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12-18-2012

U.S. Drought Monitor, December 18, 2012

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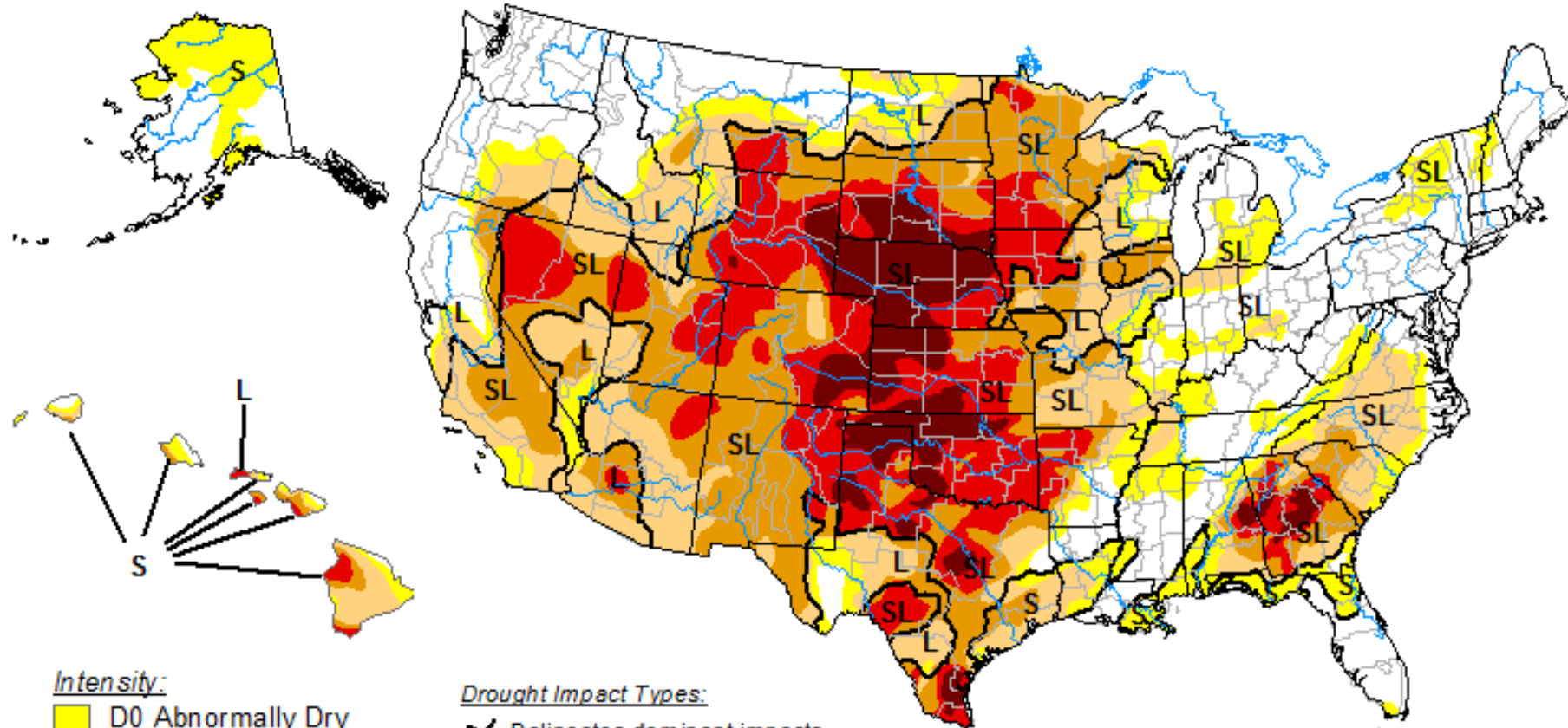
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



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U.S. Drought Monitor


December 18, 2012
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Intensity:

-  D0 Abnormally Dry
-  D1 Drought - Moderate
-  D2 Drought - Severe
-  D3 Drought - Extreme
-  D4 Drought - Exceptional

Drought Impact Types:

-  Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically <6 months
(e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long-Term, typically >6 months
(e.g. hydrology, ecology)

*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions.
Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary
for forecast statements.*

