Drought Information Statement for the Main Hawaiian Islands

Valid October 11, 2024

Issued By: WFO Honolulu, HI

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

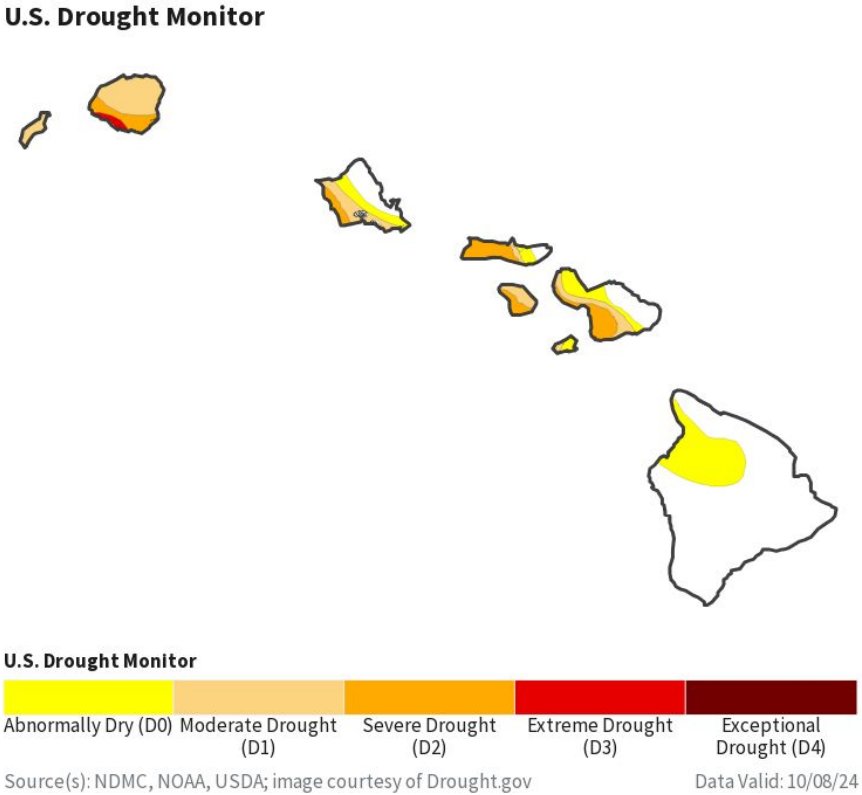
- This product will be updated November 15, 2024 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements.
- Please visit https://www.weather.gov/hfo/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.

- Leeward drought intensifying from Maui to Kauaʻi.

U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor for the main Hawaiian Islands

- Dry conditions in September from Maui to Kauaʻi intensified drought.
- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Developed over leeward Kauaʻi.
  - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Remains over leeward Kauaʻi and Oʻahu, and increasing in coverage over Maui County.
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Expanded over the leeward slopes from Maui to Kauaʻi.
  - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Covered north Kauaʻi and the northwest flank of the Big Island.

