



# Drought Information Statement for West Central & Southwest Florida

Valid October 13, 2023

Issued By: WFO Tampa Bay

Contact Information: [sr-tbw.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-tbw.webmaster@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated by Oct 21, 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

- D1 added to northern Levy county.
- 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.

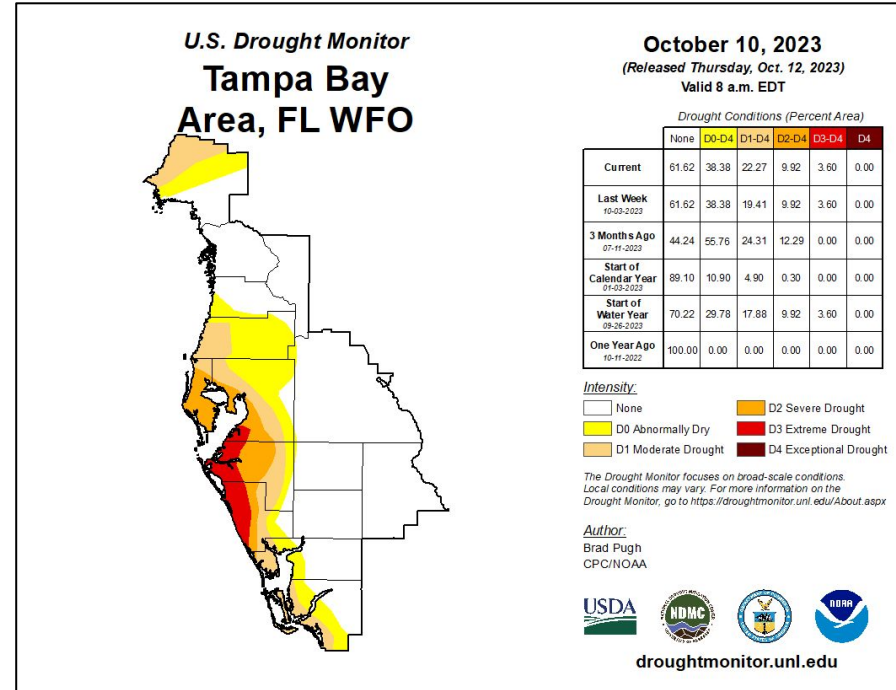


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid October 10th





# 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 southwest Florida, but areas near the coast of Manatee and Sarasota county are continuing to see their driest start to any year since records began.

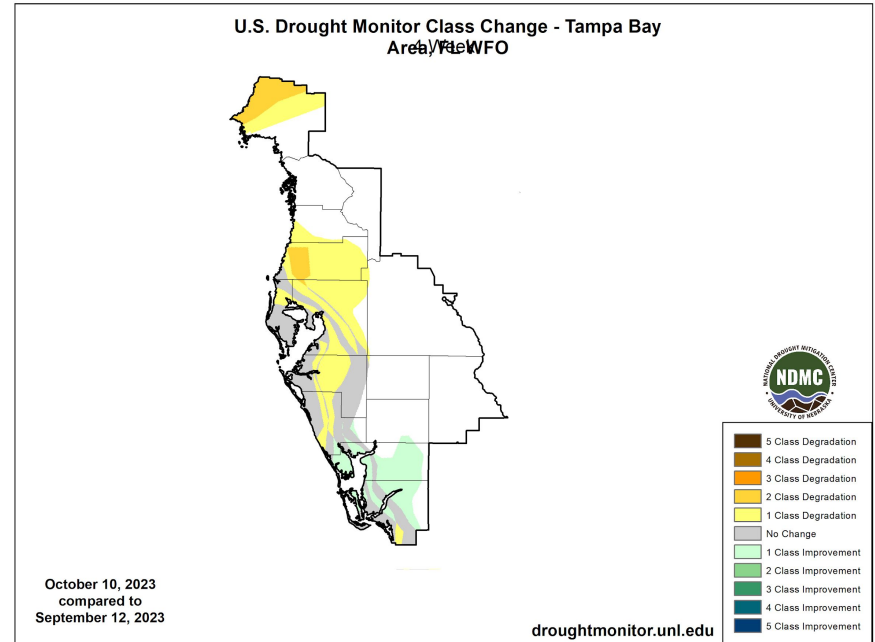


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid October 10th





# Precipitation

## Table of Accumulated Rainfall (inches) for Select Locations - January 1 to October 12, 2023

The following table gives the rainfall from January 1, 2023 to October 12, 2023:

