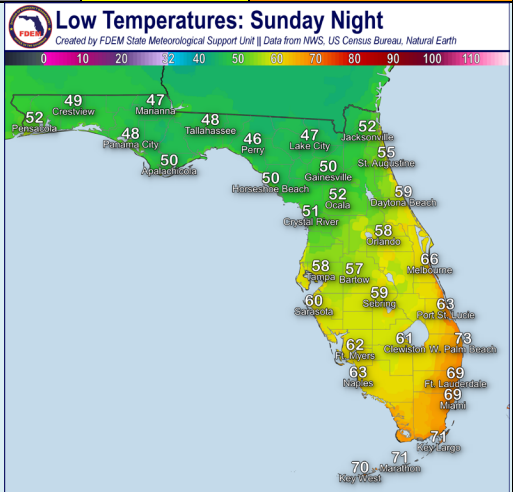
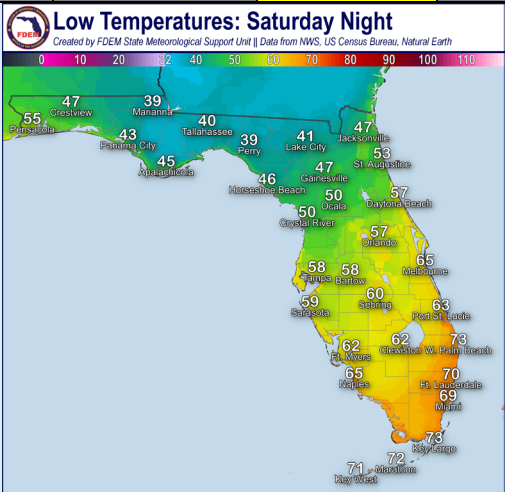
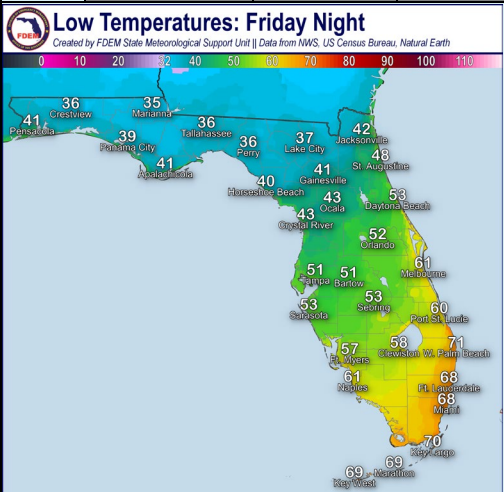
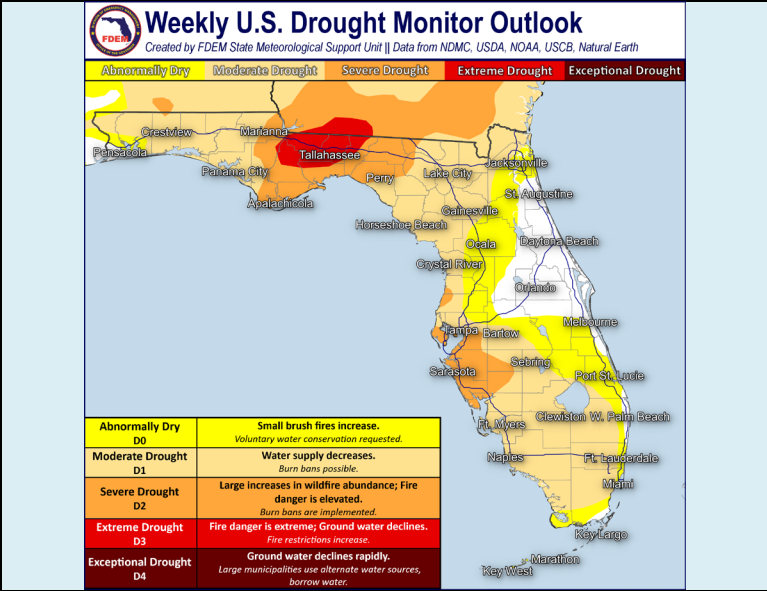


