



Drought Information Statement for the Main Hawaiian Islands

Valid April 12, 2024

Issued By: WFO Honolulu, HI

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- This product will be updated May 10, 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.

- Severe drought in portions of the Big Island and Maui.



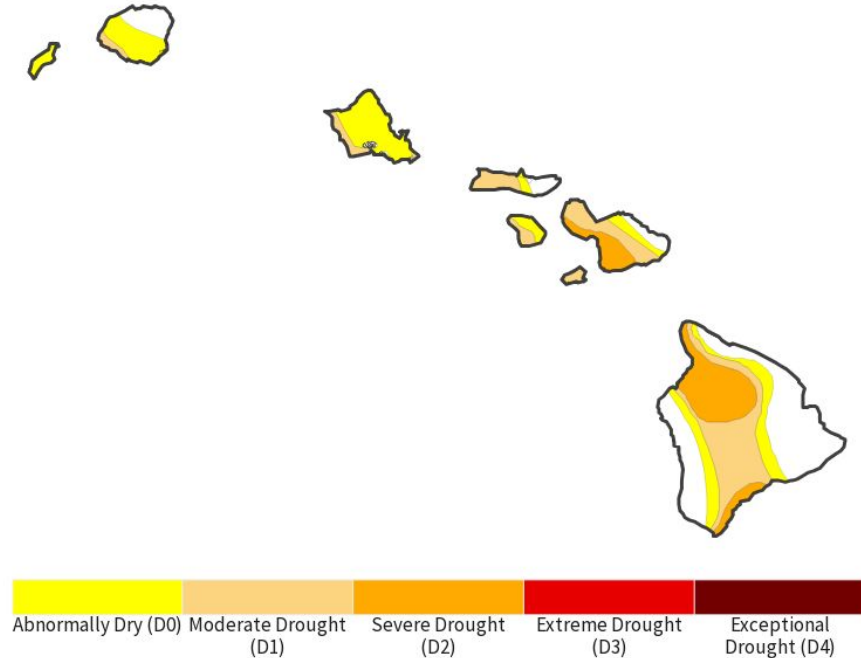


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Above average trade wind frequency kept leeward areas dry, resulting in the expansion and intensification of drought.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Developed over leeward Maui, and expanded into the northwestern portion of the Big Island. Also returned to the lower elevations of the Big Island's southeastern flank.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Present over many of the leeward areas of the state.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Expanded into the windward sections of O'ahu. Also expanded eastward on Kaua'i.

U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 04/09/24





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 Worsened: East O‘ahu, central Lāna‘i, and lower elevations of the Ka‘ū District on the Big Island.
 - No Change: Drought areas in leeward Kaua‘i, most of O‘ahu, Maui County, the Big Island.
- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: Leeward Kaua‘i, most of O‘ahu and Maui County, and the lower elevations of leeward Kohala and the Ka‘ū District on the Big Island.
 - No Change: Drought areas in portions of leeward Kaua‘i and O‘ahu, and the interior sections of the Big Island.

