

Water Weekly

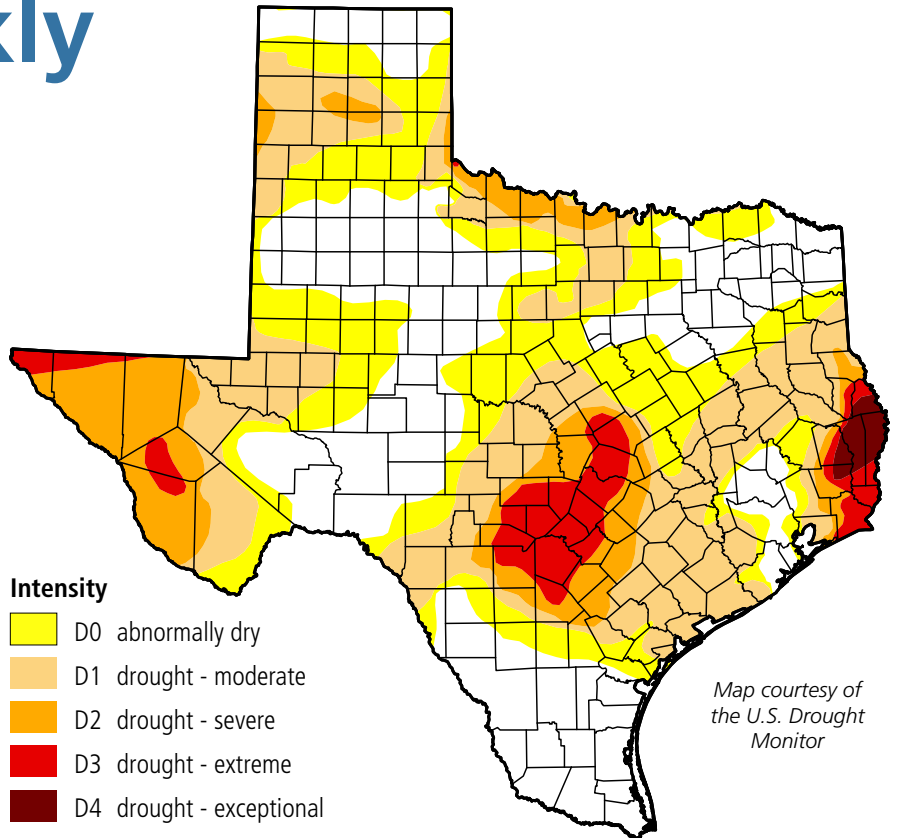
For the week of 12/18/23

Water conditions

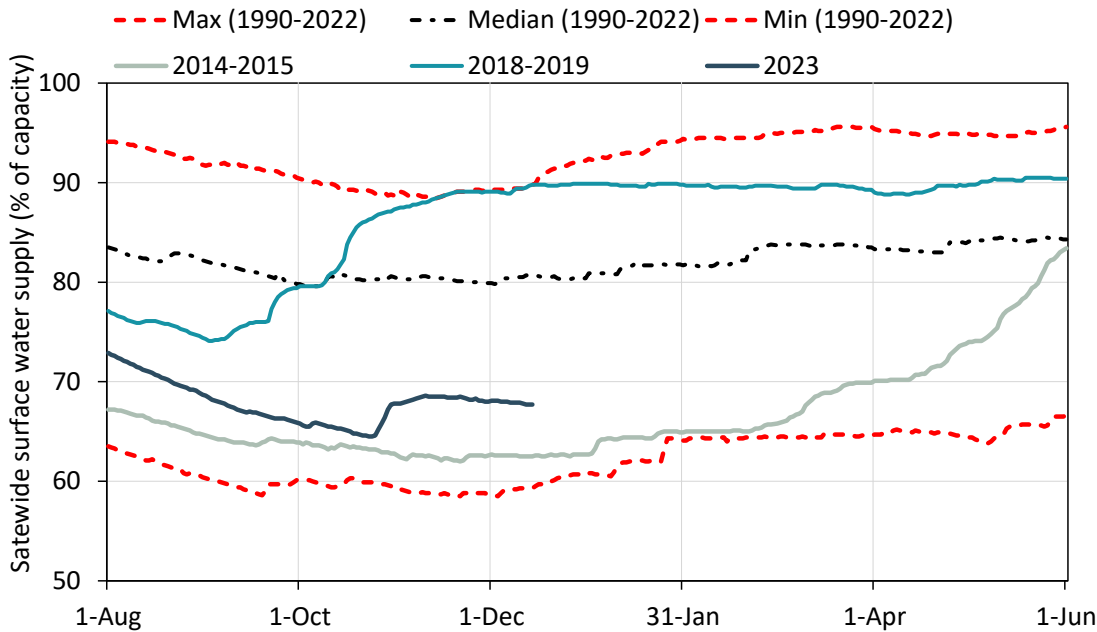
The weekly drought map for conditions as of December 12 shows improvements in areas of North Central and West Texas and along the upper coast. But larger areas of degradation in Central and East Texas led to a net increase in the total area of the state impacted by drought.

Drought conditions

- ◆ 44% now
- ◆ 43% a week ago
- ◆ 86% three months ago
- ◆ 52% a year ago



Water supply and El Niños update



El Niño conditions (warmer than average sea surface temperatures in the Eastern Pacific) during winter typically bring recovery to Texas' surface water supply reservoirs. Compared to the most recent El Niño winters, 2023-2024 is shaping up more like 2014-2015, when recovery was delayed, rather than 2018-2019, when recovery came quickly.

Data courtesy of Water Data for Texas

Written by Dr. Mark Wentzel — Dr. Mark Wentzel is a hydrologist in the TWDB's Office of Water Science and Conservation.

Bryan McMath, Government Relations | bryan.mcmath@twdb.texas.gov | 512-463-7850
Media Relations | MediaRelations@twdb.texas.gov | 512-463-5129