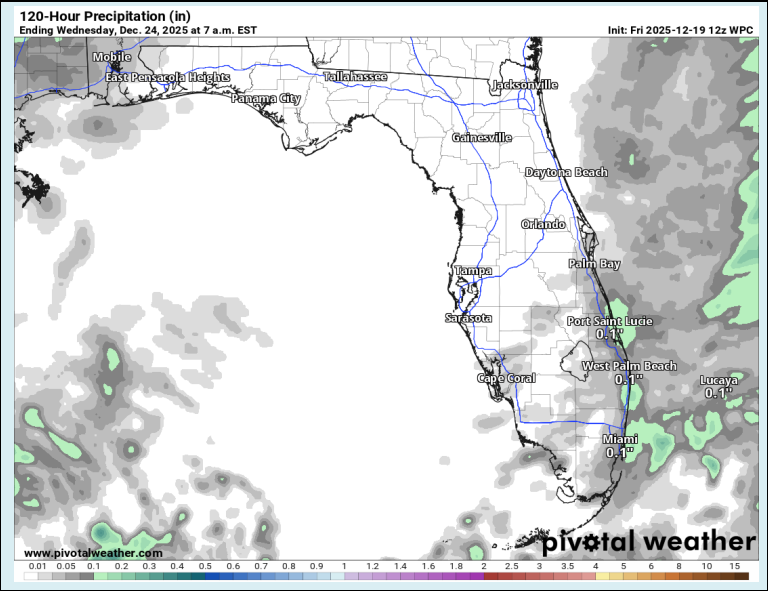
Friday, December 19, 2025					5-Day Statewide Weather Outlook			
No Threat			Low Threat		Moderate Threat		High Threat	
Day	Lightning	Tornado	Damaging Wind/Hail	Freeze (Overnight)	Fog (Overnight)	Flash Flooding	Wildfire	Rip Currents
Fri				North of I-10 Corridor & Suwannee Valley	Locally Suwannee Valley & South Florida		Locally North Florida	Panhandle East & West Coast Southeast FL
Sat				Iso. North of I-10 Corridor	Locally Suwannee Valley & South Florida		Locally North & West-Central Florida	Panhandle & East Coast West Coast & Southeast FL
Sun							Locally North Florida	East Coast Panhandle West Coast
Mon							Locally South Florida North FL	East Coast Panhandle West Coast
Tue					Panhandle & Big Bend		Locally South Florida North FL	East Coast Panhandle West Coast



Forecast Low Temperatures: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday Nights



Drought Monitor as of 12/18

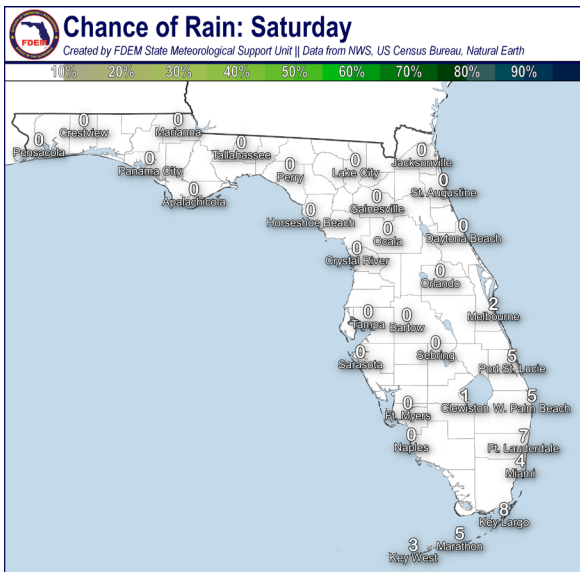


5-Day Forecast Rainfall Totals through Tuesday Evening



...Dry Conditions Expected Statewide Through Tuesday as High Pressure Settles Over the Sunshine State... Locally Sensitive Wildfire Conditions Possible Early this Weekend Across North Florida, then South Florida Early Next Week with Breezy to Gusty Winds Developing... Patchy Fog Possible for Northeast Florida Saturday and Sunday Mornings... Patchy Frost Mainly North of I-10 and Within Suwannee Valley Friday Night; Temperatures Warm this Weekend and Next Week... Marine Hazards Remain Elevated Through Forecast Period... Additional Improvements Made to the Drought Monitor this Week...

