



Drought Information Statement for West Central & Southwest Florida

Valid October 6, 2023

Issued By: WFO Tampa Bay

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

- This product will be updated by Oct 14, 2023 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](#) for Florida

- No significant changes this week.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - D3 (Extreme Drought): along the coast from southwest Hillsborough county south through Manatee county into central Sarasota county.
 - D2 (Severe Drought): bounded the D3 area across the southern half of Pinellas, southwestern Hillsborough, inland portions of Manatee and Sarasota counties
 - D1 (Moderate Drought): extends from southwest Pasco county to interior Manatee and Sarasota counties, south near the coast of Charlotte and Lee counties
 - D0: (Abnormally Dry): was expanded across Pasco and northeast Hillsborough counties, and a small area that bounds the remainder D1 region.

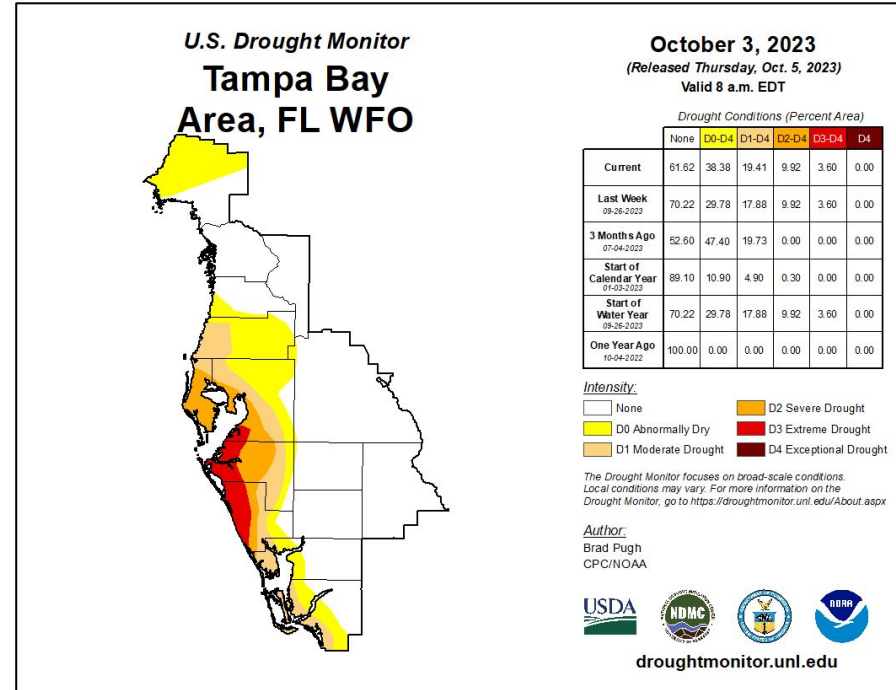


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid October 3rd





Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - There has been some improvement in the drought conditions (green areas on map to the right) over the last few weeks, but areas near the coast of Manatee and Sarasota county are continuing to see their driest start to any year since records began.

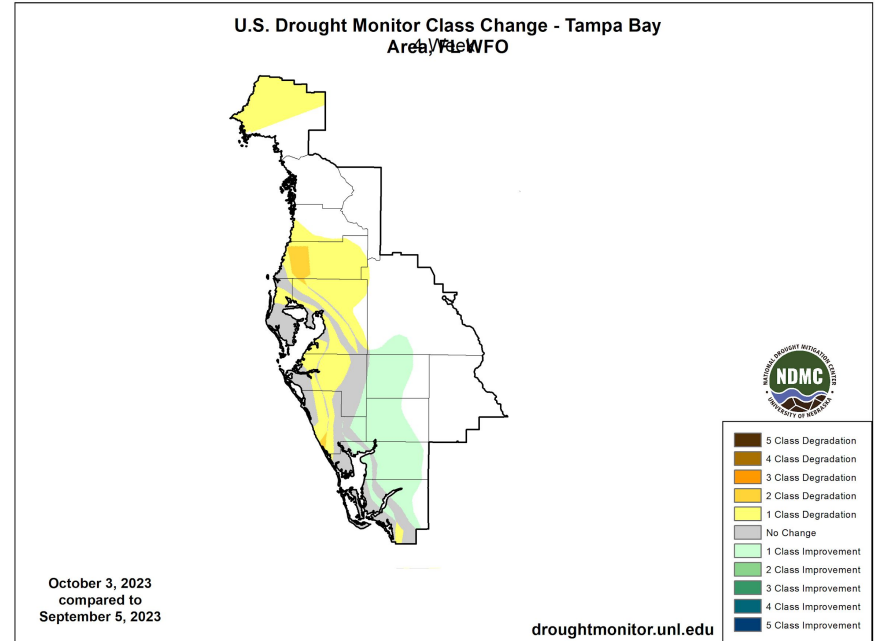


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid October 3rd





Precipitation

Table of Accumulated Rainfall (inches) for Select Locations - January 1 to October 5, 2023

The following table gives the rainfall from January 1, 2023 to October 5, 2023:

Station	Site Id	Observed Rainfall	30 Yr Normal	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Tampa Area	TPA:	30.33	43.78	-13.45	69%
St Pete/Clearwater	PIE:	*25.44	47.15	-21.71	54
St Petersburg Area	SPG:	28.05	41.18	-13.13	68%
NWS Ruskin	TBW:	26.79	46.89	-20.10	57%
Winter Haven Area	GIF:	40.82	40.31	+0.51	101
Sarasota-Bradenton Area	SRQ:	22.14	42.85	-20.71	52%
Fort Myers/Page Field	FMY:	**40.09	51.43	-11.34	78%
Fort Myers/SW Intl Apt	RSW:	37.31	47.54	-10.23	78%
Chiefland 5 SE	CHIF1:	39.71	49.17	-9.46	81%
Plant City	PLCF1:	44.68	49.87	-5.19	90
Lakeland	LLDF1:	44.11	49.94	-5.83	88%
Bradenton 5 ESE	BRAF1:	38.94	50.04	-11.10	76%
Venice	VNCF1:	24.76	44.82	-20.06	55%
Archbold Bio Stn	ACHF1:	50.50	47.81	+2693	106%

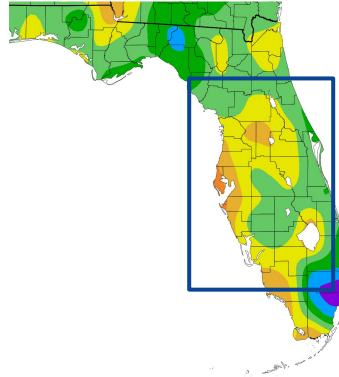
*Rainfall missing on August 20, 2023. Radar estimate of 0.50 inches included in this total

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

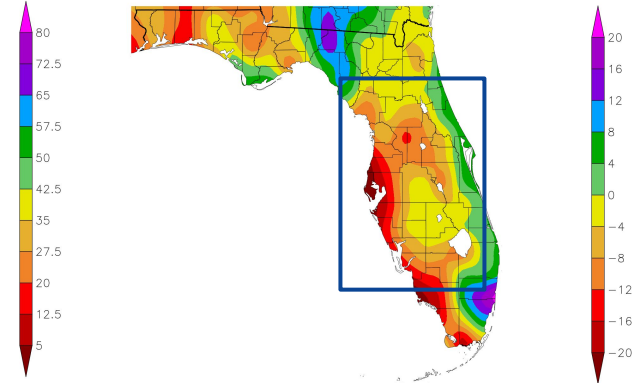
The following table gives the rainfall from January 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023:

Station	Site Id	Observed Rainfall	30 Yr Normal	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
St Leo	STLF1:	36.83	46.01	-9.18	80%
Bartow	BARF1:	41.50	44.20	-2.70	94%
Wauchula 2 N	WAUF1:	34.41	44.82	-10.41	77%
Desoto City 8 SW	DSOF1:	52.80	45.33	+7.47	116%

Precipitation (in)
1/1/2023 - 10/5/2023



Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
1/1/2023 - 10/5/2023



NWS Ruskin, Sarasota-Bradenton Area and Venice are continuing to have their Driest Year-to-Date!

