Drought Information Statement for Southeast Georgia and Northeast Florida

Valid April 25, 2025

Issued By: National Weather Service Jacksonville, FL
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- This product will be updated May 2, 2025 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/jax/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.

- Severe to extreme drought now across parts Flagler and Marion Counties.
- Recent warm and dry conditions have led to rapid deterioration of drought conditions.
- Little to no rainfall is expected over the next several days.

U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor for southeast GA and North FL

- Severe to extreme drought has developed across northeast Florida, mainly in Marion and Flagler Counties.
- Keep in mind that rainfall that fell after 7 AM ET Tuesday is not accounted for in this week's drought monitor.

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** across southeast Marion County, FL
  - **D2 (Severe Drought):** across Central Marion County, FL eastward into Flagler County, FL
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** across the remainder of Marion County, FL eastward through southeastern Putnam County, FL and into southern St Johns County, FL
  - **D0 (Abnormally Dry):** across the remainder of the Jacksonville forecast area.

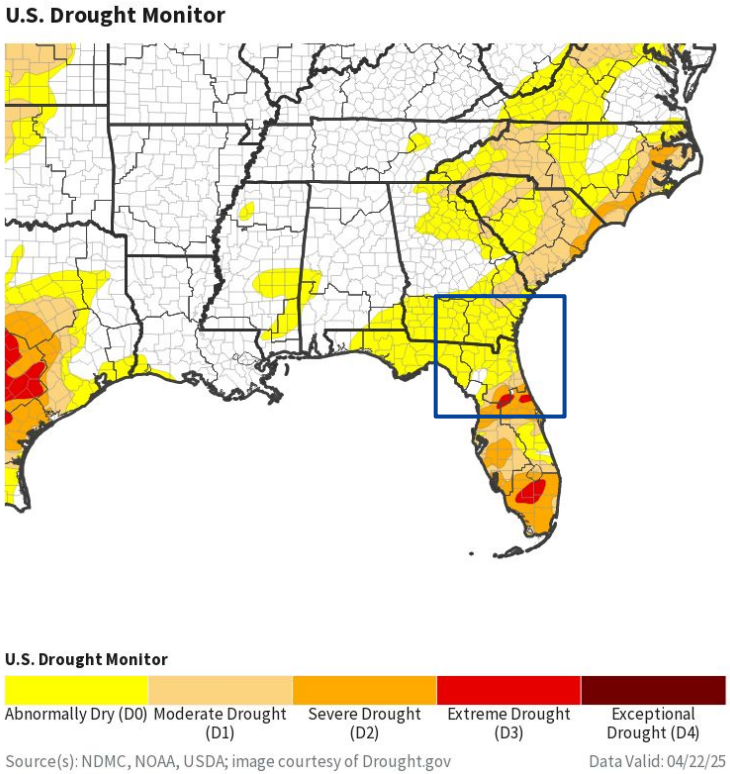


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid April 22, 2025

Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest 1-week change map for southeast GA and North FL

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change:
  - **Drought Worsened:** across much of Southeastern Georgia and Northeastern Florida.
  - **Drought Improved:** No portion of the area has shown improvement.
  - **No Change:** Along the Altamaha River Basin in Southeast Georgia and the lower Santa Fe Basin in Northeast Florida.

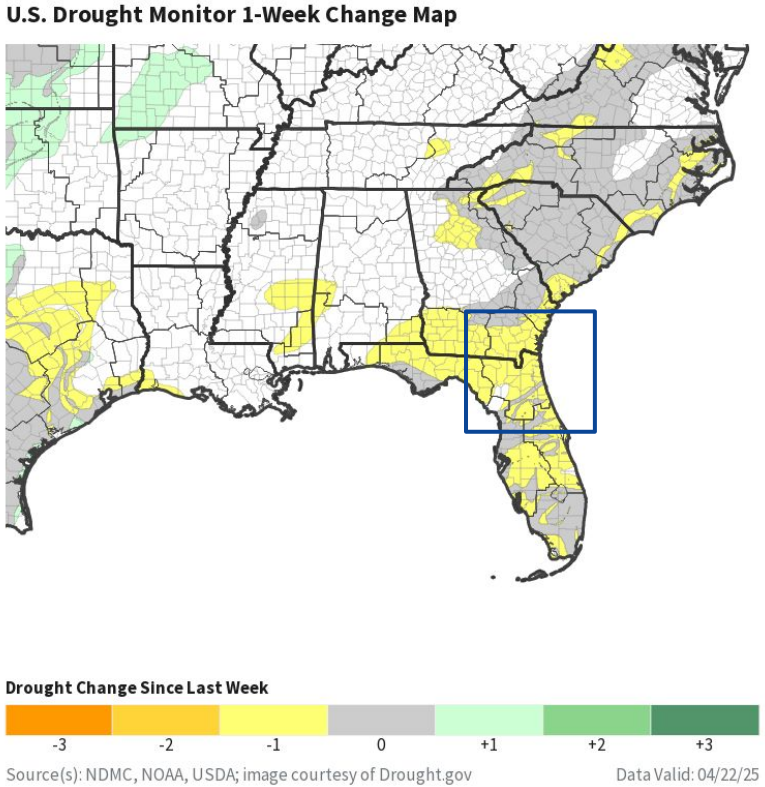


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 1-week change map valid April 22, 2025

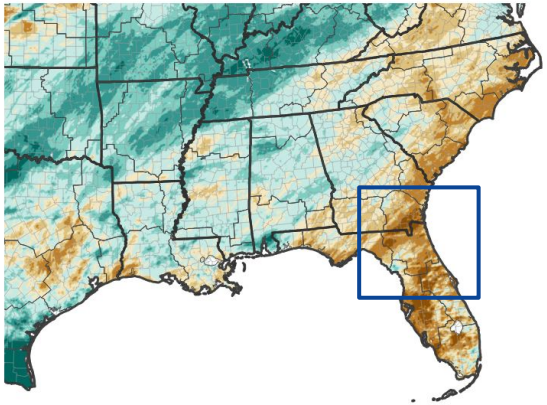
Precipitation

Note: Precipitation after 7 AM EST/6 AM CST Tuesday is incorporated in next week's Drought Monitor

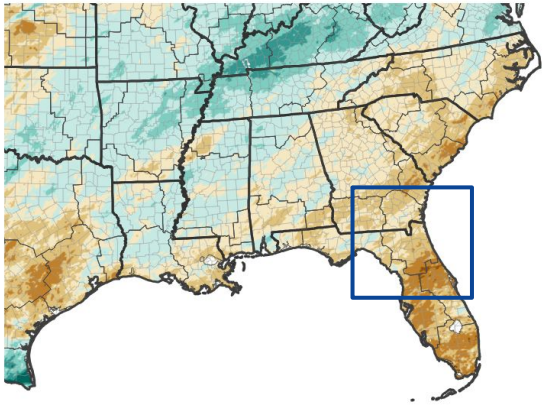
	Last 30 Days		Last 45 Days	
	Rainfall	Percent	Rainfall	Percent
Jasper	0.55”	14.1%	1.12”	18.3%
Live Oak	0.97”	25.7%	1.32”	21.3%
Ichetucknee St.	1.86”	49.3%	2.03”	32.8%
Fanning Springs	2.60”	86.6%	4.35”	92.3%
Baxley	2.57”	73.9%	3.34”	58.6%
Alma	2.20”	70.4%	2.92”	56.8%
Waycross	1.56”	47.7%	2.04”	39.4%
Lake City	1.32”	35%	1.77”	30.3%
Alachua	2.28”	78.9%	2.78”	60.7%
Gainesville	3.47”	121%	3.47”	91.5%
Ocala	0.76”	30%	1.11”	25.7%
Ocklawaha	0.63”	25.3%	1.13”	26.5%
Nahunta	1.56”	44.6%	5.24”	94.6%
Starke	1.55”	57.7%	1.86”	44.2%
Woodbine	0.27”	32.1%	1.19”	24.4%
Jacksonville	1.49”	49.9%	1.57”	34.3%

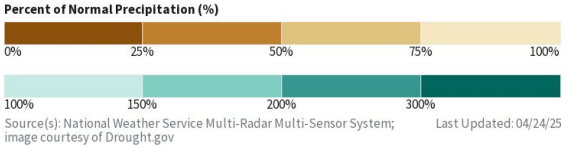
Data Courtesy:
NWS Observations
University of Florida - Florida Automated Weather Network
University of Georgia Weather Network
Suwannee River Water Management District

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



90-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation





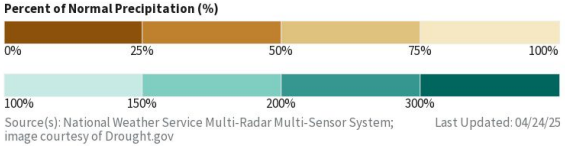
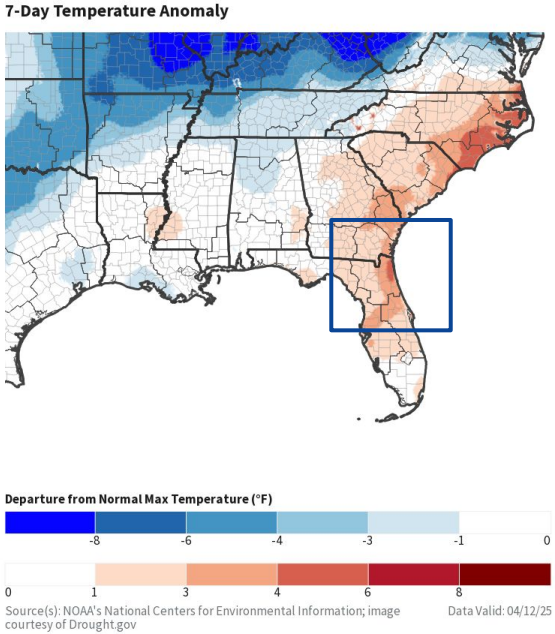


Image Captions:
Left - 30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation for the Southeast US
Right - 90-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation for the Southeast US
Data Courtesy NWS Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System.
Data over the past 30 and 90 days ending April 24, 2025

Temperature

- Temperatures have been on a warming trend over the last week
- For the month of April, temperatures were much above normal at the first of the month and have been trending above normal over the last 7 days.

	April 1 - April 24	
	Average High (Departure)	Average Low (Departure)
Jacksonville	83.7° (+4.5°)	58.3° (+2.6°)
Craig Field	81.6° (+3.3°)	59.9° (+2.7°)
Ocala	86.4° (+3.1°)	58.7° (+1.9°)
Gainesville	85.2° (+4.4°)	58.1° (+3.2°)
Alma	81.8° (+2.8°)	55.2° (+2.6°)



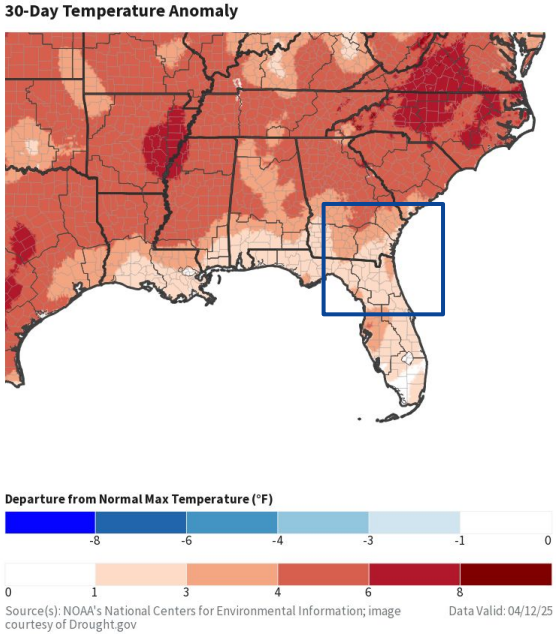


Image Captions:
Left - 7-Day Departure from Normal High Temperatures for the Southeast US
Right - 30-Day Departure from Normal High Temperature for the Southeast US
Data ending April 24, 2025

Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- While most rivers remain at above normal flow over the last 14-28 days, some localized low flow conditions are already present in the upper Santa Fe Basin and in the Black Creek Basin.
- Real time flow conditions are trending below normal across the entire area due to lack of rainfall.

Agricultural Impacts

- Florida: none reported last 7 days
- Georgia: none reported last 7 days

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Keetch-Byram Drought Index values in the 400-600 range in Marion, Putnam, and Flagler Counties. Values decrease into the 200-400 range (highest south) while moving into Southeast Georgia.
- A county burn ban is in effect for Flagler County.
- Several active wildfires are present in Northeast Florida, especially in Putnam and Flagler Counties.

Mitigation Actions

- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.

Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflows across the Altamaha River remain at normal levels for this time of year.
- Lower end normal to below normal conditions are appearing in streamflows across the Upper Santa Fe Basin and Black Creek Basin.
- Over the near term, non-tidal river levels are expected to continue decreasing with the lack of widespread heavy rainfall.

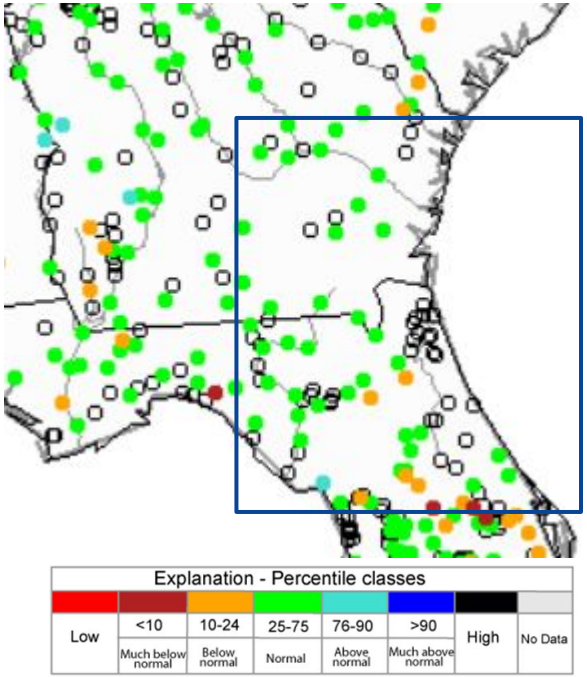


Image Caption: USGS 28 day average streamflow map valid April 24, 2025

Agricultural Impacts

- Soils are quite dry across southeast Georgia and northeast Florida.
- Soils have been drying across the majority of our area given the hot, dry conditions recently.

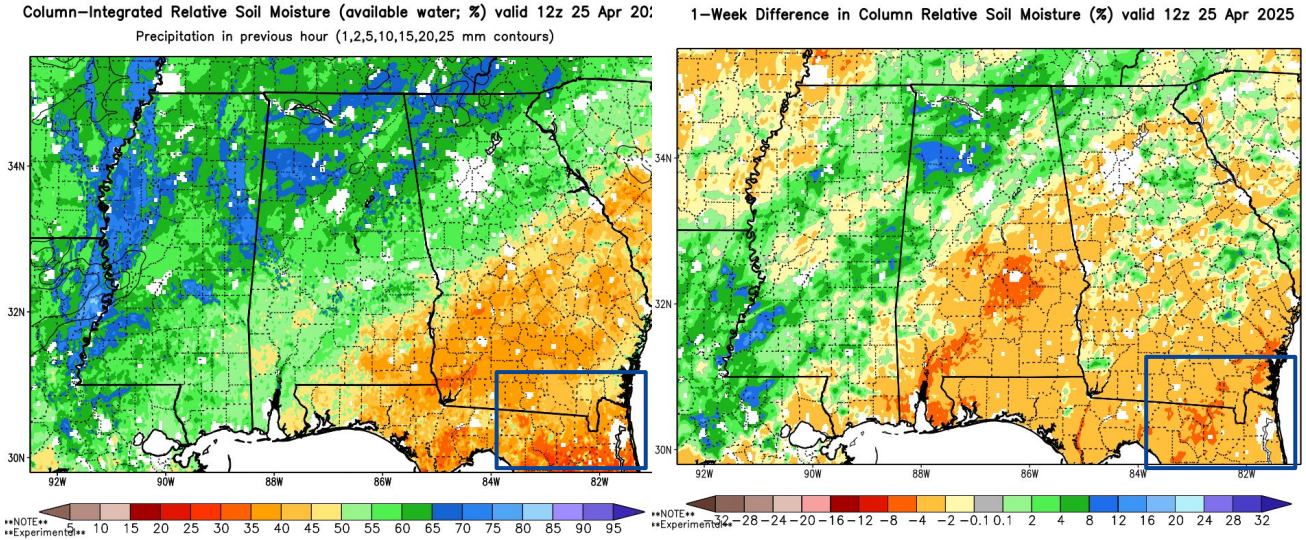


Image Captions:
Left: 0-200 cm Relative Soil Moisture from NASA SPoRT valid April 25, 2025
Right: 0-200 cm Relative Soil Moisture 1-week Change from NASA SPoRT valid through April 25, 2025

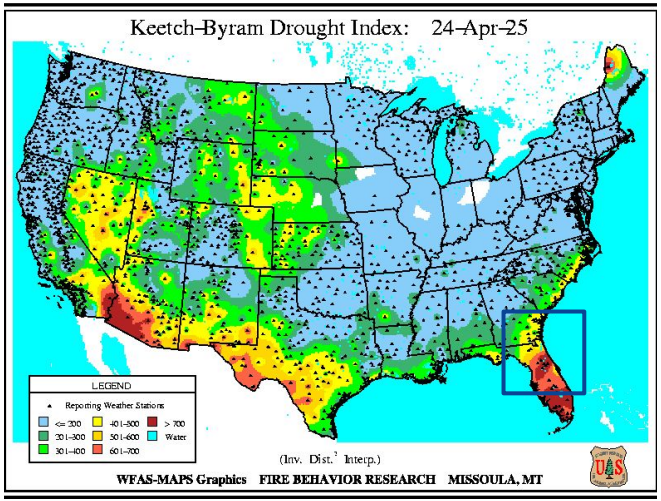
2025 Crop Reports
Florida | Georgia

Fire Hazard Impacts

Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center.]

- Keetch-Byram Drought Index values are increasing across the region and are highest in Marion, Putnam, and Flagler County where localized spots are above 600. Values decrease into the 200-400 range (highest south) across the forecast area.
- The outlook for May calls for above normal wildfire potential across Northeast Florida and Coastal SE Georgia

[7-Day Significant Fire Potential Outlook from the Southern Area Coordination Center]



