



Drought Information Statement for West Central & Southwest Florida

Valid January 19, 2024

Issued By: WFO Tampa Bay

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

- This will be the last issuance of this product until D3 (Extreme Drought) returns to parts of the NWS Tampa Bay forecast area.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/tbw/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.



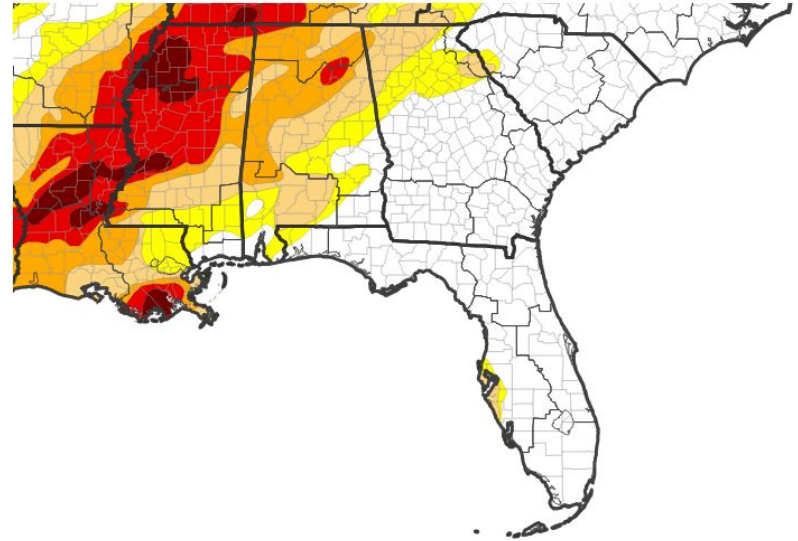


U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

- There has been improvement to drought conditions across the southeast U.S. and Florida peninsula during the past few weeks, with drought removed from the Florida Panhandle, and a one to two category improvement for west central Florida.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 01/16/24

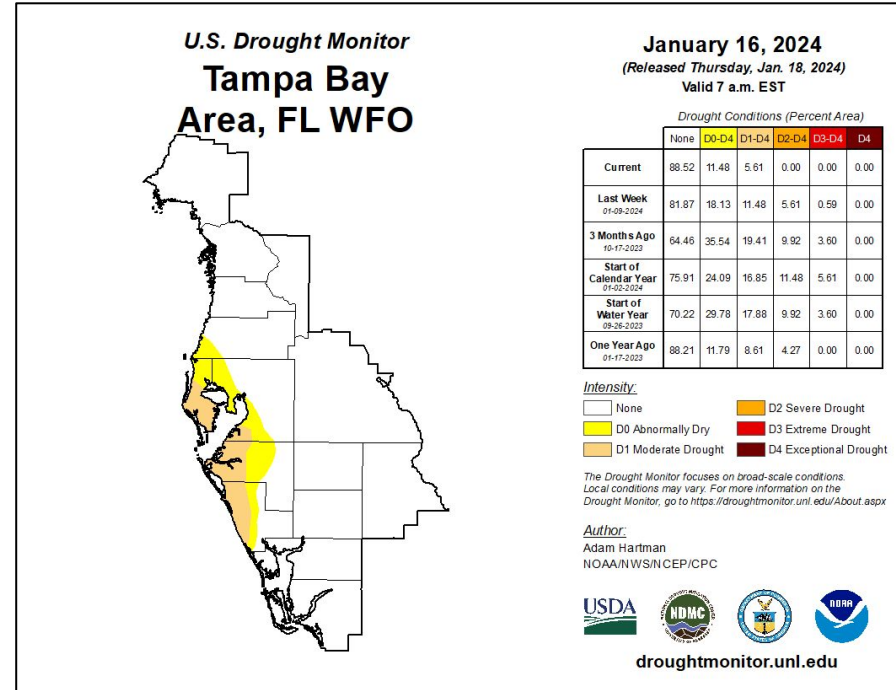




U.S. Drought Monitor for WFO Tampa Bay Area

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: along the coast from central Pinellas county and southwest Hillsborough south through Manatee county into central Sarasota county.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: bounds the D1 area from southwestern Pasco county south to coastal Manatee and Sarasota counties.

