



Drought Information Statement for Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands

Valid April 3rd, 2024

Issued By: WFO San Juan, PR

Contact Information: sr-sju.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated when drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/sju/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.





U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for the Caribbean

DROUGHT CONDITIONS: Drought conditions continue, but rainfall continued to provide targeted relief across the region.

Drought Intensity and Extent:

- **Saint Thomas, USVI:** remains under a **Abnormally Drought (D0)** conditions.
- **Puerto Rico:** Although improving, **Abnormally Drought (D0)** to **Moderate Drought (D1)** conditions persist across portions of eastern and western Puerto Rico.

U.S. Drought Monitor Caribbean

March 26, 2024
(Released Thursday, Mar. 28, 2024)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	72.47	27.53	8.28	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 03-19-2024	60.67	39.33	9.96	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 12-28-2023	46.79	53.21	4.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2024	46.79	53.21	4.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	52.86	47.14	13.66	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 03-28-2023	36.45	63.55	25.51	0.00	0.00	0.00

Note: Statistics do not include areas represented by points.

Intensity:

- None
- 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. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

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NCEI/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

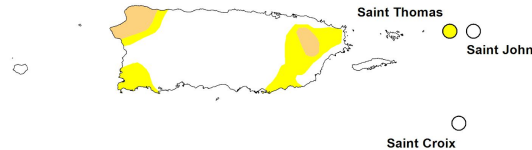


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8 AM EDT March 26th, 2024 .



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
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San Juan



Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands.

U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change:

- **1 Class improvement** is observed in Saint Thomas, Vieques, Culebra, and much of Puerto Rico, especially in the eastern interior, central interior, western interior, north-central, western, south-central, and southwestern regions.
- **2 Class improvement** is observed for portions of Puerto Rico, particularly concentrated in the Caguas-San Juan-Bayamon region in the east, Ponce-Adjuntas-Sabana Grande area in the south, and Utuado-Arecibo-Camuy area in the north.

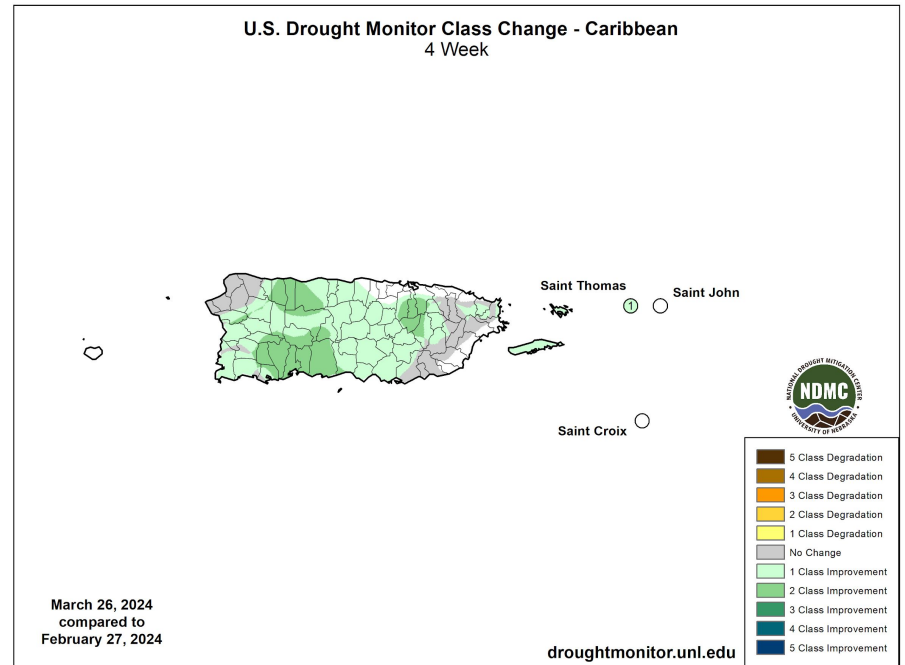


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid 8 AM AST March 26th, 2024.



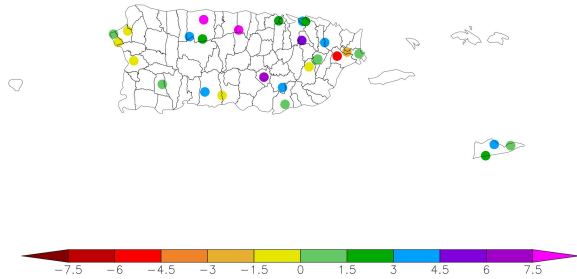


Rainfall

Link to generate the latest [ACIS Climate Maps](#)

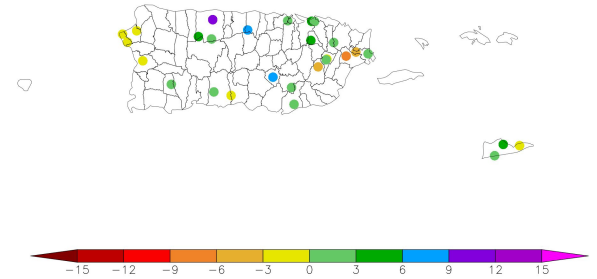
- Recent rains has led to nearly 75% of COOP stations reaching above-normal levels.
- However, around 50% of stations still register below-normal levels within the 90-day timeframe.

