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

Valid October 23, 2025

Issued By: National Weather Service Tallahassee
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- This product will be updated October 30, 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 continued to expanded across the Tri-State area.
- Recent rainfall this past Sunday was not sufficient to keep up with weekly normals.
- With only modest rainfall amounts predicted late in the weekend, drought is expected to continue and worsen across the region.

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 continues 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.

- The updates to this week's drought monitor includes rainfall that occurred last Sunday.

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: along the I-10 corridor and much of Southwest and South Central Georgia.
  - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Remainder of the Eastern FL Panhandle and much of the FL Big Bend, most of Southwest Georgia 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.

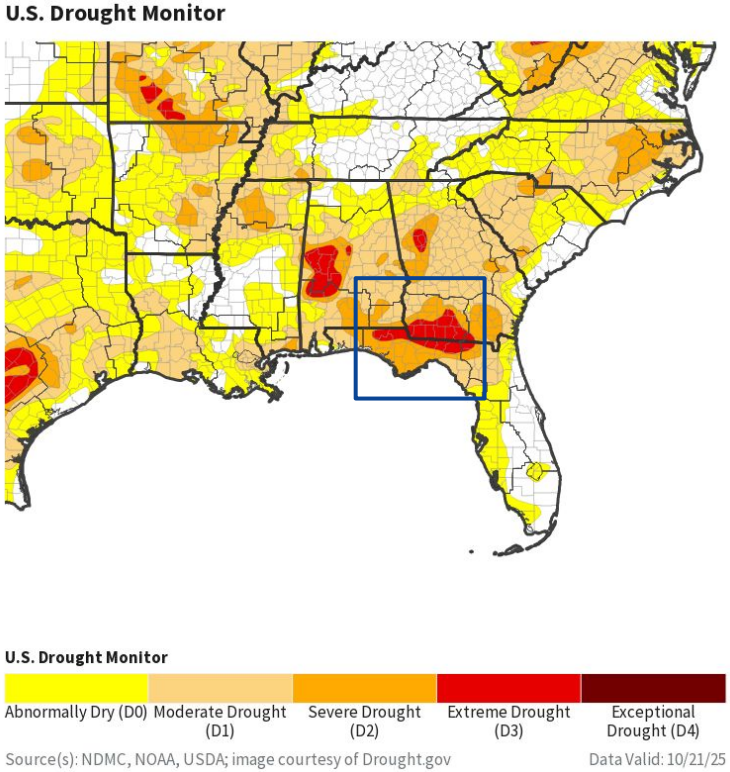


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid October 21, 2025

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. Recent rainfall last Sunday limited the amount of drought degradation across the region.
- One-Week Drought Monitor Class Change:
  - **1-Category Degradation:** South Central Georgia around Valdosta and Dixie County in Florida.
  - **No Change:** much of the rest of the area