## Friday – Tuesday:

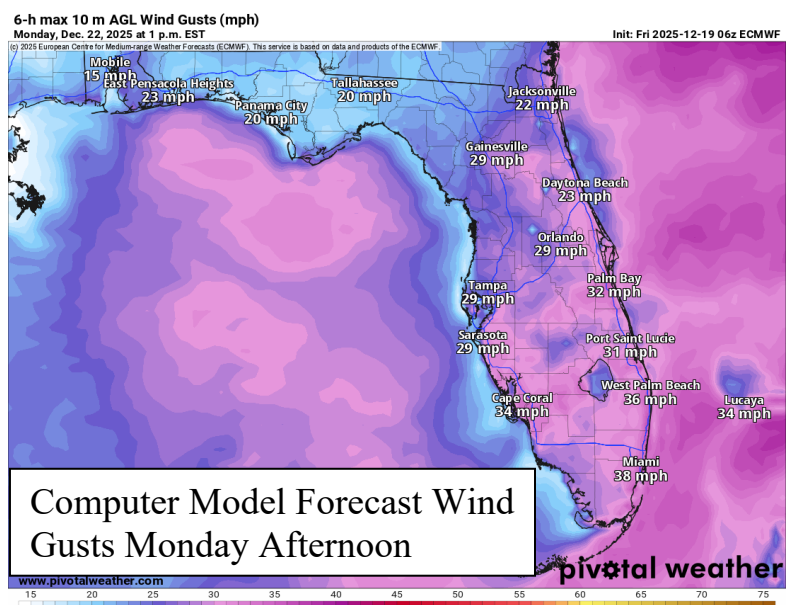


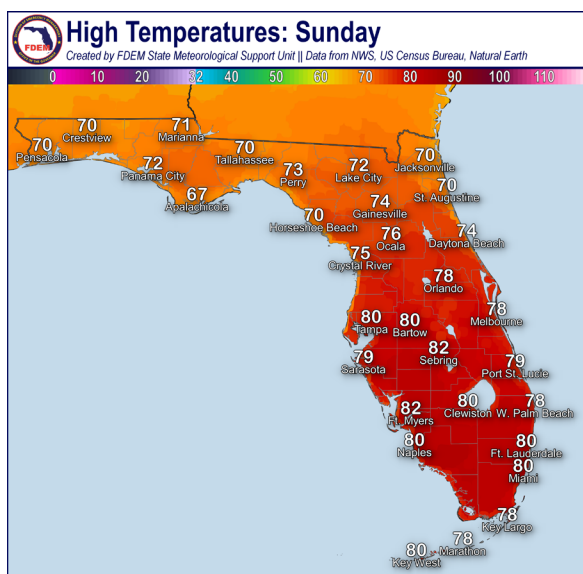
A pleasant stretch of weather is expected to begin today as a dry frontal passage sweeps across the state with high pressure quickly on its heels. A few breezy winds gusts **upwards of 30 mph** may accompany this frontal passage today, though there won't be any sensible impacts in the way of rainfall. High pressure will settle across the Southeast U.S. and Sunshine State bringing mostly sunny skies and near zero chances of rain.

These drier conditions will usher in low relative humidities, though generally remaining above critical thresholds across the state. However, on Saturday, RH values will dip to near or even **below critical thresholds (25-30% RH values)** across North Florida which may lead to some **locally sensitive wildfire conditions**. In general though, recent rainfall and improving drought conditions will keep the wildfire risk lower compared to what we've seen in recent weeks or months. Still, soil

moisture values are well below normal and lingering long-term drought will provide for at least some localized sensitive conditions, especially in areas experiencing the most severe drought.

Another reinforcing high pressure will slide out of the Northern Plains and settle over the eastern U.S. early next week keeping the dry conditions in place. The exception will be along the immediate East Coast where a weak frontal passage and onshore winds may bring a few brief sprinkles or isolated showers onshore (15-20% chance of rain), mainly along the Treasure and Gold Coasts Monday and Tuesday. The presence of this high pressure and front in close proximity to the state will increase the winds for much of Central and South Florida. Sustained easterly winds of 15-20 mph can be expected across much of the Peninsula, with wind gusts **upwards of 35 mph** for coastal Treasure and Gold Coast locations. *Should conditions become favorable for even gustier winds near 40 mph, **Wind Advisories** may be issued along the immediate coastline.* However, confidence is low currently for that occurring. Breezy wind gusts **upwards of 25 mph** will extend across much of the





interior Peninsula Monday and Tuesday. Given these breezy to gusty winds, **locally sensitive to elevated wildfire conditions** may develop across South Florida.

