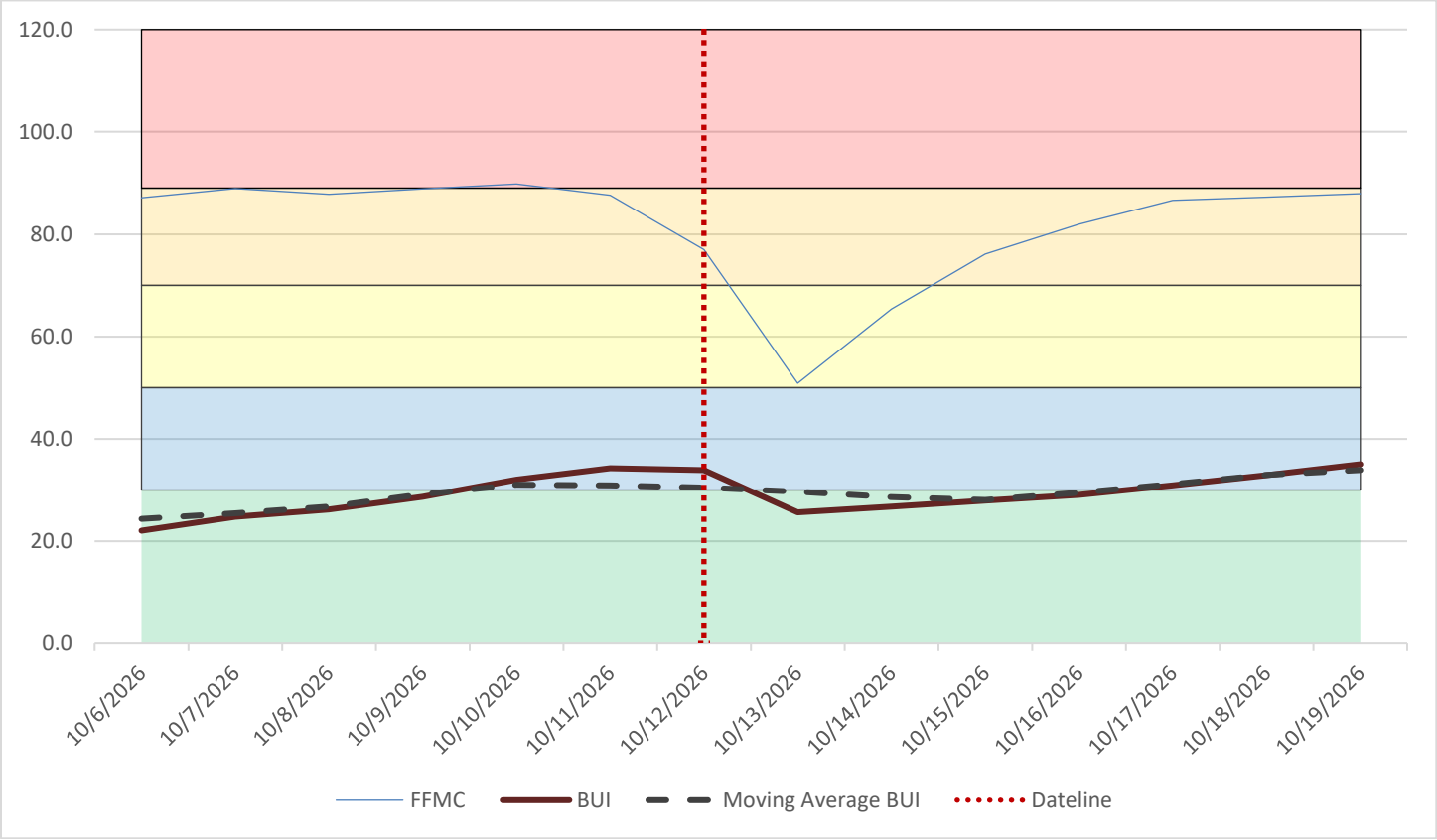
Statewide

Preparedness Indices – Statewide

Figure 1 - Year to Date NFDRS 2016 Fuel Models

Figure 2 – Statewide - NFDRS 2016 Fuel Models

Figure 3 - Statewide – BUI Average of all Station



Weather Forecasts and Outlooks

Figure 5 - Weekly Summary Forecast for Northwestern MN from NWS Grand Forks

Thief River Falls, MN Weekly Summary	Tue Oct 13	Wed Oct 14	Thu Oct 15	Fri Oct 16	Sat Oct 17	Sun Oct 18	Mon Oct 19	Tue Oct 20
Max Temp, °F	50	55	57	52	62	65	65	67
Min Temp, °F	40	34	35	31	31	42	35	42
Max RH, %	100	100	100	100	85	82	100	89
Min RH, %	68	55	47	43	35	41	37	49
Max Dewpoint, °F	43	40	42	37	36	42	39	48
Min Dewpoint, °F	39	34	35	29	27	36	35	38
Max Wind, mph	12	5	24	23	21	16	9	16
Min Wind, mph	5	1	3	6	9	5	3	9
Max Wind Gust, time/dir.	1 PM ↘	1 AM ↘	4 PM ↘	12 AM ↘	12 PM ↗	12 AM ↗	10 PM ↘	3 PM ↗
Max Wind Gust, mph	18	10	35	33	32	25	16	28
Max Prob. of Precip., %	7	0	9	9	0	0	0	11
Max Cloud Cover, %	97	100	76	70	20	45	32	38
Min Cloud Cover, %	80	52	28	3	1	10	11	11

Figure 6 - Weekly Summary Forecast for Northeastern MN from NWS Duluth

Nett Lake, MN Weekly Summary	Tue Oct 13	Wed Oct 14	Thu Oct 15	Fri Oct 16	Sat Oct 17	Sun Oct 18	Mon Oct 19	Tue Oct 20
Max Temp, °F	50	53	57	49	58	63	64	64
Min Temp, °F	39	35	31	30	26	38	32	37
Max RH, %	100	100	100	96	92	82	100	92
Min RH, %	77	54	53	39	33	43	34	48
Max Dewpoint, °F	46	40	42	37	31	41	39	44
Min Dewpoint, °F	39	34	31	25	24	31	32	35
Max Wind, mph	6	3	15	17	14	13	5	10
Min Wind, mph	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	3
Max Wind Gust, time/dir.	2 PM ↘	12 AM ↘	9 PM ↘	5 AM ↘	7 PM ↗	12 AM ↗	2 PM ↗	3 PM ↗
Max Wind Gust, mph	14	12	29	31	26	23	12	22
Max Prob. of Precip., %	16	1	39	44	0	1	1	10
Max Cloud Cover, %	100	78	77	79	16	44	44	40
Min Cloud Cover, %	79	42	45	4	3	10	9	14

Figure 7 - Weekly Summary Forecast for Southern MN from NWS Chanhassen

Albany, MN Weekly Summary	Tue Oct 13	Wed Oct 14	Thu Oct 15	Fri Oct 16	Sat Oct 17	Sun Oct 18	Mon Oct 19	Tue Oct 20
Max Temp, °F	55	55	58	53	59	65	65	67
Min Temp, °F	45	38	39	37	31	43	42	44
Max RH, %	96	100	100	89	85	80	93	100
Min RH, %	66	55	49	36	34	43	41	50
Max Dewpoint, °F	46	42	44	37	37	44	43	49
Min Dewpoint, °F	43	38	37	27	27	36	40	44
Max Wind, mph	9	6	20	22	20	14	6	14
Min Wind, mph	6	1	0	2	2	3	2	3
Max Wind Gust, time/dir.	9 AM ↘	12 AM ↘	9 PM ↘	4 AM ↘	1 PM ↗	12 AM ↗	1 PM ↗	1 PM ↗
Max Wind Gust, mph	17	12	31	32	28	23	13	22
Max Prob. of Precip., %	5	3	11	3	0	0	1	15
Max Cloud Cover, %	94	64	79	47	5	26	33	40
Min Cloud Cover, %	60	17	23	0	0	0	11	11

Figure 8 – 7 Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast from 10/13/2026