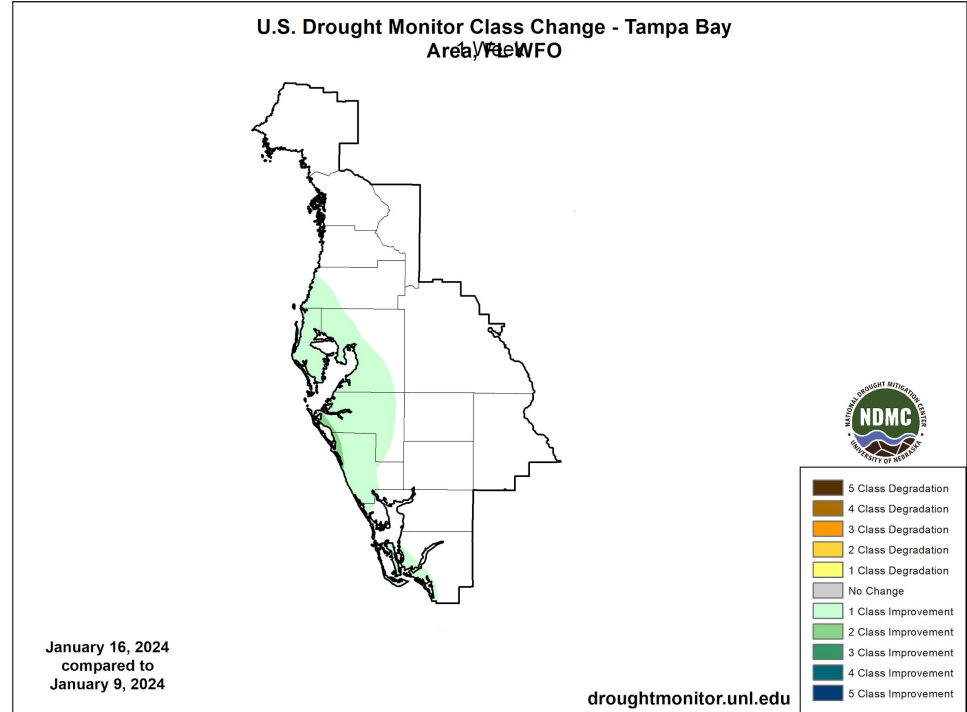




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [1-week change map](#) for Florida

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - In the last week ending Tuesday January 16, there was a one to two category improvement across west central Florida with the exception of extreme coastal Manatee and Sarasota counties.





Precipitation - Last 12 months

Table of Accumulated Rainfall (inches) for Select Locations - January 19, 2023 to January 18, 2024

The following table gives the rainfall from January 19, 2023 to January 18, 2024:

Station	Site Id	Observed Rainfall	30 Yr Normal	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Tampa Area	TPA:	38.90	49.48	-10.58	79%
St Pete/Clearwater	PIE:	*33.32	53.62	-20.30	62
St Petersburg Area	SPG:	36.77	46.65	-9.88	79%
NWS Ruskin	TBW:	34.88	53.59	-18.71	65
Winter Haven Area	GIF:	48.31	46.12	+2.19	105
Sarasota-Bradenton Area	SRQ:	30.39	49.05	-18.66	62%
Fort Myers/Page Field	FMY:	**53.61	57.41	-3.80	93
Chiefland 5 SE	CHIF1:	51.63	57.10	-5.47	90%
Plant City	PLCF1:	53.35	56.11	-2.76	95
Lakeland	LLDF1:	52.15	56.82	-4.67	92%
Bradenton 5 ESE	BRAF1:	48.31	56.28	-7.97	86%
Venice	VNCF1:	34.22	51.27	-17.05	67%

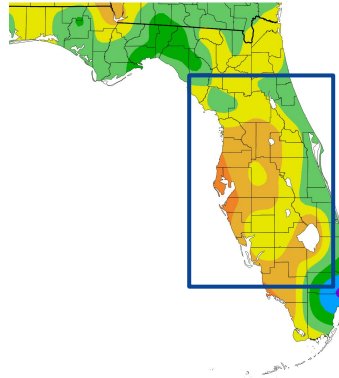
*Rainfall missing on August 20, 2023. Radar estimate of 0.50 inches included in this total