High temperatures across the Panhandle will remain cooler on Friday in the wake of the dry frontal passage, only reaching the lower to middle 60s. However, conditions will warm up into the middle to upper 60s Saturday and lower 70s on Sunday. Some slight moderation is expected on Monday with the breezy winds and weak frontal passage keeping highs in the upper 60s in most locations, before increasing into the lower to middle 70s on Tuesday. For the rest of the Peninsula, temperatures will top out in the 70s for most, with some South Florida locations reaching the lower to middle 80s. Low humidities will keep any real heat risk low.

Clear and calm conditions will promote **low cloud** and **patchy fog** development across the Suwannee Valley Friday and Saturday nights where lows will dip into the **middle to upper 30s**. The best chance for **patchy frost** will be across the Suwannee Valley and north of the I-10 corridor Friday night. A **local freeze** can also not be ruled out in rural and elevated locations across the Panhandle. Lows will warm Saturday night for most across North Florida, into the upper 30s and lower 40s, before moderating into the upper 40s and lower 50s Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday nights. In Central Florida, lower to middle 50s Friday night will warm up into the middle 50s to lower 60s for each night through the forecast period. The greatest warmth will continue to reside across South Florida where lows will dip into the lower to middle 60s for interior locations and upper 60s to lower 70s for coastal areas.

### Hydrology & Flooding:

There is no risk for flash flooding over the next five (5) days. Only a few isolated showers may move onshore along the East Coast Monday and Tuesday, though rainfall totals will be meager, at best. For the latest on the rainfall outlook, please visit the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) [website](#).

There are no riverine concerns at this time. Rivers and streams across North Florida continue to receive beneficial rainfall as they start to increase slowly in water levels from the record dry conditions earlier this fall. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 13.54 feet, which is within the operational band and 1.16 feet below normal for this time of year.

### Drought & Fire Weather:

Plentiful rainfall of 3-6 inches has fallen over much of the Panhandle over the past two weeks which has allowed for some modest relief in the long-term drought conditions, outlined in this week's latest [Drought Monitor](#) outlook. West of SR 231 in the Panhandle, any severe drought from last week's outlook has been reduced to a **Moderate Drought (level 1 of 4)** where the heaviest rainfall has fallen. A **Severe Drought (level 2 of 4)** is still in place across the Big Bend region, though has been reduced back to a **Moderate Drought (level 1 of 4)** over the I-10 corridor across Northeast Florida and the Suwannee Valley. **Extreme Drought (level 3 of 4)** remains in place across northern Liberty, Gadsden, Leon, and Jefferson counties where 2–4-inch rainfall totals have fallen in the past two weeks, with parts of Jackson, Calhoun, and Madison counties reduced to a **Severe Drought (level 2 of 4)**. However, 60 to 90-day rainfall departures remain below normal (3-5 inches below normal) over all North Florida which has kept at least some drought category in place despite the recent rainfall. On the contrary, rainfall has been harder to come by across West-Central Florida near the Tampa Bay metro where a **Severe Drought (level 2 of 4)** has been slightly expanded to include more of Hardee and DeSoto

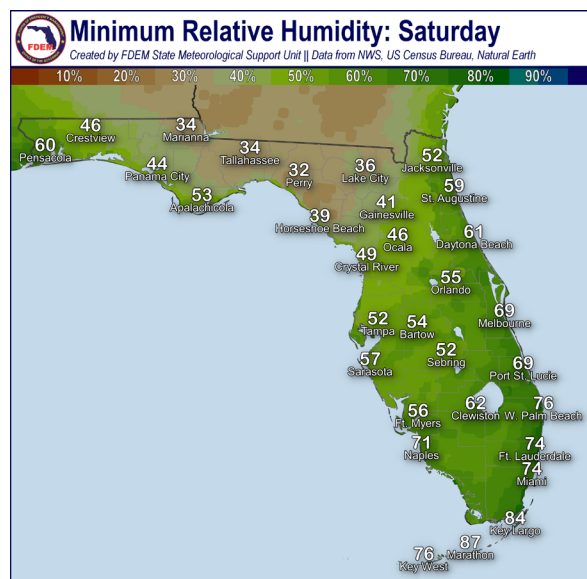




counties. Here, 3-month rainfall departures have begun to near 7 inches in some localized areas. A **Moderate Drought (level 1 of 4)** remains in place across nearly all South Florida south of Lake Okeechobee, with abnormally dry (*emerging drought*) conditions in place along coastal Southeast Florida. Additional rainfall from this past Thursday (12/18) across the Panhandle may lead to additional drought relief reflected in next week's drought monitor outlook. Dry and warm conditions will return across the state this weekend and early next week, which may bring additional drought deterioration, especially over Central and South Florida.

