



# Drought Information Statement for South Florida

03 26 2026

Issued By: NWS Miami-South Florida

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

- Ongoing Extreme to Severe Drought Across South Florida
- Please see all available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Visit our local interactive drought page at <https://nws-miami-drought-page-noaa.hub.arcgis.com/>

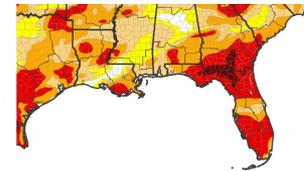
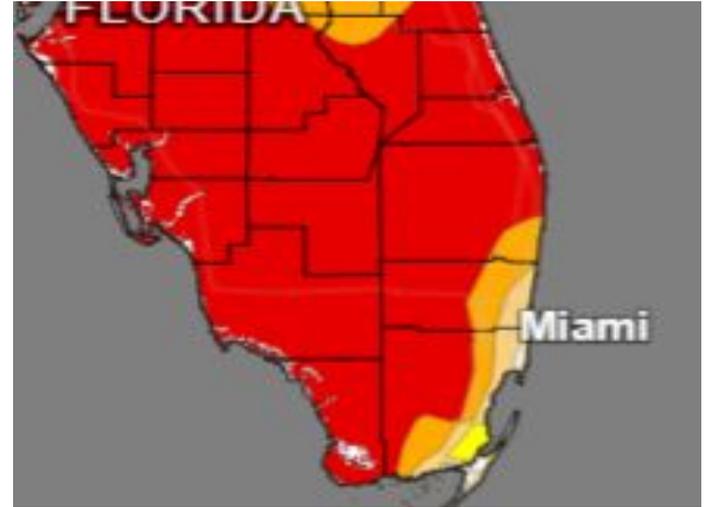




# U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- A little improvement in drought conditions over southern Everglades and eastern metro areas of Broward/Miami-Dade Counties.
- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D0 (Abnormally Dry):** Coastal & Far Southern Miami-Dade
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Metro/Coastal Broward & Miami-Dade.
  - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Interior metro Broward/Miami-Dade Counties and SE metro Palm Beach County along with southern Everglades.
  - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** Rest of South Florida.



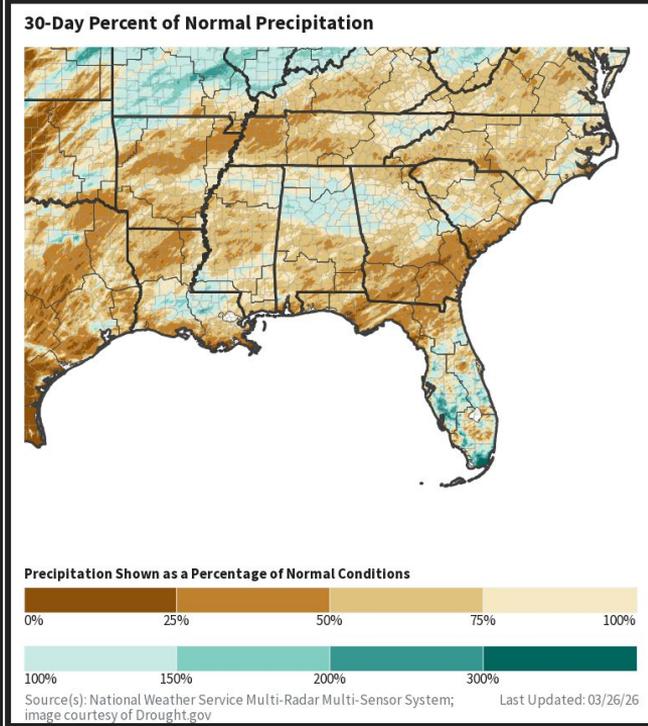
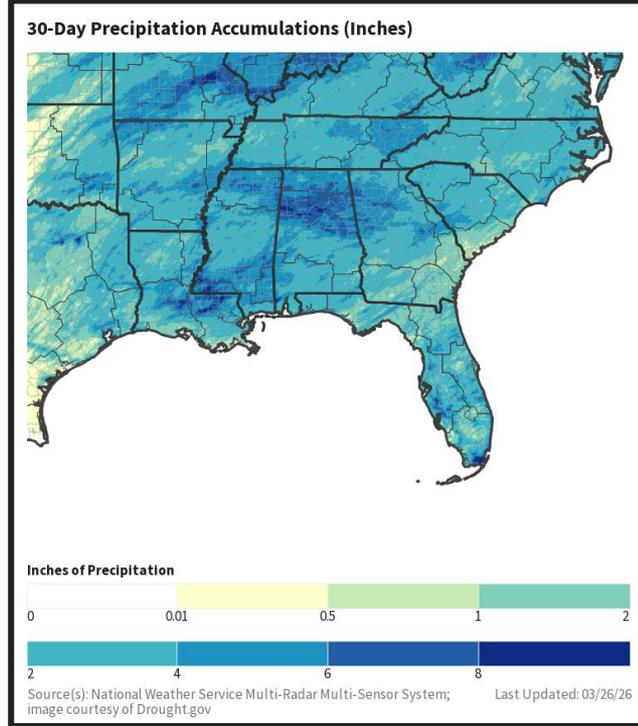
U.S. Drought Monitor valid 7AM EDT March 24th, 2026.