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



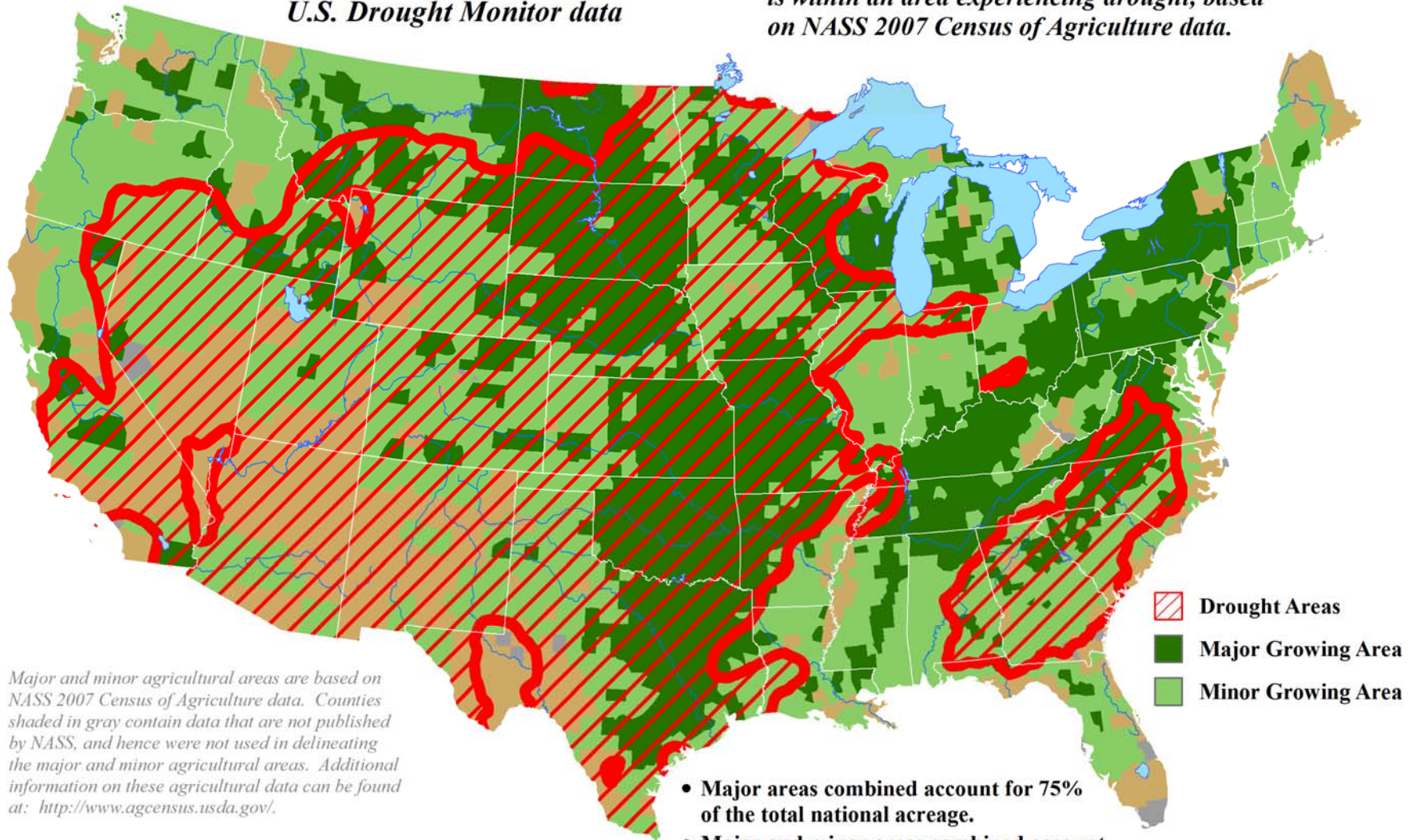
Released Thursday, December 20, 2012

Author: Brian Fuchs, National Drought Mitigation Center

U.S. Hay Areas Experiencing Drought

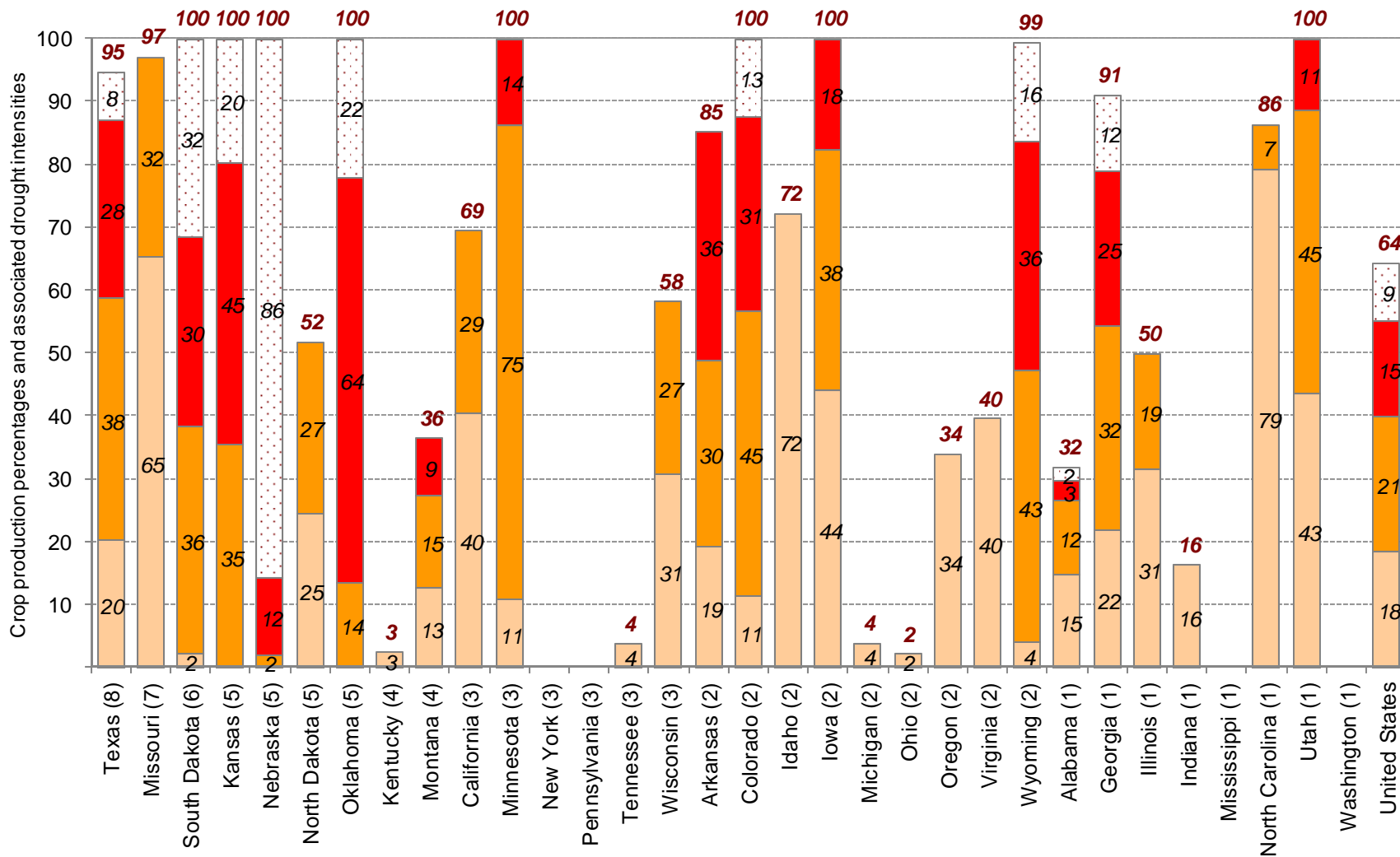
Reflects December 18, 2012
U.S. Drought Monitor data

