



MIAMI-SOUTH FLORIDA

National Weather Service

Forecast Office

<http://www.weather.gov/miami>

Beginning of 2023 South Florida Rainy Season

May 15th, 2023: Today marks the first day of the rainy season in South Florida. The rainy season is characterized by near-daily scattered showers and thunderstorms over the southern Florida peninsula and adjacent Gulf and Atlantic waters. Nearly 70% of the average annual rainfall occurs during the 5-month rainy season which ends on October 15th.

The outlook for the 2023 Rainy Season will be presented on Friday, May 19th.

Here are some average rainy season precipitation values for select South Florida locations:

- Miami International Airport: 44.84"
- Homestead General Airport: 41.28"
- Juno Beach: 39.83"
- Muse: 39.31"
- West Kendall 38.08"
- Ft. Laud/Hollywood Airport: 37.49"
- Marco Island: 37.44"
- Palm Beach Int'l Airport: 36.30"
- Canal Point: 36.11"
- Naples Municipal Airport: 36.08"
- Miami Beach: 35.55"

- Pompano Beach: 33.40"
- Moore Haven: 33.13"

The nature of rainy season precipitation in South Florida is in the form of scattered showers and thunderstorms primarily driven by sea, lake, and land breezes. Therefore, rainfall totals can vary widely from one location to the next.

The first 4-6 weeks of the rainy season is typically the stormiest phase with the highest historical frequency of strong and severe thunderstorms containing damaging winds, occasional to frequent lightning strikes, hail, flooding, and even tornadoes. July is the driest rainy season month on average as the subtropical high builds westward across Florida from the Atlantic Ocean. August, September, and early October precipitation can be strongly influenced by tropical systems and early-fall cold fronts.

In addition to the hazards mentioned above, other coincident rainy season hazards include:

- **Hurricanes/Tropical Storms:** hurricane season begins on June 1 and peaks in August, September, and October
- **Heat:** the hottest months on average in South Florida is July and August, when daily heat index values frequently reach or exceed 100F
- **Rip Currents:** common throughout the summer months, with the highest risk often during holiday weekends