



# Drought Information Statement for Southeast Georgia and Northeast Florida

Valid May 9, 2025

Issued By: National Weather Service Jacksonville, FL

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- This product will be updated May 23, 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 continues across parts Flagler and Marion Counties.
  - Recent warm and dry conditions have led to rapid deterioration of drought conditions across Northeast Florida.
  - Widespread moderate to locally heavy rainfall this weekend through May 13.



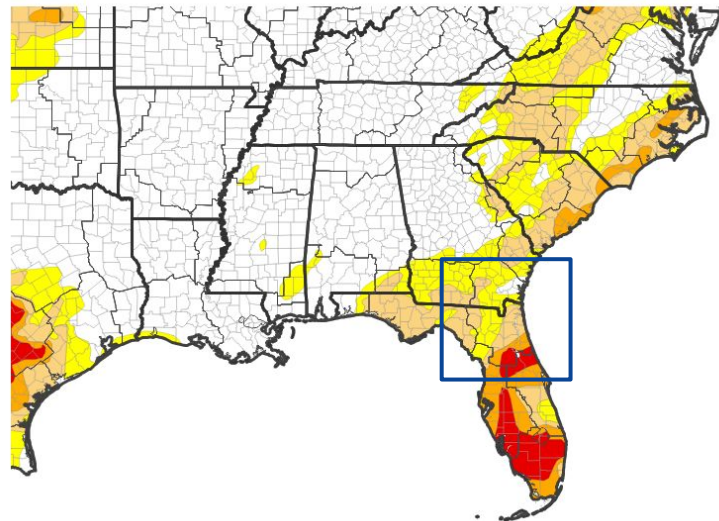


# U.S. Drought Monitor

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 eastern Marion County, FL and Southern Flagler County, FL
  - **D2 (Severe Drought):** across Western Marion County, FL eastward into Southern St Johns County, FL
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** across eastern Alachua County, FL northeastward into Nassau County, FL. Another area in Hamilton and Suwannee Counties in Florida.
  - **D0 (Abnormally Dry):** across most of the remainder of the Jacksonville forecast area.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 05/06/25

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid May 6, 2025



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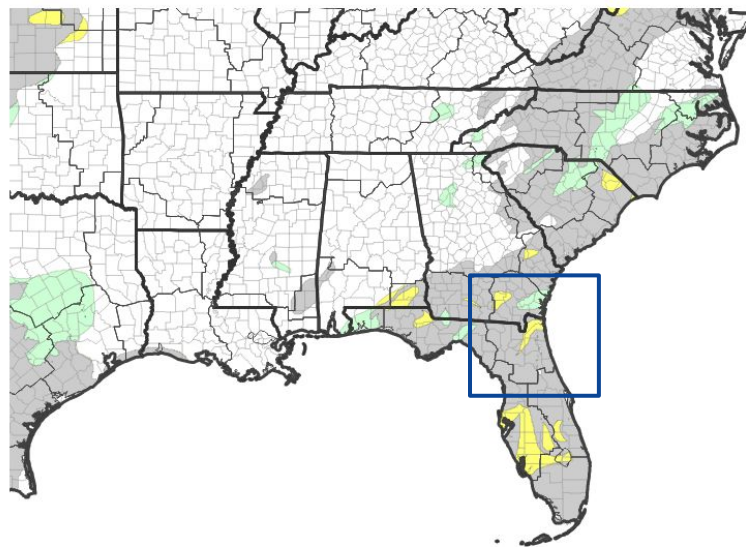


# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

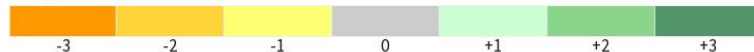
Link to the latest [1-week change map](#) for southeast GA and North FL

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change:
  - **Drought Worsened:** across portions of Northeast Florida in the JAX metro.
  - **Drought Improved:** Some slight improvement has occurred across coastal SE Georgia.
  - **No Change:** Across much of the Jacksonville forecast area.

