



Drought Status Update

March 2011

Short-term Drought Status Update

The circulation patterns of the current La Niña have brought several winter storms, including a few in March, to the counties of western and northern Arizona. This resulted in slightly wetter conditions there than expected, leaving the northwestern quarter of the state drought free.

The rest of the state has experienced typical La Niña dryness. The southeastern quarter of the state received less than 25% of average precipitation for the calendar year and less than 50% of average for the water year (October - September). The continued dryness in the eastern and southeastern counties has led to an expansion of severe drought (D2) into Graham, Greenlee, and southern Apache counties, and the introduction of extreme drought (D3) into Santa Cruz, Cochise, southern Graham and Greenlee and western Pima counties.

*Summary produced by the State Drought Monitoring Technical Committee
April 7, 2011.*

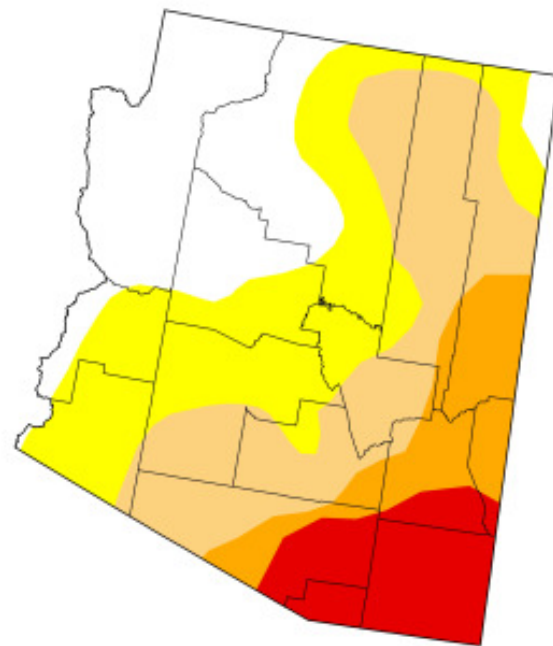
U.S. Drought Monitor

Arizona

March 29, 2011
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	24.84	75.16	47.39	21.37	10.96	0.00
Last Week (03/22/2011 map)	28.64	71.36	40.91	13.72	5.96	0.00
3 Months Ago (12/28/2010 map)	31.40	68.60	32.45	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year (12/28/2010 map)	31.40	68.60	32.45	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year (09/28/2010 map)	40.00	60.00	18.58	3.23	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago (03/23/2010 map)	32.96	67.04	23.97	6.41	0.00	0.00



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.



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<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>