



# Drought Information Statement for West Central and Southwest Florida

Valid May 1, 2025

Issued By: WFO Tampa Bay

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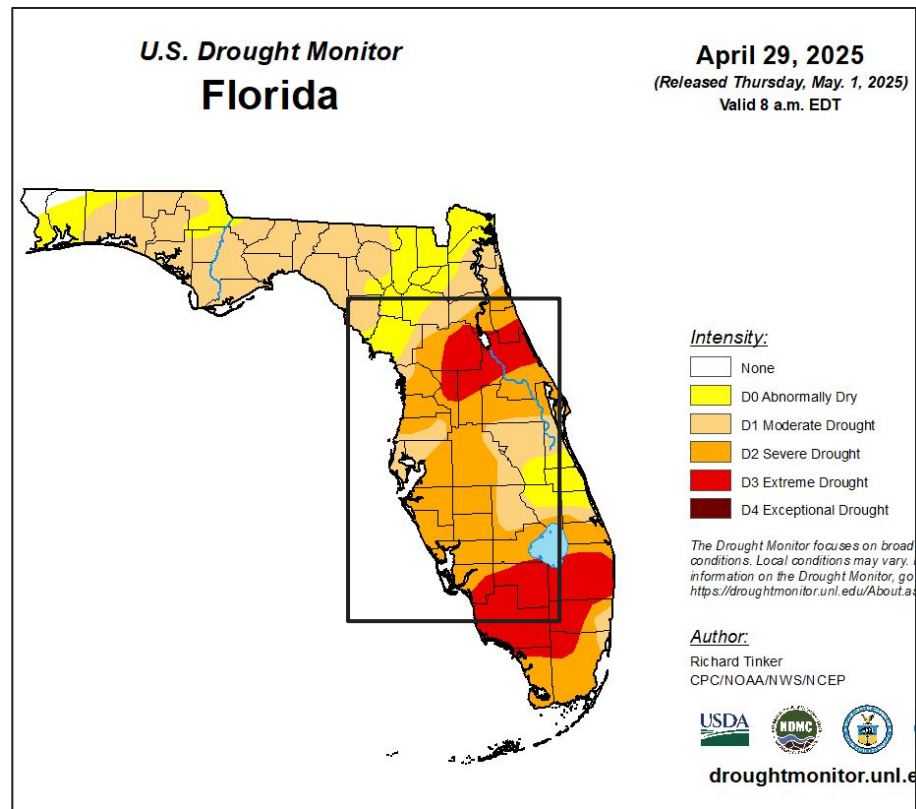
- This product will be updated by May 9, 2025, or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
  - Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
  - Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/tbw/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
  - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.
- 
- Below normal rainfall has occurred over the last few months, with Moderate (D1) to Severe (D2) drought conditions expanding, and now some Extreme (D3) drought conditions over portions of Sumter and Lee Counties.
  - Drier than normal conditions are generally favored through the remainder of spring (through May), which is forecast to allow drought conditions to continue to persist or worsen across the area.



# U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Has expanded across some more of Sumter County and into southeast Lee County, as well as other locations in East Central and South Florida.
  - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Continues across much of the Nature Coast, and has been expanded across much of central and southwest Florida.
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Across the remainder of central Florida
  - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Remains over parts of Levy County.



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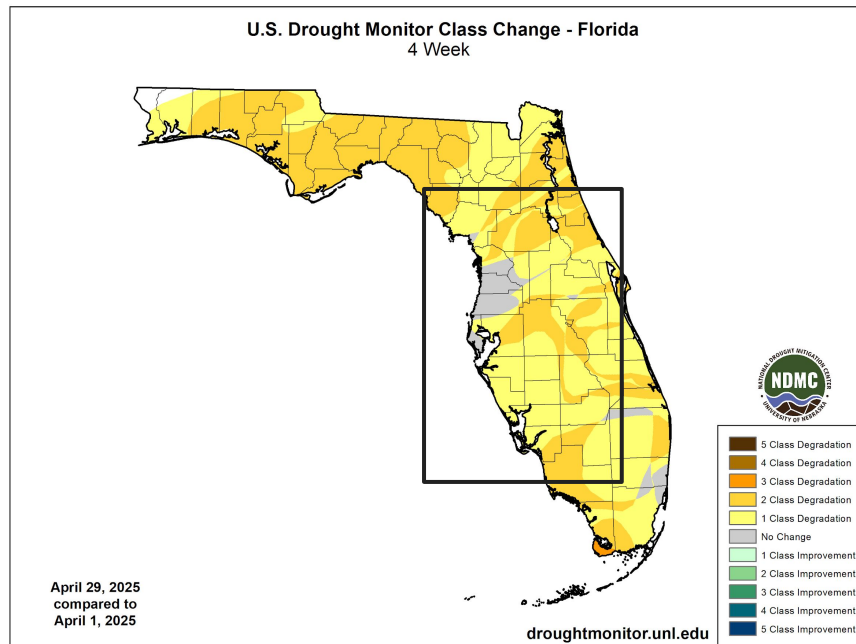
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# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Florida

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought Worsened: Across much of central and southwest Florida.
  - No Change: Parts of Hernando and Pasco County has remained unchanged.



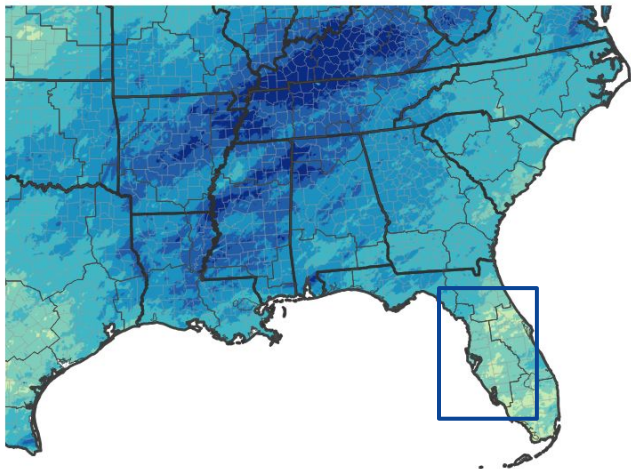


# 90-Day Precipitation

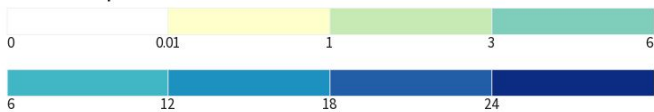
Links to the latest [Precipitation Accumulation](#) and [Percent of Normal](#) over the past 90 days

- Over the last 90 days most of the region has seen less than 50% of normal rainfall.

90-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



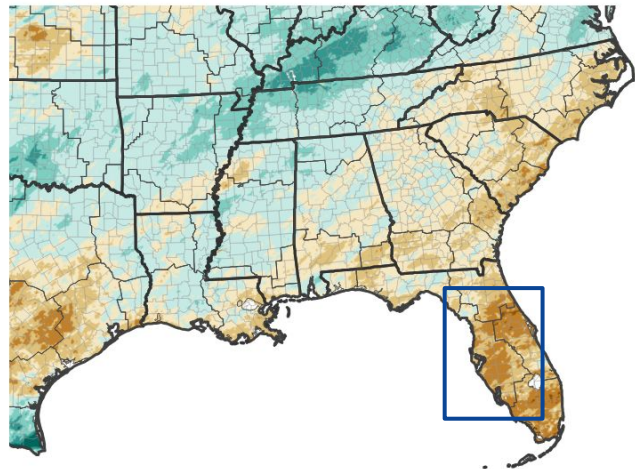
Inches of Precipitation



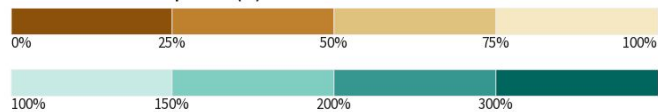
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System;  
image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 04/30/25

90-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System;  
image courtesy of Drought.gov

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# Precipitation

## Table of Accumulated Rainfall (inches) for Select Locations - November 1, 2024 to April 30, 2025

The following table gives the rainfall from November 1, 2024 to April 30, 2025:

Station	Site Id	Observed Rainfall	30 Yr Normal	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Tampa Area	TPA:	10.35	14.30	-3.95	72%
St Pete/Clearwater	PIE:	7.20	14.50	-7.30	50%
St Petersburg Area	SPG:	6.11	12.90	-6.79	47%
NWS Ruskin	TBW:	6.81	15.15	-8.34	45%
Winter Haven Area	GIF:	8.38	14.60	-6.22	57%
Sarasota-Bradenton Area	SRQ:	6.18	14.16	-7.98	44%
Fort Myers/Page Field	FMY:	7.21	12.40	-5.19	58%
Fort Myers/SW Intl Apt	RSW:	5.09	11.13	-6.04	46%
Chiefland 5 SE	CHIF1:	16.93	19.11	-2.18	89%
Inverness 3 SE	INVF1:	7.16	15.95	-8.79	45%
Plant City	PLCF1:	6.90	15.29	-8.39	45%
Lakeland	LLDF1:	7.67	15.74	-8.07	49%
Bradenton 5 ESE	BRAF1:	5.91	14.47	-8.56	41%
Bartow	BARF1:	5.11	13.97	-8.86	37%
Archbold Bio Stn	ACHF1:	7.55	13.61	-6.06	55%

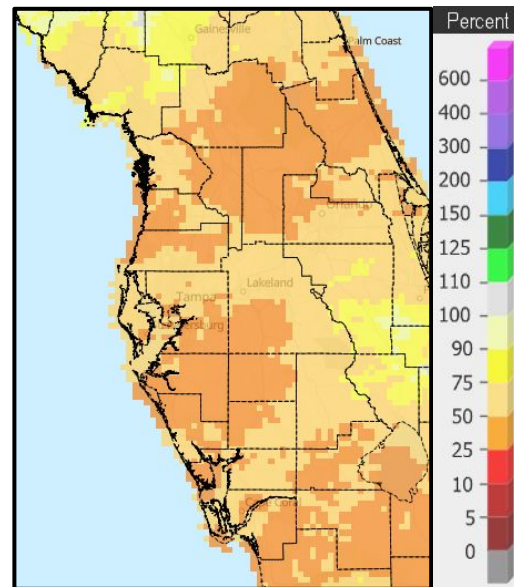
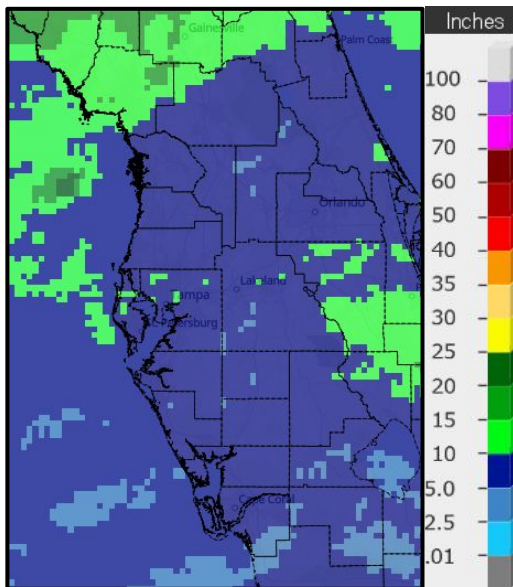


Image Captions:  
Left - Precipitation Amount for Florida Peninsula  
Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation for Florida Peninsula  
Data from National Water Prediction Service  
Data for November 1, 2024 to April 30, 2025





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- The latest 7-day average streamflow indicates an increase in locations reporting values that are below normal (10-24% of normal) to much below normal (<10% of normal), across west central and southwest Florida. (<https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/?m=real&r=fl&w=map>).

## Agricultural Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- Burn bans are now in effect for much of West Central and Southwest Florida ([FFS Map](#)). Also, due to the drier conditions, the potential for significant wildland fires remains above normal for April, May and June. (<https://www.nifc.gov/nicc/predictive-services/outlooks>)

## Other Impacts

- Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI) values have been increasing across the region, with highest values ranging from 550-699 across most of central and southwest Florida. ([https://fireweather.fdacs.gov/wx/kbdi\\_index.html](https://fireweather.fdacs.gov/wx/kbdi_index.html))

## Mitigation Actions

- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

## USGS 7-day Average Streamflow HUC map for Florida

- Streamflows are continuing to run below to much below normal in parts of West Central and Southwest Florida.
- Values averaged over the past 7 days are much below normal (<10%, dark red on map) over parts of Manatee and Sarasota Counties.
- Below normal (10-24% of normal, orange on map) are covering inland parts of the Citrus, Hernando, Pasco, and much of Sumter, Hillsborough and Manatee Counties, as well as parts of Pinellas and Charlotte Counties.

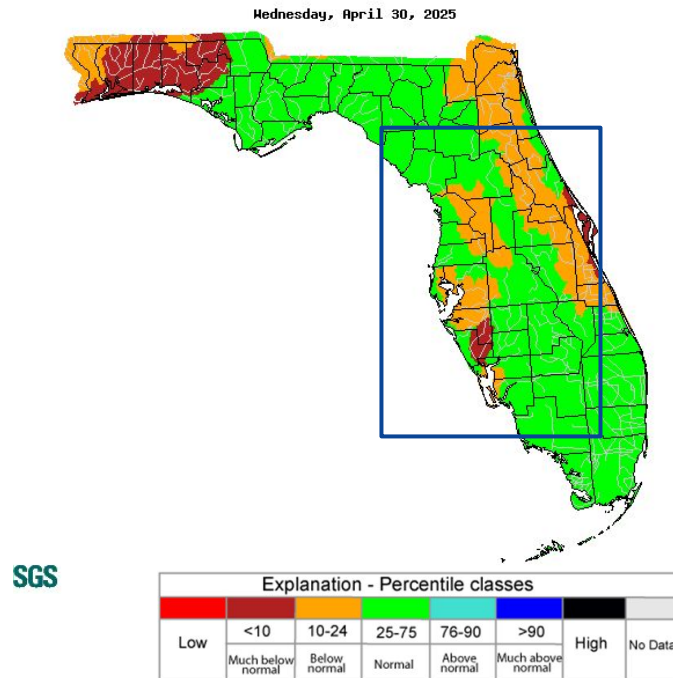


Image Caption: USGS 7-day average streamflow HUC map  
Valid 04/30/2025



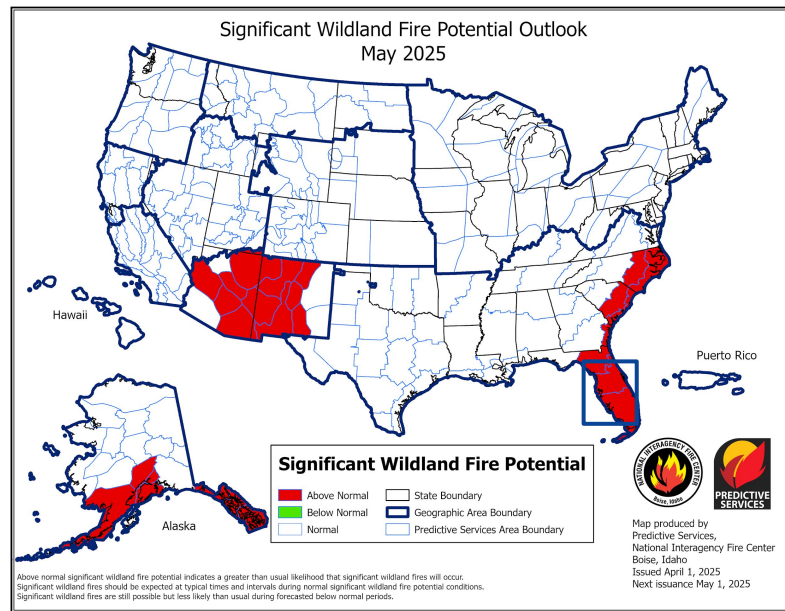
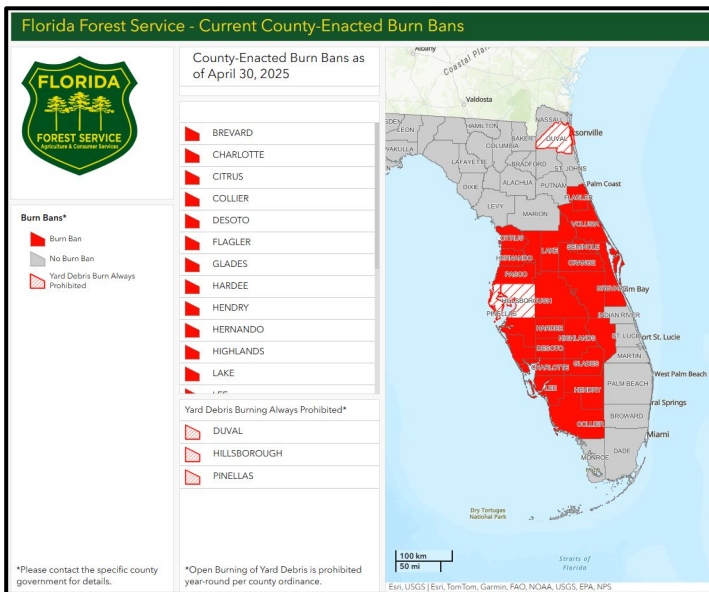