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: 05/06/25

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 1-week change map valid May 6, 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	0.96"	25.5%	1.32"	22.1%
Live Oak	2.39"	68.3%	2.95"	49.8%
Ichetucknee St.	1.62"	46.3%	2.97"	49.8%
Fanning Springs	2.24"	77.2%	4.76"	103.3%
Baxley	3.47"	107.1%	4.72"	86.5%
Alma	2.69"	93.1%	3.43"	69.9%
Waycross	1.19"	38.0%	1.85"	36.7%
Lake City	0.99"	27.1%	1.99"	34.8%
Ocala	1.31"	57.8%	1.71"	42.3%
Ocklawaha	0.51"	23.0%	0.97"	24.3%
Nahunta	2.06"	61.5%	2.94"	54.5%
Starke	0.59"	22.7%	1.76"	42.7%
Jacksonville	1.10"	42.6%	1.52"	33.6%

Data Updated through May 3, 2025.

Data Courtesy:

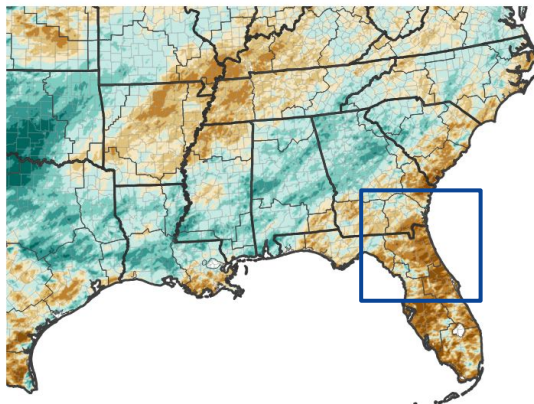
NWS Observations

University of Florida - Florida Automated Weather Network

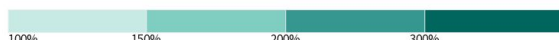
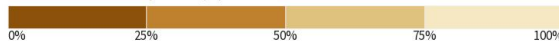
University of Georgia Weather Network

Suwannee River Water Management District

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



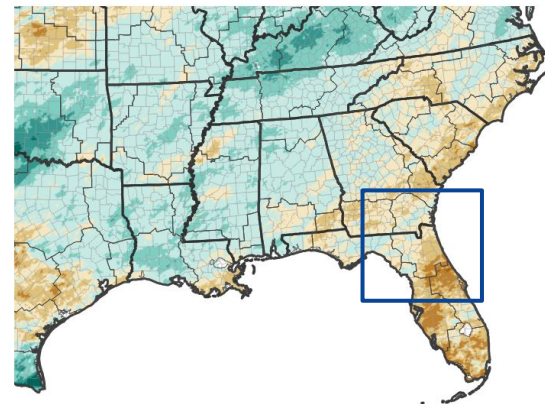
Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



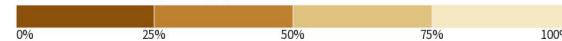
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System;  
image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 05/08/25

90-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System;  
image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 05/08/25

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 May 6, 2025



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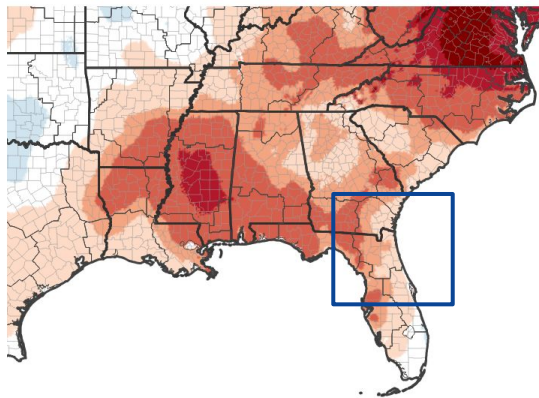


# Temperature

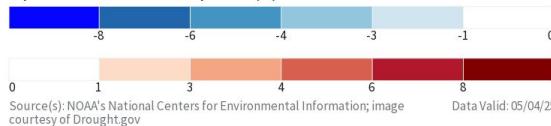
- Temperatures have been on a warming trend over the last week
- For the month of April, temperatures were much above normal at the first of the month and have been trending above normal over the last 7 days.

	April 1 - April 30	
	Average High (Departure)	Average Low (Departure)
Jacksonville	84.1° (+4.3°)	59.3° (+2.9°)
Craig Field	82.0° (+3.1°)	60.9° (+3.1°)
Ocala	87.1° (+3.1°)	59.2° (+1.8°)
Gainesville	86.1° (+4.6°)	58.8° (+3.3°)
Alma	82.4° (+2.7°)	56.3° (+3.0°)

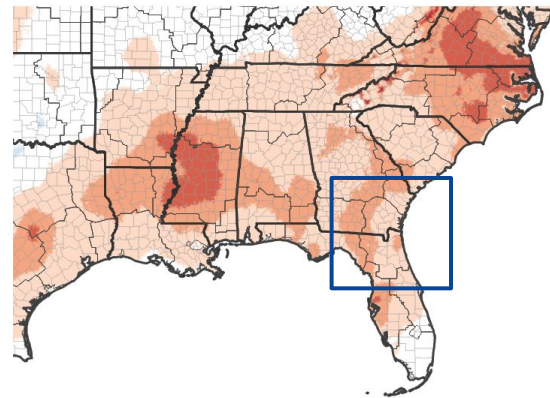
7-Day Temperature Anomaly



Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)

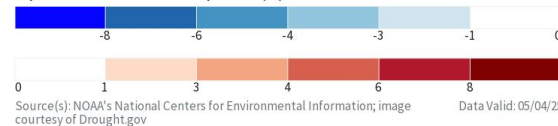


Image Captions:  
Left - 7-Day Departure from Normal High Temperatures for the Southeast US  
Right - 30-Day Departure from Normal High Temperature for the Southeast US  
Data ending May 4, 2025





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- While most rivers are at 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. Low flows are also present near Ocala on the Ocklawaha River.
- 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 450-650 range in Marion, Putnam, and Flagler Counties. Values decrease into the 250-450 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 County.

## Mitigation Actions

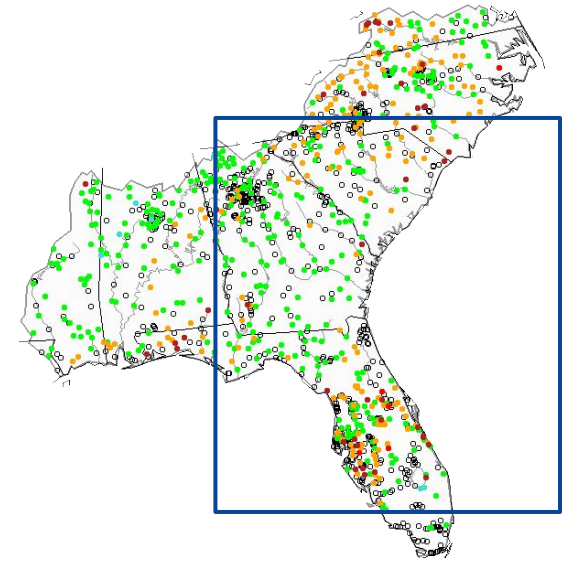
- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.





# 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 stream flows across the Upper Santa Fe Basin, Black Creek Basin, and Ocklawaha River.
- Over the near term, non-tidal river levels are expected to continue decreasing with the lack of widespread heavy rainfall.



