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U.S. Drought Monitor, March 17, 2015

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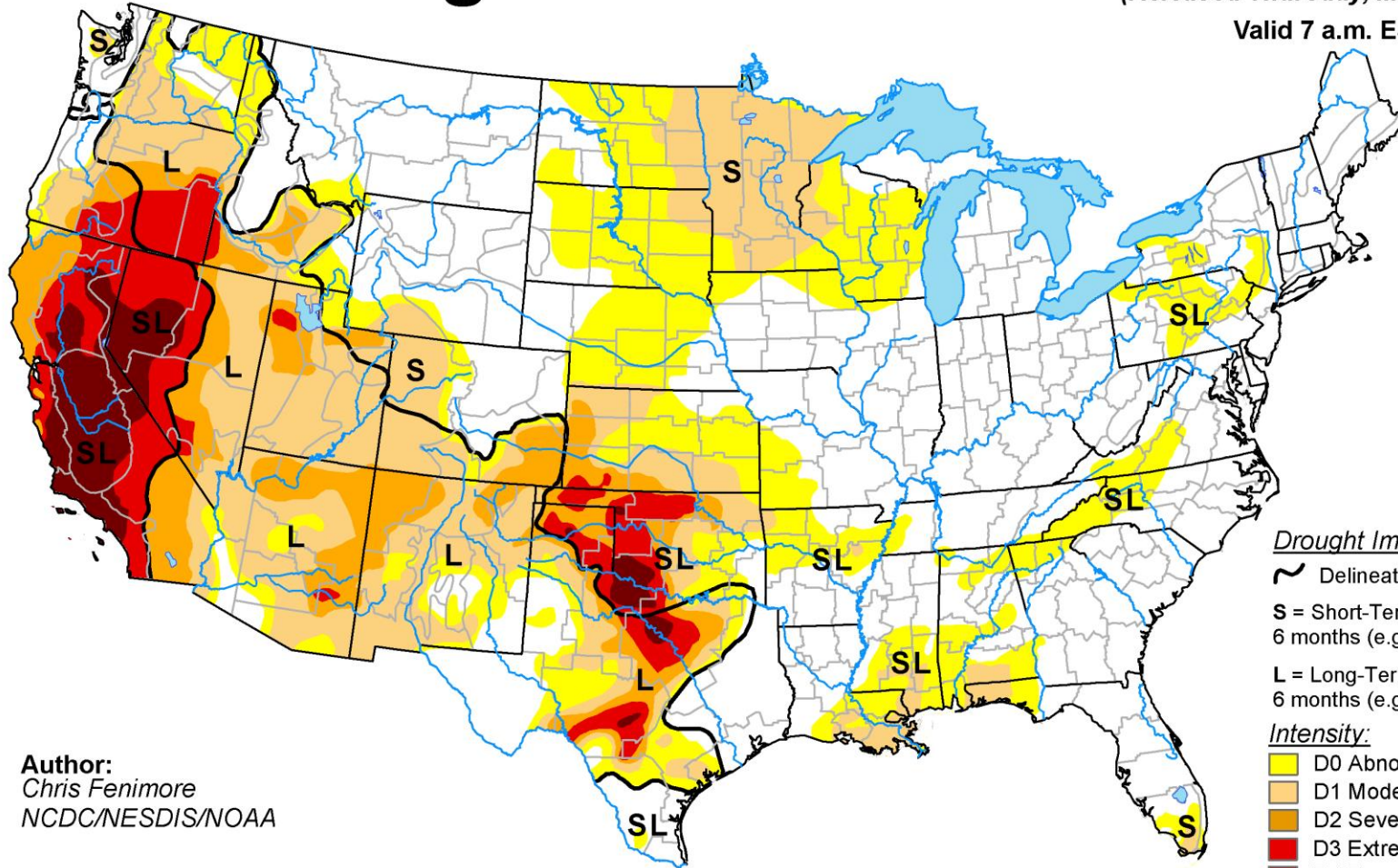
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U.S. Drought Monitor

March 17, 2015
(Released Thursday, Mar. 19, 2015)

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Author:
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NCDC/NESDIS/NOAA

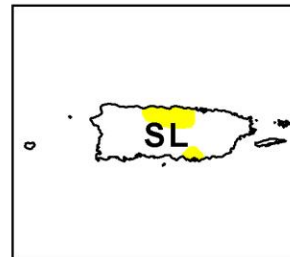
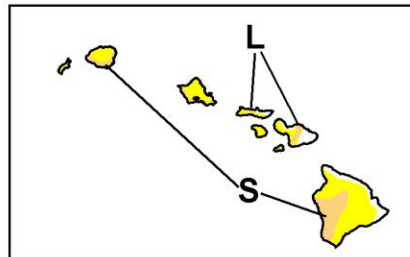
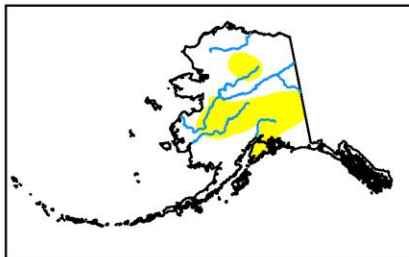
Drought Impact Types:

- Delineates dominant impacts
- S** = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L** = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

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.



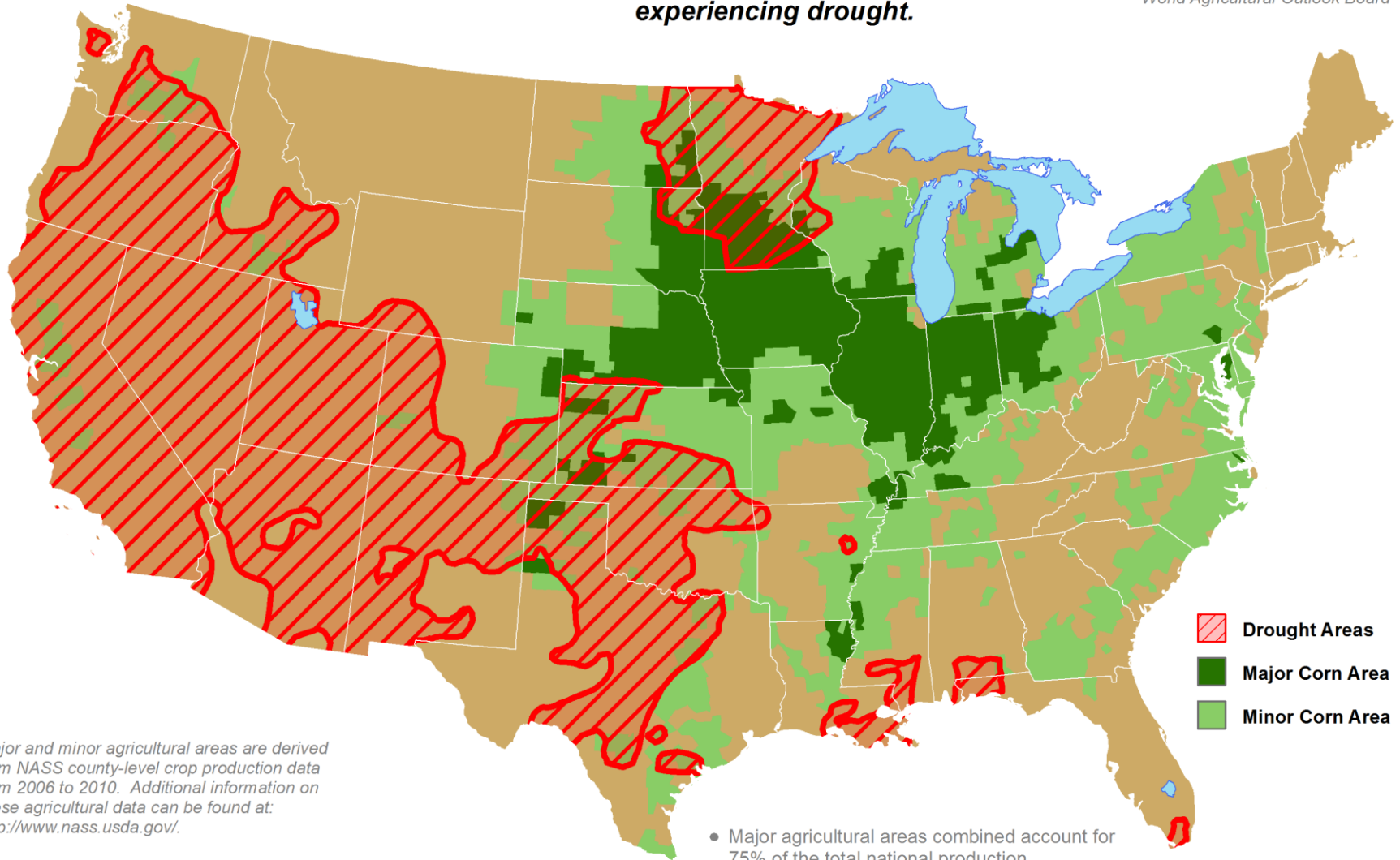
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

U.S. Corn Areas Experiencing Drought

Reflects **March 17, 2015**
U.S. Drought Monitor data

Approximately **15%** of corn
production is within an area
experiencing drought.

This product was prepared by the
USDA Office of the Chief Economist
World Agricultural Outlook Board

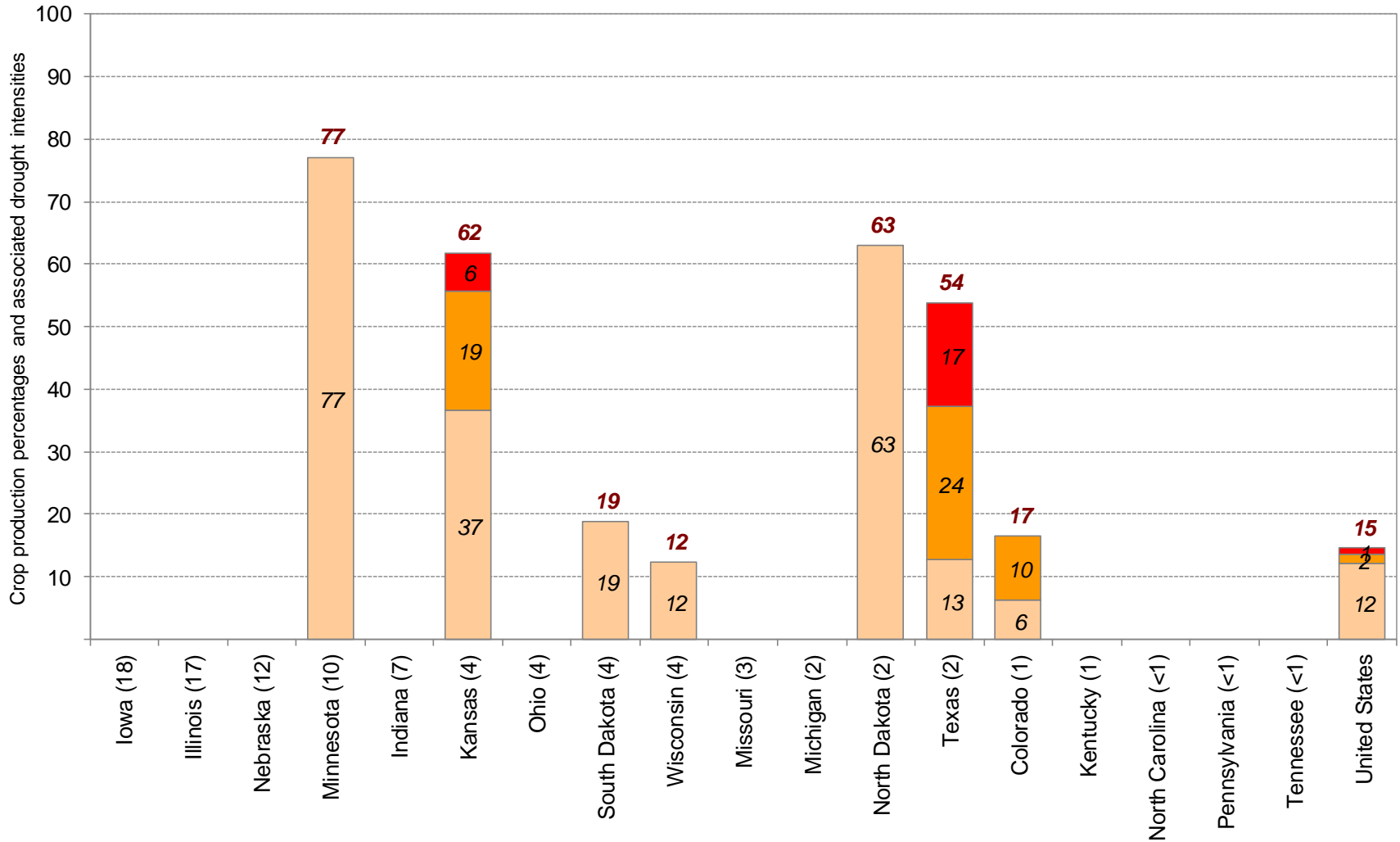


Major and minor agricultural areas are derived from NASS county-level crop production data from 2006 to 2010. Additional information on these agricultural data can be found at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>.

Mapped drought areas are derived from the U.S. Drought Monitor product and do not depict the intensity of drought in any particular location. More information on the Drought Monitor can be found at: <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>.

- Major agricultural areas combined account for 75% of the total national production.
- Major and minor agricultural areas combined account for 99% of the total national production.

Approximate Percentage of Corn Located in Drought * March 17, 2015

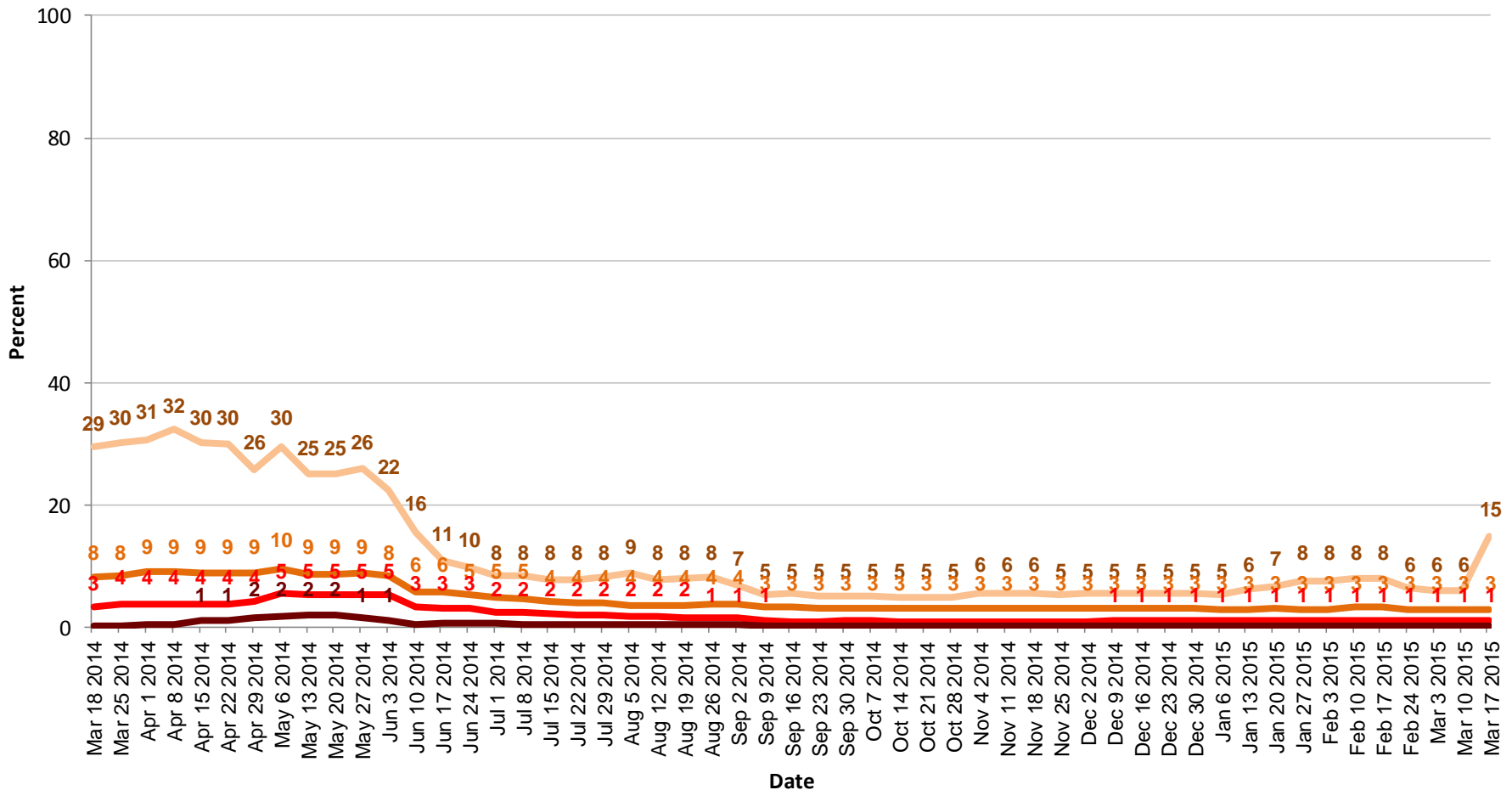


* Drought percentages were calculated from U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) data for the above date. More information on the USDM is available at <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>.