# Fire Hazard Impacts

Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#).

- Burn bans are now in effect for all West Central and Southwest Florida, except for Levy County.
- The potential for significant wildland fires remains above normal.

Latest Florida Burn Ban map available [here](#).



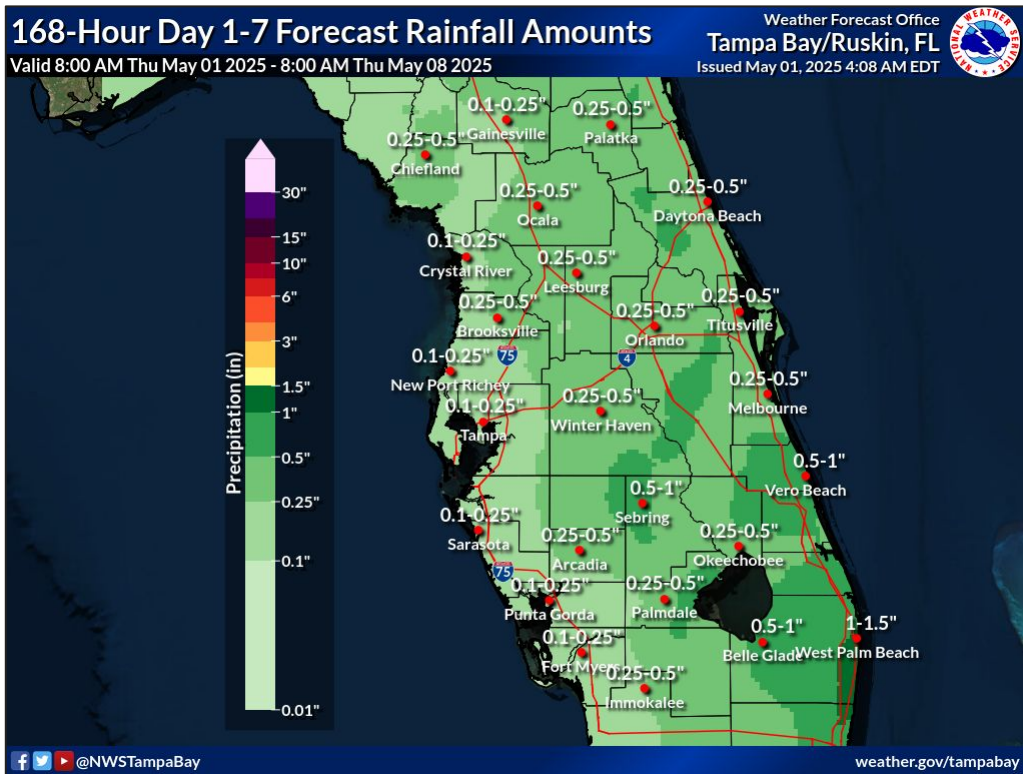
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# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are in the forecast for this weekend into early next week.
- Highest rainfall amounts are expected over the interior and eastern half of the Florida peninsula..



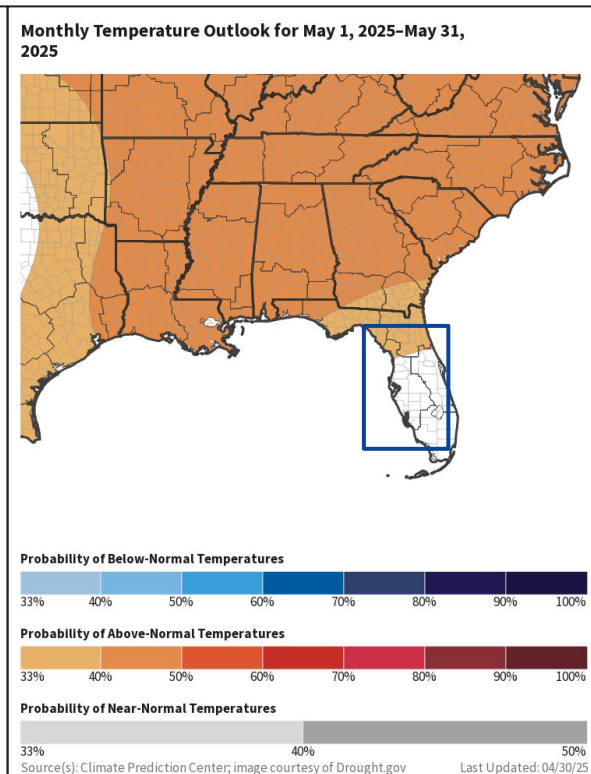
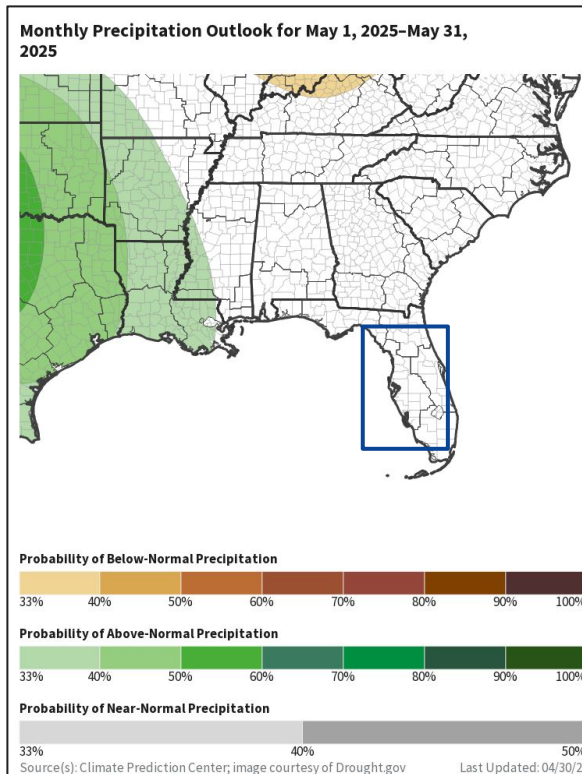




# Monthly Outlooks

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

- Updated May Outlook calling for equal chances of above, below, or near normal rainfall, and equal chances to a 33-40% chance of above normal temperatures.

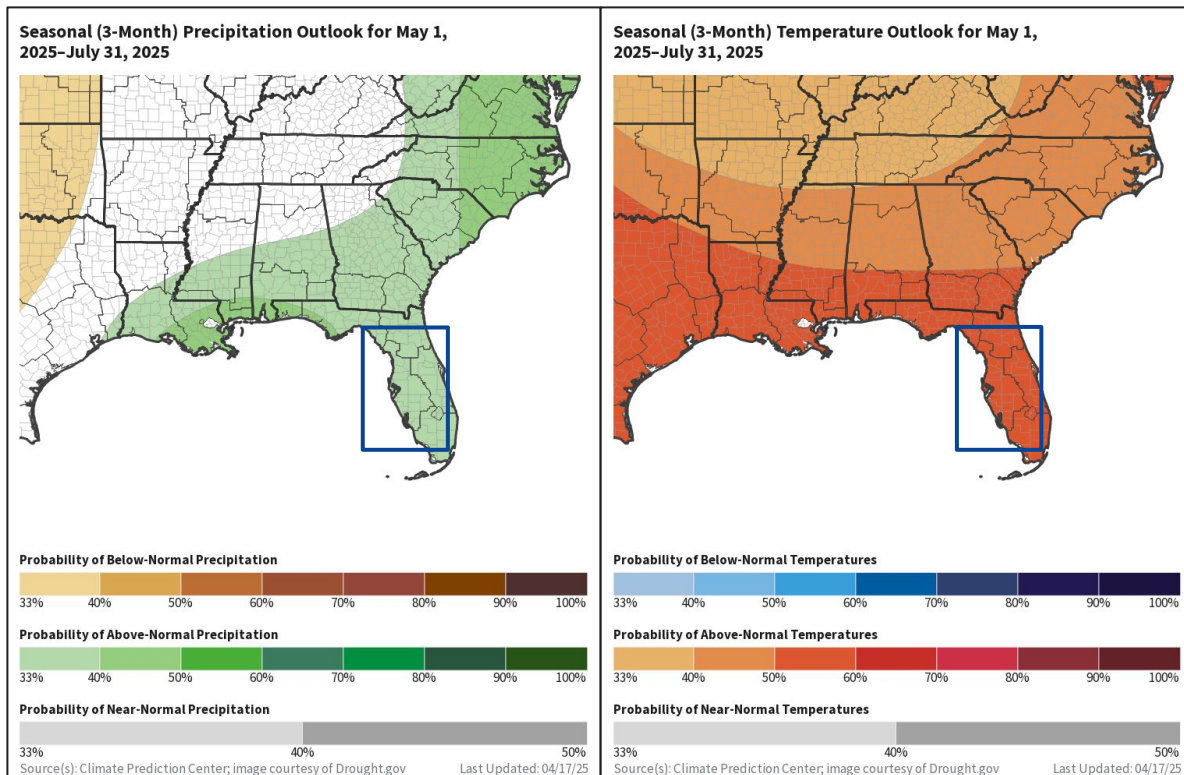




# Seasonal Outlooks

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

- Warm conditions are expected to persist for May through July with a 50-60% chance of above normal temperatures.
- Rainfall is expected to return with a 33-40% chance of above normal amounts during May through July. This is associated with the return of the Summer Thunderstorm Season, which usually begins in late May or early June.



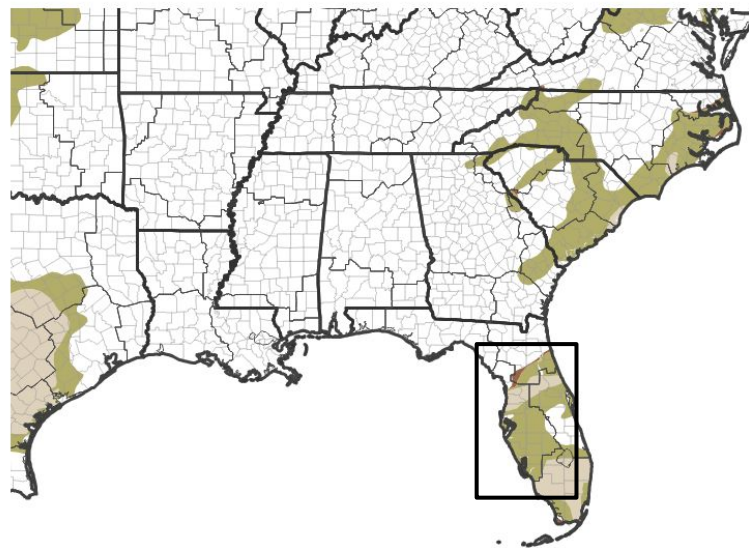


# Seasonal Drought Outlook

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

- The outlook through May is for drought conditions to generally persist or worsen across west central and southwest Florida, as chances lean toward below normal rainfall continuing through this period.
- However, as the wet season begins across the Florida peninsula (typically toward late May/early June), then drought conditions are forecast to gradually improve or even end by late July.

**Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for April 30, 2025–July 31, 2025**



**Drought Is Predicted To...**



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 04/30/25

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



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