



Drought Status Update

December 2010

Short-term Drought Status Update

December was a little drier than normal across Arizona, due to the La Niña circulation pattern that tends to block precipitation across the southern states. This resulted in worsening drought conditions across southern and southwestern Arizona. Two winter storms brought heavy rain and snow to central and northern Arizona and some light showers across the southern counties. The heavy rain and snow in the north improved drought conditions in Mohave, Yavapai, and western Coconino counties. Yuma and La Paz counties remain abnormally dry. Although the recent strong storms caused flooding in northwest Mohave County, the moisture has been welcome across the northern and central counties. Any precipitation is beneficial as drier than normal conditions are forecast for the rest of the winter.

Summary produced by the State Drought Monitoring Technical Committee
January 11, 2011.

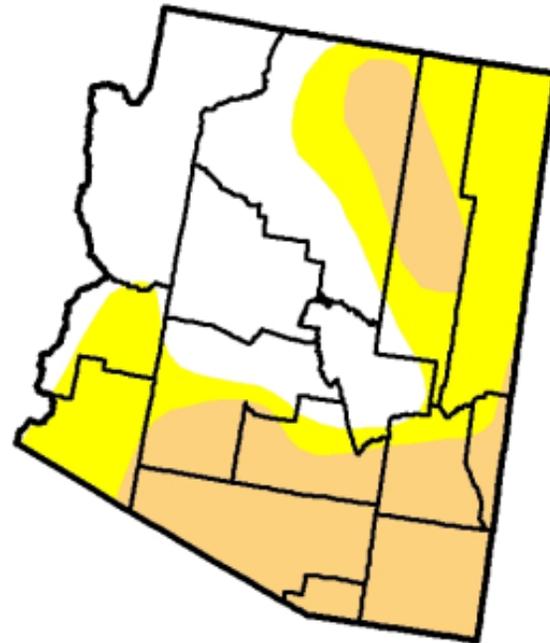
U.S. Drought Monitor

Arizona

January 4, 2011
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	37.05	62.95	32.38	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week (12/28/2010 map)	31.40	68.60	32.45	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago (10/05/2010 map)	40.00	60.00	18.58	3.23	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year (12/28/2010 map)	---	---	---	---	---	---
Start of Water Year (09/28/2010 map)	40.00	60.00	18.58	3.23	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago (12/29/2009 map)	0.00	100.00	97.24	71.18	5.06	0.00



Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>



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National Drought Mitigation Center