State contributions to national production (percentages in parentheses) are based upon National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) 5-year averages from 2006-2010. More information on NASS data can be found at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>.

United States Corn Areas Located in Drought



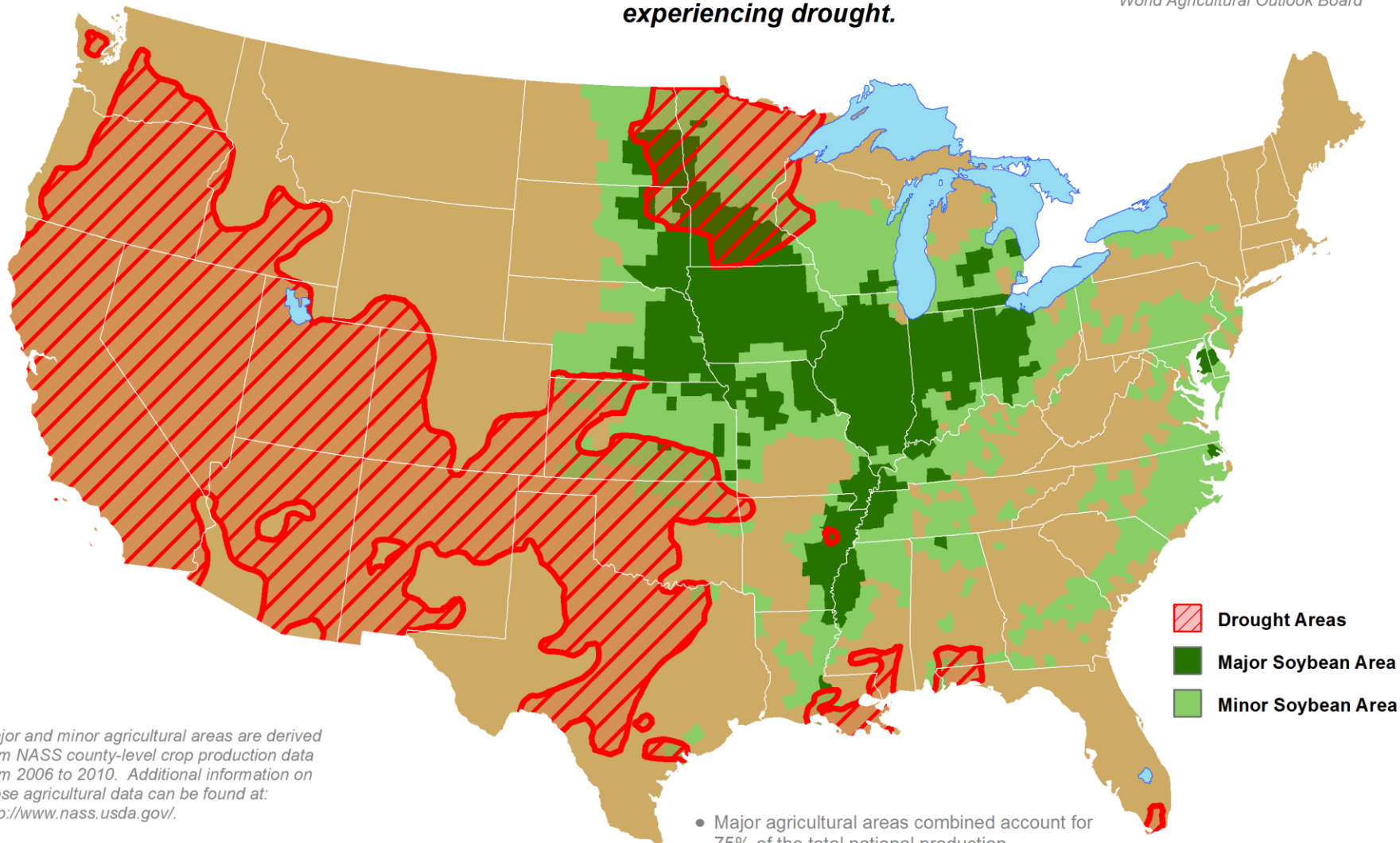
- Moderate or more intense drought (D1+)
- Severe or more intense drought (D2+)
- Extreme or more intense drought (D3+)
- Exceptional drought (D4)

U.S. Soybean Areas Experiencing Drought

Reflects **March 17, 2015**
U.S. Drought Monitor data

Approximately **13%** of soybean
production is within an area
experiencing drought.

This product was prepared by the
USDA Office of the Chief Economist
World Agricultural Outlook Board

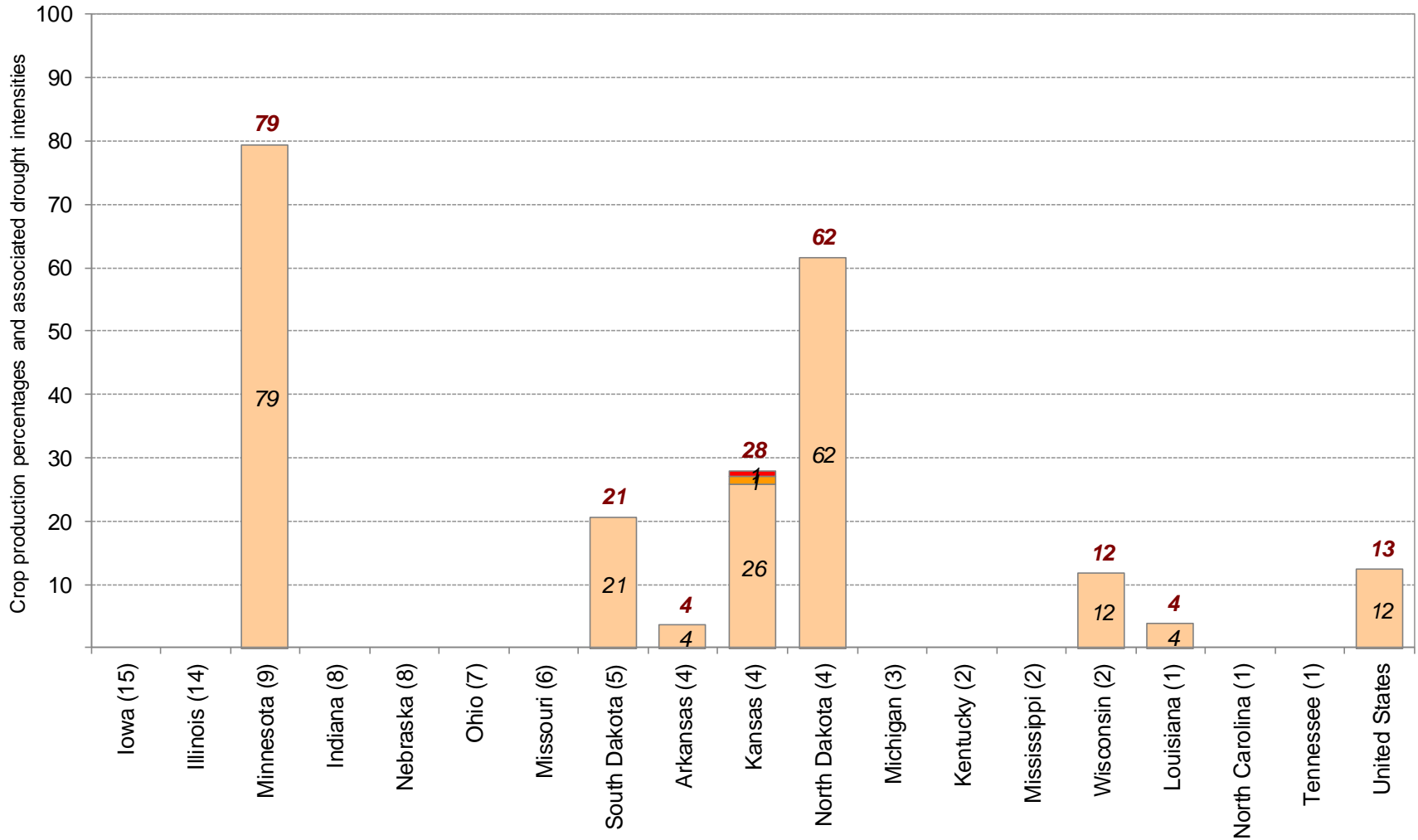


Major and minor agricultural areas are derived from NASS county-level crop production data from 2006 to 2010. Additional information on these agricultural data can be found at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>.

