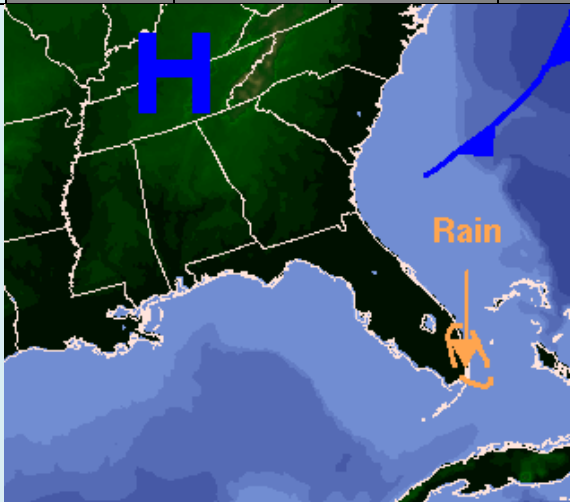
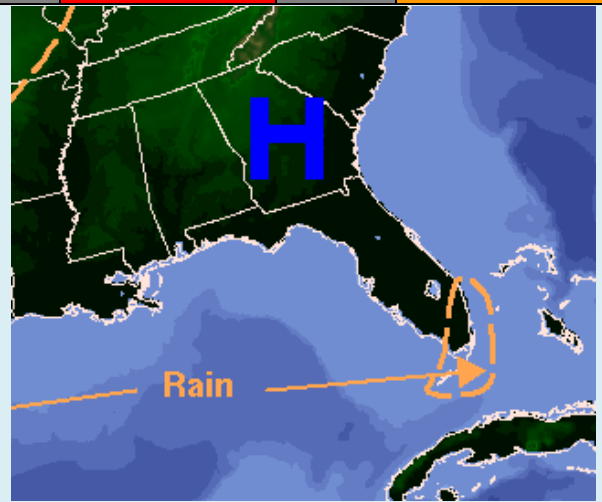


No Threat **Low Threat** **Moderate Threat** **High Threat**

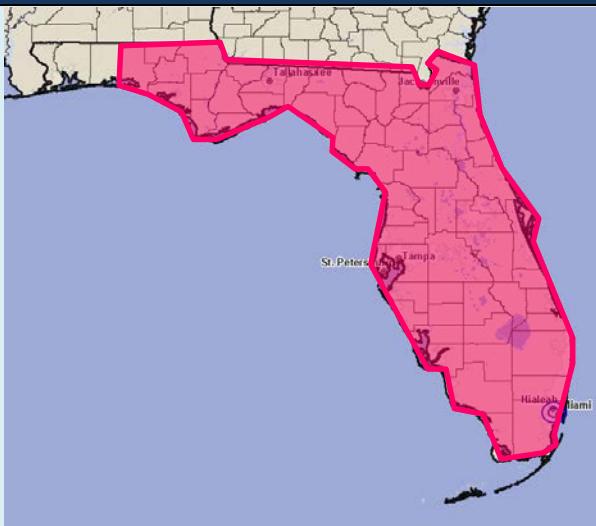
Day	Lightning	Flooding	Damaging Wind/Hail	Tornado	Fog	Wildfire	Freeze	Rip Currents
Fri						Peninsula & Northeast FL Rest of FL		West Coast Panhandle Cen. East Coast Elsewhere
Sat						Peninsula & Northeast FL Rest of FL		Cen. & S. East Coast West Coast Elsewhere
Sun						Peninsula & Northeast FL Rest of FL		Cen. & S. East Coast Panhandle Elsewhere
Mon						Peninsula & Northeast FL		East Coast Panhandle Elsewhere
Tue						Peninsula & Northeast FL		East Coast Panhandle Elsewhere



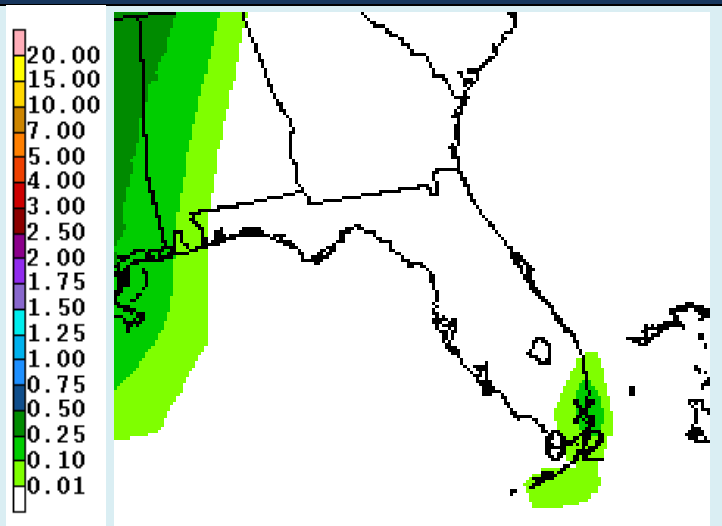
Forecast Weather Map and Fronts on Saturday



Forecast Weather Map and Fronts on Sunday



Red Flag Warnings in Effect Today



Forecast Cumulative Rainfall Total Through Tuesday Night

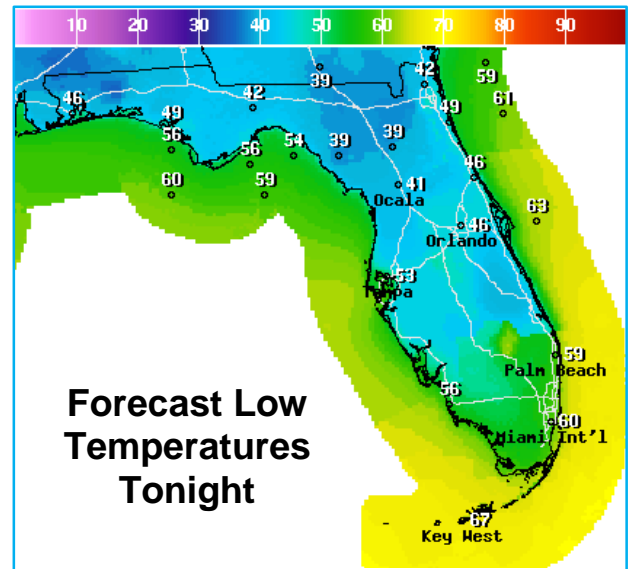


...Generally Dry Conditions Expected Statewide Through Tuesday...Cool Temperatures Today and Tonight with a Gradual Warming Trend into Early Next Week...Drought Conditions Spread in Central and South Florida, Improve in the Northern Peninsula This Week...HIGH Fire Weather Threat in the Peninsula and Northeast Florida Through Tuesday...High Risk for Rip Currents at West Coast Beaches Today...Moderate Risk for Rip Currents for Many Florida Beaches Through Tuesday...

Friday & Saturday:

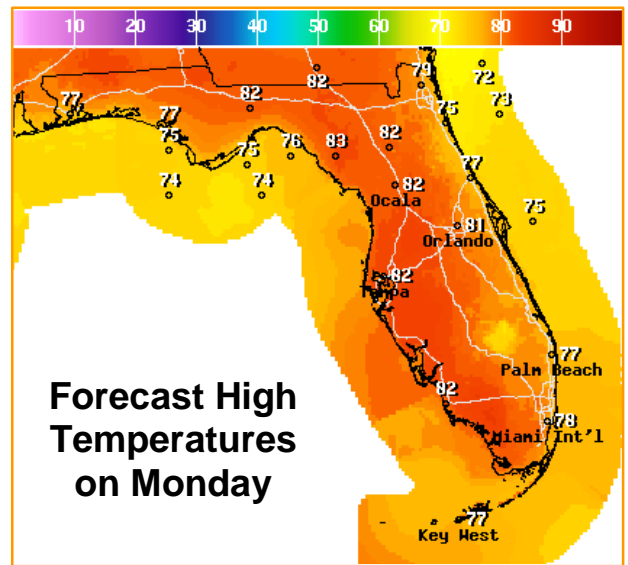
As high pressure builds in from the west, cooler than average temperatures and excessively dry air will persist across Florida for the next couple of days. Strong winds out of the northwest, with gusts around 20-25 mph and low relative humidity values have led to an increased threat of wildfires across the state today. See the drought conditions/fire weather section for more details.

