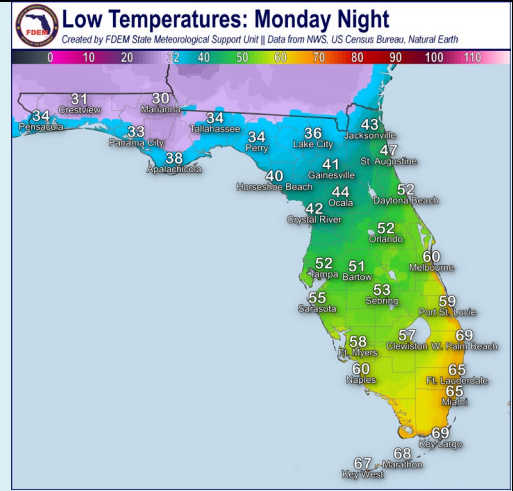
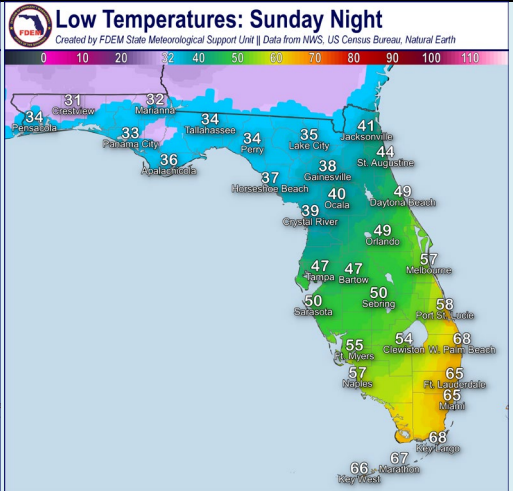
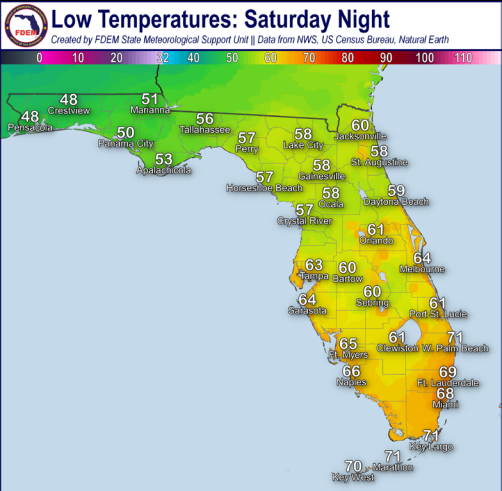
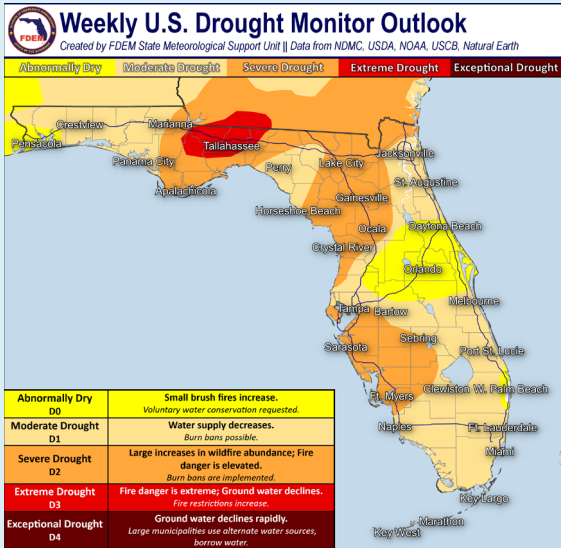