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
2/3/2024 - 4/2/2024



Generated 4/3/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
1/4/2024 - 4/2/2024



NOAA Regional Climate Centers generated 4/3/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions:
 Left - 60-day Departure of Normal Precipitation for Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands
 Right - 90-day Departure of Normal Precipitation for Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands
 Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center/NWS COOP Stations.





Summary of Impacts

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

Agricultural Impact

- N/A

Fire Hazard Impacts

- N/A

Mitigation Actions

- N/A





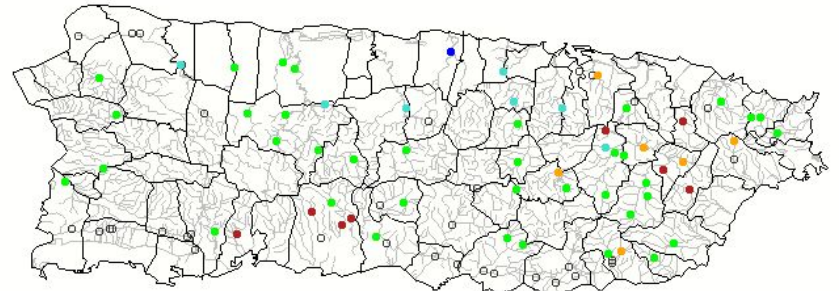
Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

The latest 28-day average historical streamflow from USGS can be found in [WaterWatch](#)

- The 28-day average streamflow from the USGS river gauge network indicates nearly 75% of streamflows are running between normal to above normal.
 - Streamflows at below to much below normal concentrate along the south-central and eastern third portion of the island.
- Most Groundwater wells are at optimal conditions across southern Puerto Rico, except for JAC-6 in Juana Díaz which remains at observational levels.

Latest Monthly Average Streamflow from USGS

Tuesday, April 02, 2024



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



Image Caption: USGS streamflow plot valid Tuesday, April 2nd , 2024





Long-Range Outlooks

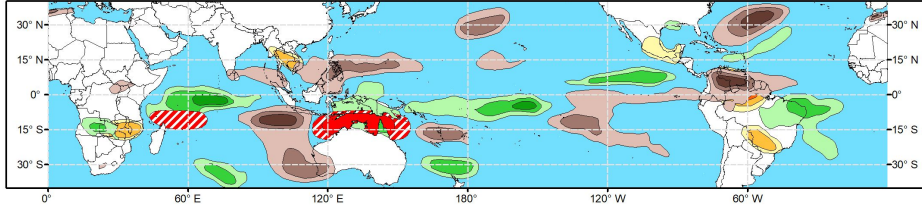
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)



Global Tropics Hazards Outlook Climate Prediction Center

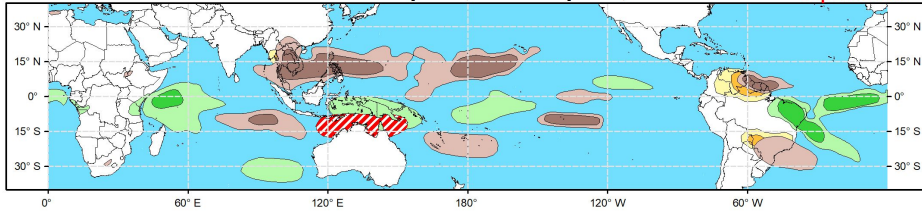


Week 2 - Valid: Apr 10, 2024 - Apr 16, 2024



Week 3 - Valid: Apr 17, 2024 - Apr 23, 2024

**** Experimental ****

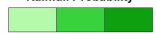


**Tropical Cyclone (TC)
Formation Probability**



Tropical Depression (TD)
or greater strength

**Above-Average
Rainfall Probability**



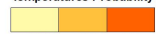
Weekly total rainfall in the
Upper third of the historical range

**Below-Average
Rainfall Probability**



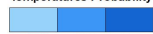
Weekly total rainfall in the
Lower third of the historical range

**Above-Average
Temperatures Probability**



7-day max temperatures in the
Upper third of the historical range

**Below-Average
Temperatures Probability**



7-day min temperatures in the
Lower third of the historical range

This product is updated once per week and targets broad scale conditions integrated over a 7-day period for US interests only. Consult your local responsible forecast agency.

