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

Valid October 9, 2025

Issued By: National Weather Service Tallahassee
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- This product will be updated October 16, 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 drought now across parts of southern Georgia. Severe drought covers much of the Tri-State area.
- Recent warm temperatures, low humidity, and much below normal rainfall have led to rapid deterioration of drought conditions.
- While recent rain was beneficial, it did little to improve the ongoing drought.

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)**: parts of Baker, Thomas, Colquitt, Worth, and Tift Counties
  - **D2 (Severe Drought):** along the I-10 corridor and much of southern Georgia along and east of the Flint River
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Much of the rest of south Georgia, north Florida, and southeast Alabama
  - **D0 (Abnormally Dry):** parts of the southeast FL Big Bend and the Dothan metro

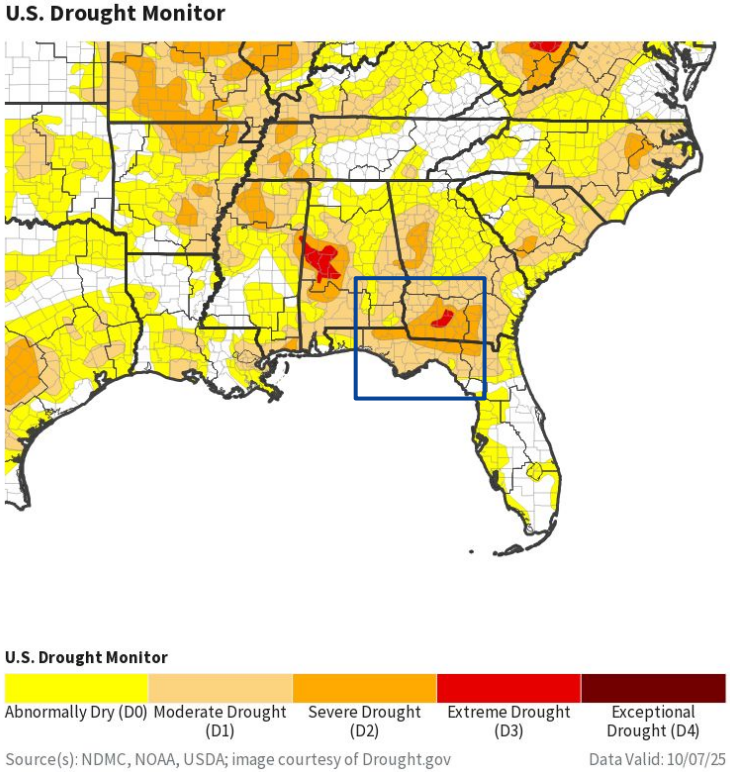


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid October 7, 2025

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.
- Four-Week Drought Monitor Class Change:
  - **4-Category Degradation:** Over parts of South Central Georgia.
  - **3-Category Degradation:** inland Florida Panhandle and parts of the inland Florida Big Bend
  - **2-Category Degradation:** much of north Florida into southwest Georgia and far southeastern Alabama
  - **1-Category Degradation:** elsewhere across southeast Alabama, southwest Georgia, and north Florida

