

Monthly Climate Summary for the Florida Panhandle & Big Bend, Southwest Georgia, and Southeast Alabama

Valid for March 2026

Issued By: National Weather Service Tallahassee

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- This content will be shared monthly.
- Please visit our local climate page at: <https://www.weather.gov/wrh/Climate?wfo=tae>.
- Please visit the [Climate Prediction Center](#) for additional products.

- General Overview
- Temperatures
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- April Normals





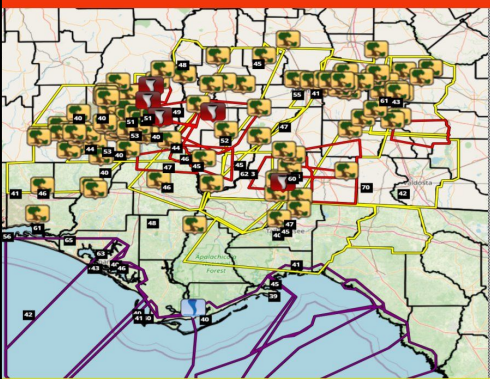
General Overview

Two severe wx events, late-season freeze, worsening drought, wildfires



- Two severe weather events on the 12th & 16th.
 - 6 combined tornadoes
 - numerous storm reports
 - locally heavy rain
- Late-season freeze on the 17th & 18th amidst an otherwise abnormally warm month.
- Bouts of elevated fire danger with multiple wildfires reported.
- Further drought expansion/degradation from continued rainfall deficits.
 - Among the fewest March days of measurable rain (≥ 0.01 ") on record - Tallahassee, Apalachicola, Albany, Valdosta

March 12, 2026 Severe Event

By the numbers



- A potent squall line swept through the region.
- Twenty combined Severe Thunderstorm & Tornado Warnings issued.
- At least 125 storm reports of damage and 40-60+ mph gusts - 4th most in our office's history.
- **Five survey-confirmed tornadoes:** four EF-1's, one EF-0; Henry-Houston County, AL, Early-Grady County, GA.
- Nine explicit severe gusts of at least 58 mph.
- One confirmed waterspout - coastal Franklin County, FL.
- **Most important number: ZERO fatalities.**



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Updated: March 13, 2026

Local storm reports with overlaid warning polygons - March 12, 2026



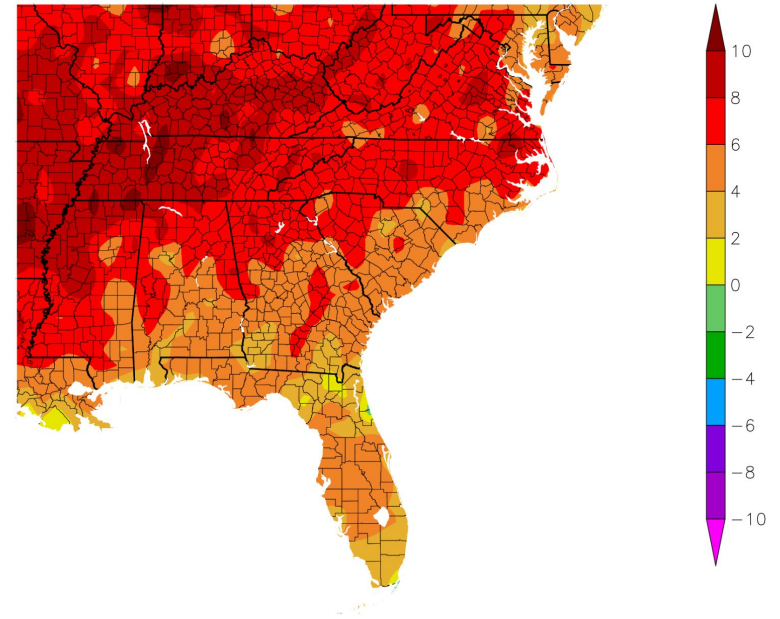


March 2026 Temperatures

Much warmer than normal

- Tallahassee (TLH):
 - average monthly mean - 65.5°
 - highest/lowest temp - 88°/30°
- Apalachicola (AAF):
 - average monthly mean - 64.1°
 - highest/lowest temp - 81°/35°
- Panama City NW (ECP):
 - average monthly mean - 65.5°
 - highest/lowest temp - 83°/31°
- Marianna (MAI):
 - average monthly mean - 65.4°
 - highest/lowest temp - 87°/30°
- Valdosta (VLD):
 - average monthly mean - 61.5°
 - highest/lowest temp - 90°/31°
- Albany (ABY):
 - average monthly mean - 64.2°
 - highest/lowest temp - 88°/29°
- Dothan (DHN):
 - average monthly mean - 64.6°
 - highest/lowest temp - 86°/31°

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
3/1/2026 – 3/31/2026



Generated 4/2/2026 using provisional data.

