



Drought Information Statement for Southeast Alabama, Southwest Georgia, and the Florida Panhandle and Big Bend

Valid October 16, 2025

Issued By: National Weather Service Tallahassee

Contact Information: kelly.godsey@noaa.gov & cameron.young@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated October 23, 2025.
 - Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
 - Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/tae/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
-
- Extreme and severe drought has expanded across the Tri-State area.
 - Recent warm temperatures, low humidity, and much below normal rainfall have led to rapid deterioration of drought conditions.
 - Little to no improvement in drought conditions are expected due to limited forecast rainfall.



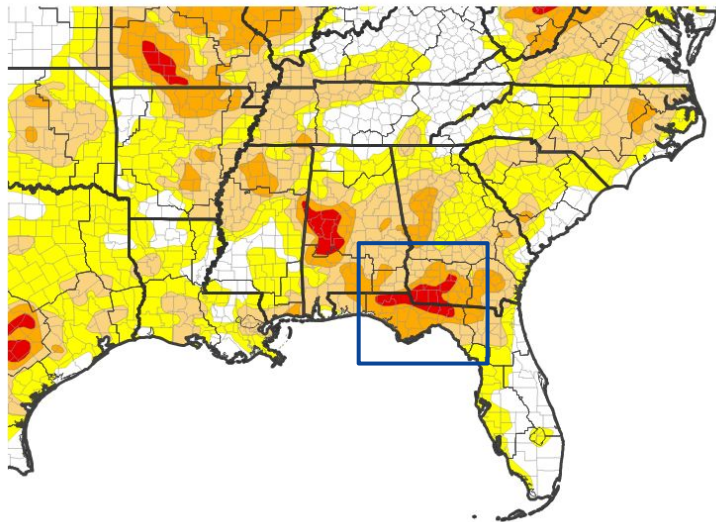


U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for southeast AL, southwest GA, and the FL Panhandle & Big Bend

- Severe to extreme drought has developed across the Tri-State area as a result of flash drought from very warm high temperatures, low humidity, and lack of rainfall over the last 2 months.
- Keep in mind that rainfall that fell after 7 AM ET Tuesday is not accounted for in this week's drought monitor.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - D3 (Extreme Drought)**: along the I-10 corridor and parts of south GA
 - D2 (Severe Drought)**: much of the FL Panhandle and Big Bend, much of southwest and south central GA east of the Flint River, and the Pea River basin in southeast AL
 - D1 (Moderate Drought)**: the rest of south GA and southeast AL and the southeast FL Big Bend.
 - D0 (Abnormally Dry)**: southern Dixie County

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 10/14/25

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid October 14, 2025



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Tallahassee, FL

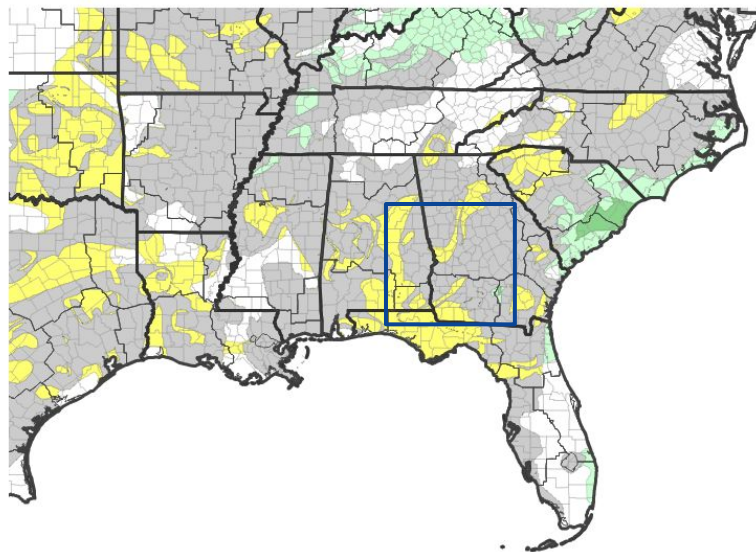


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for southeast AL, southwest GA, and the FL Panhandle & Big Bend

- Significant rapid drying attributed to flash drought has occurred across much of the area over the last month or two.
- One-Week Drought Monitor Class Change:
 - **1-Category Degradation:** much of the FL Panhandle and Big Bend into southeast AL and southwest GA
 - **No Change:** much of the rest of the area
 - **1-Category Improvement:** a small portion of northeast Berrien and southeast Irwin Counties.

