



Drought Information Statement for Mojave Desert and Eastern Sierra

Valid April 20, 2025

Issued By: WFO Las Vegas, NV

Contact Information: nws.lasvegas@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated around May 15, 2025 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/VEF/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
 - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.
-
- Light precipitation fell across parts of the Mojave Desert and Eastern Sierra over the last 30 days, but made little improvement to the current drought situation.
 - Drought conditions have negatively impacted native plants and wildlife in southern Nevada.



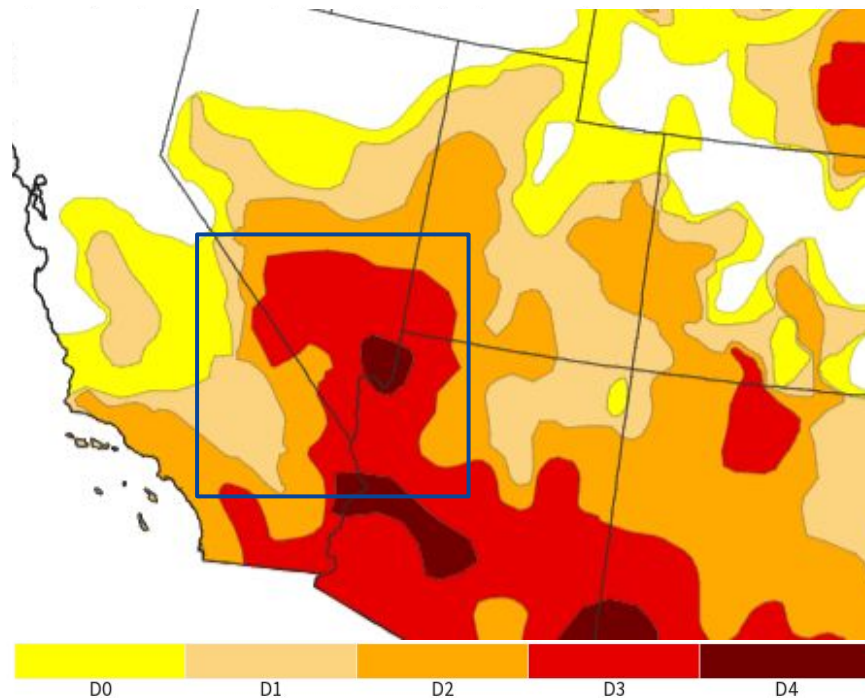


U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for the Southwestern United States

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: Areas around the Bill Williams River and Lake Mead.
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Most of Clark, Mohave, and Lincoln counties, central Nye County, eastern San Bernardino County, and Death Valley in Inyo County.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Esmeralda County, northern Lincoln County, sections of central Inyo and San Bernardino counties, and the Spring Mountains in Clark County.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Western San Bernardino County, sections of central Inyo County, western Esmeralda County.
 - **D0 (Abnormally Dry)**: The Eastern Sierra, Owens Valley, and White Mountains in Inyo County.

