Connecticut Drought Conditions Report

Monthly Update for September 2025

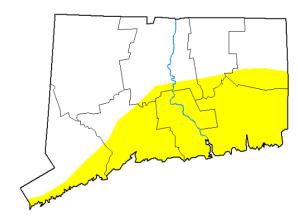


Interagency Drought Workgroup October 2, 2025

Regular Meeting

<u>U.S. Drought Monitor</u> (USDM): The USDM remained consistent from the end of August through mid-September, with approximately 40% of Connecticut (primarily the south central and southeastern portions of the state) in D0 (Abnormally Dry). The most recent data from September 23rd shows 92.4% of the state in D0 (Abnormally Dry) and the remaining 7.6% of the state (along the southeastern coastline) in D1 (Moderate Drought). The maps included are from the weeks of August 26th, September 16th and September 23rd.

U.S. Drought Monitor
Connecticut



August 26, 2025 (Released Thursday, Aug. 28, 2025) Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Dro	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4	
Current	60.13	39.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Last Week 08-19-2025	48.95	51.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3 Month s Ago 05-27-2025	98.17	1.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Start of Calendar Year 01-07-2025	0.00	100.00	94.83	10.14	0.00	0.00	
Start of Water Year 10-01-2024	36.34	63.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
One Year Ago 08-27-2024	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	

Intensity:	
None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought
The Drought Monitor focuses of	n broad-scale conditions.

Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx

USDA

Author:



U.S. Department of Agriculture





droughtmonitor.unl.edu

U.S. Drought Monitor Connecticut

September 16, 2025

(Released Thursday, Sep. 18, 2025) Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	59.55	40.45	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 09-09-2025	60.09	39.91	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Month's Ago 06-17-2025	98.20	1.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-07-2025	0.00	100.00	94.83	10.14	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2024	36.34	63.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 09-17-2024	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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None	D2 Severe Drought
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Author:

Adam Aligood NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



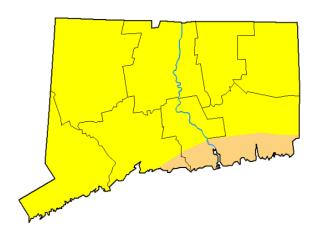






droughtmonitor.unl.edu

U.S. Drought Monitor **Connecticut**



September 23, 2025

(Released Thursday, Sep. 25, 2025) Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	Drought conditions (Forcentrica)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	7.60	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 09-16-2025	59.55	40.45	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Month s Ago 06-24-2025	98.20	1.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-07-2025	0.00	100.00	94.83	10.14	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2024	36.34	63.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 09-24-2024	37.33	62.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drough

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx

Author: Brad Rippey

U.S. Department of Agriculture







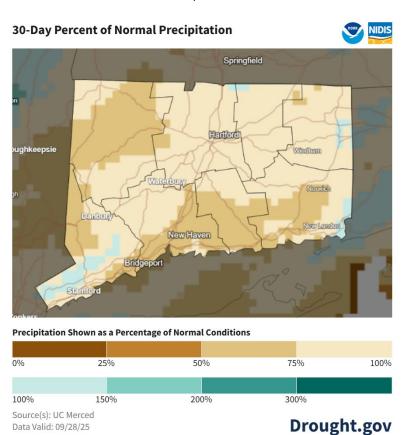


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Streamflow Levels (via USGS): The map below shows a snapshot of real-time stream flow data from October 1st. The streamflow levels in this map are split between Normal and Below Normal levels, with a few sites Much Below Normal. The Normal streamflow levels are primarily in northwestern and northeastern Connecticut, while Below Normal and Much Below Normal levels are found primarily in the southern portion of the state. More data on streamflow levels can be found later in this document.