ACIS Web Services

Image Caption: The High Plains Regional Climate Center ([HPRCC](#))



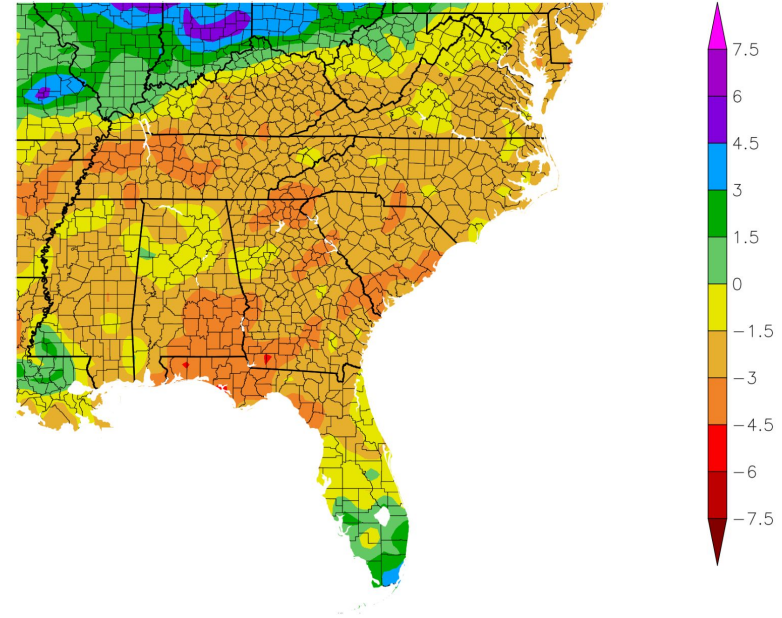


March 2026 Precipitation

Much drier than normal

- Tallahassee (TLH):
 - monthly amount - 1.61 inches
 - 3.63 inches below normal
- Apalachicola (AAF):
 - monthly amount - 1.72 inches
 - 2.72 inches below normal
- Panama City NW (ECP):
 - monthly amount - 0.86 inches
 - 4.38 inches below normal
- Marianna (MAI):
 - monthly amount - 0.95 inches
 - 4.06 inches below normal
- Valdosta (VLD):
 - monthly amount - 2.09 inches
 - 2.16 inches below normal
- Albany (ABY):
 - monthly amount - 2.61 inches
 - 1.94 inches below normal
- Dothan (DHN):
 - monthly amount - 1.32 inches
 - 3.40 inches below normal

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
3/1/2026 – 3/31/2026



Generated 4/2/2026 using provisional data.

ACIS Web Services

Image Caption: The High Plains Regional Climate Center ([HPRCC](#))



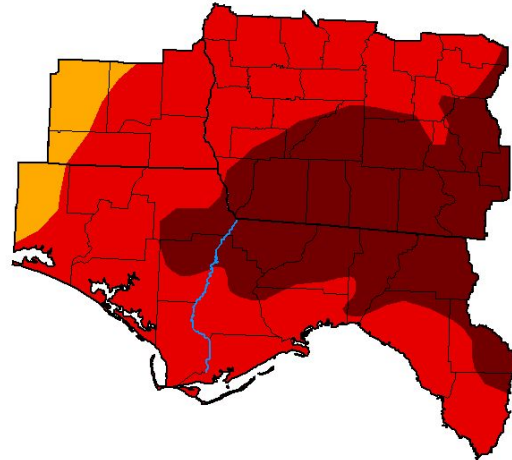


Drought Monitor

Exceptional drought continues to expand; severe to extreme drought elsewhere

- **Exceptional D4 Drought** - along/north of the I-10 corridor into SW GA.
- **Extreme D3 Drought** - nearly everywhere else
- **Severe D2 Drought** - parts of SE AL/western FL Panhandle.
- One-class degradation nearly areawide since March 3.
- Another month lacking meaningful rainfall either maintained caused an expansion of D4 conditions.
- Long-term significant impacts persist for rivers and streams with lakes & ponds at exceptionally low levels or dry. Worst conditions since 2012.