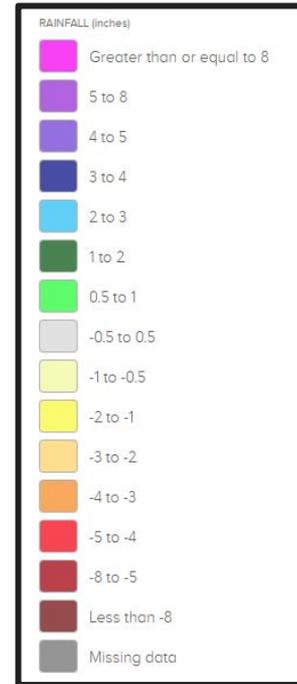
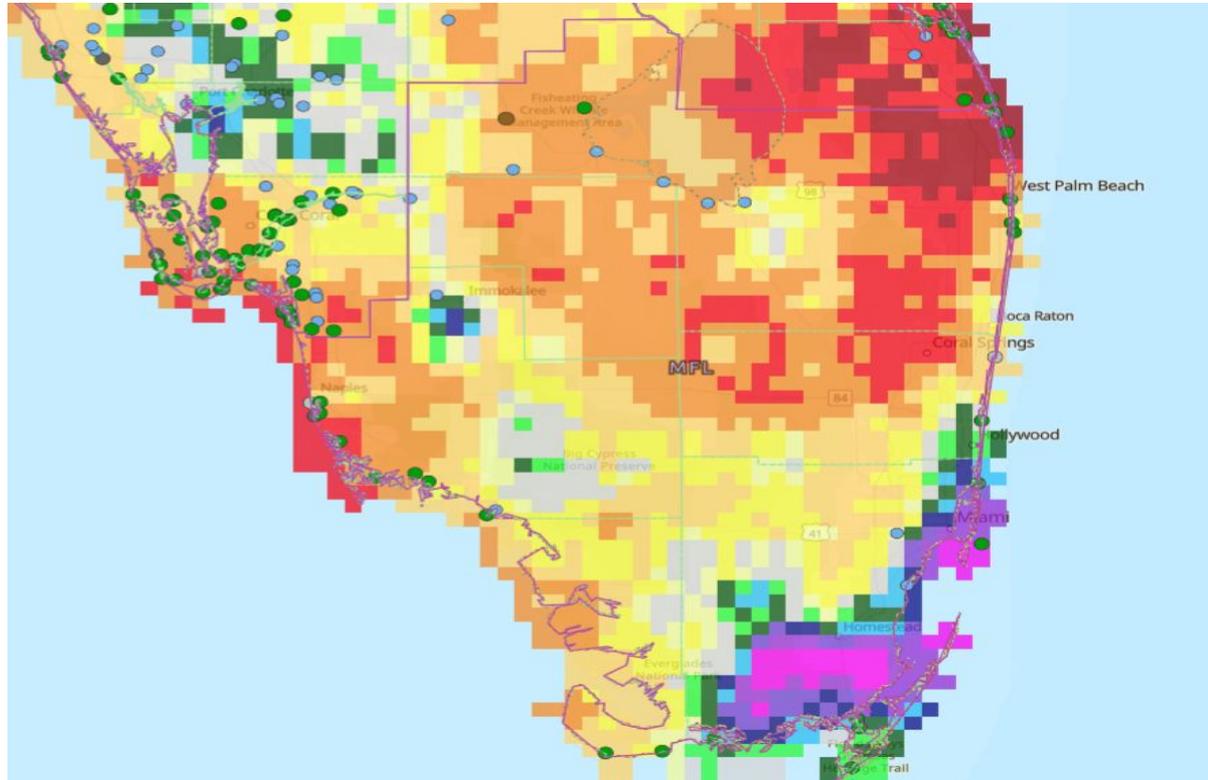
# 30 Day Observed Precipitation & Percentage of Normal

- Rainfall amounts across the region have remain at 25th to 50th percentile over the past 30 days.
- Only area that has remained normal to above normal is over extreme Southern Everglades where several inches of rainfall fell recently.





