



Drought Information Statement for South Florida

02 20 2026

Issued By: NWS Miami-South Florida

Contact Information: sr-mfl.webmaster@noaa.gov

- Severe Drought has returned to a portion of South Florida.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/mfl/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.

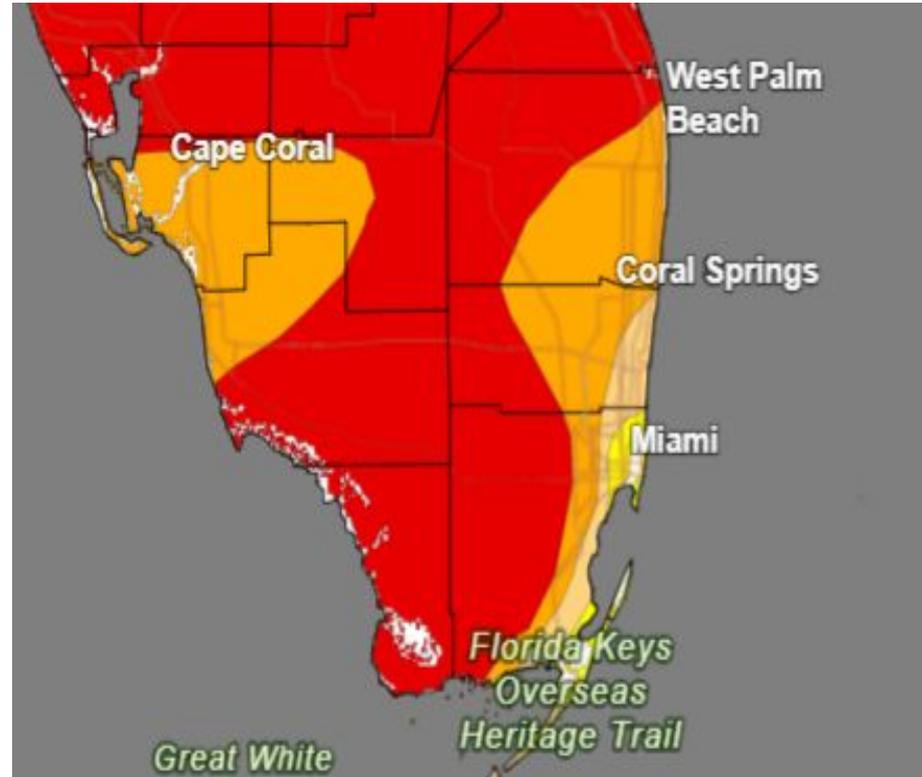
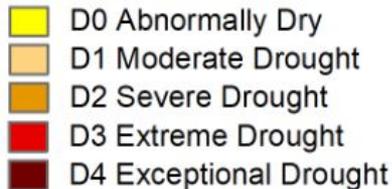




U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for South Florida

- Below-average rainfall continued across South Florida for the month of February 2026 thus far, which has resulted in a worsening of drought conditions across the region. Extreme Drought has expanded to include most of the interior areas and Lake Okeechobee region.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - D1 (Moderate Drought):** Metro Broward and metro Miami-Dade.
 - D2 (Severe Drought):** Metro Palm Beach and Metro Collier Counties.
 - D3 (Extreme Drought):** Interior South Florida and Lake Okeechobee region.



U.S. Drought Monitor valid 10AM EDT February 20th, 2026.





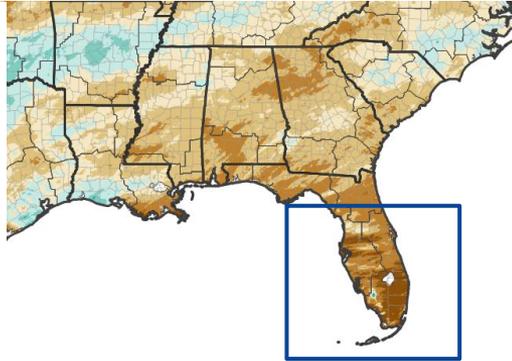
Precipitation

- Rainfall observed with the departure and percent of normal since November 1st, 2025

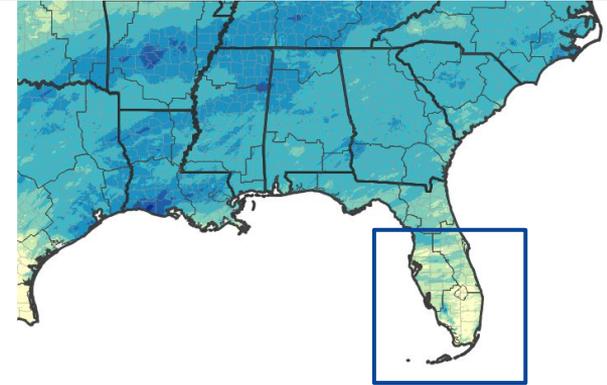
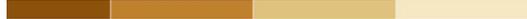
The following table gives the rainfall from November 1, 2025 to February 19th, 2026:

Airports:	Observed Rainfall	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Palm Beach Intl	1.88	-10.53	15%
Naples Municipal	2.25	-3.15	42%
Ft Lauderdale-Hollywood Intl	6.27	-4.85	56%
Miami Intl	4.20	-5.13	45%

Secondary Observation Sites	Observed Rainfall	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Moore Haven (Glades)	1.20	-5.68	17%
Opa Locka (Miami-Dade)	3.73	-5.09	42%
Homestead (Miami-Dade)	2.91	-4.52	39%
Hialeah (Miami-Dade)	6.00	-4.38	57%
Palm Beach Gardens (Palm Beach)	2.47	-10.38	19%
North Miami Beach (Miami-Dade)	4.33	-7.14	38%
Devils Garden (Hendry)	1.05	-6.25	14%



itation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions



Inches of Precipitation

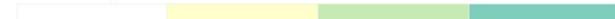


Image Captions:
 Left - Precipitation Amount for [area]
 Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation for [area]
 Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
 Data over the past 30 days ending February 19th, 2025





90 day Observed Precipitation & Rainfall Departure (Since 11/22/2025)

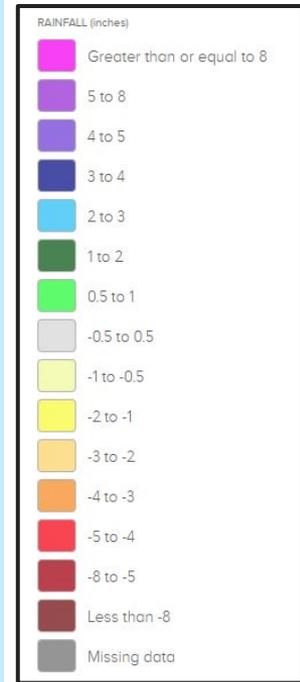
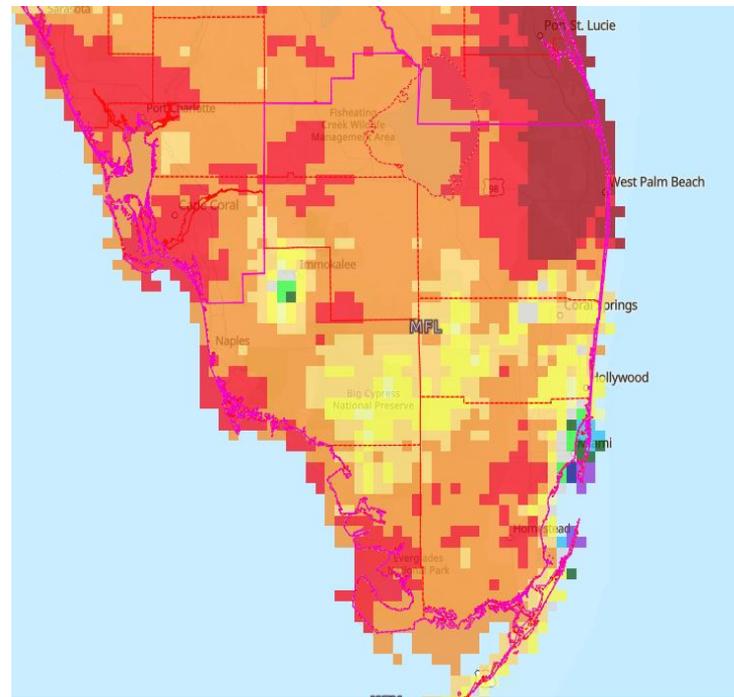
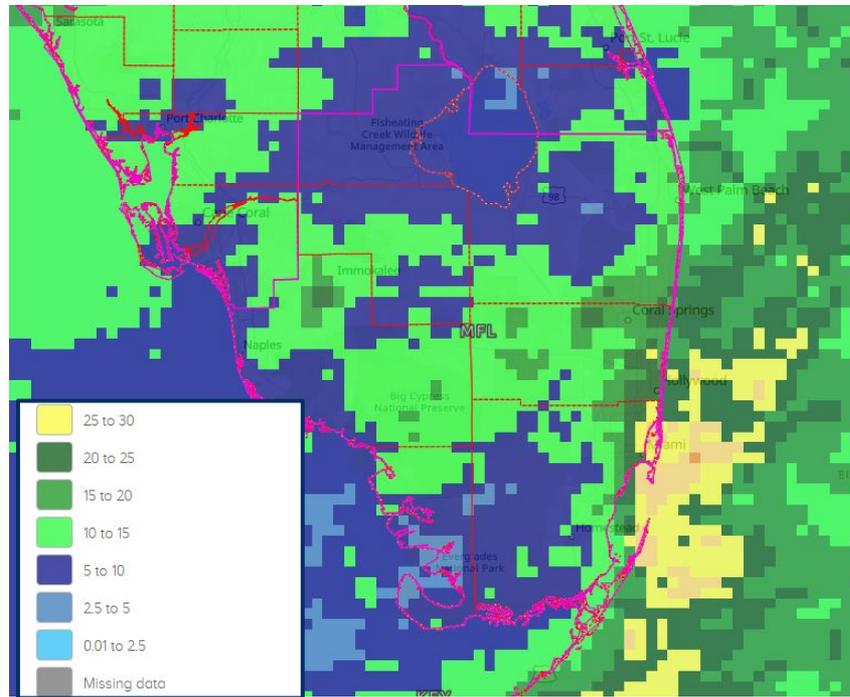


Image Captions:
Left - Precipitation since 11/22/25 To Date (Inches)
Right - Departure From Normal since 11/22/25 To Date (+/- Inches)



Hydrologic Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Lake Okeechobee level currently at 12.48 feet which is **-2.08 feet** below normal of 14.56 feet.
- Fisheating Creek is at 0.60 ft which is **-1.80 feet** below the normal level of 2.40 ft for this time of year.
- The underground level water conservation area 1 in Interior Palm Beach County is at 16.18 feet and it should be at 16.63 feet which is **-0.45 feet** below normal for this time of year.
- The Underground level water conservation area 2 in Interior Broward County is at 12.49 feet and its normal level is 11.00 feet which is **+1.49 feet** above normal for this time of year.
- The underground level water conservation area 3 in Interior Miami-Dade County is at 8.58 feet and its normal level is at 10.18 feet which is **-1.60 feet** below normal for this time of year.