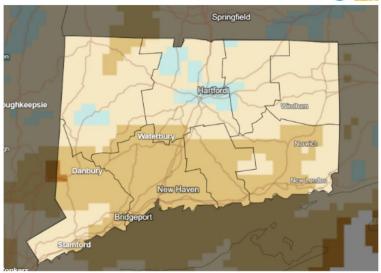


<u>Groundwater Levels</u> (via USGS): Due to difficulties with the government shutdown and timing for endof-month groundwater data, the most up-to-date maps are not available. For more detail on groundwater levels, please refer to the table presented later in this document. **September Precipitation:** Below are 30-Day and 60-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation maps dated September 28th. The 30-Day map illustrates drier than normal conditions with < 100% of normal precipitation throughout most of the state. The 60-day map also illustrates drier than normal conditions with < 100% of normal precipitation throughout most of the state, with particularly less precipitation over the southern portion of the state. Based on the preliminary precipitation data from the National Weather Service, presented later in this document, percent of normal precipitation ranged between 58-92% of normal for the 2-month period, and 60-94% of normal for the 1-month period.

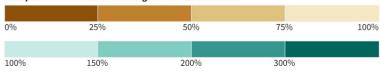


60-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation





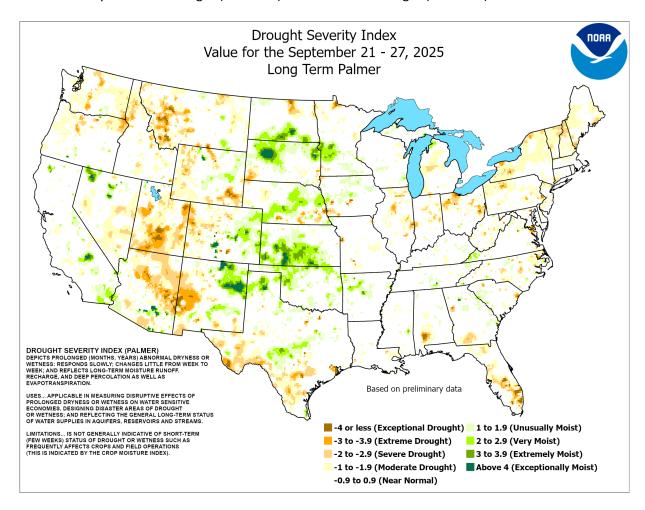
Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions



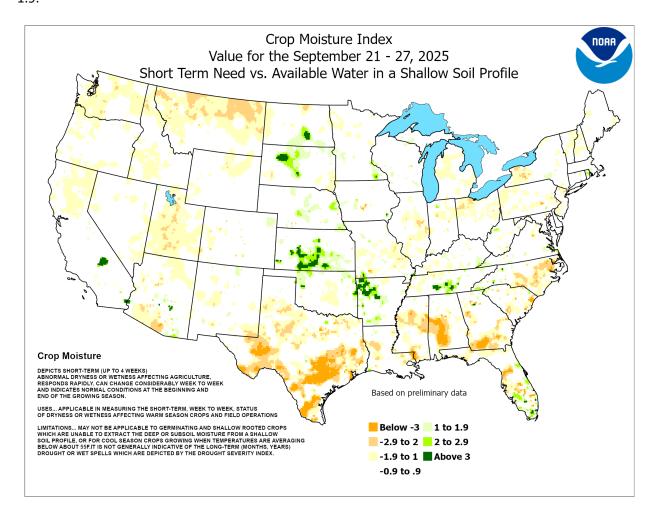
Source(s): UC Merced Data Valid: 09/28/25

Drought.gov

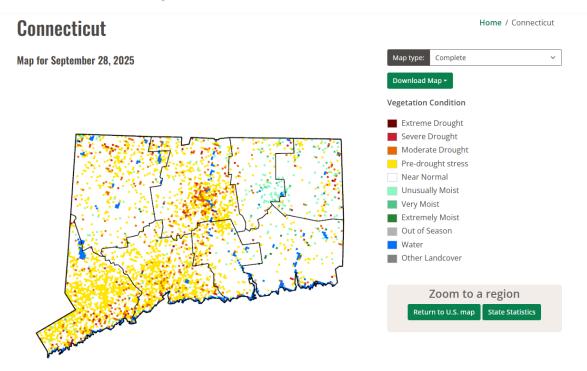
<u>Palmer Drought Severity Index</u>: The map below demonstrates the Palmer Drought Severity Index across the contiguous United States. Overall, the state appears to be Near Normal (-0.9 to 0.9), with portions of Fairfield County in Severe Drought (-2 to -2.9) and Moderate Drought (-1 to -1.9).



