

ARIZONA SHORT-TERM DROUGHT STATUS REPORT

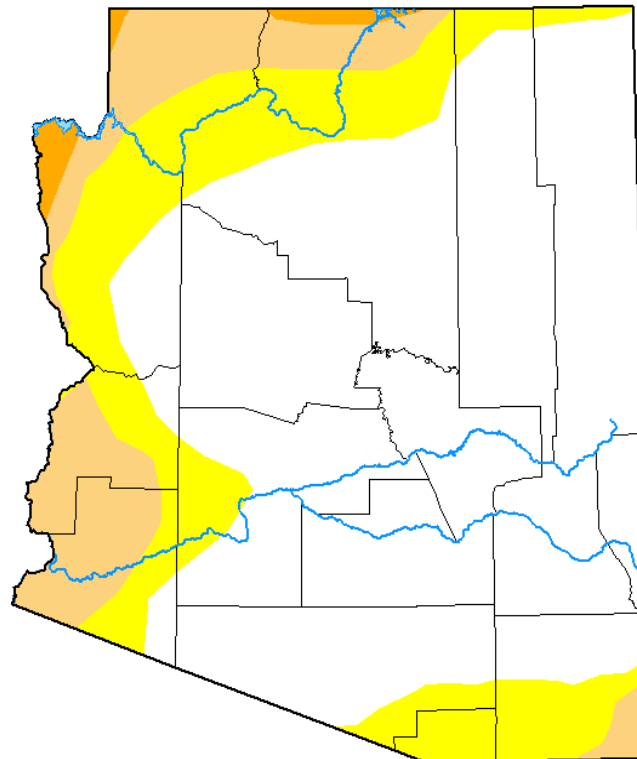
FEBRUARY 2023

February had a slow start to precipitation but ended near to above average in most of Arizona (1991-2020 February average is 1.2 inches), especially in higher elevations. Temperatures were cooler than normal across much of the state, supporting the above-median snow water equivalent, which is the depth of water that would cover the ground if the snow cover was in a liquid state, in the Verde (306% of median), Little Colorado (214% of median), and Salt (183% of median) watersheds.

Short-term drought was removed from 87% of the state (68% without drought and 19% in Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions). Moderate (D1) drought remained along western Yuma County, southwestern La Paz County, western and northern Mohave County, northern Coconino County, and southeastern Cochise County (covering 12% of the state). Severe (D2) drought continued in small areas of Mohave and Coconino counties (covering 1% of the state).

While odds are slightly tilted (~40%) towards wetter conditions in March, drier than normal weather may be more likely (~40%) through the later parts of spring into the beginning of summer across the region.

U.S. Drought Monitor Arizona



February 28, 2023
(Released Thursday, Mar. 2, 2023)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	67.64	32.36	13.09	1.19	0.00	0.00
Last Week 02-21-2023	62.65	37.35	20.59	1.19	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 11-29-2022	0.00	100.00	46.85	10.56	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2023	12.40	87.60	38.94	7.85	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-27-2022	0.00	100.00	56.72	18.47	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 03-01-2022	0.00	100.00	75.35	29.49	6.28	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>

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