



Drought Information Statement for West Central & Southwest Florida

Valid January 13, 2024

Issued By: WFO Tampa Bay

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

- This product will be updated by Jan 20, 2024 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/tbw/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.



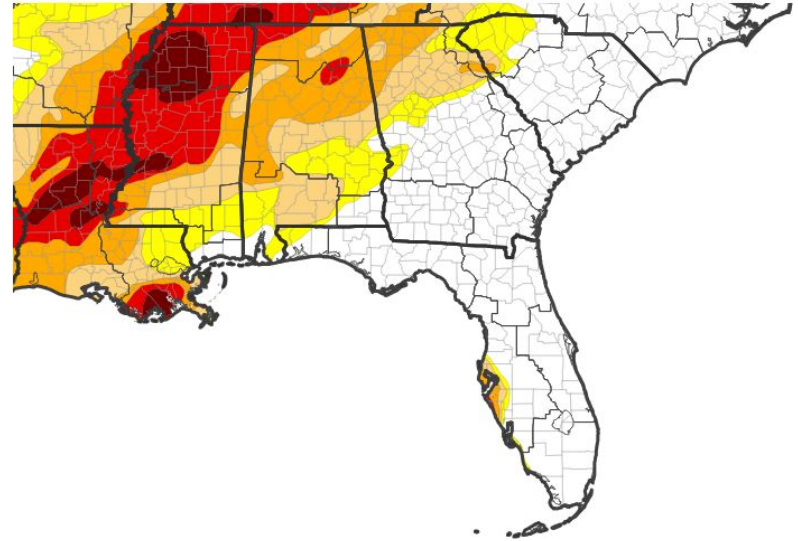


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- There has been improvement to drought conditions over portions of the southeast U.S. during the past few weeks, with drought removed from the Florida Panhandle and Big Bend. A one category improvement has also occurred across much of west central Florida.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 01/09/24

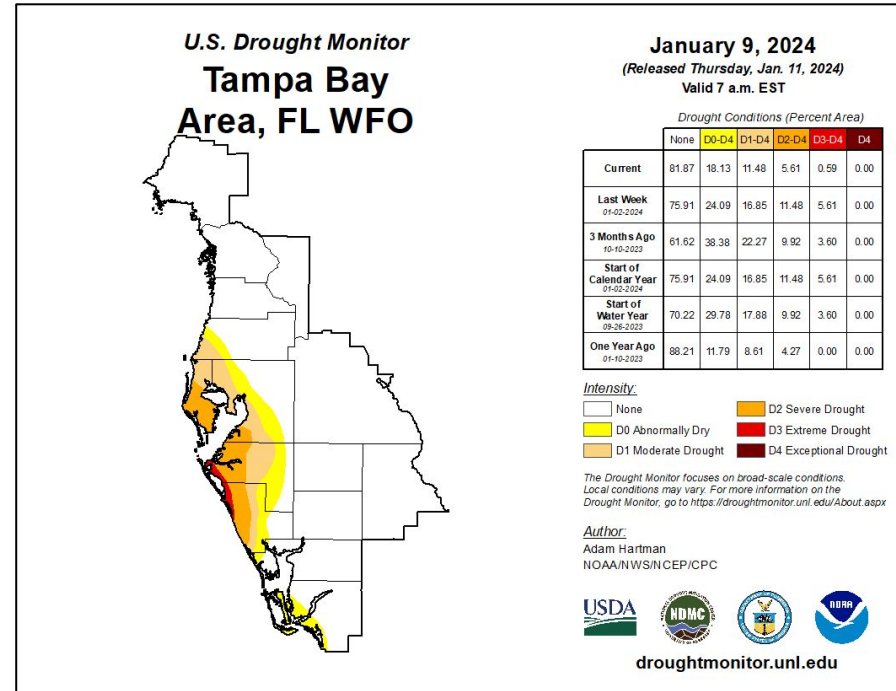




U.S. Drought Monitor for WFO Tampa Bay Area

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: along the immediate coast of Manatee and Sarasota counties.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: bounded the D3 area across central and southern Pinellas, southwest Hillsborough, and inland portions of Manatee and Sarasota counties
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: bounds the D2 area from southwest Pasco county and northern Pinellas and extends south to Sarasota county.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: bounds the D1 area from western Pasco county south to coastal Charlotte and Lee counties.

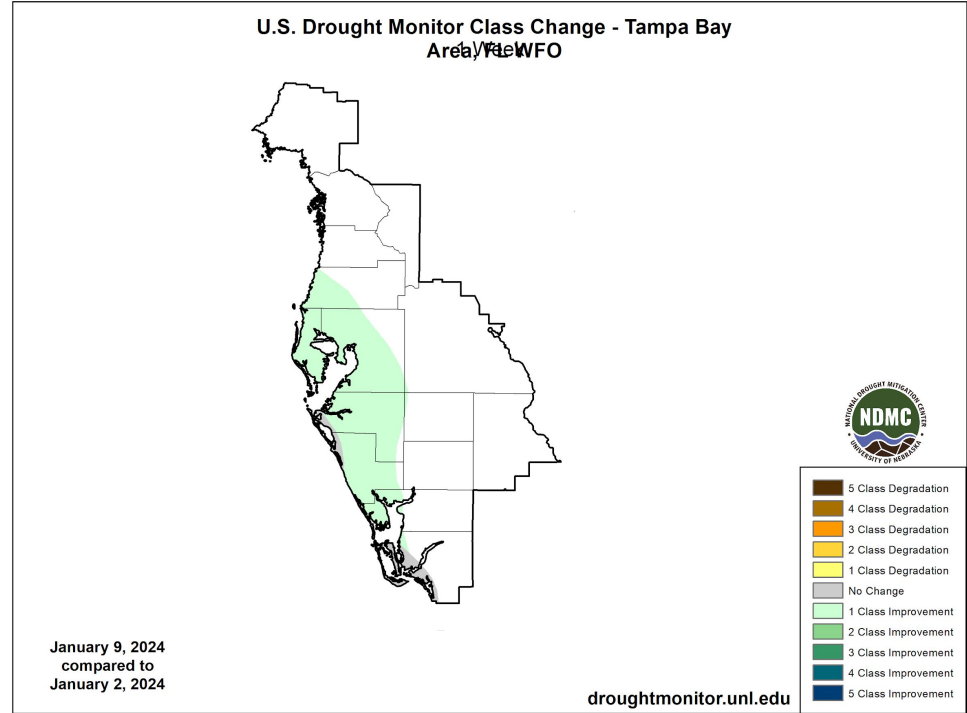




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - In the last week ending Tuesday January 9, there was a one 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 12, 2023 to January 11, 2024

The following table gives the rainfall from January 12, 2023 to January 11, 2024:

Station	Site Id	Observed Rainfall	30 Yr Normal	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Tampa Area	TPA:	39.05	49.48	-10.43	79%
St Pete/Clearwater	PIE:	*33.09	53.62	-20.53	62
St Petersburg Area	SPG:	36.57	46.65	-10.08	78%
NWS Ruskin	TBW:	34.66	53.59	-18.93	65
Winter Haven Area	GIF:	47.96	46.12	+1.84	104
Sarasota-Bradenton Area	SRQ:	28.90	49.05	-20.15	59%
Fort Myers/Page Field	FMY:	**49.86	57.41	-7.55	87
Plant City	PLCF1:	53.50	56.11	-2.61	95
Lakeland	LLDF1:	51.65	56.82	-5.17	91%
Bradenton 5 ESE	BRAF1:	46.87	56.28	-9.41	83%
Venice	VNCF1:	32.82	51.27	-18.45	64%

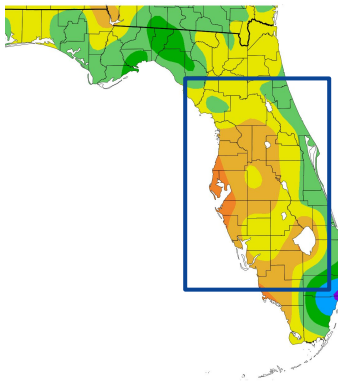
*Rainfall missing on August 20, 2023. Radar estimate of 0.50 inches included in this total

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

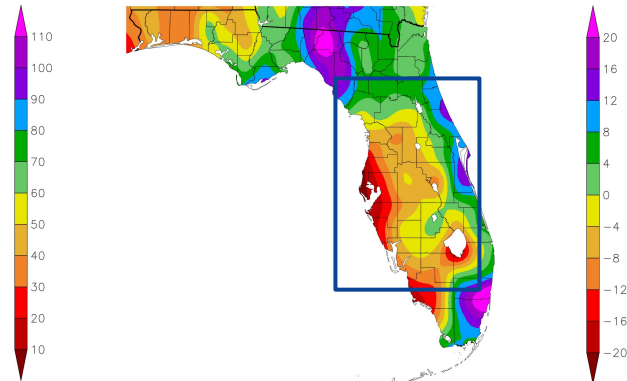
The following table gives the rainfall from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023:

Station	Site Id	Observed Rainfall	30 Yr Normal	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Chiefland 5 SE	CHIF1:	50.41	57.10	-6.69	88%
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%

Precipitation (in)
1/12/2023 - 1/11/2024



Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
1/12/2023 - 1/11/2024



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.



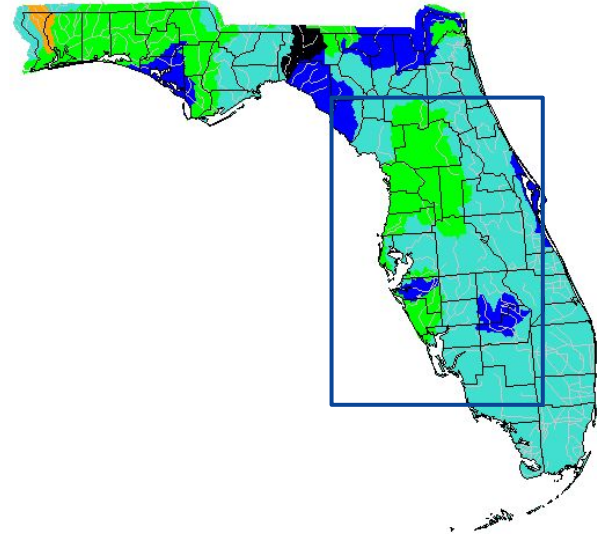


Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid January 11, 2024

- Rainfall during the past week was generally 0.50 to 1.50 inches. Streamflows are running near to above normal across the region.

Thursday, January 11, 2024



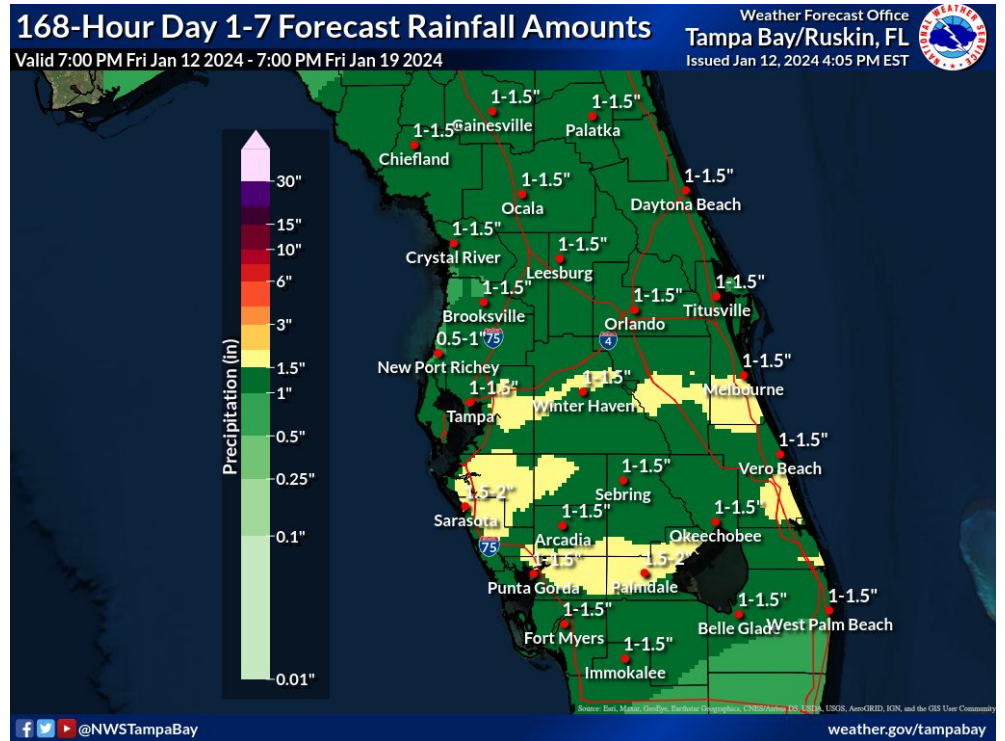
Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Rainfall during the next week is forecast to range from about a 1 to 2 inches across west central and southwest Florida.