<u>Crop Moisture Index:</u> The map below demonstrates the Crop Moisture Index across the contiguous United States. Overall, the state is between -0.9 to 0.9, with portions of northeastern Connecticut at 1 to 1.9.



<u>Vegetation Drought Response Index</u> (VegDRI): The VegDRI map below is dated September 28th and shows the southwest and south-central portions of the state in Pre-Drought Stress, with some occurrence of Moderate Drought.



Fire Danger Levels from CT DEEP:

CT DEEP Forestry monitors wildfire conditions regularly and moves to a daily measurement when conditions are drier and the risk of wildfires is greater. In order, their fire danger ranking scheme is: **LOW, MODERATE, HIGH, VERY HIGH, AND EXTREME**. According to CT DEEP Forestry, wildfire danger levels in the state were as follows for the month of September:

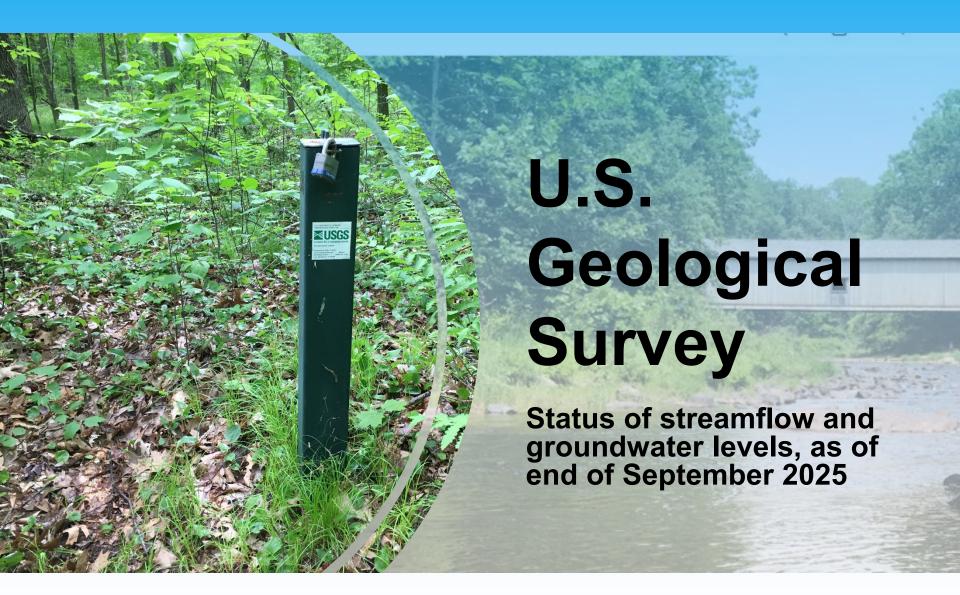
- 9/1/25 9/3/25: **MODERATE**
- 9/4/25: **HIGH**
- 9/5/25 9/6/25: **MODERATE**
- 9/7/25 9/8/25: **LOW**
- 9/9/25: MODERATE
- 9/10/25: **LOW**
- 9/11/25: **MODERATE**
- 9/12/25 9/13/25: **LOW**
- 9/14/25 9/23/25: **MODERATE**
- 9/24/25 9/27/25: **LOW**
- 9/28/25 9/29/25: **MODERATE**
- 9/30/25 10/1/25: **HIGH**

Stage 2 Drought Trigger Summary by Region – October 1, 2025

The state of Connecticut is not currently experiencing an official drought stage per the <u>State Drought Preparedness and Response Plan</u> and the professional judgement of the Interagency Drought Workgroup. The following table was prepared for the purpose of relaying information and is not intended to solely indicate whether a drought stage has been or will be declared.

