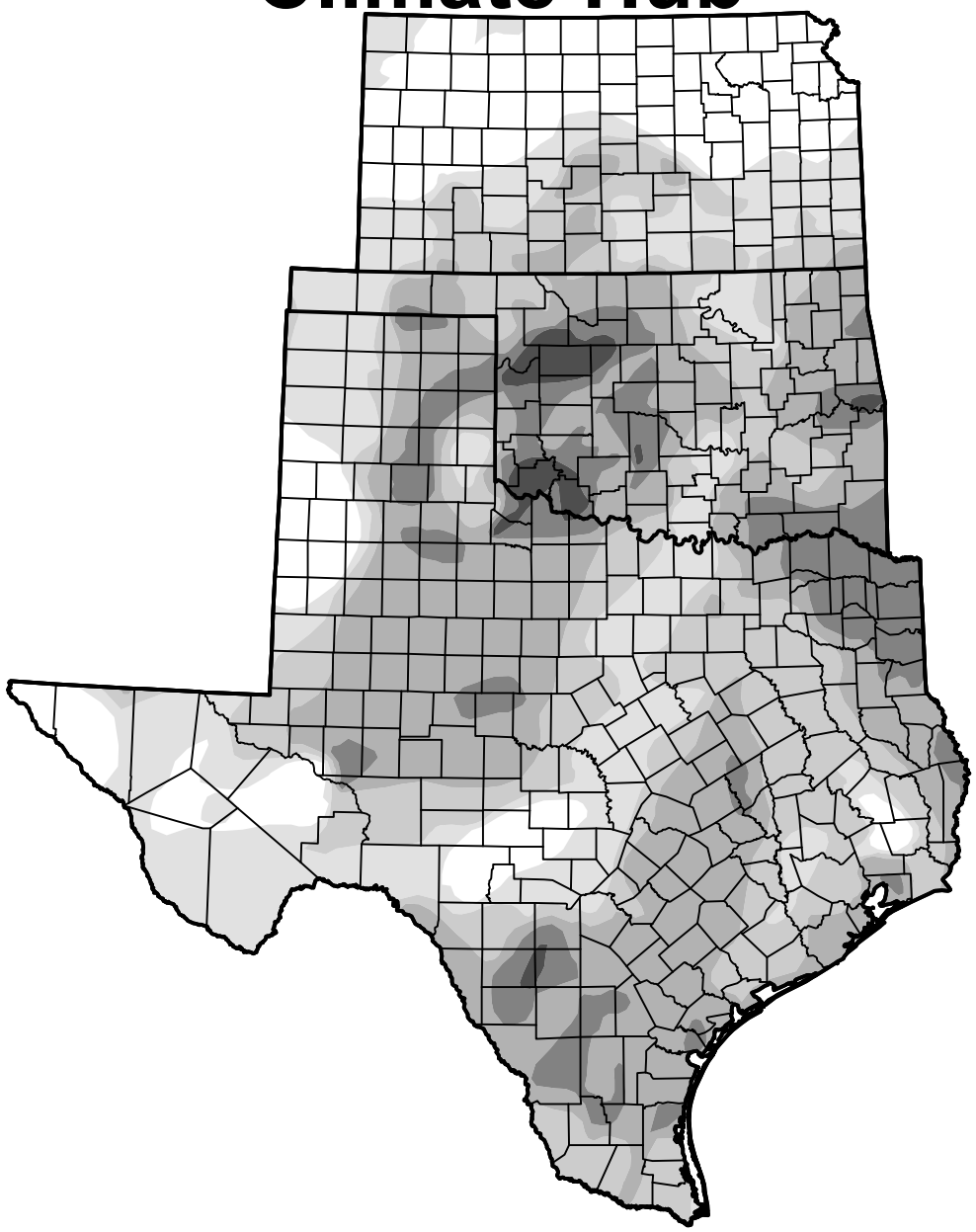
U.S. Drought Monitor

USDA Southern Plains Climate Hub



October 20, 2026

(Released Thursday, Oct. 22, 2026)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	15.76	84.24	64.04	41.61	11.57	1.41
Last Week *10-13-2026*	13.21	86.79	71.80	45.73	16.76	3.44
3 Months Ago *07-21-2026*	57.27	42.73	26.53	12.60	3.27	0.35
Start of Calendar Year *01-06-2026*	24.07	75.93	51.29	20.89	7.08	0.23
Start of Water Year *09-29-2026*	6.65	93.35	84.23	63.00	26.08	6.39
One Year Ago *10-21-2025*	25.61	74.39	33.56	10.60	3.85	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

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droughtmonitor.unl.edu