



Drought Information Statement for the Main Hawaiian Islands

Valid March 8, 2024

Issued By: WFO Honolulu, HI

Contact Information: w-hfo.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated April 12, 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.



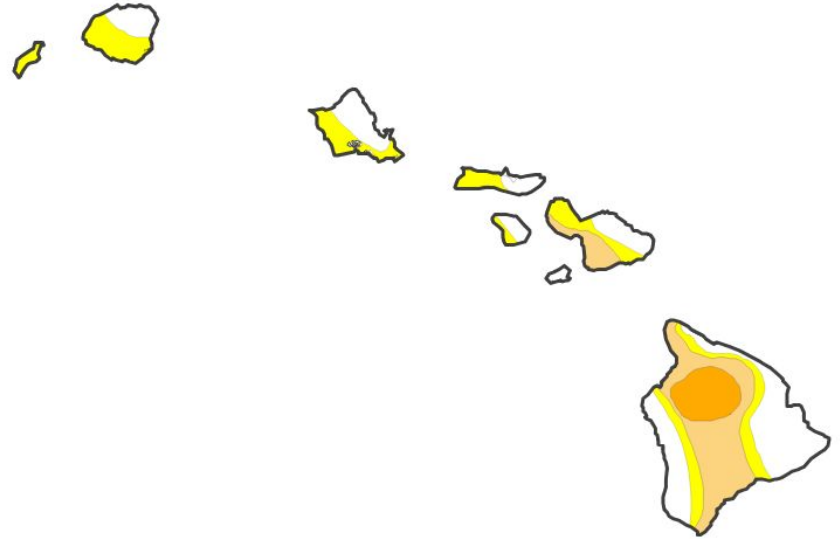


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Cooler and more stable weather during February resulted in drier than average conditions over many areas of the state.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - D1 (Moderate Drought): Developed over the lower leeward slopes of Maui, and along a northwest to southeast band over the Big Island.
 - D2 (Severe Drought): Developed over the interior sections of the Big Island.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 03/05/24



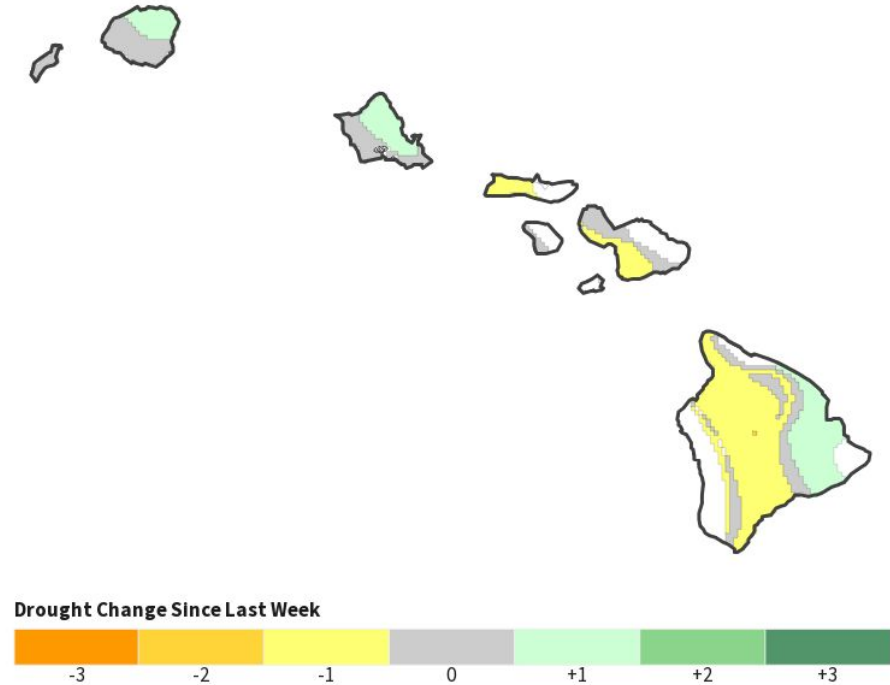


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - D2 development over the interior of the Big Island.
 - D1 development over leeward Maui and portions of the Big Island.
- Four week Drought Monitor Class Change (link above).
 - Drought redevelopment over the Big Island and Maui County.
 - Return of abnormal dryness to leeward areas of Kaua'i and O'ahu.

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



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

Data Valid: 03/05/24





Precipitation

- Many areas of the state had below 50 percent of average rainfall in February.
- Windward slopes of Maui and Moloka‘i, and the Kona and lower Hāmākua slopes of the Big Island were the main exceptions with above average rainfall.

