



# Drought Information Statement for West Central & Southwest Florida

Valid October 20, 2023

Issued By: WFO Tampa Bay

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- This product will be updated by Oct 28, 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

- Northern Levy county upgraded to D0.
- 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 much of Pinellas, southwestern Hillsborough, inland portions of Manatee and Sarasota counties
  - D1 (Moderate Drought): extends from western Pasco county to eastern Manatee and Sarasota counties, and south along the coast of Charlotte and Lee counties
  - D0: (Abnormally Dry): extends across Pasco and northeast Hillsborough counties, and a small area that bounds the remainder D1 region.

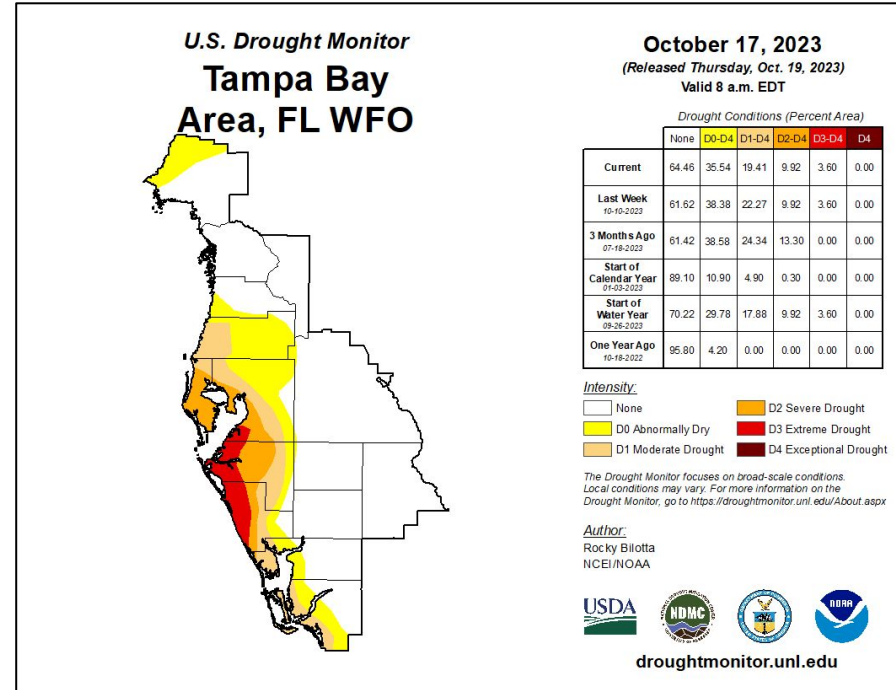


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid October 17th





# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Areas near the coast of Manatee and Sarasota county are continuing to see their driest start to any year since records began. Degradation has occurred in the Tampa area and southern portions of the nature coast during the past month..

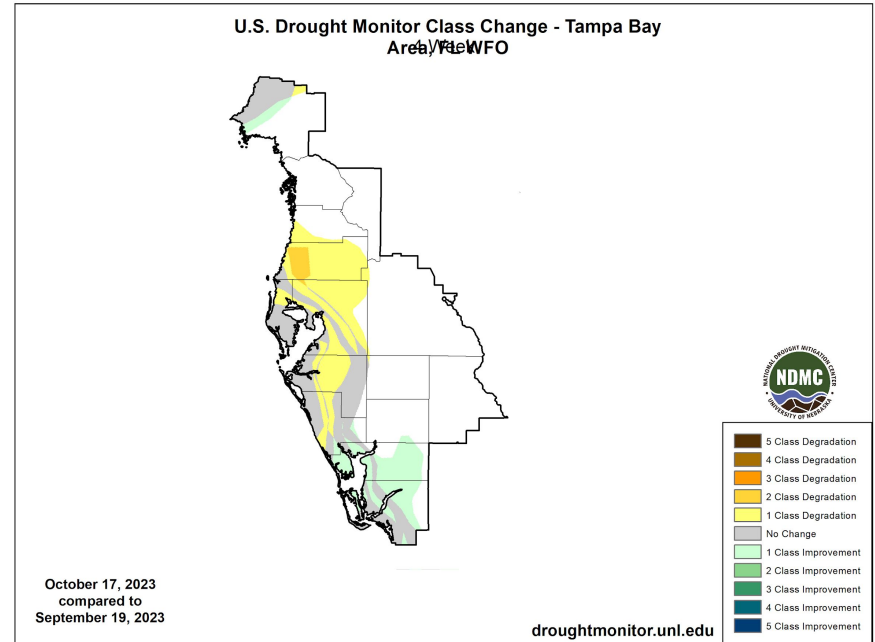


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid October 17th





# Precipitation

## Table of Accumulated Rainfall (inches) for Select Locations - January 1 to October 19, 2023

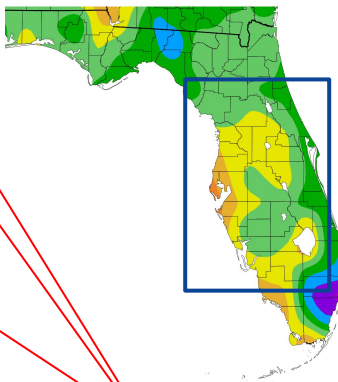
The following table gives the rainfall from January 1, 2023 to October 19, 2023:

Station	Site Id	Observed Rainfall	30 Yr Normal	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Tampa Area	TPA:	30.68	44.92	-14.24	68%
St Pete/Clearwater	PIE:	*26.43	48.32	-21.89	55
St Petersburg Area	SPG:	28.46	42.17	-13.71	67%
<b>NWS Ruskin</b>	<b>TBW:</b>	<b>28.37</b>	<b>48.25</b>	<b>-19.88</b>	<b>59%</b>
Winter Haven Area	GIF:	41.63	41.31	+0.32	101
<b>Sarasota-Bradenton Area</b>	<b>SRQ:</b>	<b>22.83</b>	<b>44.19</b>	<b>-21.36</b>	<b>52%</b>
Fort Myers/Page Field	FMY:	**41.87	52.83	-10.96	79%
Fort Myers/SW Intl Apt	RSW:	39.95	48.97	-9.02	82%
Chiefland 5 SE	CHIF1:	42.11	50.70	-8.59	83%
Plant City	PLCF1:	45.40	51.08	-5.68	89
Lakeland	LLDF1:	44.77	51.33	-6.56	87%
Bradenton 5 ESE	BRAF1:	39.64	51.42	-11.78	77%
<b>Venice</b>	<b>VNCF1:</b>	<b>25.11</b>	<b>46.43</b>	<b>-21.32</b>	<b>54%</b>
Archbold Bio Stn	ACHF1:	54.67	49.45	+5.22	111%

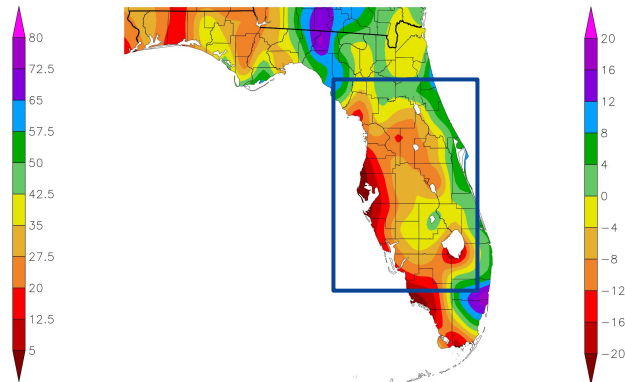
\*Rainfall missing on August 20, 2023. Radar estimate of 0.50 inches included in this total