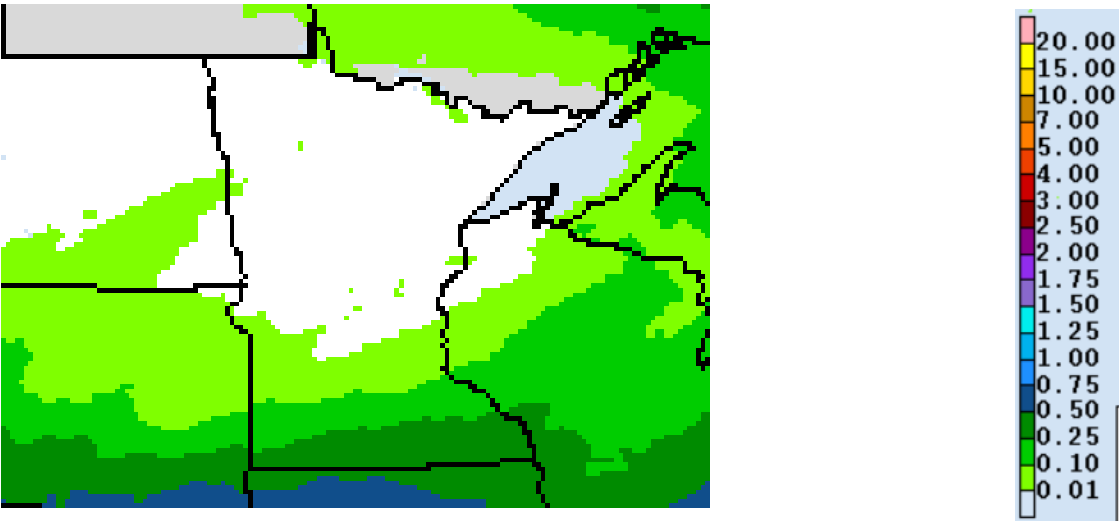


Figure 9 - CPC 6 - 10 Outlook

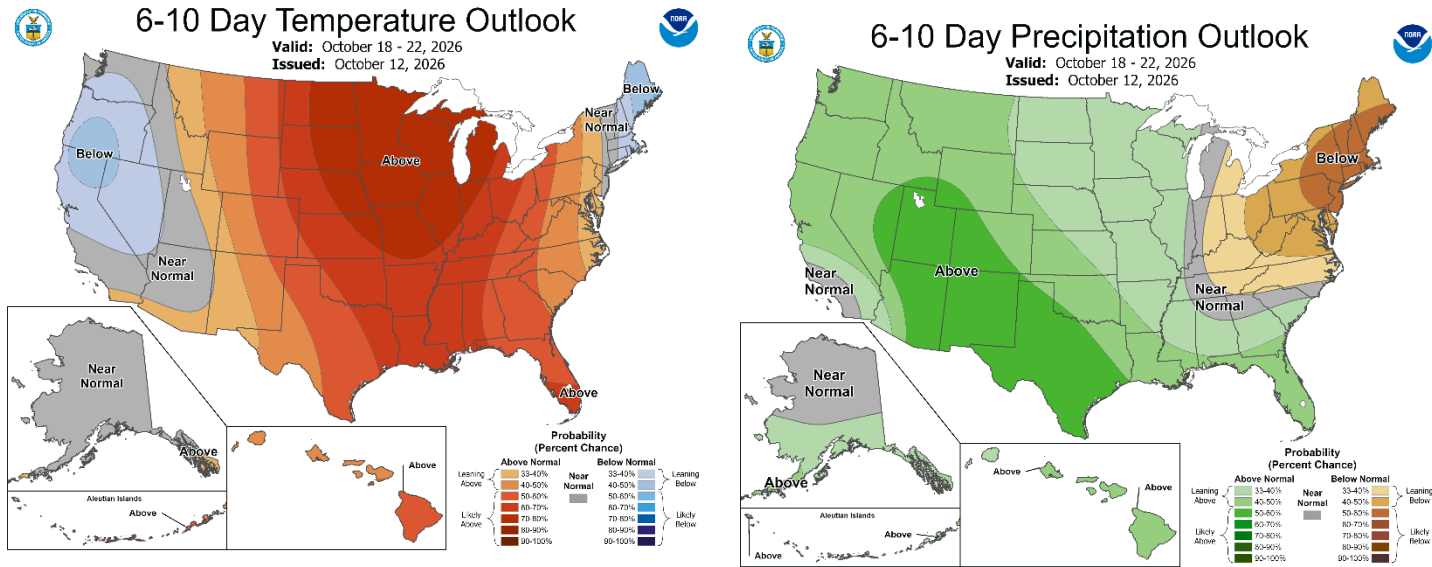
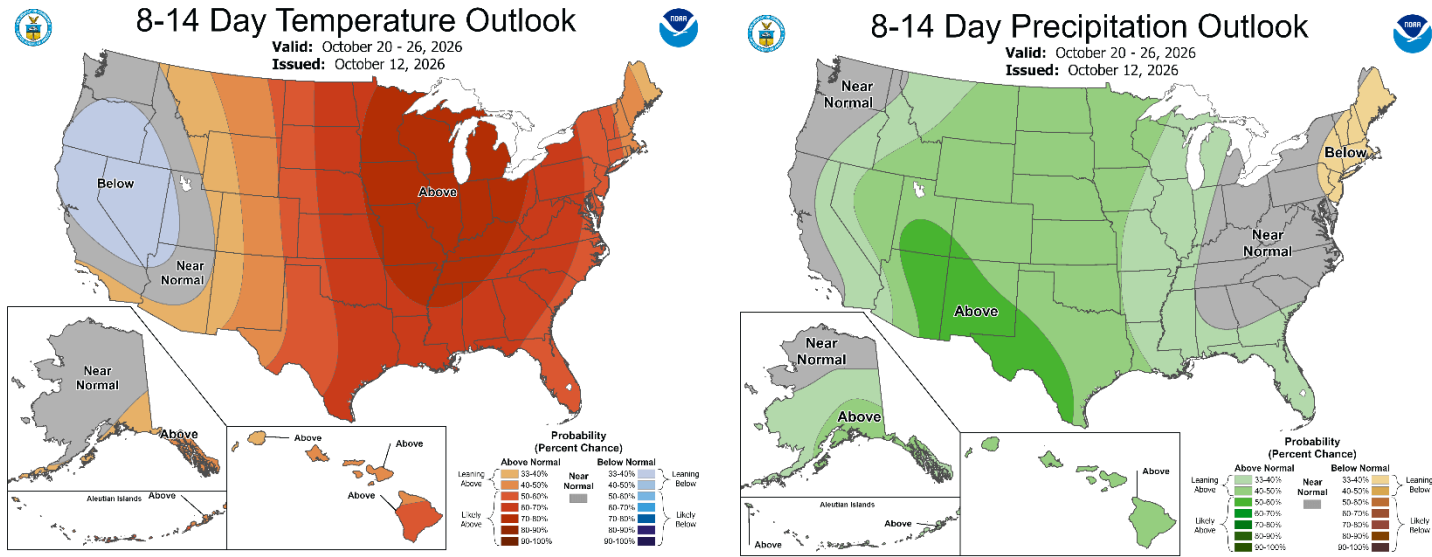
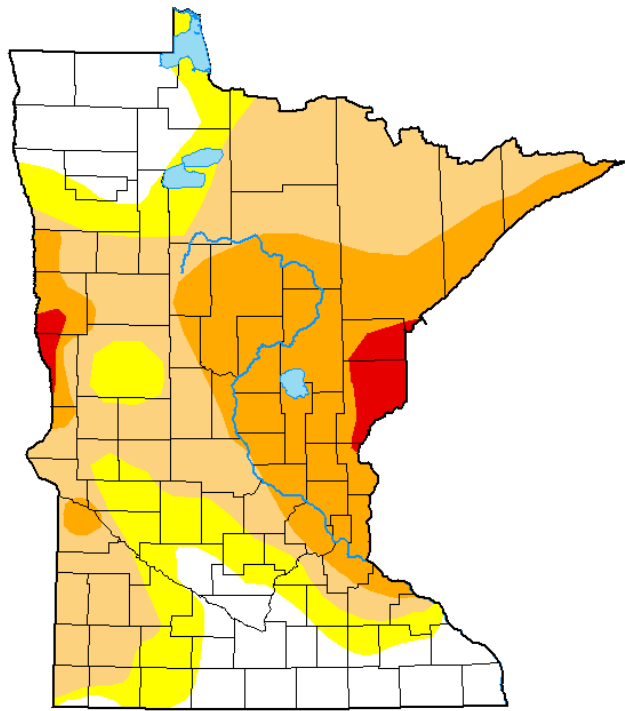


Figure 10 - CPC 8 - 14 Day Outlook



U.S. Drought Monitor
Minnesota

October 6, 2026
(Released Thursday, Oct. 8, 2026)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	19.98	80.02	62.59	27.04	2.52	0.00
Last Week 09-29-2026	19.61	80.39	63.59	27.04	2.54	0.00
3 Months Ago 07-07-2026	25.26	74.74	29.06	11.46	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-06-2026	35.13	64.87	30.35	4.24	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-30-2025	65.35	34.65	3.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 10-07-2025	42.81	57.19	12.46	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme 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>

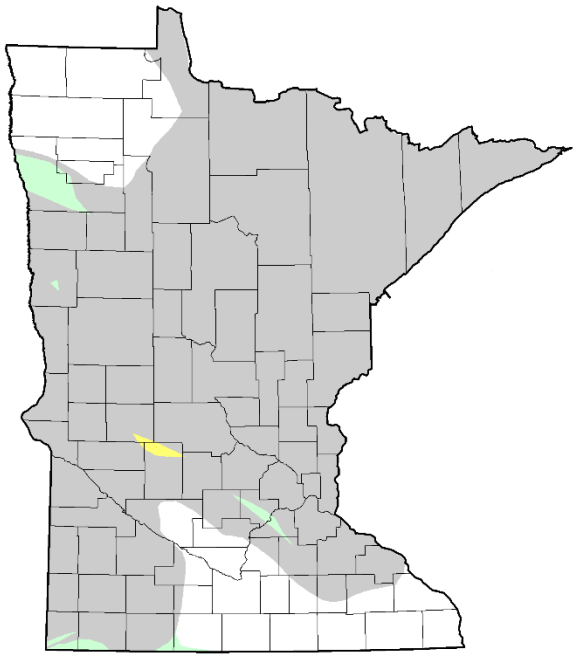
Author:

Richard Tinker
CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - Minnesota
1 Week



October 6, 2026
compared to
September 29, 2026

droughtmonitor.unl.edu



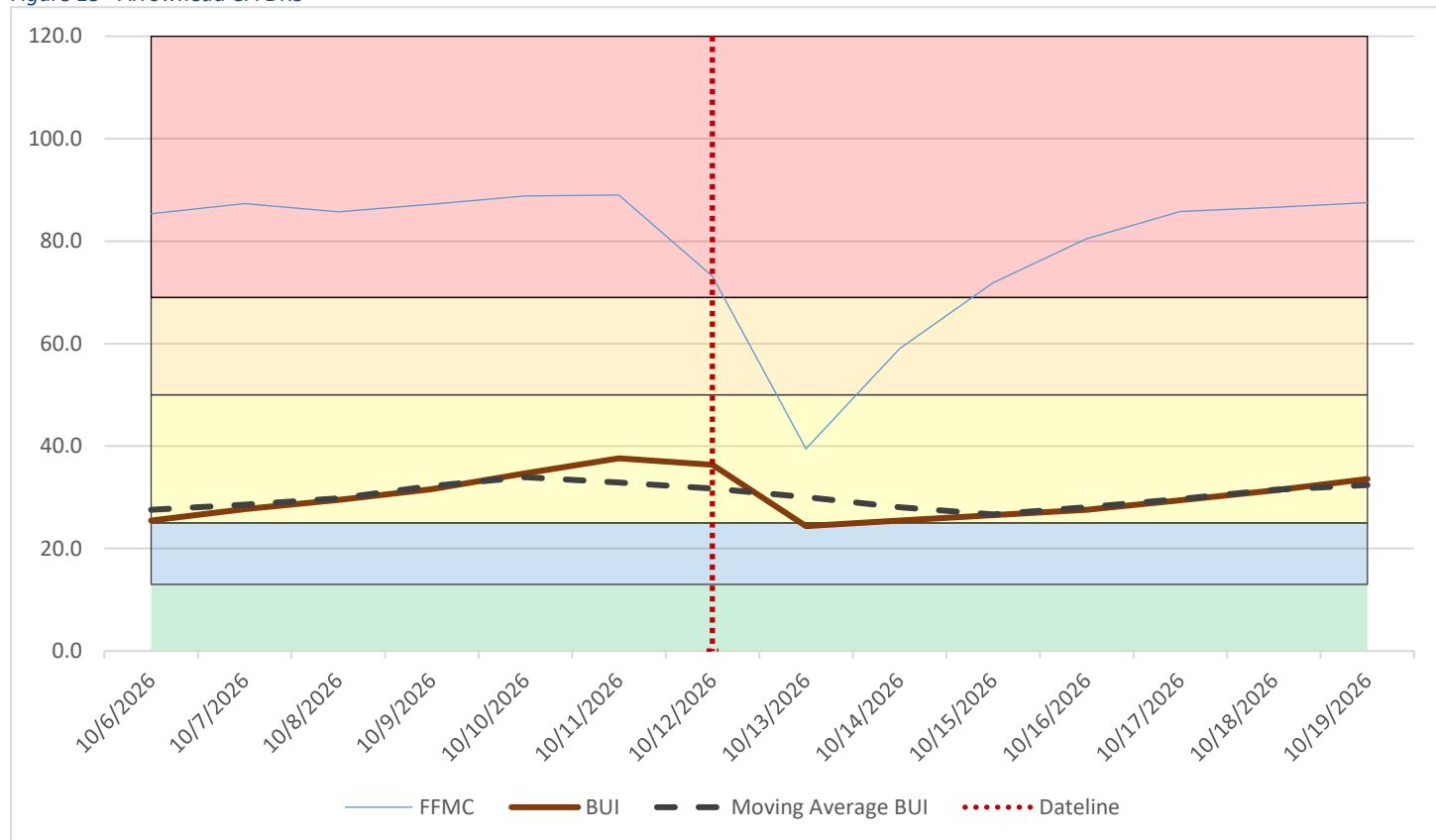
- 5 Class Degradation
- 4 Class Degradation
- 3 Class Degradation
- 2 Class Degradation
- 1 Class Degradation
- No Change
- 1 Class Improvement
- 2 Class Improvement
- 3 Class Improvement
- 4 Class Improvement
- 5 Class Improvement