Mapped drought areas are derived from the U.S. Drought Monitor product and do not depict the intensity of drought in any particular location. More information on the Drought Monitor can be found at: <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>.

- Major agricultural areas combined account for 75% of the total national production.
- Major and minor agricultural areas combined account for 99% of the total national production.

Approximate Percentage of Soybeans Located in Drought * March 17, 2015

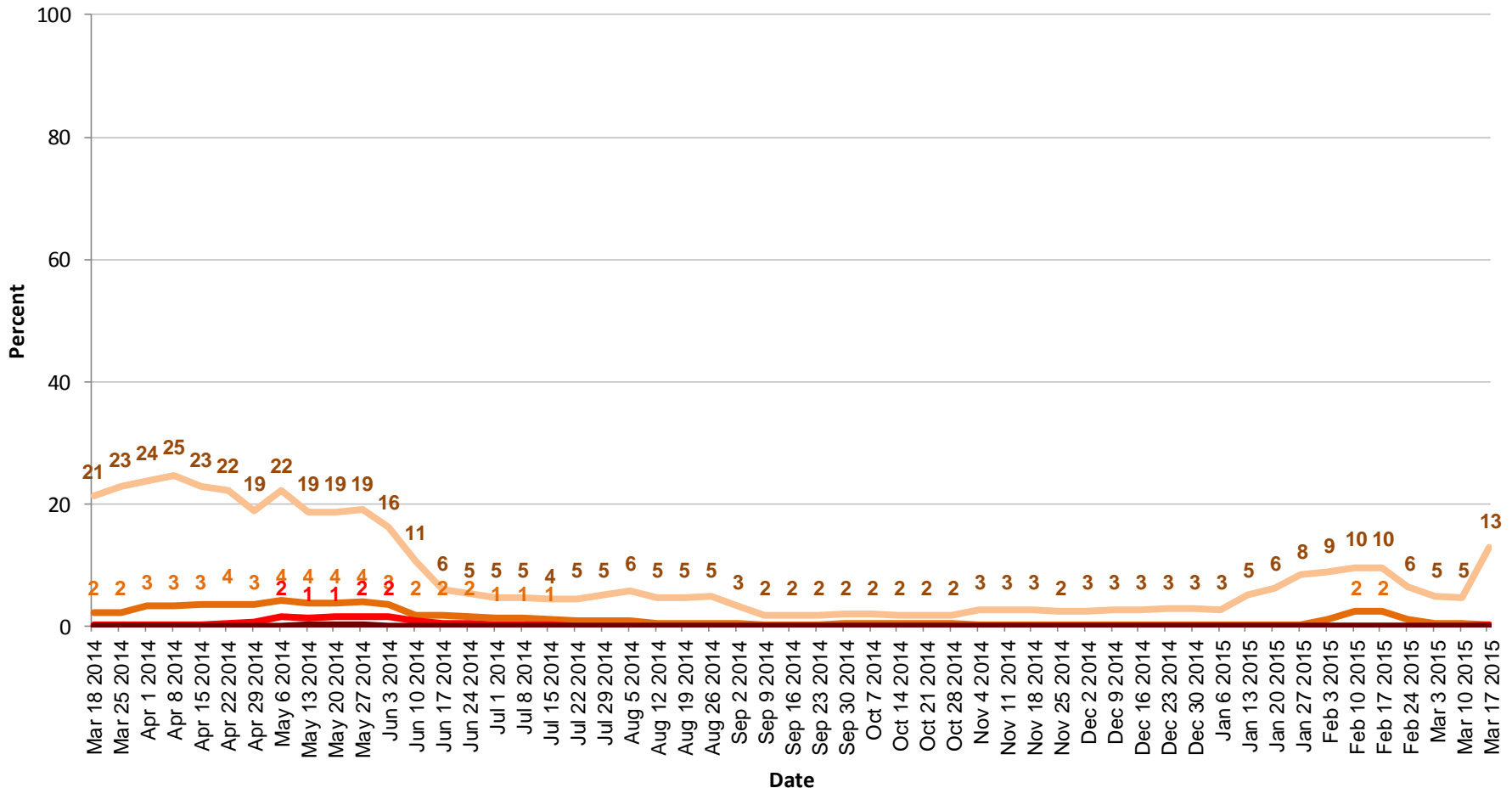


* Drought percentages were calculated from U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) data for the above date. More information on the USDM is available at <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>.



State contributions to national production (percentages in parentheses) are based upon National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) 5-year averages from 2006-2010. More information on NASS data can be found at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>.

United States Soybean Areas Located in Drought



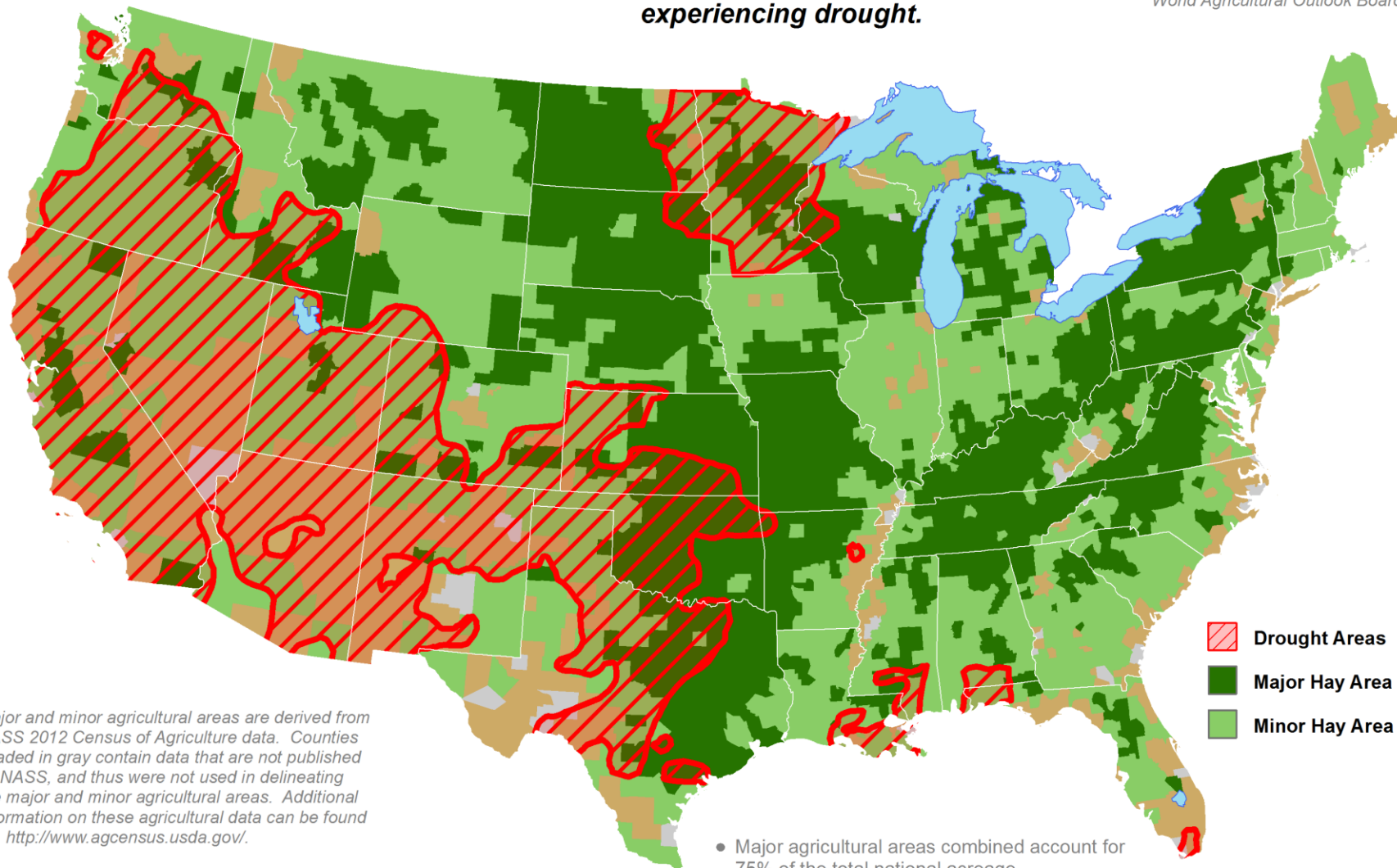
- Moderate or more intense drought (D1+)
- Severe or more intense drought (D2+)
- Extreme or more intense drought (D3+)
- Exceptional drought (D4)

U.S. Hay Areas Experiencing Drought

Reflects **March 17, 2015**
U.S. Drought Monitor data

Approximately **23%** of hay
acreage is within an area
experiencing drought.