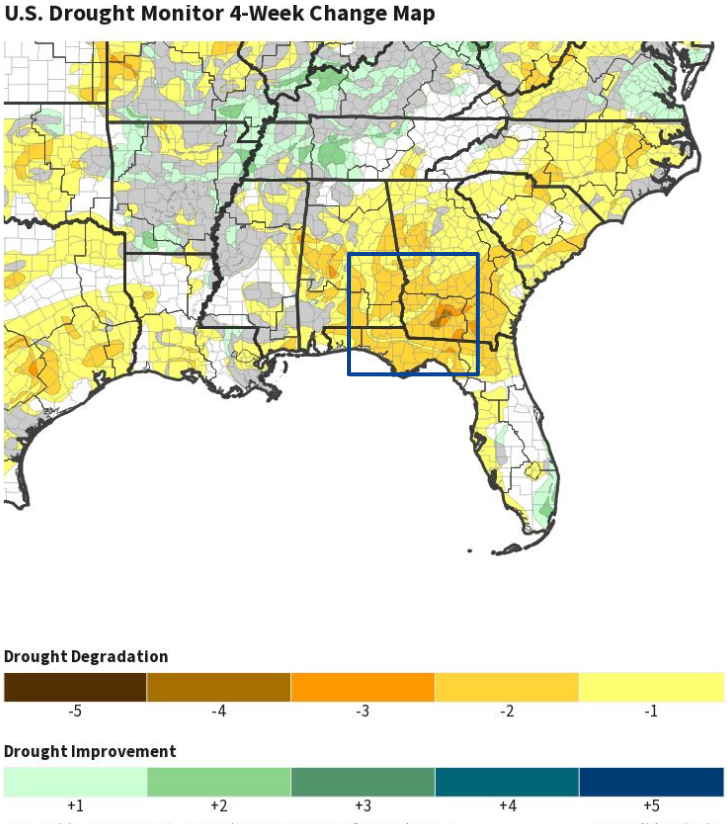


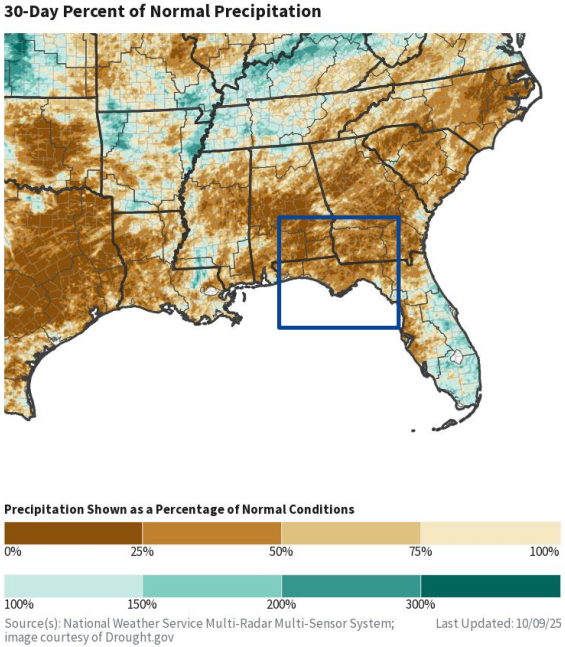
Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid October 7, 2025

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”	5.7%	0.89”	11.1%
Geneva	3.20”	66.6%	3.50”	47.3%
Panama City-ECP	2.32”	48.9%	2.40”	30.7%
Dothan	1.95”	62.1%	2.63”	47.1%
Marianna	1.10”	28.6%	1.56”	25.6%
Apalachicola	1.42”	28.4%	3.71”	44.5%
Georgetown**	1.06”	28.6%	2.06”	35.1%
Dawson**	0.80”	21.8%	1.45”	24.9%
Newton, GA**	1.05”	26.3%	1.28”	20.1%
Albany	0.82”	26.1%	1.67”	32.0%
Cairo**	0.49”	12.0%	0.65”	10.1%
Tallahassee	1.01”	22.2%	3.20”	41.3%
Moultrie**	0.94”	23.7%	1.42”	22.5%
Monticello*	1.23”	24.9%	1.42”	22.5%
Ty Ty**	0.60”	15.2%	2.07”	33.2%
Alapaha**	0.80”	19.9%	2.06”	32.2%
Valdosta	0.94”	23.0%	6.64”	103.4%
Perry***	4.85”	110.7%	10.48”	136.7%
Mayo*	2.05”	43.0%	6.79”	84.3%

Rainfall totals through October 6, 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.