Arrowhead FDRA

Preparedness Indices - Arrowhead

Figure 12 – Arrowhead – NFDRS 2016 Fuel Models

Figure 13 - Arrowhead CFFDRS

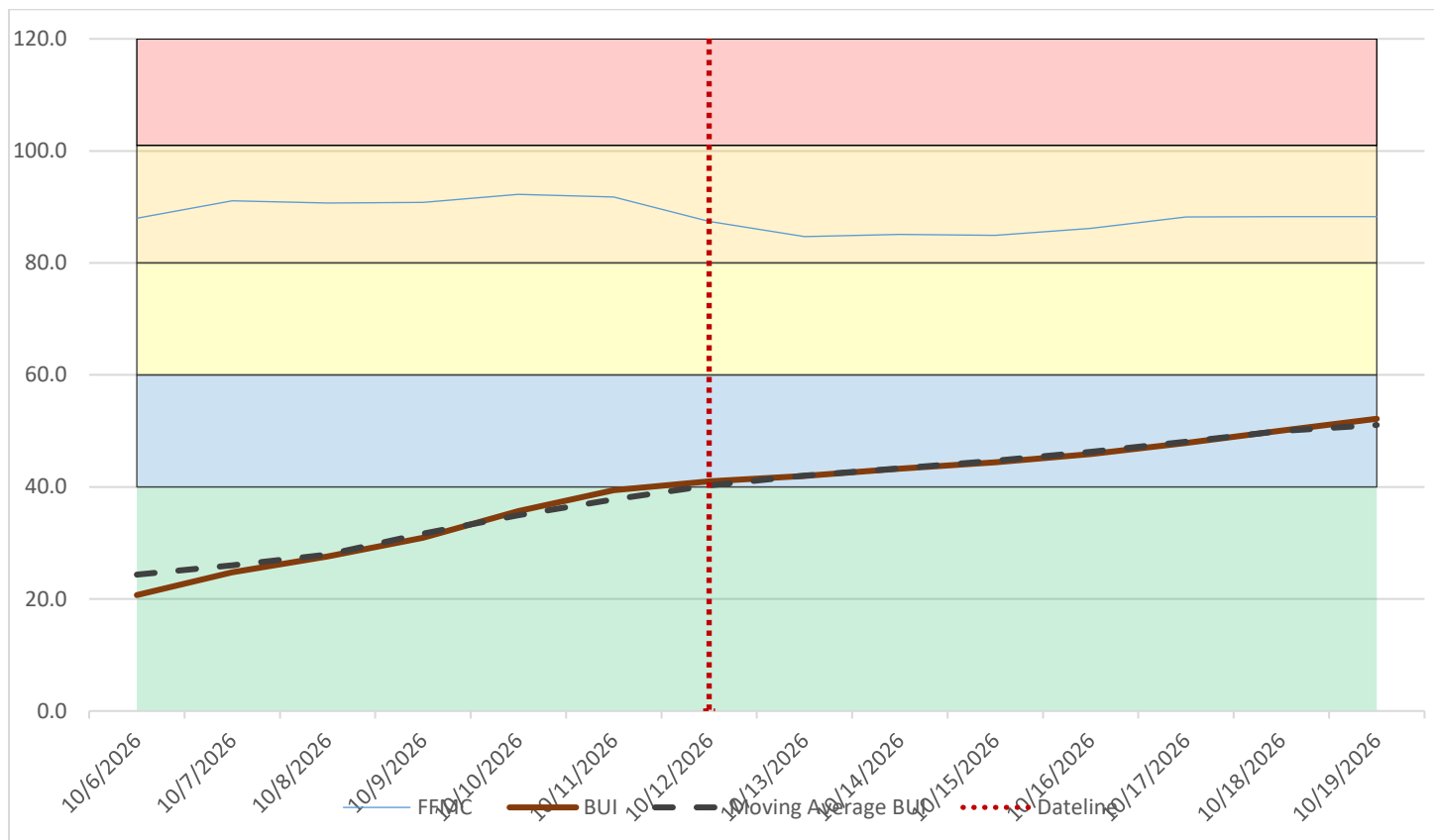


East Central Hardwoods FDRA

Preparedness Indices

Figure 14 - East Central Hardwoods – NFDRS 2016

Figure 15 - East Central Hardwoods – CFFDRS

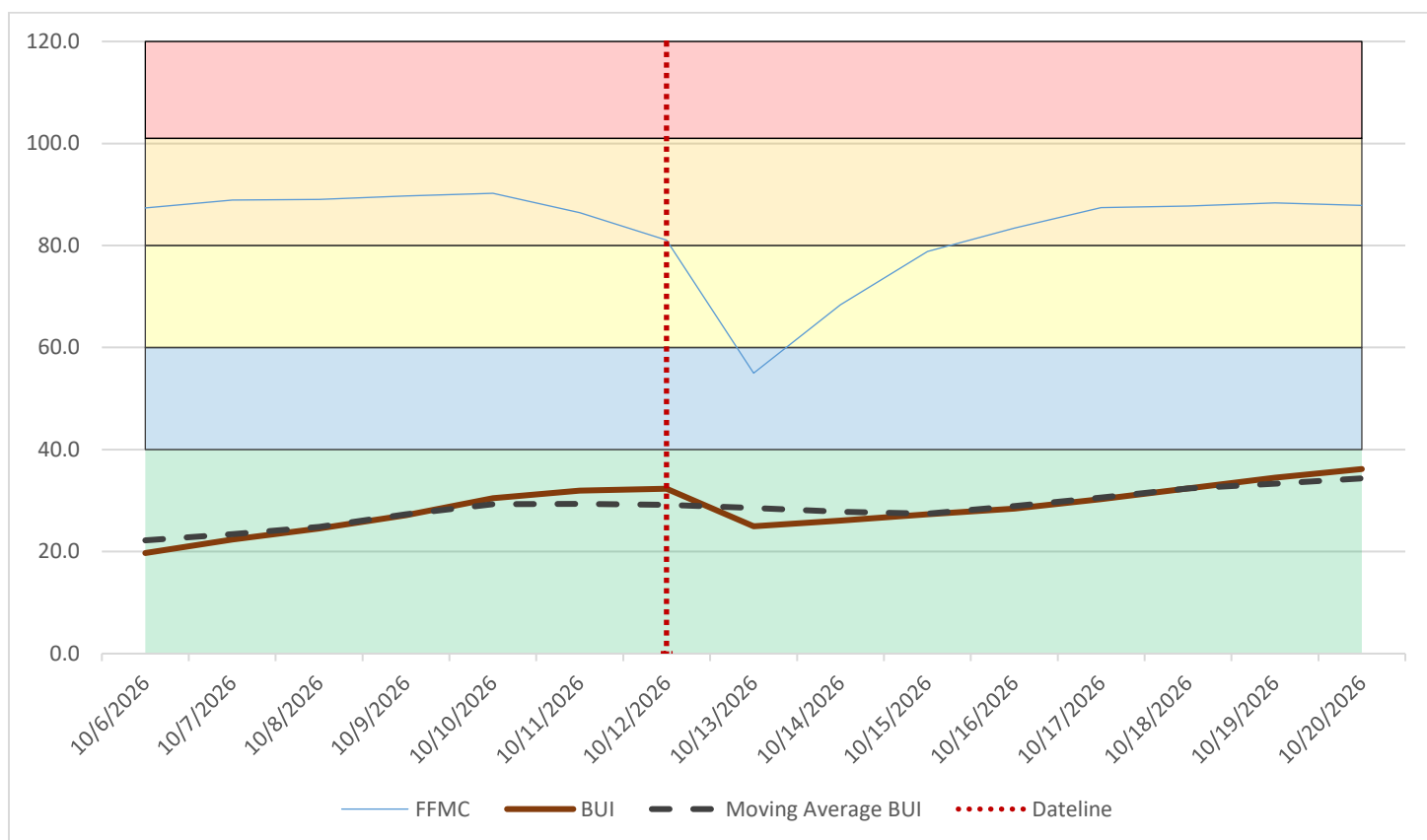


North Central Woodlands FDRA

Preparedness Indices

Figure 16 - North Central Woodlands - NFDRS 2016

Figure 17 - North Central Woodlands – CFFDRS

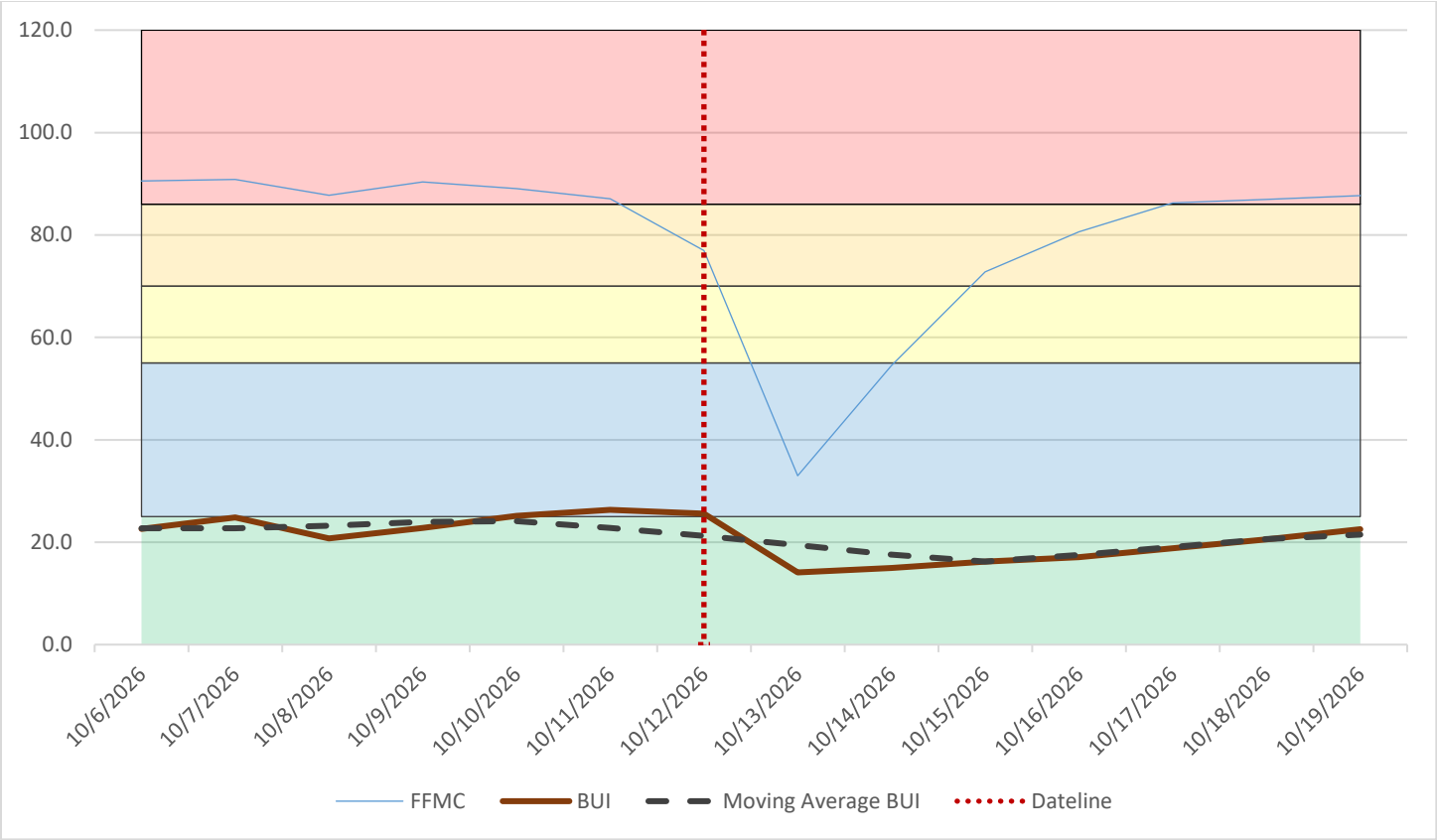


Northern Peatlands FDRA

Preparedness Indices

Figure 18- Northern Peatlands - NFDRS 2016

Figure 19 – Northern Peatlands –CFFDRS

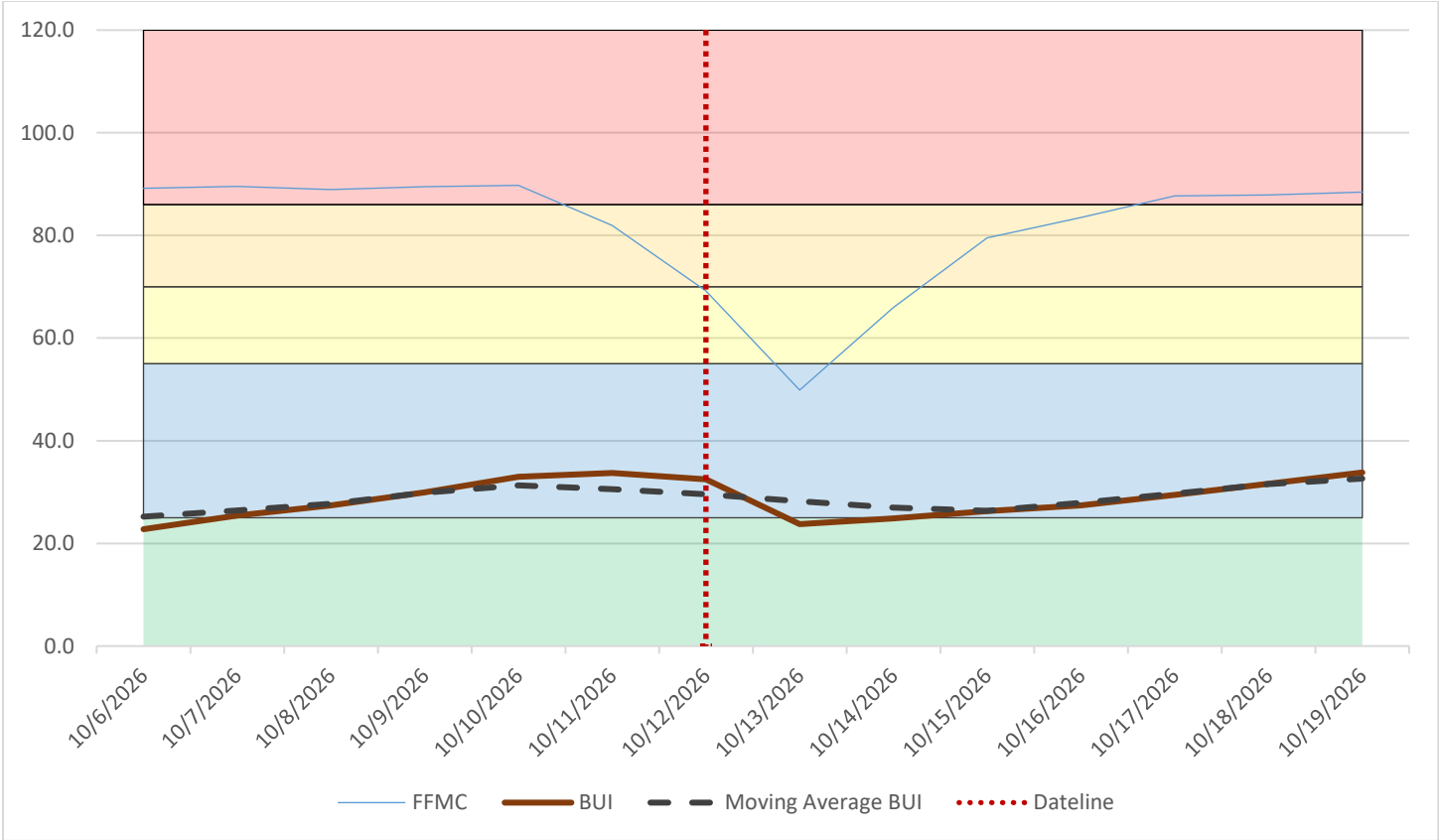


Prairie Parklands FDRA

Preparedness Indices

Figure 20 Prairie Parklands - NFDRS 2016