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

Precipitation (in)  
1/1/2023 - 10/18/2023



Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)  
1/1/2023 - 10/18/2023



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

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	45.16	-8.93	80%
St Leo	STLF1:	36.83	46.01	-9.18	80%
Bartow	BARF1:	41.50	44.20	-2.70	94%
Mountain Lake	LWLF1:	38.71	45.25	-6.54	86%
Myakka R/Iver St Pk	MKCF1:	42.27	53.35	-11.08	79%
Wauchula 2 N	WAUF1:	37.36	44.82	-7.46	83%
Desoto City 8 SW	DSOF1:	52.80	45.33	+7.47	116%

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 19, 2023





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Heavy rain across the northern nature coast has allowed that region to be upgraded to D0. Little change to the remainder of the area as rainfall has been near climatological normal for the past week. Most rivers/streams south of I-4 continue to run above seasonal normals. The Withlacoochee and Anclote rivers are running 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

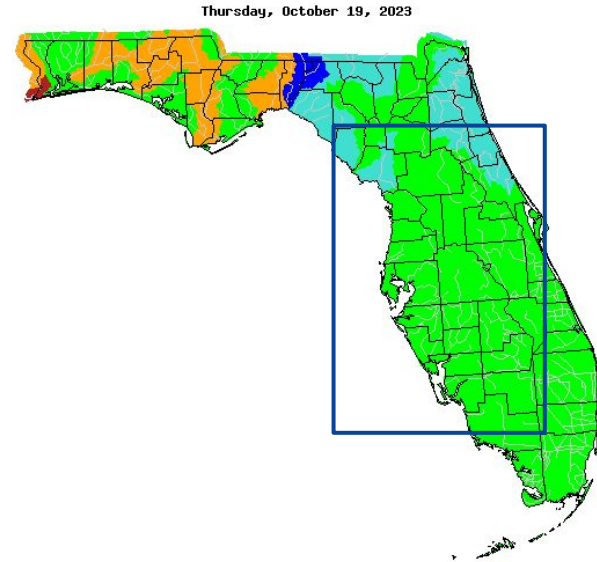
- Water conservation techniques are strongly encouraged in drought areas. Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information. Local water restriction ordinances may be in place.





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Locally heavy rain during past few weeks over the interior peninsula south of I-4 has allowed rivers/streams to rise above climatological normals. Most rivers north of I-4 continue to run in the lowest 25th percentile as rainfall has been near to below normal during the past couple of weeks.



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 19, 2023





# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- No measurable rainfall is forecast across the region during the next week.