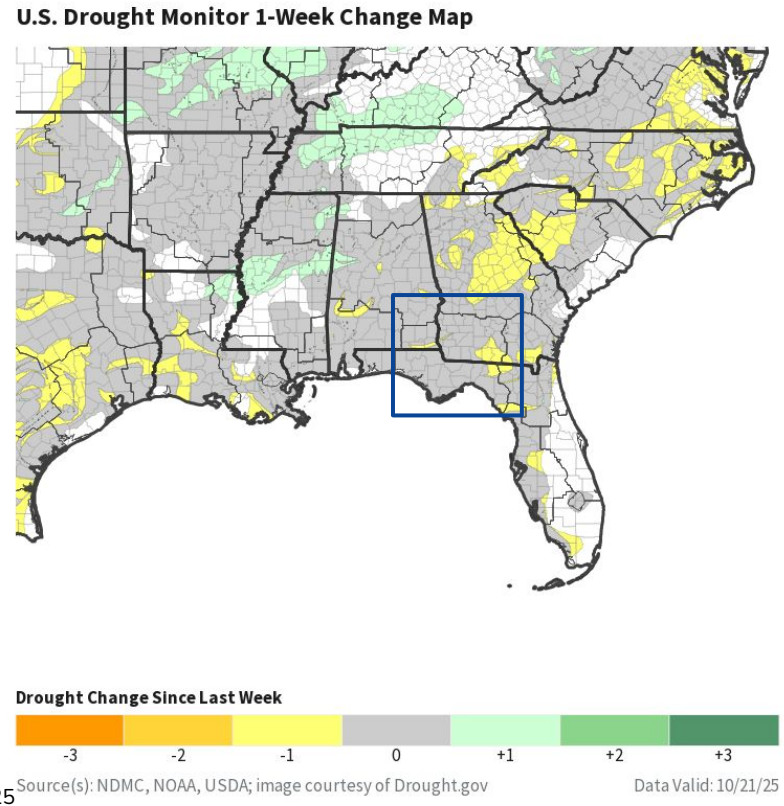


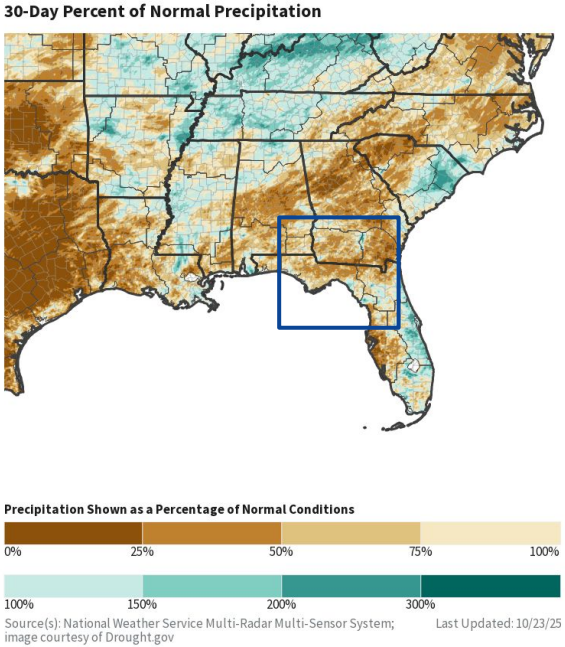
Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 1-week change map valid October 21, 2025

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*	1.47”	35.0%	1.47”	21.1%
Geneva	2.85”	70.0%	3.45”	51.9%
Panama City-ECP	3.59”	89.1%	3.59”	54.7%
Dothan	2.69”	94.3%	3.27”	72.9%
Marianna	1.62”	48.2%	1.62”	30.0%
Apalachicola	1.84”	43.8%	1.89”	27.4%
Georgetown**	2.03”	62.7%	2.03”	39.0%
Dawson**	2.05”	65.2%	2.05”	40.2%
Arlington**	1.07”	32.6%	1.07”	19.8%
Albany	1.31”	49.5%	1.33”	30.7%
Cairo**	1.08”	32.2%	1.11”	20.0%
Tallahassee	1.30”	34.3%	1.30”	20.8%
Moultrie**	1.52”	45.0%	1.59”	28.9%
Monticello*	1.41”	35.8%	1.41”	21.2%
Ty Ty**	1.15”	34.6%	1.15”	21.1%
Alapaha**	1.98”	60.1%	1.98”	36.2%
Valdosta	0.57”	14.9%	1.01”	17.0%
Perry***	5.52”	155.1%	5.62”	94.6%
Mayo*	2.21”	59.5%	2.37”	37.4%

Rainfall totals through October 21, 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.



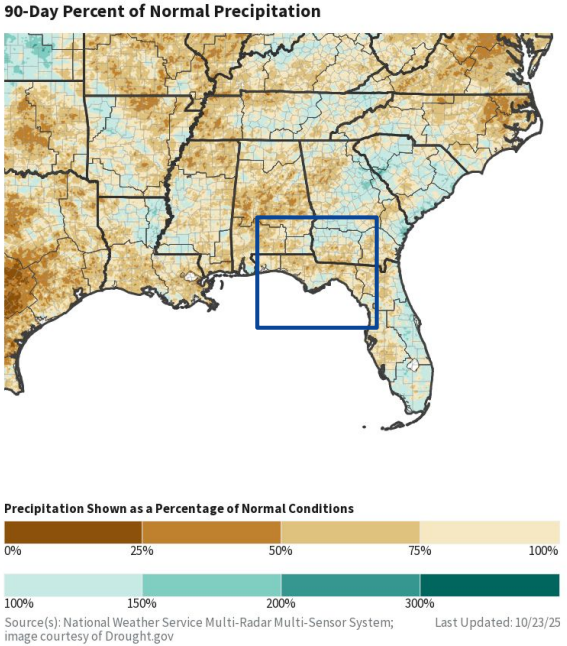


Image Captions:
Left - 30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation for the Southeast US
Right - 90-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation for the Southeast US
Data Courtesy NWS Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System.
Data over the past 30 and 90 days ending October 21, 2025