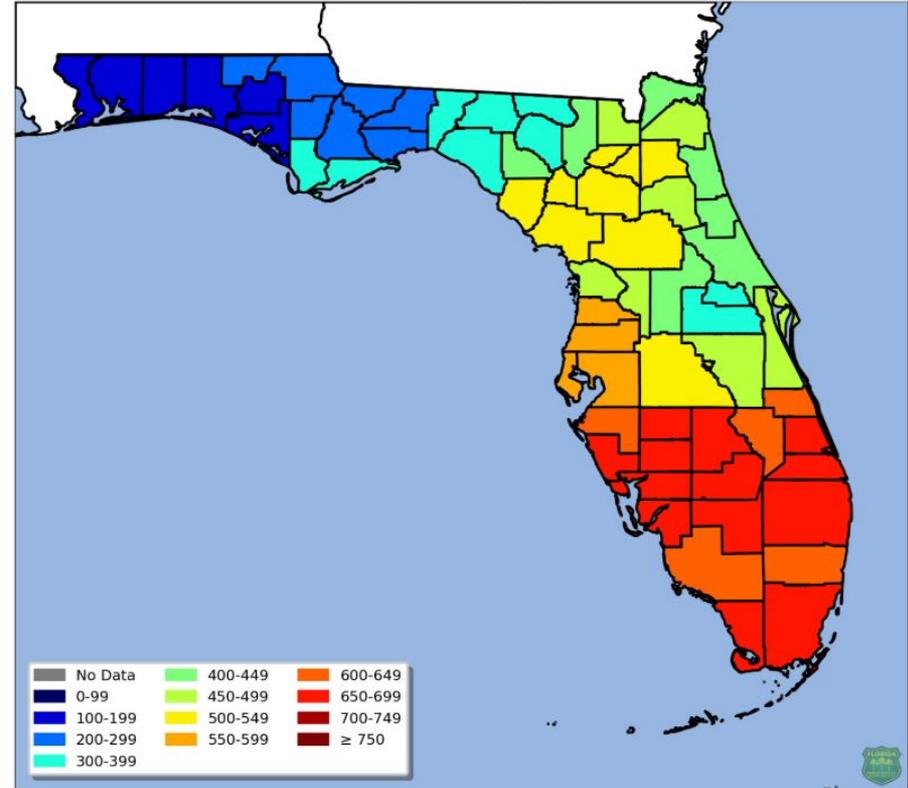
Fire Hazard Impacts

[Keetch-Byram Drought Index \(KBDI\)](#)

Fire Hazard Impacts

- KBDI index is 600 to 700 across all of South Florida.

KBDI Averages by County | Thu 02/19/26





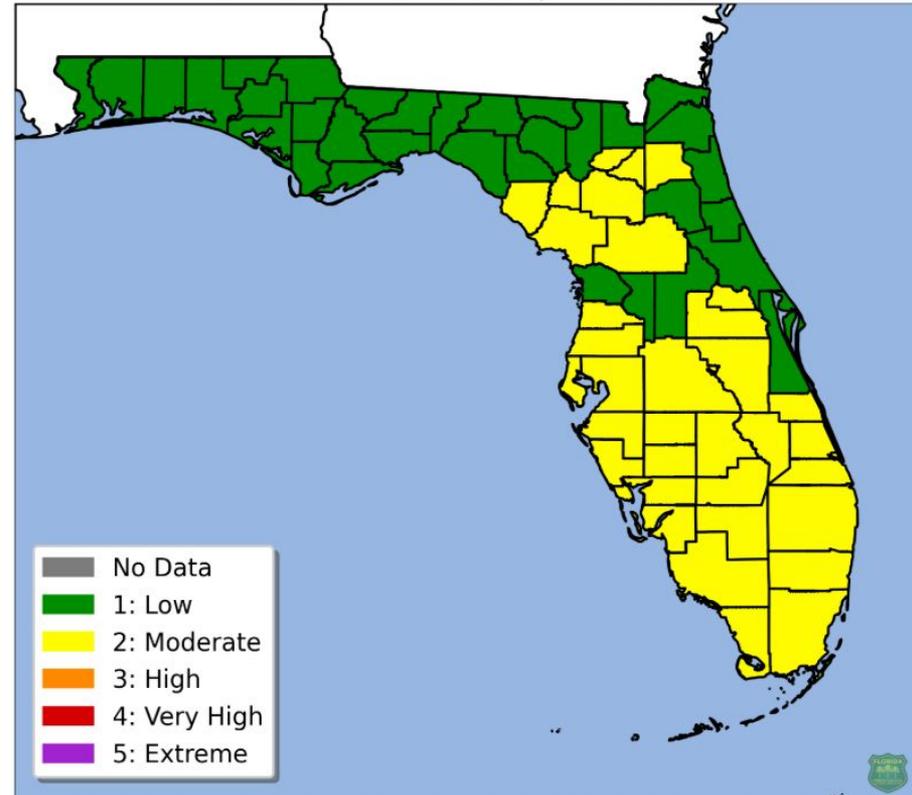
Fire Danger Matrix

[Fire Danger Risk](#)

Fire Danger Matrix

- A moderate fire (level 2 of 5) danger risk across all of South Florida.

