



# Drought Information Statement for Southeast Arizona

Valid September 25, 2023

Issued By: NWS Tucson, AZ

Contact Information: [w-twc.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:w-twc.webmaster@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated October, 23, 2023 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/twc/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.



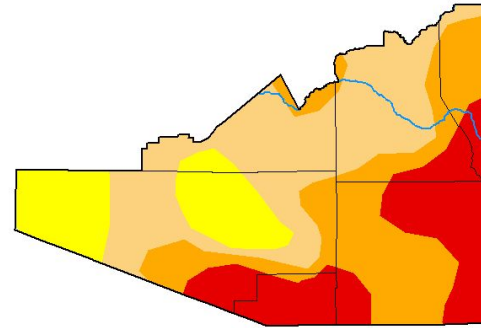


# U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for southeast Arizona

- EXTREME DROUGHT CONDITIONS HAVE DEVELOPED IN SOUTHEAST ARIZONA
- Drought intensity and Extent
  - D3 (Extreme Drought): Santa Cruz County, south central Pima, southwest and eastern Cochise, southeast sections of Graham and Greenlee counties.
  - D2 (Severe Drought): Adjacent sections of southern and eastern Pima and Graham counties, the remainder of Cochise and Greenlee counties.
  - D1 (Moderate Drought)/D0 Abnormally Dry: The rest of southeast Arizona not under D2 or D3.

## U.S. Drought Monitor Tucson, AZ WFO



**September 19, 2023**  
(Released Thursday, Sep. 21, 2023)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.01	99.99	84.66	50.60	23.11	0.00
Last Week 09-12-2023	0.01	99.99	84.66	50.60	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 06-20-2023	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2023	36.54	63.46	16.27	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-27-2022	0.00	100.00	34.26	9.61	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 09-20-2022	0.00	100.00	46.88	9.51	0.00	0.00

### Intensity

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate 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

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NCEI/NOAA



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am EDT September 19th.



National Oceanic and  
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

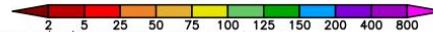
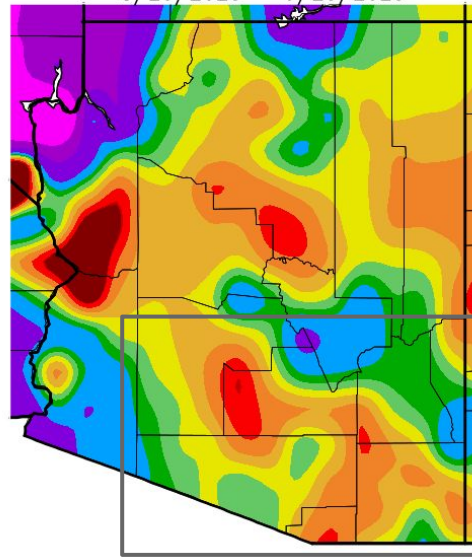
National Weather Service  
Tucson, AZ



# Precipitation

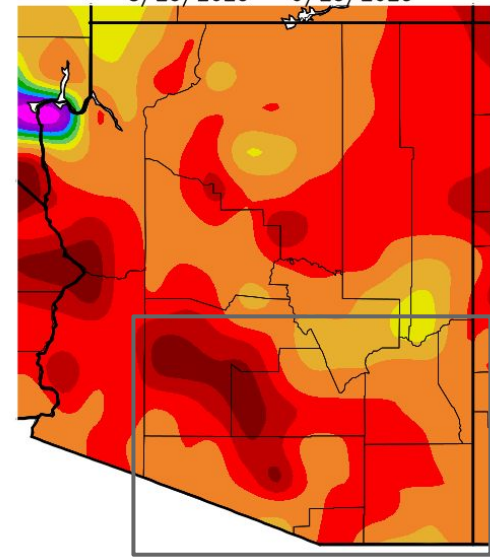
- Rainfall totals over the past 30 days has been below 2" across most of southeast Arizona as Monsoon 2023 comes to a close.