U.S. Drought Monitor



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 04/15/25



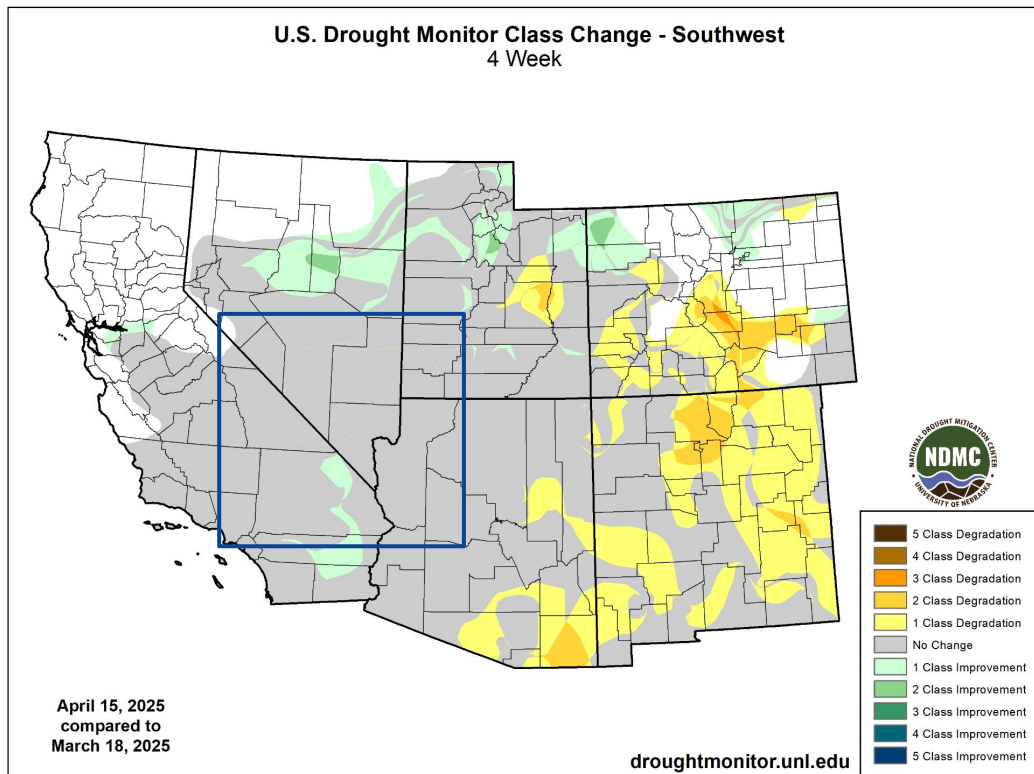


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Southwestern United States

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.

- Drought Worsened:** No widespread degradation was observed.
- No Change:** The remainder of southern Nevada, southeastern California, and northwestern Arizona.
- Drought Improved:** Isolated sections of eastern San Bernardino County.

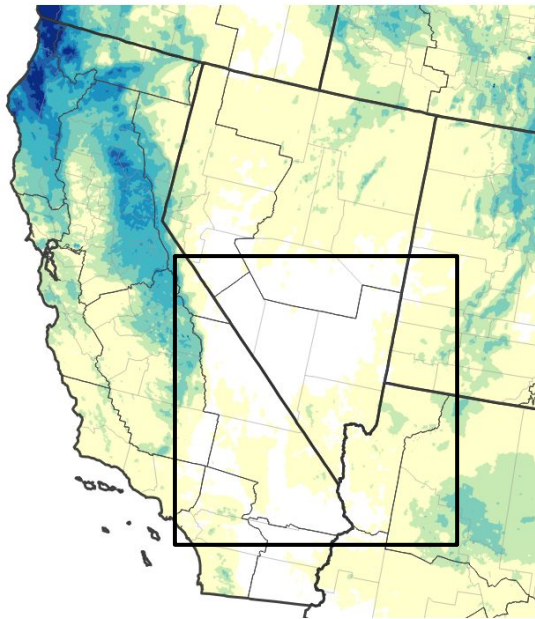




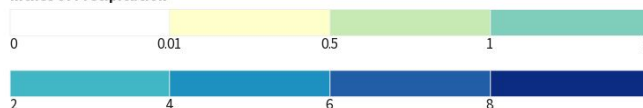
Precipitation

- A series of winter/spring systems moved through the region over the last 30 days.
- Most precipitation was light and fell in San Bernardino, Clark, and Mohave counties.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

