

# Arizona Short-term Drought Status Report

## May 2020

May is Arizona's driest month of the year. This May was even drier as most of the state received less than 5% of normal May precipitation, or less than 0.25 inches. While 80% of Arizona remains out of short-term drought, drought conditions remain in the northeastern part of the state.

This month's higher than average temperatures play an even more significant factor than the lack of precipitation. Several heat waves brought temperatures to as high as 10-14°F above average across Arizona. The heat increased evaporation and transpiration and dried out the soil and vegetation, leading to a very high wildfire danger, particularly in the rangelands. Grass fires have been reported across the state and the wildfire danger will continue until the monsoon rainfall begins.

