



Drought Information Statement for East Central Florida

Valid May 8, 2025

Issued By: WFO Melbourne, FL

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

- This product will be updated May 29th 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/mlb/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
 - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.
-
- Below normal rainfall has continued over the past month, with the addition of extreme (D3) drought to northern portions of east central Florida, as well as the continued expansion of moderate (D1) to severe (D2) drought across the area.
 - An increase in showers and storms will produce above normal rainfall to the region through mid-May, which is forecast to bring some relief to drought impacts.

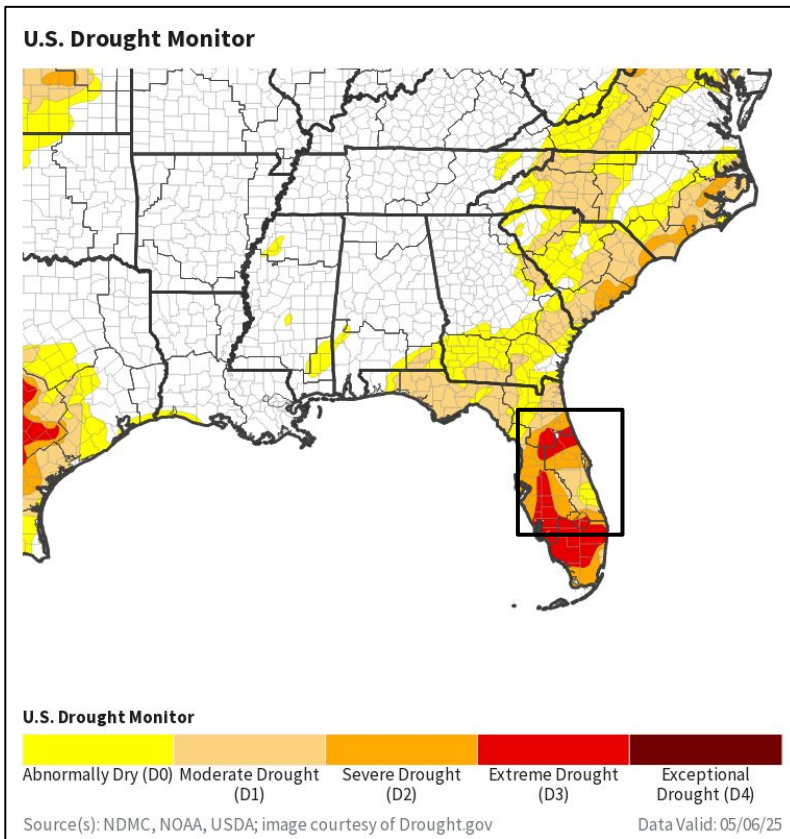




U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought):** None
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** Northern Lake and Volusia counties
 - **D2 (Severe Drought):** southern Lake, southern Volusia, Seminole, north Brevard Orange and Martin counties
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** much of Osceola and Okeechobee counties, as well as central Brevard and southern St. Lucie counties
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** Southern Brevard, Indian River and northern St Lucie counties

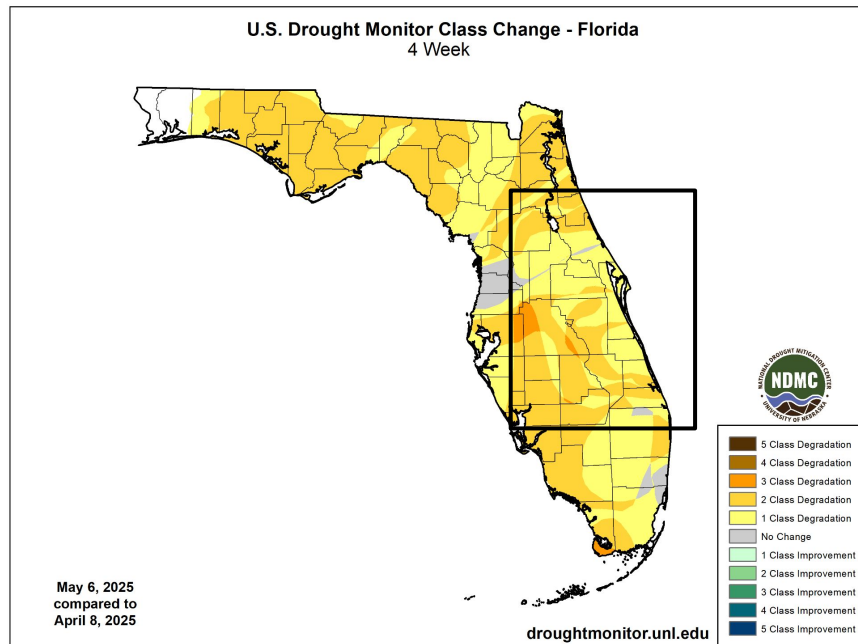




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: all of east central Florida by 1 to 2 categories
 - No Change: Limited areas of Lake and Volusia counties
 - Drought Improved: none



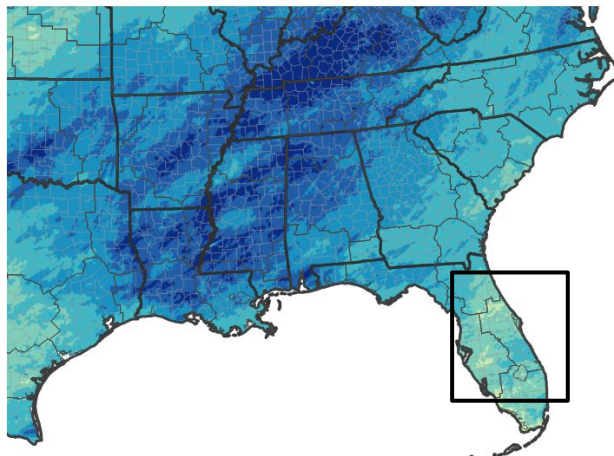


Precipitation

Links to the latest [Precipitation Accumulation](#) and [Percent of Normal](#) over the past 90 days

- Over the past 90 days, rainfall has been well below normal for much of the area. Greatest rainfall deficits exist across areas near to north of a line from Orlando to Cape Canaveral and portions of southern Martin County where precipitation totals are around 4-7" below normal (around 25-50% of normal). Pockets of Lake and Volusia counties have seen less than 25% of normal rainfall.
- Across extreme southern Brevard County, southward through Fort Pierce, periods of locally heavy rainfall have led to totals that are near to slightly below normal over the past 90 days.

90-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



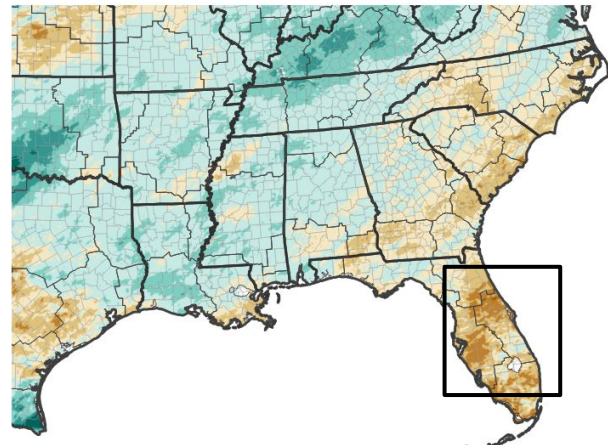
Inches of Precipitation



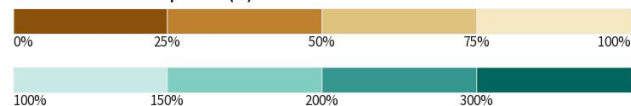
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System;
image courtesy of Drought.gov

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

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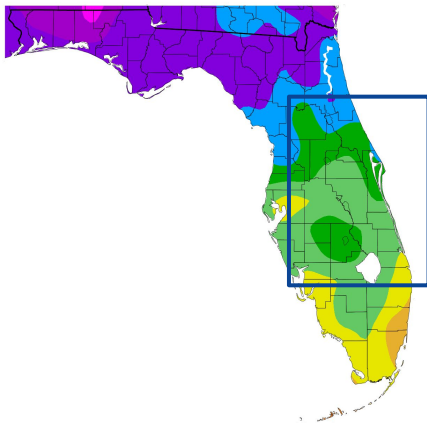


Temperature

Link to the latest HPRCC [Average Temperature](#) and [Temperature Departure from Normal](#) over the past 90 days

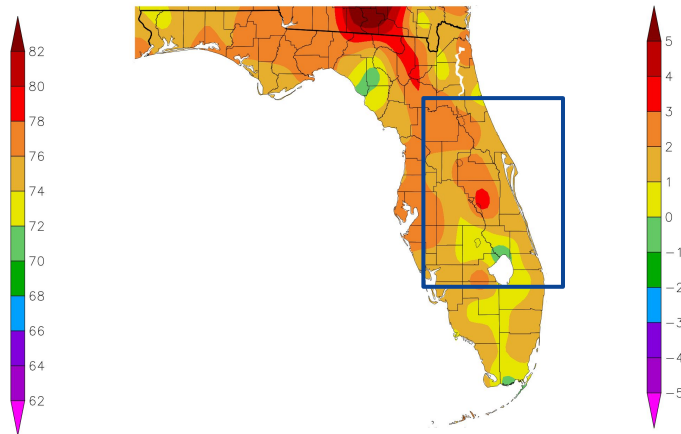
- While average temperatures in March, were generally closer to normal, a much warmer February and April has led to overall average temperatures over the past 90 days that range around 1-3 degrees above normal across the area. This above normal warmth has also assisted in worsening drought conditions across the region.

Temperature (F)
2/7/2025 – 5/7/2025



Generated 5/8/2025 using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
2/7/2025 – 5/7/2025



ACIS Web Services²⁵ using provisional data.

ACIS Web Services





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- The latest 7-day average streamflow indicates an increase in locations reporting values that are below normal (10-24% of normal) to much below normal (<10% of normal), across east central Florida. (<https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/>)

Agricultural Impacts

- Little rainfall this spring has led to an increase in reports of impacts to the agricultural and livestock communities. ([Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#))

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Burn bans are currently in effect for Lake, Volusia, Seminole, Brevard, Osceola, Orange, and Okeechobee counties. Also, due to the drier conditions, the potential for significant wildland fires remains above normal for May and June. (<https://www.nifc.gov/nicc/predictive-services/outlooks>)

Other Impacts

- Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI) values remain high across the region, with values ranging from 450-599 across much of east central Florida. (https://fireweather.fdacs.gov/wx/kbdi_index.html)

Mitigation Actions

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





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid May 7, 2025

- Streamflows have continued to decrease across the region due to continued below normal precipitation and warmer conditions.
- Values averaged over the past 7 days are below normal (10-24% of normal) in the upper and middle Saint Johns Basin and are normal (25-75% of normal) in the upper Kissimmee River basin and Treasure Coast.

