

# **Drought Information Statement for the** Main Hawaiian Islands

Valid June 14, 2025

Issued By: WFO Honolulu, HI

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- This product will be updated July 12, 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 <a href="https://www.weather.gov/hfo/DroughtInformationStatement">https://www.weather.gov/hfo/DroughtInformationStatement</a> for previous statements.

May provided overall below average rainfall, but some drought improvement for leeward areas.



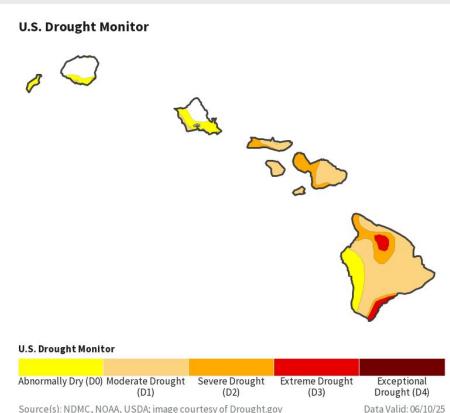




# U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the <u>latest U.S. Drought Monitor</u> for the main Hawaiian Islands

- Most of the state saw below average rainfall for the month of May, with the exception of the kona coast of the Big Island. Drought persisted across much of the state, with only small variations in coverage/severity.
- Drought intensity and Extent
  - D3 (Extreme Drought): Continued over portions of the Hāmākua and Ka'u districts of the Big Island.
  - D2 (Severe Drought): Remains over a small portion of Kaua'i's southwest coast, leeward areas of Moloka'i, Maui (also the central valley) and portions of the Kohala and Hāmākua districts of the Big Island.
  - D1 (Moderate Drought): Covered most areas of Moloka'i, Maui, and the Big Island not under D0, D2, or D3.
  - D0: (Abnormally Dry): Covered southern Kaua'i, southern and western O'ahu, and the coast/slopes of the Kona districts of the Big Island.



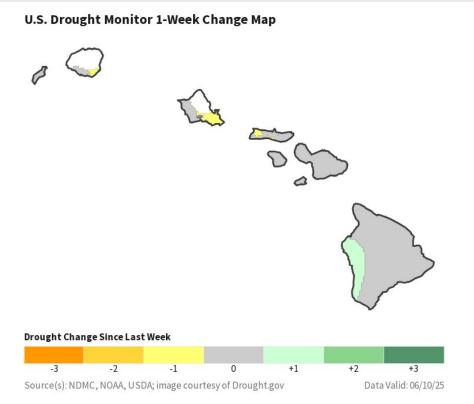




### Recent Change in Drought Intensity

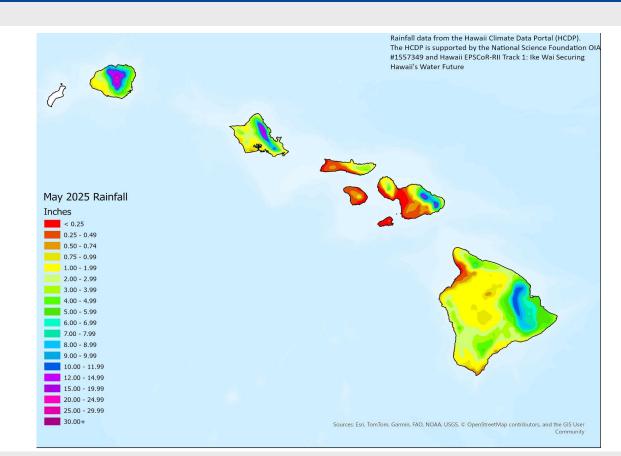
Link to the latest 4-week change map for the main Hawaiian Islands

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought worsened: southeast portions of Kaua'i and O'ahu, and a small section of leeward Moloka'i.
  - Drought improved: coast and slopes of the Big Island's Kona districts.
  - No Change: Most of the rest of the state.
- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought worsened: eastern portion of O'ahu, leeward Moloka'i, and small sliver of Hāmākua district.
  - Drought improved: small portions of leeward Kaua'i, central valley of O'ahu, and Kona districts of the Big Island.
  - No Change: Majority of the state.





- Most areas of the main Hawaiian Islands had below average rainfall in May.
- Meager windward rainfall had little to no impact on drought improvement.
- Little to no rainfall for much of Maui county
- Periods of light winds and instability allowed for above average rainfall in some leeward areas, especially the Kona districts of the Big Island.





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

#### **Hydrologic Impacts**

• The Hawaii County Department of Water Supply cited significant reduction in spring flows.

#### **Agricultural Impacts**

• The College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience's (CETAHR) Cooperative Extension reported poor range conditions across the entire Big Island, providing marginal feed with supplemental feeding required, as well as grasses drying up and slow productivity. Ranchers operating in the Hāmākua district of the Big Island reported poor pasture conditions, supplemental feeding requirements, and less water in ponds, creeks, etc. Ranchers are also weaning some of the cattle early, as well as destocking cows due to lack of available pasture feed.

#### **Fire Hazard Impacts**

• Two small wildfires: one near Waimea Canyon, Kaua'i on May 7 and one near Honoka'a in the Big Island's Hāmākua district on the 11th.

#### **Other Impacts**

None.

#### **Mitigation Actions**

- Mandatory 25% water restriction in the Hakalau area of the Big Island.
- A Stage 1 water shortage went into effect in April for Upcountry Maui and continues presently. Mandatory non-potable water conservation efforts still in place for West Maui with irrigation disallowed.





### Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- The 14-day streamflow levels were below normal at leeward O'ahu sites as well as the majority of Maui and the Big Island. Streamflow levels at most of the Kaua'i and windward O'ahu and Moloka'i sites were normal.
- The 28-day streamflow levels (not shown here) were largely the same as the 14-day values.

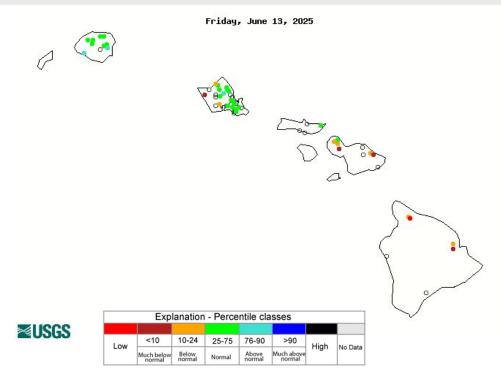


Image Caption: USGS 14 day average streamflow map.

## Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

- Most of the existing drought is expected to persist and possibly intensify through the remainder of the dry season (through September).
- Potential for additional drought areas to develop, especially over leeward Kaua'i and O'ahu.
- Windward areas may see some drought relief as the seasonally more persistent trade winds take hold and potentially produce more frequent rainfall.
  - Will depend on moisture availability and frequency

#### Links to the latest:

Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook