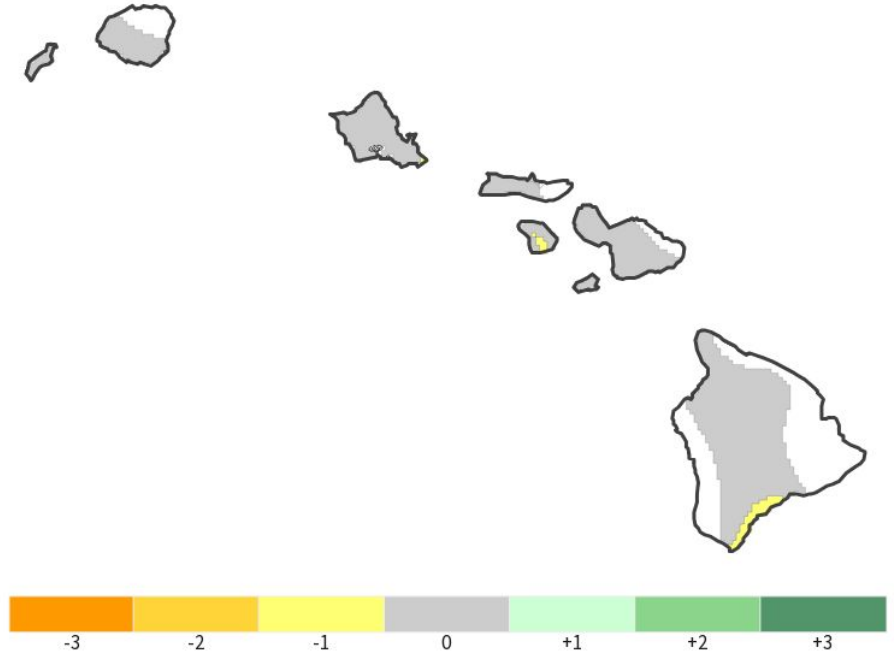


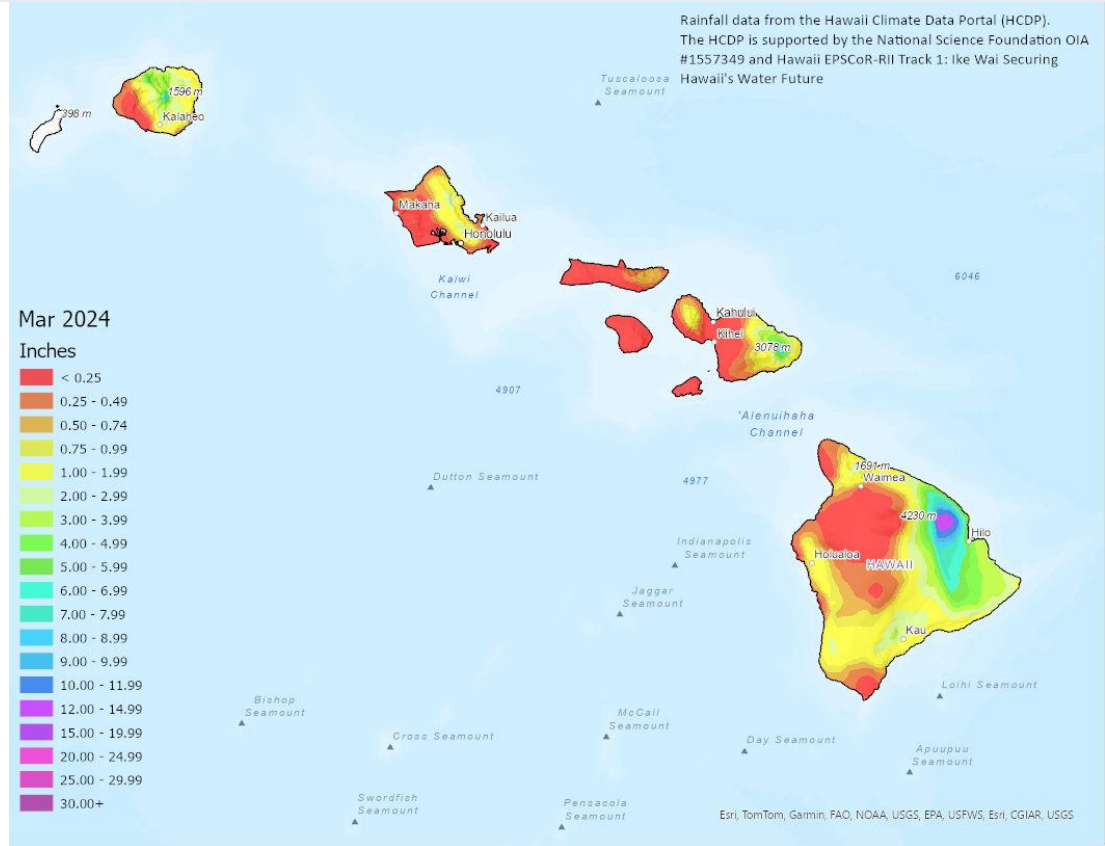
Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 1-week Change Map.





Precipitation

- The windward slopes of the Big Island had near to above average rainfall in March.
- Most of the remaining areas in the state had near to below average March rainfall.
- Higher than average frequency of trade winds resulted in below average rainfall for most of the leeward areas in the state.





