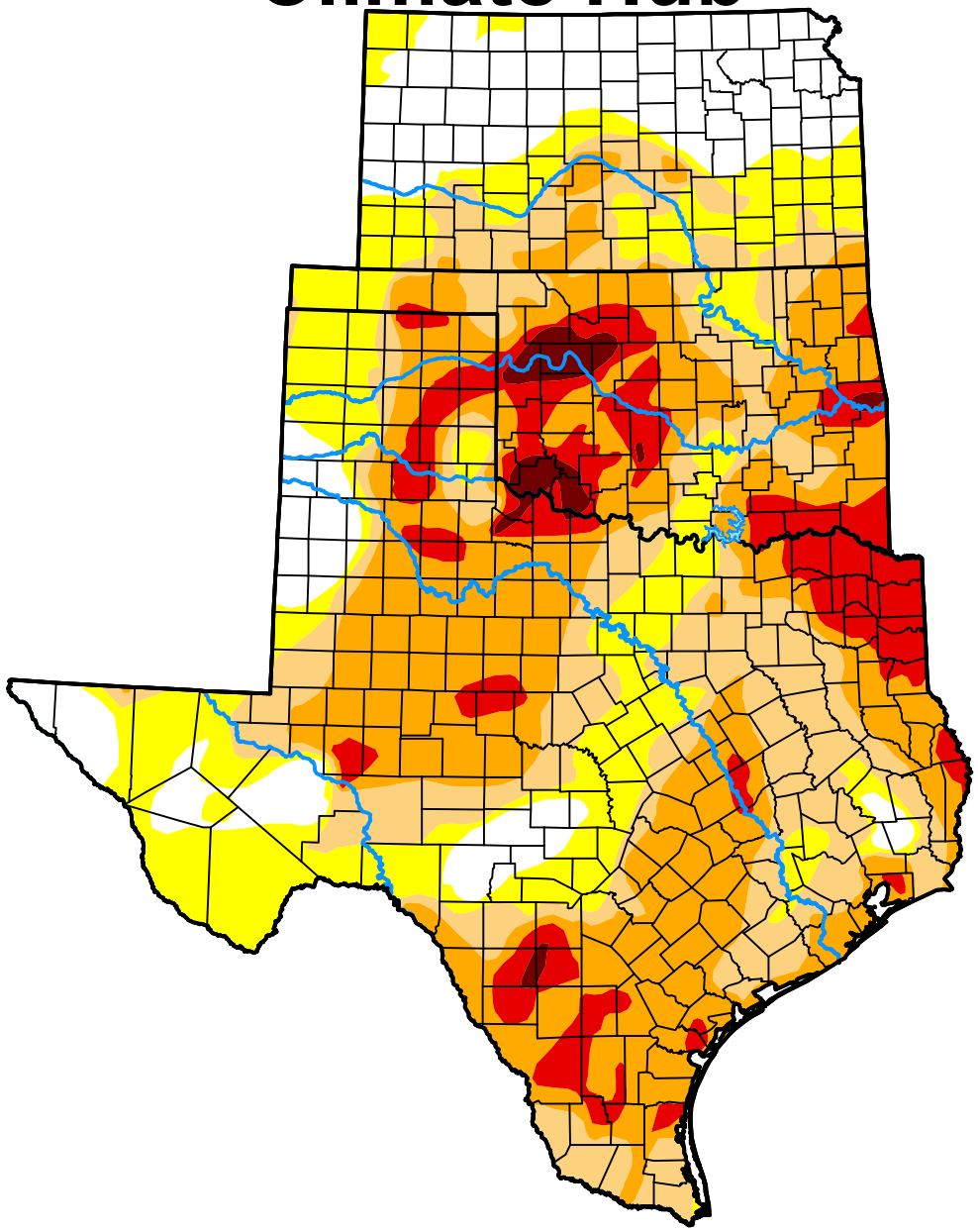
U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southern Plains Climate Hub



October 20, 2026

(Released Thursday, Oct. 22, 2026)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	15.76	20.21	22.43	30.04	10.16	1.41
Last Week *10-13-2026*	13.21	14.99	26.07	28.97	13.32	3.44
3 Months Ago *07-21-2026*	57.27	16.19	13.93	9.34	2.91	0.35
Start of Calendar Year *01-06-2026*	24.07	24.64	30.40	13.81	6.86	0.23
Start of Water Year *09-29-2026*	6.65	9.12	21.22	36.93	19.69	6.39
One Year Ago *10-21-2025*	25.61	40.83	22.96	6.75	3.67	0.18

Intensity:

- None
- 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. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx

Author:

Lindsay Johnson

High Plains Regional Climate Center

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