

Hydrologic Conditions – January 2023

The Hydrologic Conditions Mapper for New York State has been updated for the month of January 2023 and can be accessed at:

<http://ny.water.usgs.gov/projects/eom/>

During January, monthly precipitation totals averaged 3.8 inches, and 0.6 inches above normal quantities across the State. The highest precipitation amount (5.0 inches) and largest positive departure from normal quantities (1.6 inches) were recorded in Rockland County. The lowest precipitation amount (2.8 inches) was recorded in Steuben County, and the largest negative departure from normal quantities (-0.3 inches) was recorded in Hamilton County.

Of the 32 index streamflow sites, 2 recorded normal levels, 30 recorded wet levels, and none recorded dry or very dry levels during January. The National Weather Service (NWS) flood stage was not exceeded at any of the index streamflow sites during January in New York State.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) reported that all drought regions in New York State were in normal status at the end of January.

Average lake levels of Lake Ontario during January were about 0.3 feet above long-term monthly average water levels (<https://www.glerl.noaa.gov/data/wlevels/>).

New York City reservoirs were collectively at about 92.8 percent of capacity at the end of the month; about 3.2 percent more than the normal storage capacity of about 89.6 percent (<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/dep/water/reservoir-levels.page>).

The statistics that are used to evaluate end of month groundwater conditions were not readily available for January 2023 because the USGS Groundwater Watch application was discontinued in September 2022 (<https://groundwaterwatch.usgs.gov/>). An effort to address the discontinuation of Groundwater Watch is in progress at the New York Water Science Center.

Exceedance percentages shown on the Hydrologic Conditions Mapper are calculated for individual USGS sites. This information, along with additional information from other Federal, State, and local agencies, assists the NYSDEC and the State Drought Management Task Force with evaluating regional conditions for determination of drought classifications.

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