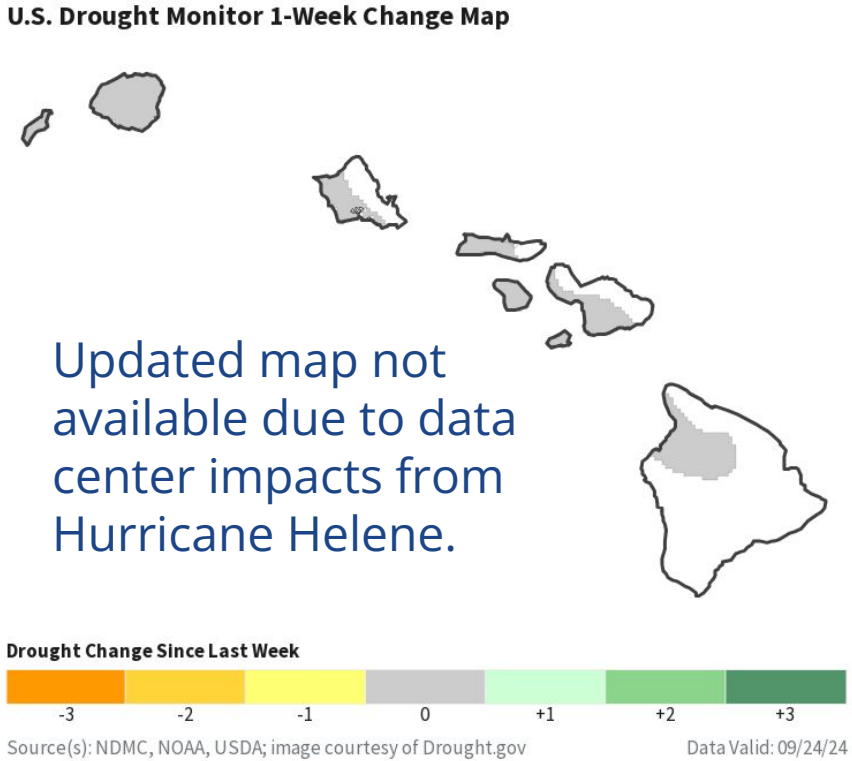


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

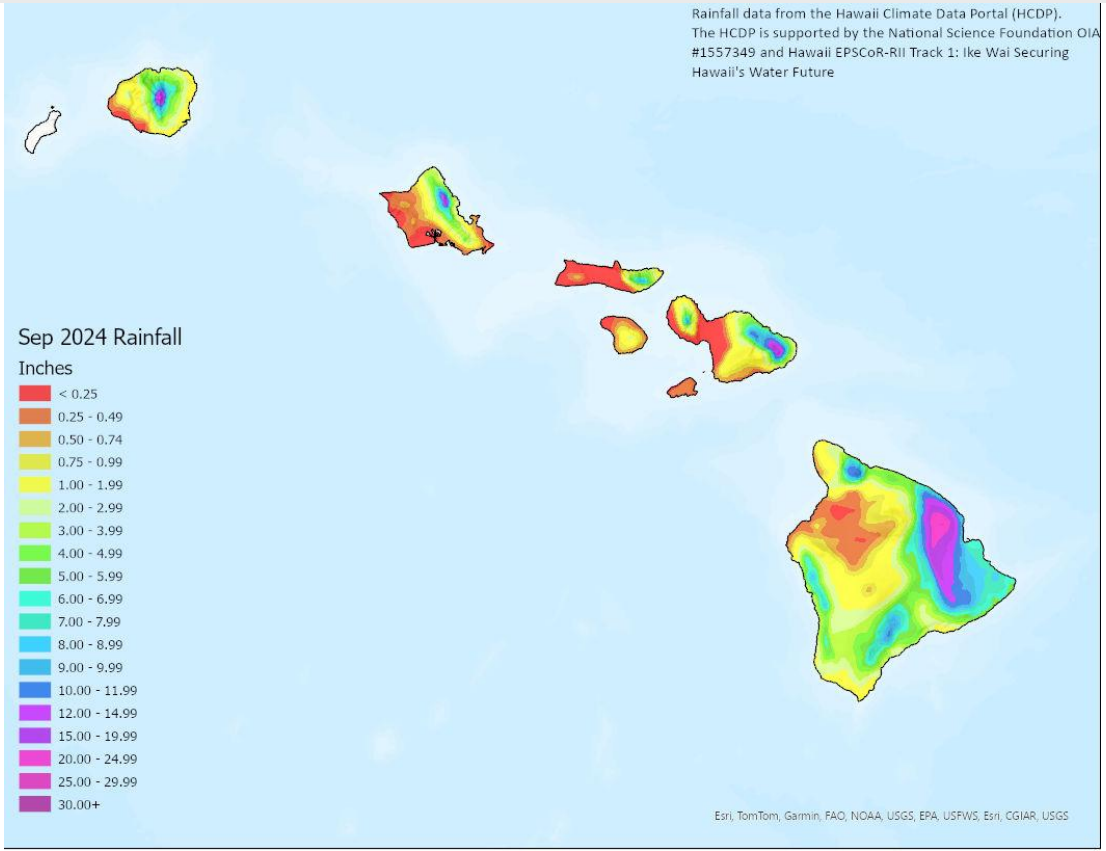
- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought worsened: Kauaʻi, and leeward areas of Oʻahu and Maui County.
  - Drought improved: None.
  - No Change: Leeward Big Island.

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought worsened: Kauaʻi, and leeward areas of Oʻahu's Koʻolau Range, Maui County, and the Big Island.
  - Drought improved: None.
  - No Change: Leeward areas of Oʻahu's Waiʻanae Range, north Lānaʻi, south Maui, and the middle and upper slopes of Mauna Kea on the Big Island.



Precipitation

- A tropical low pressure trough produced heavy rainfall over most of the Big Island and the windward slopes of O‘ahu in mid-September.
- Record low September rainfall totals occurred over portions of leeward Maui County and Kaua‘i.



Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflow levels have slowly decreased at many locations across the state (USGS).

Agricultural Impacts

- Pasture conditions deteriorated over the lower leeward slopes of Kauaʻi (USDA/FSA).
- Rangelands in leeward areas of Kauaʻi, Oʻahu, and Maui continue to indicate drought conditions (Hawaiʻi Rangeland Information Portal).

Fire Hazard Impacts

- None.

Other Impacts

- None.

Mitigation Actions

- None.

Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- The 14-day streamflow levels were near to below normal across the state.
- The 28-day flow levels were near to below normal on Kauaʻi and Oʻahu, but near to above normal on the Big Island and Maui County.

