



# Drought Information Statement for the Main Hawaiian Islands

Valid January 12, 2024

Issued By: WFO Honolulu, HI

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- This product will be updated February 9, 2024 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/hfo/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.



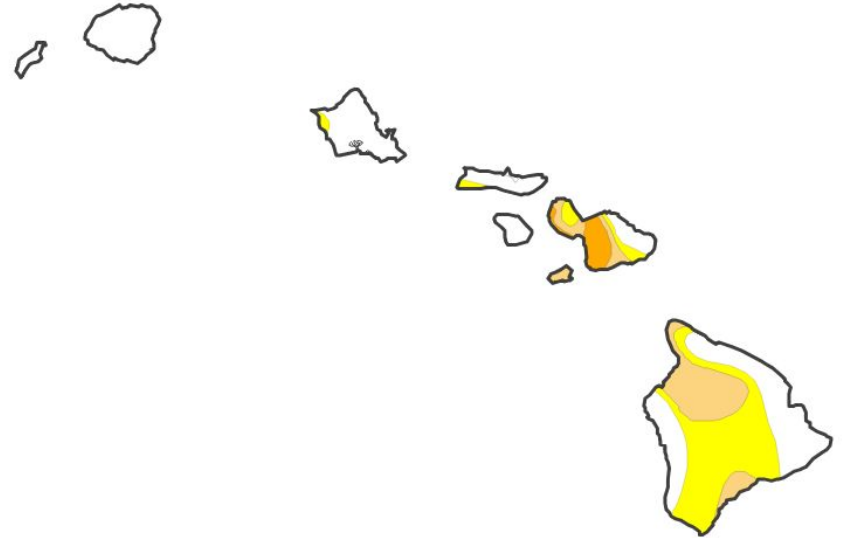


# U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for the main Hawaiian Islands

- Several rain events during December and early January helped ease drought conditions in the state.
- Drought intensity and Extent
  - D2 (Severe Drought): Reduced to just the leeward slopes and central valley of Maui.
  - D1 (Moderate Drought): Reduced to leeward portions of Maui and the Big Island.
- Note that the data cutoff for this week's map doesn't include impacts for Maui County and the Big Island. See next week's map for additional changes.

## U.S. Drought Monitor



## U.S. Drought Monitor



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 01/09/24



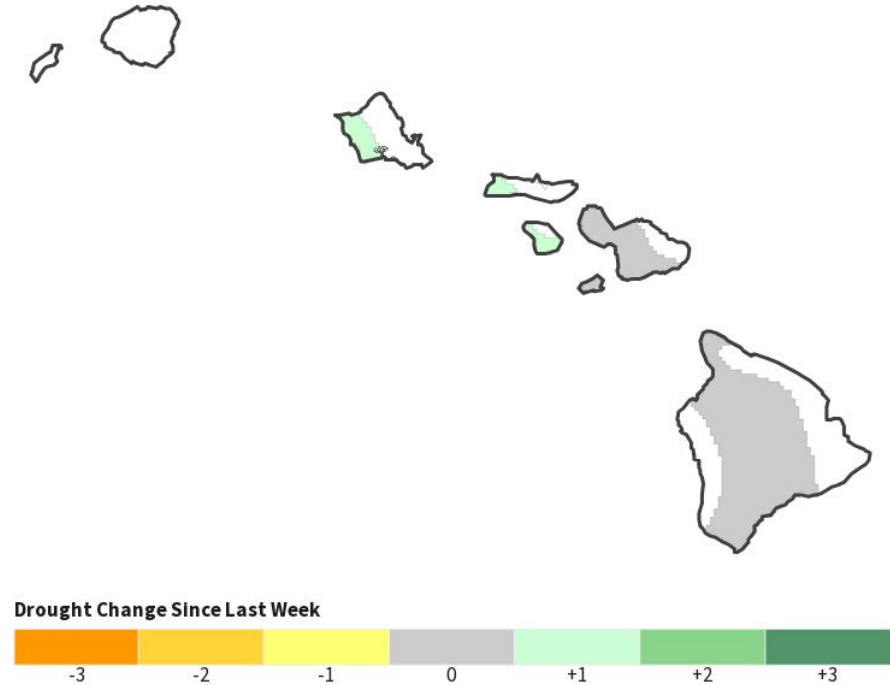


# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for the main Hawaiian Islands

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought Improved: Leeward portions of O'ahu, Moloka'i, and Lāna'i.
- Four week Drought Monitor Class Change (link above).
  - Drought improvement in portions of all four counties.

