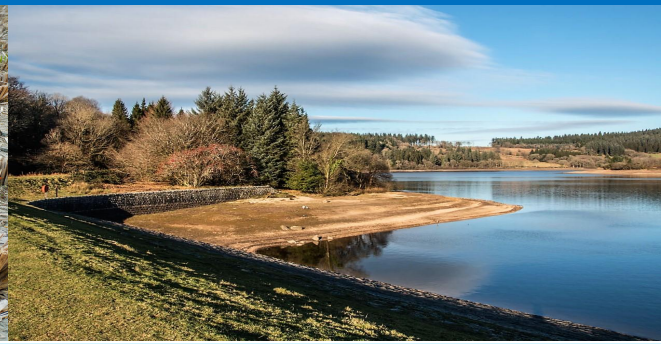
Drought Information Statement for South Florida

9 03 2026

Issued By: NWS Miami-South Florida

Contact Information: nws.miami@noaa.gov

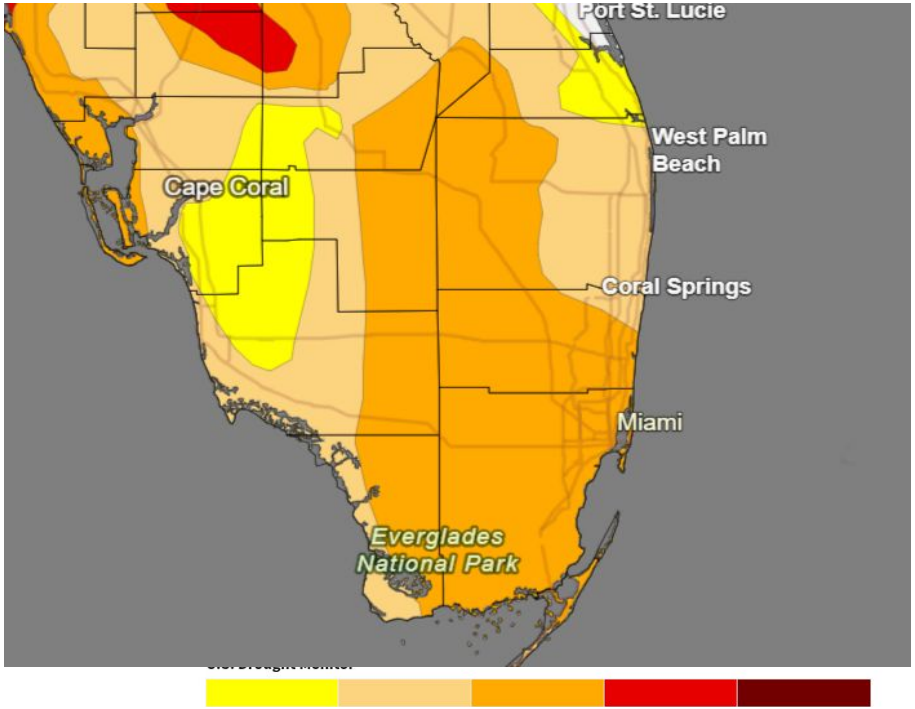
- Drought Conditions Remain Present Across The Region
- Please see all available products at **https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements**.
- Visit our local interactive drought page at **https://nws-miami-drought-page-noaa.hub.arcgis.com/**



U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor for South Florida

- Drought conditions Improved over the Everglades.
- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D0 (Abnormally Dry):** Western Glades,Western Hendry, and Northern Collier Counties
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Metro Palm Beach , Metro Collier, & NE Broward Counties.
  - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Most of Broward and all of Miami-Dade Counties along with Lake Okeechobee and the Everglades regions.