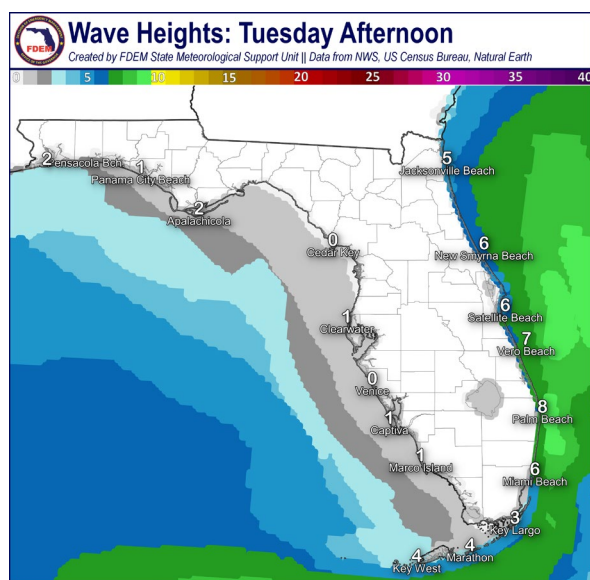
The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **423 (+4)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **19** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

The overall wildfire risk across North Florida continues to diminish after recent rainfall which has saturated some vegetation and slightly improved soil moisture content. Still, the long-term drought and lingering low soil moisture in locations will continue to promote **locally sensitive wildfire conditions**, especially on Saturday afternoon as relative humidities dip to near or **below critical thresholds (25-30% RH values)**. Developing and ongoing drought is of the much shorter-term variety over South Florida, though breezy to gusty winds, with gusts **upwards of 35 mph**, may lead to **locally sensitive to elevated wildfire conditions** Monday and Tuesday. According to the **Florida Forest Service**, there are currently 11 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 136 acres.



### Rip Currents & Marine Hazards:

Lingering breezy onshore winds and ocean swells will continue across the Panhandle Friday bringing a **high risk for rip currents**. These marine conditions will settle into this weekend and early next week with a return of a **moderate risk for rip currents**. A low to **locally moderate risk for rip currents** over the West Coast on Friday will diminish to a low risk through the forecast period. For the East Coast, a **moderate risk for rip currents** can be expected on Friday and Saturday before breezy to gusty onshore winds bring dangerous swimming conditions and a **high risk for rip currents** Sunday through Tuesday. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit [www.weather.gov/beach](http://www.weather.gov/beach).



Marine conditions will remain elevated for Panhandle and West Coast beaches Friday afternoon with some lingering ocean swells and surf of 1-3', with a few waves **upwards of 4'** for Gulf County beaches. These conditions will diminish Saturday and Sunday with a return of 1-2' waves. Breezy winds will begin to develop another ocean swell over the Gulf early next week, though the largest waves are likely to remain well offshore with waves of 1-2' remaining for all Panhandle and West Coast beaches. Along the East Coast, wave heights of **3-5'** Friday will diminish back down to **2-4'** Saturday and Sunday. However, the developing breezy to gusty onshore winds will build an ocean swell offshore the Florida East Coast bring waves of **5-8'** Monday and Tuesday. A few waves **upwards of 10'** cannot be ruled



out in the surf zone over Southeast Florida. A **High Surf Advisory** may be issued if conditions warrant early next week across the East Coast.

The latest **Blue-Green Algae** report shows algal bloom conditions were observed within Lake Okeechobee at moderate to **high bloom potential** with the highest concentrations along the southern shoreline of the lake. **High bloom potential** was also observed within the Charlotte Harbor near the Gator Slough Canal and Lake Thonotosassa in West-Central Florida. **Moderate bloom potential** was also observed along a portion of the Panhandle in Pensacola Bay, the Dorothy B. Owen Park within the Ochlockonee Bay, Harbor Lake and Lake Avalon in Big Cypress Swamp, and near Shands Bridge and Mandarin Point within the St. Johns River.

[NWS Mobile Daily Hazards](#)

[NWS Jacksonville Daily Hazards](#)

[NWS Tampa Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Key West Daily Hazards](#)

[NWS Tallahassee Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Melbourne Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

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

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[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 wonderful weekend!

Evan Newman, Assistant State Meteorologist  
Florida Division of Emergency Management

[www.FloridaDisaster.org/Weather](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org/Weather)