Figure 21 - Prairie Parklands - CFFDRS

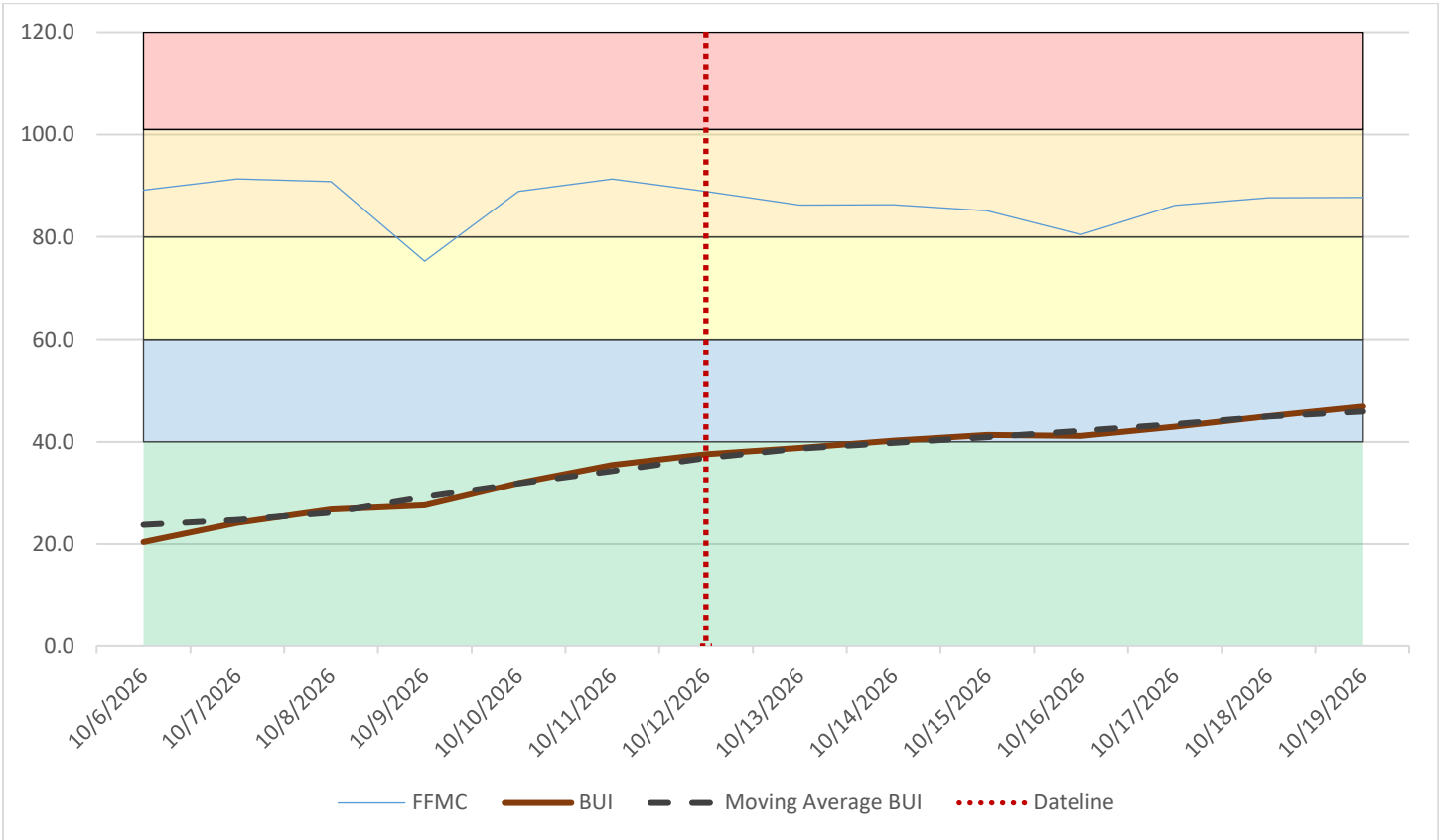


Southeast Hardwoods FDRA

Preparedness Documents

Figure 22 - Southeast Hardwoods - NFDRS 2016

Figure 23 - Southeast Hardwoods - CFFDRS

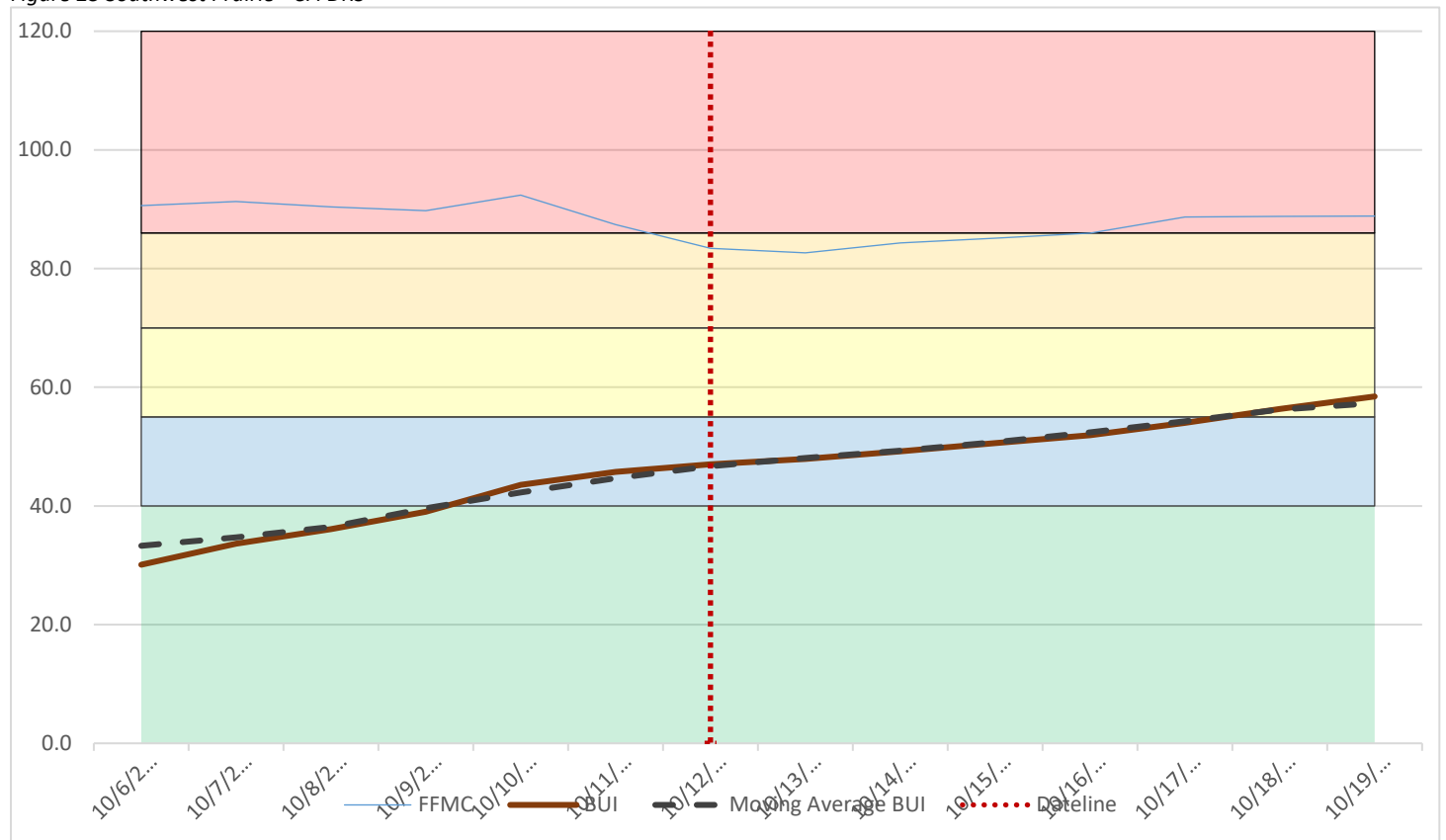


Southwest Prairie FDRA

Preparedness Indices

Figure 24 - Southwest Prairie – NFDRS 2016

Figure 25 Southwest Prairie - CFFDRS



- StationName
- ☒

Deselect all
- ☒

AGASSIZ
- ☒

BADOURA
- ☒

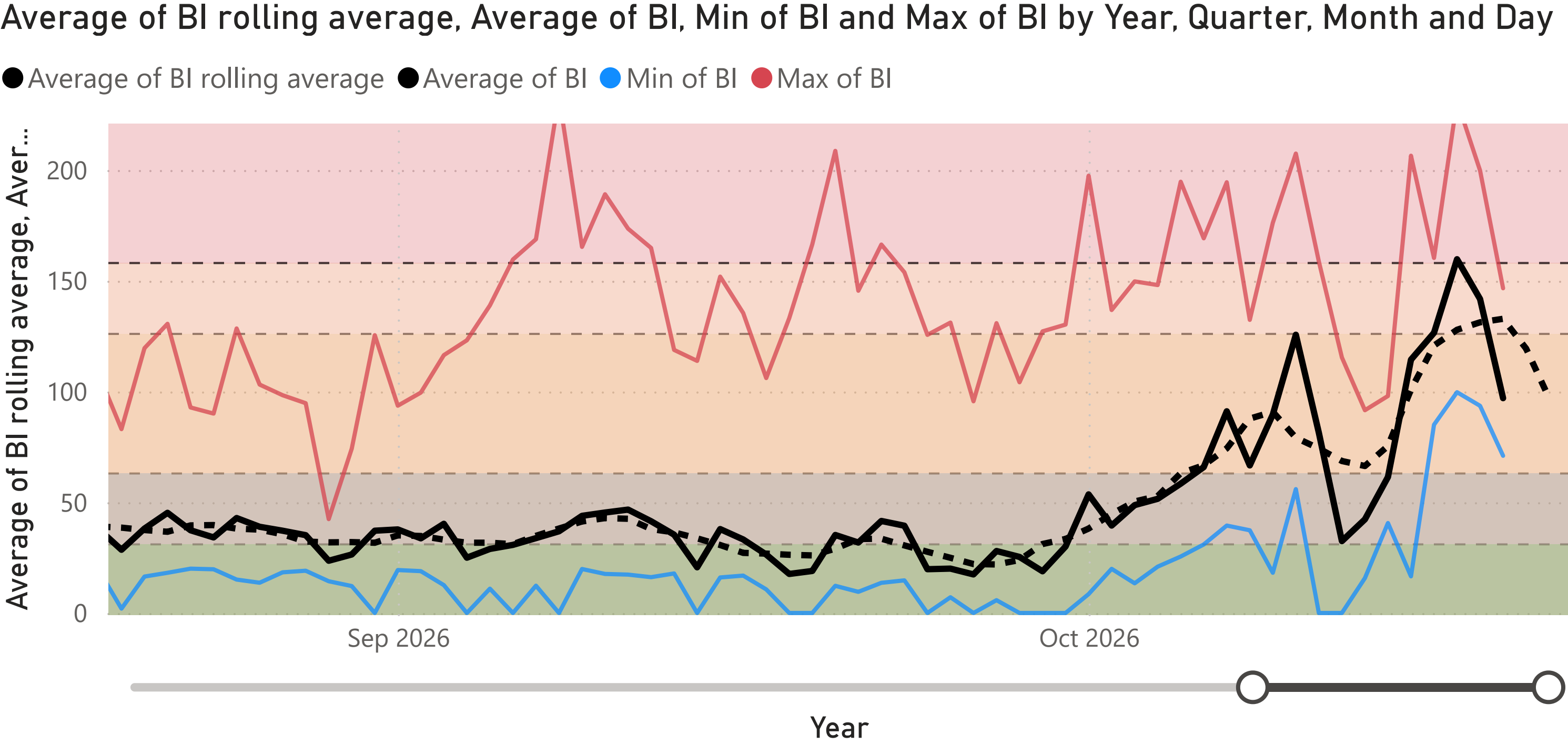
BAUDETTE
- ☒

BEMIDJI
- ☒

BIG STONE NWR
- ☒

BOSCOBEL
- ☒

BRAINERD



- StationName
- ☒

Deselect all
- ☒

ELY
- ☒

FERNBERG
- ☒

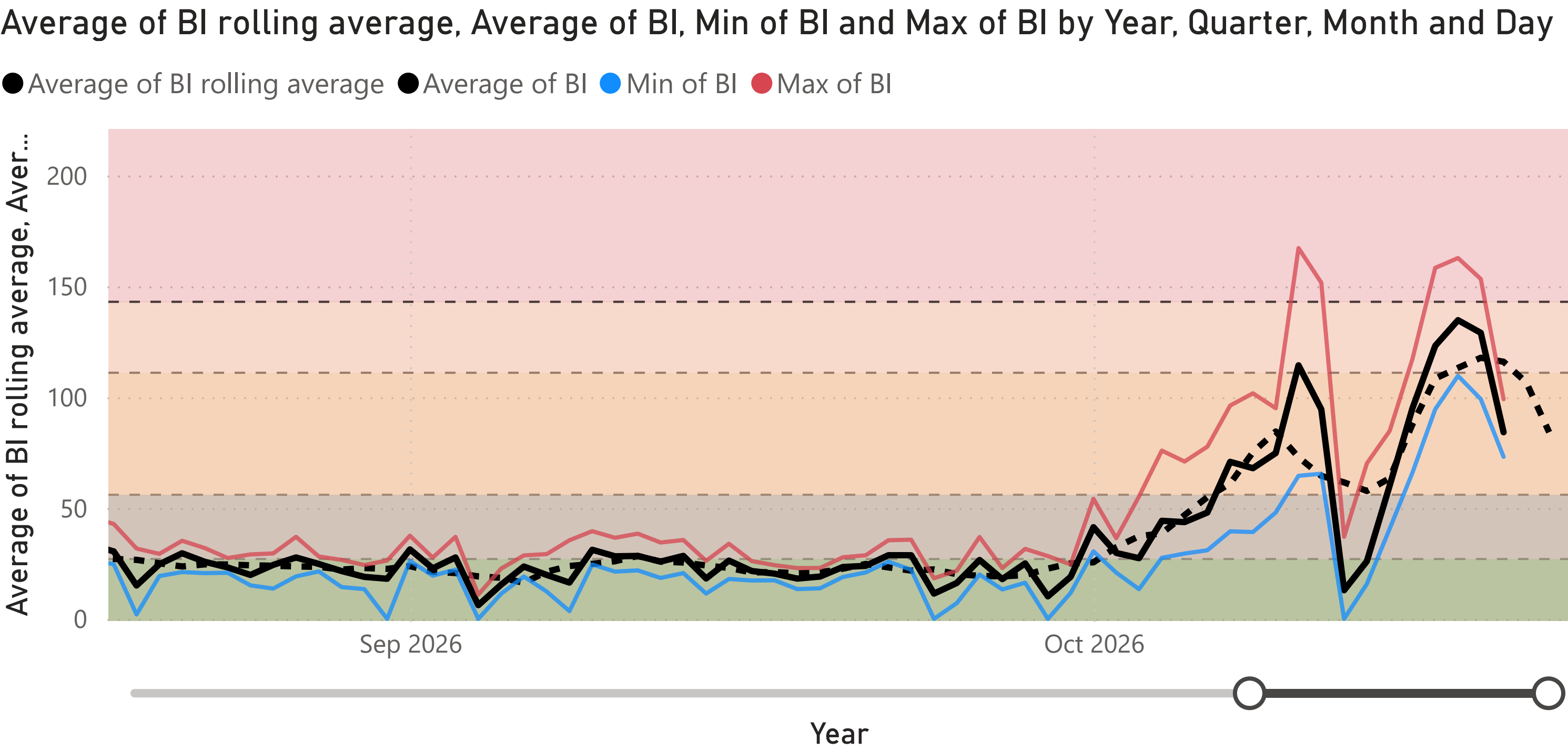
GRAND PORTAGE
- ☒

HIBBING
- ☒

ISABELLA
- ☒

KABNAM
- ☒

MEANDER



- StationName
- ☒

 Deselect all
- ☒

 CARLOS AVERY
- ☒

 LIND
