



Drought Information Statement for South Florida

02 26 2026

Issued By: NWS Miami-South Florida

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

- Ongoing Extreme to Severe Drought Across South Florida
- 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/>

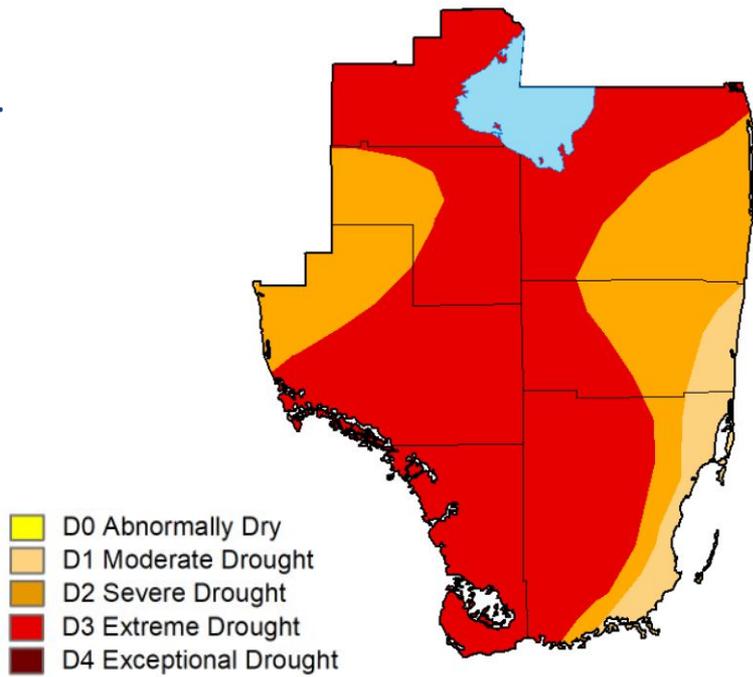




U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought conditions continue to worsen across the region, with the recent expansion of moderate drought (D1) into the remainder of metro & coastal portions of Miami-Dade County.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Metro/Coastal Broward & Miami-Dade.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Coastal/Metro Palm Beach and western Collier & Hendry counties.
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** Most of Inland South Florida & Lake Okeechobee.



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

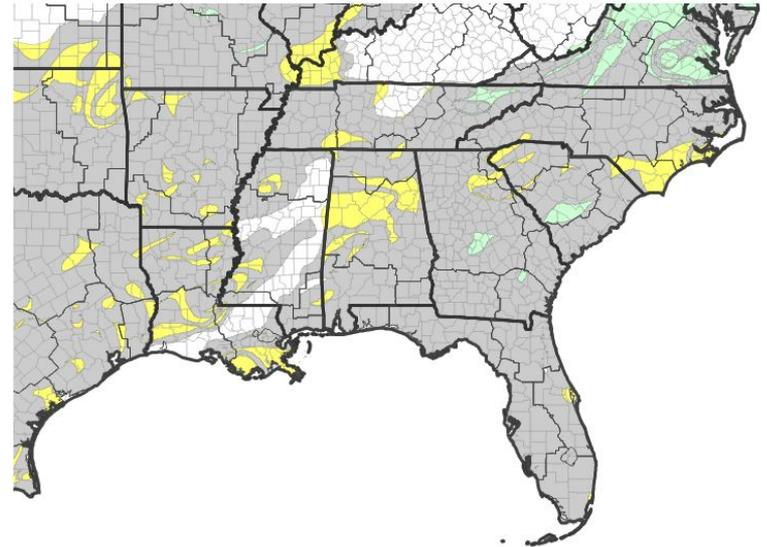


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

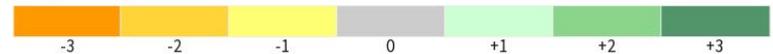
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for South Florida

- No major changes were made to drought conditions across South Florida over the past week.
- **One Week Drought Monitor Class Change**
 - **One Week Degradation:** Metro/Coastal Miami-Dade.