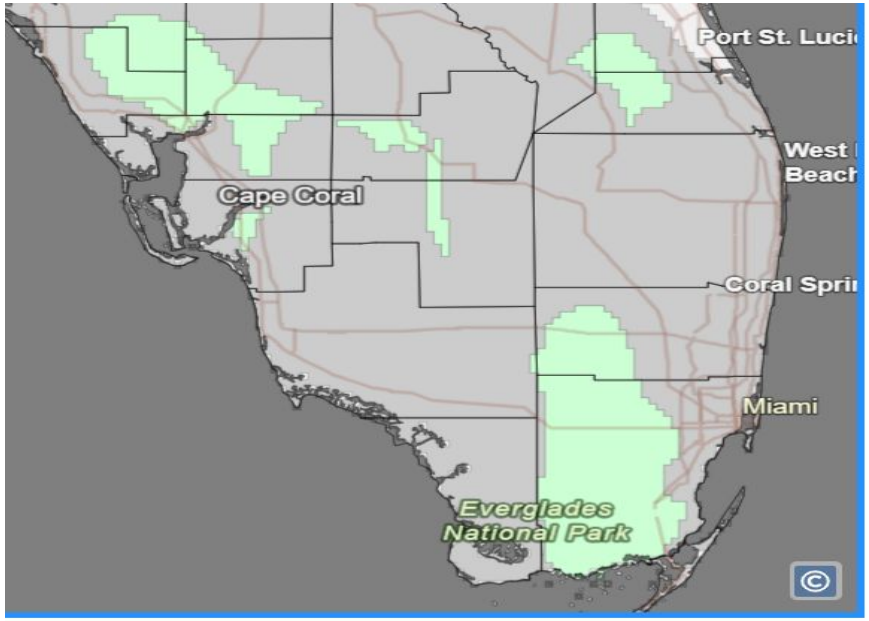


U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8AM EDT September 3rd 2026.

Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest 4-week change map for South Florida

- **One Week Drought Monitor Class Change**
  - The drought severity has improved by one category over the Everglades areas and parts of Glades and Hendry Counties.
- Rest of South Florida remain unchanged in drought conditions from last week. However, if drier weather pattern returns, this could lead to worsting the drought conditions over South Florida.



Rainfall Totals, Percent of Normal and Departures (Since 05/01/2026)

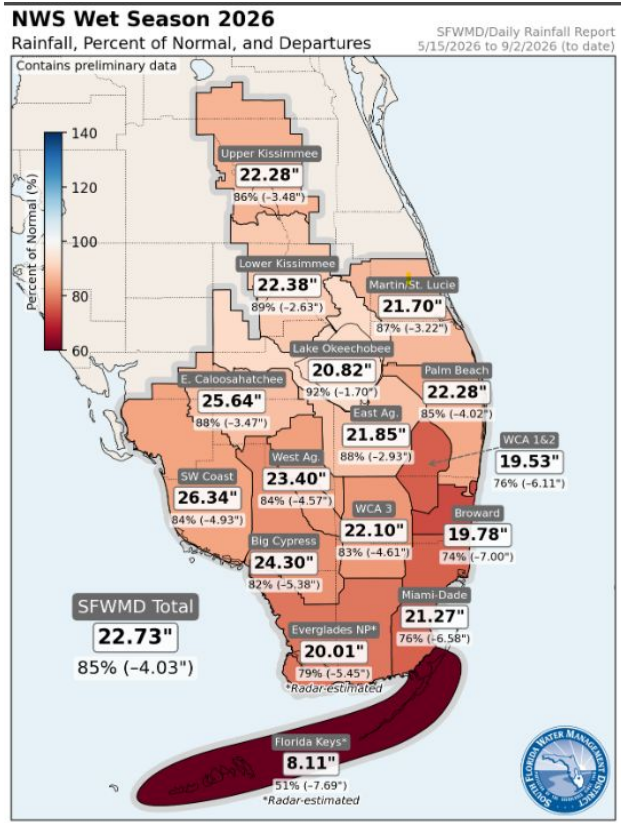
Wet Season 2026

- Rainfall observed with the departure and percent of normal since May 1st, 2026

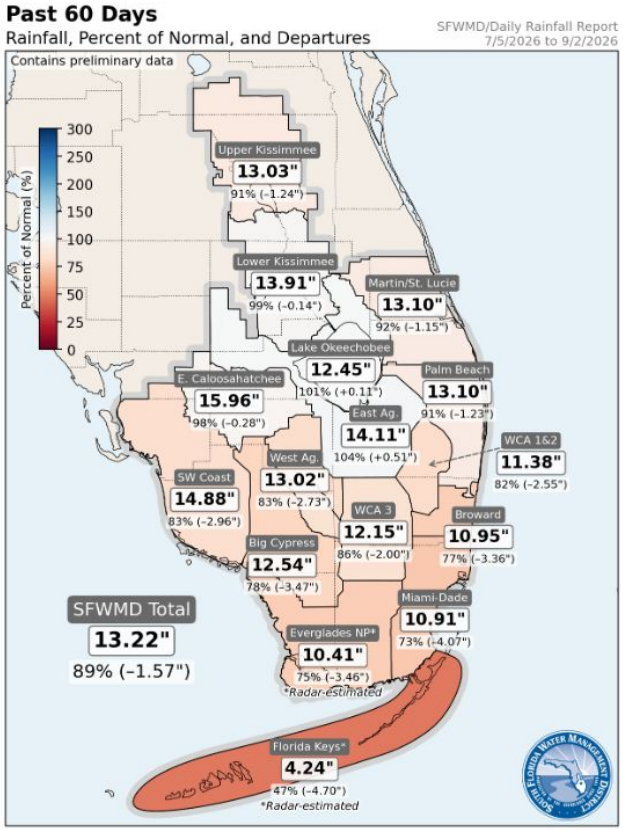
The following table gives the rainfall from May 1, 2026 to September 2nd, 2026:

Airports:	Observed Rainfall	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Donald J. Trump International Intl.	20.84	-7.45	74% (33rd driest wet season so far)
Naples Municipal	22.12	-5.35	81% (6th driest wet season so far)
Ft Lauderdale-Hollywood Intl	16.80	-12.15	58% (5th driest wet season so far)
Miami Intl	20.85	-13.62	60% (14th driest wet season so far)
Secondary Observation Sites			
Moore Haven (Glades)	19.35	-8.84	67% (10th driest wst season so far)
Opa Locka (Miami-Dade)	28.43	-3.64	89% (12th driest wet season so far)
Homestead (Miami-Dade)	27.62	-5.75	83% (7th driest wet season so far)
Hialeah (Miami-Dade)	29.44	-7.20	80% (28th driest wet season so far)
Palm Beach Gardens (Palm Beach)	17.30	14.69	54% (Driest wet season so far)
Miami Beach	21.74	-5.32	80%
Devils Garden (Hendry)	23.93	-7.60	76% (12th driest wet season so far)

Image Captions: Data Courtesy South Florida Water Management from May 15th through September 2nd, 2026



Rainfall Totals, Percent of Normal and Departures (60 & 90 Days)



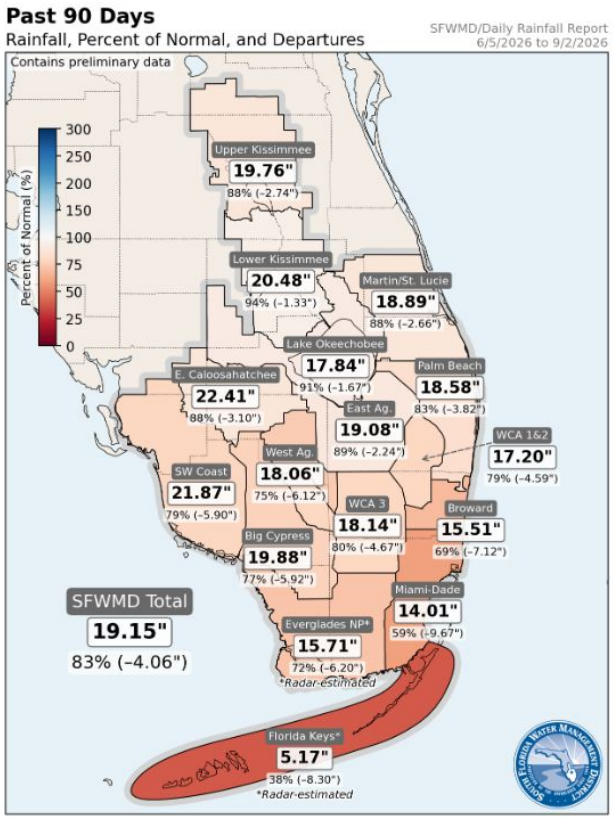


Image Captions:
Data Courtesy South Florida Water Management

- Past 60 Days (Since 7/5/2026)
- Past 90 Days (Since 6/5/2026)

180 Day Precipitation & Percent of Normal (Since 2/28/2026)

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

The following table gives the rainfall from November 1, 2025 to September 2nd, 2026:

Airports:	Observed Rainfall	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Donald J. Trump International Intl.	37.36	-11.10	77%
Naples Municipal	29.48	-8.18	78%
Ft Lauderdale-Hollywood Intl	32.86	-13.24	71%
Miami Intl	32,76	-17.98	65%
Secondary Observation Sites			
Moore Haven (Glades)	27.01	-13.50	67%
Opa Locka (Miami-Dade)	37.63	-9.42	80%
Homestead (Miami-Dade)	38.47	-7.89	83%
Hialeah (Miami-Dade)	43.45	-10.93	80%
Palm Beach Gardens (Palm Beach)	28.05	-24.51	53%
Devils Garden (Hendry)	31.51	-12.88	71%

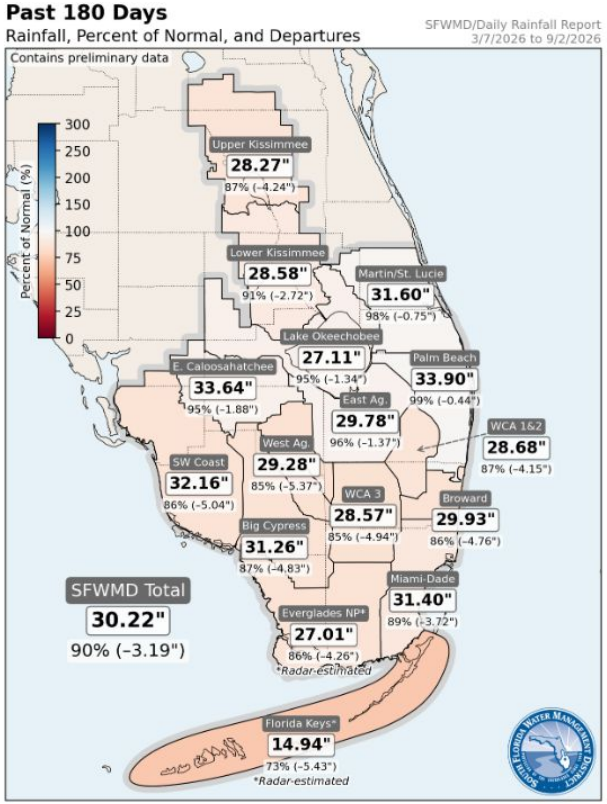


Image Captions:
Data Courtesy South Florida Water Management
Data over the past 180 days ending September 2nd,, 2026

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- **(9/03/26) Lake Okeechobee water level is currently at 10.99 feet which is –3.26 feet below normal of 14.25 feet.**
- The underground level for ***Water Conservation Area 1*** in Interior Palm Beach County is at 16.34 feet. Compared to the normal value of 17.01 feet, this is **-0.67 feet** below normal for this time of year.
- The underground level for ***Water Conservation Area 2*** in Interior Broward County is at 12.17 feet. Compared to the normal value of 12.39 feet, this is **-0.22 feet** below normal for this time of year.
- The underground level for ***Water Conservation Area 3*** in Interior Miami-Dade County is at 8.95 feet. Compared to the normal value of 10.11 feet, this is **-1.16 feet** below normal for this time of year.

Hydrologic Impacts on Lake Okeechobee

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Locks that are closed due to low Lake Okeechobee water levels include:
  - S-135 Boat Lock J&S Fish Camp in Martin County
  - G-36 Boat Lock on Hendry Creek in Okeechobee County
  - S-127 Boat Lock at Buckhead Ridge in Glades County
  - S-131 Boat Lock in Lakeport in Glades County
  - S-193 Boat Lock at Taylor Creek in Okeechobee County.

