

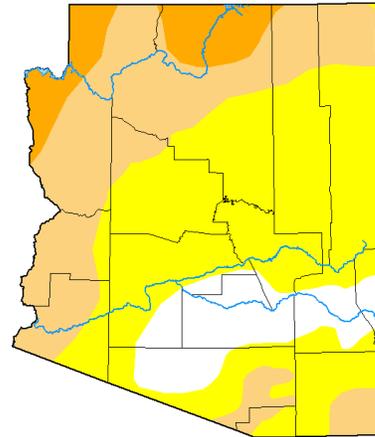
DROUGHT STATUS REPORT

December 2022 Short-Term Drought Status

December was an active month with above-normal precipitation in most counties except for Mohave, La Paz, Yuma, and Yavapai. Eastern and central counties experienced above-average temperatures, with near-normal temperatures across the rest of the state. Snow water equivalent in the Lower Colorado River Basin was just over 100% of median by the end of December, with areas along the Mogollon Rim and the White Mountains ranging from 70-150% of median snow water equivalent.

Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions (49% of state) continued in central, eastern, and southern counties, while areas with no drought (12%) were introduced in Pima, Maricopa, Pinal, Graham, and Greenlee counties. Severe (D2) and Moderate (D1) drought still lined western and northern counties (39% of state), with small areas of Moderate drought in Pima, Santa Cruz, and Cochise counties.

U.S. Drought Monitor Arizona



January 3, 2023
(Released Thursday, Jan. 5, 2023)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	12.40	87.60	38.94	7.85	0.00	0.00
Last Week 12-27-2022	12.40	87.60	38.96	7.85	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 10-04-2022	0.00	100.00	56.70	18.33	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2023	12.40	87.60	38.94	7.85	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2022	0.00	100.00	56.72	18.47	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 01-04-2022	0.00	100.00	55.74	26.15	5.08	0.00

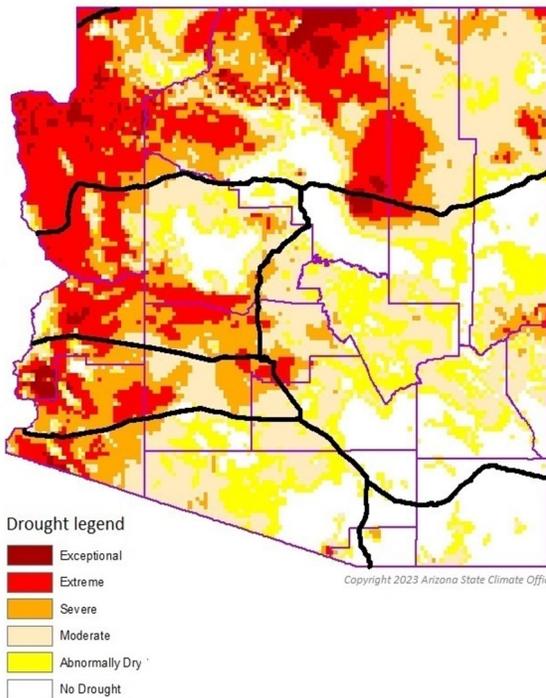
Intensity
 None
 D0 Abnormally Dry
 D1 Moderate Drought
 D2 Severe Drought
 D3 Extreme Drought
 D4 Exceptional Drought

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>

Author:
Brad Pugh
CPC/NOAA



October-December 2022 Long-term Drought Average SPEI



Extreme (D3) long-term drought remained entrenched in western counties, most of Coconino County, and portions of northern Maricopa and central Navajo counties. Areas of Severe (D2) long-term drought extended around the periphery of these areas and southern Apache County. Small portions of Exceptional (D4) long-term drought continued in La Paz, Mohave, and Coconino counties. Much of central Yavapai, central Apache, southern Navajo, eastern Pinal, central and eastern Pima, and most of Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Cochise, and Santa Cruz counties were Abnormally Dry (D0) or without long-term drought. Moderate (D1) long-term drought continued in northern Apache and Navajo counties, portions of Maricopa, and western Pinal and Pima counties.

La Niña conditions are in the initial stages of deteriorating with better than a 70% chance of El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) neutral by the spring. Despite the La Niña, odds are tilted towards a continuation of wetter weather in January, although the longer-term outlook through the spring suggests drier than normal weather is somewhat more likely.