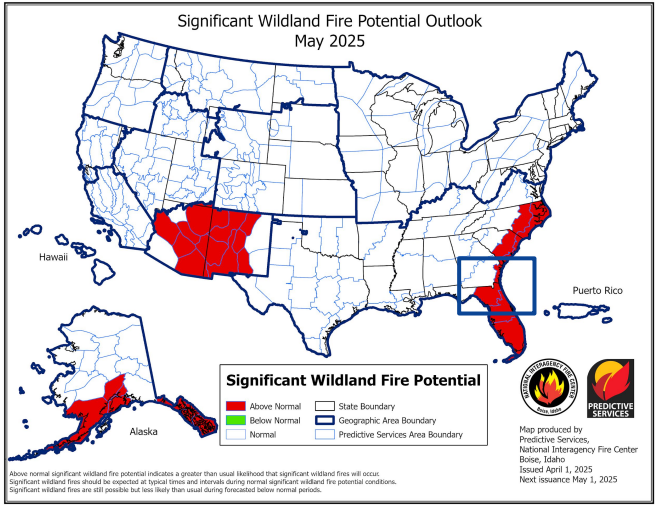


Image Captions:
Left - Keetch-Byram Drought Index valid April 24, 2025 (Wildland Fire Assessment System)
Right - Significant Wildland Fire Potential for May 2025 (National Interagency Coordination Center)

Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Isolated showers and thunderstorms are possible late this weekend and into early next week, however, widespread heavy rainfall is not expected.
- Most areas will likely remain rain-free through the next seven days.

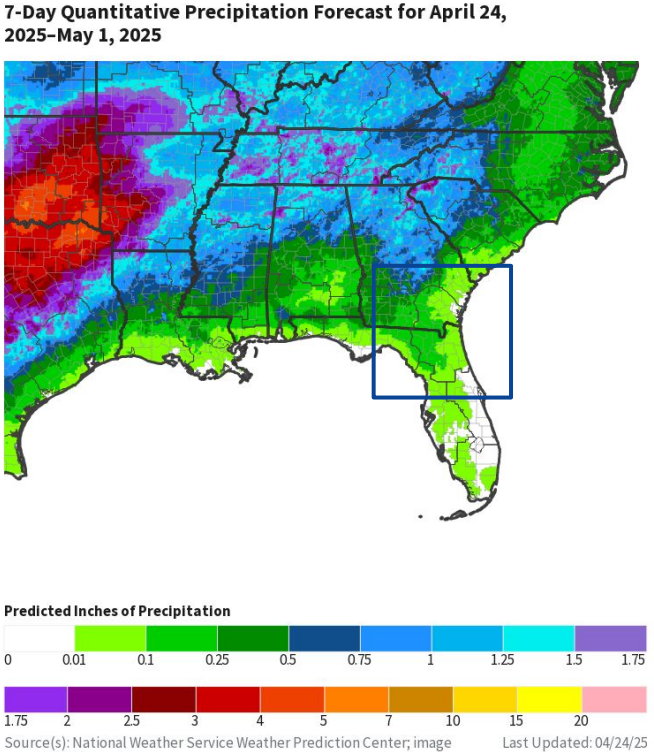


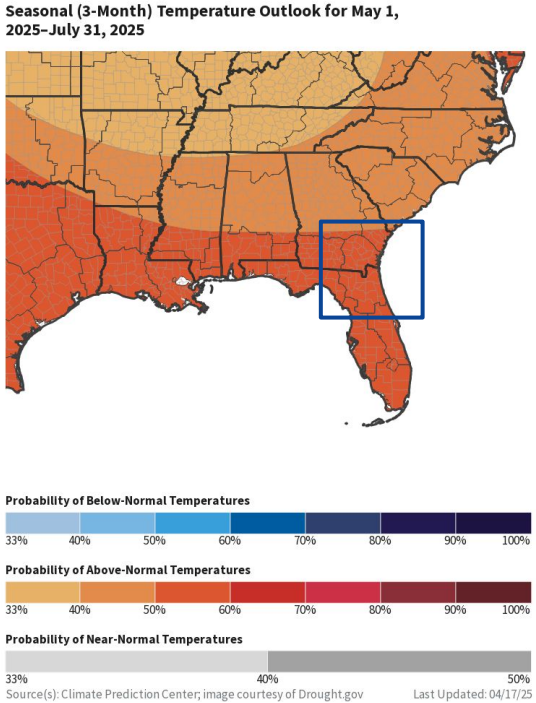
Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center 7-day precipitation forecast valid Thursday, April 24 through May 1, 2025

Long-Range Outlooks

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

- The next 3 months favor above normal temperatures and slightly above normal precipitation. This increased precipitation signal is likely tied to start of the summer seabreeze season in June, which starts the rainy season in SE Georgia and NE Florida.