Statewide relative humidity values today are in the 20 to 30 percent range and although they will increase slightly overnight, they will dip back into this range Saturday afternoon. Winds, however, should calm on Saturday and shift to become predominantly out of the north around 5-10 mph. Even with sunny skies, temperatures today in North Florida are only expected to peak in the upper 60s with overnight lows in the low to mid-40s. Temperatures will remain below average for the rest of the state as well, with highs in the low to mid 70s and overnight lows in the 40s and 50s. Sunny and cool conditions will continue for Saturday with highs in the low to mid 70s throughout the state.



Sunday - Tuesday:

On Sunday, high pressure moves off into the Atlantic and a warming trend begins. Most of the state will remain sunny and dry through Tuesday, with only a slight chance for a shower or two in South Florida early in the week. Temperatures will trend back towards their seasonal averages with most of the state reaching the upper 70s and lower 80s each day. Overnight temperatures will be much more comfortable by Monday night with lows in the upper 50s and lower 60s for inland North and Central Florida and in the mid to upper 60s in South Florida.



[NWS Mobile Daily Graphical Hazards](#)
[NWS Jacksonville Daily Hazards](#)
[NWS Tampa Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

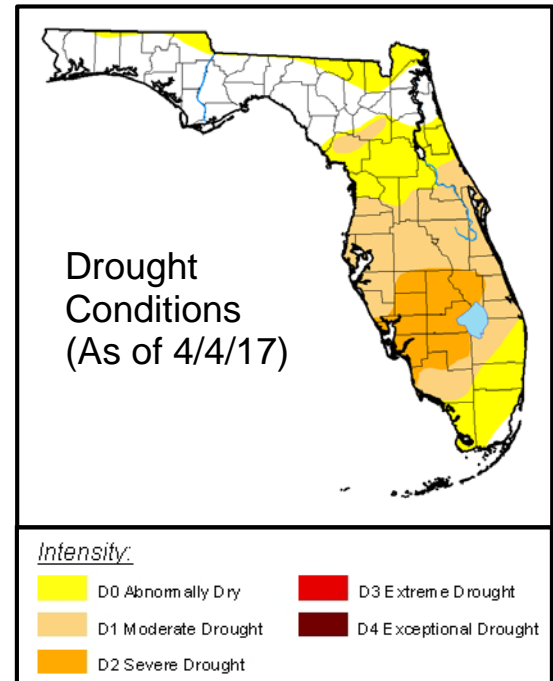
[NWS Tallahassee Daily Graphical Hazards](#)
[NWS Melbourne Daily Graphical Hazards](#)
[NWS Miami Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Key West Daily Hazards](#)
[Current Watches, Warnings, and Advisories for Florida](#)

Drought Conditions and Fire Weather:

For the first time in a few weeks, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor, drought conditions in Florida actually improved this week, which is a welcome development. Significant rainfall this week in the northern Peninsula, the Big Bend, and the Panhandle acted to reduce the abnormally dry and drought conditions in those areas. The area of severe drought in Alachua and Levy counties was reduced to moderate drought, and the moderate drought conditions surrounding that area are now considered abnormally dry or have been eliminated. In addition, much of the abnormally dry conditions in the Panhandle, Big Bend, and Northeast Florida were eliminated. In total, the area of land in Florida considered to be in a drought was reduced from around 65% last week to around 55% this week, and land areas considered normal (not abnormally dry or in a drought) increased from near 9% to around 32%. However, the news is not all good, as severe drought conditions in Central Florida spread northwest into Desoto and Hardee counties. Also, abnormally dry conditions have spread further east into Broward and Miami-Dade counties, and drought conditions remain prevalent in Central and South Florida. The lack of rainfall in those regions is an issue; over the last two weeks, most of Central and South Florida has seen average to below average rainfall. The drought forecast for April from the Drought Monitor indicates that drought conditions in Florida are expected to [persist or develop](#), but [at least equal chances](#) for average, below average, or above average rainfall are expected throughout Florida this month, with better chances for above average rainfall in western portions of the Panhandle.