# 90 Day Rainfall Departure (Since 12/18/2025)





# Precipitation

- Rainfall observed with the departure and percent of normal since November 1st, 2025

The following table gives the rainfall from November 1, 2025 to March 25th, 2026:

Airports:	Observed Rainfall	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
<b>Palm Beach Intl</b>	<b>5.34</b>	<b>-10.52</b>	<b>34%</b>
<b>Naples Municipal</b>	<b>3.43</b>	<b>-3.84</b>	<b>47%</b>
<b>Ft Lauderdale-Hollywood Intl</b>	<b>11.37</b>	<b>-2.24</b>	<b>83%</b>
<b>Miami Intl</b>	<b>6.83</b>	<b>-5.03</b>	<b>58%</b>
<b>Secondary Observation Sites</b>			
<b>Moore Haven (Glades)</b>	<b>3.38</b>	<b>-5.98</b>	<b>36%</b>
<b>Opa Locka (Miami-Dade)</b>	<b>5.91</b>	<b>-5.56</b>	<b>52%</b>
<b>Homestead (Miami-Dade)</b>	<b>7.83</b>	<b>-1.77</b>	<b>82%</b>
<b>Hialeah (Miami-Dade)</b>	<b>9.22</b>	<b>-4.12</b>	<b>69%</b>
<b>Palm Beach Gardens (Palm Beach)</b>	<b>4.67</b>	<b>-11.93</b>	<b>28%</b>
<b>North Miami Beach (Miami-Dade)</b>	<b>8.33</b>	<b>-5.97</b>	<b>58%</b>
<b>Devils Garden (Hendry)</b>	<b>2.04</b>	<b>-7.72</b>	<b>21%</b>

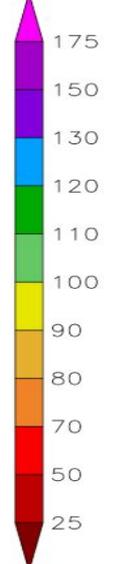
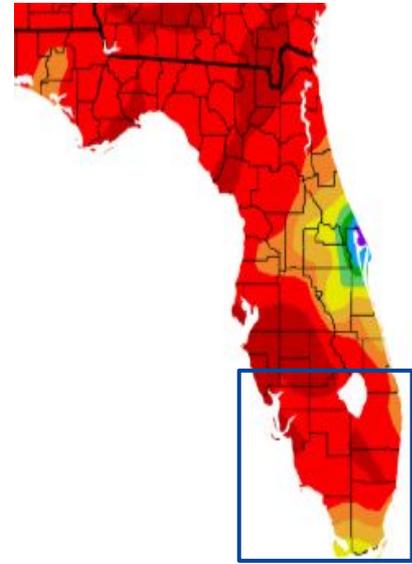
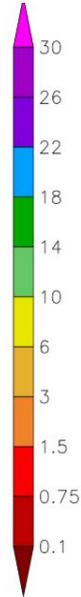
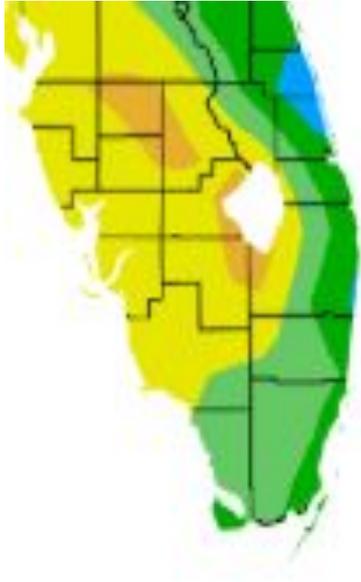


Image Captions:  
 Left - Precipitation Amount for [area]  
 Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation for [area]  
 Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.  
 Data over the past 180 days ending March 25th, 2025





# Hydrologic Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- (3/26/26) Lake Okeechobee water level is currently at 12.00 feet which is **-2.34 feet** below normal of 14.34 feet.
- The underground level water conservation area 1 in Interior Palm Beach County is at 15.79 feet and it should be at 16.27 feet which is **-0.48 feet** below normal for this time of year.
- The Underground level water conservation area 2 in Interior Broward County is at 11.99 feet and its normal level is 11.00 feet which is **+0.99 feet** above normal for this time of year.
- The underground level water conservation area 3 in Interior Miami-Dade County is at 8.38 feet and its normal level is at 9.95 feet which is **-1.57 feet** below normal for this time of year.
- **The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) continues a Water Shortage Warning for Collier, Glades, Miami-Dade and Monroe counties amid continuing dry conditions and increasing water supply concerns.**