Estimated Fire Danger | Fri 02/20/26



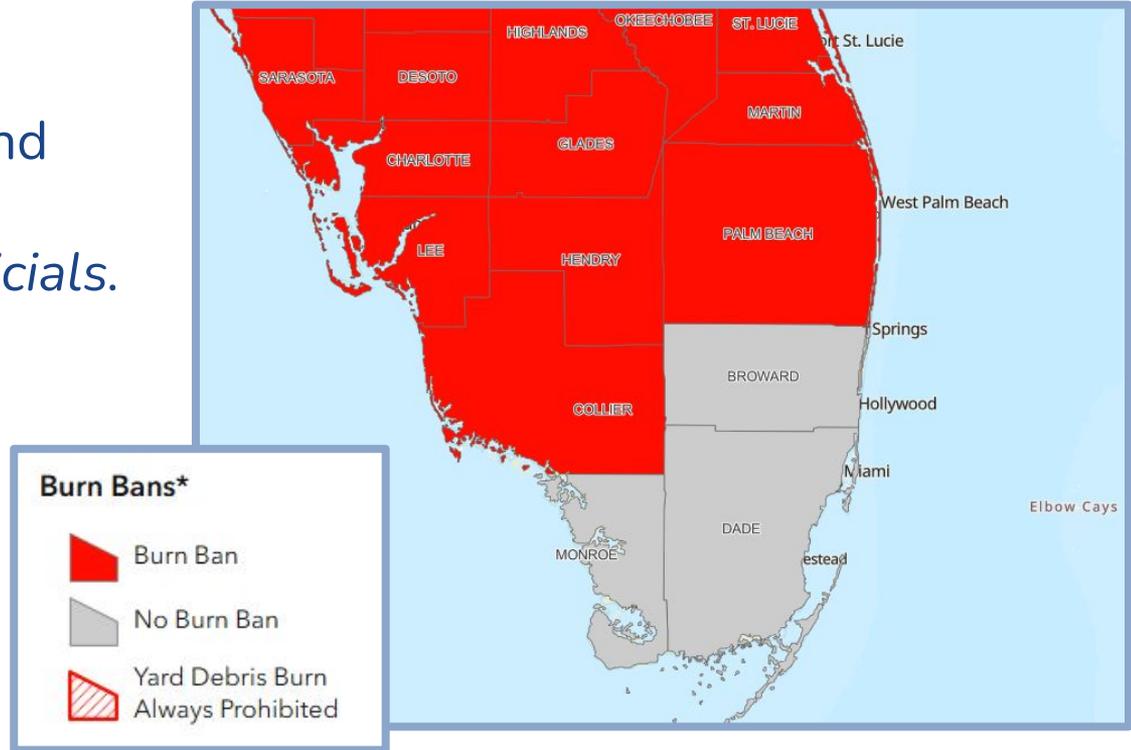


Burn Bans

Link: [County Burn Bans](#)

Current Burn Bans

- Collier, Hendry, Glades, and Palm Beach Counties.
- *Issued by local county officials.*





Water Shortage Warnings

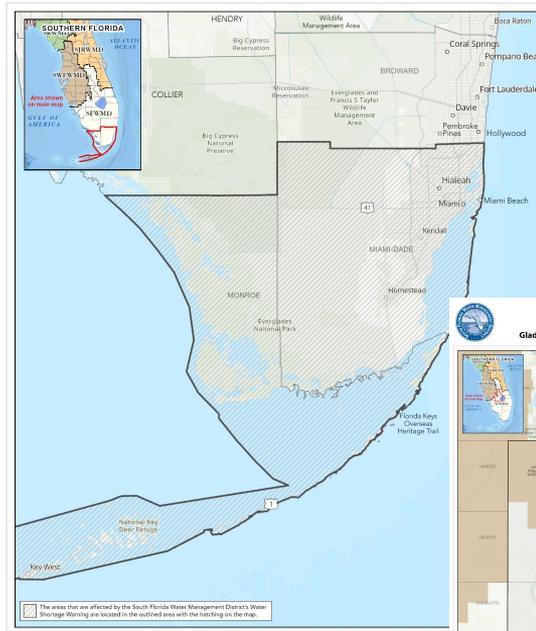
Link: [South Florida Water Management District Water Shortage Page](#)