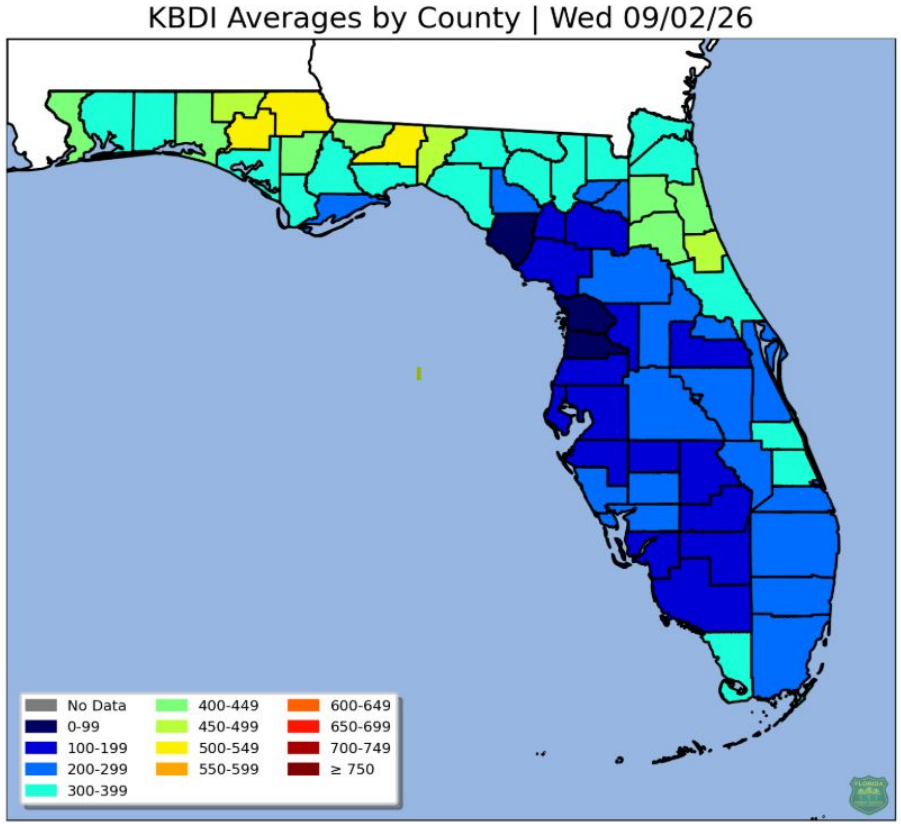
Courtesy of SFWMD

Fire Hazard Impacts

Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI)

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fire risk has decreased over most of South Florida compare to last week.
- KBDI values for the eastern areas are in the 200 to 300.
- KBDI Values for the western areas are below 200, except for Mainland Monroe County where it is 300 to 400.

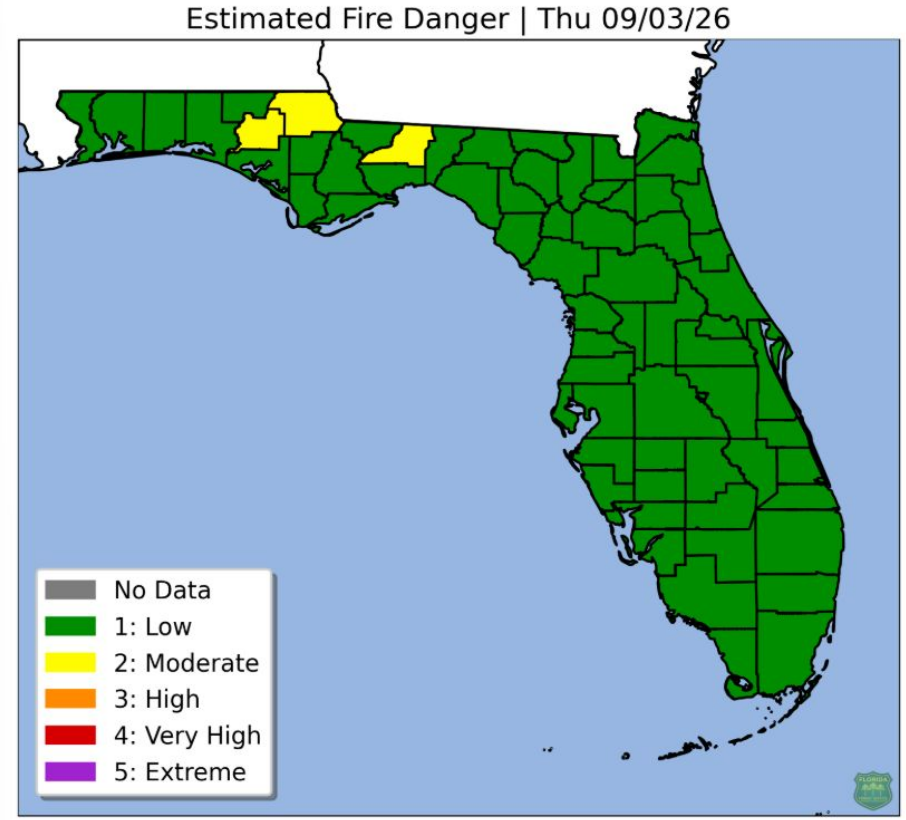


Fire Danger Matrix

Fire Danger Risk

Fire Danger Matrix

- A **Low fire** (level 1 of 5) danger risk across all of South Florida as of 9/03/2026.

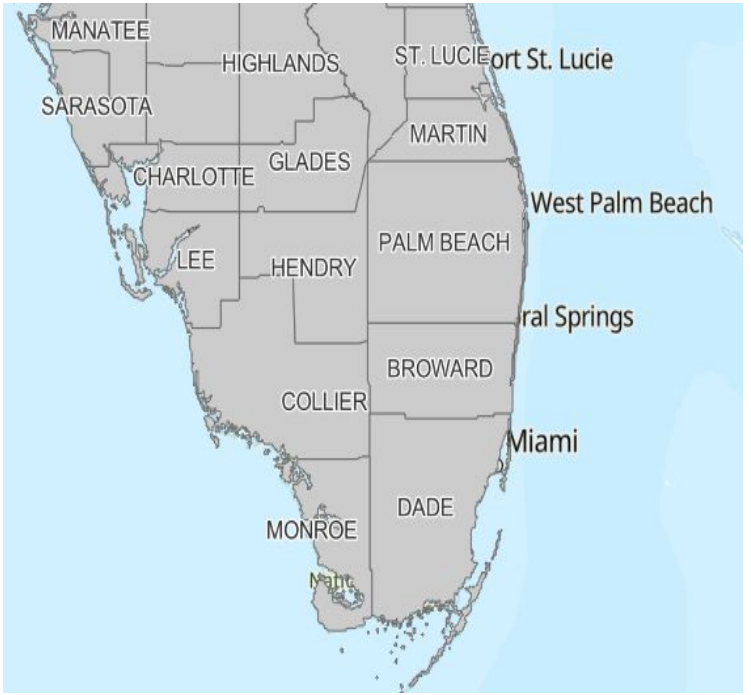


Burn Bans

Link: [County Burn Bans]

Current Burn Bans

- *No burns are currently in effect for South Florida.*



Soil Moisture

- South Florida soil moistures have increased over the eastern areas of South Florida.
- Western areas of South Florida is in the 10 to 20 percentile range.
- The eastern interior areas of South Florida is in the 20 to 30 percentile range.
- The east coast metro areas is in the 30 to 70 percentile range.

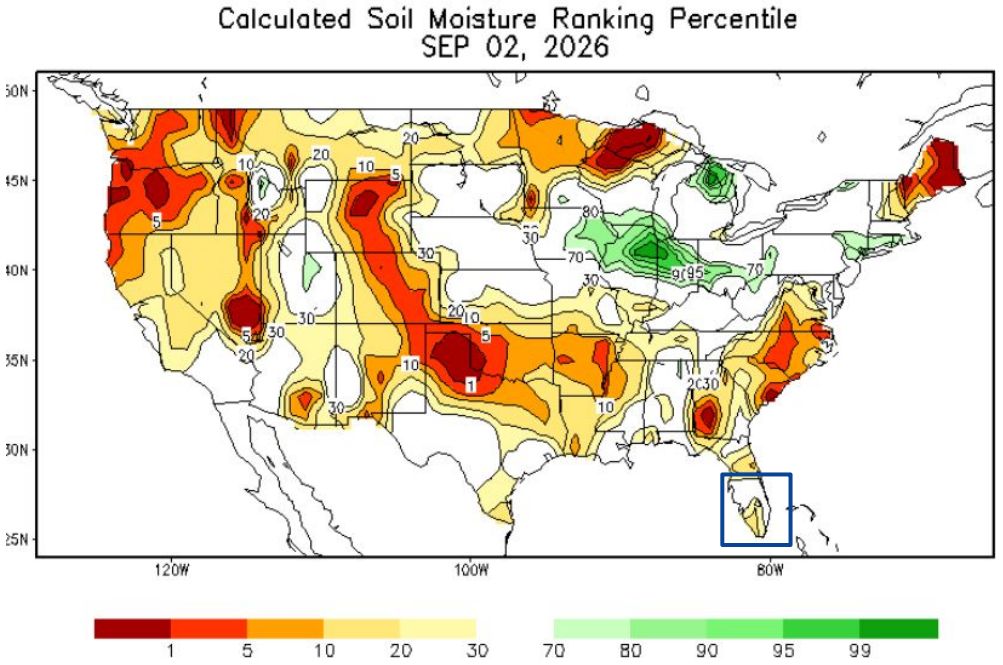
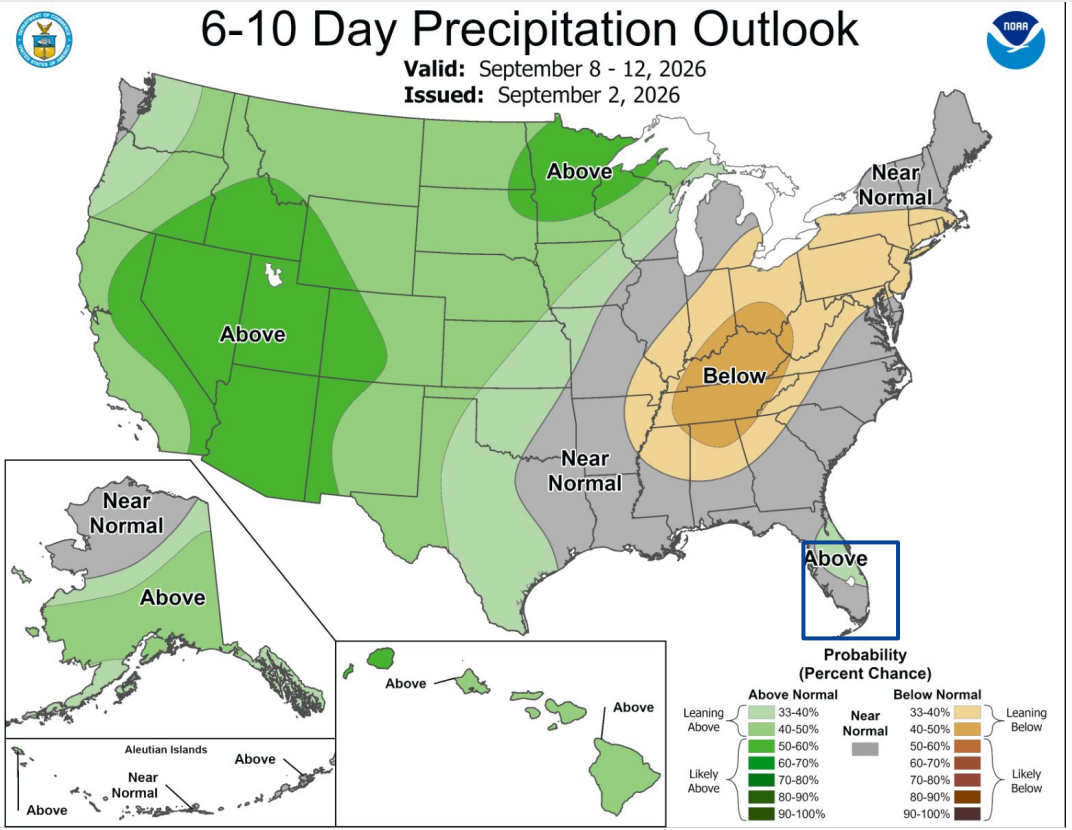