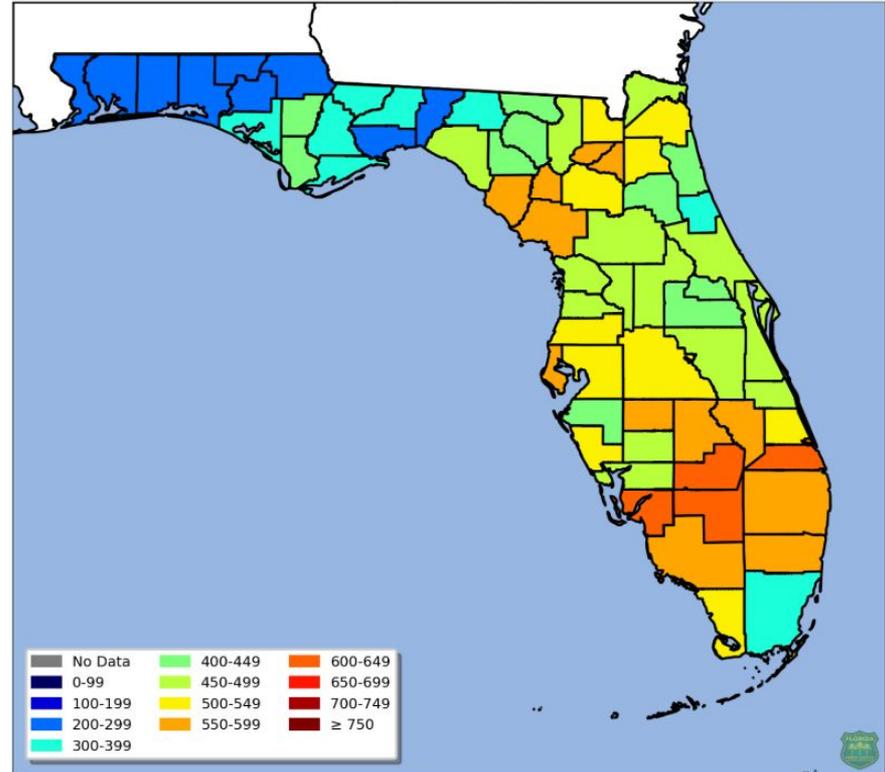
# Fire Hazard Impacts

[Keetch-Byram Drought Index \(KBDI\)](#)

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- KBDI index has deteriorated around Lake Okeechobee region.
- Glades/Hendry is now 600 to 650 range.
- Palm Beach/Broward and Collier Counties is now in 550 to 600 range.
- Mainland Monroe 500-550 and Miami-Dade County 300 to 400.

KBDI Averages by County | Wed 03/25/26





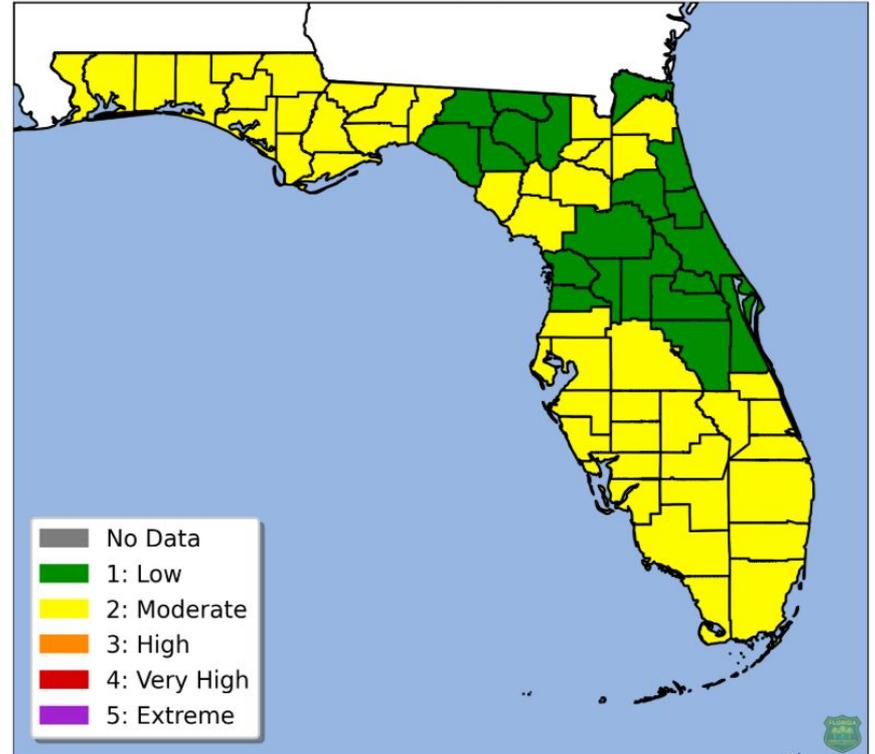
# Fire Danger Matrix

[Fire Danger Risk](#)

## Fire Danger Matrix

- A moderate fire (level 2 of 5) danger risk across all of South Florida.