U.S. Drought Monitor Tallahassee, FL WFO



March 31, 2026
(Released Thursday, Apr. 2, 2026)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	94.58	37.60
Last Week 03-24-2026	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	76.39	22.79
3 Months Ago 12-30-2025	0.00	100.00	100.00	46.72	10.97	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2026	0.00	100.00	100.00	46.72	10.97	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-30-2025	1.00	99.00	92.99	33.10	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 04-01-2025	75.24	24.76	3.18	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

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droughtmonitor.unl.edu

https://www.weather.gov/media/tae/DGT/DGT_TAE_04022026.pdf

Image Caption: Weekly [Local Drought Monitor](#) valid March 31, 2026



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Tallahassee, FL



Other Relevant Climate Data

Based on current 30-yr climatology (1991-2020)

- Tallahassee (TLH):
 - days of measurable rain - 3
 - greatest 24-hr rainfall - 1.47 inches, 15th-16th
 - [daily records](#)
 - highest wind gust - 39 mph, 12th
- Apalachicola (AAF):
 - days of measurable rain - 3
 - greatest 24-hr rainfall - 1.62 inches, 16th-17th
 - [daily records](#)
 - highest wind gust - 47 mph, 16th
- Albany (ABY):
 - days of measurable rain - 4
 - greatest 24-hr rainfall - 2.08 inches, 16th
 - [daily records](#)
 - highest wind gust - 55 mph, 12th
- Panama City NW (ECP):
 - days of measurable rain - 3
 - greatest 24-hr rainfall - 0.39 inches, 16th
 - highest wind gust - 41 mph, 16th
- Marianna (MAI):
 - days of measurable rain - 5
 - greatest 24-hr rainfall - 0.53 inches, 11th-12th
 - highest wind gust - 39 mph, 12th
- Valdosta (VLD):
 - days of measurable rain - 3
 - greatest 24-hr rainfall - 1.75 inches, 15th-16th
 - highest wind gust - 31 mph, 15th
- Dothan (DHN):
 - days of measurable rain - 8
 - greatest 24-hr rainfall - 0.48 inches, 12th
 - highest wind gust - 52 mph, 12th

Sources: [National Center for Environmental Information](#), NOAA [NOWData](#).





April Normals

Based on current 30-yr climatology (1991-2020)

- Tallahassee (TLH):
 - mean monthly temp - 67.4°
 - high/low - 80.8°/54.1°
 - average first 90° day - April 27
 - mean monthly rainfall - 3.52 inches
- Apalachicola (AAF):
 - mean monthly temp - 61.7°
 - high/low - 76.8°/58.3°
 - average first 90° day - May 20
 - mean monthly rainfall - 2.77 inches
- Panama City NW (ECP):
 - mean monthly temp - 68.0°
 - high/low - 79.1°/56.9°
 - average first 90° day - May 11
 - mean monthly rainfall - 4.92 inches
- Marianna (MAI):
 - mean monthly temp - 67.9°
 - high/low - 80.4°/55.4°
 - average first 90° day - May 3
 - mean monthly rainfall - 4.23 inches
- Valdosta (VLD):
 - mean monthly temp - 67.3°
 - high/low - 80.4°/54.2°
 - average first 90° day - April 26
 - **reached on March 11, 2026**
 - mean monthly rainfall - 3.54 inches
- Albany (ABY):
 - mean monthly temp - 73.3°
 - high/low - 79.6°/53.4°
 - average first 90° day - April 25
 - mean monthly rainfall - 3.70 inches
- Dothan (DHN):
 - mean monthly temp - 72.3°
 - high/low - 78.4°/55.4°
 - average first 90° day - May 6
 - mean monthly rainfall - 4.08 inches

Sources: [National Center for Environmental Information](#), NOAA [NOWData](#).