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



Drought Change Since Last Week



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

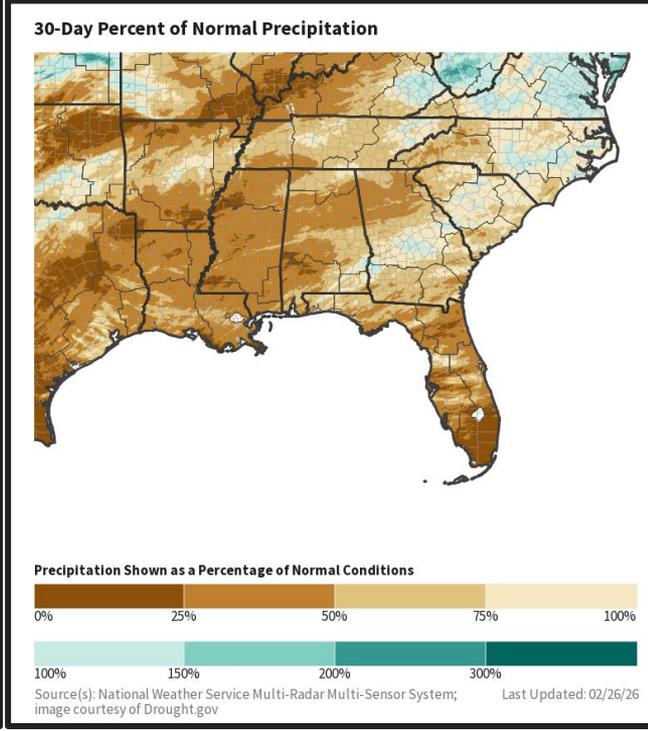
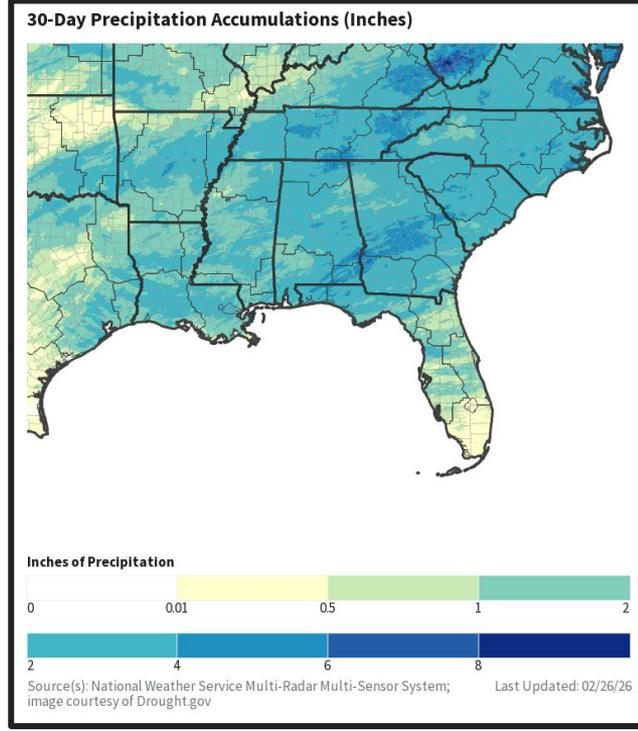
Data Valid: 02/24/26





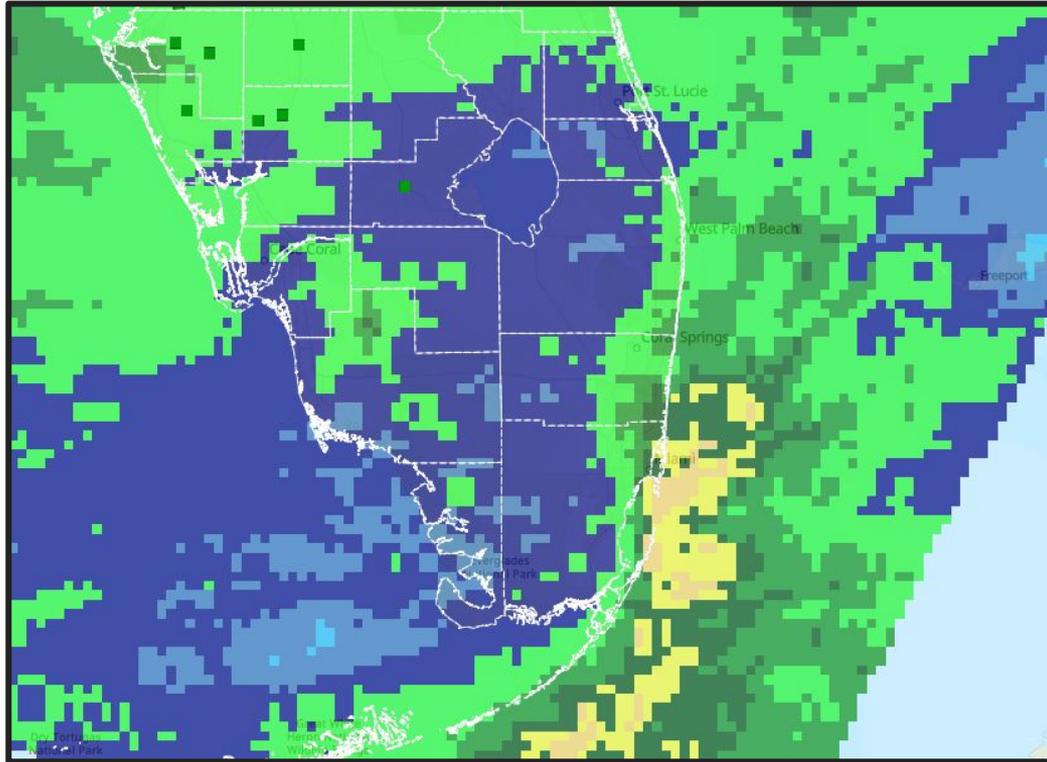
30 Day Observed Precipitation & Percentage of Normal

- Rainfall amounts across the region have remained below the **25th percentile** over the past 30 days.
- Most locations across the region have received less than 0.50" of rain in the past 30 days.



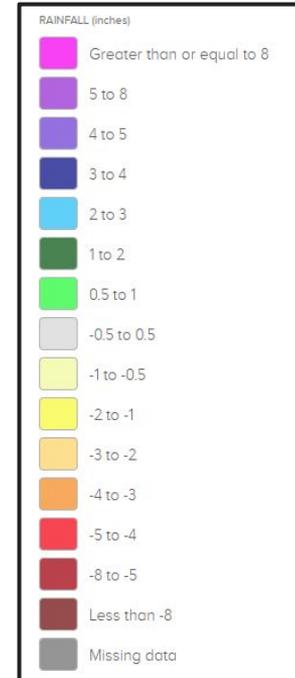
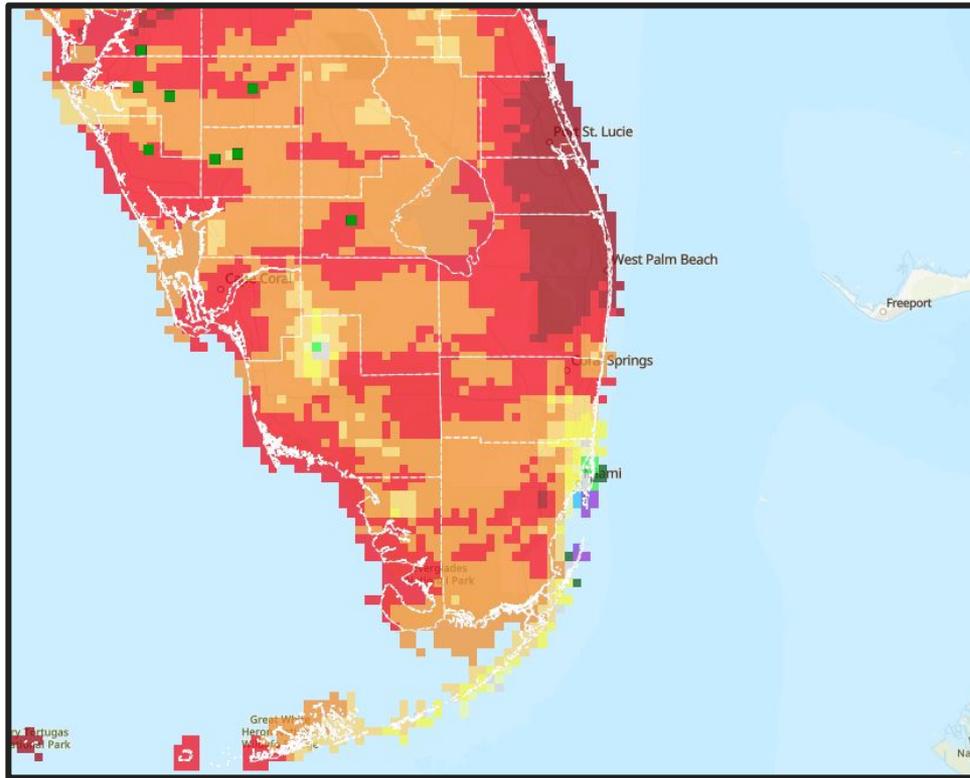


90 Day Observed Precipitation (Since 11/28/2025)





90 Day Rainfall Departure (Since 11/28/2025)





Hydrologic Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Lake Okeechobee level currently at 12.27 feet which is **-2.27 feet** below normal of 14.54 feet.
- For more information on daily water levels, please visit the US Army Corps of Engineers webpage with reported information [here](#).