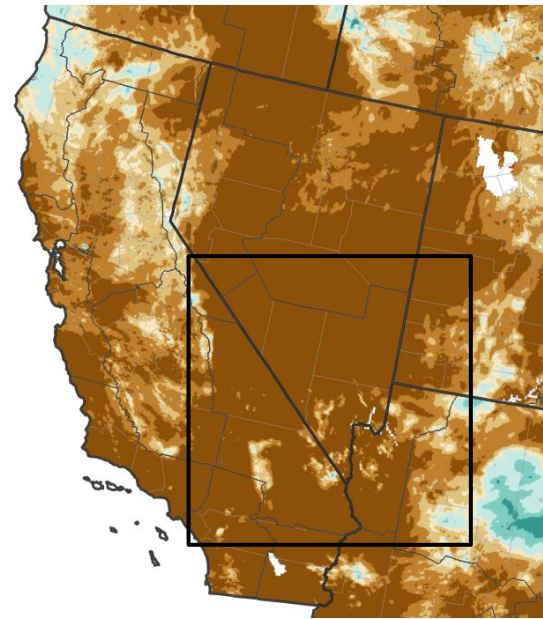


Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 04/20/25

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 04/20/25

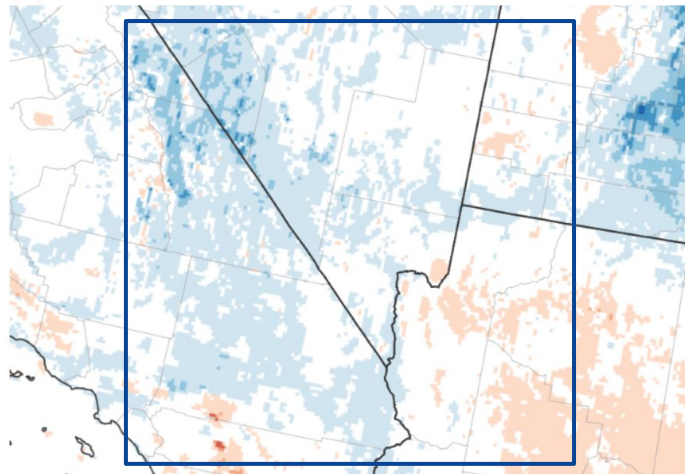




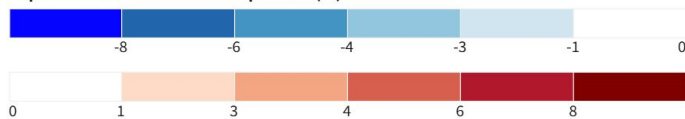
Temperature

- Maximum temperatures over the last 7 days have been near to below normal for most of the forecast area.
- Maximum temperatures over the last 30 days have been near to above normal across the Mojave Desert.

7-Day Departure from Normal Maximum Temperature (°F)



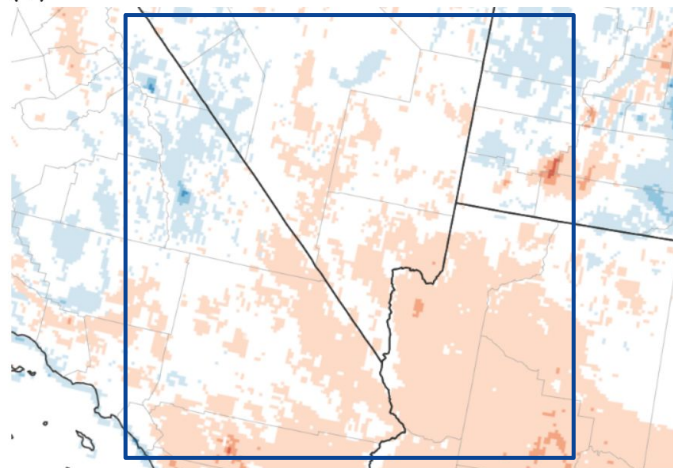
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



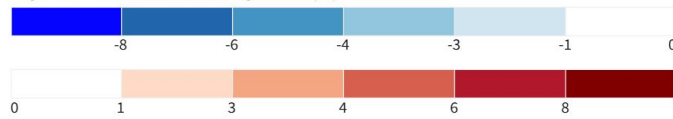
Source(s): UC Merced
Data Valid: 04/16/25

Drought.gov

30-Day Departure from Normal Maximum Temperature (°F)



Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Source(s): UC Merced
Data Valid: 04/17/25

Drought.gov





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- [Lake Mead is at 1,063.35 feet in elevation, or 33 percent full.](#)

Agricultural Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Accumulation of invasive plants at Cathedral Gorge State Park poses a serious fire hazard.