The fire weather threat remains elevated in the Peninsula and Northeast Florida as soils remain dry and drought conditions are present in the majority of those areas. Winds this afternoon will be between 15 and 20 mph in some parts of the Peninsula, but winds will be slower over the weekend before increasing again on Monday. Relative humidity is expected to be near or below critical levels throughout much of the state this weekend before increasing to at least low levels Monday and Tuesday. The winds and relative humidity are the primary causes for the many **Red Flag Warnings** in effect today, *indicating that outdoor burning is not recommended and any fires that develop are very likely to spread quickly in the warned areas.* Additional red flag warnings may be issued in the Peninsula this weekend. With the lack of rainfall in the forecast and considering the forecast winds and relative humidity and the dry soils, a **HIGH** fire weather threat is forecast for the Peninsula and Northeast Florida through Tuesday. In addition, there is a **moderate** fire weather threat in the rest of North Florida today and a **low**



threat this weekend due to the previously mentioned critically low relative humidity. Also, Glades, Hendry, Nassau, Okeechobee, Osceola, Polk, and Seminole counties currently have burn bans in place.

It is advised that anyone handling flammable materials use caution while outdoors on wildfire danger days. Dry vegetation or winds can fuel a wildfire and cause it to spread rapidly, turning a tiny spark into a devastating wildfire. Local fire weather forecasts can be found [here](#).

Hydrology (River Flooding):

After this week's rainfall in the Panhandle, the Escambia River near Century and the Choctawhatchee River at Caryville have risen into action stage, joining the Shoal River near Crestview. The Choctawhatchee near Bruce/Ebro and the Apalachicola River near Blountstown are forecast to rise into flood stage over the next few days. Fortunately, none of these rivers, or any other rivers or waterways in Florida, are forecast to rise into flood stage through early next week. In fact, Florida river streamflows remain average to below average. With little to no rainfall forecast in Florida over the next five days, there are no river flooding concerns in Florida. For more information on river stages, please visit the Southeast River Forecast Center's website at www.weather.gov/serfc/.

Rip Currents:

There is an elevated risk for rip currents at many Florida beaches over the next few days due to breezy onshore winds and increased wave heights. A **high risk for rip currents** is forecast for West Coast beaches today. A **moderate risk for rip currents** is forecast for West Coast beaches tomorrow, some East Coast beaches today through Sunday and all East Coast beaches on Monday and Tuesday, and Panhandle beaches today and then Sunday through Tuesday. A **low risk for rip currents** is forecast for any beach not previously mentioned through Tuesday.

Even on low risk days, rip currents can occur, especially near piers, inlets, jetties, and during outgoing tidal cycles. Anyone who plans to enter the water should check their local rip current forecast and learn how to escape a rip current before going to their beach destination. Everyone should always remember that the safest beaches are the ones protected by lifeguards. [Daily surf zone and rip current forecasts for all Florida beaches.](#)

For the official National Weather Service forecast, please click on the following cities:

[Pensacola](#) • [Panama City](#) • [Tallahassee](#) • [Gainesville](#) • [Jacksonville](#) • [Daytona Beach](#)

[Orlando](#) • [Tampa](#) • [Fort Myers](#) • [West Palm Beach](#) • [Miami](#) • [Key West](#)

[Click here for the latest watches, warnings, and advisories from The National Weather Service](#)

For coastal and offshore forecasts throughout Florida and Georgia, please click [here](#).

Have a great weekend!

William Watson, Assistant State Meteorologist

Kendra Spalding, Intern

State Meteorological Support Unit

Florida Division of Emergency Management

www.FloridaDisaster.org