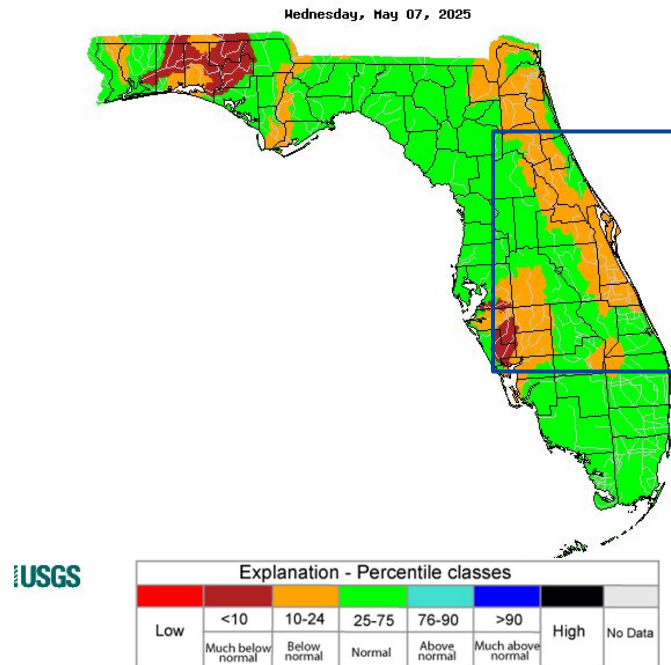


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid May 7, 2025





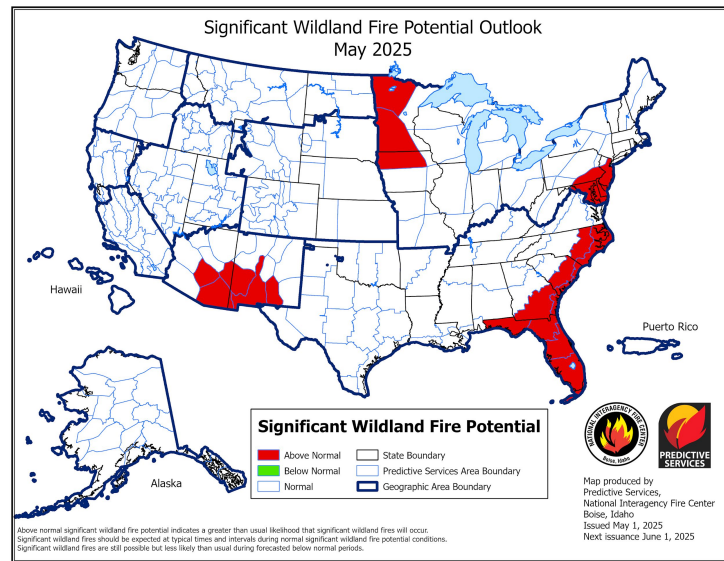
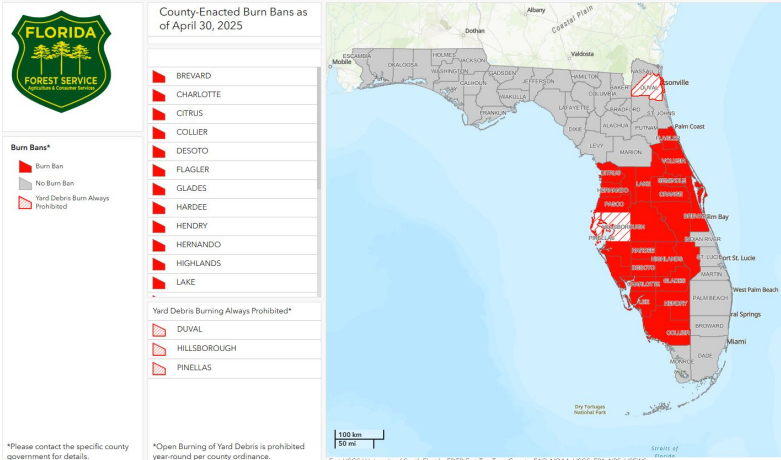
Fire Hazard Impacts

Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#).

- Across east central Florida, **burn bans** are now in effect for **Lake, Volusia, Seminole, Brevard, Osceola, Orange, and Okeechobee** counties.
- The potential for significant wildland fires remains above normal for May.

Latest Florida Burn Ban map available [here](#).

Florida Forest Service - Current County-Enacted Burn Bans



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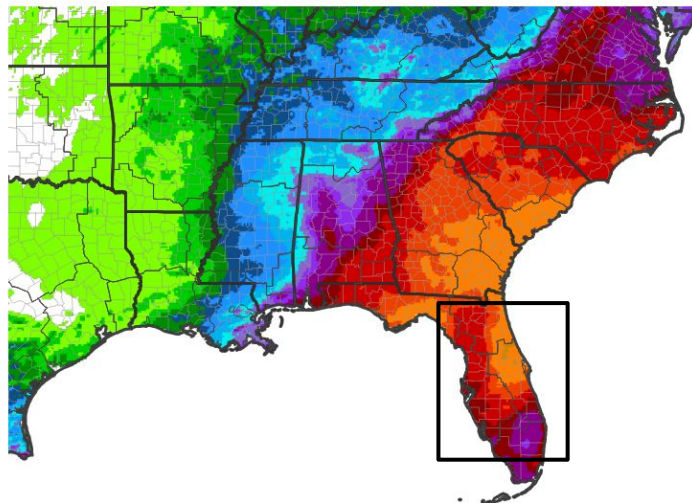
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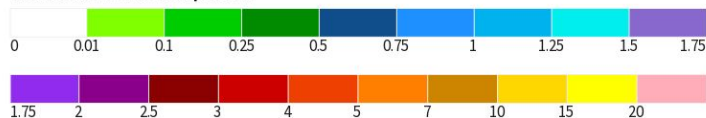
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- An increase in moisture along and south of a lingering frontal boundary across the southeast U.S. will lead to continued development of showers and storms across east central Florida each afternoon and evening through at least early next week (May 13th).
- This is forecast to lead to above normal rainfall across the area through mid-May. Precipitation amounts over the next 7 days are currently forecast up to 4-6" across Brevard/Osceola counties northward and around 2-3" across Okeechobee County and the Treasure Coast, which should help alleviate ongoing drought conditions.