Image Captions:
Left - Precipitation Amount for Florida
Right - Departure from Normal Precipitation for Florida
Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
Data for 2023 ending October 5, 2023





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Locally heavy rain across the interior has allowed most rivers/streams south of I-4 to rise above climatological normals. Several rivers in the Tampa area and north of I-4 are in the lowest 15th percentile.

Agricultural Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

Fire Hazard Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

Mitigation Actions

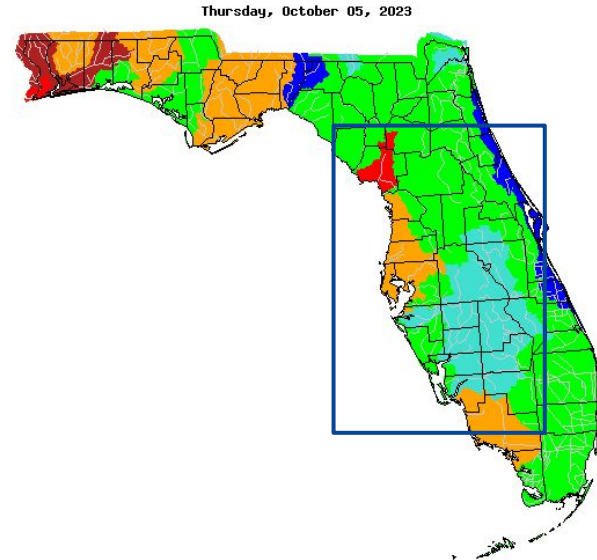
- Water conservation techniques are strongly encouraged in drought areas. Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information. Local water restriction ordinances may be in place.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Locally heavy rain over the interior peninsula south of I-4 has allowed most rivers/streams to rise above climatological normals. Rivers north of I-4 and in the Tampa area are generally in the lowest 15th percentile as rainfall as been near to below normal during the past week.



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		

Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid October 5, 2023





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Generally above normal rainfall is expected over the next seven day period, with the highest totals expected across the nature coast and Tampa Bay area.