**Rainfall missing on June 2, 2023. Radar estimate of 1.90 inches included in this total

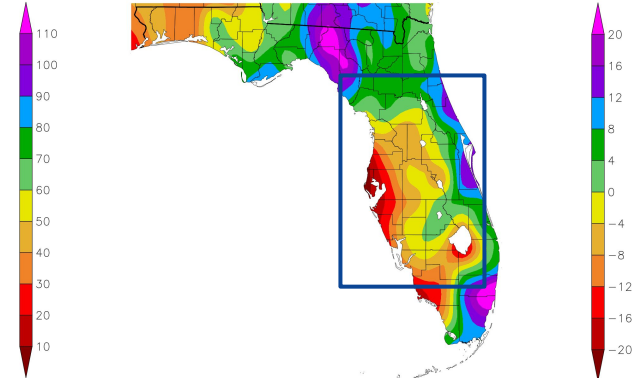
The following table gives the rainfall from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023:

Station	Site Id	Observed Rainfall	30 Yr Normal	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Inverness 3 SE	INVF1:	45.21	52.39	-7.18	86%
St Leo	STLF1:	47.21	53.46	-6.25	88%
Bartow	BARF1:	47.92	50.88	-2.96	94%
Mountain Lake	LWLF1:	42.56	52.77	-10.21	81%
Myakka River State Pk	MKCF1:	47.62	61.07	-13.45	78%
Wauchula 2 N	WAUF1:	43.63	52.00	-8.37	84%
Archbold Bio Stn	ACHF1:	60.94	54.23	+6.71	112%

Precipitation (in)
1/18/2023 - 1/17/2024



Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
1/18/2023 - 1/17/2024



2023 was the Driest Year on record at Sarasota-Bradenton Area and NWS Ruskin!

Venice had its 2nd Driest Year





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Widespread rainfall this past week allowed rivers and streams across west central and southwest Florida to maintain levels near to above climatological normal.

Agricultural Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

- Water conservation techniques are strongly encouraged in drought areas. One day a week watering restrictions are in effect for Hillsborough, Pinellas, and Pasco counties, along with Cape Coral and unincorporated Lee county. Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information. Local water restriction ordinances may be in place.

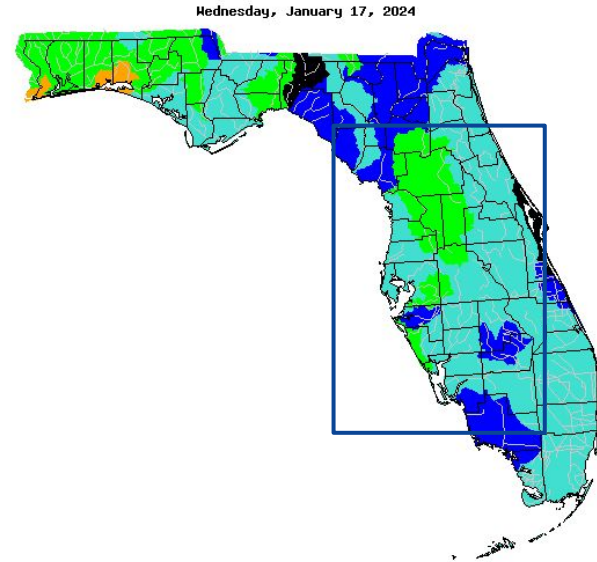




Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid January 17, 2024

- Rainfall during the past week was generally 1 to 2 inches north of the Manatee/Polk county lines, and 2 to 4 inches to the south. A band of 6 to 8 inches occurred across northern Lee county. Streamflows are running near to above normal across the region.