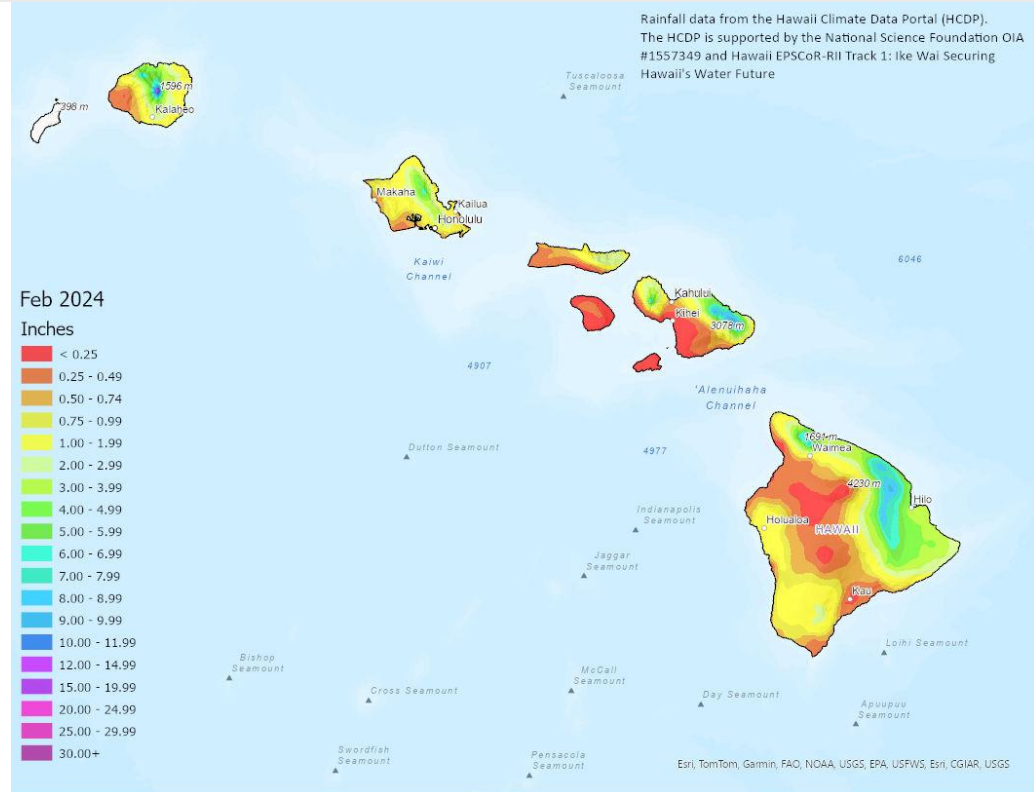


Image Captions: February 2024 rainfall totals (in inches) from the Hawai‘i Climate Data Portal.





Summary of Impacts

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

Agricultural Impacts

- Pastures along some of the northern slopes of Mauna Kea were very dry. Condition reports from the Hāmākua and Kohala slopes indicated that the lower amounts of rain combined with cooler temperatures recently have limited forage growth.

Mitigation Actions

- A Stage 1 Water Shortage for the Upcountry water service area on Maui remains in effect. The Stage 1 Water Shortage puts restrictions on the use of water for certain activities such as irrigation, watering lawns, washing vehicles, and other non-essential activities.

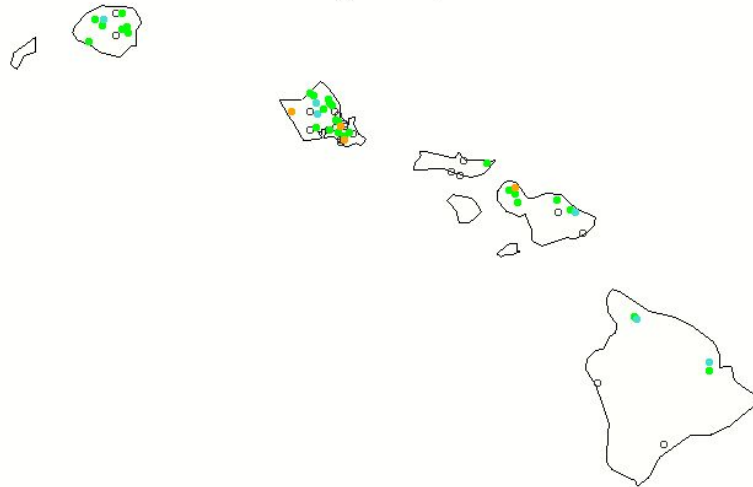




Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Most of the gages across the state indicated normal 14-day average flow levels.
- The 28-day average flow levels are mostly in the normal range across the state. Most of the below normal sites are on O‘ahu.

Thursday, March 07, 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 March 7, 2024.

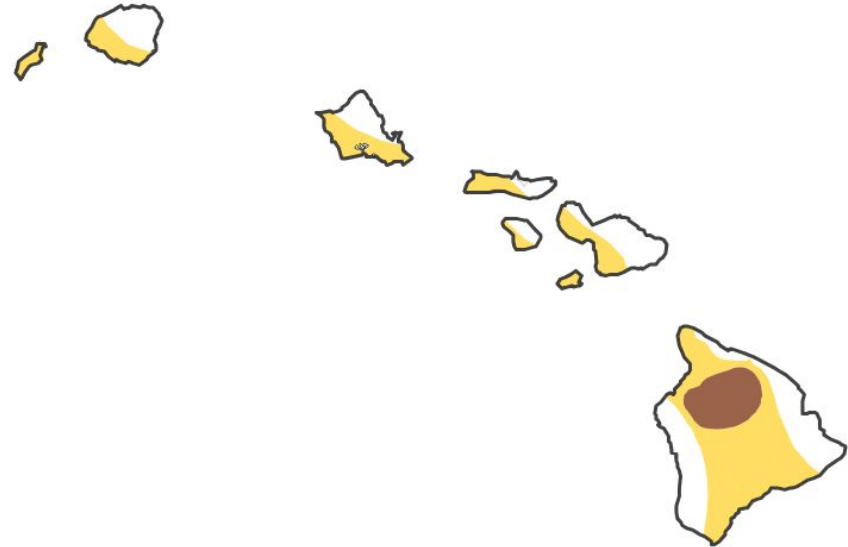




Drought Outlook

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

- Climate models favor below normal precipitation across the main Hawaiian Islands into spring 2024, which may result in the development or persistence of drought in some areas.



Drought Is Predicted To...



Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook Released
Feb 29, 2024 valid for Mar 1 - May 31, 2024

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)
[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