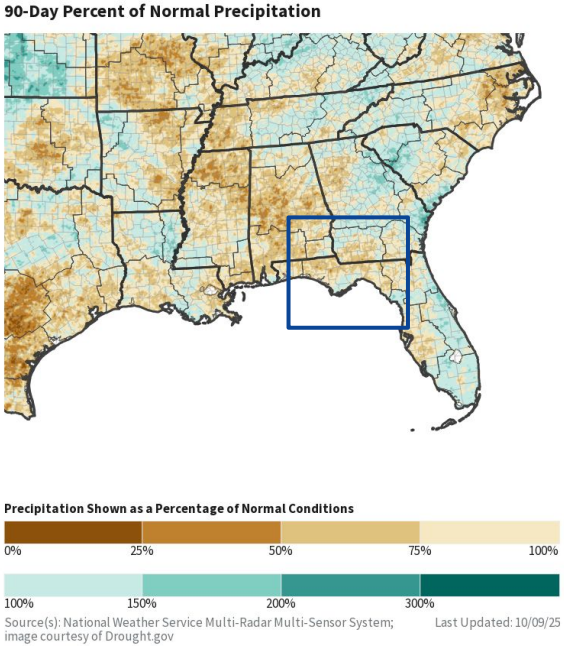


Image Captions:
Left - 30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation for the Southeast US
Right - 90-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation for the Southeast US
Data Courtesy NWS Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System.
Data over the past 30 and 90 days ending September 24, 2024

Temperature

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

	Last 30 Days	
	Average High (Departure)	Average Low (Departure)
Tallahassee	90.1° (+2.7°)	66.7° (-1.0°)
Apalachicola	86.7° (+1.0°)	68.9° (-1.2°)
Albany	89.1° (+2.4°)	66.5° (+0.4°)
Valdosta	87.7° (+1.3°)	65.7° (+1.0°)
Marianna	90.1° (+2.7°)	66.0° (-0.8°)
Dothan	89.1° (+2.0°)	65.2° (-0.2°)

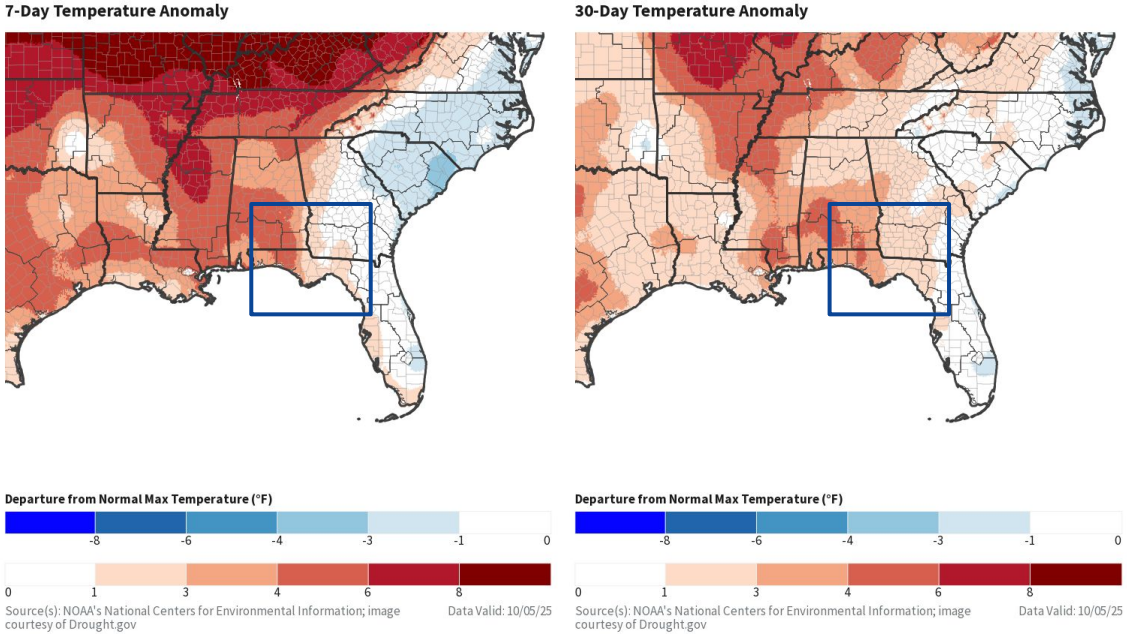


Image Captions:
Left - 7-Day Departure from Normal High Temperatures for the Southeast US
Right - 30-Day Departure from Normal High Temperature for the Southeast US
Data ending October 7, 2025

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 Flint, Apalachicola, and Choctawhatchee Rivers

Agricultural Impacts

- Alabama: farmers are reporting the need to supplement feed to cattle with dry pastures
- Florida: none reported last 7 days
- Georgia: farmers are reporting drying pastures and difficulty digging peanuts

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Keetch-Byram Drought Index values over 600 for southeast AL, southwest GA, and far western FL Panhandle. Lower KBDI values, though still dry, continue over the Apalachicola National Forest and in the southeast FL Big Bend.

Other Impacts

- The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs Office of Water Resources (ADECA OWR) has declared a Drought Advisory 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 from the ACF Basin westward are generally running below normal over the last 28 days
- However, shorter-term averages show many rivers are below to much below normal in the 7- and 14-day timeframes, including some of our mainstem rivers such as the Choctawhatchee, Apalachicola, Flint, and Ochlockonee Rivers

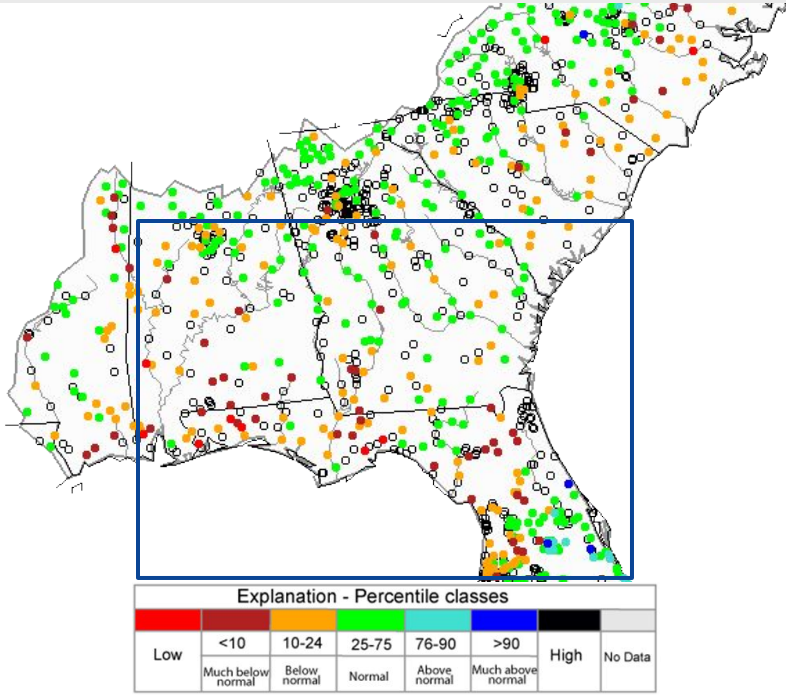
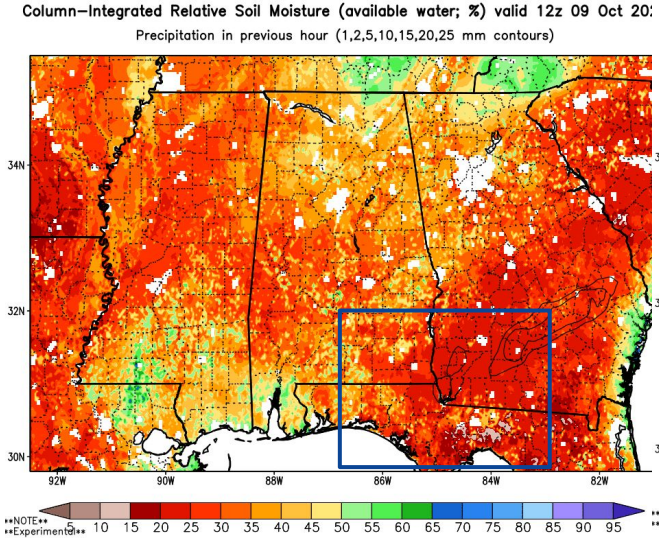