Other Impacts

- Bighorn sheep in Valley of Fire State Park have been hit hard by a lack of surface water and sparse desert flora. Water hauls to man-made reservoirs known as guzzlers are occurring to help the sheep. The current density of sheep in the nearby Muddy Mountains is unsustainable.
- Deer and elk in Spring Valley State Park did not migrate from their usual spring and summer habitat due to a lack of winter rain and snowfall, which limits their food availability this spring and summer.
- Lack of precipitation has led to an increase in invasive species and a reduction in the yield and quality of native plants at Cathedral Gorge State Park. This also impacts biodiversity of native animals, insects, and microorganisms.

Mitigation Actions

- Southern Nevada Water Authority switched to the spring landscape watering schedule.



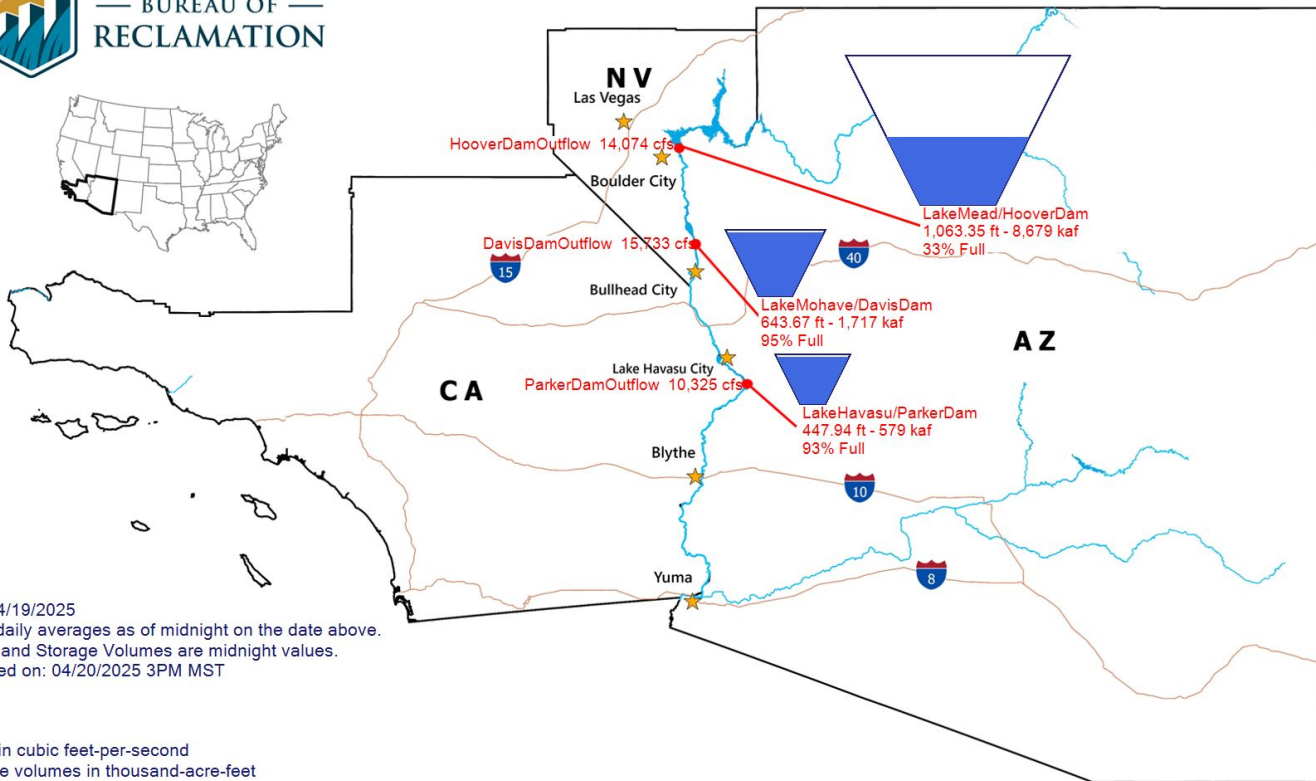


Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Lake Mead is at 1,063.35 feet in elevation, or 33% full.
- Lake Mohave is at 643.67 feet in elevation, or 95% full.
- Lake Havasu is at 447.94 feet in elevation, or 93% full.
- The Bureau of Reclamation [24-month study](#) indicates a decrease in Lake Mead this summer. Lake Mohave and Lake Havasu remain steady.