Approximately 64% of the domestic hay acreage
is within an area experiencing drought, based
on NASS 2007 Census of Agriculture data.



Approximate Percentage of Hay Located in Drought *

December 18, 2012

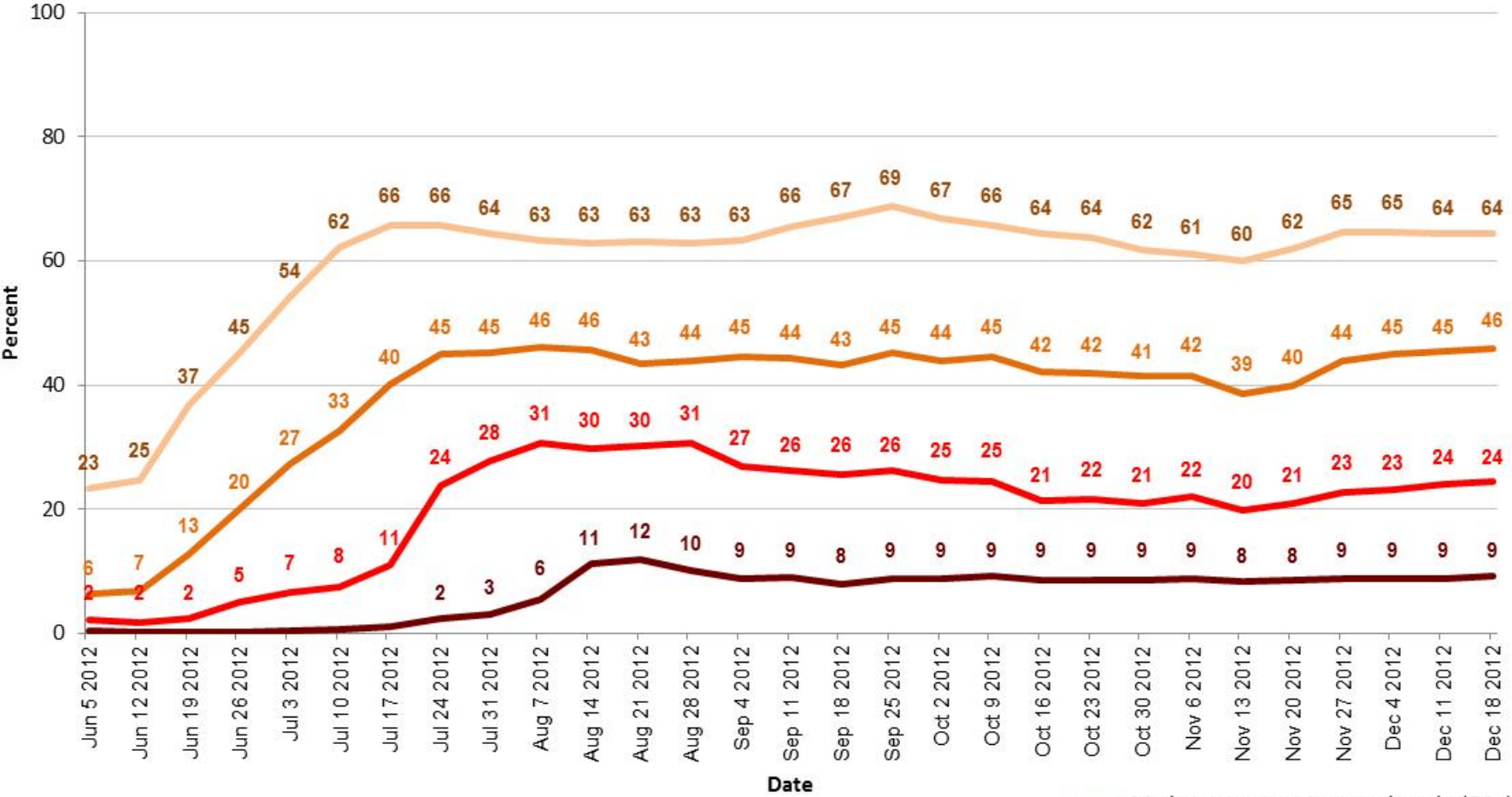


* Drought percentages were calculated from U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) data for the above date. More information on the USDM is available at <http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html>.