Percent of Average Precipitation (%)  
8/25/2023 – 9/23/2023



Generated 9/24/2023 at WRCC using provisional data.  
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Total Precipitation (in.)  
8/25/2023 – 9/23/2023



Generated 9/24/2023 at WRCC using provisional data.  
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions:

- Left - [Precipitation Amount for Arizona w/southeast Arizona in highlighted gray box](#)
- Right - [Percent of Normal Precipitation for Arizona w/southeast Arizona in highlighted gray box](#)

Data Courtesy Western Regional Climate Center  
Data over the past 30 days ending September 23, 2023

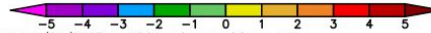
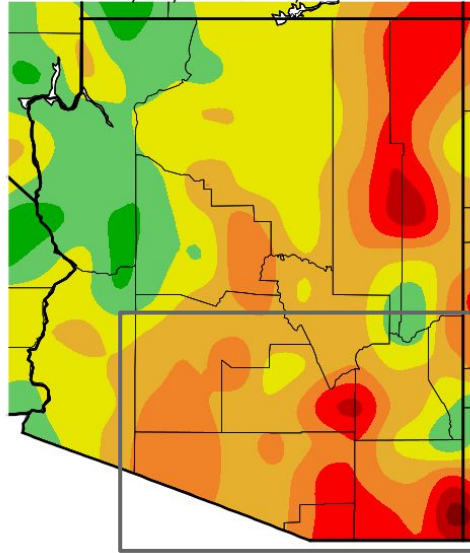




# Temperature

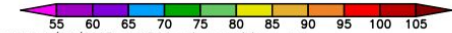
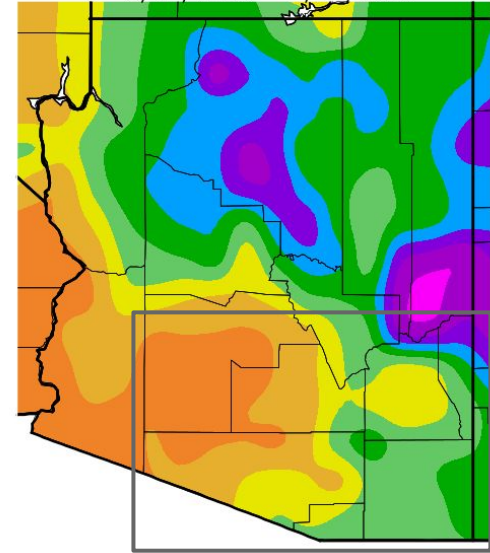
- Average temperatures over the past 30 days were 1° to 4° above normal for much of southeast Arizona. The exception is far southern Greenlee county where temperatures were slightly below normal.

Ave. Temperature dep from Ave (deg F)  
8/25/2023 - 9/23/2023



Generated 9/24/2023 at WRCC using provisional data.  
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Ave. Temperature (deg. F)  
8/25/2023 - 9/23/2023



Generated 9/24/2023 at WRCC using provisional data.  
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions:

Left - [Average Temperature for Arizona w/southeast Arizona in highlighted gray box](#)

Right - [Departure from Normal Temperature for Arizona w/southeast Arizona in highlighted gray box](#)

Data Courtesy Western Regional Climate Center.

Data over the past 30 days ending September 23, 2023





# Summary of Impacts

Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflow across much of the area is below to much below normal for this time of year. The San Pedro River Basin is at less than 10th percentile for this time of year.

## Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture values are below the 20th percentile in most of southeast Arizona. Portions of Pinal, Pima and Santa Cruz counties are below the 5th percentile. This could make some areas more susceptible to blowing dust.

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- Record heat and below normal precipitation has resulted in fuel dryness levels that are much drier than normal. As a result, southeast Arizona is still experiencing occasional large (>100 acres) fires and that threat will remain on windier days until significant precipitation occurs or we get much further into the fall season.

