

Hawaii's Kilauea Volcano stops erupting after months of lava

27 May 2021, by Caleb Jones



This Dec. 28, 2020, file photo provided by the U.S. Geological Survey shows the eruption at Hawaii's Kilauea Volcano. The U.S. Geological Survey's Hawaiian Volcano Observatory updated the status of the Big Island volcano on Wednesday, May 26, 2021, to say that it is no longer erupting. Credit: D. Downs/U.S. Geological Survey via AP, File

Hawaii's Kilauea Volcano has stopped erupting.

The U.S. Geological Survey's Hawaiian Volcano Observatory updated the status of the Big Island [volcano](#) Wednesday.

Kilauea, which had been erupting at its summit crater since December, has "paused" producing new [lava](#), the USGS said. The latest eruption had produced a new lava lake at the summit.

Officials said the lava could begin erupting again soon or it could move into a phase of quiescence before its next eruption.

Kilauea, one of the world's most [active volcanoes](#), had been erupting for 157 days and produced over 41 million cubic meters (11 billion gallons) of lava in that time. No active lava has been produced in

the past two days, according to the USGS.

Lava drained from the same area in 2018 when the volcano erupted in one of its lower rift zones. That event became the largest eruption on record at the volcano, displacing thousands of people and destroying scores of homes.

The volcano stopped erupting after its 2018 event until the latest activity began in December.

The latest eruption added 751 feet (229 meters) to the summit crater, called Halemaumau.

The lava lake had been glowing within Hawaii Volcanoes National Park throughout the latest eruption. There is no longer any visible lava in the summit crater.

USGS will now lower the Volcano Alert Level from "watch" to "advisory" for ground hazards and will also lower its warnings for aviation hazards.

Officials warned that the area is still hazardous.

© 2021 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed without permission.

APA citation: Hawaii's Kilauea Volcano stops erupting after months of lava (2021, May 27) retrieved 27 September 2021 from <https://phys.org/news/2021-05-hawaii-kilauea-volcano-erupting-months.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.