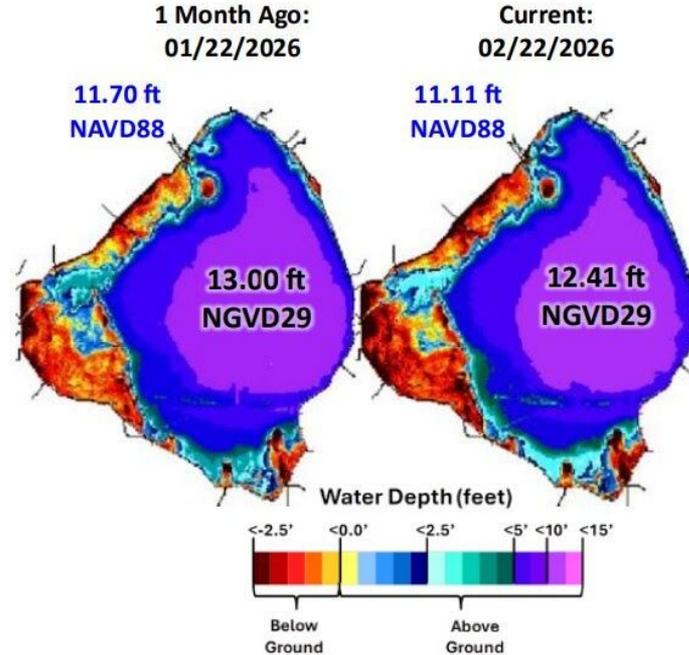


Figure LO-1. Lake Okeechobee water depth estimates based on South Florida Water Depth Assessment Tool (SFWDAT).

Courtesy of SFWMD



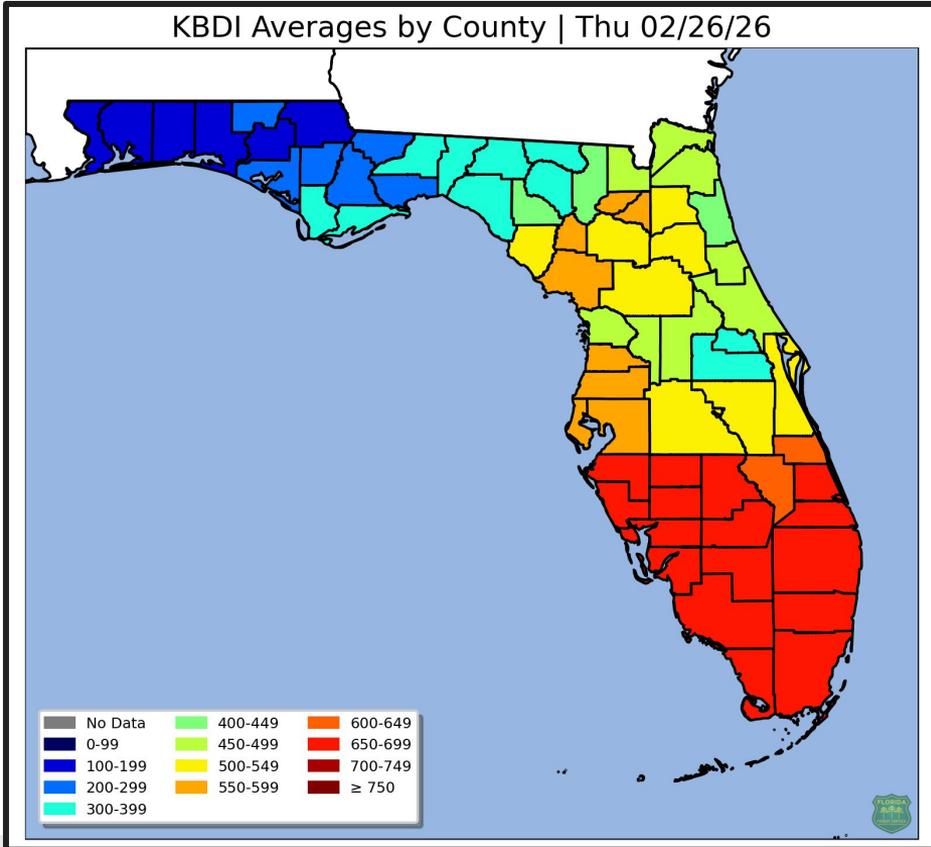


Fire Hazard Impacts

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

Fire Hazard Impacts

- KBDI index is 650 to 699 across all of South Florida.



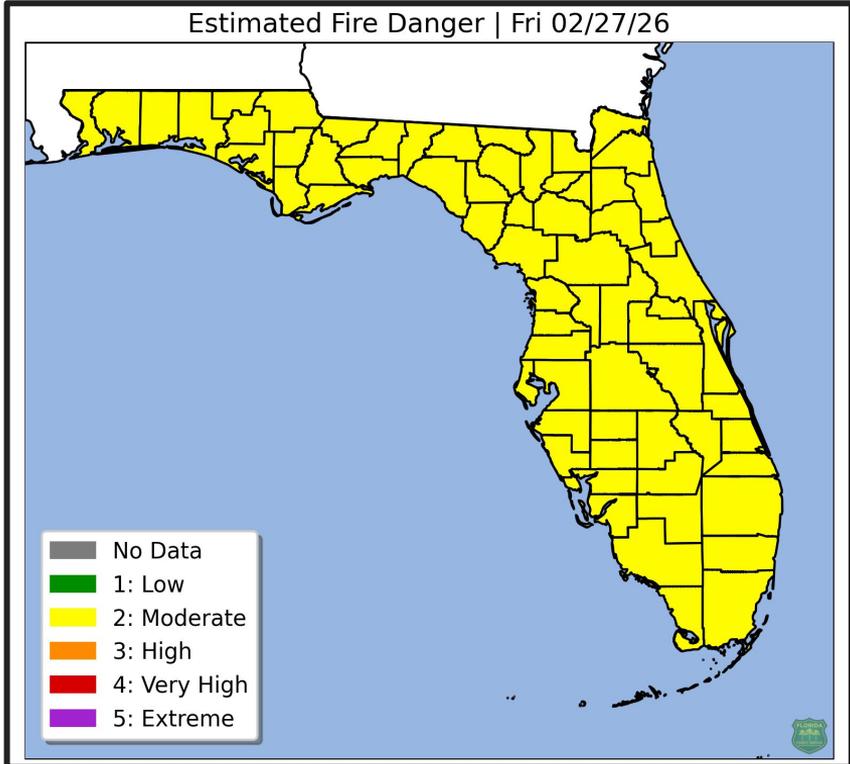


Fire Danger Matrix

[Fire Danger Risk](#)