Water Shortage Warnings

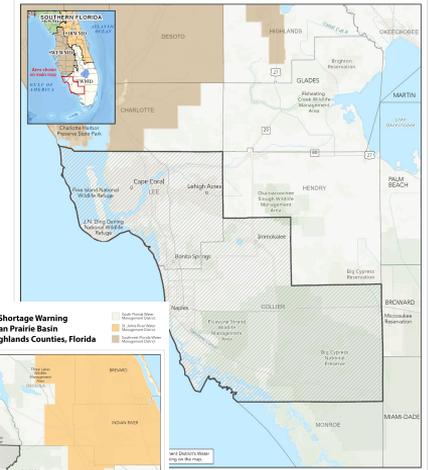
- Collier, Glades, Miami-Dade Counties
- Issued by the South Florida Water Management District.



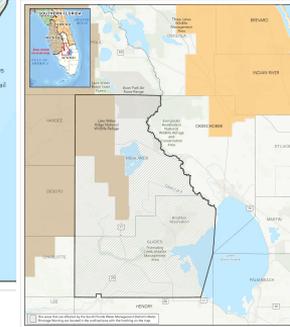
**Water Shortage Warning
Biscayne Aquifer
Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties, Florida**



**Water Shortage Warning
Lower Tamiami Aquifer
Collier and Lee Counties, Florida**



**Water Shortage Warning
Indian Prairie Basin
Glades and Highlands Counties, Florida**





Soil Moisture

- Soil moisture over South Florida is running below normal.
- South Florida is running at 1 to 5 percentile.

