

# ARIZONA SHORT-TERM DROUGHT STATUS REPORT

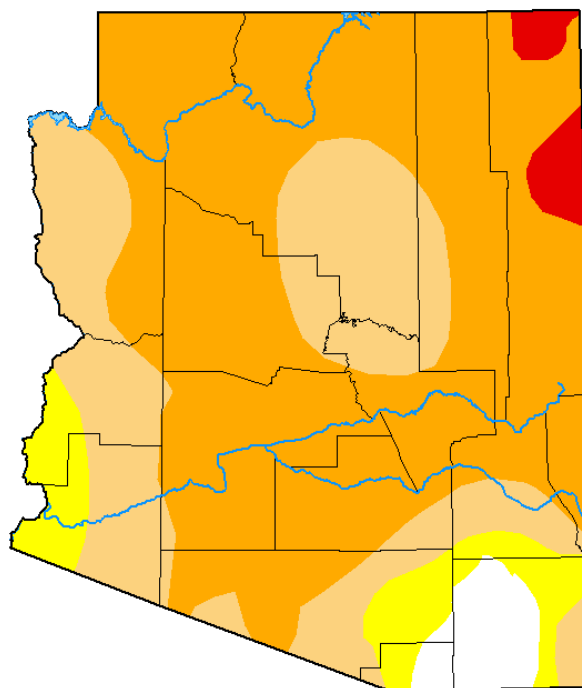
## MAY 2026

A few weather systems brought rain to mostly southern counties in May. Above average precipitation was measured in some locations, including Coronado National Memorial (0.85 inches), Tucson (0.40 inches), and Douglas (0.28 inches), while below average precipitation was recorded in northern counties. Temperatures across the state were above average for the month.

While Moderate (D1) short-term drought decreased in Mohave, Coconino, Navajo, Gila, Maricopa, and Yavapai counties (27% of state), Severe (D2) short-term drought advanced in these areas (60% of state). Extreme (D3) short-term drought expanded in Apache County (2% of state), Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions decreased in La Paz and Yuma counties (7% of state), and areas without short-term drought increased in Cochise and Santa Cruz counties (4% of state).

El Nino conditions are rapidly developing in the tropical Pacific, and will peak as one the strongest recorded El Nino episodes later this year. While dry conditions may persist into the first part of monsoon, odds for wetter than normal weather increase during the latter half of monsoon through early winter 2026.

### U.S. Drought Monitor Arizona



**May 26, 2026**  
(Released Thursday, May 28, 2026)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	3.54	96.46	89.35	62.33	2.14	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 05-19-2026	3.54	96.46	89.35	62.33	2.14	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 02-24-2026	32.01	67.99	34.36	6.18	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-06-2026	27.93	72.07	47.69	13.76	1.03	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-30-2025	0.00	100.00	100.00	79.21	25.06	1.49
<b>One Year Ago</b> 05-27-2025	0.00	100.00	99.34	82.18	60.75	6.14

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>*

Author:

Adam Allgood  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)