



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

MEDIA ADVISORY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 23, 2025

2025 Dry Season Rainfall Summary for Hawai'i (May through September 2025)

- The dry season forecast favored above normal precipitation across Kaua'i and O'ahu, below normal precipitation for the Big Island, and equal chances of above, below, and near normal precipitation across Maui County.
- Rainfall totals for the season were mostly below average for Maui County and the Big Island (except the Kona district, which has a typical summer rainfall maximum), near to below average for O'ahu, and near to slightly above average for Kaua'i.
- Drought conditions (D1 or greater) changed little in terms of areal coverage through the dry season, with around 70% of the state affected. Drought severity increased most significantly over the Hāmākua and Ka'u districts of the Big Island, as well as the windward and leeward coasts of O'ahu.
- Overall, the 2025 season ranked as the 3rd driest in the last 30 years (average rankings from 8 representative sites around the state)
 - 2010 was the driest in the last 30 years, with 2007 coming in 2nd.

Wet Season (October 2025 through April 2026) Outlook

- From NOAA's Climate Prediction Center (CPC): La Niña Advisory in effect. La Niña conditions emerged in September 2025 and are expected to continue through the January - February 2026 period, with a transition to ENSO neutral likely in the January - March 2026 period (55% chance). Probabilities favor a weak La Niña event (Niño-3.4 index value at or between -0.5°C and -0.9°C).
- Rainfall forecast: Consistent with a cold-season La Niña event, the climate model consensus supports enhanced probabilities for above normal rainfall through early spring 2026, with the greatest probabilities over the northwestern half of the state.
 - Rainfall amount and distribution can be influenced by the strength of La Niña
 - Weaker La Niña events have generally favored above normal rainfall during winter in Hawai'i in recent decades (since 1980s), with the potential for more weather systems capable of producing widespread significant rainfall.
 - However, weak La Niña events do not necessarily result in Hawai'i's wettest wet seasons on record.
 - Moderate to strong events have favored below normal rainfall in general, with greater trade wind frequency, focusing rain on windward slopes.

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Wet Season (October 2025 through April 2026) Outlook - cont'd

- Reminder: Precipitation, among other weather elements, is inherently difficult to forecast in the longer time ranges (weeks to months), with no guarantees for “typical” conditions.
- Drought Outlook: If the rainfall forecast verifies, anticipate drought conditions across the state to be significantly improved, if not be eliminated, in many areas by the end of the wet season.
- Other impacts: Probabilities favor above normal temperatures across the state, with chances also greater for the northwestern islands through the wet season.

Wet season preparedness reminders

- Do not drive on roads with fast-flowing water.
 - Just 1 to 2 feet of fast-flowing water can sweep most vehicles off a road.
- Do not walk across flooded streams.
 - If you're hiking and get stranded, wait for the water to recede.
- Expect other rainy weather impacts.
 - Increased road travel times.
 - Possible detours or road closures due to flooding or landslides.
 - Outdoor activities may be postponed, canceled, or adjusted.
- The wet season brings increased potential for lightning strikes.
 - Be prepared for power outages, especially when thunderstorms are forecast.
 - Move indoors when you hear thunder or see a flash of lightning.
 - Lightning strikes can occur even in areas where it is not raining.
 - Although rare, thunderstorms occasionally produce damaging winds, large hail, and tornadoes in Hawai'i.
- If you live in a flood-prone area, have an evacuation plan in case flood waters quickly threaten your home.
- Stay informed of rapidly-changing conditions
 - Check out the latest forecasts, watches, warnings, and advisories via the media, NOAA Weather Radio, the Internet, or one of several weather mobile phone apps.
 - Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) on mobile phones notify you if you're in a significant, life-threatening flash flood warning area.

On the Web:

Statewide %Avg Rainfall: https://www.weather.gov/images/hfo/hydrosum/Kau_25_percentavg.gif

Kaua'i: https://www.weather.gov/images/hfo/hydrosum/kauai_25_kau.gif

O'ahu: https://www.weather.gov/images/hfo/hydrosum/oahu_25_kau.gif

Moloka'i/Lāna'i: https://www.weather.gov/images/hfo/hydrosum/molana_25_kau.gif

Maui: https://www.weather.gov/images/hfo/hydrosum/maui_25_kau.gif

Big Island: https://www.weather.gov/images/hfo/hydrosum/bigis_25_kau.gif

NOAA National Weather Service Honolulu HI: <https://www.weather.gov/hfo/>

NOAA Climate Prediction Center: [Latest Monthly/Seasonal Outlook Discussion](https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/latest/monthly/seasonal_outlook_discussion)

U.S. Drought Monitor: <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?HI>