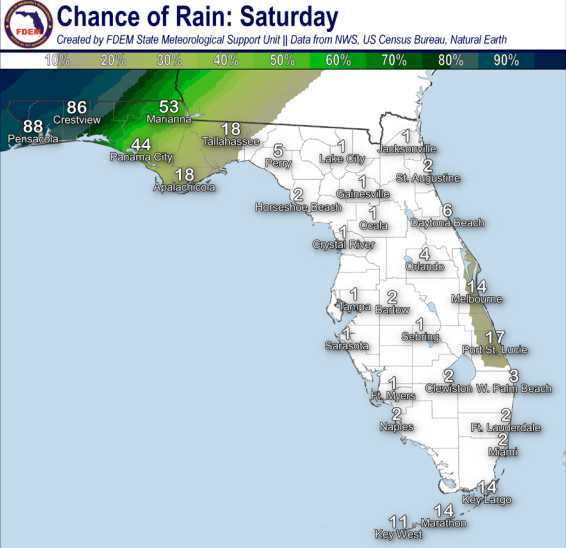
Friday, January 9, 2026					5-Day Statewide Weather Outlook			
No Threat			Low Threat		Moderate Threat		High Threat	
Day	Lightning	Tornado	Damaging Wind/Hail	Fog (Overnight)	Flash Flooding	Freeze (Overnight)	Wildfire	Rip Currents
Fri	Western Panhandle (Overnight)	Iso. Western Panhandle (Overnight)	Iso. Western Panhandle (Overnight)	Locally North & Central FL Statewide	Iso. Far Western Panhandle (Overnight)		Locally Statewide	Panhandle East Coast West Coast
Sat	Panhandle	Iso. Western Panhandle	Panhandle	Locally West-Central FL Central & South FL			Locally Statewide	Panhandle East Coast West Coast
Sun						Locally North of I-10 North Florida	North Florida Statewide	Statewide
Mon						Locally Western Panhandle North of I-10	North Florida Statewide	Statewide
Tue							North Florida Statewide	East Coast Panhandle West Coast



Forecast Low Temperatures: Saturday, Sunday, and Monday Night



Latest Drought Monitor Outlook – Valid 1/8

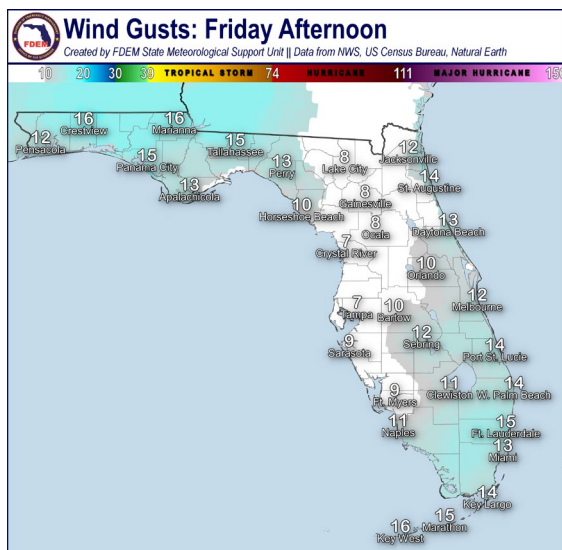


Forecast Rain Chances: Saturday



... Warmer than Normal Temperatures Persist to Start the Weekend... Areas of Dense Fog Develop Again Friday Night... Approaching Cold Frontal Passage Brings a Few Scattered Showers and Thunderstorms to the Panhandle Late Friday Night Through Saturday... A Few Storms Could be Locally Strong; An Isolated Severe Storm is Possible... Rainfall Totals Look to Remain Mostly Minimal... Cold Front Sweeps through the Rest of the Peninsula Sunday with Meager Rainfall Chances... Breezier Conditions Ahead of and in the Wake of the Frontal Passage... Locally Elevated Wildfire Conditions Return to North Florida Sunday... Temperatures Cool in the Wake of the Cold Front... Lows Dip to Near or Below Freezing Across the I-10 Corridor and Panhandle Sunday and Monday Night... Elevated Marine Conditions Return Late this Weekend and Early Next Week...

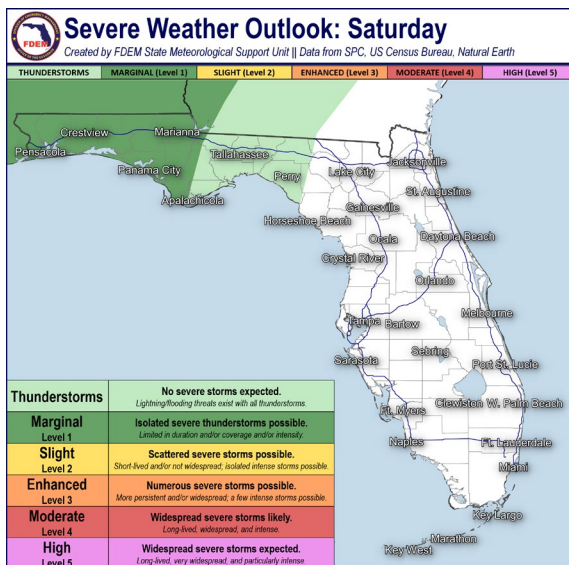
## Friday – Saturday:



The rather persistent high pressure that has anchored itself over the Southeast U.S. will remain in place to start the weekend, keeping mostly dry and warm conditions locked in place. A few isolated coastal showers across East-Central Florida cannot be ruled out Friday night (15-20% chance of rain), as well as an isolated shower across the far western Panhandle as the next cold front and weather system begins to approach (20-35% chance of rain). Ahead of this front, moist southerly flow will create a few breezy wind gusts **upwards of 20 mph** across the Panhandle Friday. Additionally, this southerly flow will usher in moisture for another night of **low cloud and fog** development across portions of North and Central Florida. Some of this fog could be **locally dense** and reduce visibilities to less than a quarter of a mile. **Dense Fog Advisories** will be issued as conditions warrant.

Most activity will enter the western Panhandle by daybreak Saturday morning (50-80% chance of rain) where a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5) for Severe Thunderstorms** is outlooked. Activity will remain mostly below severe levels as the larger storm system passes north of the state, however a few **locally strong to severe thunderstorms** cannot be ruled out. With any of this stronger activity, gusty winds, heavy downpours, and an isolated weak tornado are possible. A broken line of showers and embedded thunderstorms will trek across the remainder of the Panhandle and Big Bend Saturday evening and night as it weakens (40-60% chance of rain). Some breezy winds ahead of this front across the Panhandle can be expected Saturday, with wind gusts **upwards of 25 mph**. Additional **patchy dense fog** may also develop across West-Central Florida Saturday night where some onshore moist flow persists.

High temperatures will climb into the upper 70s to middle 80s statewide, with cooler temperatures in the lower to middle 70s along the North and Central Florida beaches. These highs will approach **record warm temperatures** for many places in North Florida. Lows will only dip into the upper 50s to middle 60s statewide Friday

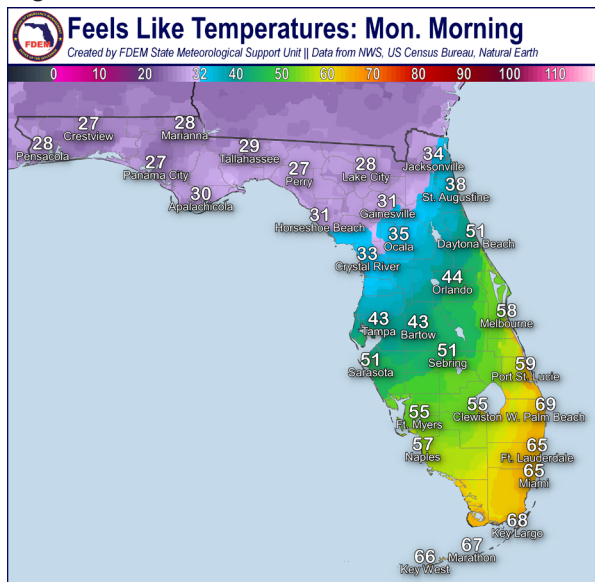
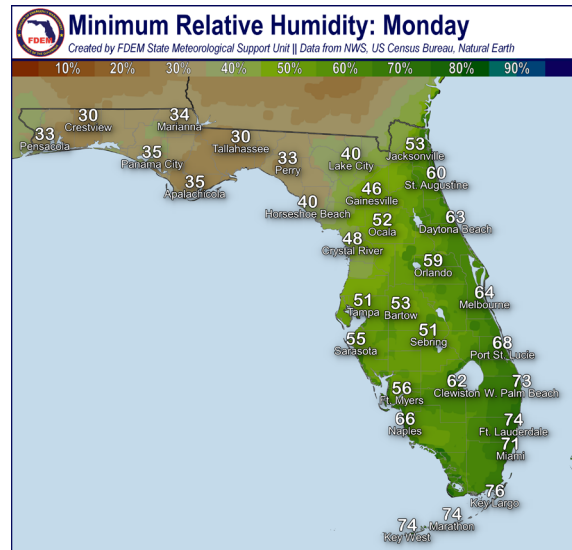