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

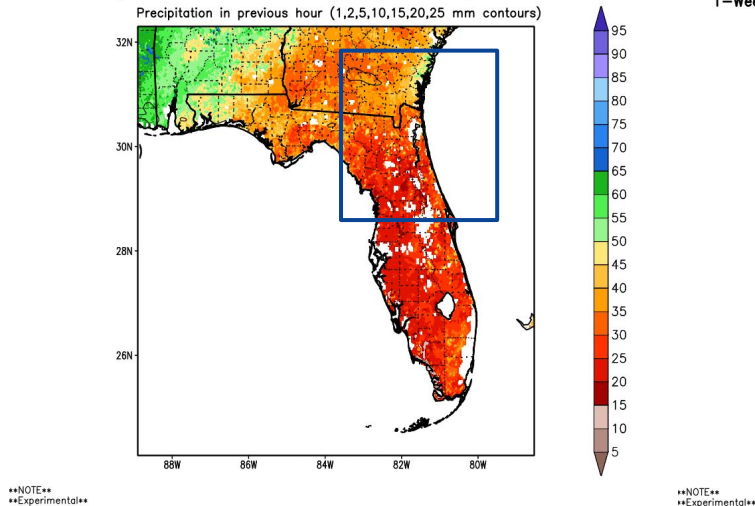
Image Caption: USGS 28 day average streamflow map valid April 24, 2025



# 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.
- Localized improvement has occurred in soils along the NE Florida coast due to recent seabreeze activity.

Column-Integrated Relative Soil Moisture (available water; %) valid 12z 09 May 2025



1-Week Difference in Column Relative Soil Moisture (%) valid 12z 09 May 2025

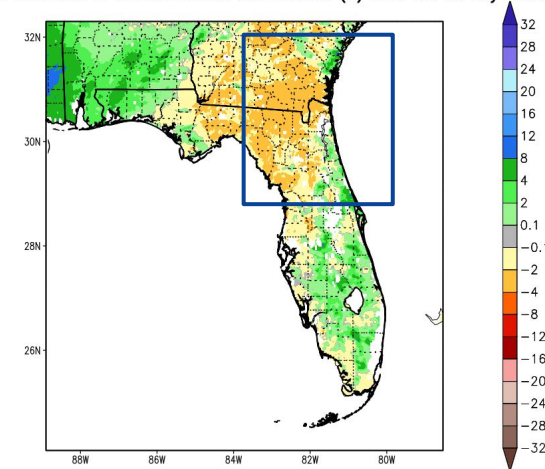


Image Captions:

Left: 0-200 cm Relative Soil Moisture from NASA SPoRT valid May 9, 2025

Right: 0-200 cm Relative Soil Moisture 1-week Change from NASA SPoRT valid through May 9, 2025

## 2025 Crop Reports

[Florida](#) | [Georgia](#)



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# 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 650. Values decrease into the 250-450 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

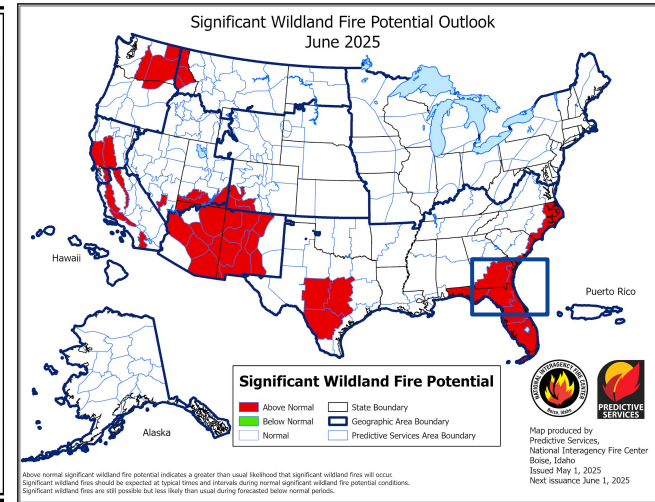
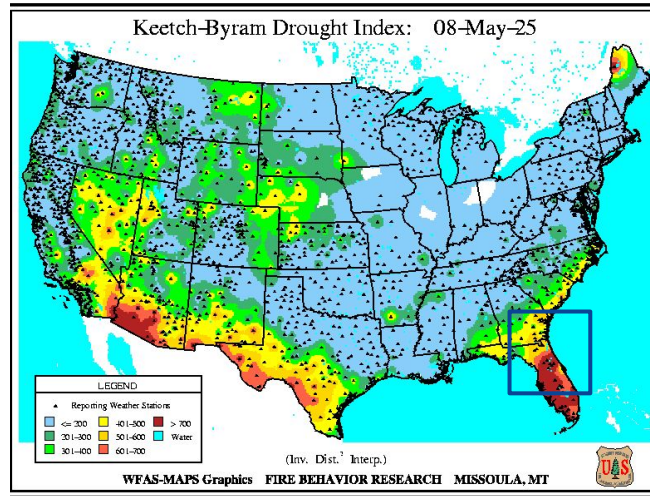