Fire Danger Matrix

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



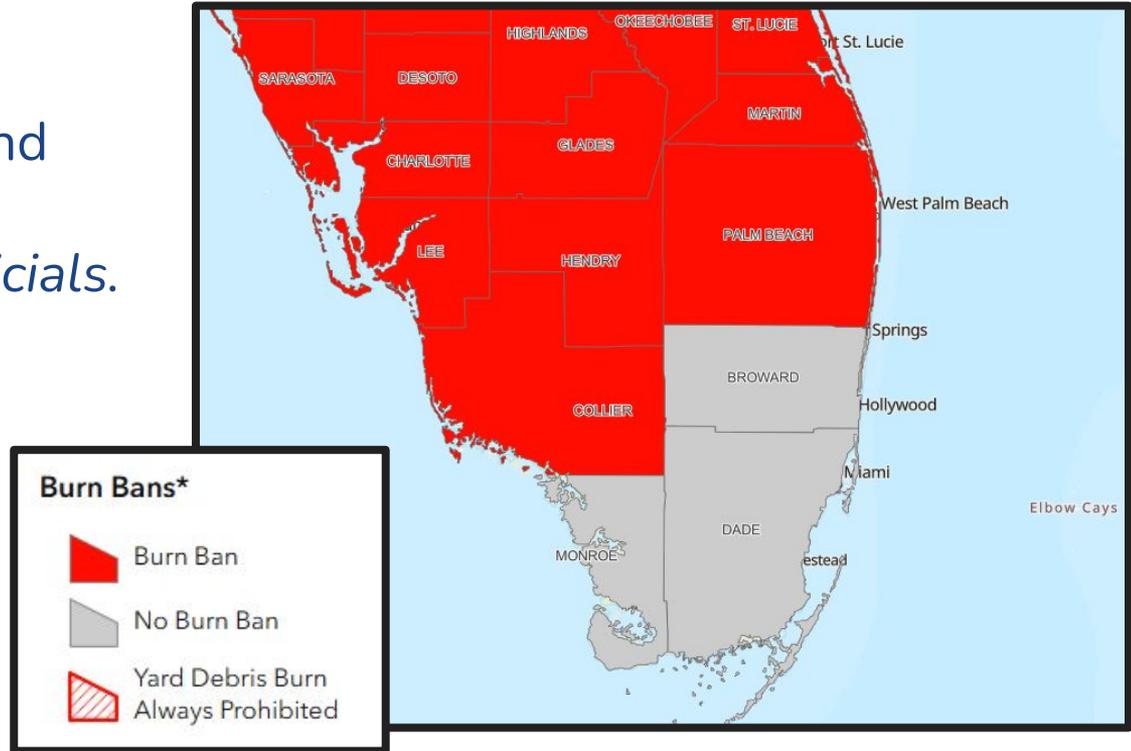


Burn Bans

Link: [County Burn Bans](#)

Current Burn Bans

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



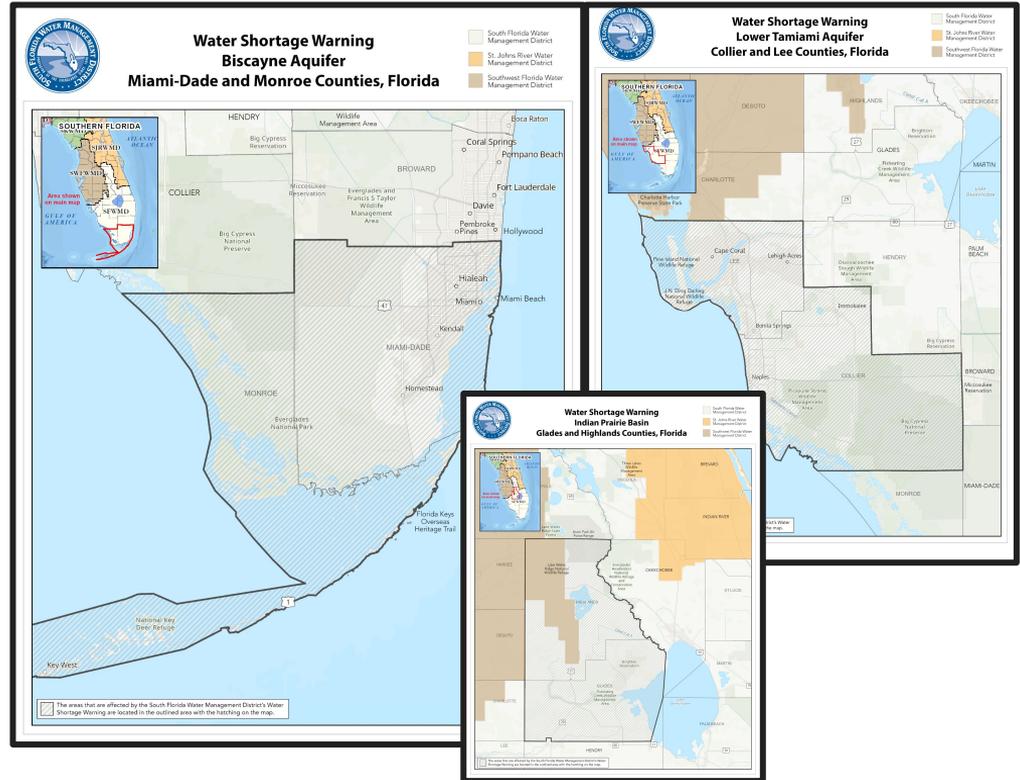


Water Shortage Warnings

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.*





Soil Moisture

- South Florida continues to remain between the 1 to 5 percentile for soil moisture.