Image Caption: USGS 28 day average streamflow map valid October 8, 2025

Agricultural Impacts

- Soils are quite dry across the forecast area
- While recent light to moderate showers were welcome, the general trend has been continued drying of soils across the area.
- Many farmers across southwest Georgia report difficulty digging peanuts for harvest and pastures drying.



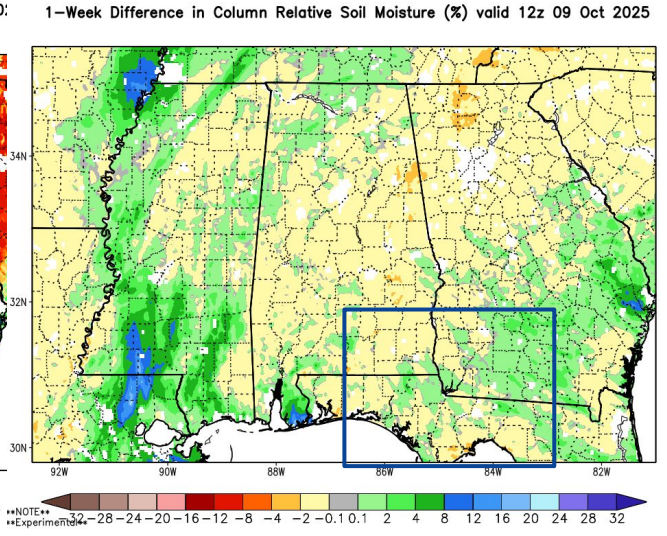


Image Captions:
Left: 0-200 cm Relative Soil Moisture from NASA SPoRT valid October 8, 2025
Right: 0-200 cm Relative Soil Moisture 2-week Change from NASA SPoRT valid through October 8, 2025

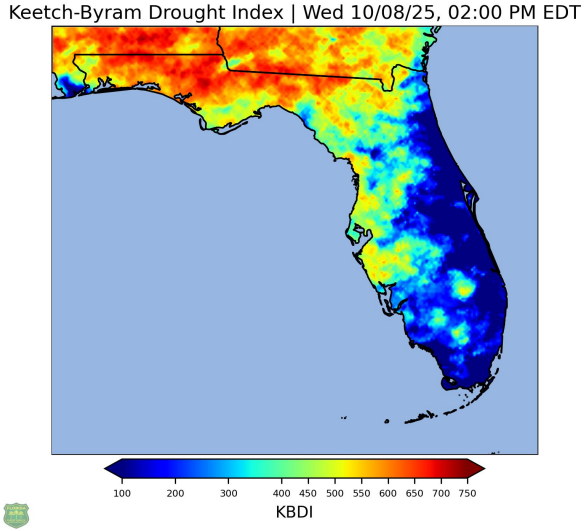
2025 Crop Reports
Alabama | Florida | Georgia

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
- The Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook for October calls for near normal fire activity, but becomes above normal across southeast Alabama and southwest Georgia in November.