Image Captions:

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)



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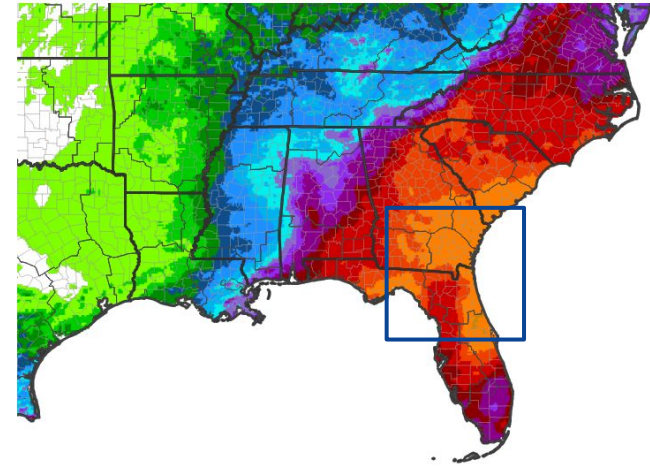
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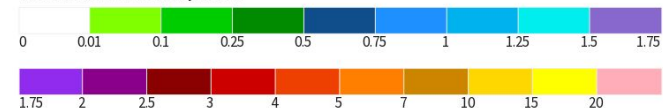
# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Widespread moderate to locally heavy rainfall is expected across the region starting the weekend of May 10th and continuing through May 13th.
- Some locations could receive 5 to 7 inches of rainfall with isolated heavier totals up to 10 inches possible.
- This rainfall, if it occurs, could greatly improve drought conditions across the region.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for May 8, 2025–May 15, 2025



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image

Last Updated: 05/08/25

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





# Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

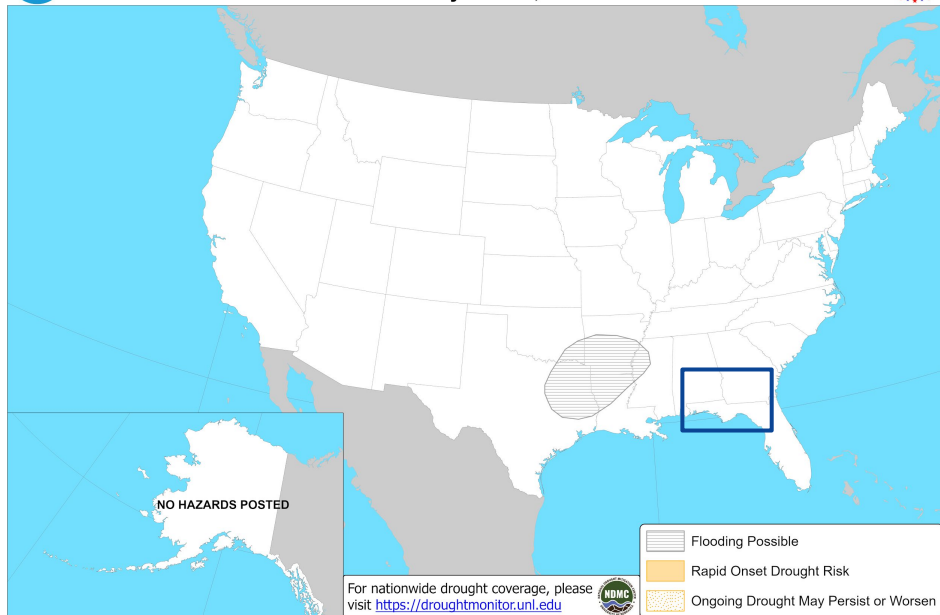
Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- There is some risk of Rapid Onset Drought in our southeast Alabama counties due to



## Days 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook

Valid: May 16 - 22, 2025



Climate Prediction Center

Released: May 8, 2025 3:00 PM EDT

Follow us:

[www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov)

Image Caption:  
[Days 8 to 14 U.S. Hazards Outlook](#) Valid September 12-18.