## Mitigation Actions

- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.

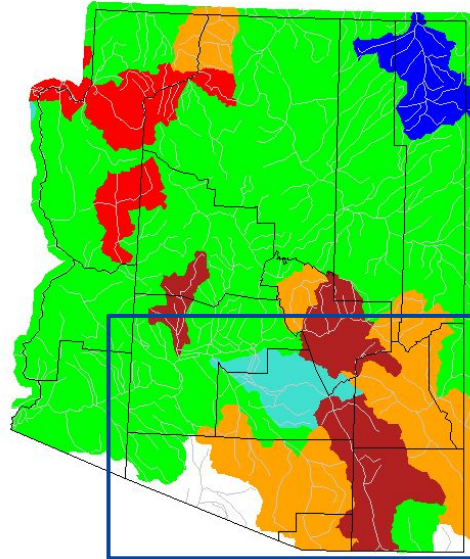




# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflow across much of the area is below to much below normal for this time of year. The San Pedro River Basin is at less than 10th percentile for this time of year.

Saturday, September 23, 2023



Explanation - Percentile classes							
	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
Low	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	High	No Data

Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid September 23, 2023

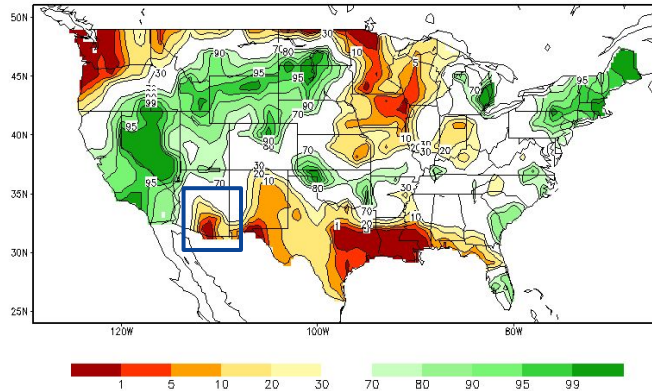




# Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture values are below the 20th percentile in most of southeast Arizona. Portions of Pinal, Pima and Santa Cruz counties are below the 5th percentile. This could make some areas more susceptible to blowing dust.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile  
SEP 24, 2023



Crop Moisture Index by Division  
Weekly Value for Period Ending SEP 16, 2023  
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

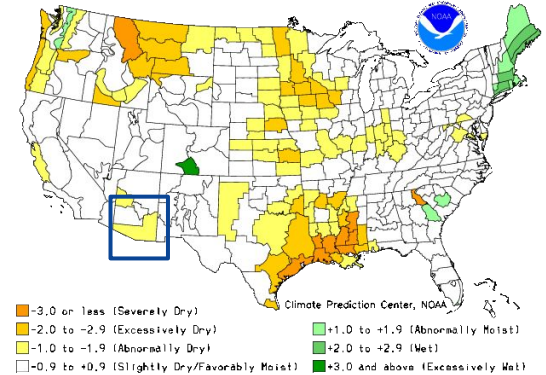


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid September 24, 2023

Right: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending September 16, 2023





# Long-Range Outlooks

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- The Climate Prediction Center outlook for October calls for a slight lean toward above normal temperatures and above normal precipitation.