This product was prepared by the
USDA Office of the Chief Economist
World Agricultural Outlook Board



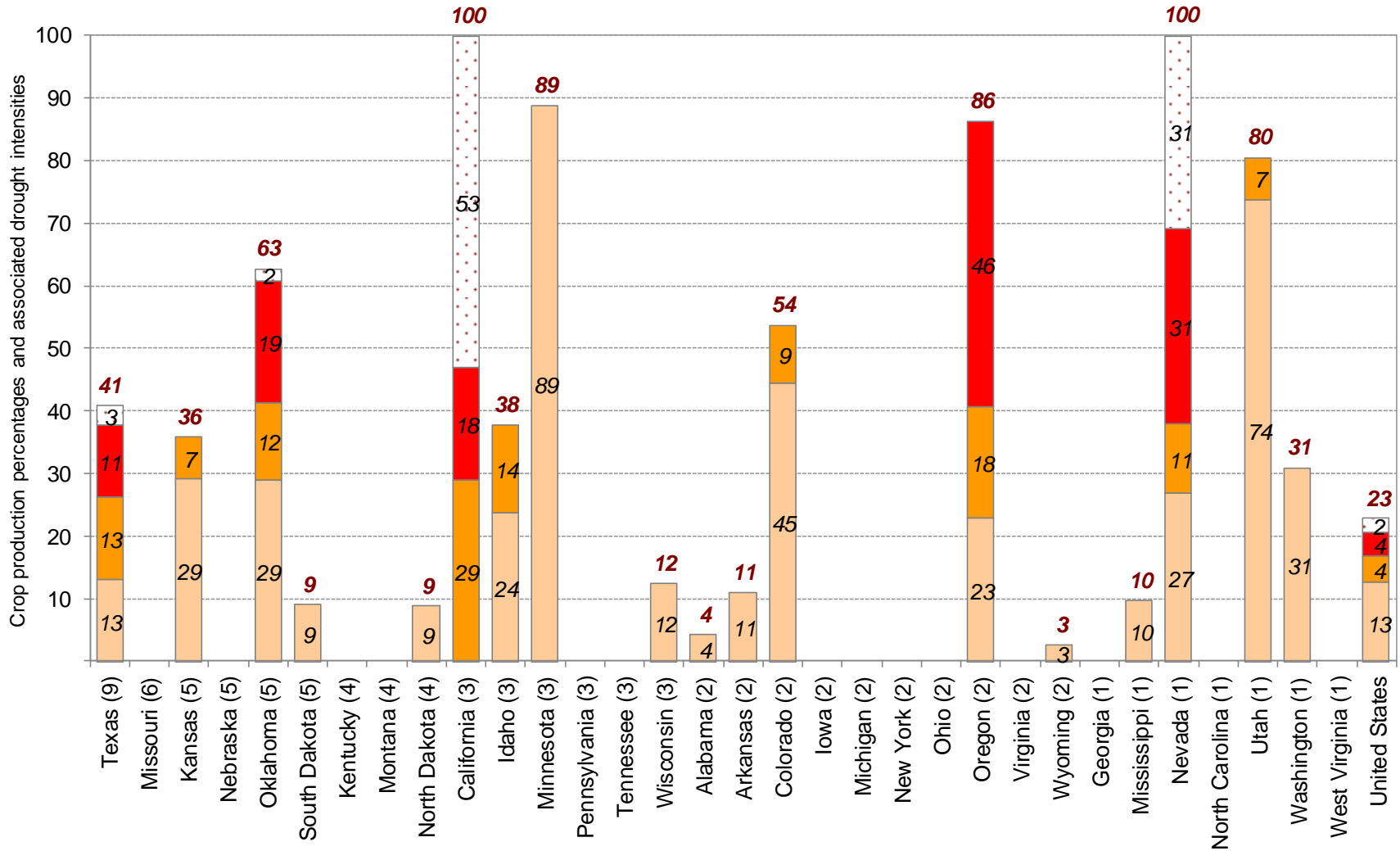
Major and minor agricultural areas are derived from NASS 2012 Census of Agriculture data. Counties shaded in gray contain data that are not published by NASS, and thus were not used in delineating the major and minor agricultural areas. Additional information on these agricultural data can be found at: <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/>.

Mapped drought areas are derived from the U.S. Drought Monitor product and do not depict the intensity of drought in any particular location. More information on the Drought Monitor can be found at: <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>.

-  Drought Areas
-  Major Hay Area
-  Minor Hay Area

- Major agricultural areas combined account for 75% of the total national acreage.
- Major and minor agricultural areas combined account for 99% of the total national acreage.

Approximate Percentage of Hay Located in Drought * March 17, 2015

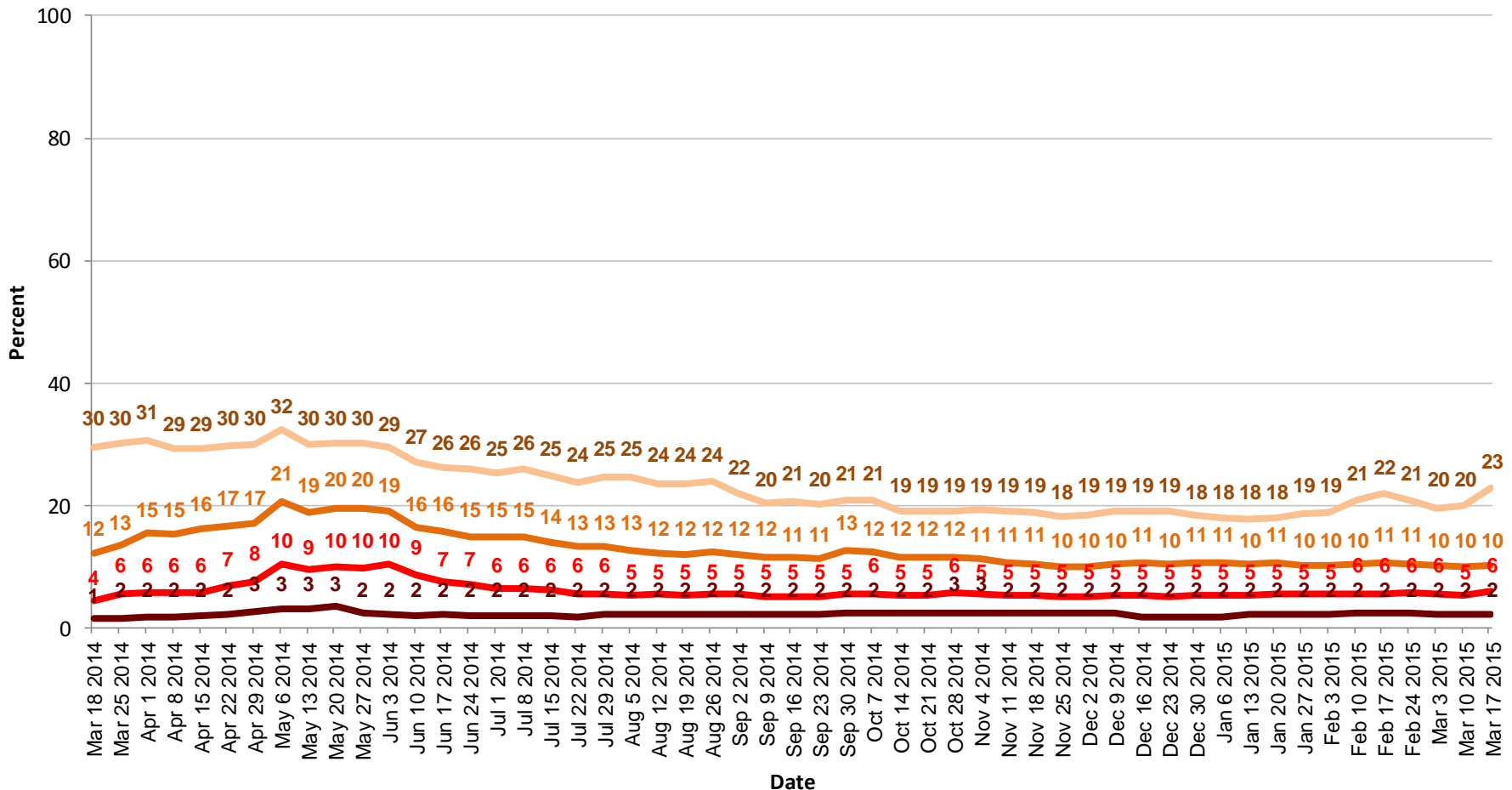


* Drought percentages were calculated from U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) data for the above date. More information on the USDM is available at <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>.