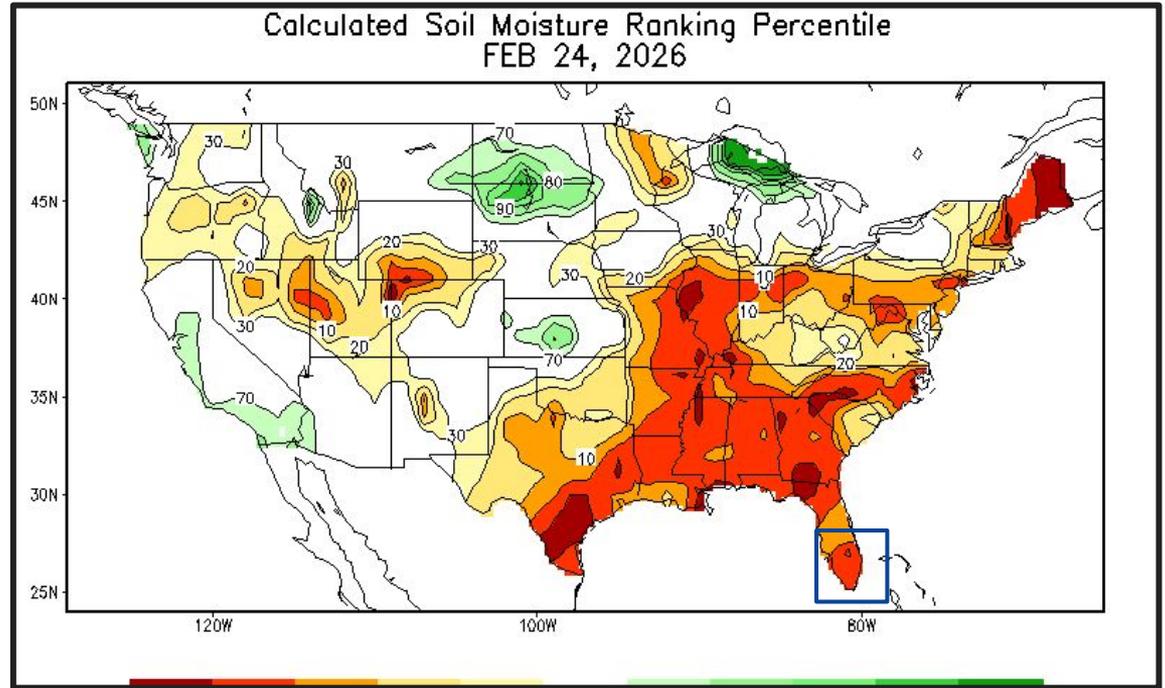


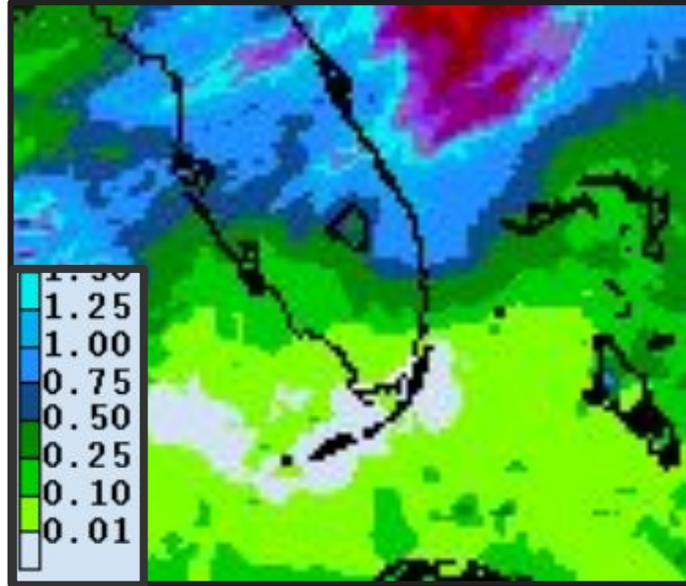
Image Captions:
CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#)
valid February 24th, 2026



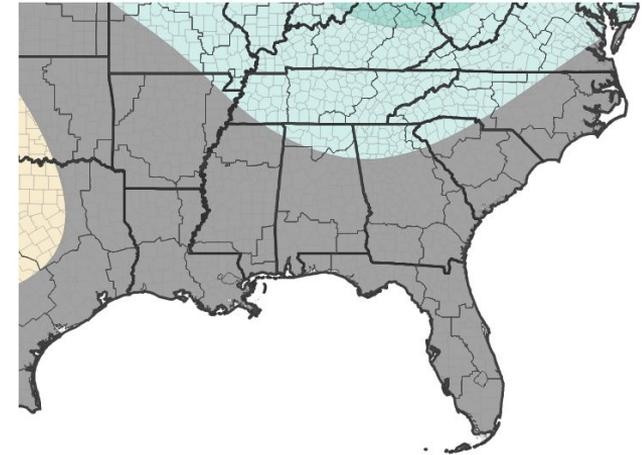


Precipitation Outlook

- 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.



