

# **Drought Information Statement for** Micronesia

Valid April 4, 2025

Issued By: WFO Guam

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- This product will be updated April 18, 2025 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <a href="https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements">https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements</a>.
- Please visit https://www.weather.gov/gum/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.

- Severe (D2) Drought conditions persist across Saipan and Tinian. Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions persist across Guam and Rota.
- A drier pattern continues to emerge across the RMI and a few islands of the FSM.
- Moderate (D1) Drought conditions are in place across Yap Proper and the northern RMI





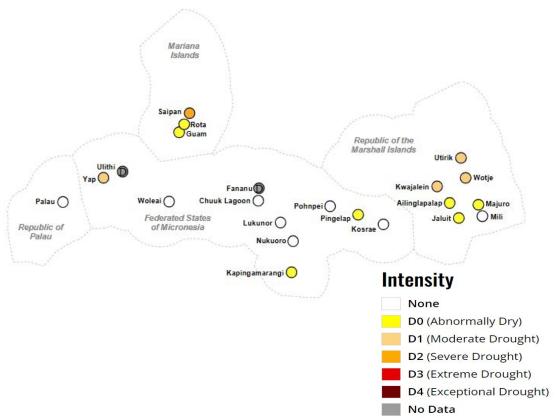


### U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor for Micronesia and the rest of the U.S. Affiliated Pacific Islands

#### • Drought Intensity:

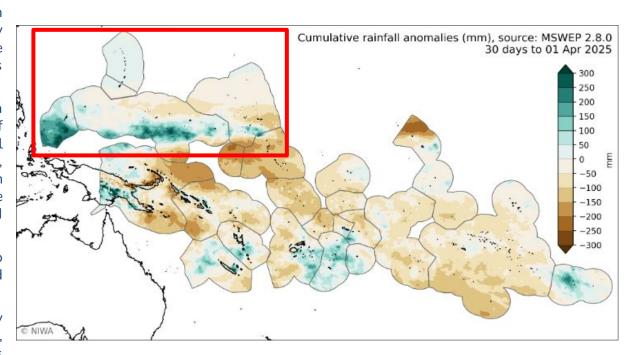
- O D2 (Severe Drought):
  - Marianas: Saipan & Tinian
- O D1 (Moderate Drought):
  - Yap State: Yap Proper & nearby islands/atolls
  - Marshall Islands: Kwajalein Atoll, Wotje, Utirik & nearby islands/atolls
- D0 (Abnormally Dry):
  - Marianas: Guam & Rota
  - Pohnpei State: Kapingamarangi, Pingelap & nearby islands/atolls
  - Marshall Islands: Jaluit,
     Ailinglapalap, Majuro & nearby islands/atolls





### Rainfall During the Last 30 Days

- Rainfall patterns varied across the region the last couple of weeks. Seasonably dry conditions persisted across Guam and the CNMI with only spotty, light showers across the Marianas.
- An active trade-wind pattern kept a wetter pattern in place across the heart of Micronesia with normal to above normal rainfall from Chuuk State to Kosrae State, mainly between 3N and 8N. Drier than normal conditions continued across the northern RMI, western Yap State and Kapingamarangi.
- ROP remains wetter than normal due to influences of the NET and trade-wind convergence.
- Recent weather patterns brought heavy showers to Majuro and the central RMI, and now, much-needed rainfall to islands of the northern RMI



Graphic courtesy of the <u>National Institute of Water and Atmospheric</u> Research (NIWA)



### Summary of Impacts

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

#### **Hydrologic Impacts**

None reported at this time.

#### **Agricultural Impacts**

• Vegetation on plantations continue to brown across most of the CNMI, with drier conditions also emerging across Guam and Rota, where vegetation is thinning and browning..

#### **Fire Hazard Impacts**

• Vegetation on plantations are brown across Saipan and Tinian, keeping the wildfire threat high. The Guam fire danger is also in the high category and continues to increase following multiple days without a wetting rain. There've been no additional reports of wildfires since the last statement, but ground reports are very welcome. The risk of fires will continue to increase due to the ongoing dry pattern.

#### **Mitigation Actions**

• Monitor water levels closely. Islands or atolls with a shallow water lens, or rely on water catchments, are sensitive to quick onsets of drought.

#### **Preparedness Actions**

• Residents should report any agricultural and hydrologic impacts to local DCOs and WSOs, particularly during prolonged periods of drier weather. Reports from the islands are critical for decision-making and government responses.



## Drought Outlook

The latest El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) outlook can be found on the CPC homepage

#### Short-term (1-3 Week Outlook)

The seasonal dry pattern will continue across the Marianas the next few weeks with little rainfall in sight. A wetter pattern persists across much of Micronesia, south of 10N, including the RMI where much-needed rainfall is seen across central and northern islands/atolls. A wetter pattern persists near Palau; and drier than normal conditions along the equator. See <a href="#">CPC - Global Tropics Hazards Outlook</a> for more info.

#### Seasonal (3 Month Outlook)

- La Niña conditions are weakening, favoring a transition to ENSO-neutral conditions in the April-June 2025 timeframe and continuing through July-September 2025.
- The long-term trend favors near to above normal rainfall across western Micronesia, Palau and the Marianas. Drier conditions with below normal rainfall are predicted along the Equator east of 140E, across the Marshall Islands and eastern Micronesia

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Graphic courtesy of the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA)

• These trends are typical, but not guaranteed.