	Stage 2 Trigger	Fairfield	Hartford	Litchfield	Middlesex	New Haven	New London	Tolland	Windham	Date of Record
	Two-month total below	61% of	86% of	80% of	62% of	58% of	73% of	92% of	84% of	
Precipitation (1)	65% of normal (average)	normal	normal	normal	normal	normal	normal	normal	normal	9/30/2025
								0% of	16.7% of	
		40% of	20% of	25% of	83.3% of	15.4% of	20% of	stations	stations	
	Two out of three months	stations meet	stations meet	stations meet	stations	stations	stations	meet	meet	
Groundwater (2)	below the 25th percentile	trigger	trigger	trigger	meet trigger	meet triggger	meet trigger	trigger	trigger	9/30/2025
								0% of	0% of	
		18.2% of	18.2% of	0% of	75% of	40% of	20% of	stations	stations	
	Two out of three months	stations meet	stations meet	stations meet	stations	stations	stations	meet	meet	
Streamflow (3)	below the 25th percentile	trigger	trigger	trigger	meet trigger	meet trigger	meet trigger	trigger	trigger	9/30/2025
	Average levels less than	92.43% of	95% of	100.6% of	89% of	85.83% of	86% of		100% of	
Reservoirs (4)	80% of normal	normal	normal	normal	normal	normal	normal	n/a	normal	9/26/2025
Palmer Drought Severity Index		(0.0±0.0)	(0 0 +- 0 0)	(0 0 +- 0 0)	(0 0 +- 0 0)	(0 0 to 0 0)	(0 0 +- 0 0)	(0 0+- 0 0)	(0 0+- 0 0)	
(5)	(-2.0 to -2.99)	(0.9 to -2.9)	(-0.9 to 0.9)	(-0.9 to 0.9)	(-0.9 to 0.9)	(-0.9 to 0.9)	(-0.9 to 0.9)	(-0.9 to 0.9)	(-0.9 to 0.9)	9/27/2025
Crop Moisture Index (6)	(-1.0 to -1.99)	(-0.9 to 0.9)	(-0.9 to 0.9)	(-0.9 to 0.9)	(-0.9 to 0.9)	(-0.9 to 0.9)	(-0.9 to 0.9)	(-0.9 to 0.9)	(1.0to 1.9)	9/27/2025
VegDRI (seasonal) (7)	Pre-Drought Conditions	Pre-Drought Conditions	Near Normal to Pre- Drought Conditions	Near Normal	Near Normal to Pre-Drought Conditions	Pre-Drought Conditions	Near Normal	Near Normal	Near Normal	9/28/2025
Fire Danger (8)	Moderate	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	10/1/2025
U.S. Drought Monitor (9)	Intensity Level D1-D2	D0	D0	D0	D0 - D1	D0 - D1	D0 - D1	D0	D0	9/23/2025

			Drought	Drought
		Drought trigger met across	trigger	trigger not
Key	:	majority of region	partially met	met





		Number of wells below	Number of wells below normal for 2 out of last	Number of wells below normal for 4 or more consecutive	Percent below	Percent	Percent
Name	Total	normal	3 months	months	normal	stage 2	stage 3
Fairfield	10	6	4	0	60	40	0
Hartford	10	3	2	0	30	20	0
Litchfield	4	2	1	0	50	25	0
Middlesex	6	6	5	0	100	83.3	0
New Haven	13	3	2	0	23.1	15.4	0/
New London	5	2	1	0	40	20	9//
Tolland	12	1	0	0	8.3	0	//8
Windham	6	3	1	0	50	16.7	/// 9/

END OF SEPTEMBER 2025 GROUNDWATER SUMMARY BY COUNTY



		Number of	Number of streamgages	Number of streamgages			
		streamgages	below normal	below normal	Percent		
		below	for 2 out of last	for 4 out of	below	Percent	Percent
Name	Total	normal	3 months	last 5 months	normal	stage 2	stage 3
Fairfield	11	2	2	. 0	18.2	18.2	0
Hartford	11	6	2	0	54.5	18.2	0
Litchfield	10	5	0	0	50	0	0
Middlesex	4	3	3	0	75	75	0
New Haven	5	3	2	. 0	60	40	0
New London	5	1	1	. 0	20	20	0/
Tolland	1	0	0	0	0	0	9 //
Windham	9	0	0	0	0	0	//0

SEPTEMBER 2025 STREAMFLOW SUMMARY BY COUNTY



September 2025 Connecticut Precipitation

National Weather Service Offices Boston/Norton MA, Albany NY, Upton NY

Preliminary Precipitation Data (inches) by County

Precipitation Data through September 2025 Includes CoCoRaHS data Includes StageIV Data