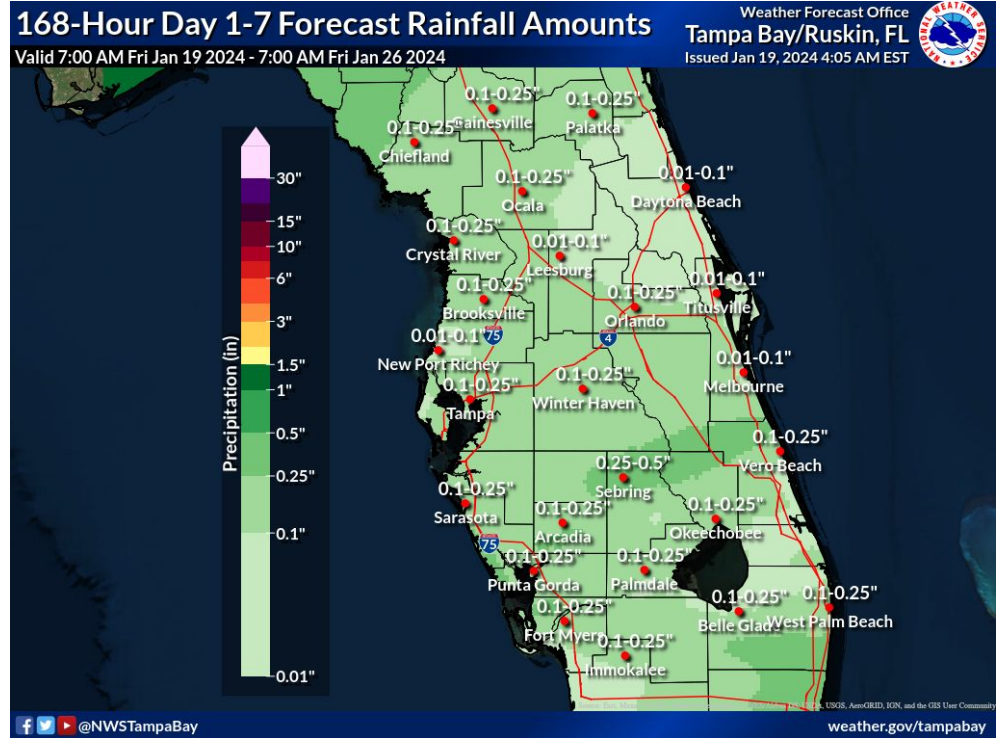
Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Rainfall during the next week is forecast to generally range from about a 0.10 to 0.25 inch across west central and southwest Florida.

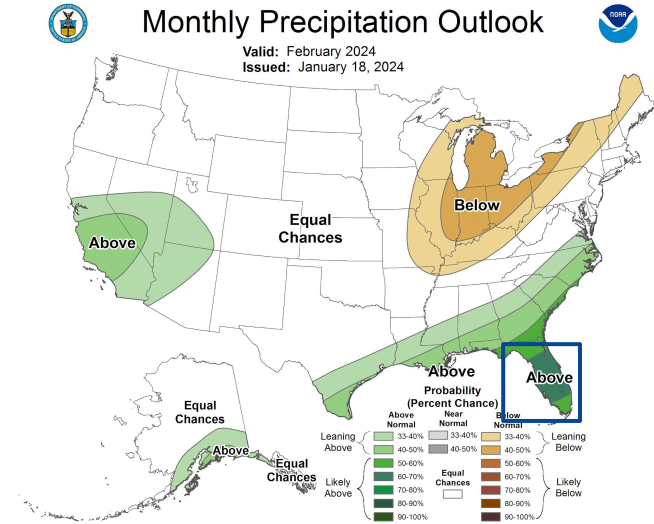
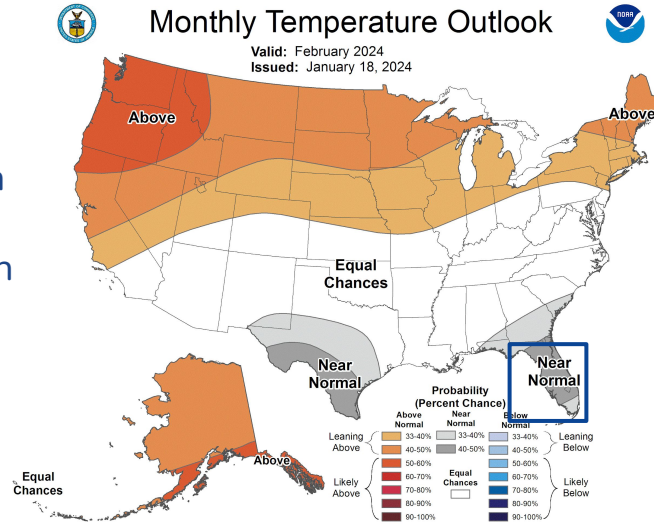




Long-Range Monthly Outlook

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

- Near normal temperatures are forecast for February.
- Above normal precipitation is likely across the Florida peninsula during the month of February.