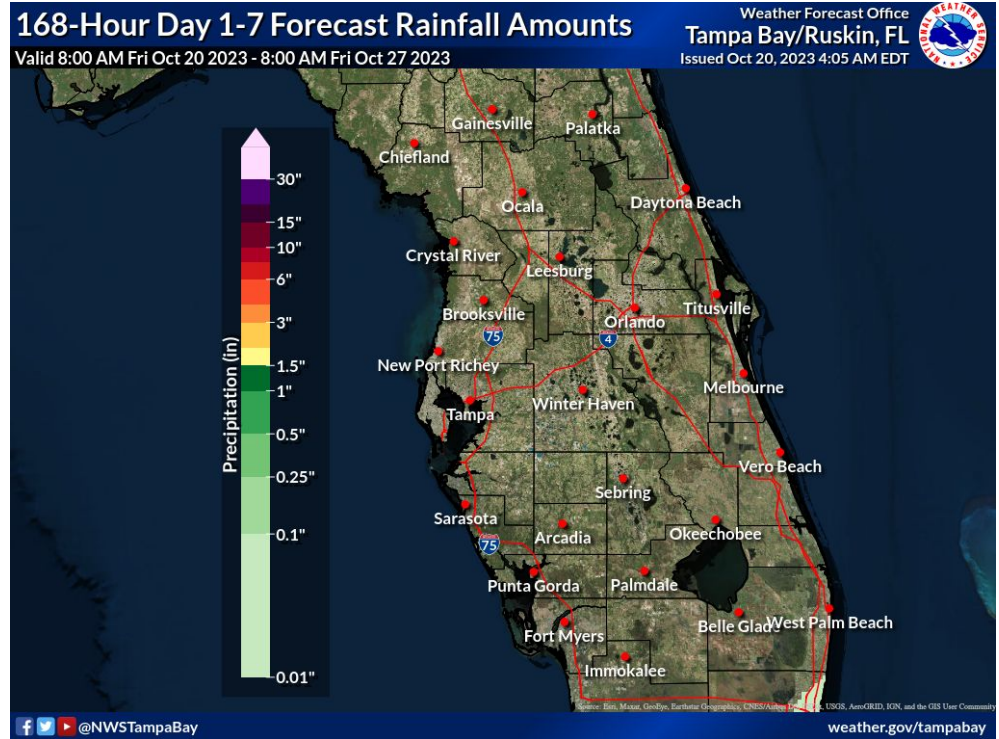


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid 8 AM EDT Friday October 20 to 8 AM EDT Friday October 27.



# 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.

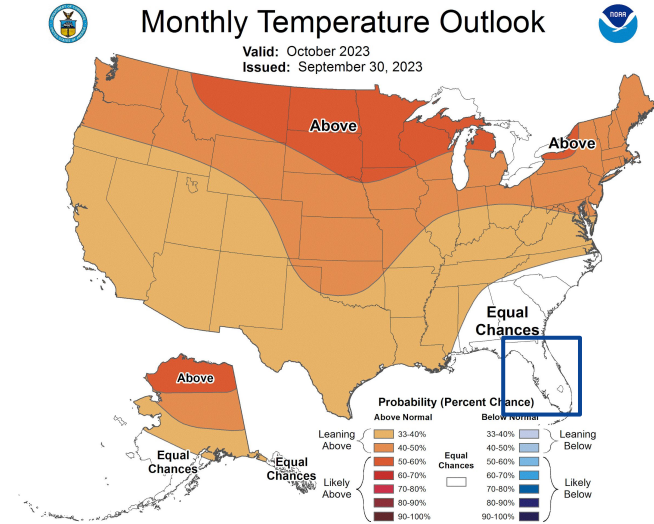
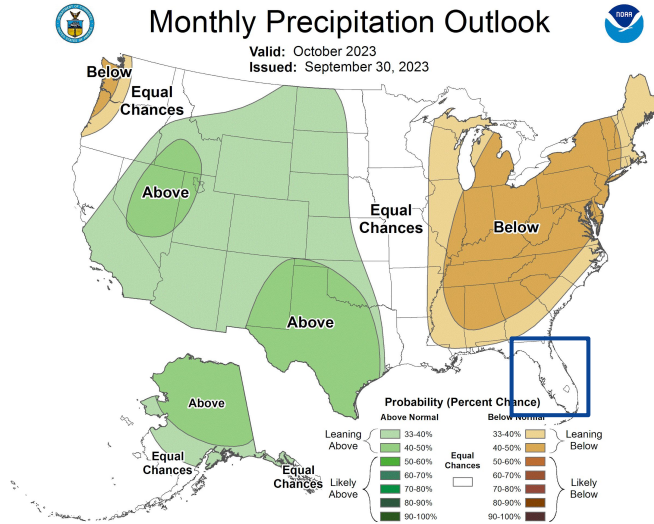


Image Captions:

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](#)

- Equal chances of above, below, and near normal temperatures are forecast for November through January.
- Above normal precipitation is favored during November through January.