CT 1-Month Sep 2025

County	Rainfall	Departure	Percent	Normal
Fairfield	2.87	-1.73	62	4.60
Hartford	3.62	-0.89	80	4.51
Litchfield	3.21	-1.48	68	4.69
Middlesex	2.79	-1.83	60	4.62
New Haven	2.88	-1.63	64	4.51
New London	3.40	-1.05	76	4.45
Tolland	3.76	-0.60	86	4.36
Windham	3.92	-0.26	94	4.18

CT 2-Month Aug 25-Sep25

County	Rainfall	Departure	Percent	Normal
Fairfield	5.56	-3.51	61	9.07
Hartford	7.50	-1.27	86	8.77
Litchfield	7.53	-1.94	80	9.47
Middlesex	5.50	-3.41	62	8.91
New Haven	5.03	-3.70	58	8.73
New London	6.30	-2.32	73	8.62
Tolland	7.97	-0.70	92	8.67
Windham	7.05	-1.35	84	8.40

CT 3-Month Jul 25-Sep25

County	Rainfall	Departure	Percent	Normal
Fairfield	9.20	-4.15	69	13.35
Hartford	11.69	-1.30	90	12.99
Litchfield	11.66	-2.45	83	14.11
Middlesex	8.13	-4.63	64	12.76
New Haven	8.19	-4.53	64	12.72
New London	9.12	-3.07	75	12.19

Tolland	12.71	0.00	100	12.71	
Windham			95	12.32	

CT 4-Month Jun 25-Sep25

County	Rainfall	Departure	Percent	Normal
Fairfield	11.97	-5.89	67	17.86
Hartford	14.00	-3.44	80	17.44
Litchfield	14.80	-3.99	79	18.79
Middlesex	9.87	-7.26	58	17.13
New Haven	10.14	-6.95	59	17.09
New London	10.95	-5.33	67	16.28
Tolland	15.13	-2.17	87	17.30
Windham	13.98	-2.68	84	16.66

CT 5-Month May 25-Sep25

County	Rainfall	Departure	Percent	Normal
Fairfield	18.56	-3.29	85	21.85
Hartford	22.04	0.79	104	21.25
Litchfield	22.32	-0.50	98	22.82
Middlesex	18.06	-2.89	86	20.95
New Haven	18.07	-3.00	86	21.07
New London	19.17	-0.78	96	19.95
Tolland	22.68	1.72	108	20.96
Windham	22.71	2.50	112	20.21

CT 6-Month Apr 25-Sep25

County	Rainfall	Departure	Percent	Normal
Fairfield	21.75	-4.40	83	26.15
Hartford	25.63	0.09	100	25.54
Litchfield	26.09	-0.69	97	26.78
Middlesex	21.32	-4.31	83	25.63
New Haven	21.17	-4.57	82	25.74
New London	22.78	-1.70	93	24.48
Tolland	26.57	1.37	105	25.20
Windham	26.73	2.06	108	24.67

CT 7-Month Mar 25-Sep25

County	Rainfall	Departure	Percent	Normal	
Fairfield	25.88	-4.56	85	30.44	
Hartford	29.58	-0.16	99	29.74	
Litchfield	29.62	-1.21	96	30.83	
Middlesex	25.49	-4.77	84	30.26	
New Haven	25.47	-4.81	84	30.28	

New London	27.25	-2.01	93	29.26
Tolland	30.49 1.06		104	29.43
Windham	30.69	1.49	105	29.20

CT 12-Month Oct 24-Sep25

County	Rainfall	Departure	Percent	Normal	
Fairfield	39.02	-11.51 77		50.53	
Hartford	41.16	-9.08	82	50.24	
Litchfield	41.98	-8.86	83	50.84	
Middlesex	39.43	-12.06	77	51.49	
New Haven	38.59	-12.70	75	51.29	
New London	42.10	-7.99	84	50.09	
Tolland	42.96	-6.25	87	49.21	
Windham	44.41	-5.40	89	49.81	

CT 24-Month Oct 23-Sep25

County	Rainfall	Departure	Percent	Normal
Fairfield	103.58	2.41	102	101.17
Hartford	100.25	-0.35	100	100.60
Litchfield	100.99	-0.79	99	101.78
Middlesex	103.43	0.33	100	103.10
New Haven	103.91	1.21	101	102.70
New London	104.84	4.54	105	100.30
Tolland	101.33	2.80	103	98.53
Windham	107.18	7.44	107	99.74

