

ARIZONA SHORT-TERM DROUGHT STATUS REPORT

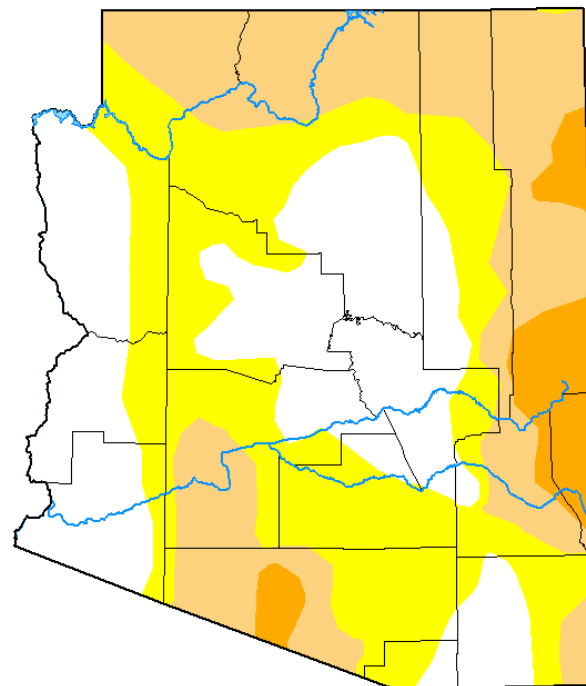
FEBRUARY 2026

Temperatures were above average across the state in February, with several locations in central and southeastern Arizona, including Phoenix and Tucson, measuring their hottest February on record. A low-pressure system in mid-February brought near-average amounts of rain and higher elevation snow in northern Arizona and below-average amounts of precipitation in central and southern Arizona. The mid-February weather event slightly improved snow water equivalent (SWE) in many Arizona basins, with Arizona SWE ending the month at 35% of median.

Short-term drought conditions were maintained through the month. Western, central, and southeastern counties continued with Abnormally Dry (D0) or without short-term drought (66% of state). Moderate (D1) short-term drought (28% of state) remained along northern Mohave, Coconino, and Navajo counties, Apache County, and central Graham, eastern Cochise, western Pima, and southwestern Maricopa County. Severe (D2) short-term drought persisted in central Pima County, central and southern Apache County, and most of Greenlee County (6% of state).

With a La Niña episode currently deteriorating, odds continue to favor warmer and drier than normal weather through the spring.

U.S. Drought Monitor Arizona



February 24, 2026
(Released Thursday, Feb. 26, 2026)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	32.01	67.99	34.36	6.18	0.00	0.00
Last Week 02-17-2026	31.98	68.02	34.36	6.18	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 11-25-2025	8.23	91.77	76.46	28.99	1.03	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-06-2026	27.93	72.07	47.69	13.76	1.03	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-30-2025	0.00	100.00	100.00	79.21	25.06	1.49
One Year Ago 02-25-2025	0.00	100.00	99.07	86.97	52.89	1.03

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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