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION



Data for: 04/19/2025
Flows are daily averages as of midnight on the date above.
Elevations and Storage Volumes are midnight values.
Last updated on: 04/20/2025 3PM MST

LEGEND:
cfs: Flows in cubic feet-per-second
kaf: Storage volumes in thousand-acre-feet
ft: Elevations in feet above mean-sea-level



**National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration**
U.S. Department of Commerce

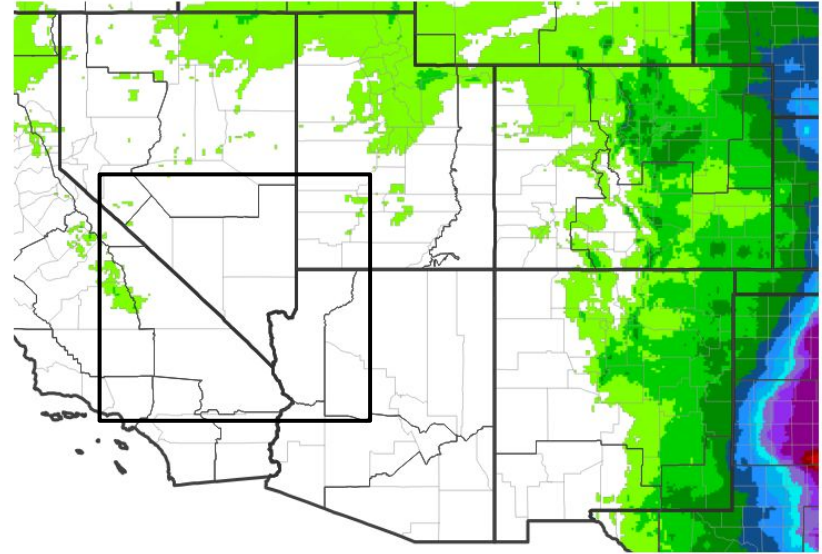
**National Weather Service
Las Vegas, NV**



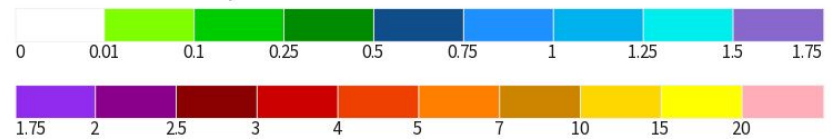
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Most of the forecast area will be dry over the next seven days.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for April 20, 2025–April 27, 2025



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 04/20/25



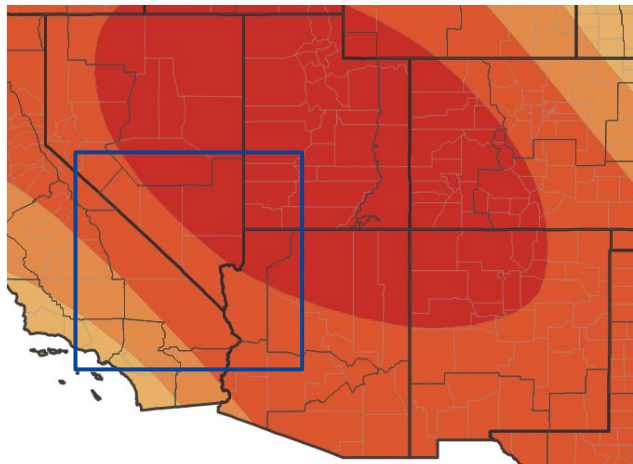


Long-Range Outlooks

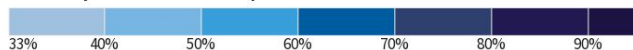
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- There is a 40 to 70% probability of above normal temperatures across the area through July 31, with the greatest probability in Mohave, Clark, and Lincoln counties.
- There is a 33 to 40 percent probability of below normal precipitation in the southern Great Basin. The remainder of the area has equal chances of above or below normal precipitation.