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 courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 05/08/25



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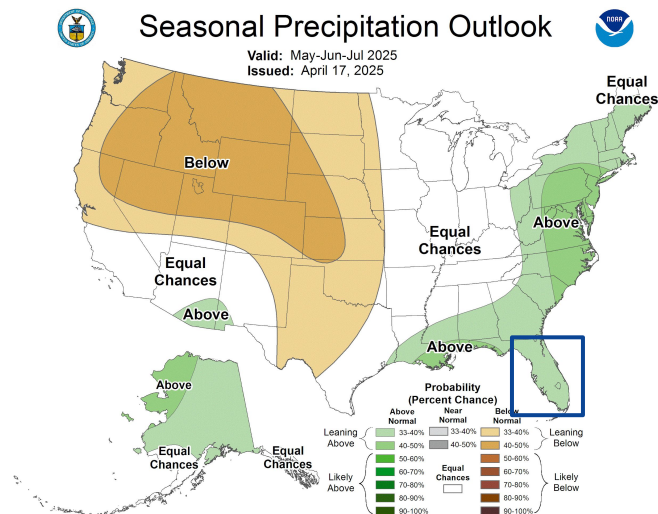
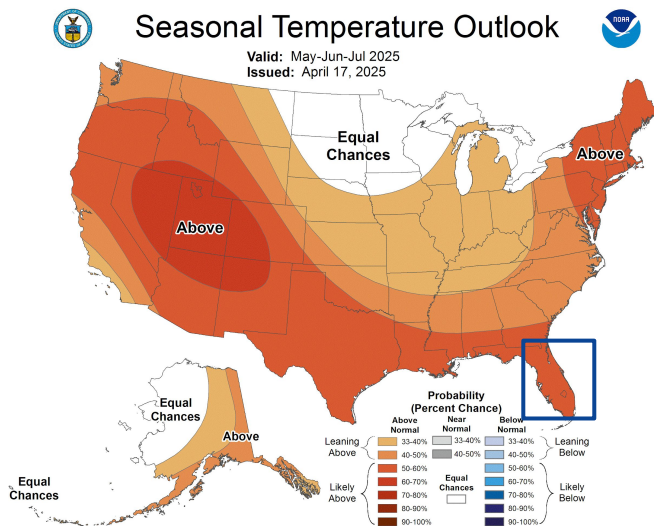
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Long-Range Outlooks

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](https://cpc.ncep.noaa.gov)

- The outlook for the 3-month period from May-July favors average temperatures ending up above normal across central Florida (~50-60% chance).
- The outlook for the 3-month period from May-July slightly favors above normal rainfall across central Florida (~35-40% chance).



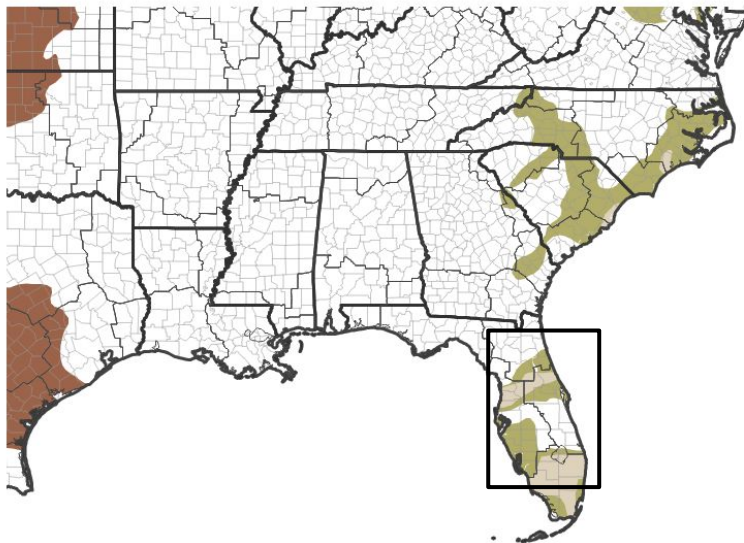


Drought Outlook

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

- The 8-14 day CPC outlook covering the period from May 15-21st, has slightly greater probabilities (~35-40%) of drier than normal conditions returning across east central Florida. This will likely delay any additional improvement in drought conditions into the second half of May.
- However, as the wet season begins across central Florida (typically toward late May/early June), then drought conditions are generally forecast to continue to improve or even end through late July.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for April 17, 2025–July 31, 2025



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 04/17/25

Links to the latest:

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



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