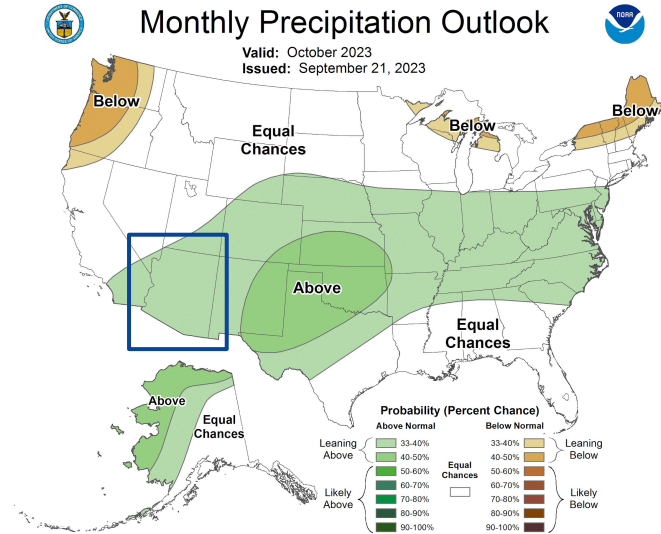
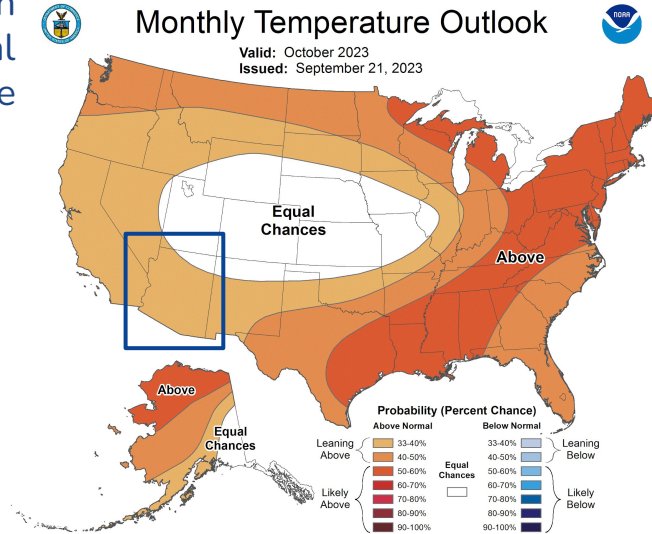


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook](#),

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook](#),

Valid October 2023







# Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Drought conditions are likely to persist through the end of the year.

## U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for September 21 - December 31, 2023  
Released September 21, 2023

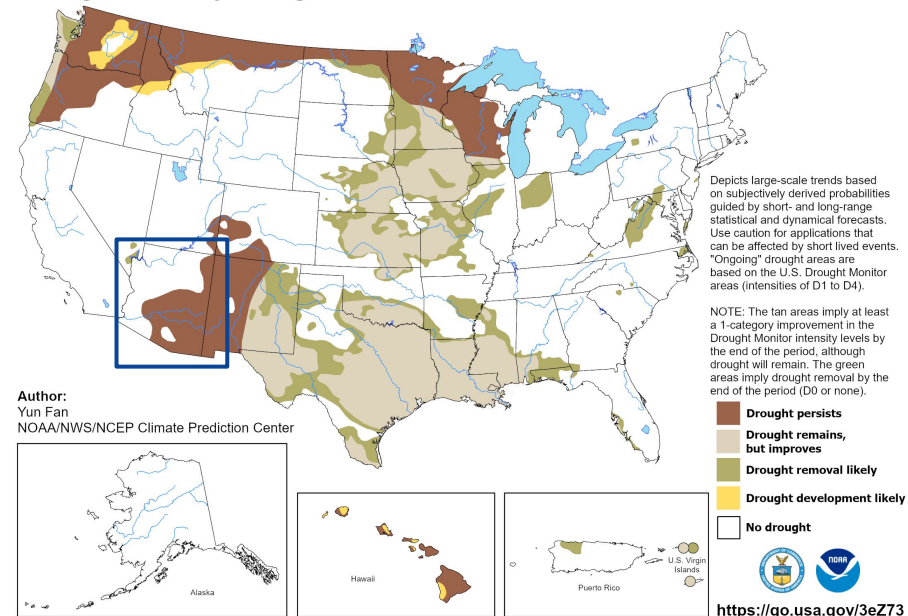


Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook Released September 21, 2023 valid thru December 2023

Links to the latest:

- [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)
- [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