Station	Site Id	Observed Rainfall	30 Yr Normal	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Tampa Area	TPA:	30.65	44.43	-13.78	69%
St Pete/Clearwater	PIE:	*26.39	47.81	-21.42	55
St Petersburg Area	SPG:	28.45	41.75	-13.30	68%
<b>NWS Ruskin</b>	<b>TBW:</b>	<b>28.37</b>	<b>47.70</b>	<b>-19.33</b>	<b>59%</b>
Winter Haven Area	GIF:	41.63	40.87	+0.76	102
<b>Sarasota-Bradenton Area</b>	<b>SRQ:</b>	<b>22.83</b>	<b>43.63</b>	<b>-20.80</b>	<b>52%</b>
Fort Myers/Page Field	FMY:	**40.86	52.22	-11.36	78%
Fort Myers/SW Intl Apt	RSW:	38.00	48.36	-10.36	79%
Chiefland 5 SE	CHIF1:	42.11	49.98	-7.87	84%
Plant City	PLCF1:	45.40	50.56	-5.16	90
Lakeland	LLDF1:	44.74	50.73	-5.99	88%
Bradenton 5 ESE	BRAF1:	39.29	50.85	-11.56	77%
<b>Venice</b>	<b>VNCF1:</b>	<b>25.11</b>	<b>45.69</b>	<b>-20.58</b>	<b>55%</b>
Archbold Bio Stn	ACHF1:	54.67	48.73	+5.94	112%

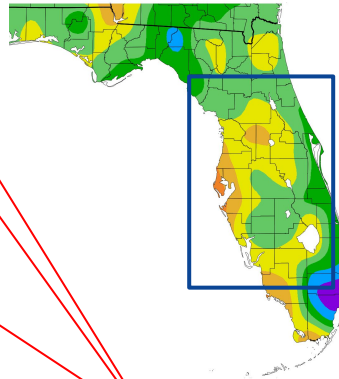
\*Rainfall missing on August 20, 2023. Radar estimate of 0.50 inches included in this total

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

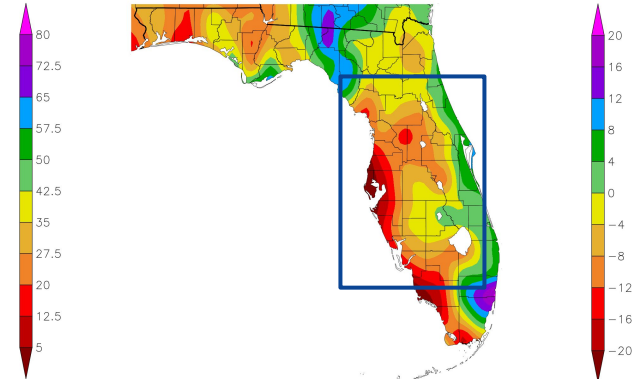
The following table gives the rainfall from January 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023:

Station	Site Id	Observed Rainfall	30 Yr Normal	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Inverness 3 SE	INV1:	36.23	46.63	-10.40	78%
St Leo	STLF1:	36.83	46.01	-9.18	80%
Bartow	BARF1:	41.50	44.20	-2.70	94%
Wauchula 2 N	WAUF1:	35.20	44.82	-9.62	79%
Desoto City 8 SW	DSOF1:	52.80	45.33	+7.47	116%

Precipitation (in)  
1/1/2023 - 10/12/2023



Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)  
1/1/2023 - 10/12/2023



**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 12, 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. The Withlacoochee river remains in the lowest 25th percentile.

## Agricultural Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

## Mitigation Actions

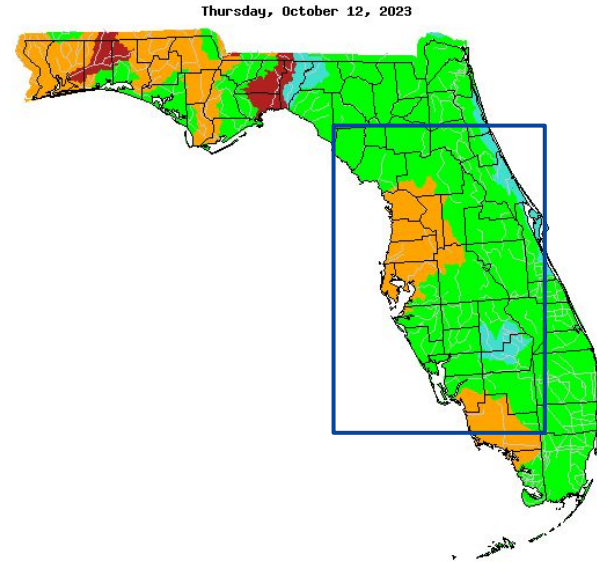
- Water conservation techniques are strongly encouraged in drought areas. Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information. Local water restriction ordinances may be in place.