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

Agricultural Impacts

- Pastures over the leeward slopes of Maui were in very poor condition (USDA/FSA).

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Vegetation health was significantly degraded over portions of the leeward Big Island and Maui. (<https://app.climateengine.org/>)

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

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. (Maui County Dept. of Water Supply)





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Most of the gages across the state indicated normal 14-day flow levels.
- The 28-day flow levels were mostly in the normal range across the state. Several west Maui and east O‘ahu sites had much below normal flow levels.

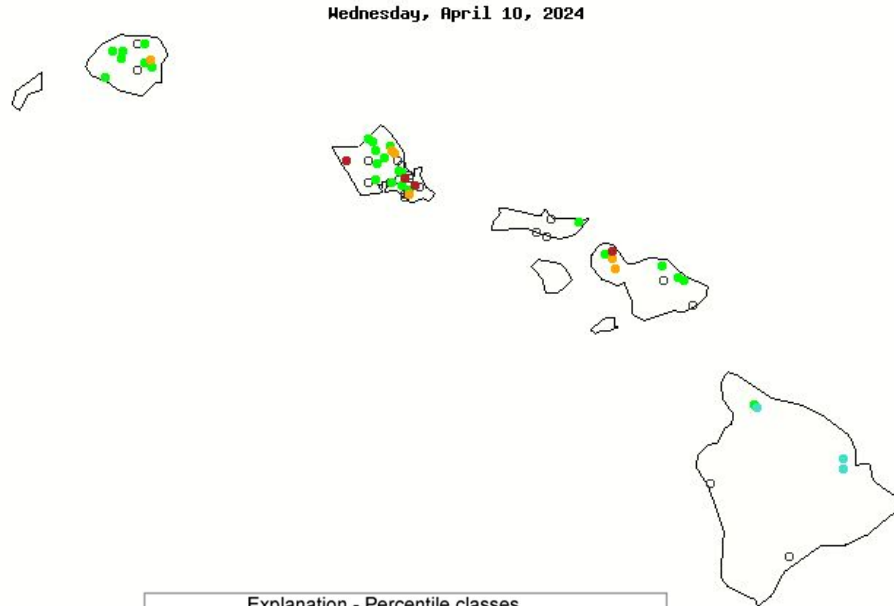


Image Caption: USGS 14 day average streamflow map valid April 10, 2024.



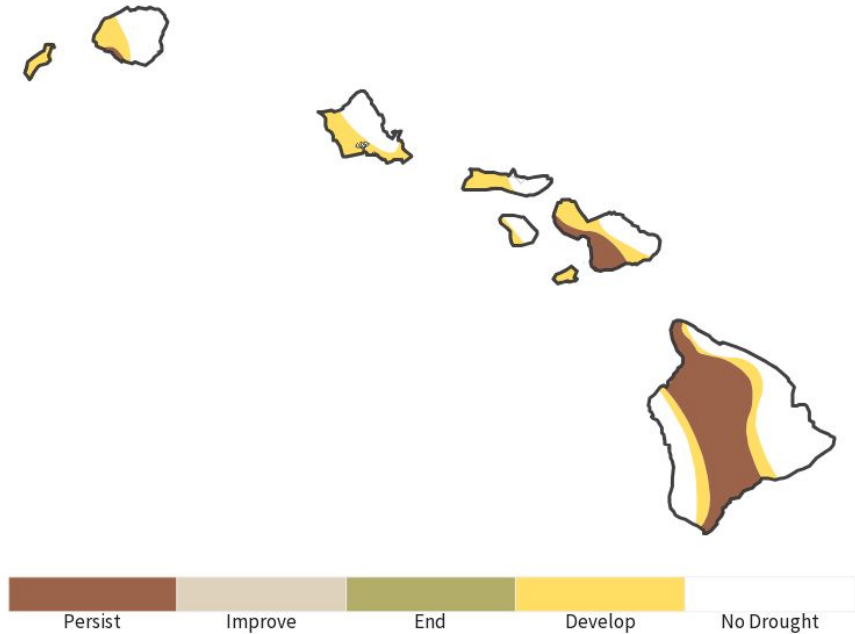


Drought Outlook

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.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 04/11/24

Links to the latest:

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