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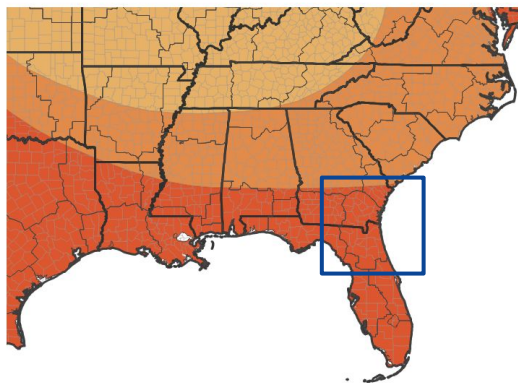
# Long-Range Outlooks

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.

Average	May		June		July	
	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"

Seasonal (3-Month) Temperature Outlook for May 1, 2025–July 31, 2025



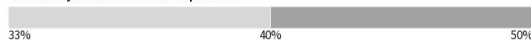
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



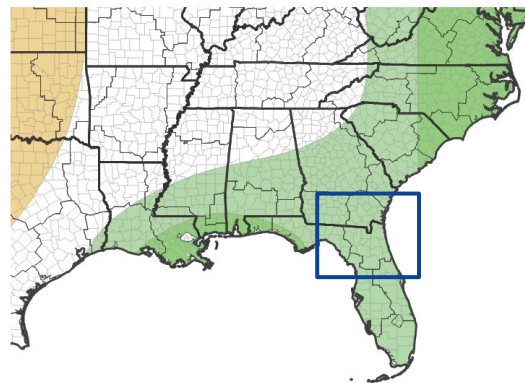
Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

Last Updated: 04/17/25

Seasonal (3-Month) Precipitation Outlook for May 1, 2025–July 31, 2025



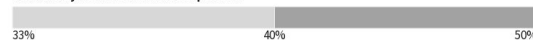
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 04/17/25

Image Captions:  
Left - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Temperature Outlook](#)  
Right - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Precipitation Outlook](#)  
Valid May 2025 through July 2025



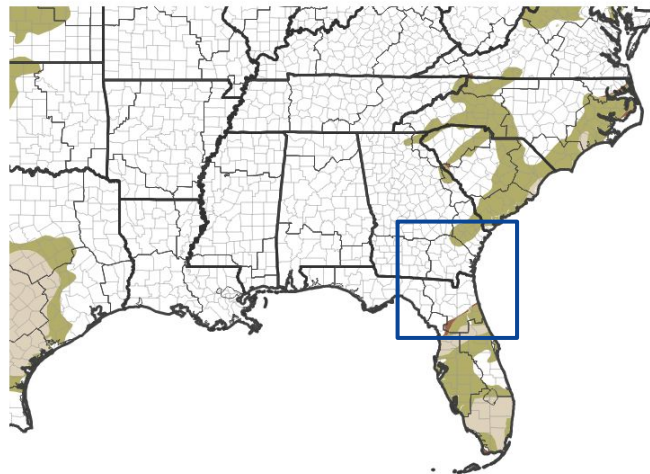


# Drought Outlook

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

- Through May, drought is expected to persist across the region.
- Some short term improvement is possible if the weekend rainfall from May 10-May 13 occurs.
- With the expected start of the rainy season in June, further drought improvement is indicated by the end of July.

**Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for April 30, 2025–July 31, 2025**



**Drought Is Predicted To...**



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

Last Updated: 04/30/25

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

Image Caption:  
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook Released April 17  
valid for April 30, 2025 through July 31, 2025



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