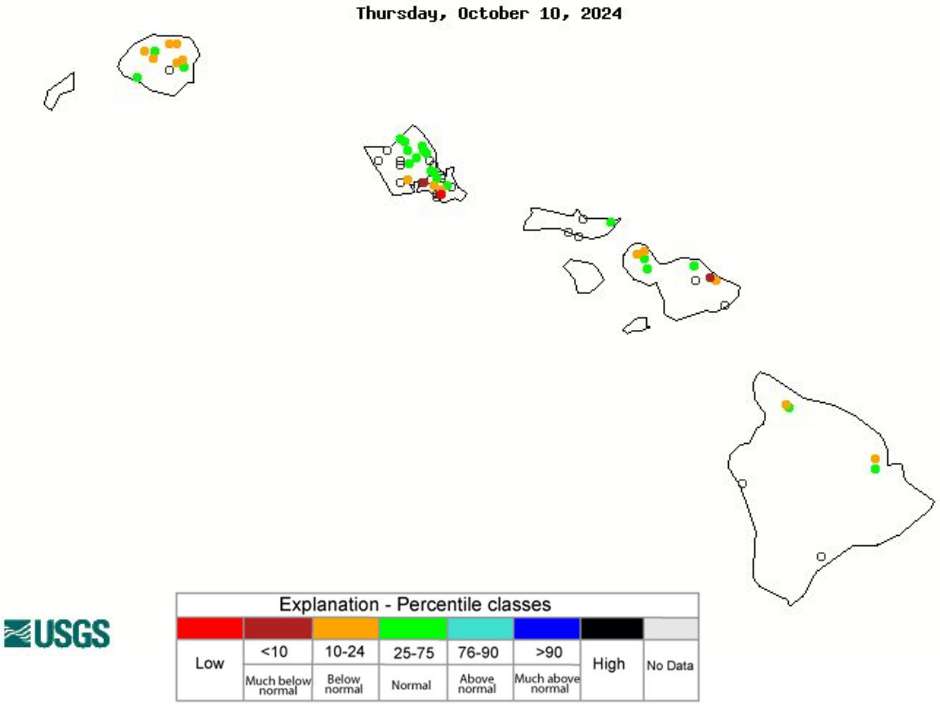
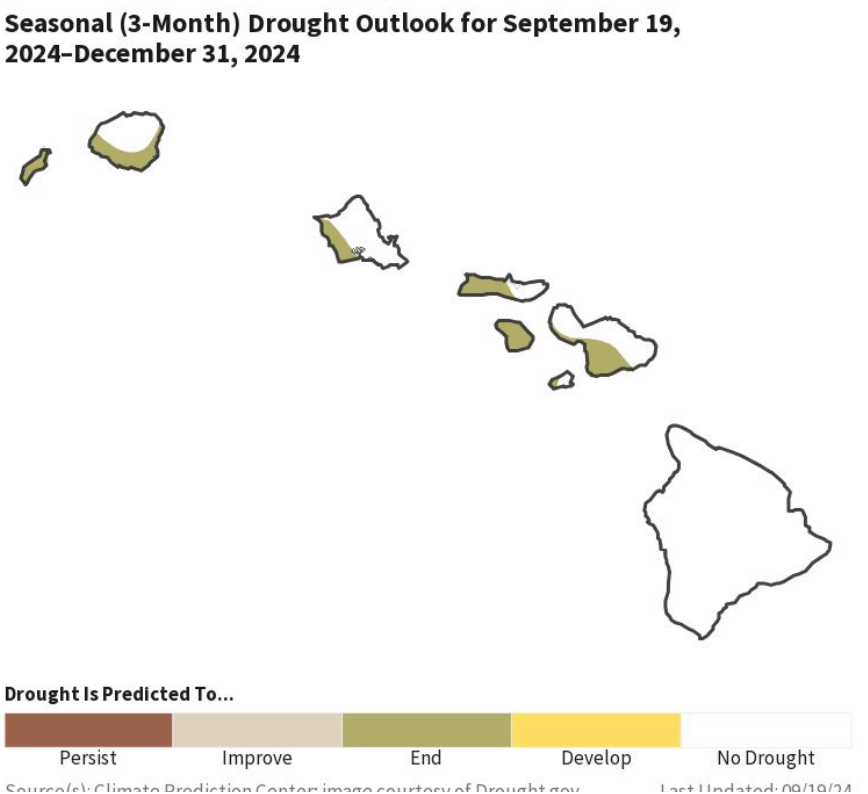


Image Caption: USGS 14 day average streamflow map.

Drought Outlook

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

- A late start to the wet season is expected to result in drought persistence through October.
- Climate models favor above normal precipitation across the main Hawaiian Islands in late 2024.
- Leeward drought is expected to improve or end in late 2024 or early 2025.



Links to the latest:
Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook