

# U.S. Drought Monitor

## Southern Plains DEWS

**May 19, 2026**

(Released Thursday, May. 21, 2026)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

|                                                    | None  | D0    | D1    | D2    | D3    | D4   |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| <b>Current</b>                                     | 18.34 | 15.20 | 23.59 | 24.94 | 16.62 | 1.31 |
| <b>Last Week</b><br><i>05-12-2026</i>              | 17.72 | 14.76 | 24.06 | 26.72 | 15.58 | 1.15 |
| <b>3 Months Ago</b><br><i>02-17-2026</i>           | 14.48 | 25.45 | 28.82 | 18.65 | 12.20 | 0.40 |
| <b>Start of Calendar Year</b><br><i>01-06-2026</i> | 24.07 | 24.64 | 30.40 | 13.81 | 6.86  | 0.23 |
| <b>Start of Water Year</b><br><i>09-30-2025</i>    | 50.45 | 32.69 | 8.59  | 6.15  | 1.93  | 0.18 |
| <b>One Year Ago</b><br><i>05-20-2025</i>           | 48.50 | 16.57 | 14.22 | 6.09  | 5.43  | 9.20 |

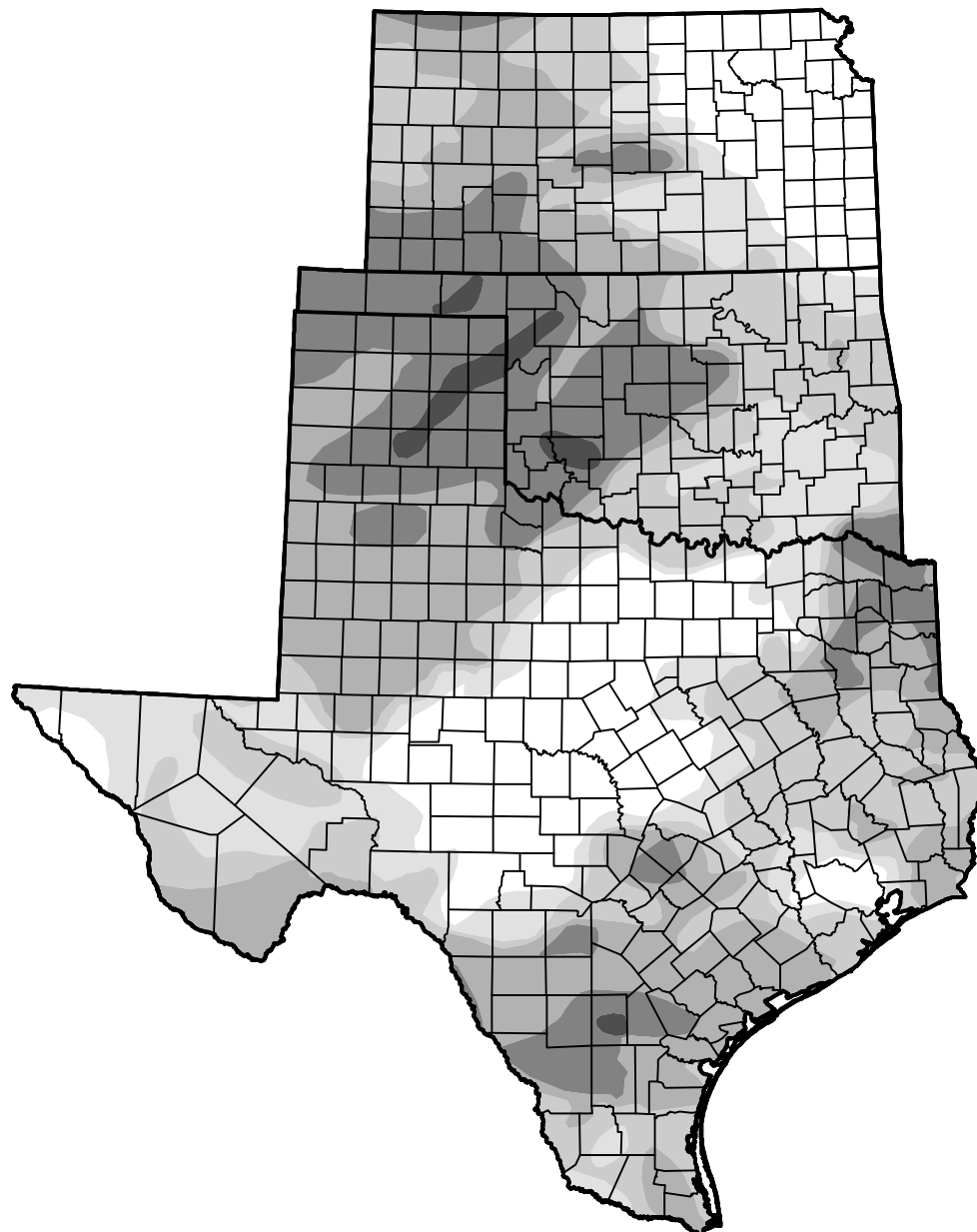
### Intensity:

|                                                                                                           |                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  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>*

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