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 01/09/24





# Precipitation

- Kaua'i and O'ahu's Ko'olau Range had mostly near to above average rainfall in December.
- Maui County had mostly below average rainfall.
- Most of the Big Island had near to below average rainfall, especially in the central and southeastern portions of the island.

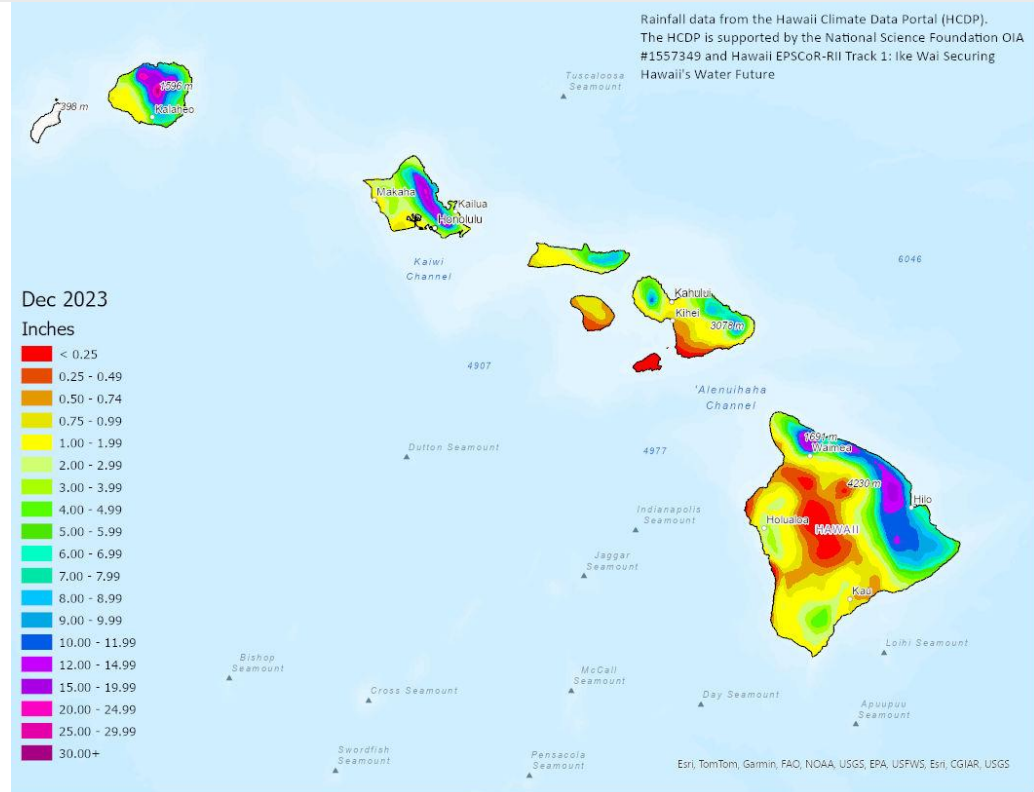


Image Captions: November 2023 rainfall totals (in inches) from the Hawai'i Climate Data Portal.





# Summary of Impacts

Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

## Agricultural Impacts

- Pasture conditions have improved in many areas of the state. However, follow-up rainfall is needed in some areas for full drought recovery. These areas include the lower leeward slopes of Haleakalā on Maui, and along the leeward slopes of Mauna Kea and the Humu'ula Saddle region on the Big Island.