CT 36-Month Oct 22-Sep25

County	Rainfall	Departure	Percent	Normal
Fairfield	163.17	11.47	108	151.70
Hartford	164.06	13.22	109	150.84
Litchfield	163.22	10.60	107	152.62
Middlesex	162.68	8.09	105	154.59
New Haven	163.75	9.76	106	153.99
New London	162.41	12.02	108	150.39
Tolland	166.23	18.49	113	147.74
Windham	172.19	22.64	115	149.55

How This Report Was Generated

Monthly precipitation totals by County are derived through a blend of observational data and gridded analysis techniques. Precipitation observations from multiple regional networks—including the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS), the National Weather Service Cooperative Observer Program (COOP), and

Automated Surface Observing Systems (ASOS)—are first quality-controlled and then interpolated to two separate grids using distinct methodologies:

- Barnes Interpolation, a smoothing technique that accounts for the spatial distribution of observations
- Inverse Distance Weighting (IDW), which estimates values based on proximity to known observations

These two interpolated grids are then combined with NOAA's Stage IV precipitation analysis, a radar- and gauge-based dataset produced operationally by the National Weather Service. The three grids are averaged to produce a final observed precipitation field.

Using this gridded product, spatial averaging is performed over each County polygon to compute region-specific monthly totals through geographic information system (GIS) techniques.

Monthly precipitation normals (long-term averages) for each County are sourced directly from the NOAA Stage IV climatology dataset.

Note: COOP and ASOS stations are official National Weather Service observation networks. CoCoRaHS is a volunteer-driven network that provides high-resolution, local-scale precipitation reports.

