

ARIZONA SHORT-TERM DROUGHT STATUS REPORT

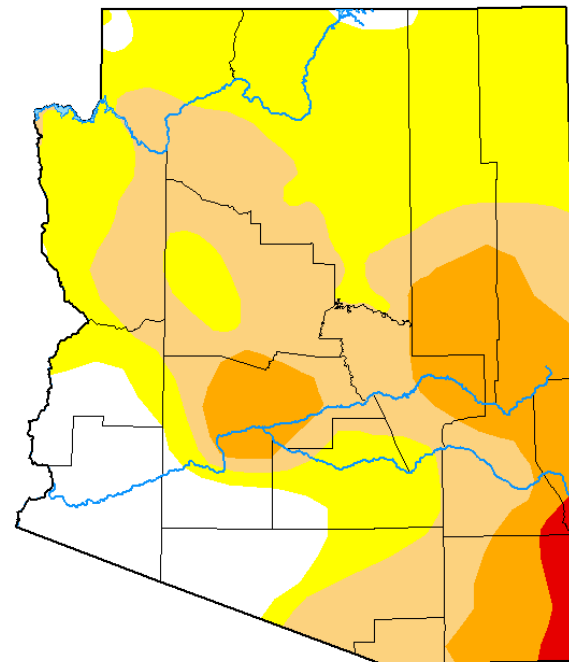
FEBRUARY 2024

February was a wetter month across the state, with Pinal and Cochise counties as well as portions of central Coconino and southern Pima counties with much above normal precipitation. The majority of the state was also much warmer than normal. The total Salt-Verde reservoir system was 84% full at the end of the month, with statewide snow water equivalent slightly above median by the end of February (105%).

Areas without drought or with Abnormally dry (D0) conditions expanded in Coconino, Yavapai, and Pinal counties (52% of state). Extreme (D3) short-term drought remained in eastern Cochise County and small areas of southern Graham and Greenlee counties (2% of state), while Severe (D2) short-term drought fully retreated from Pima and Santa Cruz counties and improved in Gila and Apache counties (15% of state). Moderate (D1) short-term drought decreased to 31% of the state, largely remaining in northwestern, central, eastern, and southeastern counties.

El Nino conditions will rapidly deteriorate this spring, then better than a 50% chance exists of La Nina developing during the summer. As a result, there is no tilt in precipitation odds through the summer, however chances for a dry autumn have increased with the expected La Nina phase.

U.S. Drought Monitor Arizona



March 5, 2024

(Released Thursday, Mar. 7, 2024)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	13.54	86.46	48.58	17.05	1.83	0.00
Last Week 02-27-2024	13.53	86.47	48.58	18.12	1.83	0.00
3 Months Ago 12-05-2023	8.18	91.82	57.19	34.97	6.09	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-02-2024	5.62	94.38	53.37	33.54	5.75	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	8.12	91.88	47.06	22.74	5.34	0.00
One Year Ago 03-07-2023	67.64	32.36	13.09	0.36	0.00	0.00

Intensity

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