Issued: 04/02/2024

Forecaster: Collow

Image Caption: Global Tropics Hazards Outlook for April 10-23, 2024.

- The **Global Tropics Hazards Outlook** indicate:
 - **Week 2** - Below-average rainfall across the northern Caribbean region between April 3-9, 2024.
 - **Week 3** - NO predictability (neither above/below average favored) for the period spanning between April 10-16, 2024.



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Long-Range Outlooks

The latest three-months precipitation outlook can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- In the **North American Multi-Model Ensemble (NMME)**, favors above normal precipitation for the period of April through June 2024.

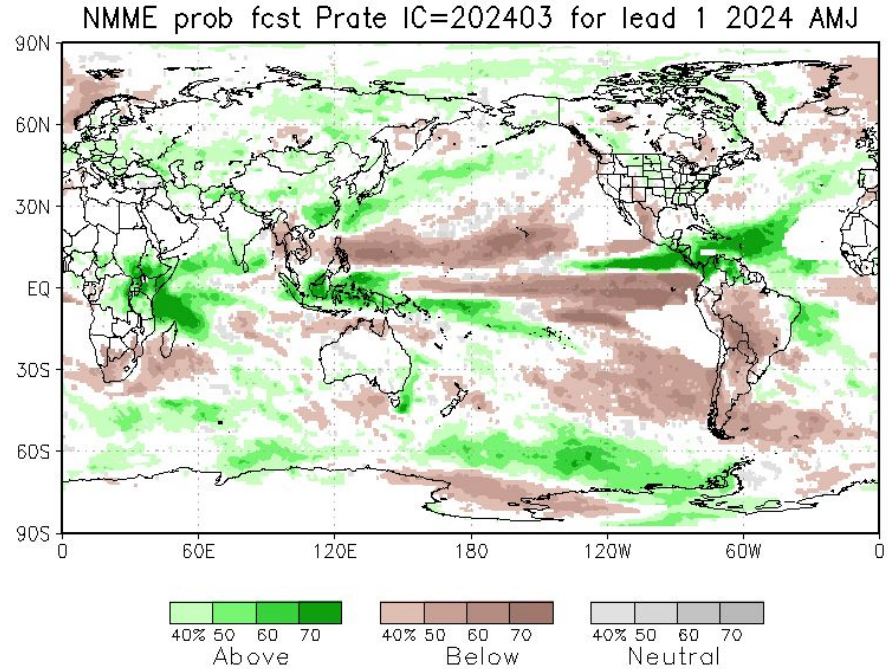


Image Caption: NMME precipitation forecast issued for April-May-June 2024.



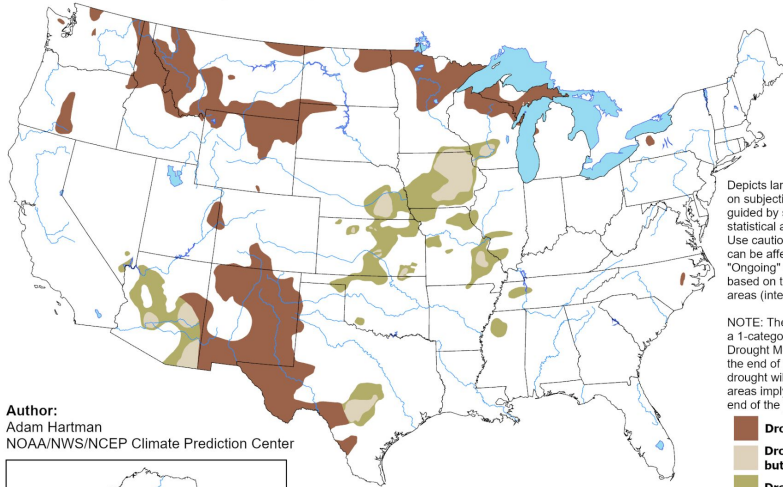


Drought Outlook

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

U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for April 2024
Released March 31, 2024

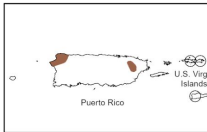
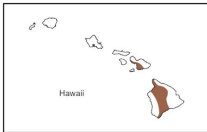


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

- Drought persists
- Drought remains, but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely
- No drought

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<https://go.usa.gov/3eZGd>

- Based on the latest forecast, drought conditions will persist across portions of northeastern and northwestern Puerto Rico.
- No drought conditions are expected across Vieques, Culebra, and all of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Image Caption: U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook valid for April 2024.



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