Estimated Fire Danger | Thu 03/26/26



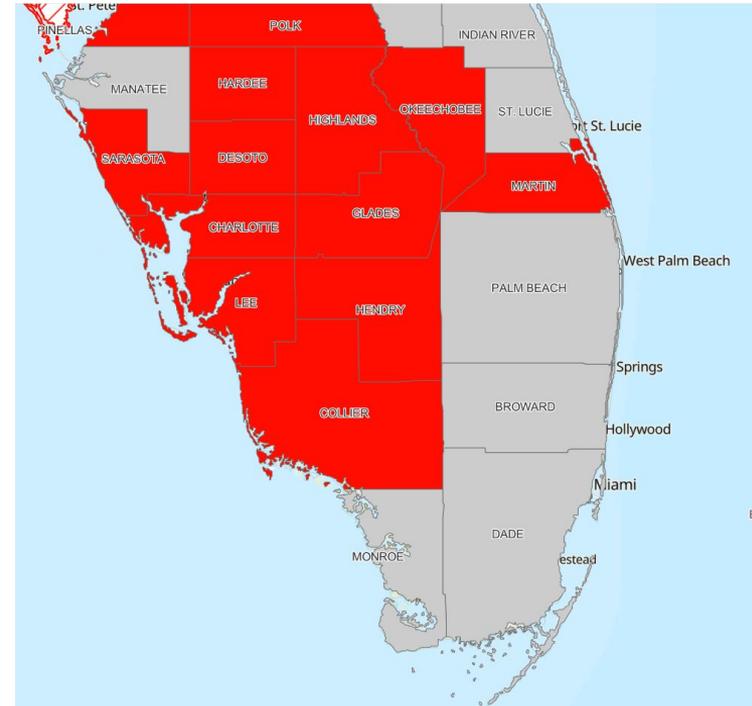


# Burn Bans

Link: [County Burn Bans](#)

## Current Burn Bans

- Collier, Hendry, Glades Counties.
- *Issued by local county officials.*



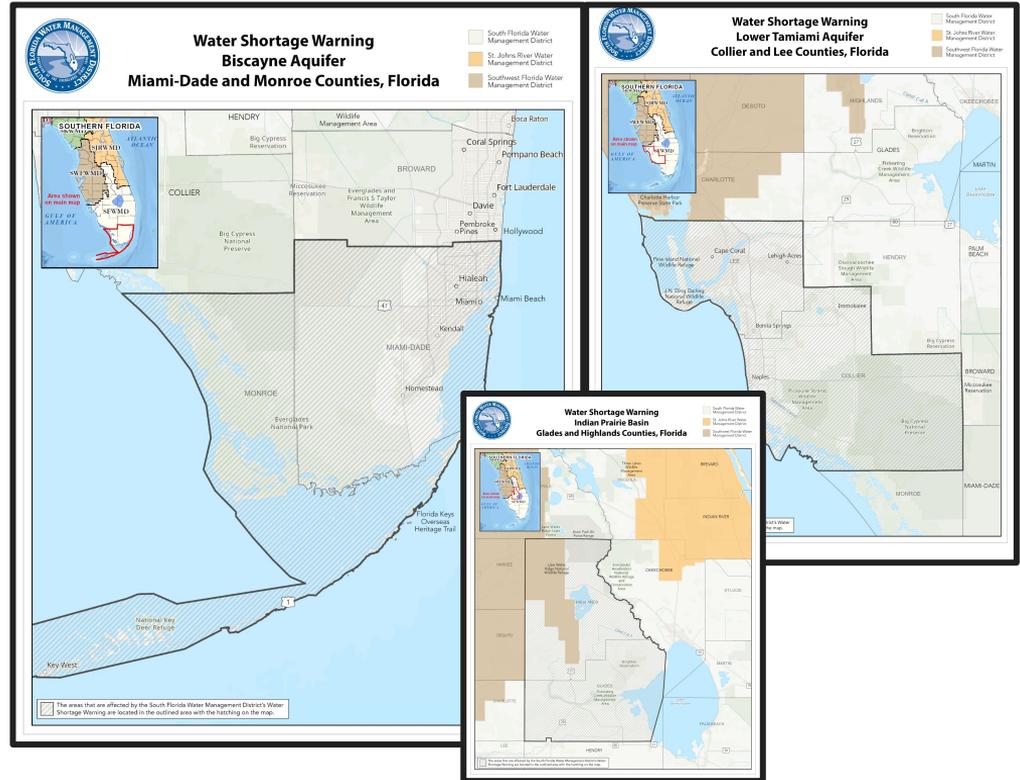


# Water Shortage Warnings

Link: [South Florida Water Management District Water Shortage Page](#)

## Water Shortage Warnings

- Collier, Glades, Miami-Dade Counties
- *Issued by the South Florida Water Management District.*





# Soil Moisture

- South Florida soil moisture has improved over South Florida.
- Western areas of South Florida is now in 5 to 10 percentile.
- Eastern areas of South Florida is now in 10 to 20 percentile.