- ☒

 LITCHFIELD
- ☒

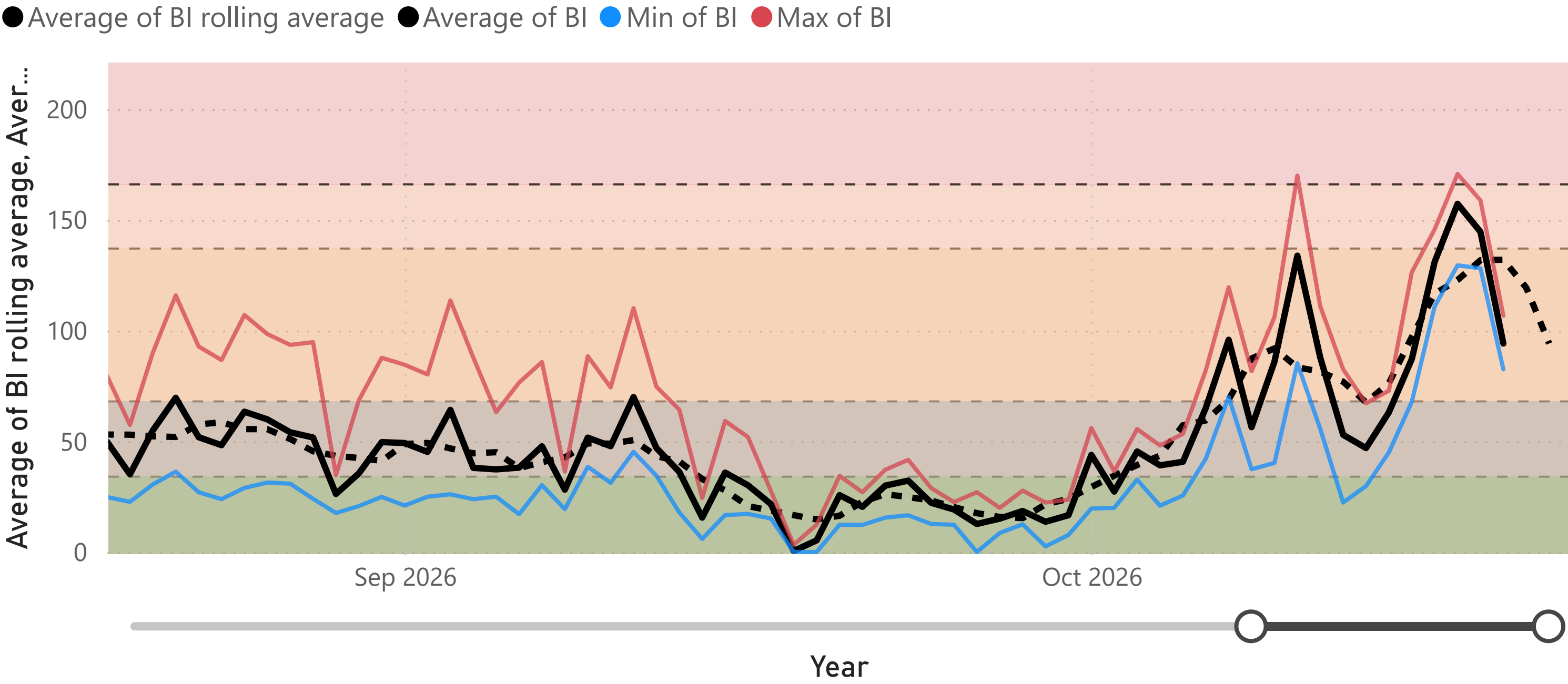
 LITTLE FALLS
- ☒

 MN VALLEY
- ☒

 MORA
- ☒

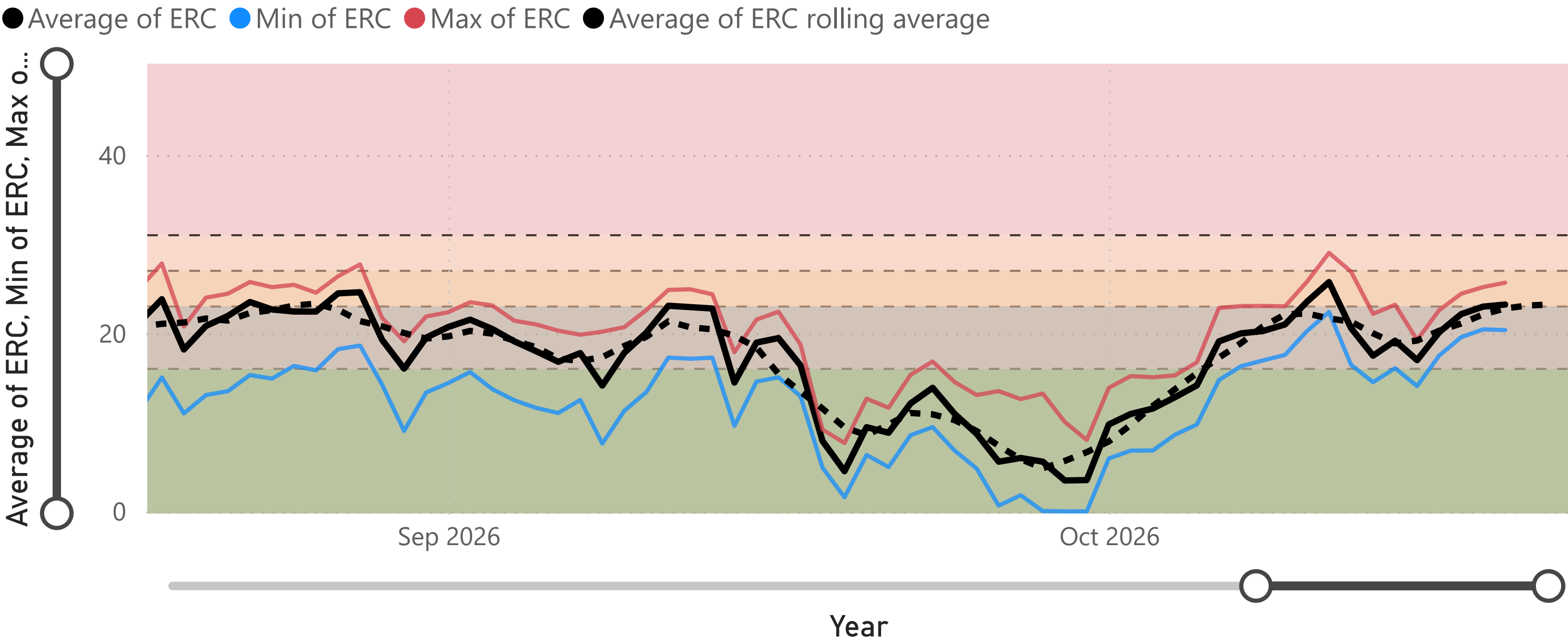
 SHERBURNE

Average of BI rolling average, Average of BI, Min of BI and Max of BI by Year, Quarter, Month and Day



StationName	Tuesday, October 13, 2026	Total
CARLOS AVERY	37.64	37.64
LIND	56.14	56.14
LITCHFIELD	48.74	48.74
LITTLE FALLS	34.86	34.86
MN VALLEY	67.12	67.12
MORA	29.78	29.78
SHERBURNE	54.10	54.10
Total	46.91	46.91

Average of ERC, Min of ERC, Max of ERC and Average of ERC rolling average by Year, Quarter, Month and Day



StationName	Tuesday, October 13, 2026	Total
CARLOS AVERY	18.84	18.84
LIND	18.08	18.08
LITCHFIELD	18.74	18.74
LITTLE FALLS	15.30	15.30
MN VALLEY	22.17	22.17
MORA	14.50	14.50
SHERBURNE	14.66	14.66
Total	17.47	17.47