State contributions to national production (percentages in parentheses) are based upon National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) 2007 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



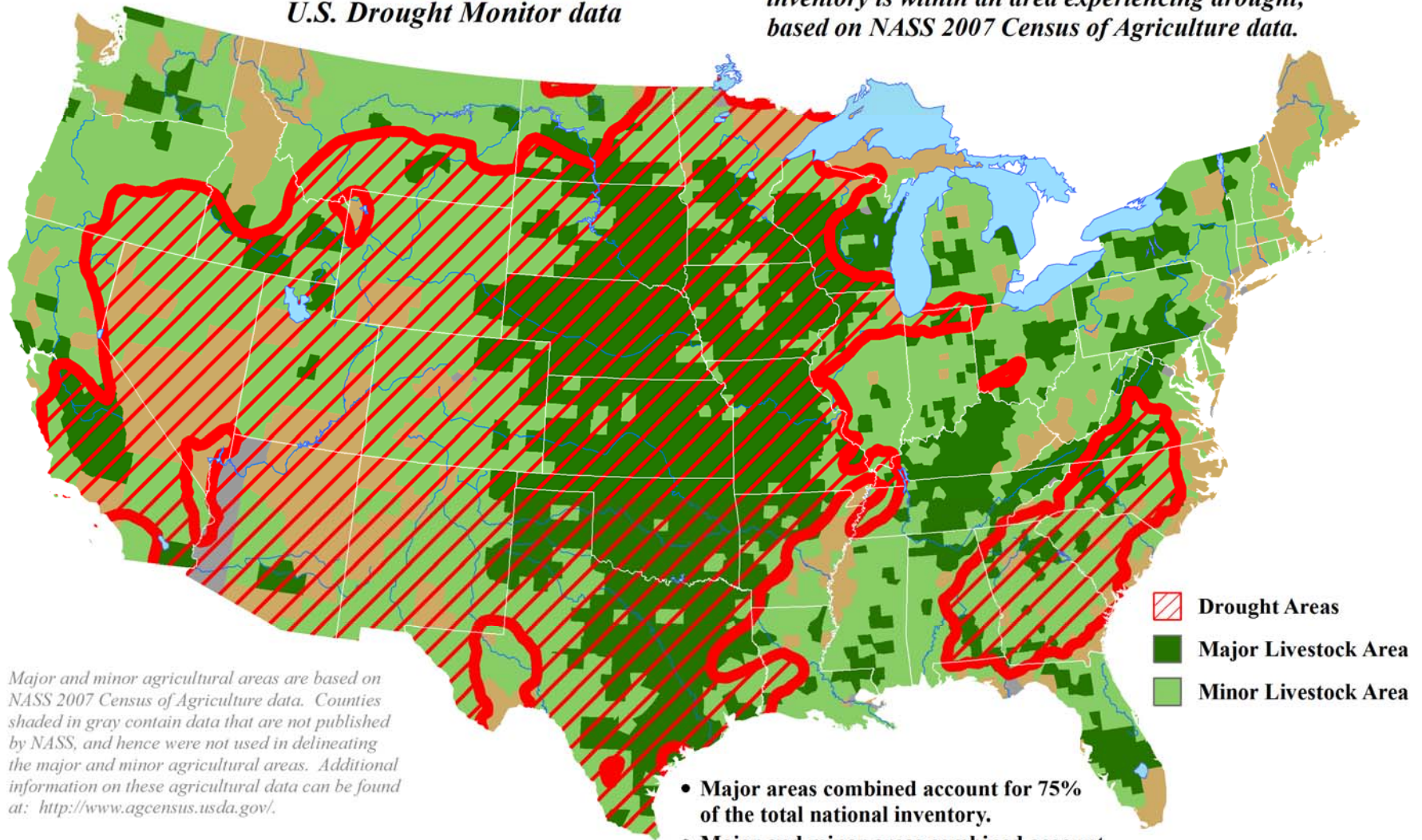
USDA Agricultural Weather Assessments
World Agricultural Outlook Board

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

U.S. Cattle Areas Experiencing Drought

Reflects December 18, 2012
U.S. Drought Monitor data

Approximately 73% of the domestic cattle
inventory is within an area experiencing drought,
based on NASS 2007 Census of Agriculture data.