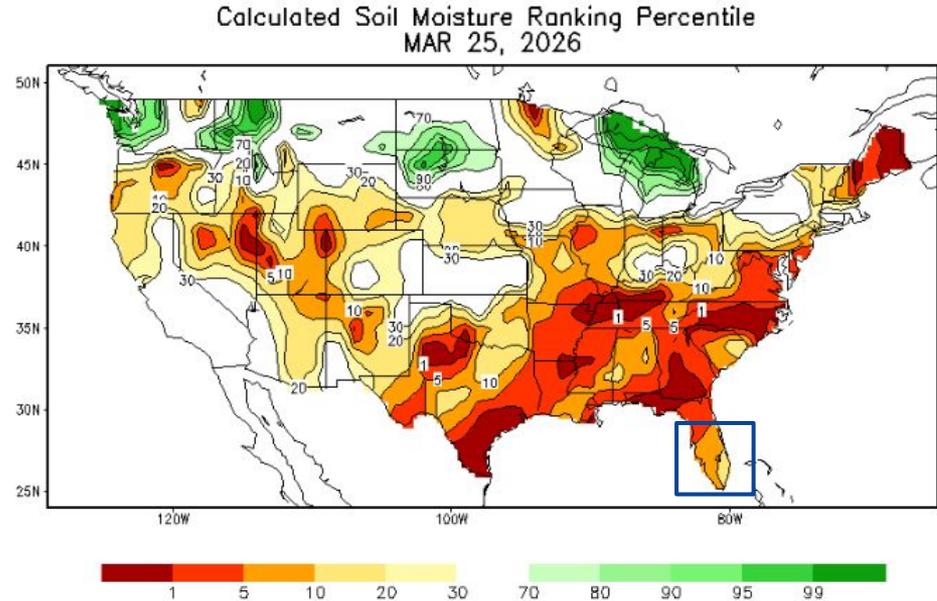


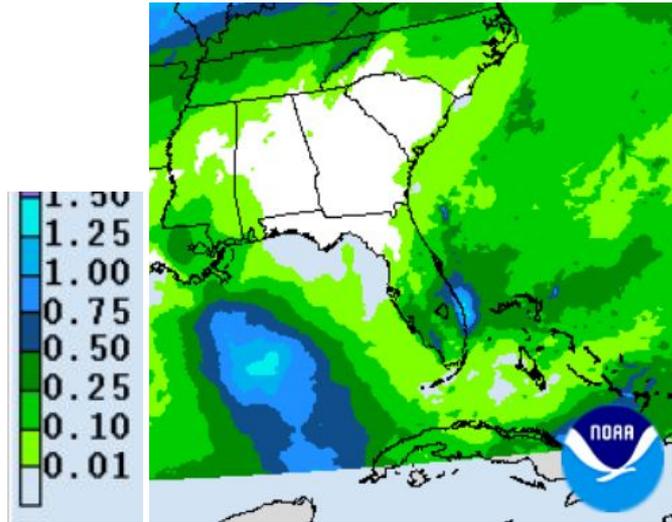
Image Captions:  
CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#)  
valid March 25th, 2026



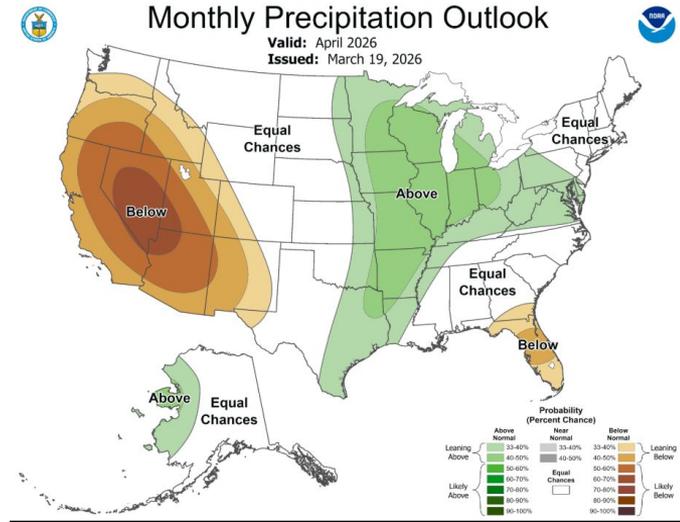


# Precipitation Outlook

- Mostly dry weather will continue over South Florida except for chance of rain late this weekend with a frontal passage.
- Rainfall amounts up to 0.10 inches are possible except up to 1.25 inches coastal Palm Beach next 7 days.
- CPC's April [monthly precipitation outlook](#) depicts a 33-40% chance (**“leaning below normal”**) of below normal precipitation.