State contributions to national production (percentages in parentheses) are based upon National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) 2012 Census of Agriculture data. More information on NASS data can be found at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>.

United States Hay Areas Located in Drought

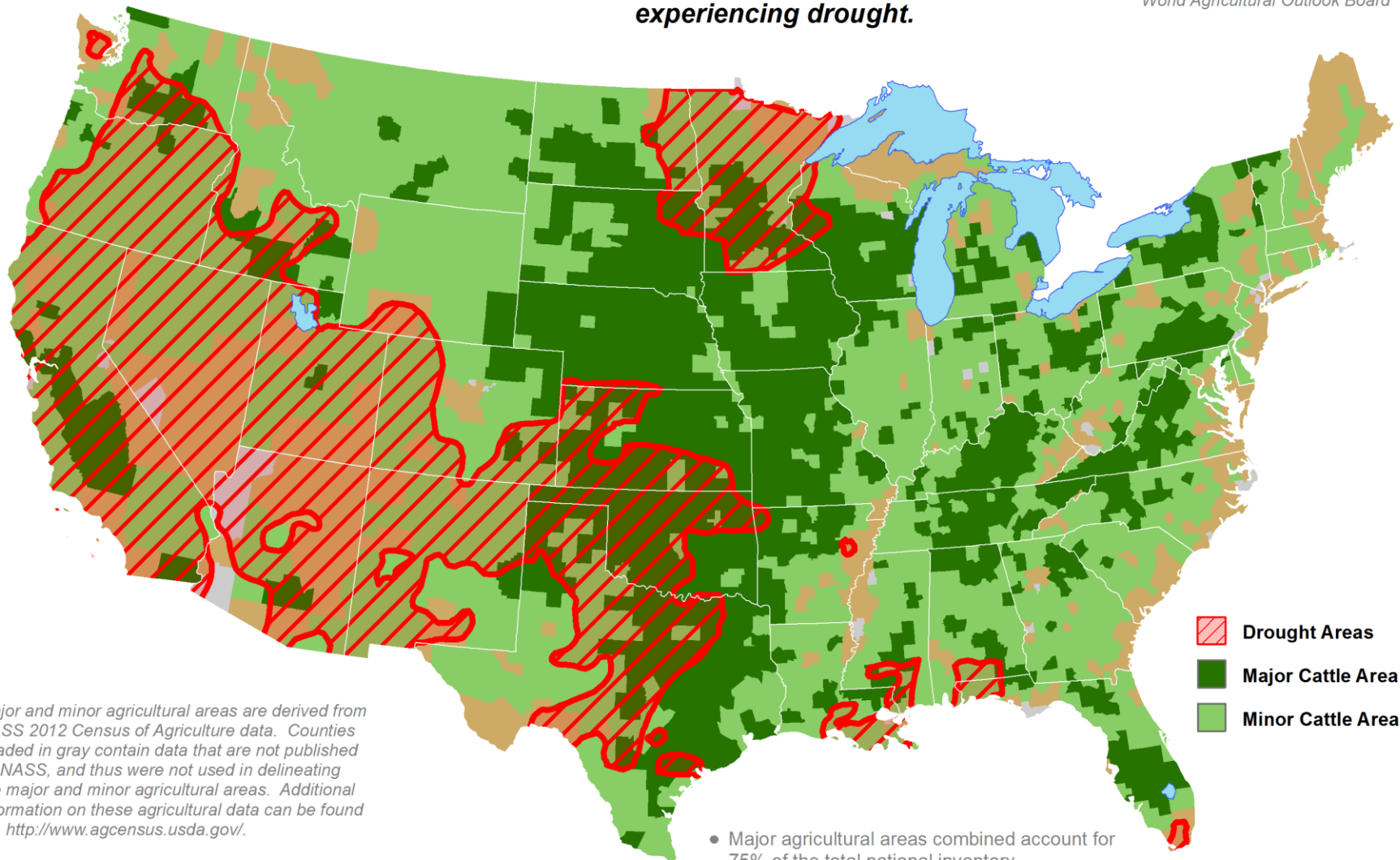


U.S. Cattle Areas Experiencing Drought

Reflects **March 17, 2015**
U.S. Drought Monitor data

Approximately **30%** of cattle
inventory is within an area
experiencing drought.

This product was prepared by the
USDA Office of the Chief Economist
World Agricultural Outlook Board



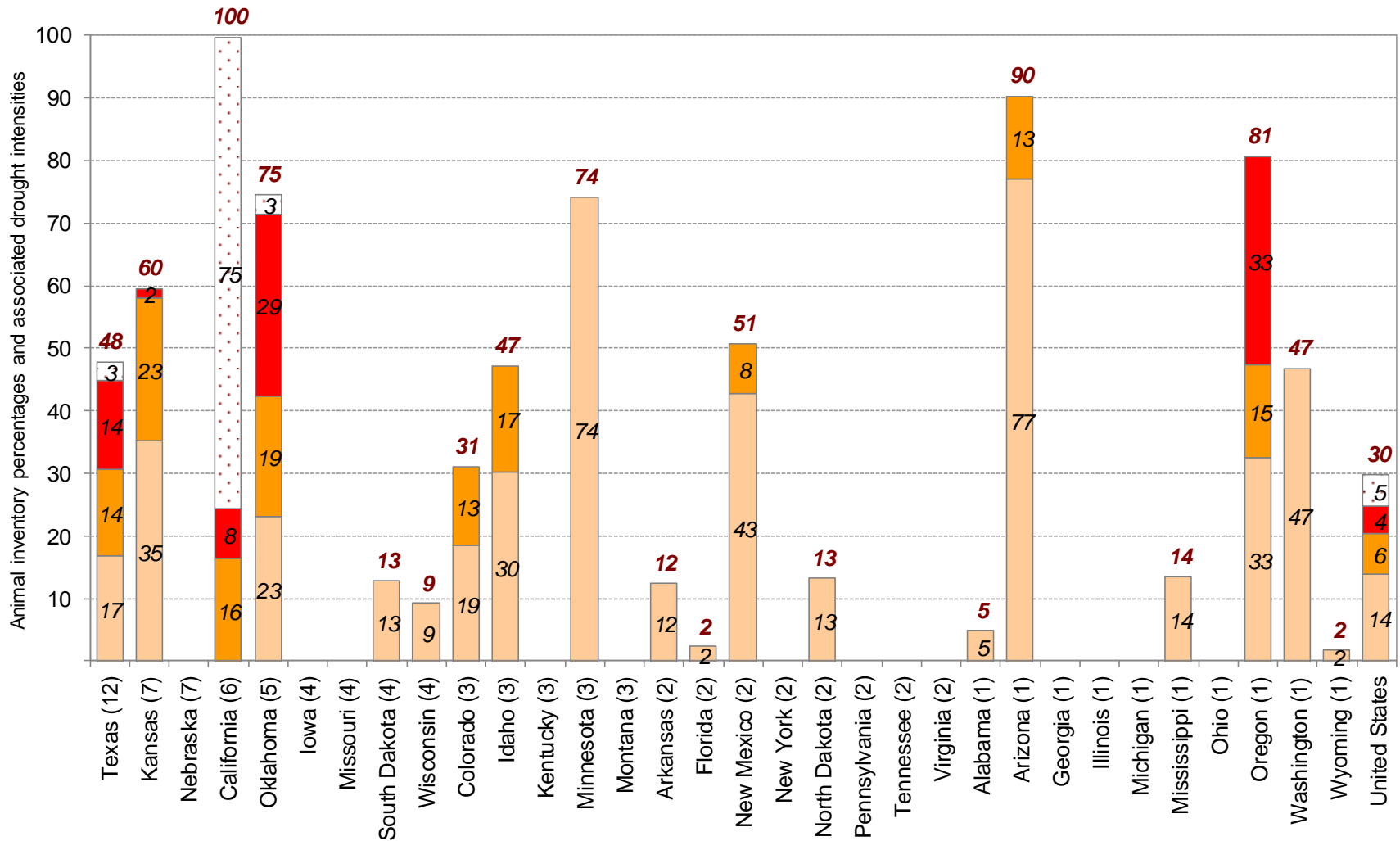
Major and minor agricultural areas are derived from NASS 2012 Census of Agriculture data. Counties shaded in gray contain data that are not published by NASS, and thus were not used in delineating the major and minor agricultural areas. Additional information on these agricultural data can be found at: <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/>.

Mapped drought areas are derived from the U.S. Drought Monitor product and do not depict the intensity of drought in any particular location. More information on the Drought Monitor can be found at: <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>.