- StationName
- ☒

Deselect all
- ☒

BADOURA
- ☒

BEMIDJI
- ☒

BRAINERD
- ☒

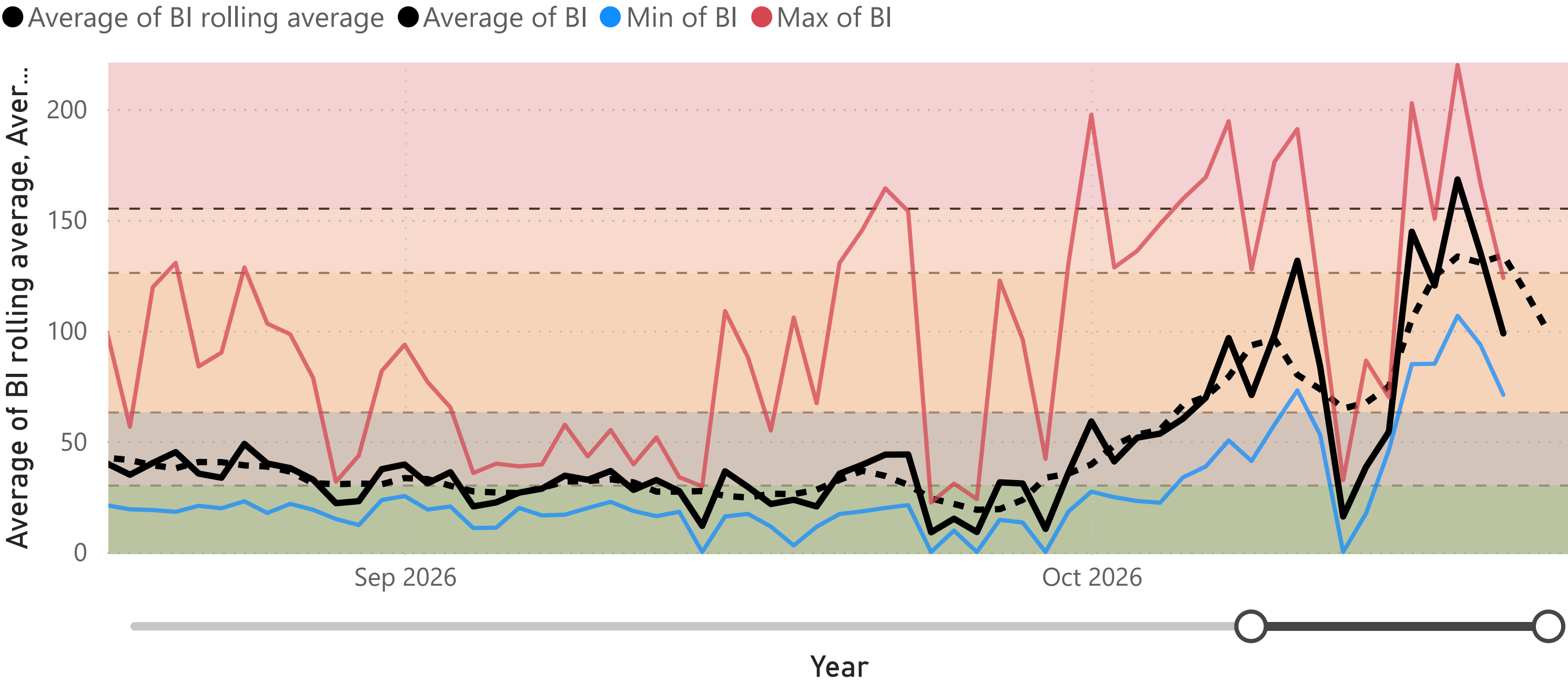
CASS LAKE
- ☒

CUTFOOT
- ☒

DETROIT LAKES
- ☒

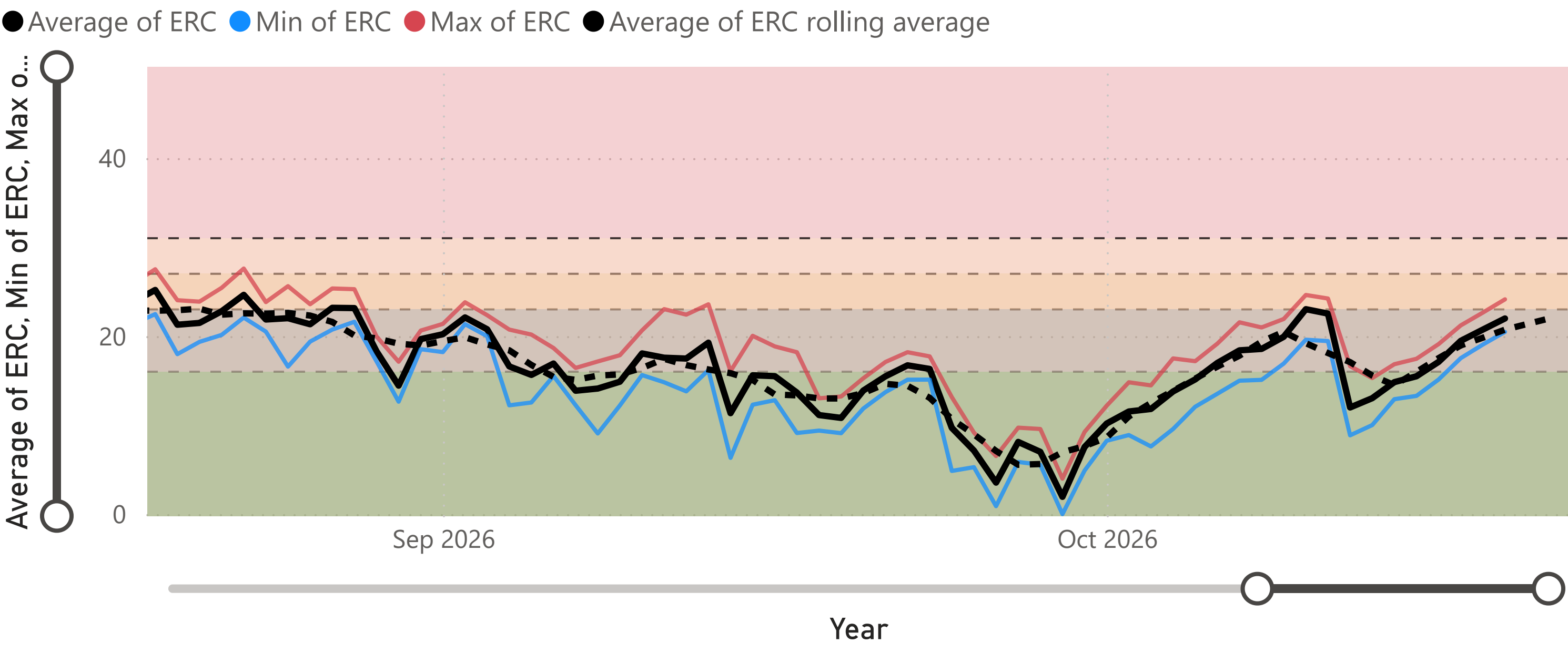
EFFIE

Average of BI rolling average, Average of BI, Min of BI and Max of BI by Year, Quarter, Month and Day



StationName	Tuesday, October 13, 2026	Total
BADOURA	34.13	34.13
BEMIDJI	86.41	86.41
BRAINERD	36.80	36.80
CASS LAKE	29.57	29.57
CUTFOOT	17.38	17.38
DETROIT LAKES	35.59	35.59
EFFIE	28.65	28.65
HILL CITY	19.93	19.93
ITASCA	66.68	66.68
Total	38.38	38.38

Average of ERC, Min of ERC, Max of ERC and Average of ERC rolling average by Year, Quarter, Month and Day



StationName	Tuesday, October 13, 2026	Total
BADOURA	14.04	14.04
BEMIDJI	13.62	13.62
BRAINERD	15.28	15.28
CASS LAKE	13.45	13.45
CUTFOOT	10.00	10.00
DETROIT LAKES	13.52	13.52
EFFIE	12.40	12.40
HILL CITY	11.13	11.13
Total	13.02	13.02

- StationName
- ☒ Deselect all

☒ BAUDETTE

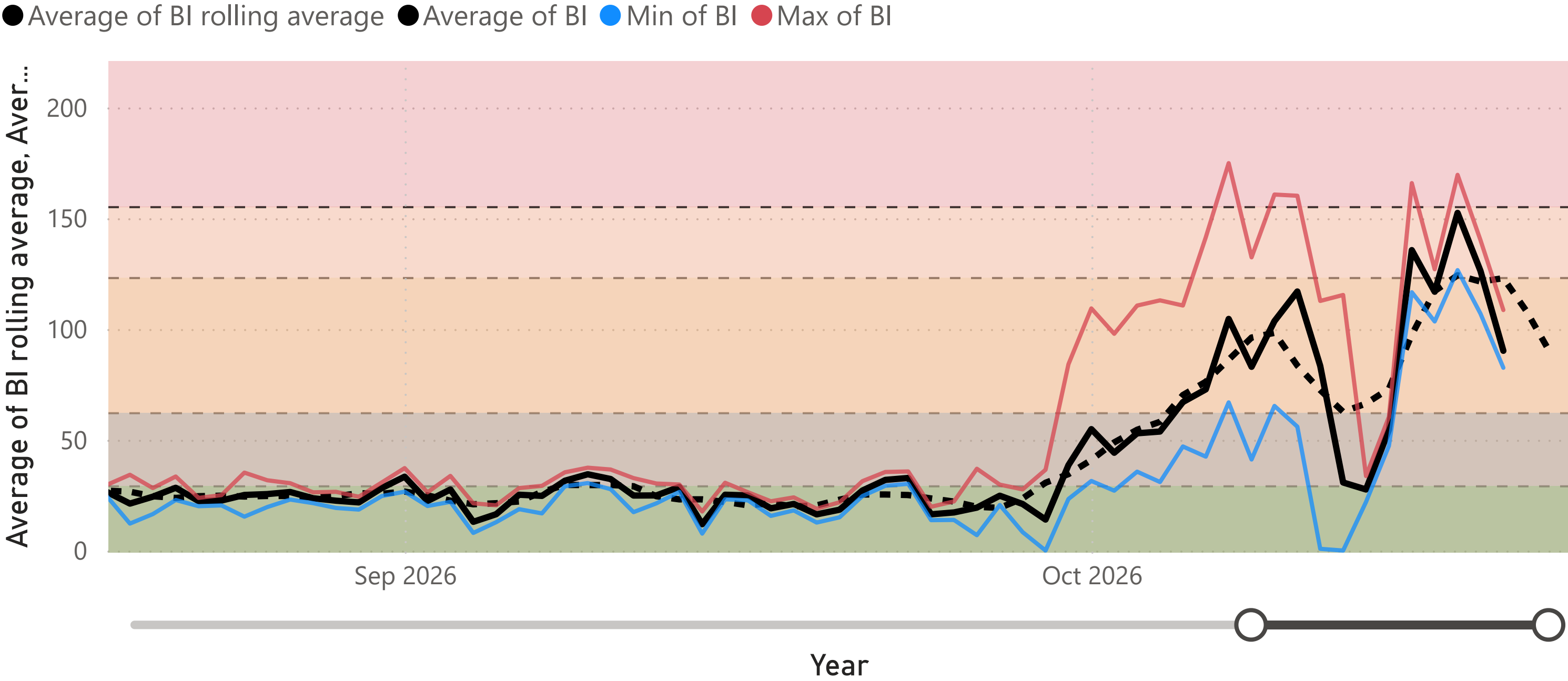
☒ EFFIE

☒ KELLIHER

☒ LITTLEFORK

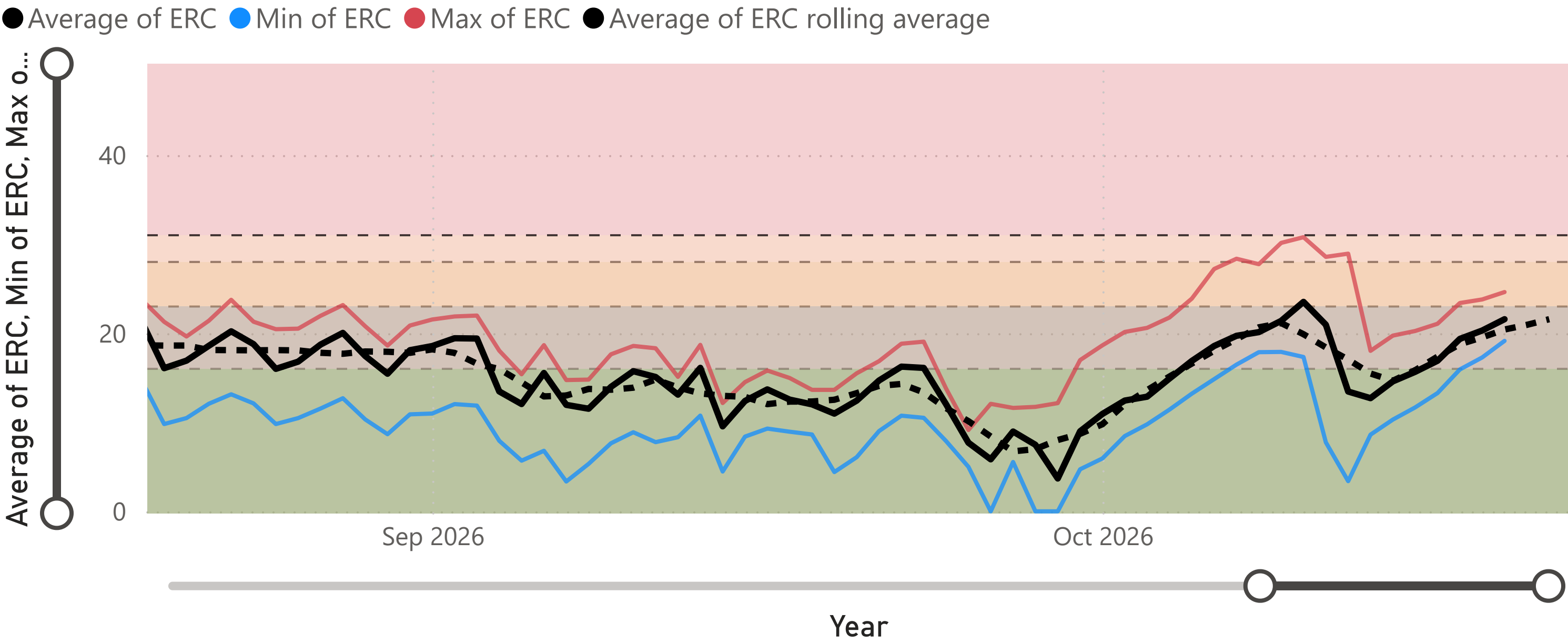
☒ ORR

Average of BI rolling average, Average of BI, Min of BI and Max of BI by Year, Quarter, Month and Day



