



Drought Information Statement for the Main Hawaiian Islands

Valid August 16, 2024

Issued By: WFO Honolulu, HI

Contact Information: w-hfo.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated September 13, 2024 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/hfo/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.

- Extreme drought develops on Maui and the Big Island.



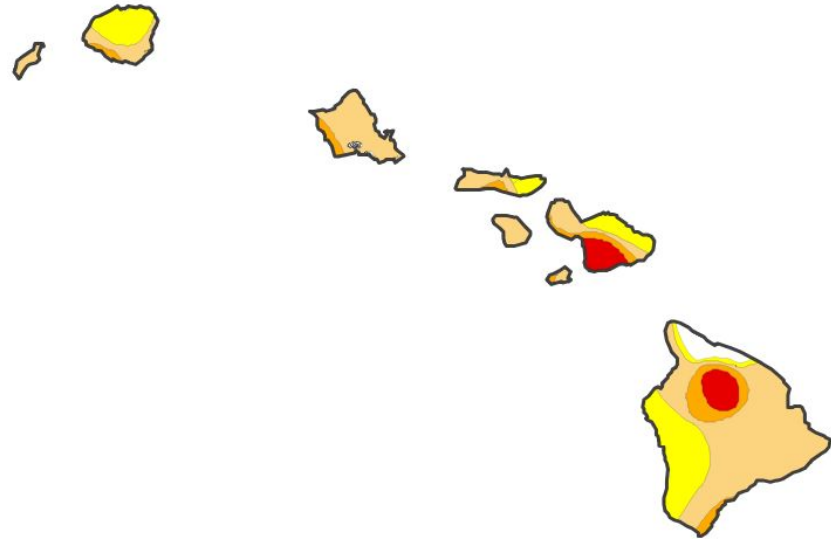


U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for the main Hawaiian Islands

- July was dry over most areas of the state. Drought areas expanded and intensified in the four main counties.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Developed over leeward Haleakalā on Maui and the slopes of Mauna Kea.
 - D2 (Severe Drought)**: Developed over leeward Kaua'i, O'ahu, and Moloka'i. Continued over leeward West Maui, Kaho'olawe, and the lower Ka'ū District on the Big Island.
 - D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Covered most of leeward Kaua'i, and large portions O'ahu, Maui County, and the Big Island.
 - D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Covered north Kaua'i, windward Maui County, and the Kona slopes of the Big Island.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 08/13/24



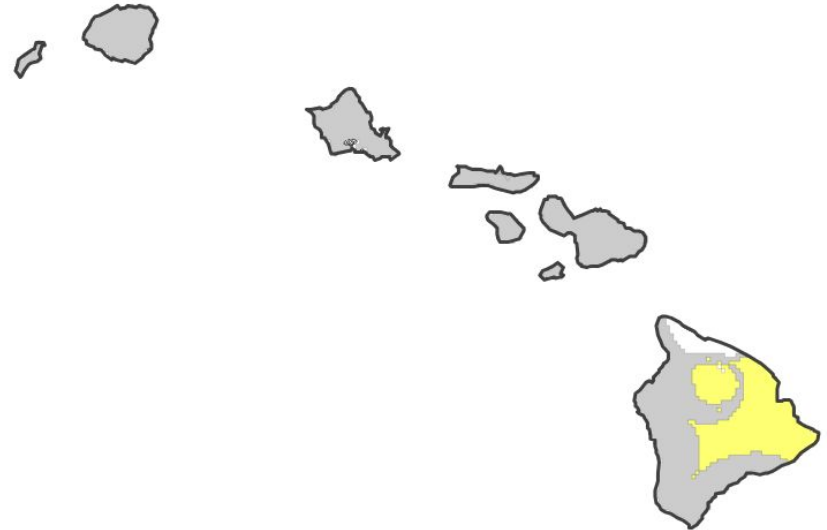


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

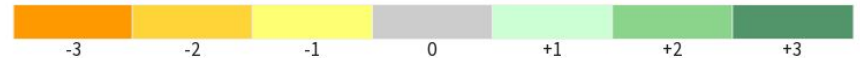
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for the main Hawaiian Islands

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought worsened: Windward and interior portions of the Big Island.
 - No Change: Rest of the state.
- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought worsened: 1- to 3-category worsening on the Big Island, 1- to 2-category worsening on Maui and Kaua'i, and 1-category worsening on O'ahu and the rest of Maui County.
 - No Change: Portions of the lower Puna District and the leeward slopes of the Big Island, and some areas of Kaua'i, O'ahu, Moloka'i, and Lāna'i.