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



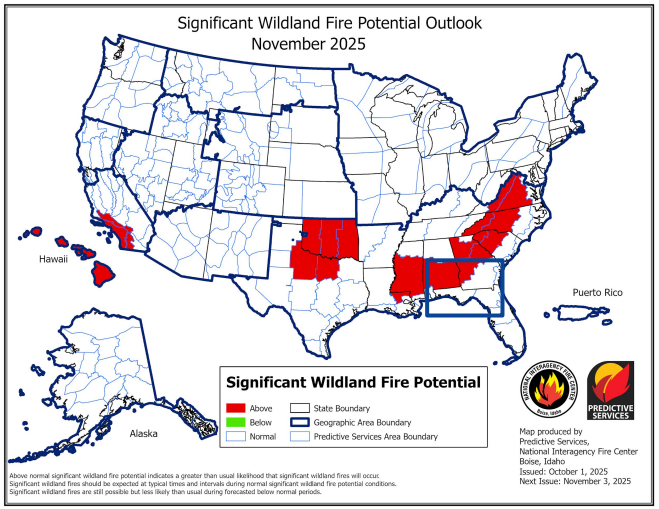


Image Captions:
Left - Keetch-Byram Drought Index valid October 8, 2025 (Florida Forest Service)
Right - Significant Wildland Fire Potential for November 2025 (National Interagency Coordination Center)

Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Some heavier downpours are possible in storms through Friday, but most areas will see less than half an inch of rain over the next 7 days

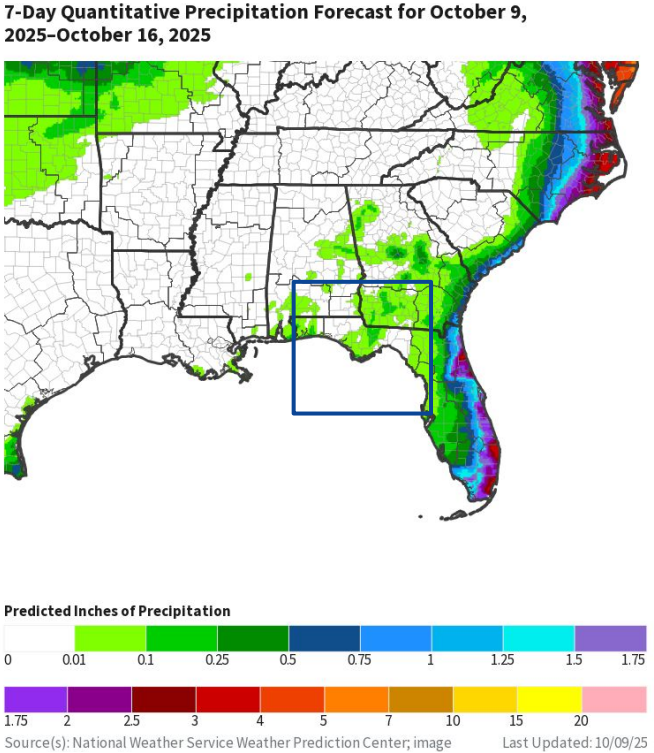


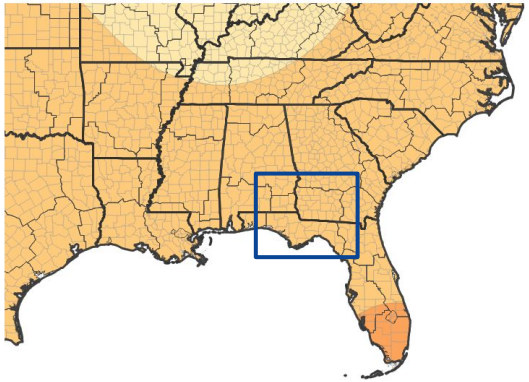
Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center 7-day precipitation forecast valid Wednesday, October 8, 2025 through Tuesday, October 15, 2025

Long-Range Outlooks

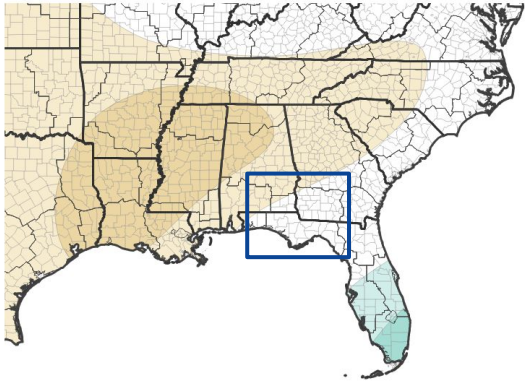
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