StationName	Tuesday, October 13, 2026	Total
BAUDETTE	33.62	33.62
EFFIE	28.65	28.65
KELLIHER	28.62	28.62
LITTLEFORK	24.97	24.97
ORR	21.93	21.93
Total	27.56	27.56

Average of ERC, Min of ERC, Max of ERC and Average of ERC rolling average by Year, Quarter, Month and Day



StationName	Tuesday, October 13, 2026	Total
BAUDETTE	8.61	8.61
EFFIE	12.40	12.40
KELLIHER	12.35	12.35
LITTLEFORK	18.02	18.02
ORR	12.15	12.15
Total	12.71	12.71

- StationName
- ☒

Deselect all
- ☒

AGASSIZ
- ☒

BEMIDJI
- ☒

BIG STONE NWR
- ☒

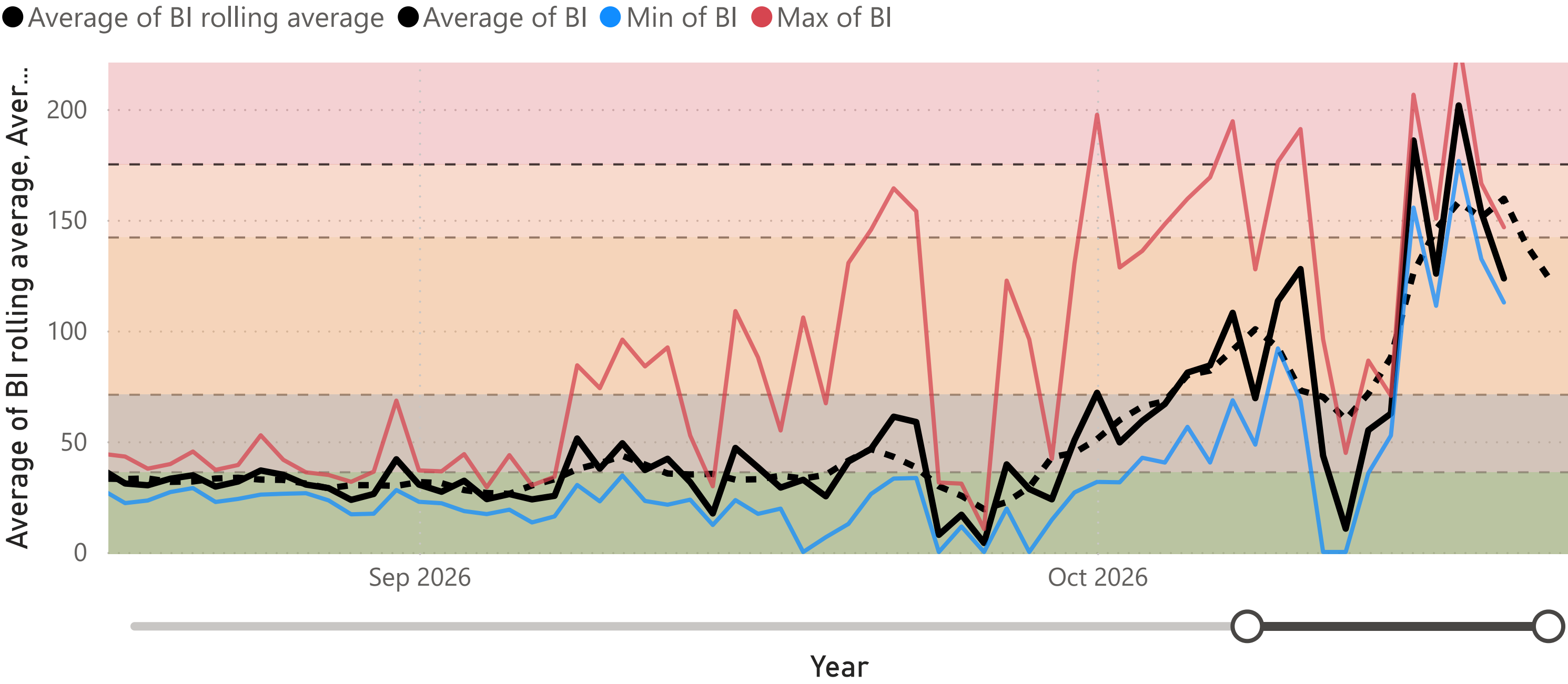
DETROIT LAKES
- ☒

ITASCA
- ☒

KITTSO
- ☒

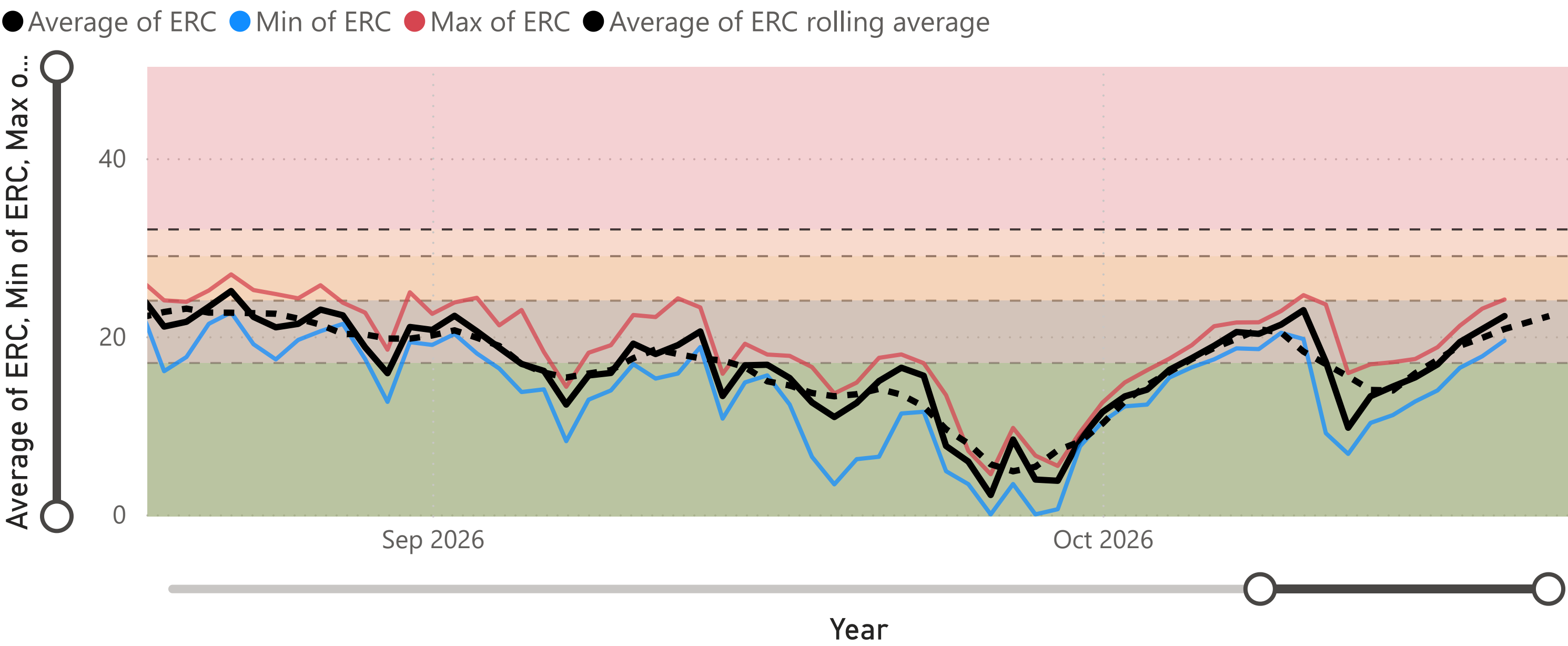
ROSEAU

Average of BI rolling average, Average of BI, Min of BI and Max of BI by Year, Quarter, Month and Day



StationName	Tuesday, October 13, 2026	Total
AGASSIZ	42.78	42.78
BEMIDJI	86.41	86.41
BIG STONE NWR	70.53	70.53
DETROIT LAKES	35.59	35.59
ITASCA	66.68	66.68
KITTSO	39.36	39.36
ROSEAU	43.54	43.54
Total	54.98	54.98

Average of ERC, Min of ERC, Max of ERC and Average of ERC rolling average by Year, Quarter, Month and Day



StationName	Tuesday, October 13, 2026	Total
AGASSIZ	10.27	10.27
BEMIDJI	13.62	13.62
BIG STONE NWR	16.85	16.85
DETROIT LAKES	13.52	13.52
ITASCA	14.43	14.43
KITTSO	12.46	12.46
ROSEAU	11.68	11.68
Total	13.26	13.26

- StationName
- ☒

 Deselect all
- ☒

 GANOE HILL
- ☒

 LA CROSSE
- ☒

 LITCHFIELD
- ☒

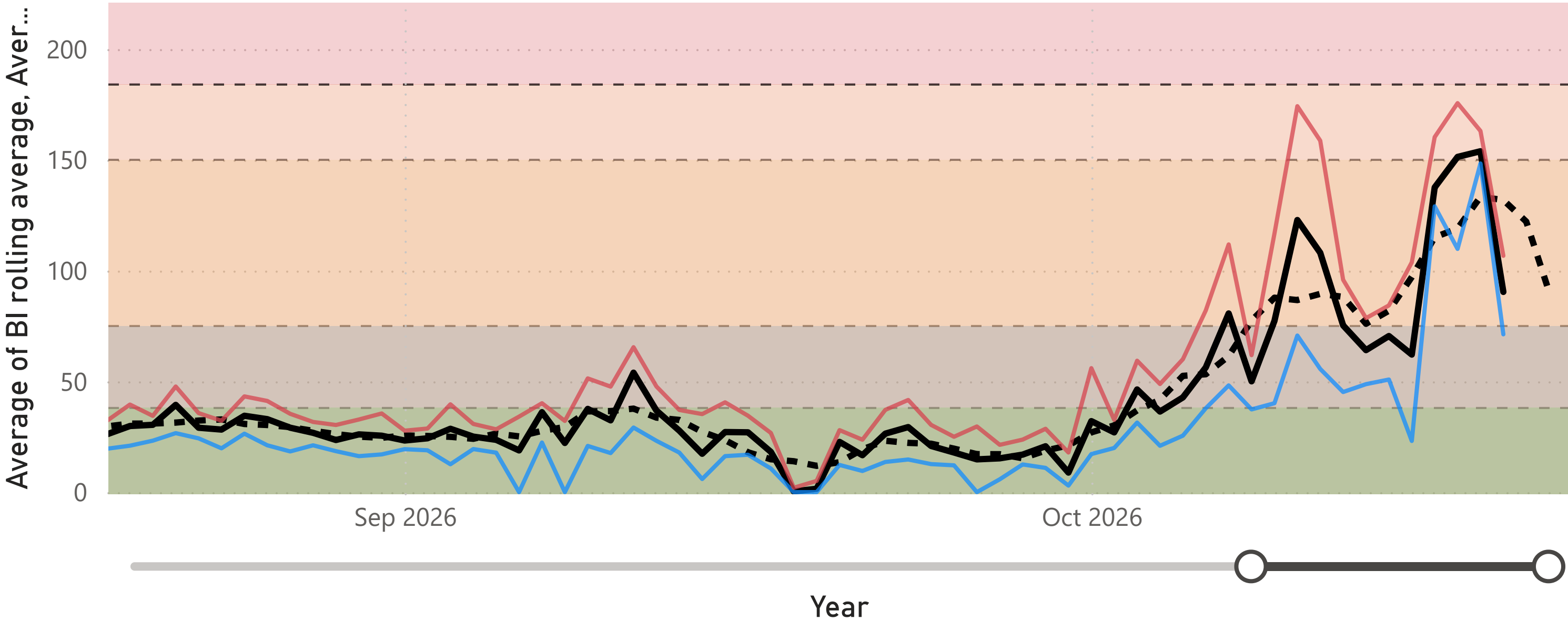
 MN VALLEY
- ☒

 NEW ULM
- ☒

 STAR PRAIRIE

Average of BI rolling average, Average of BI, Min of BI and Max of BI by Year, Quarter, Month and Day