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



Drought Change Since Last Week

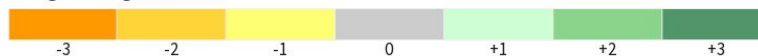


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 1-week change map valid October 14, 2025

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

Data Valid: 10/14/25





Precipitation

Note: Precipitation after 7 AM EST/6 AM CST Tuesday is incorporated in next week's Drought Monitor

	Last 30 Days		Last 45 Days	
	Rainfall	Percent	Rainfall	Percent
DeFuniak Springs*	0.29"	6.4%	0.29"	4.0%
Geneva	2.60"	59.7%	3.45"	49.8%
Panama City-ECP	2.87"	66.7%	2.87"	41.6%
Dothan	1.95"	65.8%	2.53"	54.0%
Marianna	1.10"	31.0%	1.10"	19.6%
Apalachicola	1.39"	30.8%	1.44"	19.8%
Georgetown**	1.10"	32.2%	1.10"	20.4%
Dawson**	1.36"	40.7%	1.37"	25.7%
Arlington**	0.51"	14.5%	0.52"	9.2%
Albany	0.83"	29.3%	0.83"	18.2%
Cairo**	0.69"	19.0%	0.69"	11.8%
Tallahassee	1.01"	24.7%	1.01"	15.3%
Moultrie**	1.31"	36.4%	1.31"	22.8%
Monticello*	0.98"	22.7%	0.99"	14.0%
Ty Ty**	0.71"	19.9%	0.71"	12.4%
Alapaha**	1.74"	48.7%	1.74"	30.2%
Valdosta	0.67"	17.1%	0.94"	15.5%
Perry***	4.75"	122.6%	4.86"	76.5%
Mayo*	1.97"	47.8%	2.08"	30.5%

Rainfall totals through October 14, 2025. Non-NWS Data Courtesy:

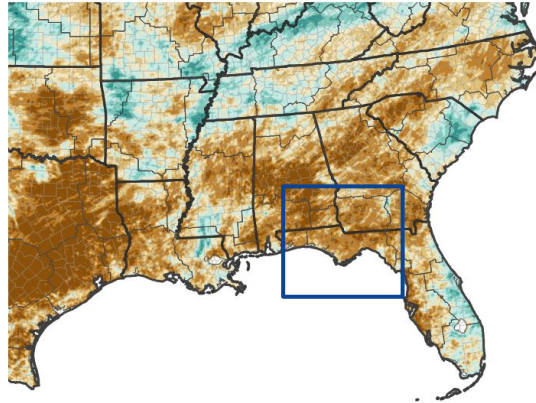
*University of Florida - Florida Automated Weather Network

**University of Georgia Weather Network

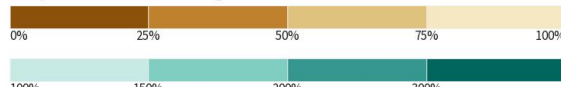
***Suwannee River Water Management District

Climatology for non-NWS stations is estimated using PRISM data.

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation

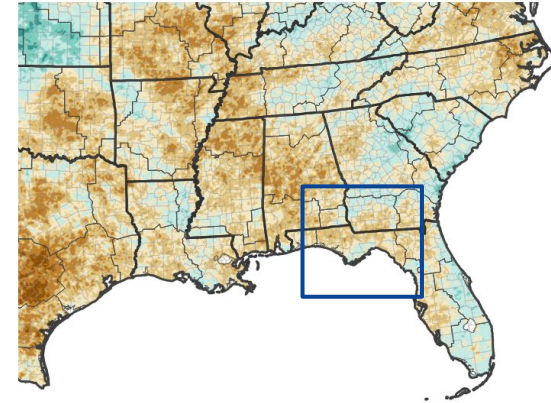


Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; Last Updated: 10/16/25
image courtesy of Drought.gov

90-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; Last Updated: 10/16/25
image courtesy of Drought.gov

Image Captions:

Left - 30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation for the Southeast US
Right - 90-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation for the Southeast US

Data Courtesy NWS Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System.

Data over the past 30 and 90 days ending October 15, 2025



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

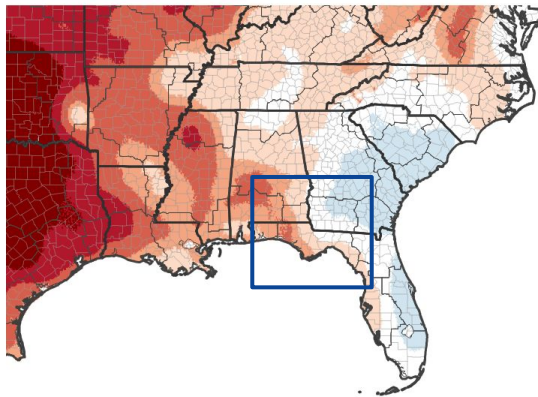
National Weather Service
Tallahassee, FL



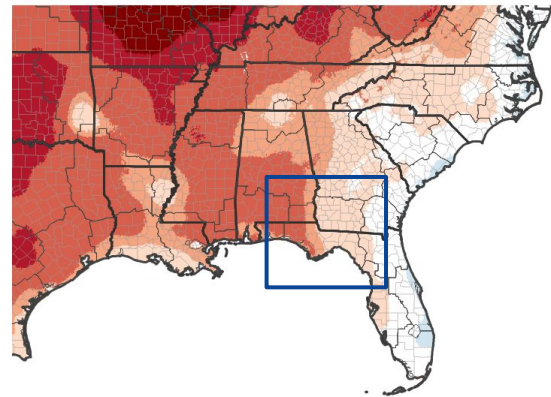
Temperature

- High temperatures over the last 30 days have been a couple degrees above average with lows near to above average for this time of year.
- The low humidity combined with the warm days have contributed to the rapid drying.

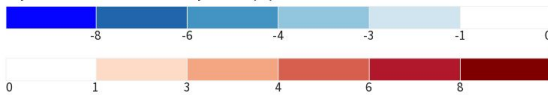
7-Day Temperature Anomaly



30-Day Temperature Anomaly



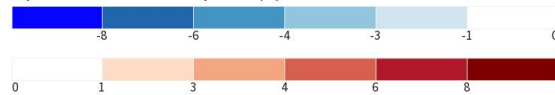
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 10/12/25

Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 10/12/25

	Last 30 Days	
	Average High (Departure)	Average Low (Departure)
Tallahassee	88.6° (+2.8°)	65.7° (+0.6°)
Apalachicola	85.3° (+1.2°)	67.6° (-0.3°)
Albany	87.5° (+2.7°)	65.6° (+2.2°)
Valdosta	86.3° (+1.7°)	65.1° (+2.9°)
Marianna	88.8° (+3.3°)	65.1° (+0.9°)
Dothan	87.9° (+2.6°)	64.2° (+1.4°)

Image Captions:

Left - 7-Day Departure from Normal High Temperatures for the Southeast US
Right - 30-Day Departure from Normal High Temperature for the Southeast US
Data ending October 12, 2025



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Tallahassee, FL



Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows across the area are below to much below normal for this time of year. This includes even our mainstem rivers, such as the Choctawhatchee, Chattahoochee, Flint, Apalachicola, Ochlockonee, Withlacoochee, and Suwannee.

Agricultural Impacts

- Alabama: farmers are reporting dry pastures and needing to feed hay to cattle as well as drying ponds
- Georgia: farmers are reporting extremely dry pastures and dried up ponds. Concerns are growing over peanut crop loss from the inability to dig and from potential low-quality yields.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Keetch-Byram Drought Index values over 600 for southeast AL, southwest GA, and far western FL Panhandle. Some pockets in the Florida Panhandle and Big Bend are over 700.
- Calhoun County, FL is under a burn ban.
- The Alabama Forestry Commission has issued a statewide [Fire Danger Advisory](#).

Other Impacts

- The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs Office of Water Resources (ADECA OWR) has declared a Drought Watch for Drought Region 8, which includes Coffee, Dale, Geneva, Henry, and Houston Counties. ADECA's latest Drought Declaration can be found [here](#).

Mitigation Actions

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





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflows along many of our area rivers are running below to much below normal over the last month.
- While we are now in our dry season, streamflows this low are still rather unusual for this time of year.
- Even our larger mainstem rivers are suffering from the low flows.

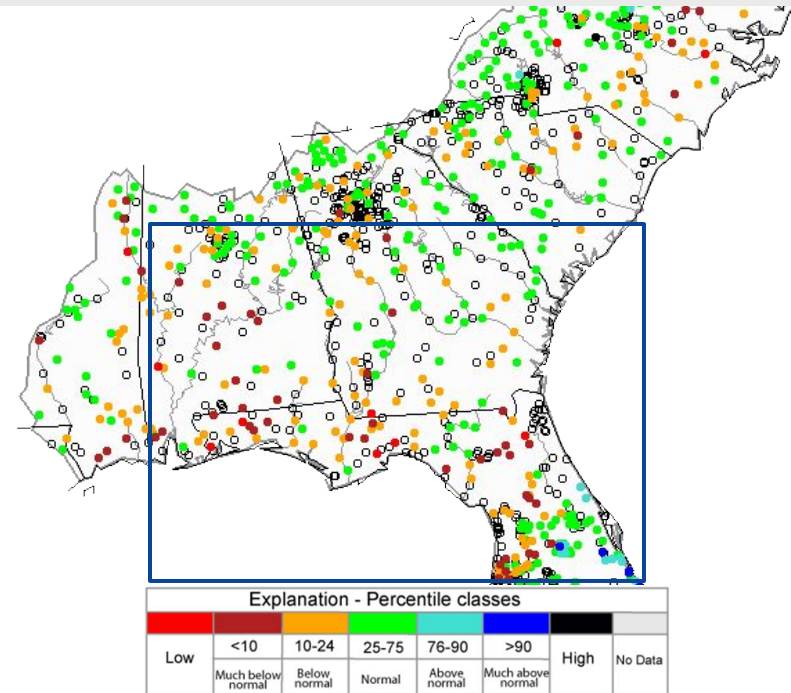


Image Caption: USGS 28 day average streamflow map valid October 15, 2025

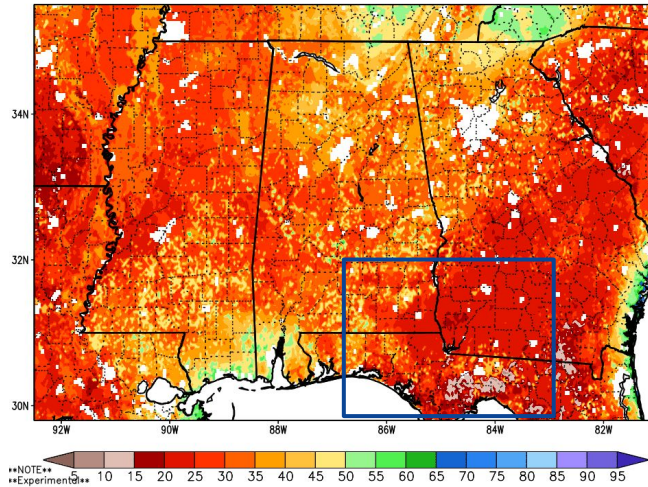




Agricultural Impacts

- Soils are quite dry across the forecast area
- Drying has continued and will likely continue given little rainfall over the next week or so.
- Farmers in southeast Alabama and southwest Georgia are reporting drying pastures and ponds as well as needing to feed hay to cattle.
- Farmers in southwest Georgia are very concerned about peanut losses due to the inability to dig

Column—Integrated Relative Soil Moisture (available water; %) valid 12z 16 Oct 20:
Precipitation in previous hour (1,2,5,10,15,20,25 mm contours)



1—Week Difference in Column Relative Soil Moisture (%) valid 12z 16 Oct 2025

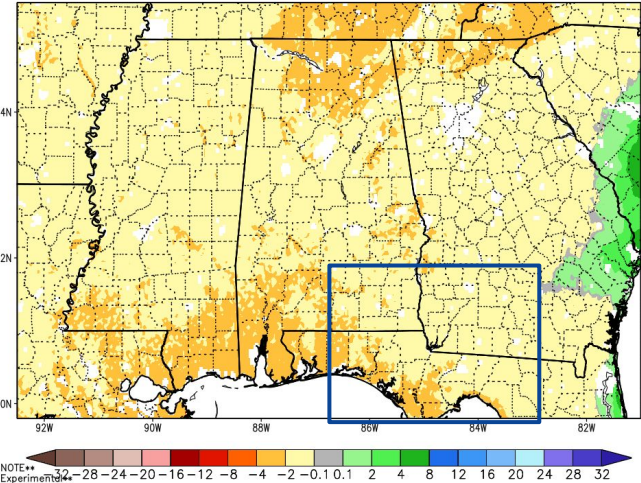


Image Captions:

Left: 0-200 cm Relative Soil Moisture from NASA SPoRT valid October 15, 2025

Right: 0-200 cm Relative Soil Moisture 2-week Change from NASA SPoRT valid through October 15, 2025

2025 Crop Reports

[Alabama](#) | [Florida](#) | [Georgia](#)





Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Keetch-Byram Drought Index values remain at or above 600 in the Tri-State area with some pockets over 700.
- Calhoun County, FL has issued a burn ban.
- The Alabama Forestry Commission has issued a statewide [Fire Danger Advisory](#).
- The Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook for October calls for above normal wildfire activity across southeast Alabama and southwest Georgia in November.

7-Day Significant Fire Potential Outlook from the Southern Area Coordination Center

Keetch-Byram Drought Index | Wed 10/15/25, 02:00 PM EDT

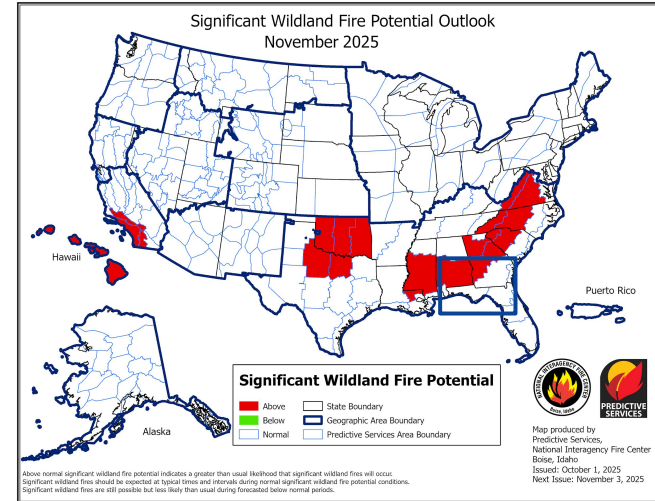
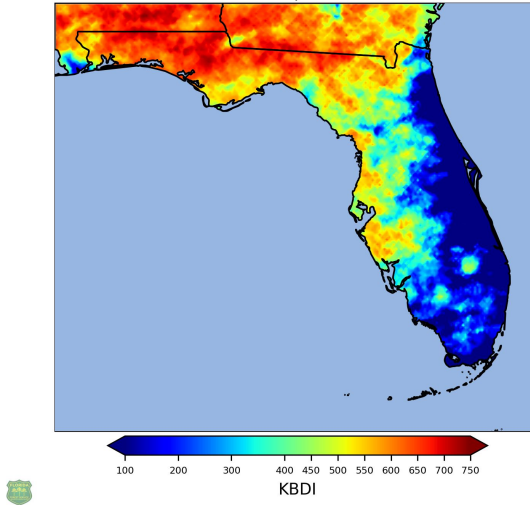


Image Captions:

Left - Keetch-Byram Drought Index valid October 15, 2025 (Florida Forest Service)
Right - Significant Wildland Fire Potential for November 2025 (National Interagency Coordination Center)



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

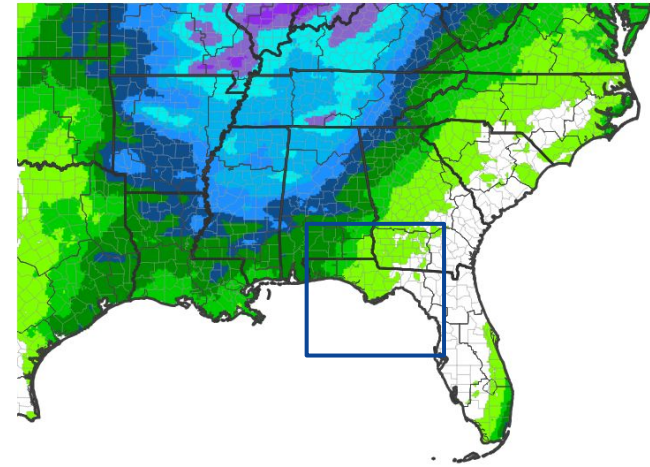
National Weather Service
Tallahassee, FL



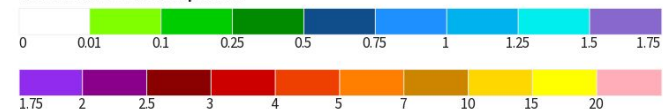
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- A couple of cold fronts move through the area during the next 7 days with the best chance of rain arriving Sunday.
- However, rainfall amounts are likely to be light with most areas seeing less than a tenth of an inch.
- Precipitation outlooks from the Climate Prediction Center:
 - [6-10 day outlook](#) (10/22-10/26): leaning below normal
 - [8-14 day outlook](#) (10/24-10/30): equal chances of above, near, or below normal