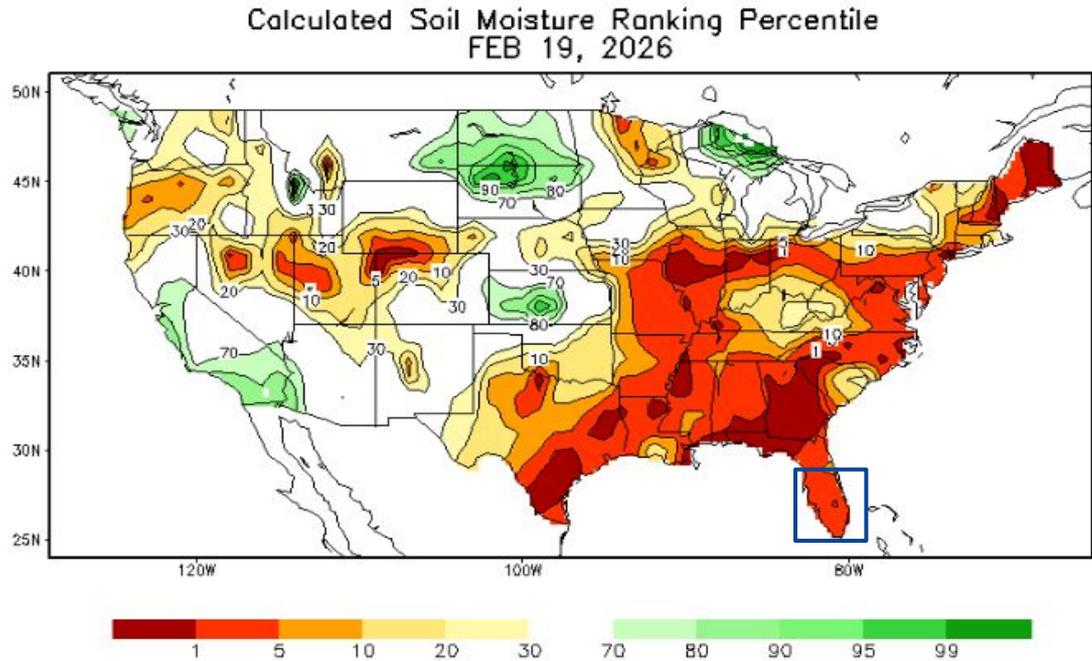


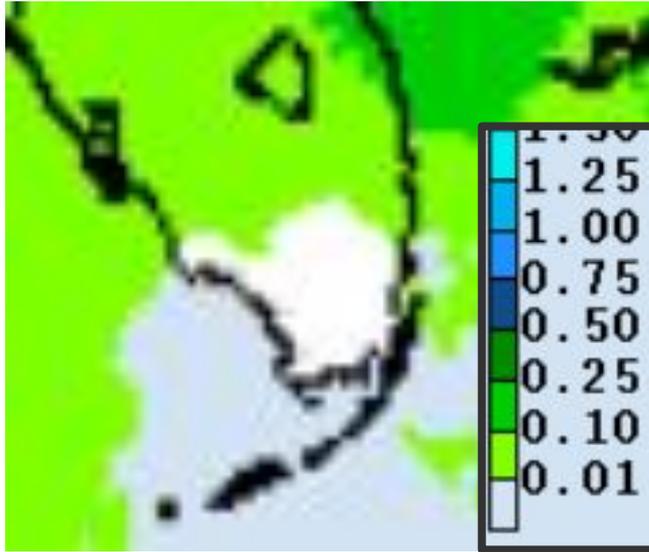
Image Captions:
CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#)
valid February 19th, 2026



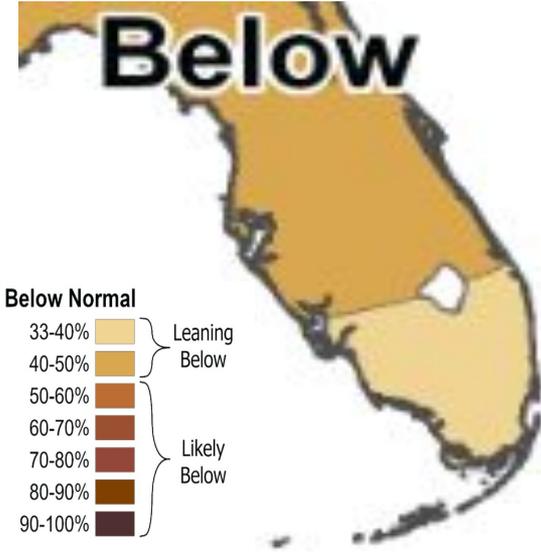


Precipitation Outlook

- Rainfall accumulations across the region will mostly remain below 0.10 inches through February 27th.
- CPC's [March monthly precipitation outlook](#) is forecast to be 33 to 40 percent below normal.



7 day rainfall total from February 20th through February 27th, 2026



Rainfall outlook for the Month of March 2026.





Long-Range Outlooks

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

- The Climate Prediction Center depicts an equal chance of seeing below or above normal rainfall.
- The Climate Prediction Center depicts a 40-50% chance (“likely above normal”) of higher than normal temperatures.