- The next 3 months favor above normal temperatures and equal chances for above, near, or below normal precipitation

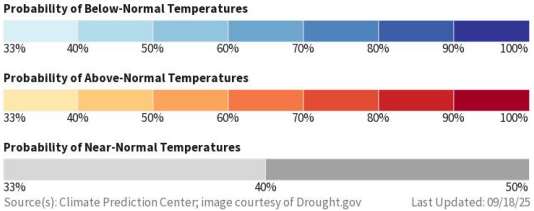
Seasonal (3-Month) Temperature Outlook for October 1, 2025–December 31, 2025



Seasonal (3-Month) Precipitation Outlook for October 1, 2025–December 31, 2025



	October		November		December	
Average	Temp	Rain	Temp	Rain	Temp	Rain
Tallahassee	70.3°	3.24”	60.2°	3.10”	54.4°	4.24”
Apalachicola	71.5°	3.63”	62.1°	3.74”	56.5°	3.59”
Albany	68.9°	2.30”	58.7°	2.94”	52.7°	4.35”
Valdosta	68.6°	3.71”	59.0°	2.47”	53.2°	3.12”
Marianna	69.5°	3.06”	59.6°	3.67”	53.9°	4.81”
Dothan	68.9°	2.70”	58.9°	3.91”	53.1°	4.76”



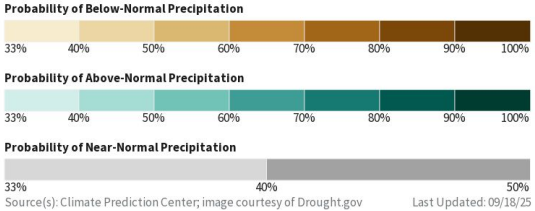


Image Captions:
Left - Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Temperature Outlook.
Right - Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Precipitation Outlook.
Valid October 2025 to December 2025

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 the early winter.

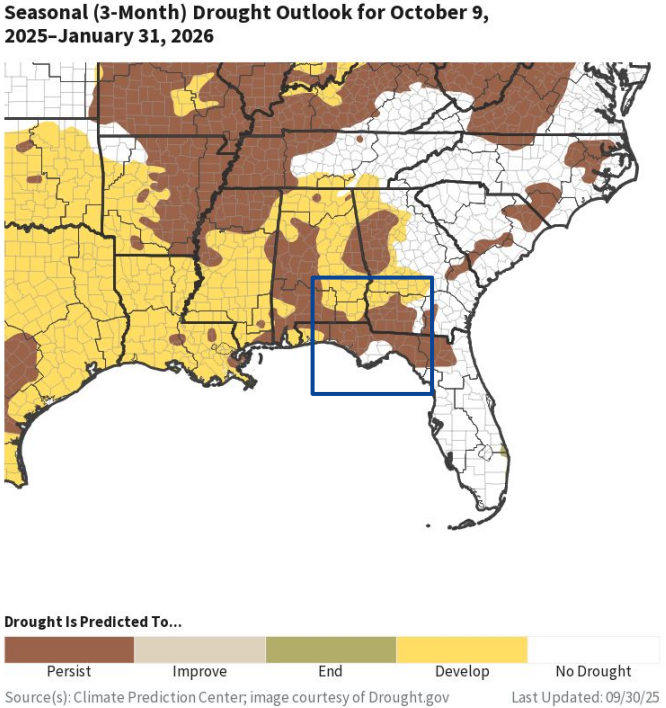


Image Caption:
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook Released September 30, 2025 valid for September 30, 2025 to December 31, 2025

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