	May		June		July	
Average	Temp	Rain	Temp	Rain	Temp	Rain
Jacksonville	74.9°	3.42”	80.3°	7.60”	82.5°	6.77”
Craig Field	74.4°	3.04”	79.9°	6.28”	82.2°	6.14”
Ocala	76.4°	3.53”	80.7°	7.41”	82.1°	6.94”
Gainesville	75.0°	3.08”	79.9°	7.56”	81.4°	6.68”
Alma	74.2°	2.78”	80.0°	5.34”	82.4°	5.23”



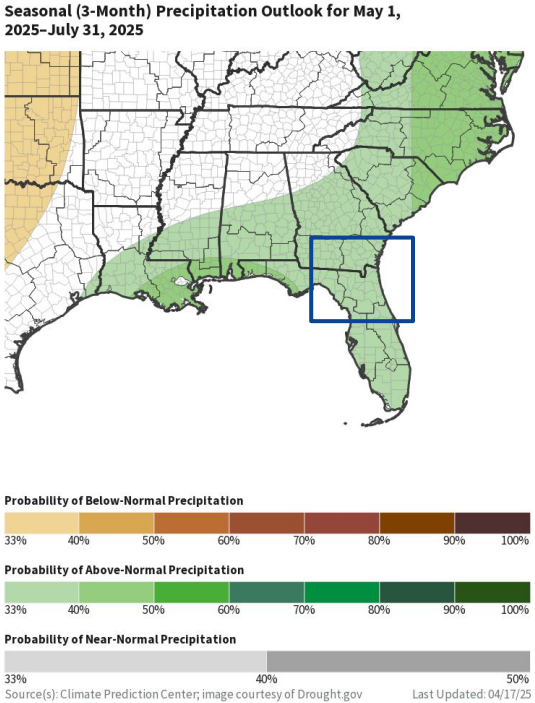


Image Captions:
Left - Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Temperature Outlook.
Right - Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Precipitation Outlook.
Valid May 2025 through July 2025

Drought Outlook

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

- Through May, drought is expected to persist or even worsen across the region.
- With the expected start of the rainy season in June, drought improvement is indicated by the end of July.

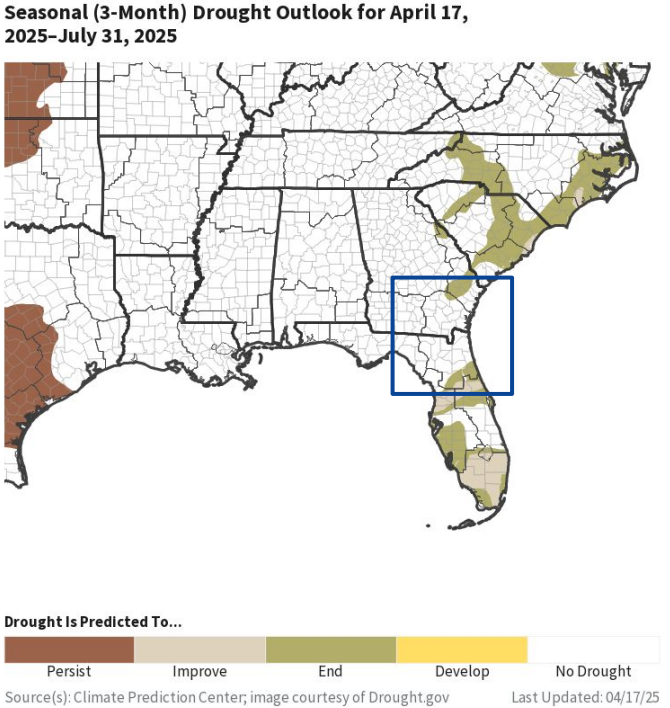


Image Caption:
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook Released April 17 valid for April 17, 2025 through July 31, 2025

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