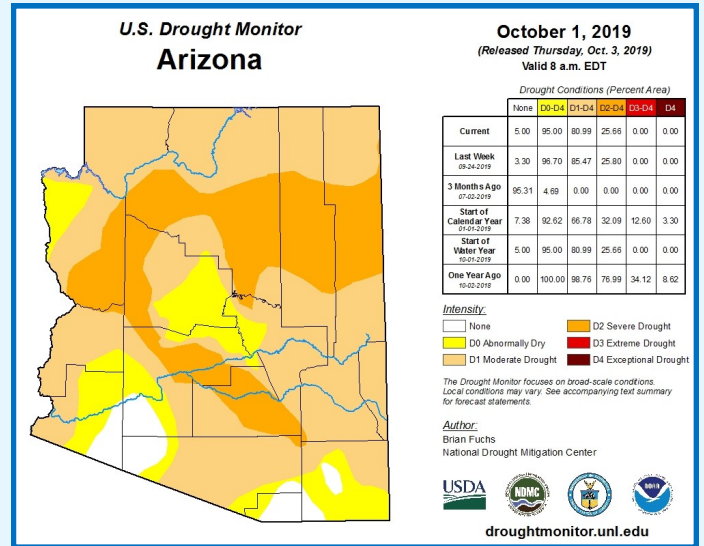


Drought Status Report

September 2019 Short-Term Drought Status

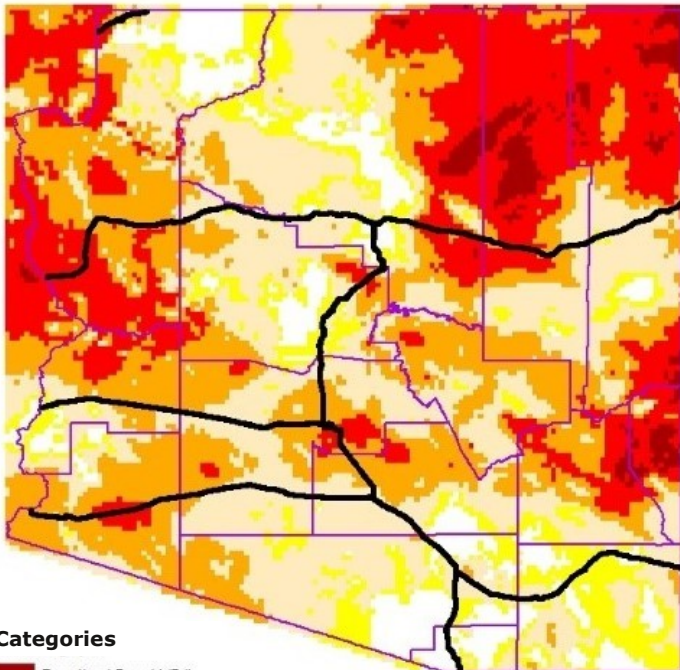
September monsoon rainfall fell primarily in southeastern Arizona and a late September storm system brought heavy rainfall to southwestern and central Arizona. This moisture helped maintain last month's No Drought conditions near the Yuma, Pima and Maricopa County boundary, and Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions in eastern Yavapai County.

Other locations however, remained relatively dry throughout the month, causing drought conditions in most of the state to worsen. Only 5% of Arizona remains in No Drought conditions, compared to 24% last month; many of the areas that were Abnormally Dry in early September had degraded to Moderate Drought (D1); and Severe Drought (D2) conditions increased from 0% to 25% during the month.



July – September 2019 Long-Term Drought Status

July - Sept. 2019 Long-Term Drought



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The monsoon activity began late in the summer with some heavy rainfall events, but they were highly localized, and precipitation was below average for most locations.

The dry conditions in July and August continued in September reversing the long-term drought improvements last quarter after the extremely wet winter and relatively wet spring. This led to a significant degradation in long-term drought conditions and the expansion of Moderate (D1), Severe (D2) and Extreme Drought (D3), particularly in the northern two-thirds of the state.

Cochise, western Maricopa and eastern Yavapai counties had above average monsoon rainfall and saw little degradation in long-term drought conditions.

Without an El Niño or La Niña signature in the Pacific, there is little climate signal suggesting any tendency for above or below normal precipitation heading towards the fall and early winter season.