



Stefan SundinRobert PoynterLydia BlumeJesse RitkaCHIEF METEOROLOGISTCharles PekarRobert Daley

Get the latest weather news and alerts with up-to-date forecasts, current and future radar and more with the Stormtracker app.

GET IT ONGoogle Play

Download on theApp Store

jobs**HQ**

Need help recruiting?

888-514-4473 | jobs@jobshq.com

StormTRACKER Forecast

Mostly sunny and warm. Highs in the mid-80s this afternoon. Staying warm into the first stretch of October.

Almanac Through 12 AM Tuesday

Temperature	High	Low
Monday	87°	54°
Normal	65°	41°
Record	94° in 1905	17° in 1930

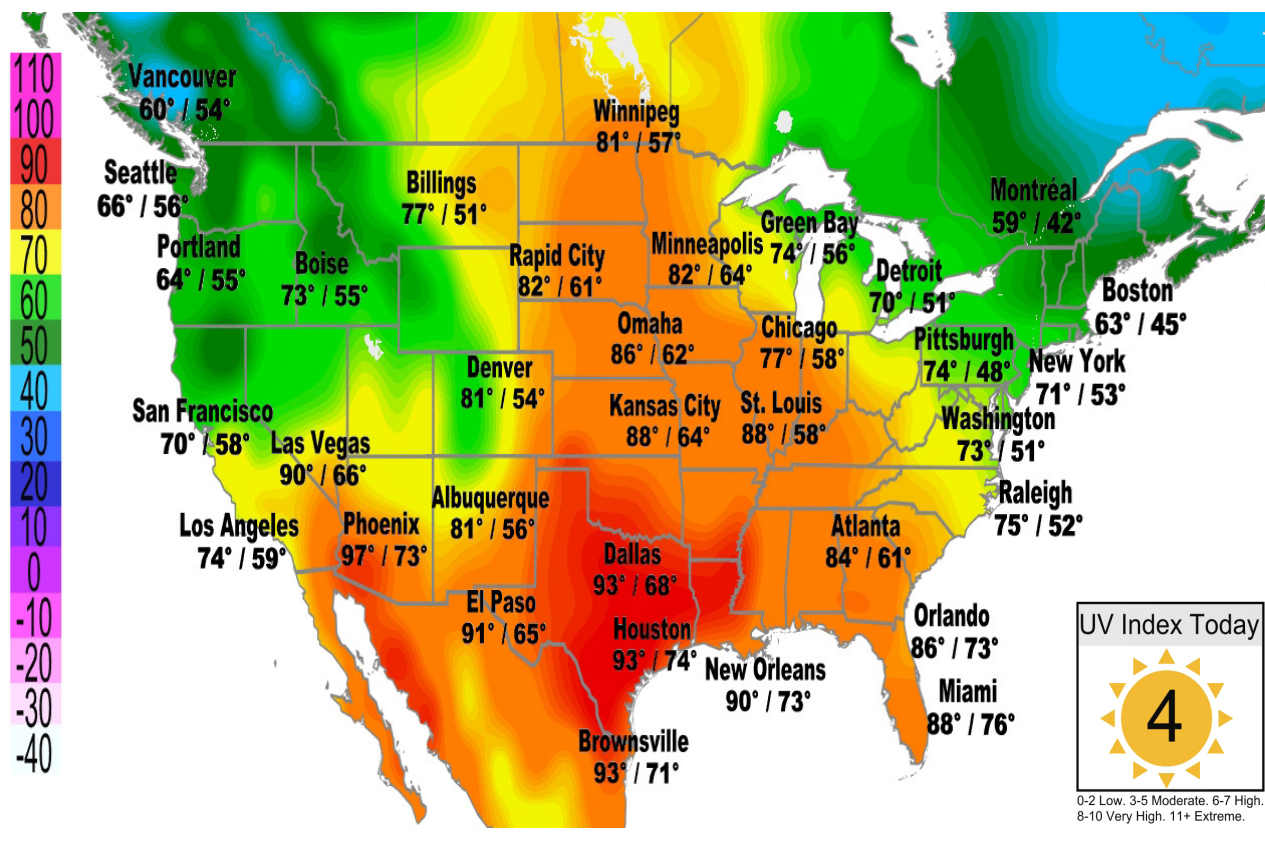
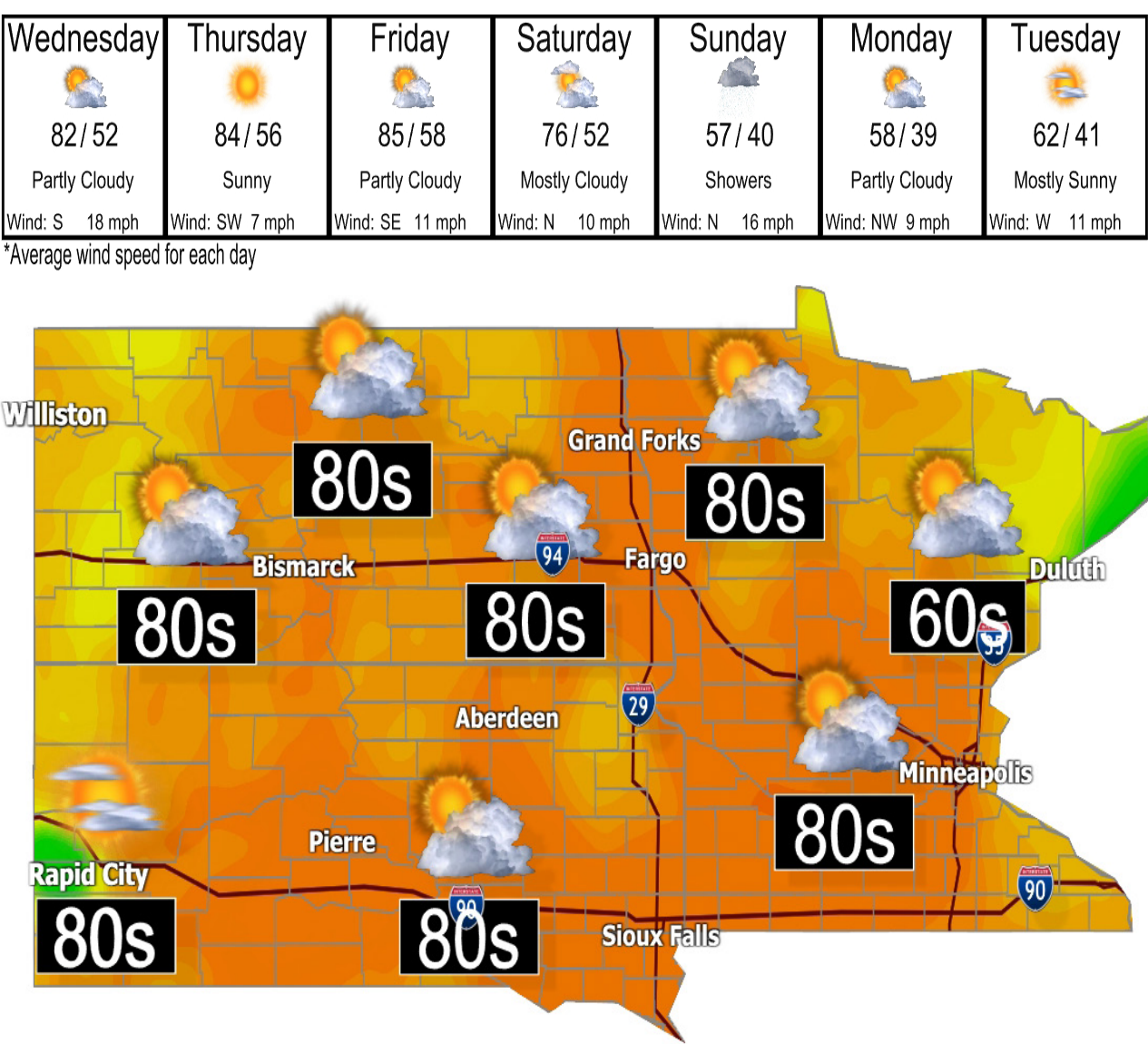
Precipitation In Inches

