

# U.S. Drought Monitor

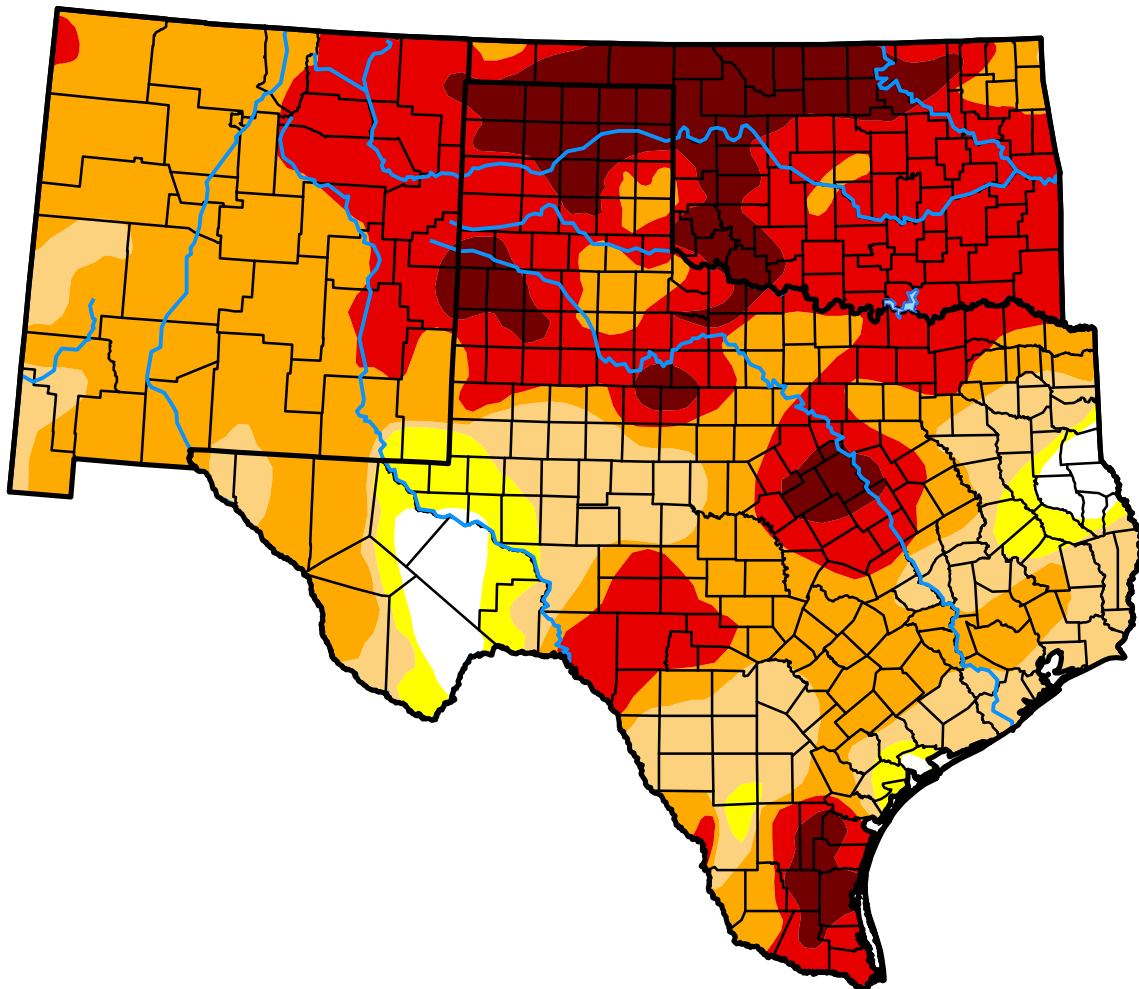
## Southern Plains Area

**December 18, 2012**  
 (Released Thursday, Dec. 20, 2012)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	2.64	97.36	92.90	77.12	40.31	11.29
<b>Last Week</b> <i>12-11-2012</i>	3.45	96.55	92.56	77.65	38.94	10.45
<b>3 Months Ago</b> <i>09-18-2012</i>	6.55	93.45	86.13	62.04	31.15	9.45
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> <i>01-03-2012</i>	4.58	95.42	92.19	76.19	49.52	21.41
<b>Start of Water Year</b> <i>09-25-2012</i>	5.30	94.70	87.65	65.30	32.32	9.63
<b>One Year Ago</b> <i>12-20-2011</i>	4.58	95.42	92.20	76.20	54.59	27.80



**Intensity:**

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.*

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