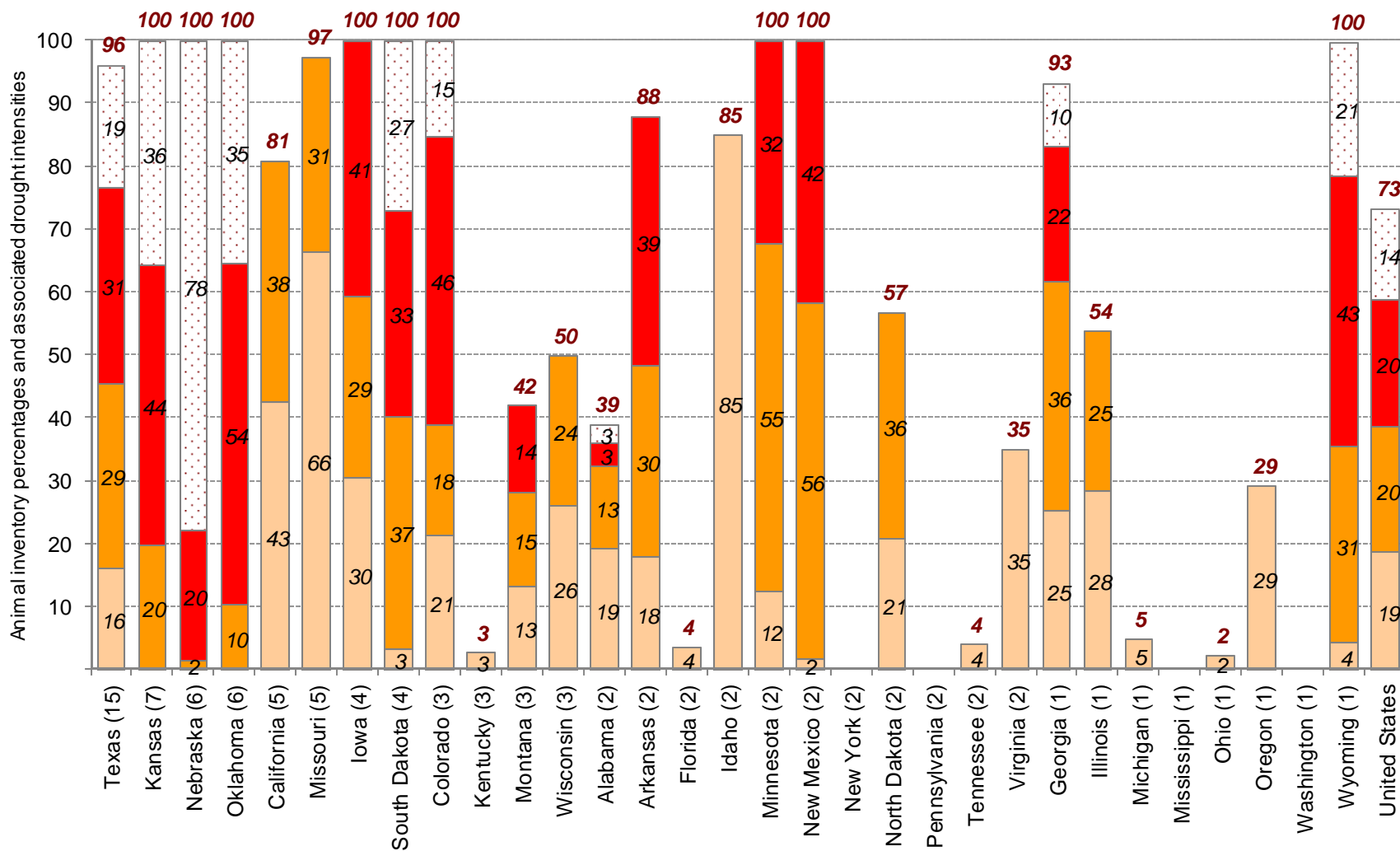
Major and minor agricultural areas are based on NASS 2007 Census of Agriculture data. Counties shaded in gray contain data that are not published by NASS, and hence were not used in delineating the major and minor agricultural areas. Additional information on these agricultural data can be found at: <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://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html>.