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for October 16, 2025–October 23, 2025



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image

Last Updated: 10/16/25

Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid Wednesday, October 16, 2025 through Tuesday, October 23, 2025



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Tallahassee, FL

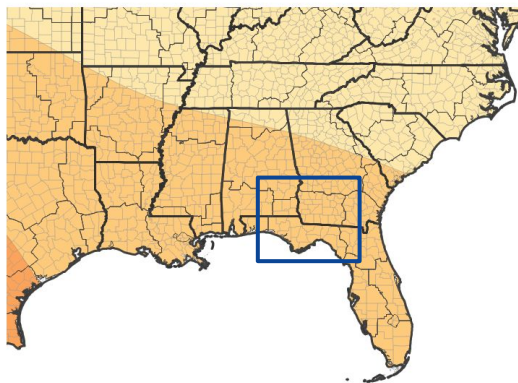


Long-Range Outlooks

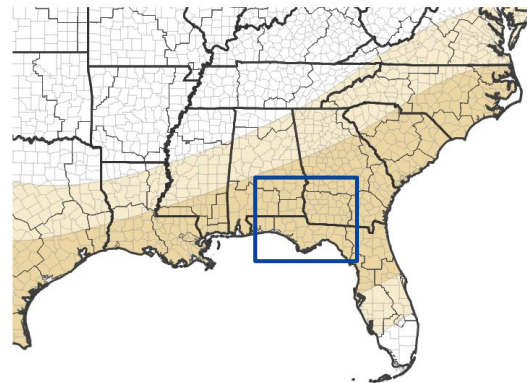
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- The next 3 months favor above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation.
- The Winter Outlook released by the Climate Prediction Center shows a classic La Nina pattern is most likely, with warmer than normal and drier than normal conditions likely.

Seasonal (3-Month) Temperature Outlook for November 1, 2025–January 31, 2026



Seasonal (3-Month) Precipitation Outlook for November 1, 2025–January 31, 2026



Average	November		December		January	
	Temp	Rain	Temp	Rain	Temp	Rain
Tallahassee	60.2°	3.10"	54.4°	4.24"	52.2°	4.41"
Apalachicola	62.1°	3.74"	56.5°	3.59"	54.0°	4.06"
Albany	58.7°	2.94"	52.7°	4.35"	50.5°	4.19"
Valdosta	59.0°	2.47"	53.2°	3.12"	50.7°	3.83"
Marianna	59.6°	3.67"	53.9°	4.81"	51.8°	4.04"
Dothan	58.9°	3.91"	53.1°	4.76"	50.8°	4.76"

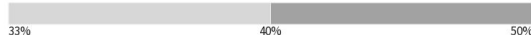
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

Last Updated: 10/16/25

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: 10/16/25

Image Captions:
Left - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Temperature Outlook](#)
Right - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Precipitation Outlook](#)

Valid November 2025 to January 2026



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Tallahassee, FL

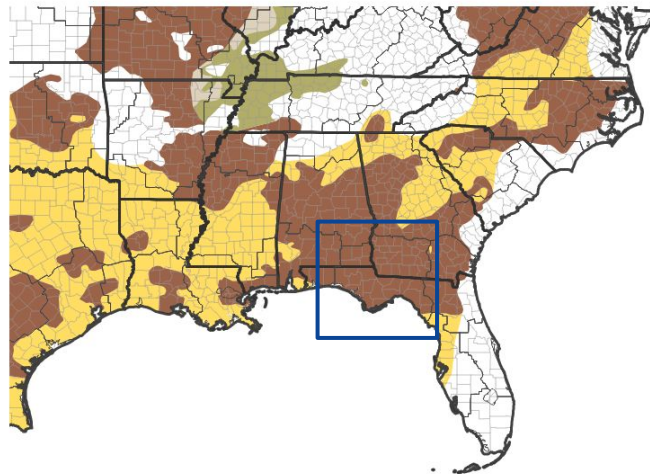


Drought Outlook

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

- Drought is likely to persist across the area through the rest of fall into winter due to the anticipated drier-than-normal conditions.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for October 16, 2025–January 31, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 10/16/25

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

Image Caption:
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook Released October 16, 2025 valid for
October 16, 2025 to January 31, 2026



**National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration**
U.S. Department of Commerce

**National Weather Service
Tallahassee, FL**