



Drought Status Update

August 2010

Short-term Drought Status Update

After a relatively slow start for the monsoon, precipitation across the state has been well above average in the northeastern corner of the state and along the New Mexico border, while western Arizona has been quite dry. Central Arizona has both wet and dry areas. Statewide, precipitation has been quite localized, but most locations have had some precipitation. Unfortunately, the precipitation has not been enough to improve conditions in northern or western Arizona, so abnormally dry to moderate drought conditions continue across the Colorado Plateau and the lower Colorado River valley.

Looking Ahead - The Climate Prediction Center has issued a La Niña advisory for the coming winter. This means La Niña conditions (which already exist) are expected to strengthen the next few months. Historically, La Niña tends to bring below average precipitation to Arizona. Thus, we have a heightened potential for below average rainfall state-wide during our primary winter wet season (Dec-Mar). [Jan-Feb-Mar outlook](#)

Summary produced by the State Drought Monitoring Technical Committee
September 2, 2010.

U.S. Drought Monitor

Arizona

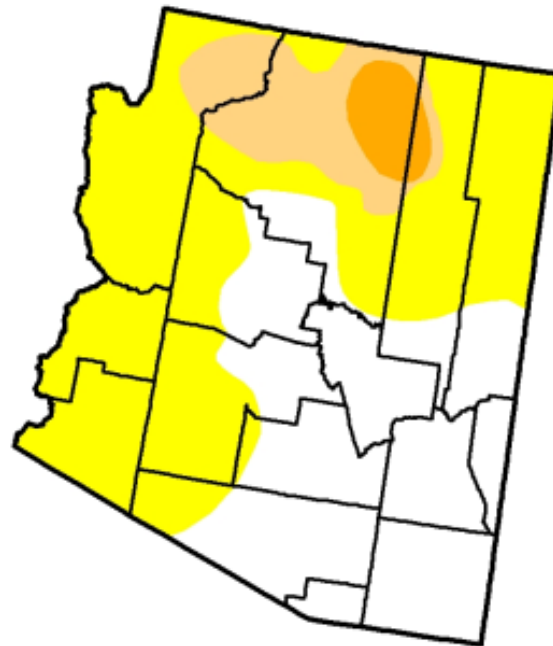
August 31, 2010
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	40.0	60.0	12.5	3.2	0.0	0.0
Last Week (08/24/2010 map)	40.0	60.0	12.5	3.2	0.0	0.0
3 Months Ago (06/09/2010 map)	63.9	36.1	14.4	2.7	0.0	0.0
Start of Calendar Year (01/05/2010 map)	0.0	100.0	97.2	71.1	5.1	0.0
Start of Water Year (10/06/2009 map)	1.4	98.6	80.3	10.7	0.0	0.0
One Year Ago (09/01/2009 map)	1.2	98.8	47.3	0.0	0.0	0.0

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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