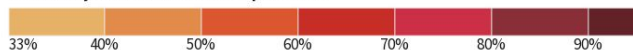
Seasonal (3-Month) Temperature Outlook for May 1, 2025–July 31, 2025



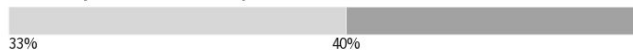
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



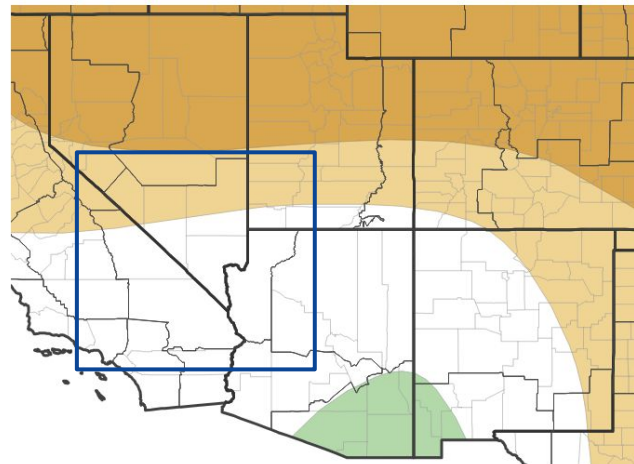
Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



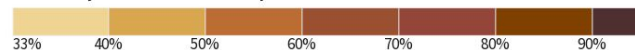
Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 0

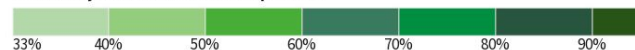
Seasonal (3-Month) Precipitation Outlook for May 1, 2025–July 31, 2025



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 0



**National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration**
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Las Vegas, NV

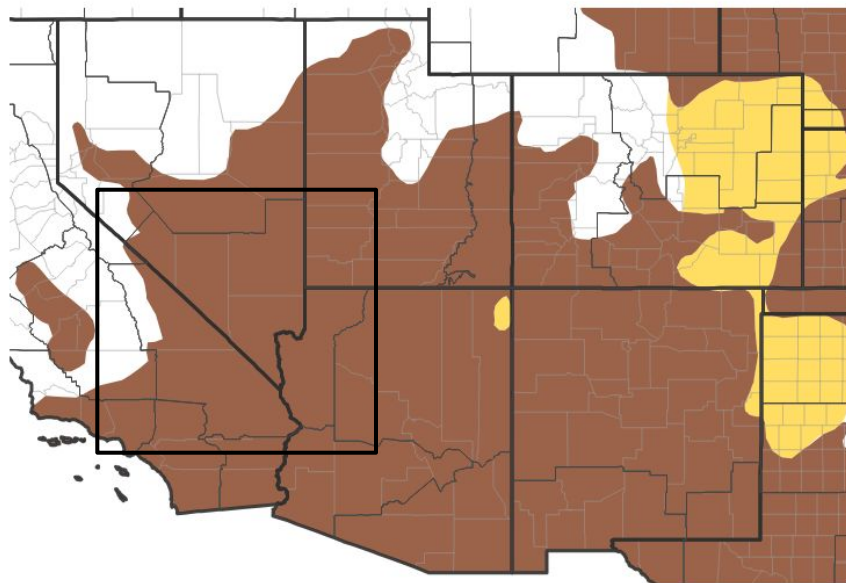


Drought Outlook

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

- Drought is expected to persist through July 31 for most of southern Nevada, northwestern Arizona, and southeastern California outside of the Eastern Sierra, Owens Valley, and White Mountains.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for April 17, 2025–July 31, 2025



Drought Is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 04/17/25

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



**National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration**
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Las Vegas, NV