168 Hour Day 1-7 Rainfall Accumulations -  
Weather Prediction Center  
(Through 8am April 2th, 2026)



Monthly Precipitation Outlook  
Climate Prediction Center  
Valid April 2026

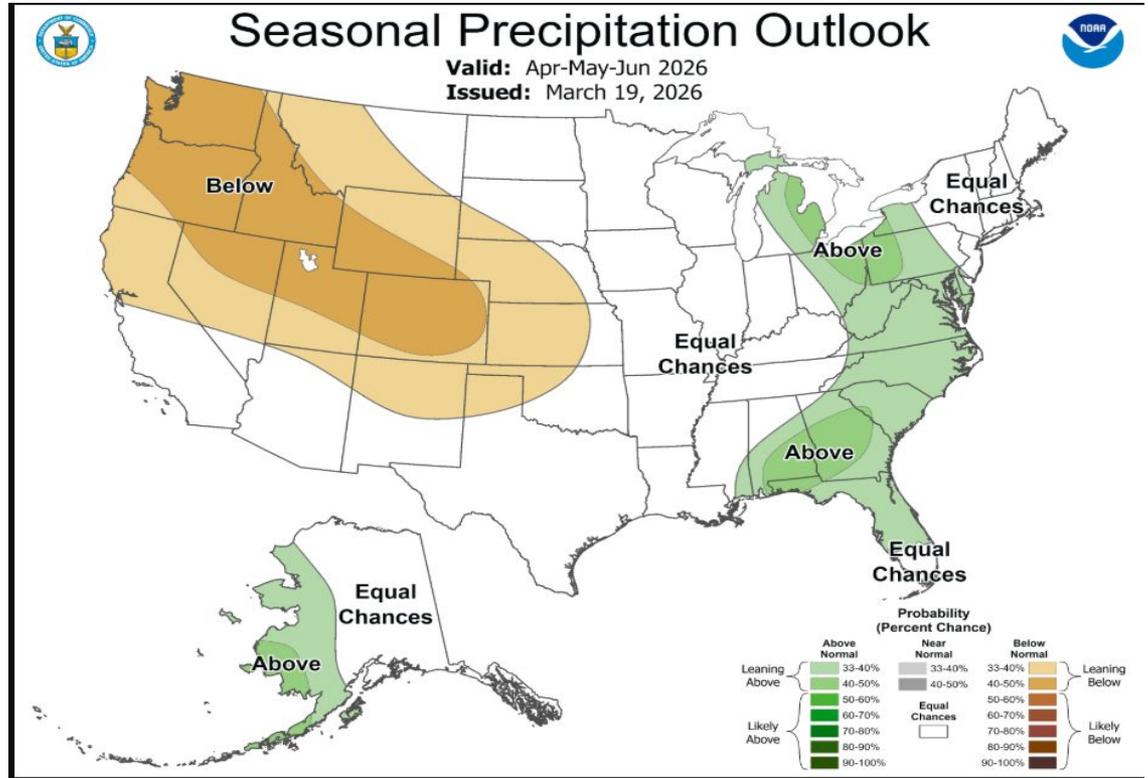




# Long-Range Outlooks

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

- The Climate Prediction Center depicts an equal chance of seeing below or above normal rainfall.