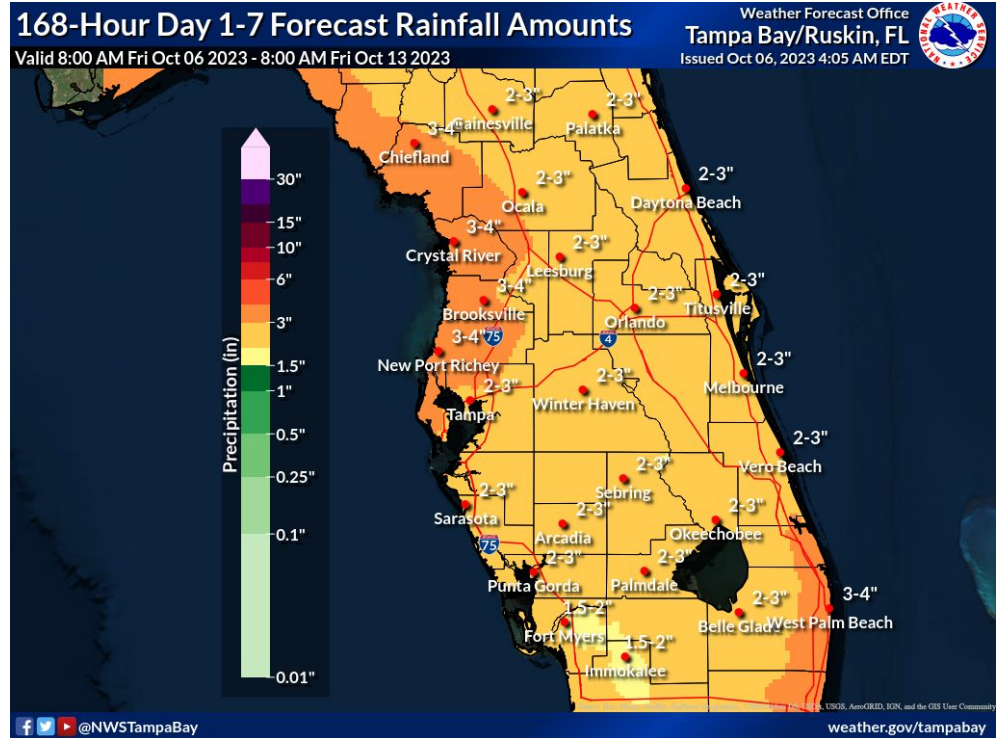


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid 8 AM EDT Friday October 6 to 8 AM EDT Friday October 13.





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 and precipitation is outlooked for the Florida peninsula for the month of October.

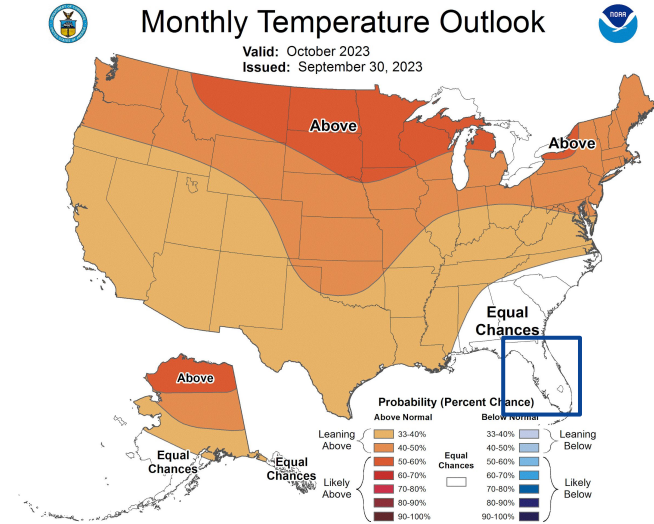
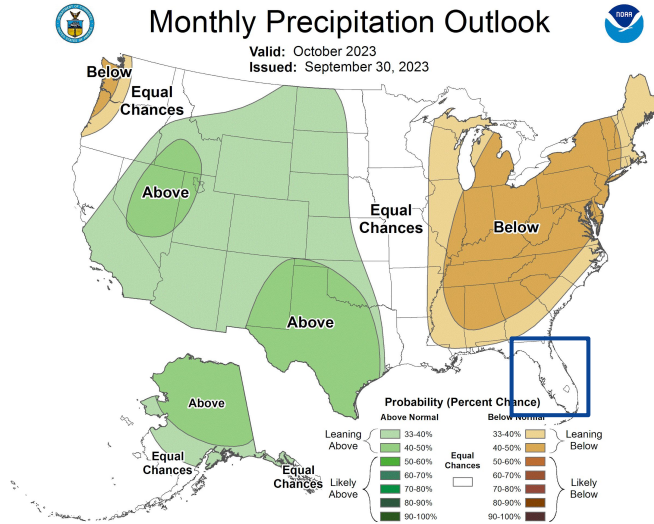


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook](#),

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook](#),

Valid October 2023





Long-Range Seasonal Outlook

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

- Warmer than normal temperatures and above normal precipitation is favored during the three month period of October through December.