PWSID	PWS Name	Most Recent Reading Date	Percent Full	Current Status	Trend	Historical Average	Percent of Normal	Previous Date	Previous Percent Full	County_Served
CT1030011	Norwalk First Taxing District	9/21/2025	58.00	No Drought Stage	↓	71.30	81	9/14/2025	62.20	FAIRFIELD
CT0150011	Aquarion Water Co of CT-Main System	9/14/2025	68.40	No Drought Stage	↓	82.20	83	9/7/2025	71.10	FAIRFIELD
CT1030021	South Norwalk Electric & Water	9/22/2025	58.70	No Drought Stage	↓	63.90	92	9/15/2025	61.60	FAIRFIELD
CT1350011	Aquarion Water Co of CT-Stamford	9/14/2025	65.90	No Drought Stage	\downarrow	70.70	93	9/7/2025	68.40	FAIRFIELD
CT0570011	Aquarion Water Co of CT-Greenwich Systen	9/14/2025	67.90	No Drought Stage	<u> </u>	70.30	97	9/7/2025	69.60	FAIRFIELD
CT0340011	Danbury Water Department	9/21/2025	76.70	No Drought Stage	1	78.80	97	9/14/2025	79.00	FAIRFIELD
CT0090011	Bethel Water Dept	9/14/2025	97.80	No Drought Stage	<u> </u>	94.20	104	9/7/2025	98.70	FAIRFIELD
CT1310011	Southington Water Department	9/20/2025	46.20	No Drought Stage	<u> </u>	63.80	72	9/13/2025	51.70	HARTFORD
CT0170011	Bristol Water Department	9/21/2025	72.70	Approaching Trigger Level	<u></u>	79.80	91	9/14/2025	75.30	HARTFORD
CT0890011	New Britain Water Department	9/25/2025	63.30	Approaching Trigger Level	<u> </u>	66.60	95	9/18/2025	65.70	HARTFORD
CT0473011	CTWC - Northern Reg-Western System	9/10/2025	77.60	No Drought Stage	<u></u>	78.20	99	9/3/2025	79.20	HARTFORD
CT0770021	Manchester Water Department	9/14/2025	87.90	No Drought Stage	↑	82.70	106	9/7/2025	84.60	HARTFORD
CT0640011	Metropolitan District Commission	9/21/2025	92.50	No Drought Stage	<u> </u>	86.40	107	9/14/2025	93.40	HARTFORD
CT1220011	Aquarion Water Co of CT-Salisbury Sys	9/14/2025	69.90	No Drought Stage	<u> </u>	87.70	80	9/7/2025	73.90	LITCHFIELD
CT0980011	Aquarion Water Co of CT-Norfolk System	9/14/2025	95.50	No Drought Stage	↓	97.40	98	9/7/2025	96.40	LITCHFIELD
CT1620011	Winsted Water Works	9/21/2025	93.40	No Drought Stage	↓	93.90	100	9/7/2025	96.40	LITCHFIELD
CT1250011	Sharon Water & Sewer Commission	9/6/2025	100.00	No Drought Stage		96.10	104	8/30/2025	100.00	LITCHFIELD
CT1430011	Torrington Water Company	9/14/2025	90.20	No Drought Stage	<u> </u>	74.50	121	9/7/2025	90.60	LITCHFIELD
CT0830011	Middletown Water Department	9/21/2025	60.80	No Drought Stage	<u> </u>	75.60	80	9/14/2025	62.40	MIDDLESEX
CT0261031	CTWC - Shoreline Region-Chester System	9/11/2025	79.10	No Drought Stage	^	86.00	92	9/10/2025	78.30	MIDDLESEX
CT0830021	Connecticut Valley Hospital	9/15/2025	87.30	No Drought Stage	<u> </u>	91.40	95	9/8/2025	88.40	MIDDLESEX
CT0608011	CTWC - Shoreline Region-Guilford System	9/11/2025	54.40	No Drought Stage	↓	74.10	74	9/10/2025	54.50	NEW HAVEN
CT0880011	CTWC - Naugatuck Region-Central System	9/11/2025	63.10	No Drought Stage	↓	84.20	75	9/10/2025	63.10	NEW HAVEN
CT0800011	Meriden Water Division	9/14/2025	68.50	No Drought Stage	↓	81.10	84	9/7/2025	70.80	NEW HAVEN
CT0930011	Regional Water Authority	9/21/2025	70.00	No Drought Stage	^	74.60	94	9/14/2025	65.40	NEW HAVEN
CT1510011	Waterbury Water Department	9/7/2025	79.70	No Drought Stage	1	84.80	94	8/31/2025	79.90	NEW HAVEN
CT0930011	Regional Water Authority	9/21/2025	70.00	No Drought Stage	<u> </u>	74.60	94	9/14/2025	72.50	NEW HAVEN
CT1480011	Wallingford Water Department	8/16/2025	82.90	No Drought Stage	<u> </u>	80.90	102	8/9/2025	85.20	NEW HAVEN
CT1370011	Aquarion Water Co of CT-Mystic	9/14/2025	55.80	No Drought Stage	<u> </u>	82.20	68	9/7/2025	60.00	NEW LONDON
CT0580011	Jewett City Water Company	8/25/2025	65.80	No Drought Stage	1	84.70	78	8/18/2025	73.50	NEW LONDON
CT0950011	New London Dept. of Public Utilities	9/21/2025	55.20	No Drought Stage	<u> </u>	62.40	88	9/7/2025	60.60	NEW LONDON
CT1040011	Norwich Public Utilities	9/20/2025	76.20	Water Supply Advisory	Ψ	81.00	94	9/13/2025	79.30	NEW LONDON
CT0590011	Groton Utilities	9/15/2025	80.30	No Drought Stage	V	83.50	96	9/8/2025	82.00	NEW LONDON
CT1630011	Windham Water Works	9/21/2025	100.00	No Drought Stage		100.00	100	9/14/2025	100.00	WINDHAM
			74.46			80.58	92.41		Ave Percent of Normal by Co	ounty
↑1 ↓	-Increase since last measurement (less than 10% increase) -Increase since last measurement (10% or greater increase) -Decrease since last measurement (less than 10% decrease) -Decrease since last measurement (10% or greater decrease) - Same measurement as the previous measurement			Number of systems: Greater than or equal to 100% of Norm Between 90% and 99% of Normal Less than 90% of Normal At 100% Full	nal		15 11 2			92.43 FAIRFIELD 95.00 HARTFORD 100.60 LITCHFIELD 89.00 MIDDLESEX 85.83 NEW HAVEN 86.00 NEW LONDON

100.00 WINDHAM