# 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 in the lowest 25th 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 12, 2023





# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Generally below normal rainfall is expected across the region for the remainder of the week.

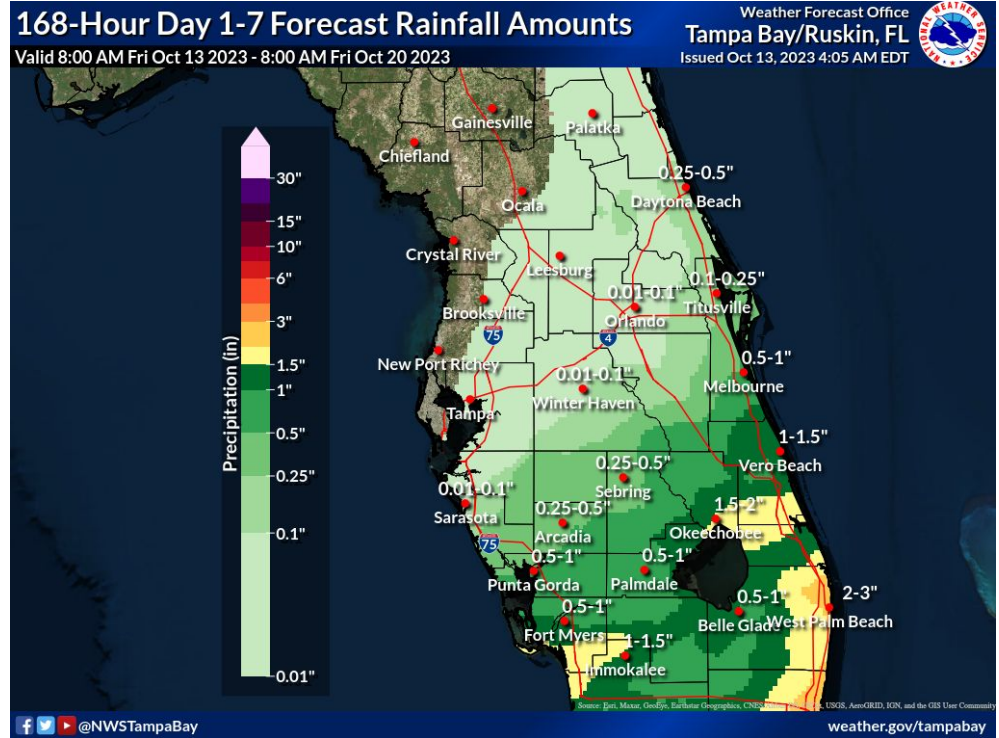


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid 8 AM EDT Friday October 13 to 8 AM EDT Friday October 20.



# 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.

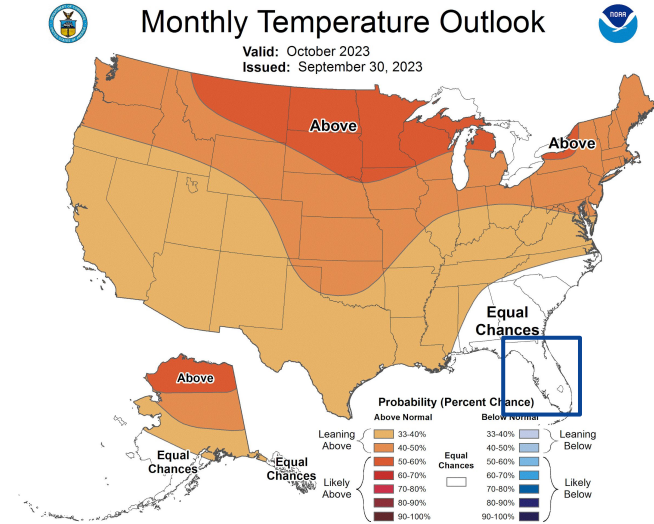
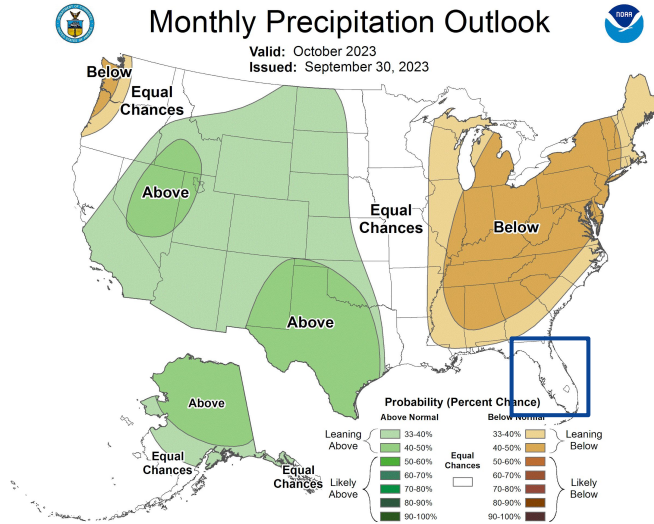


Image Captions:

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.