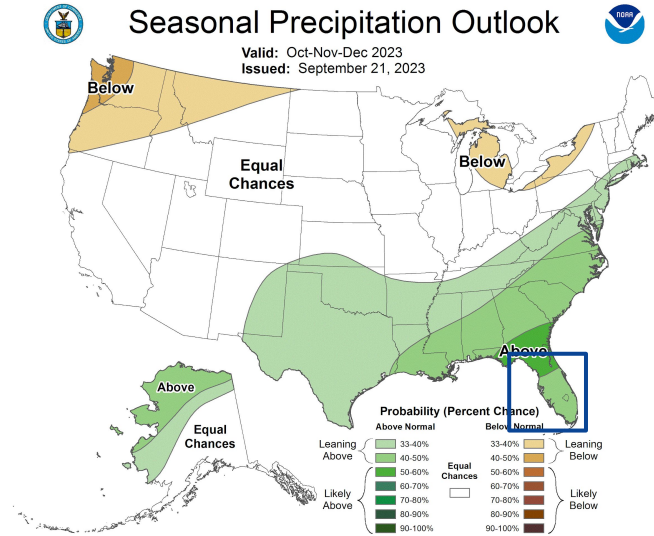
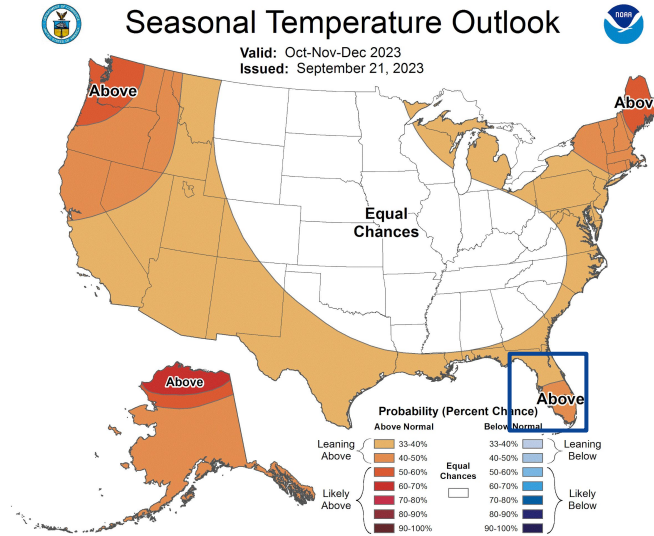


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Temperature Outlook](#).

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Precipitation Outlook](#).

Valid October - December 2023





Drought Outlook

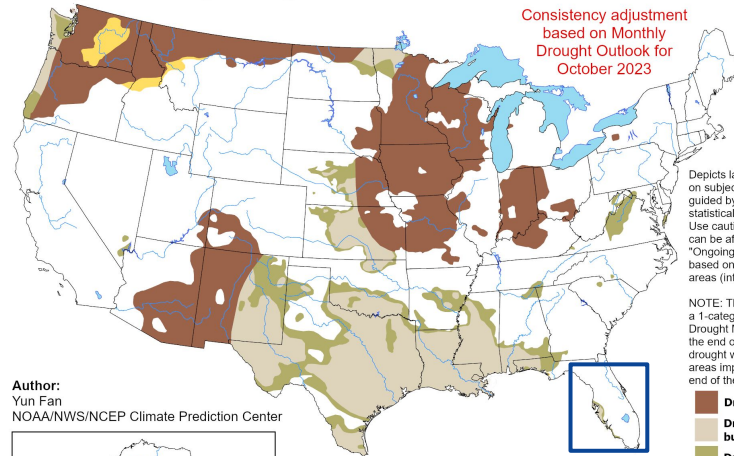
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Some improvement in the drought conditions is expected as we move through Autumn.

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for October 1 - December 31, 2023
Released September 30, 2023

Consistency adjustment
based on Monthly
Drought Outlook for
October 2023

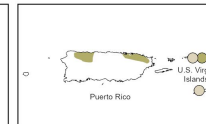
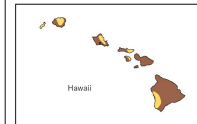
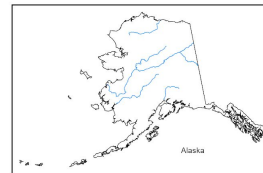


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. *Ongoing* drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

- Drought persists**
- Drought remains, but improves**
- Drought removal likely**
- Drought development likely**
- No drought**

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<https://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook

Released September 30, 2023 valid for October 1 - December 31, 2023

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Tampa Bay