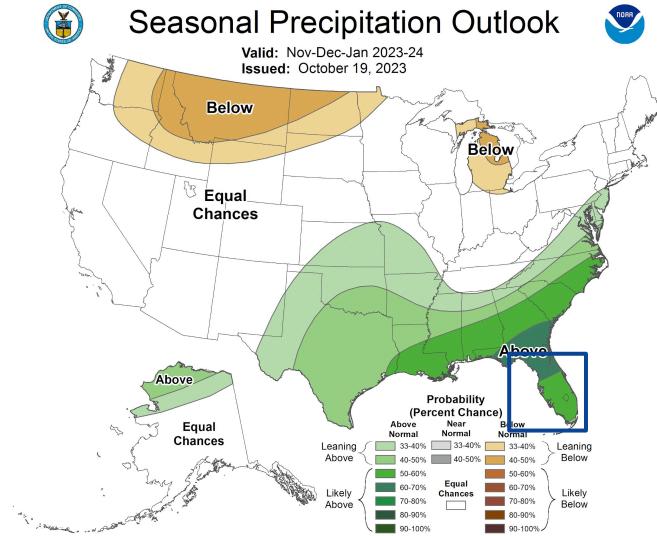
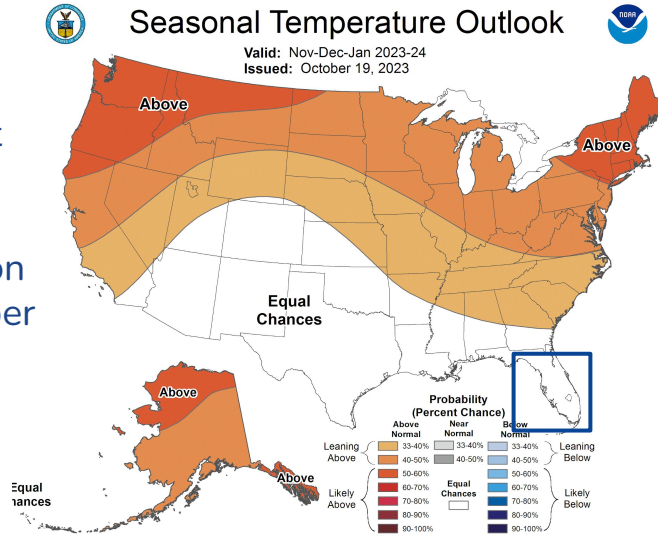


Image Captions:

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

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

Valid November 2023 - January 2024





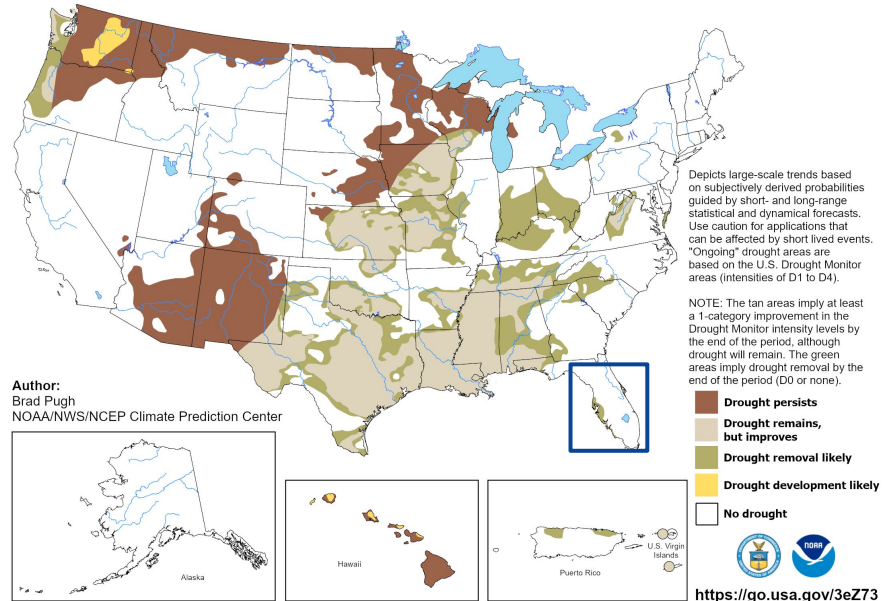
# Drought Outlook

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 and into Winter.

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

Valid for October 19, 2023 - January 31, 2024  
Released October 19, 2023



Links to the latest:

- [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)
- [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook  
Released October 19, 2023 valid for October 19, 2023 - January 31, 2024