Image Captions:
CPC Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
valid September 2nd, 2026

Precipitation Outlook

6-10 Day Climate Prediction Center Precipitation Outlook

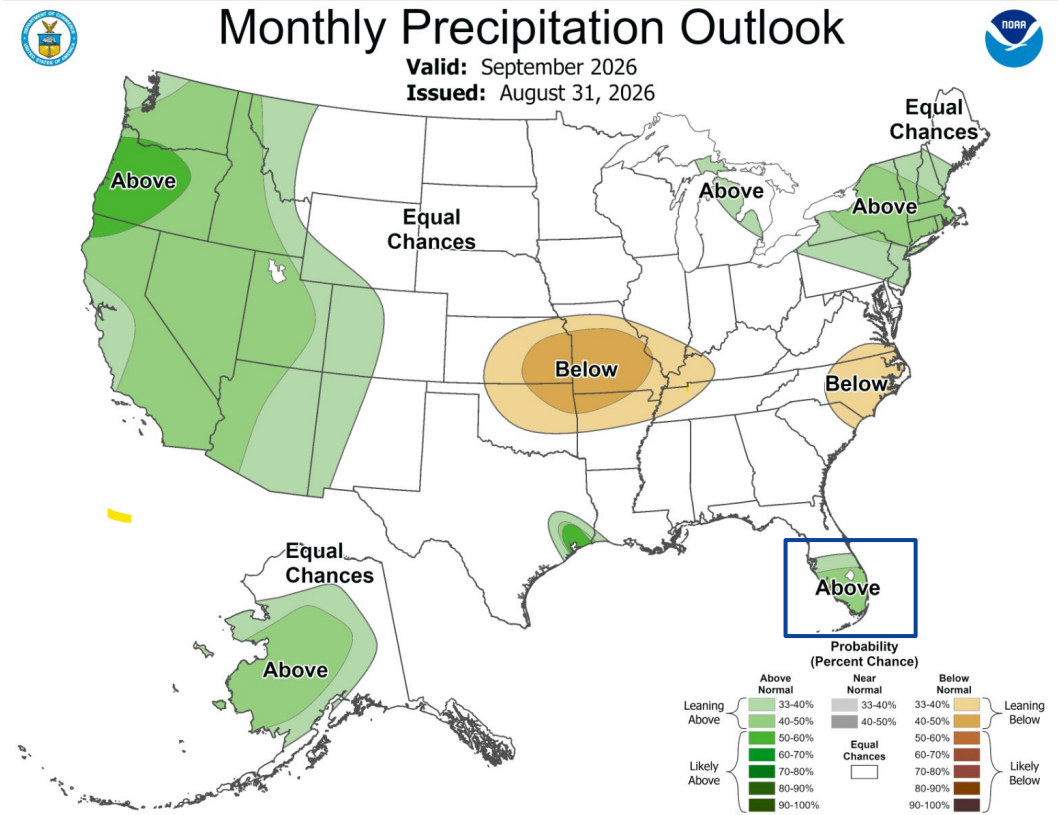
- *A weak front will stall over Northern Florida this weekend leading to a south southwest steering flow over South Florida.*
- *This pattern will allow for scattered to numerous showers and storms this weekend with the highest coverage over the interior and east coast metro areas.*
- *The **Climate Prediction Center** predicts an **equal chance of above or below normal rainfall** for our area over the next 6-10 days.*