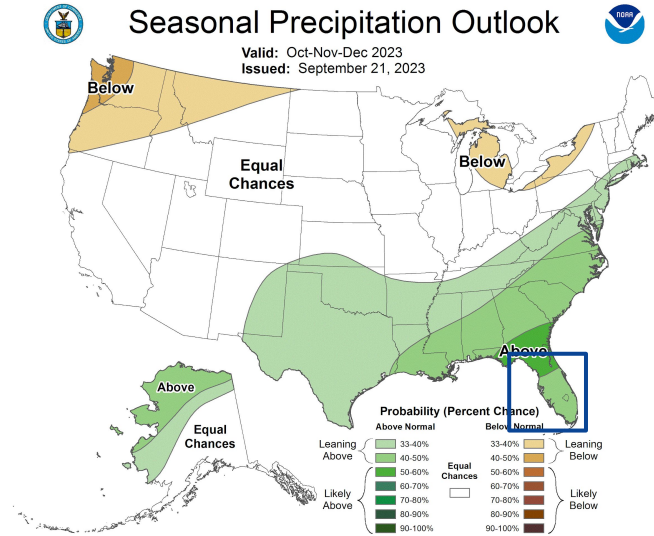
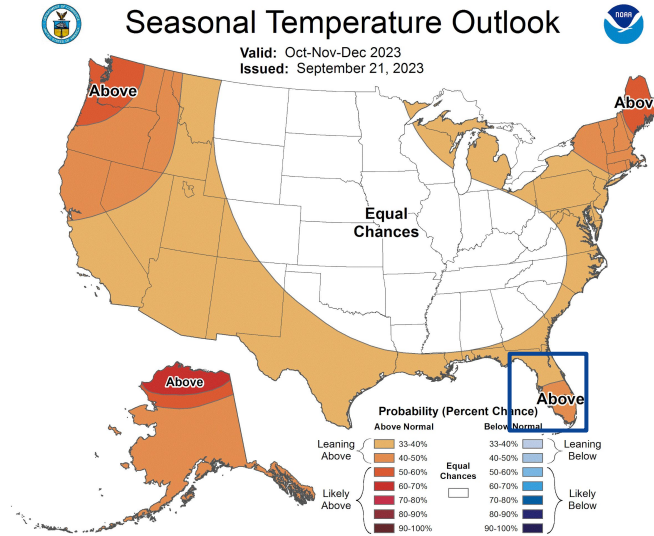


Image Captions:

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

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

Valid October - December 2023





# Drought Outlook

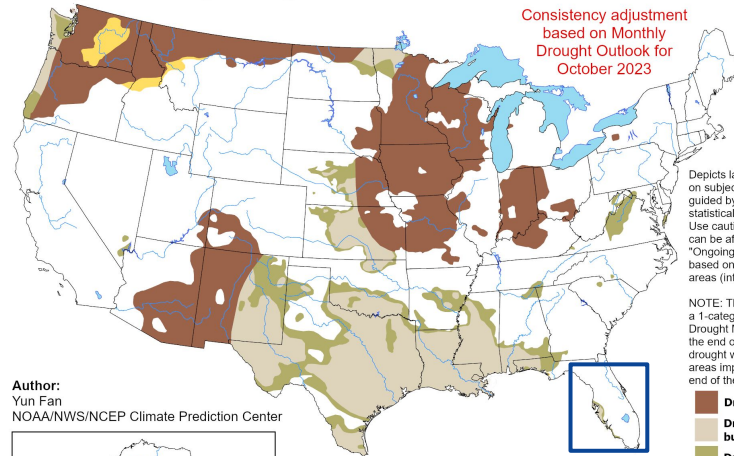
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- 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

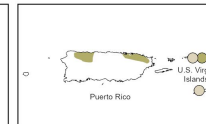
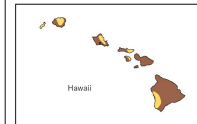
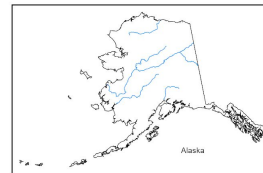


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. \*Ongoing\* drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1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



<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