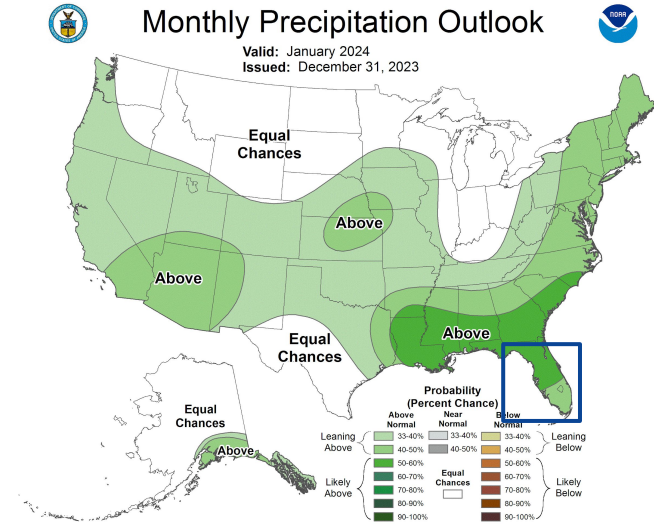
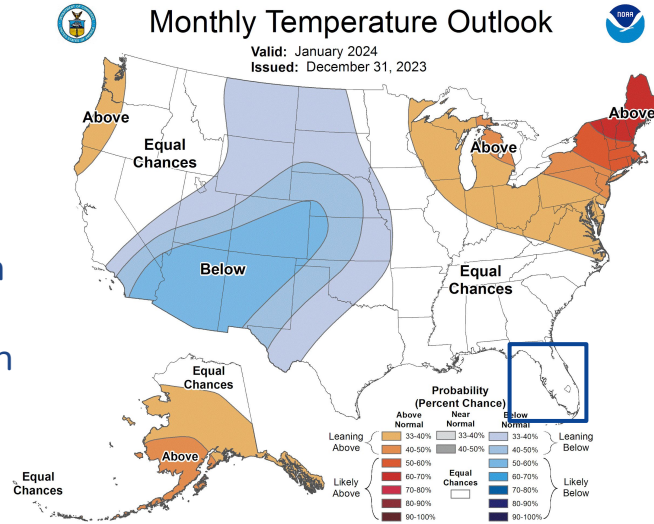




Long-Range Monthly Outlook

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

- Equal chances of above, below, and near normal temperatures are forecast for January.
- Above normal precipitation is likely across the Florida peninsula during the month of January.

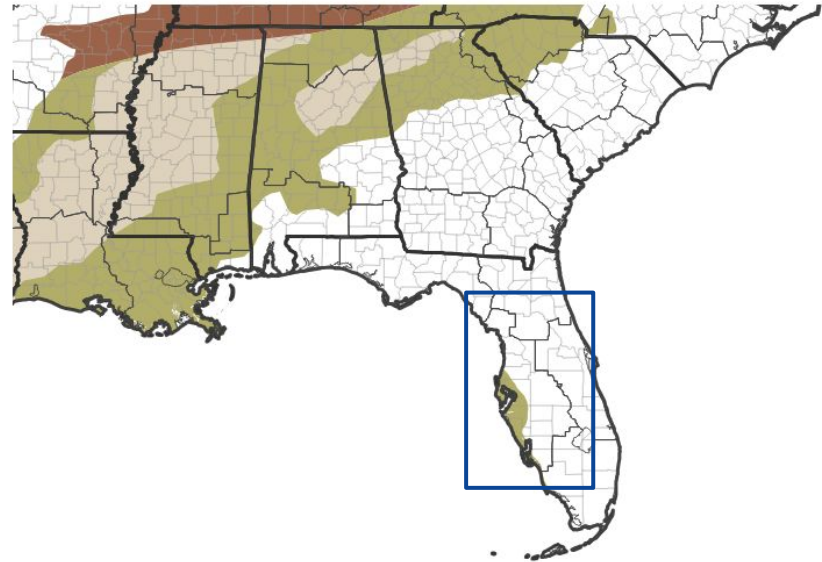




Drought Outlook

Seasonal Drought Outlook through March

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



Drought Is Predicted To...



Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