Monday	0
Month To Date	1.18"
Departure From Avg Month To Date	-0.82"
Year To Date	15.41"
Departure From Avg Year To Date	-1.83"

Sunrise: 7:34 a.m. Sunset: 7:13 p.m.

	Today	Tomorrow
North Dakota	Hi Lo	Hi Lo
Bismarck	84 57	86 58
Fargo	86 66	87 64
Medora	79 49	85 52
Minot	83 56	85 54
Williston	79 48	82 54

	Today	Tomorrow
Minnesota	Hi Lo	Hi Lo
Alexandria	82 63	83 60
Duluth	68 59	79 58
International Falls	79 60	79 50
Minneapolis	82 64	86 64
Rochester	79 59	84 63



FUNDING

Continued from A1

for school staff.

“Title 1 is a federal program that provides education aid to schools where a higher number of students come from lower-income families,” said Dale Wetzel, public information specialist for NDDPI, in an email to The Jamestown Sun. “It can be used for several purposes, including teacher professional development, hiring teaching ‘interventionists’ to help students who are struggling, and providing remedial or after-school programs.”

Beginning this academic year, the NDDPI transitioned to the U.S. Department of Education’s method for allocating Title I funds to school districts, according to a PowerPoint presentation provided by NDDPI. The new method is used for all school districts rather than just those with a total population of over 20,000 and includes U.S. Census Bureau estimates of income and poverty for all states and counties provided in four formulas derived from statistical models using census data, household survey data, population and other poverty data records.

Districts with 10 or more students based on the census data are eligible for a Title I grant.

Previously, NDDPI relied on a weighted poverty formula that combined census data, foster care counts and free and reduced lunch numbers to determine eligibility and allocations for districts with populations under 20,000. Districts with 10 or more aggregate units were eligible for a Title I grant.

“We believe the new method for distributing Title I funds uses more recent and consistent data and is more equitable for students and families,” Wetzel said. “It considers factors such as poverty rates, population size, and state per-pupil expenditures to direct resources where they are most needed.”

Wetzel said the change was made because of concerns that the old method was increasingly inaccurate and unreliable.

“For example, free and reduced-price meal data can be skewed by factors that have nothing to do with actual poverty levels – such as eligibility changes for meal programs and uneven participation rates (i.e., families that are eligible for free or reduced-price meals do not sign up for

them),” he said.

He said the transition from the former method to the new method began in December 2022. He said the new model was initially enacted during the 2024-25 academic year but the change was pushed to the 2025-26 school year to give school districts more time to plan and prepare.

Lech said the previous model funded a school district on eligible Title I students who were educated by that district.

“If they came to JPS and they were eligible for Title I services, you were funded for those students,” he said.

He said the new model is not necessarily for students that a school district educates.

“They may be students that you educate, but if they live in your school district, you are funded for that number of students,” he said.

Lech said five schools that were eligible to receive Title I funding last year are no longer eligible. He said districts that bring in more students than students who leave are receiving less funding.

“There are schools that were receiving a significant amount of money and lost \$500,000,” he said.

Pingree-Buchanan

Public School District lost about \$48,000 in Title I funding for this school year, said Superintendent Chris Triggs.

“It’s essentially a teacher,” he said.

Triggs said about 60% of the students at Pingree-Buchanan Public Schools are from outside the district with a majority of them being from Jamestown. The district also gets a few students from Carrington and Kensal.

“That is not following them when it comes to the Title I formula,” he said. “That’s a challenge because if you are educating them every year, you need that extra support because some of those, a good number of those kids that are coming from Jamestown, they will qualify for some extra service.”

Valley City Public School District lost about \$30,000 in Title I funding for this school year, said Superintendent Joshua Johnson.

“From a programming standpoint, that’s half of a position for us,” he said. “It’s a support staff. It’s a Title I aid position that provides interventions, provide support for kids in critical subject areas of reading and math. So not having those dollars absolutely has an

impact on our school district and if we can get those dollars restored, it would possibly positively impact our school district.”

Students residing in the Valley City Public School District can open enroll at Litchville-Mari-on, Barnes County North or Maple Valley public school districts.

“That’s our three neighboring school districts that we have a lot of students that go back and forth crossing school boundaries,” Johnson said.

While some schools lost funding to the new allocation method, other schools have seen a “huge swing” in per-pupil funding, Lech said. Across the state, he said the average per enrolled student was around \$450 using the old model. He said some districts are receiving as much as \$8,000 per enrolled student and one school district serving under 60 students is receiving over \$23,000 per student.

“The new model does fix some things, but what I see that it does is it exacerbates some of the problems,” he said. “So basically, you’re solving problems and creating larger problems, and that’s one of the things that I see is problematic

are these bigger swings in the impacts to other districts.”

Wetzel said NDDPI is studying the impact of the new funding formula throughout the year.

“They are agreeable to having a greater task force that looks at this funding model and tries to see if there’s other solutions that are out there that are more North Dakota friendly,” Lech said.

When there are reductions of dollars based on models and not necessarily based on the needs of students, that can have a negative impact on student learning, Johnson said.

“I think the decision that was made was on a basis, a model of what other states have done across the country,” he said. “I think one thing that we’re proud of in North Dakota is that we make decisions not on what other states are doing. We make decisions based on what’s in the best interest of our school districts, and at the end of the day, what’s in the best interest of our kids.”

moval@jamestownsun.com | (701) 952-8454