Temperature

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

	Last 30 Days	
	Average High (Departure)	Average Low (Departure)
Tallahassee	86.1° (+1.9°)	63.9° (+1.3°)
Apalachicola	83.6° (+0.8°)	65.8° (0.0°)
Albany	85.0° (+2.0°)	63.5° (+2.5°)
Valdosta	84.4° (+1.3°)	63.3° (+3.2°)
Marianna	86.3° (+2.5°)	63.0° (+1.3°)
Dothan	85.3° (+1.7°)	62.3° (+1.8°)

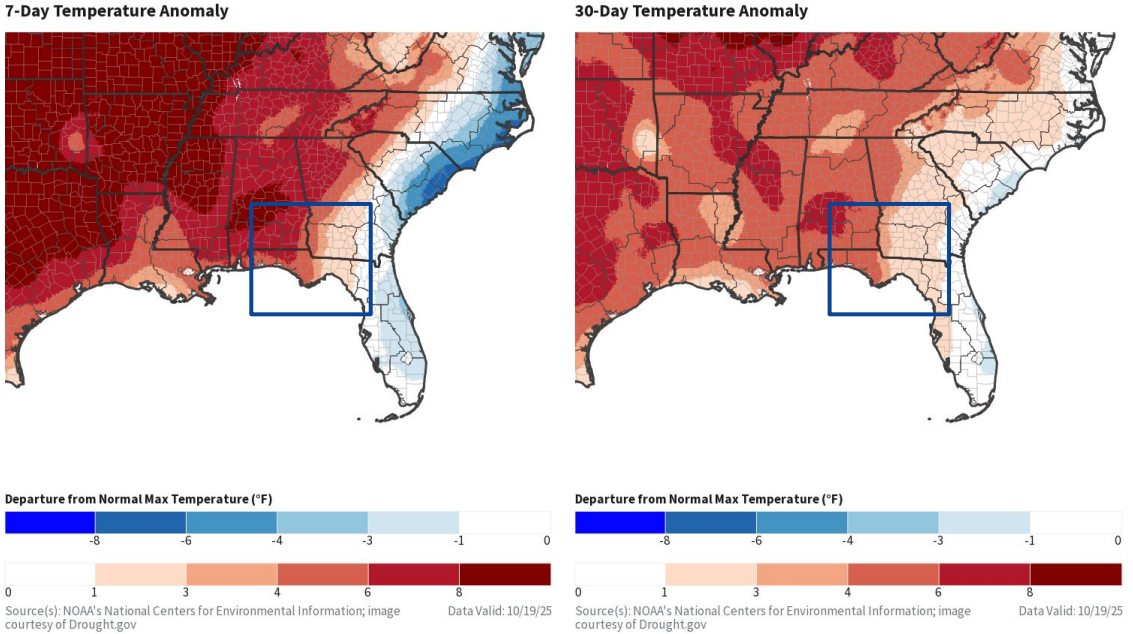


Image Captions:
Left - 7-Day Departure from Normal High Temperatures for the Southeast US
Right - 30-Day Departure from Normal High Temperature for the Southeast US
Data ending October 19, 2025

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 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. Harvesting of peanuts was facilitated by recent rain on Sunday.
- Georgia: farmers are reporting extremely dry pastures and dried up ponds, with even some loss in cattle herds. Concerns continue to increase 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 areas 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.

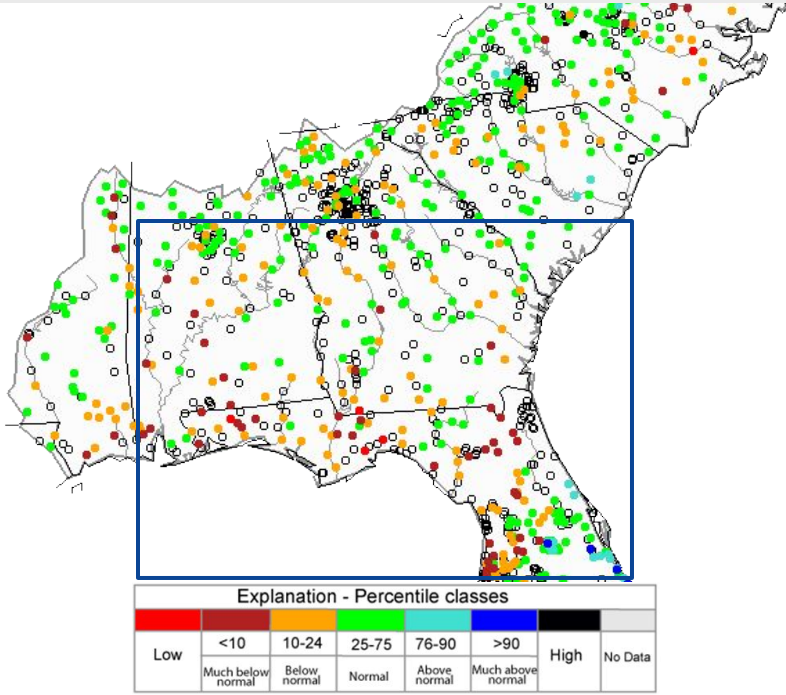


Image Caption: USGS 28 day average streamflow map valid October 23, 2025

Agricultural Impacts

- Soils are quite dry across the forecast area
- Recent rainfall resulted in moistening of the near surface soil layer, but was not sufficient to improve conditions well below ground.
- 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 dry ground.

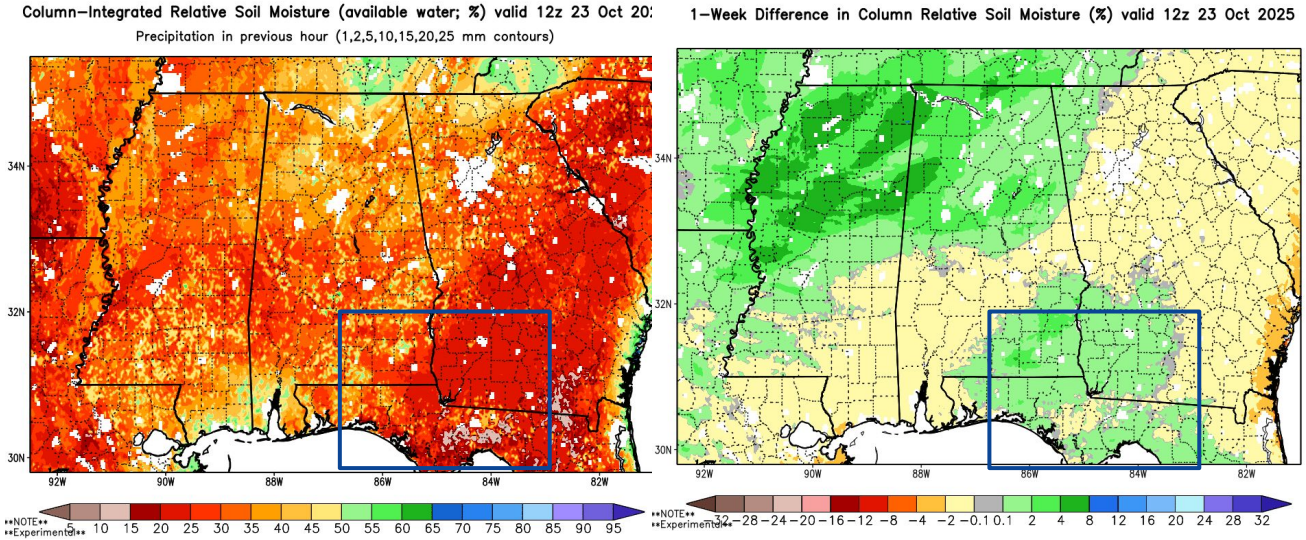


Image Captions:
Left: 0-200 cm Relative Soil Moisture from NASA SPoRT valid October 23, 2025
Right: 0-200 cm Relative Soil Moisture 2-week Change from NASA SPoRT valid through October 23, 2025