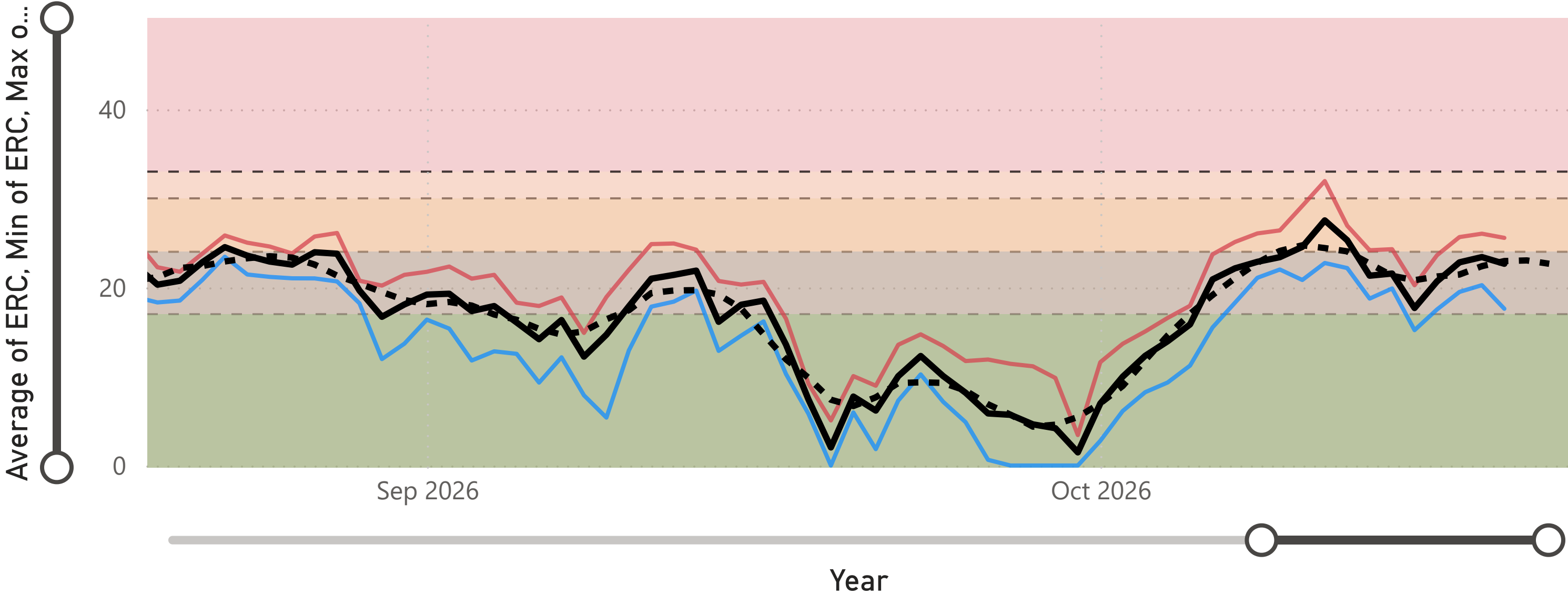
●Average of BI rolling average ●Average of BI ●Min of BI ●Max of BI



StationName	Tuesday, October 13, 2026	Total
GANOE HILL	69.60	69.60
LA CROSSE	54.56	54.56
LITCHFIELD	48.74	48.74
MN VALLEY	67.12	67.12
NEW ULM	78.53	78.53
STAR PRAIRIE	66.01	66.01
Total	64.09	64.09

Average of ERC, Min of ERC, Max of ERC and Average of ERC rolling average by Year, Quarter, Month and Day

●Average of ERC ●Min of ERC ●Max of ERC ●Average of ERC rolling average



StationName	Tuesday, October 13, 2026	Total
GANOE HILL	19.49	19.49
LA CROSSE	22.57	22.57
LITCHFIELD	18.74	18.74
MN VALLEY	22.17	22.17
NEW ULM	24.17	24.17
STAR PRAIRIE	20.74	20.74
Total	21.31	21.31

- StationName
- ☒

 Deselect all
- ☒

 LITCHFIELD
- ☒

 MARSHALL CO
- ☒

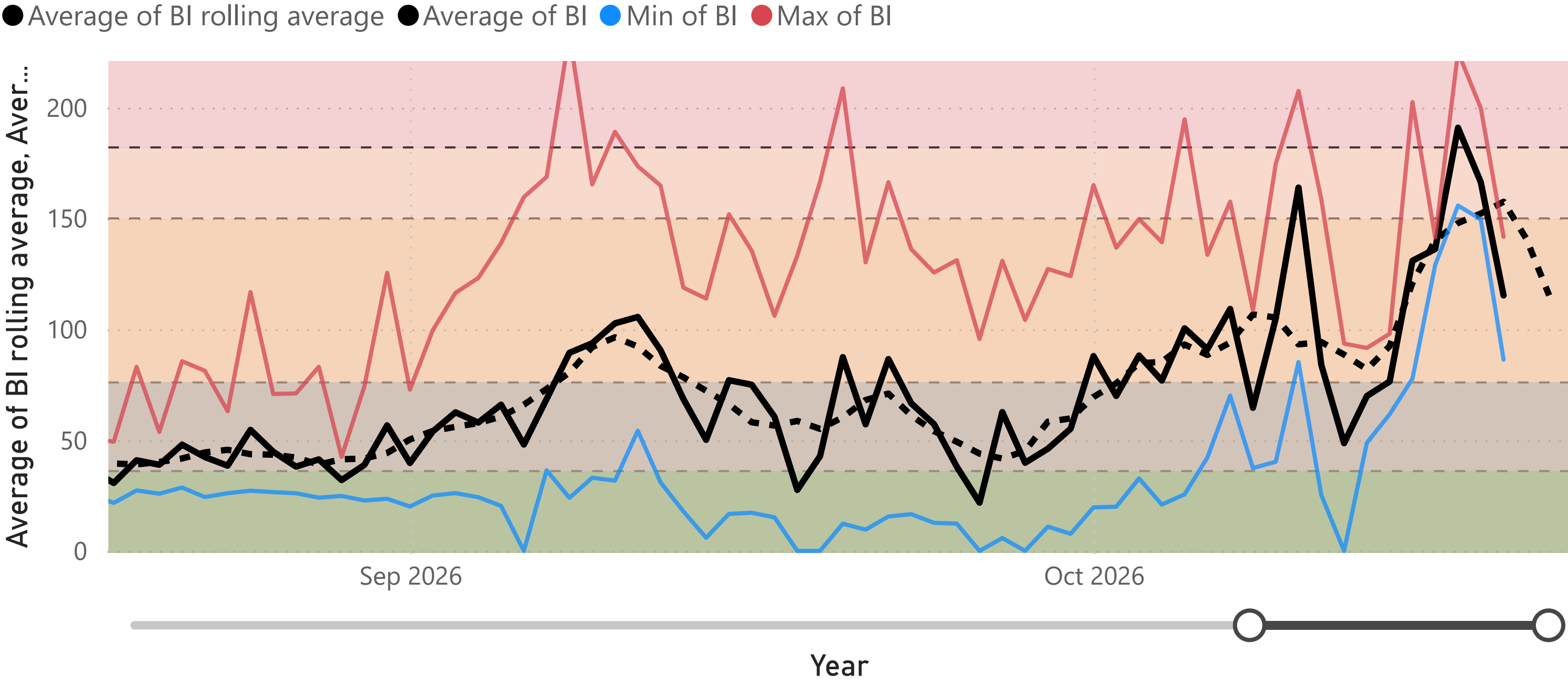
 MN VALLEY
- ☒

 NEW ULM
- ☒

 REDSTN
- ☒

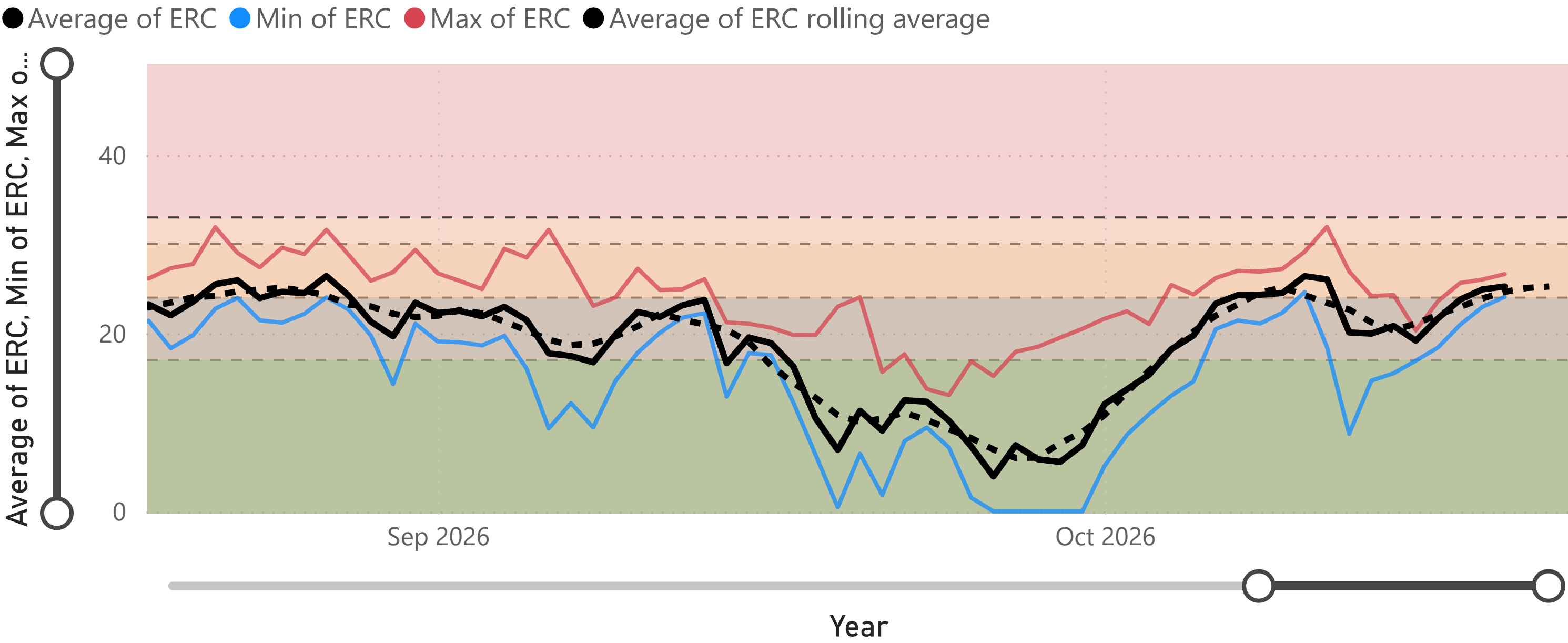
 SHEYENNE

Average of BI rolling average, Average of BI, Min of BI and Max of BI by Year, Quarter, Month and Day



StationName	Tuesday, October 13, 2026	Total
LITCHFIELD	48.74	48.74
MARSHALL CO	64.36	64.36
MN VALLEY	67.12	67.12
NEW ULM	78.53	78.53
REDSTN	91.54	91.54
SHEYENNE	68.86	68.86
Total	69.86	69.86

Average of ERC, Min of ERC, Max of ERC and Average of ERC rolling average by Year, Quarter, Month and Day



StationName	Tuesday, October 13, 2026	Total
LITCHFIELD	18.74	18.74
MARSHALL CO	16.90	16.90
MN VALLEY	22.17	22.17
NEW ULM	24.17	24.17
REDSTN	23.05	23.05
SHEYENNE	14.68	14.68
Total	19.95	19.95