- Major agricultural areas combined account for 75% of the total national inventory.
- Major and minor agricultural areas combined account for 99% of the total national inventory.

Approximate Percentage of Cattle Located in Drought *

March 17, 2015

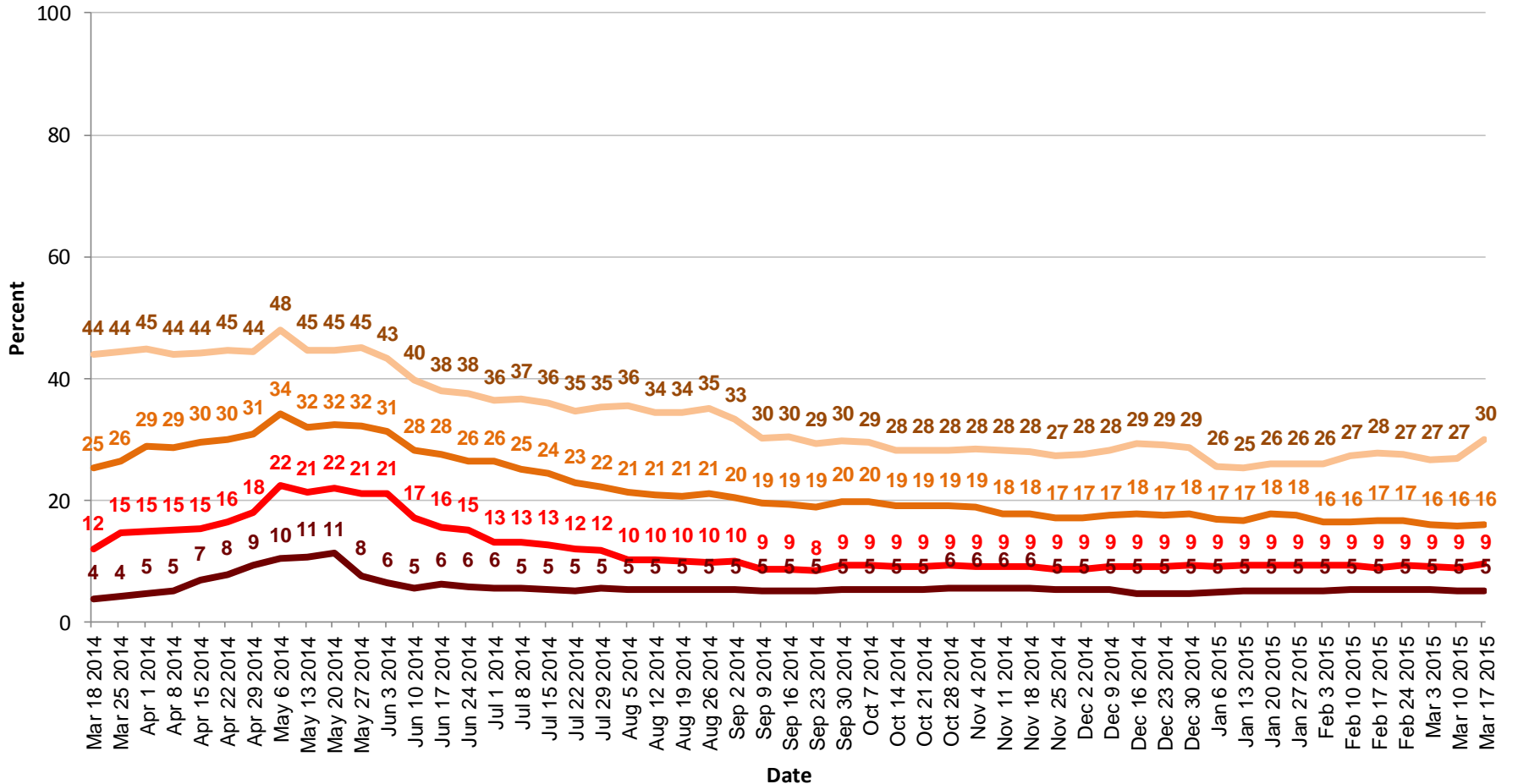


* Drought percentages were calculated from U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) data for the above date. More information on the USDM is available at <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>.



State contributions to the total national inventory (percentages in parentheses) are based upon National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) 2012 Census of Agriculture data. More information on NASS data can be found at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>.

United States Cattle Areas Located in Drought



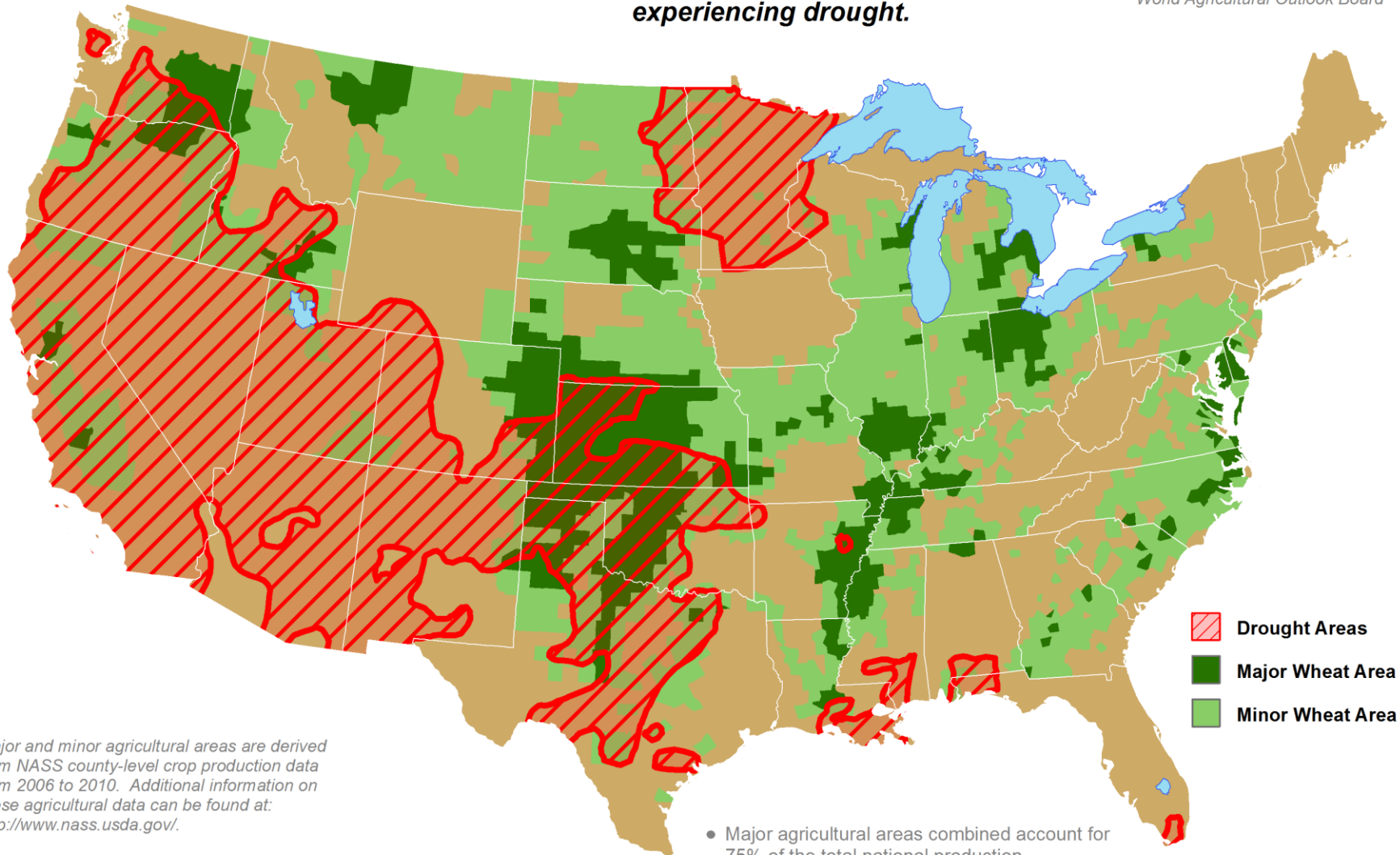
- Moderate or more intense drought (D1+)
- Severe or more intense drought (D2+)
- Extreme or more intense drought (D3+)
- Exceptional drought (D4)

U.S. Winter Wheat Areas Experiencing Drought

Reflects **March 17, 2015**
U.S. Drought Monitor data

Approximately **35%** of winter wheat
production is within an area
experiencing drought.