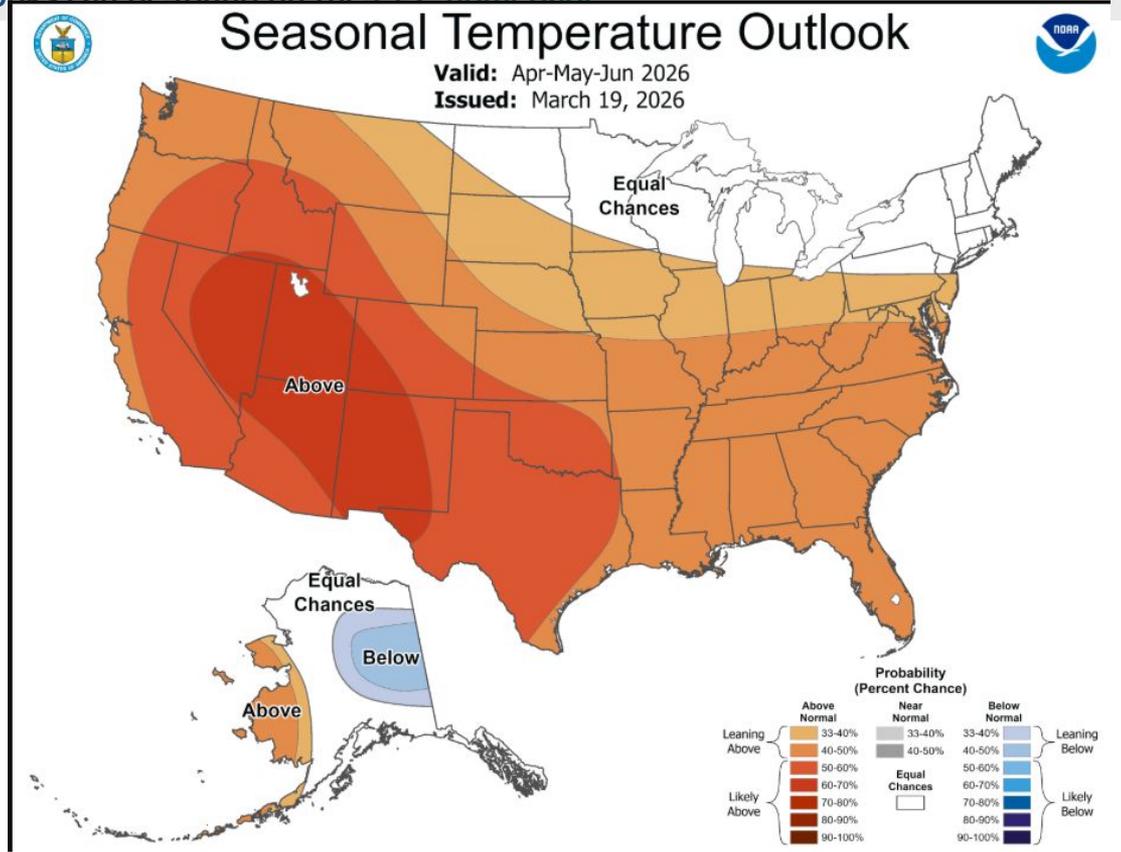




# Long-Range Outlooks

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- The Climate Prediction Center depicts a 40-50% chance (“**leaning above normal**”) of higher than normal temperatures.





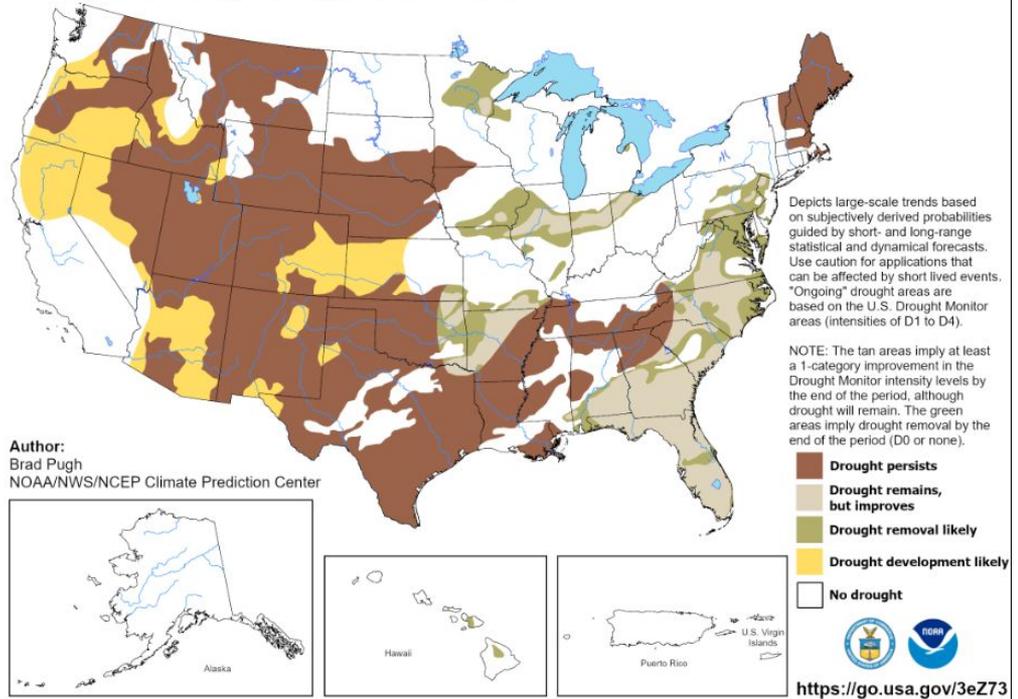
# Drought Outlook

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

- Drought is expected to persist through June of 2026, but should start to improve once the rainy season gets started in May.

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

Valid for March 19 - June 30, 2026  
Released March 19, 2026



Links to the latest:

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