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

Approximate Percentage of Cattle Located in Drought *

December 18, 2012

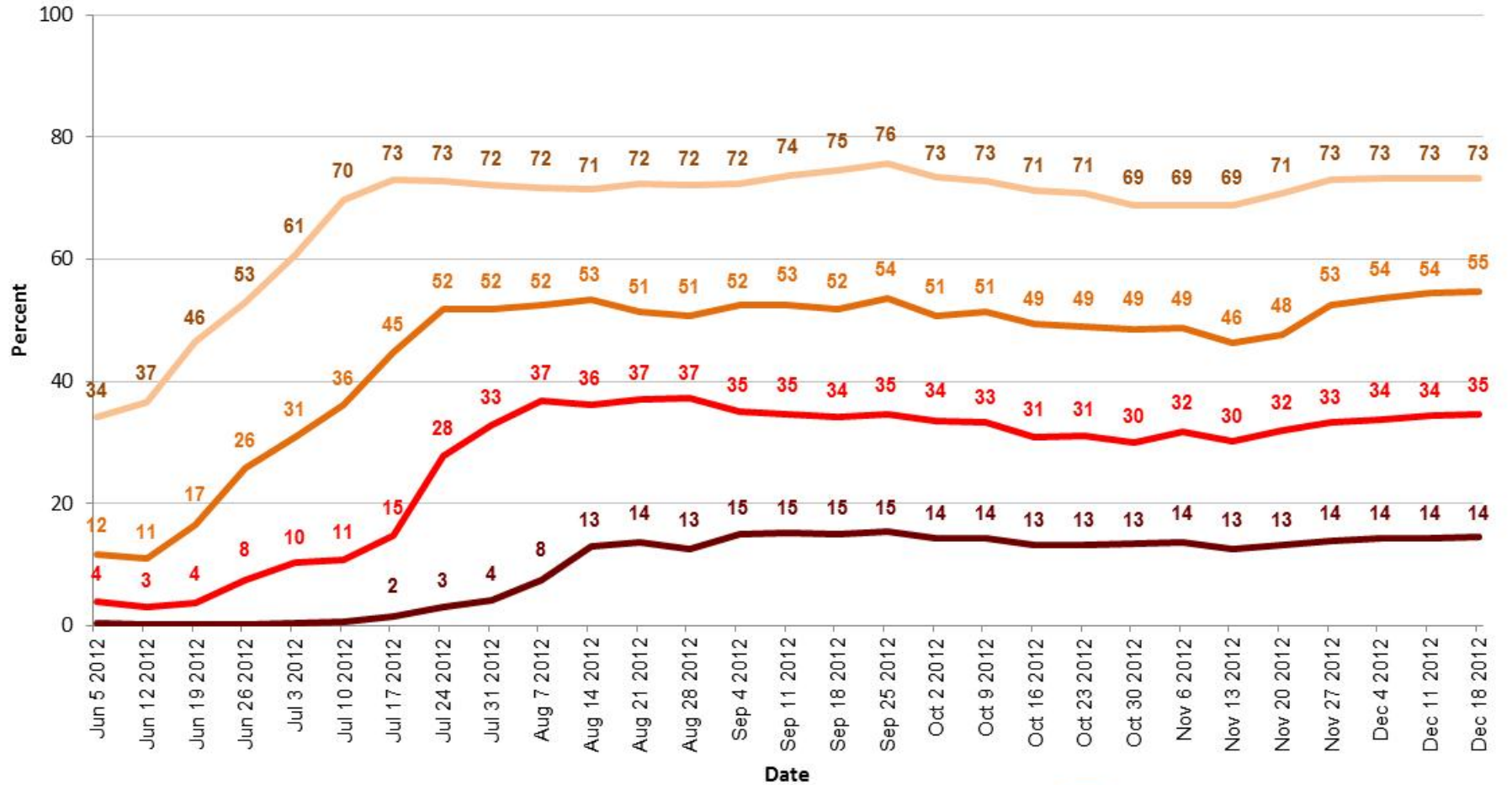


* Drought percentages were calculated from U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) data for the above date. More information on the USDM is available at <http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html>.



State contributions to the total national inventory (percentages in parentheses) are based upon National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) 2007 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