Monthly Outlook

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

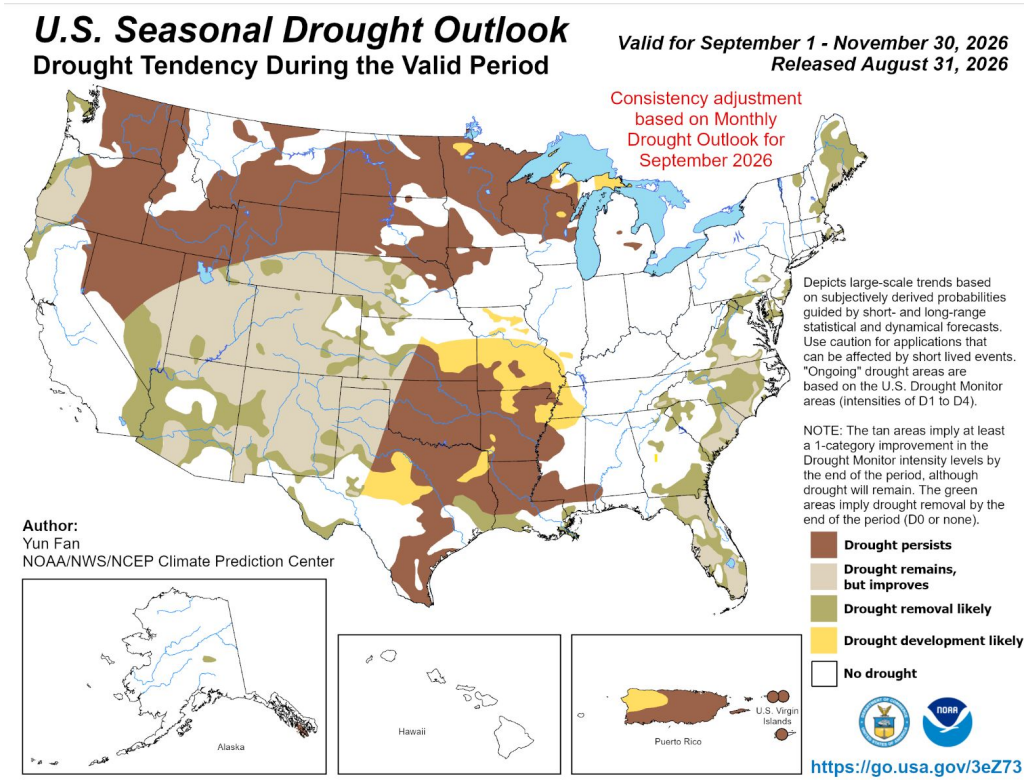
- *The **Climate Prediction Center** is **leaning to an above normal rainfall (40 to 50 percent)** for our area for September 2026.*



Drought Outlook

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

- Drought has persisted for the duration of the wet season with oscillations in severity. The latest seasonal outlook continues to forecast drought removal across portions of the region with persistence likely elsewhere.
- Widespread heavy rainfall over a sustained duration will be needed to fully alleviate the drought across the region.



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