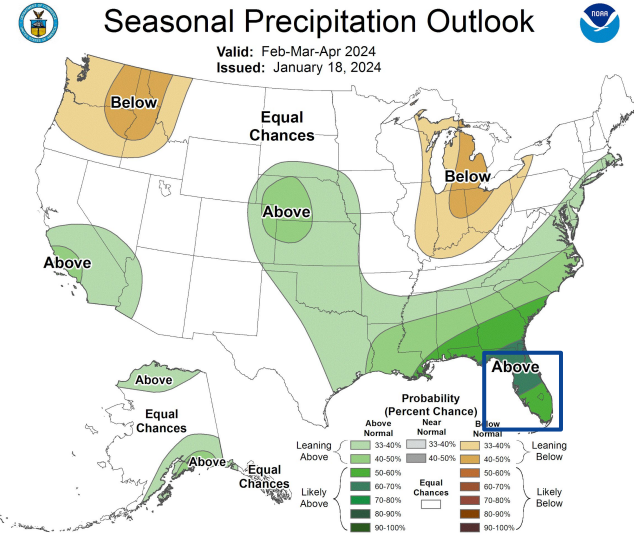
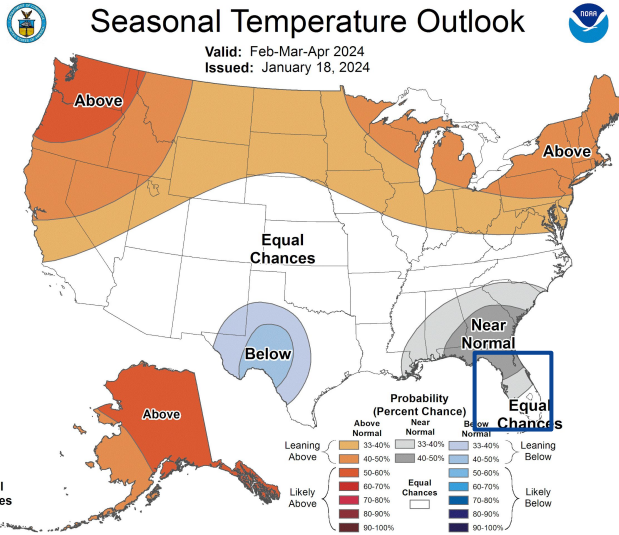




Long-Range Seasonal Outlook

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

- Near normal temperatures are forecast for February through April.
- Above normal precipitation is likely during the period February through April.

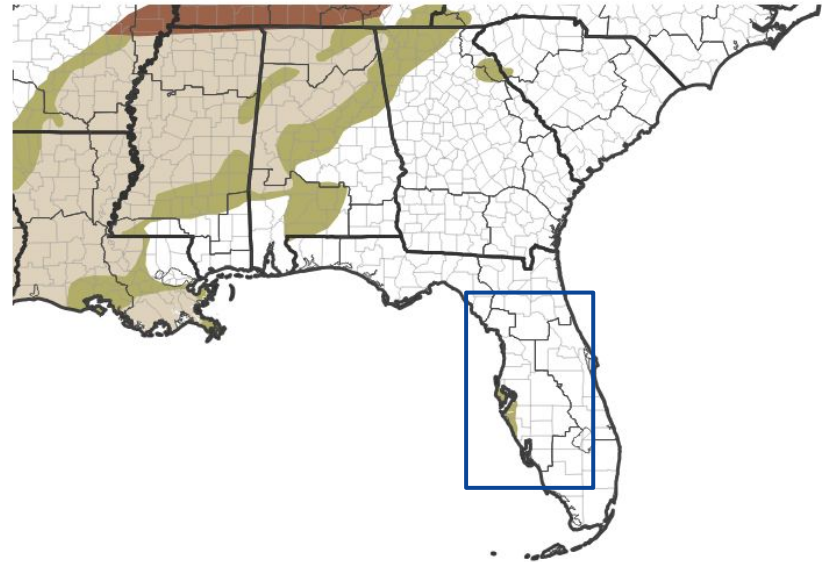




Drought Outlook

Seasonal Drought Outlook through April

- The outlook for wetter than normal weather during this winter should continue to ease Drought conditions.



Drought Is Predicted To...



Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