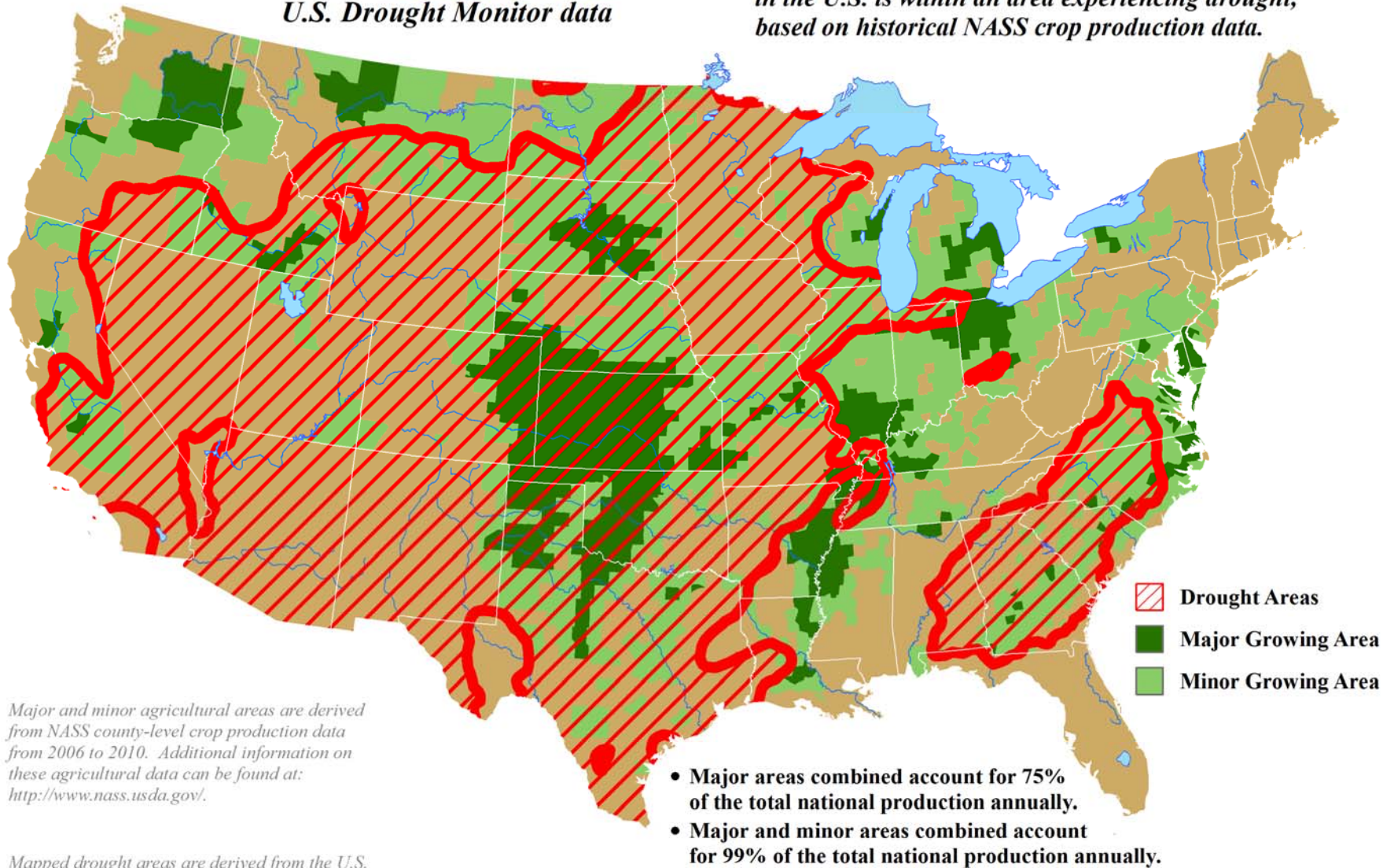

Agricultural Weather Assessments
World Agricultural Outlook Board

- 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

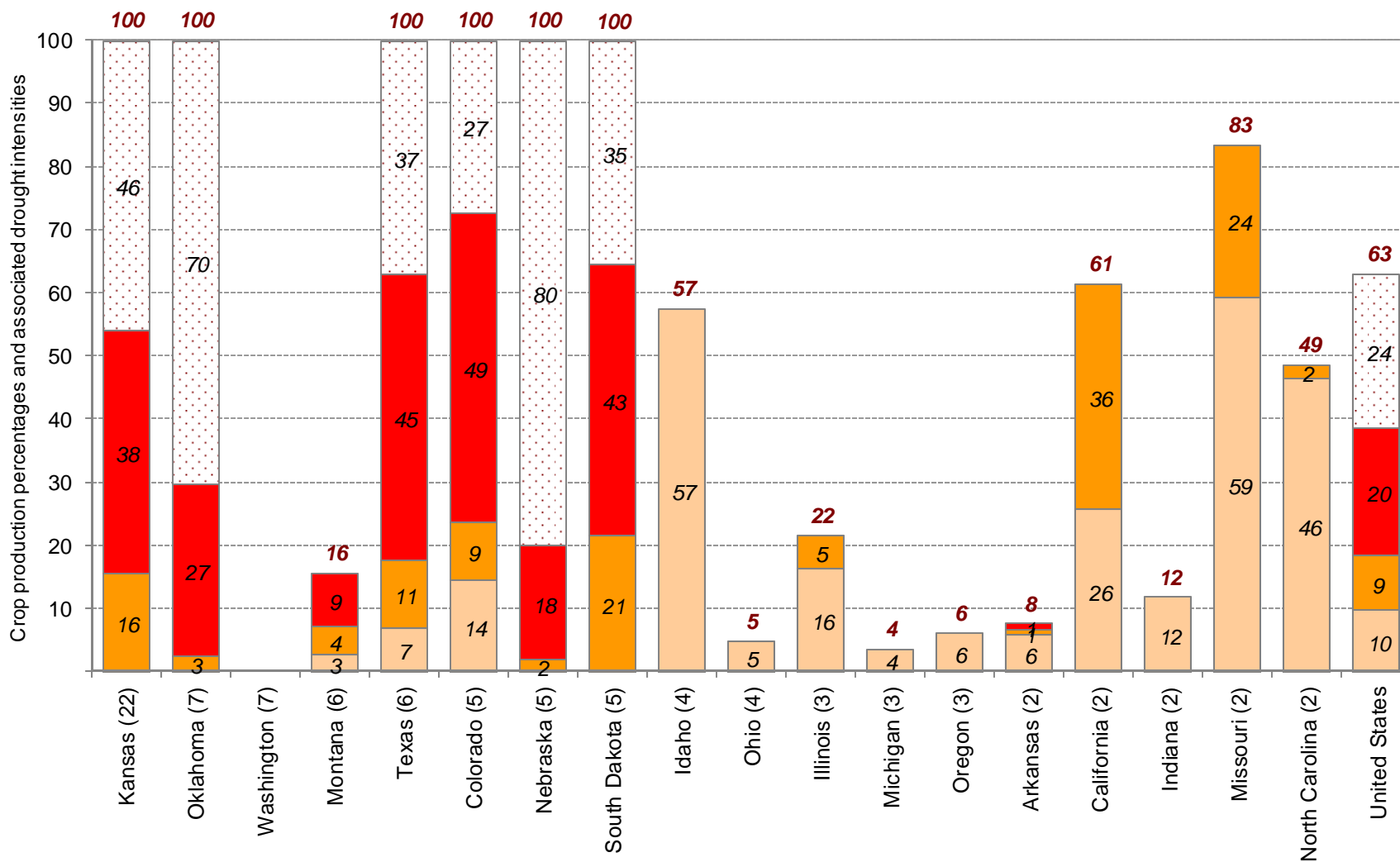
Reflects December 18, 2012
U.S. Drought Monitor data