This product was prepared by the
USDA Office of the Chief Economist
World Agricultural Outlook Board

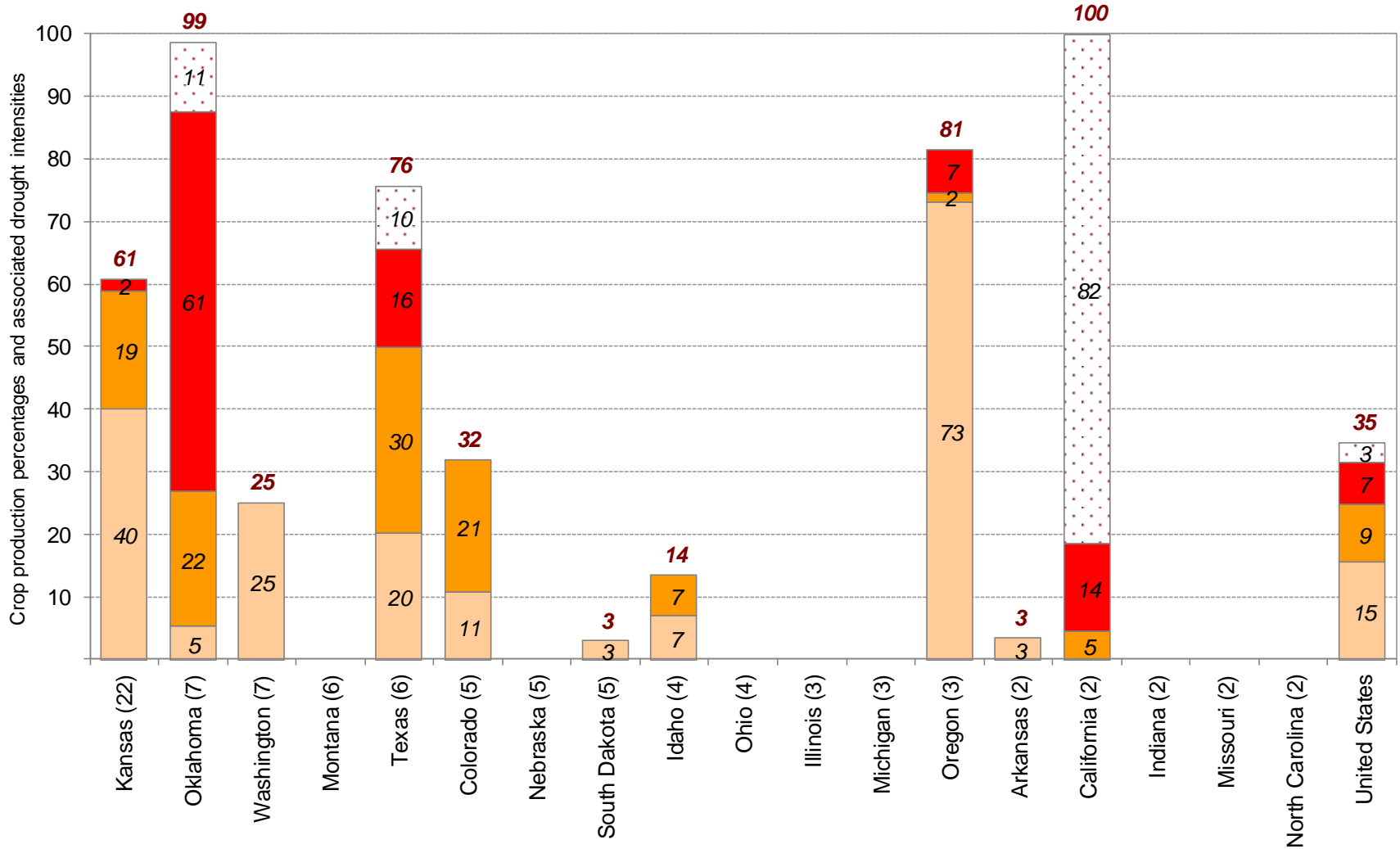


Major and minor agricultural areas are derived from NASS county-level crop production data from 2006 to 2010. Additional information on these agricultural data can be found at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>.

Mapped drought areas are derived from the U.S. Drought Monitor product and do not depict the intensity of drought in any particular location. More information on the Drought Monitor can be found at: <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>.

- Major agricultural areas combined account for 75% of the total national production.
- Major and minor agricultural areas combined account for 99% of the total national production.

Approximate Percentage of Winter Wheat Located in Drought * March 17, 2015

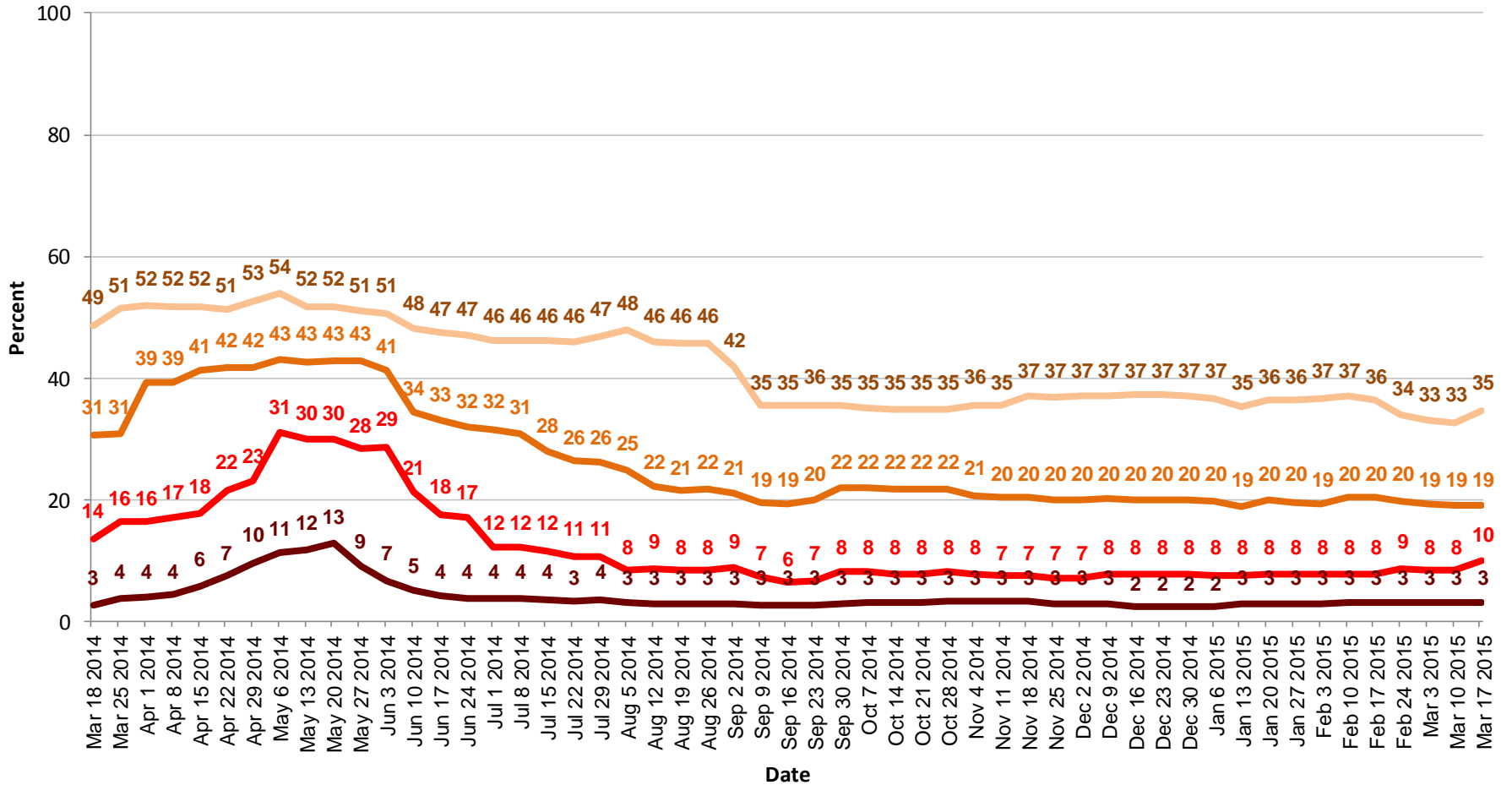


* Drought percentages were calculated from U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) data for the above date. More information on the USDM is available at <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>.



State contributions to national production (percentages in parentheses) are based upon National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) 5-year averages from 2006-2010. More information on NASS data can be found at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>.

United States Winter Wheat Areas Located in Drought



- Moderate or more intense drought (D1+)
- Severe or more intense drought (D2+)
- Extreme or more intense drought (D3+)
- Exceptional drought (D4)