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



Drought Change Since Last Week



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

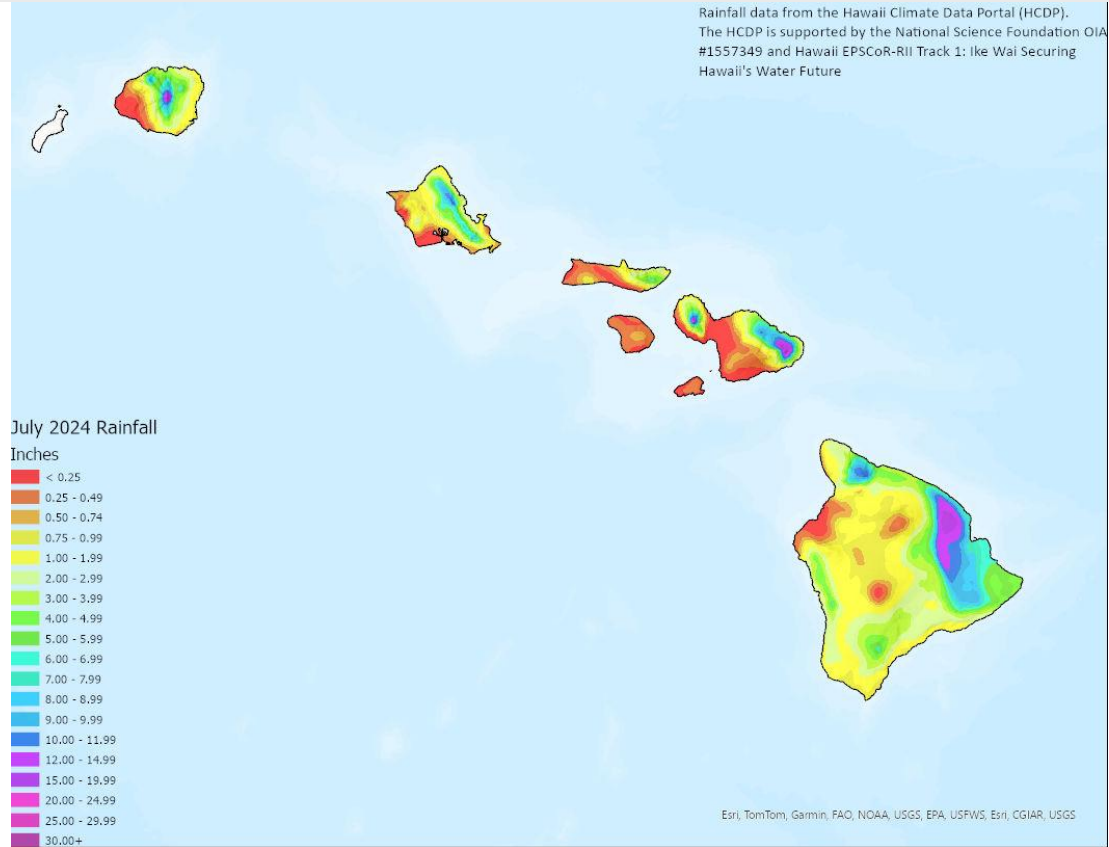
Data Valid: 08/13/24





Precipitation

- On the Big Island, the windward Kohala slopes and lower Hāmākua District had near to above average July rainfall.
- In Maui County, the windward slopes of the West Maui Mountains and Haleakalā had near to above average rainfall.
- Most areas of the remaining areas across the state had below average rainfall for July.





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflow levels have dropped below normal at many locations across the state, especially in the last two weeks (USGS).

Agricultural Impacts

- Pastures over the leeward slopes of Maui were in very poor condition (USDA/FSA).
- Pastures over the lower elevations of the Ka'ū District on the Big Island have rapidly deteriorated over the past month. A flower grower in the Puna District also reported having to start irrigating due to insufficient rainfall. (reports via email from producers)

Fire Hazard Impacts

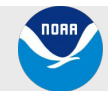
- Over the past month, dry fuels combined with the seasonally warmer temperatures have resulted in brush fire ignitions in all four of the main counties in the state.

Other Impacts

- Water haulers have been busy providing water to customers with insufficient catchment supplies on the windward side of the Big Island (Hawai'i Tribune Herald).

Mitigation Actions

- A Stage 1 Water Shortage for the Upcountry water service area on Maui remains in effect. The Stage 1 Water Shortage puts restrictions on the use of water for certain activities such as irrigation, watering lawns, washing vehicles, and other non-essential activities. (Maui County Dept. of Water Supply)





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflow levels have dropped below normal at many locations across the state, especially in the last two weeks.
- The 28-day flow levels have dropped into the below normal range at most of the gages across the state.

Thursday, August 15, 2024

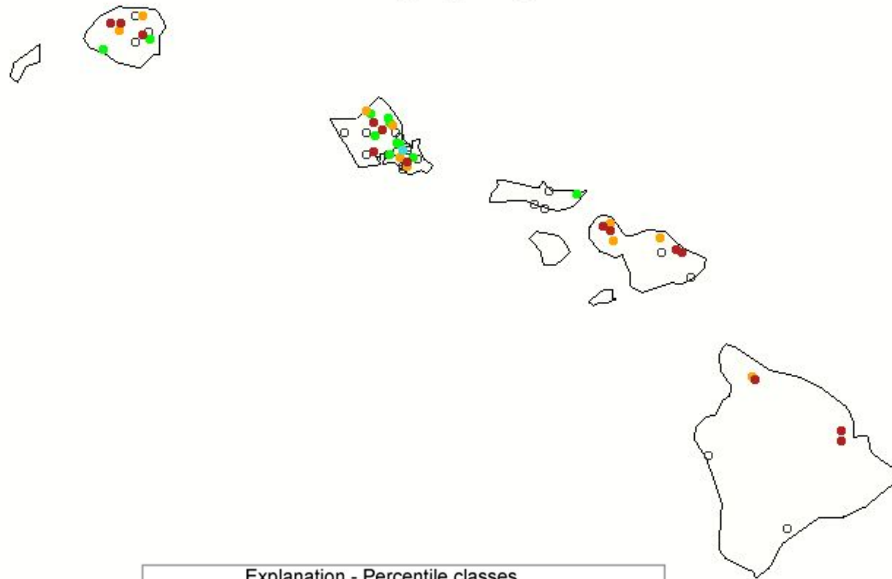


Image Caption: USGS 14 day average streamflow map.





Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Climate models favor below normal precipitation across the main Hawaiian Islands into fall 2024. This will likely result in the persistence or intensification of drought, especially in the leeward areas of the state.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook



Drought Is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 08/15/24

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

