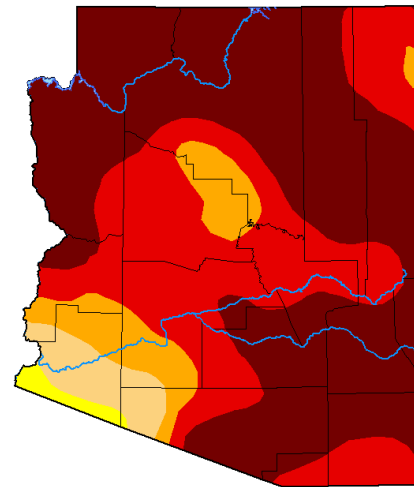


DROUGHT STATUS REPORT

March 2021 Short-Term Drought Status

While northern Arizona and the Mogollon Rim received much needed precipitation during March, it was not enough to improve drought conditions. Other areas of the state did not benefit from this precipitation. March was dry enough throughout west central Arizona to increase drought conditions from Severe (D2) to Extreme Drought (D3) in western Yavapai County, and from Extreme (D3) to Exceptional Drought (D4) in southern Mohave and northern La Paz counties.

U.S. Drought Monitor Arizona



April 6, 2021
(Released Thursday, Apr. 8, 2021)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT





	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	98.90	94.66	86.56	54.80
Last Week 03-30-2021	0.00	100.00	98.90	94.66	86.56	54.80
3 Months Ago 01-06-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	98.34	93.86	72.69
Start of Calendar Year 12-29-2020	0.00	100.00	100.00	98.34	93.86	72.69
Start of Water Year 09-29-2020	0.00	100.00	100.00	93.97	69.95	3.37
One Year Ago 04-07-2020	76.62	23.38	18.58	10.39	0.00	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:
Deborah Bathke
National Drought Mitigation Center

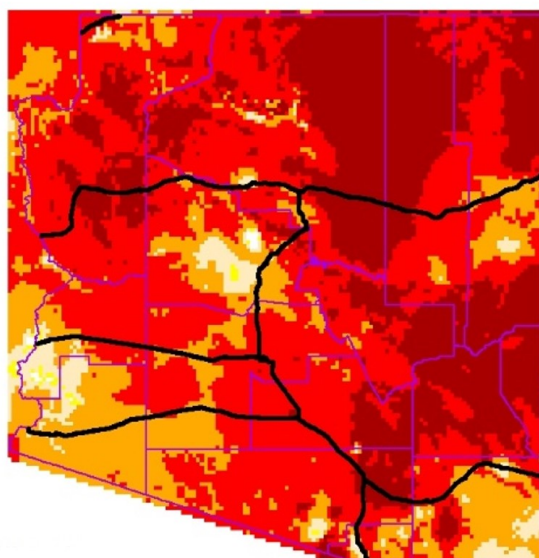





droughtmonitor.unl.edu

The drought degradation increased the area of the state in Exceptional Drought from 53.50% to 54.80%, and the area in Extreme Drought from 31.17% to 31.76%. The only area that is not technically in drought is a sliver of southern Yuma County that is in Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions.

Drought improvement in the short-term is unlikely as much of the state receives only limited precipitation towards the end of spring. However, there are signals among climate models that the summer monsoon could be wetter than normal.

January-March 2021 Long-Term Drought



Drought Conditions

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

(C)2021 Arizona State Climate Office

0 20 40 80 120 160 Miles

ARIZONA STATE CLIMATE OFFICE

January-March 2021 Long-Term Drought Status

Dry conditions during the January through March period led to the expansion of Exceptional Drought (D4) through northern Navajo and eastern Apache and Coconino counties, as well as through east central Arizona. Additionally, Extreme Drought (D3) expanded across northern and central Arizona and throughout Pinal and Pima counties.

The few pockets of no drought or Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions were replaced by Moderate (D1) or Severe Drought (D2).

While snowpack accumulated throughout a few locations, it was short-lived, and any potential run-off from the early melt-out was reduced by the already dry soils. Streamflows and inflows into reservoirs are low as a result of the dry conditions.