8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook for February 26, 2026-March 4, 2026



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



■ Near-Normal Conditions

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

Last Updated: 02/18/26



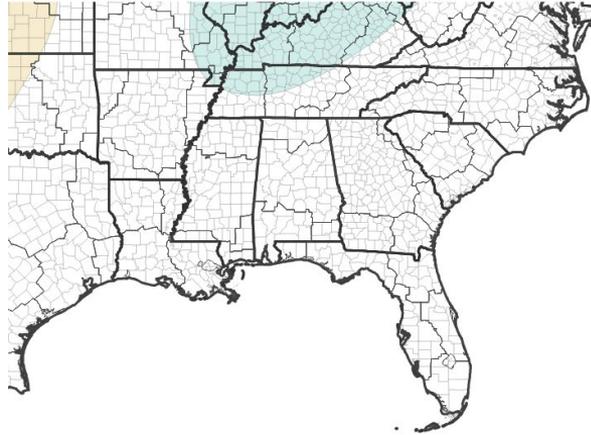


Long-Range Outlooks

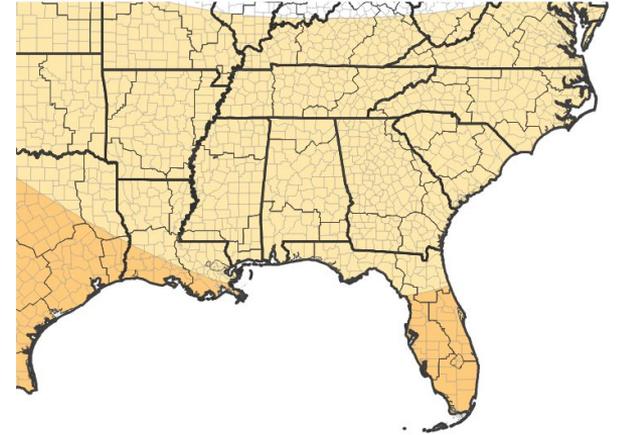
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- 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.

Seasonal (3-Month) Precipitation Outlook for February 1, 2026–April 30, 2026



Seasonal (3-Month) Temperature Outlook for March 1, 2026–May 31, 2026



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: 02/19/26

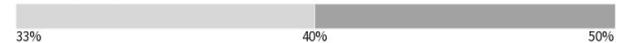
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

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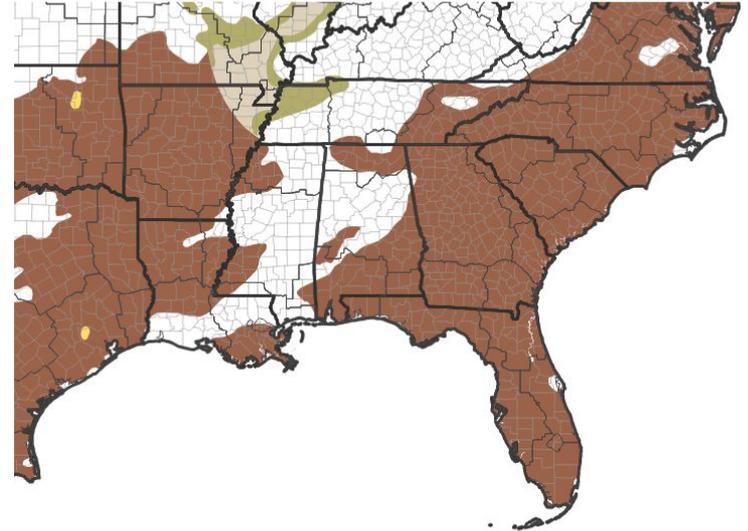


Drought Outlook

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

- Drought is expected to persist across the region over the next three months as rainfall deficits remain even with the prospect of equal chances of below, above, or near normal rainfall.
- Should rainfall over the next three months be much below normal, drought conditions could worsen with time, especially heading into spring when temperatures also warm.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for February 19, 2026–May 31, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 02/19/26

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Miami-South Florida