## Mitigation Actions

- Despite the recent improvement in drought conditions, state and county agencies are continuing mitigation and conservation outreach efforts in anticipation of the peak El Niño dry period (mid-December through February).
- On December 27, 2023, the Maui County Department of Water Supply downgraded their Stage 2 Water Shortage status to a Stage 1 Water Shortage for the Upcountry water service area on Maui. The Stage 1 Water Shortage puts restrictions on the use of water certain activities such as irrigation, watering lawns, washing vehicles, and other non-essential activities.

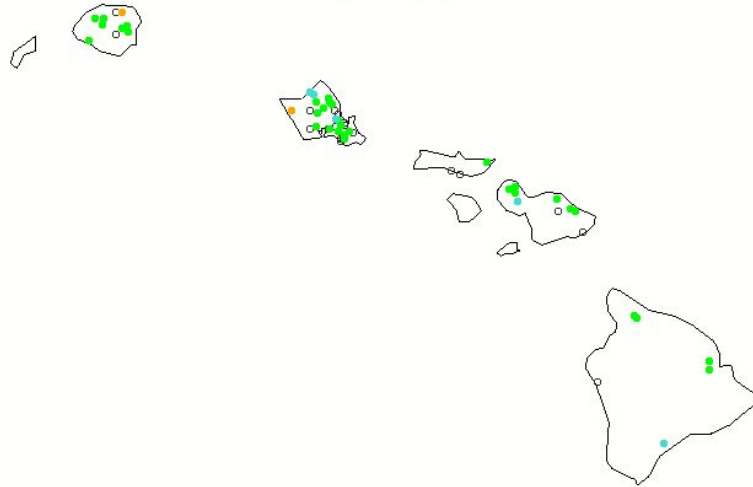




# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Most of the gages across the state indicated normal 14-day average flow levels.
- The 28-day average flow levels also mostly in the normal range.

Wednesday, January 10, 2024



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	Not-ranked
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

Image Caption: USGS 14 day average streamflow map valid December 6, 2023

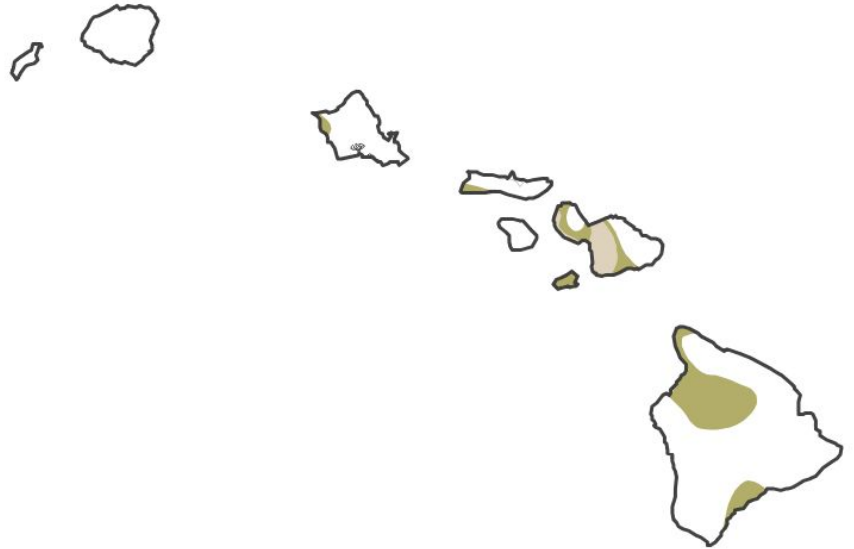




# Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- An early January cold front produced heavy rainfall across portions of the state. This rainfall may help end drought over some of the leeward areas from O‘ahu to the Big Island.
- The ongoing El Niño is still expected to result in below normal precipitation across the main Hawaiian Islands into spring 2024, which may result in the redevelopment of drought in some areas.



Drought Is Predicted To...



Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook Released Dec 31, 2023 valid for Jan 2024

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service  
Honolulu, HI