Approximately 63% of the winter wheat grown
in the U.S. is within an area experiencing drought,
based on historical NASS crop production data.



Approximate Percentage of Winter Wheat Located in Drought *

December 18, 2012

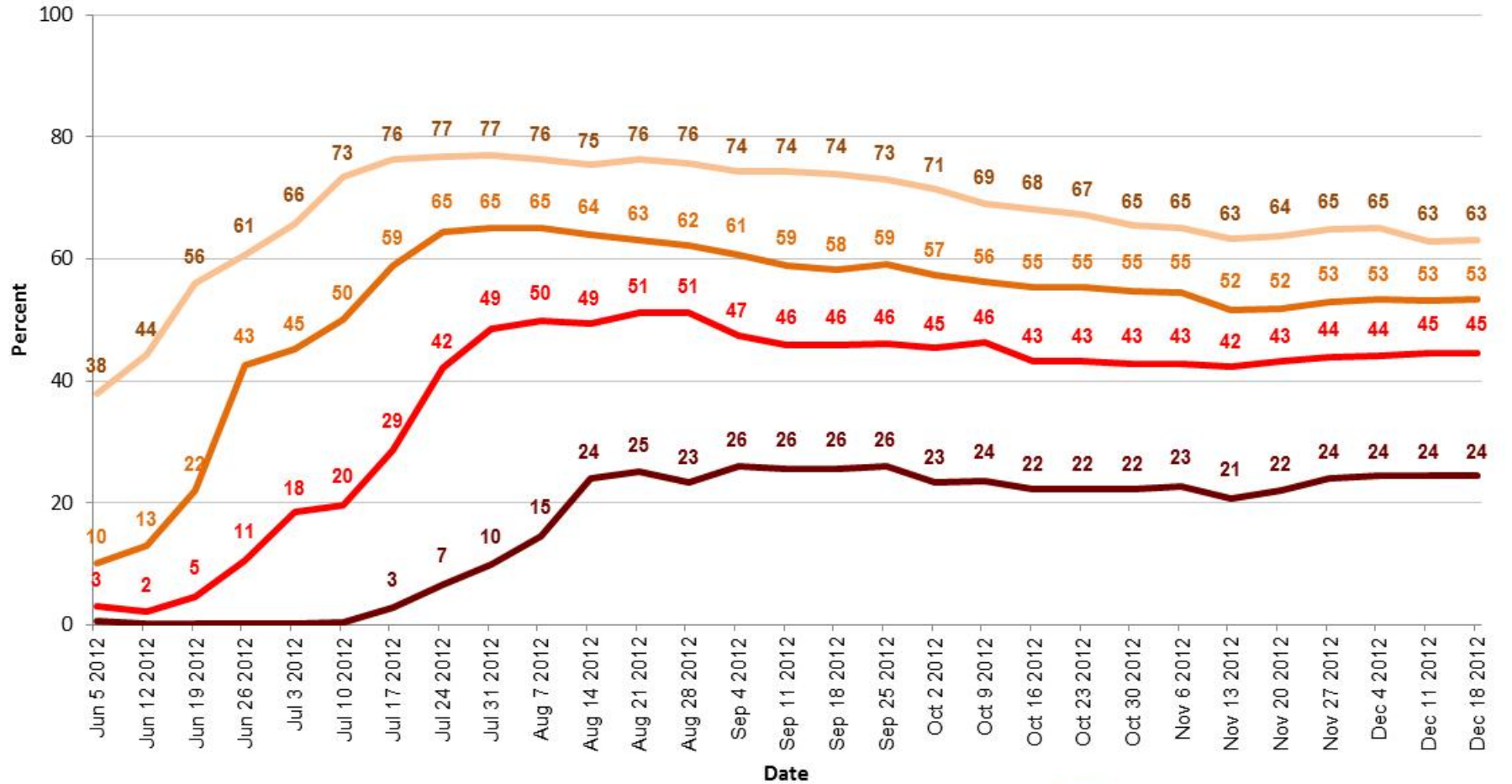


* Drought percentages were calculated from U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) data for the above date. More information on the USDM is available at <http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html>.



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




Agricultural Weather Assessments
World Agricultural Outlook Board

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