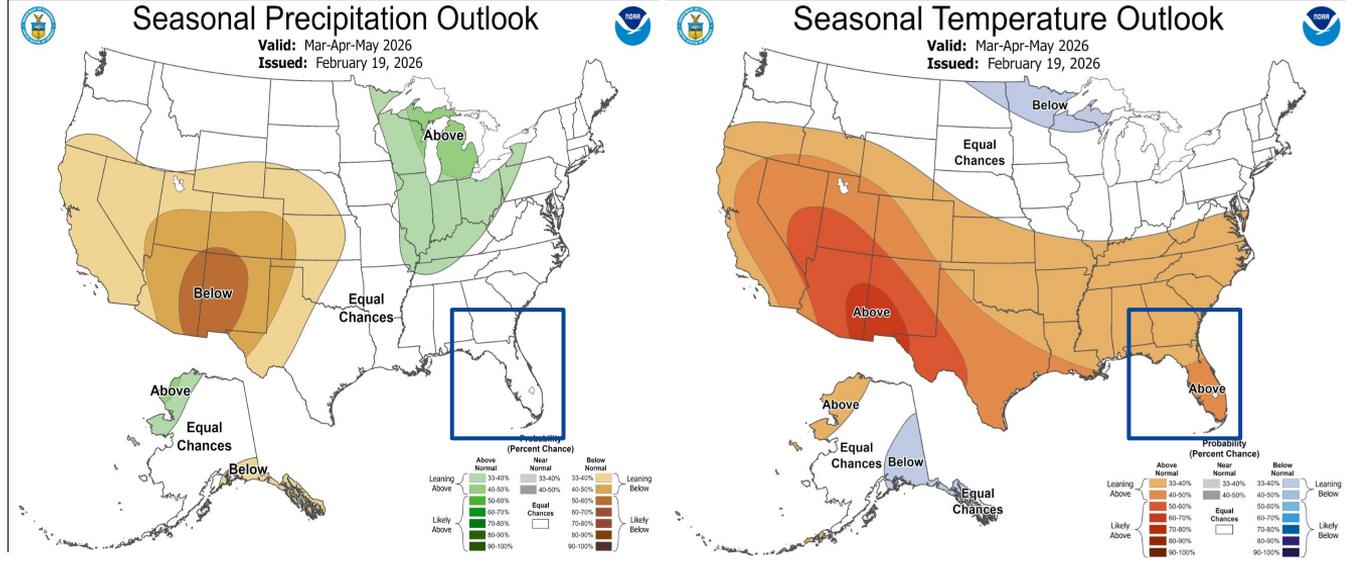


Image Captions:

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Temperature Outlook](#).

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Precipitation Outlook](#).

Valid March 2026 - May 2026





Drought Outlook

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

- The drought over South Florida should continue through rest of spring 2026.

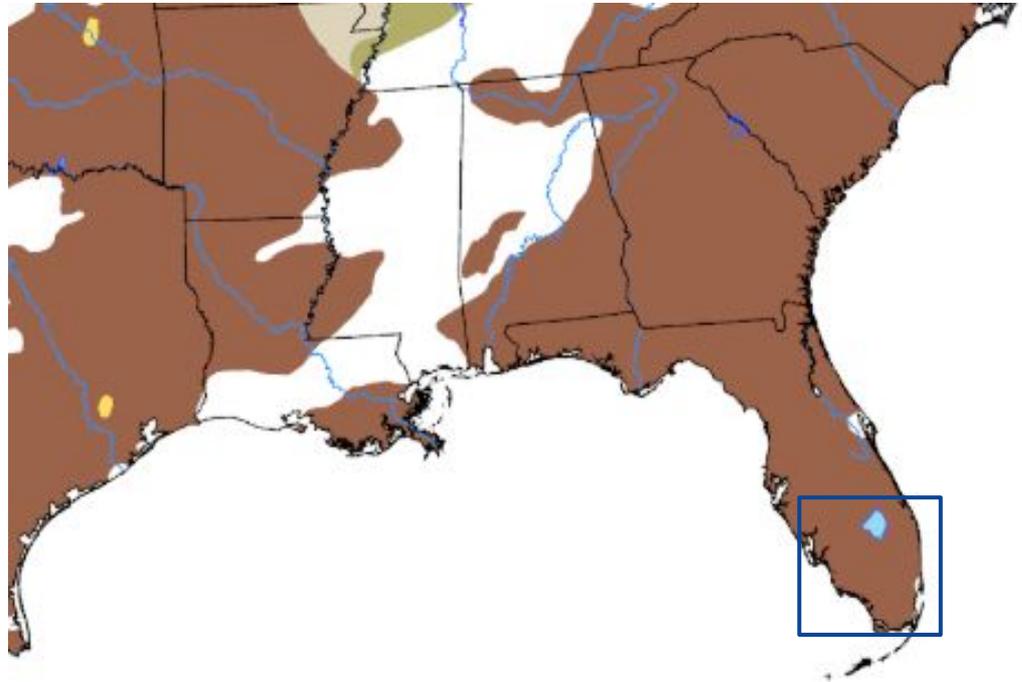


Image Caption:
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook Released
02 19, 2026 valid through May 31, 2026.

Links to the latest:

- [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)
- [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