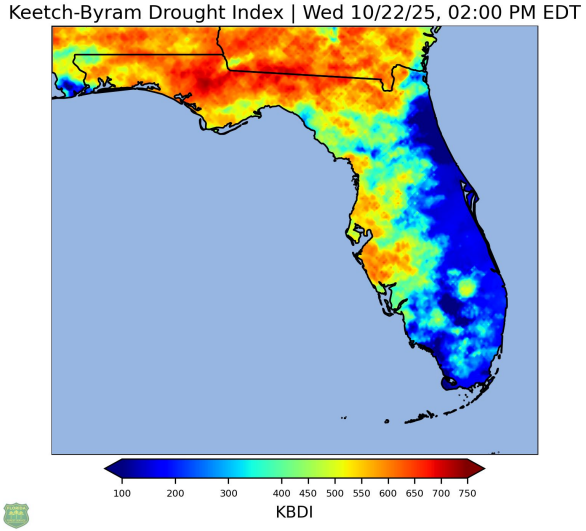
2025 Crop Reports
Alabama | Florida | Georgia

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 November calls for above normal wildfire activity across southeast Alabama and southwest Georgia.

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



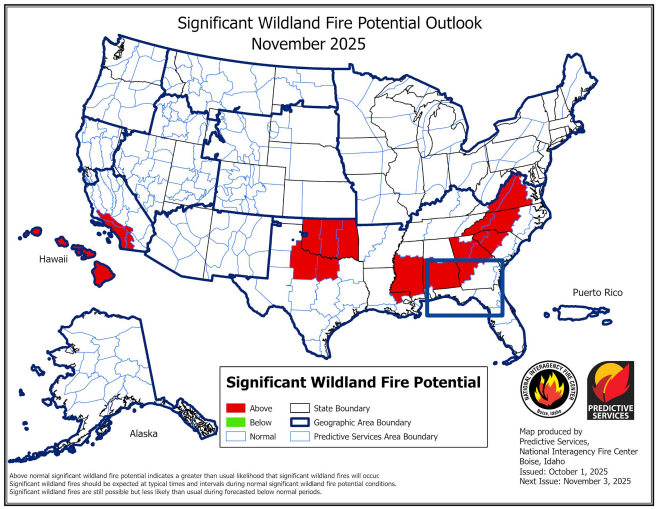


Image Captions:
Left - Keetch-Byram Drought Index valid October 22, 2025 (Florida Forest Service)
Right - Significant Wildland Fire Potential for November 2025 (National Interagency Coordination Center)

Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- A couple of cold fronts move through the area late Sunday night into Monday.
- There is higher than normal uncertainty in how much rain will occur with this system. Current forecasts suggest 0.5 inches to 1 inch of rain is anticipated with this system. However, some model forecasts suggest lower amounts.
- Precipitation outlooks from the Climate Prediction Center:
  - 6-10 day outlook (10/28-11/1): leaning above normal.
  - 8-14 day outlook (10/30-11/5): equal chances of above, near, or below normal

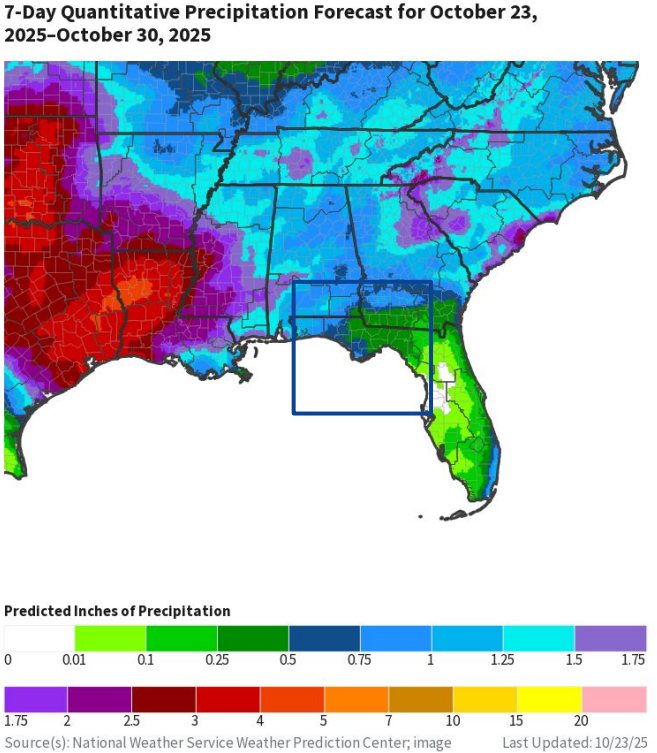


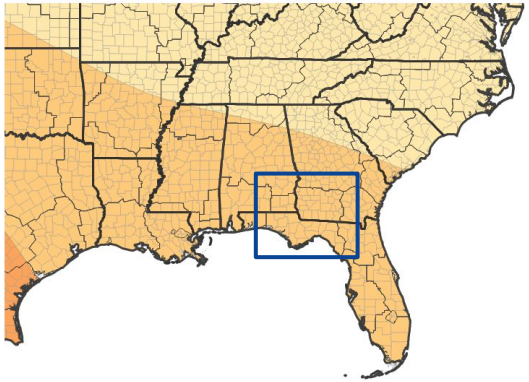
Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center 7-day precipitation forecast valid Thursday, October 23, 2025 through Thursday, October 30, 2025

Long-Range Outlooks

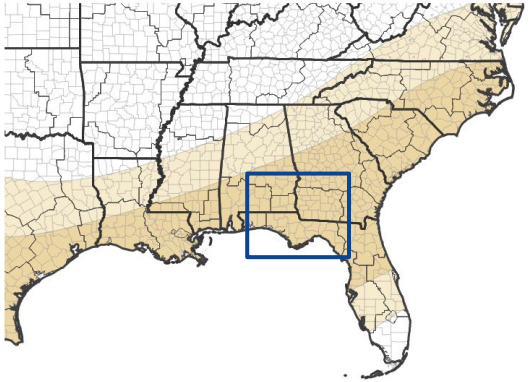
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

- The next 3 months favor above normal temperatures and 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.

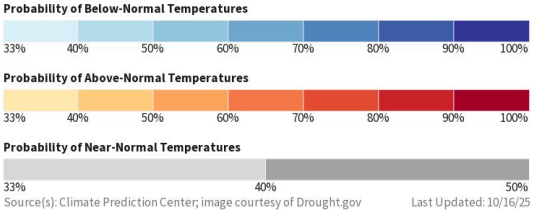
Seasonal (3-Month) Temperature Outlook for November 1, 2025–January 31, 2026



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



	November		December		January	
Average	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”



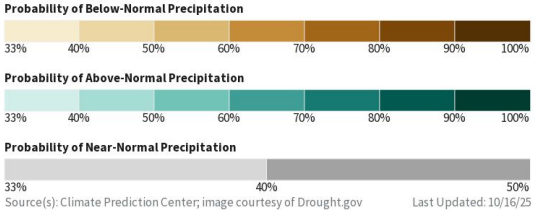


Image Captions:
Left - Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Temperature Outlook.
Right - Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Precipitation Outlook.
Valid November 2025 to January 2026

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.

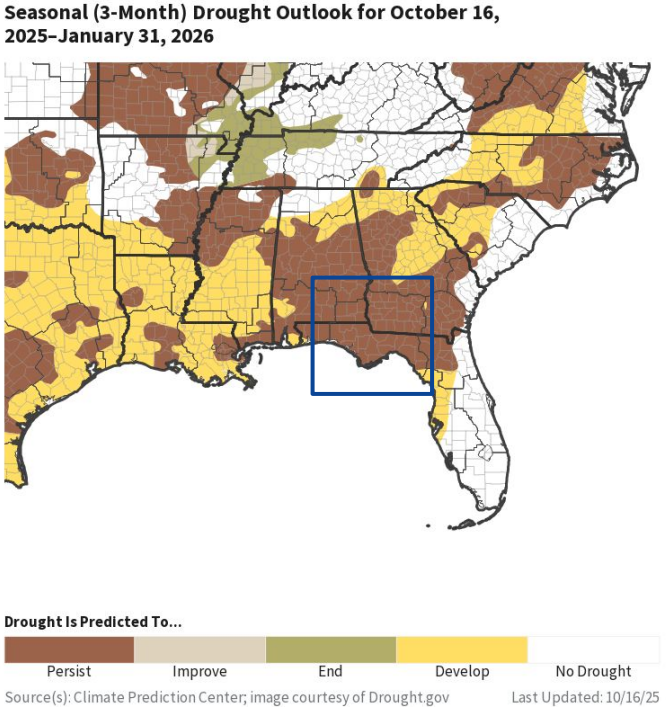


Image Caption:
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook Released October 16, 2025 valid for October 16, 2025 to January 31, 2026

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