night before cooler air arrives to the Panhandle Saturday night with lows in the upper 40s to middle 50s. Lows in the upper 60s to lower 70s can be expected across coastal Southeast Florida and the Keys each night.

### Sunday – Tuesday:

The cold front will sweep through the remainder of the Peninsula Sunday accompanied by just a few light and isolated showers, remaining mostly north of the I-4 corridor (15-25% chance of rain). Breezy post-frontal winds will develop in the wake of the front across North Florida where a few wind gusts **upwards of 30 mph** are possible. Additionally, low relative humidities approaching critical thresholds (30-35% RH values) will bring **locally elevated wildfire conditions** to North Florida Sunday afternoon. The front will eventually stall just south of the Peninsula Monday as high pressure settles back into the Southeast U.S. As such, some lingering moisture may bring a few coastal showers to the Florida Keys and Coastal Southeast Florida Monday and Tuesday. Otherwise, dry conditions will return to the state. Breezy winds will persist across the Keys and coastal Southeast Florida on Monday, but diminishing winds across North and Central Florida will lower the overall wildfire risk. However, relative humidities will dip near or below critical thresholds across the Panhandle Monday and Tuesday afternoon (25-30% RH values).

The cold frontal passage will finally bring more winter-like temperatures back to North Florida with highs in the upper 50s to lower 60s across the Panhandle and middle to upper 60s for Northeast Florida Sunday afternoon. The coolest day in the forecast period will be Monday where highs struggle to climb out of the middle 50s across North Florida. A slight warm up is expected Tuesday with afternoon highs in the lower to middle 60s. Much warmer high temperatures will remain in place for Central and South Florida. Highs in the upper 70s to middle 80s Sunday will cool off into the upper 60s to middle 70s Monday. Highs eventually rebound into the lower to upper 70s Tuesday. Cold overnight lows will return to North Florida Sunday and Monday night, with temperatures reaching the **lower to upper 30s**. With some lingering breezy winds, feels-like temperatures Monday morning may be in the **middle to upper 20s**, especially for the Panhandle and north of I-10. Instances of **patchy frost** cannot be ruled out. Temperatures warm into the upper 30s to middle 40s for much of North Florida Tuesday night. Lows throughout Central Florida will reach the upper 40s to middle 50s each night and middle 50s to lower 60s in South Florida. Coastal Southeast Florida and the Keys can expect lows in the middle to upper 60s.



## Hydrology & Flooding:

A **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** is outlooked across far northern Okaloosa and Santa Rosa counties tonight where a few **locally heavy downpours** could lead to localized **nuisance flooding and ponding of water**. Rainfall totals with the passage of this cold front will be the greatest over the western Panhandle, though totals are expected to remain below 1". Should any repeated rounds of heavy downpours occur over the same area, **locally higher totals** cannot be ruled out. Regardless, any rainfall associated with the system will be beneficial to the ongoing drought. Some coastal showers across Southeast Florida and the Keys may bring some beneficial rainfall too early next week, though totals will generally remain meager outside of any locally heavier activity. For the latest on the rainfall outlook, please visit the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) [website](#).

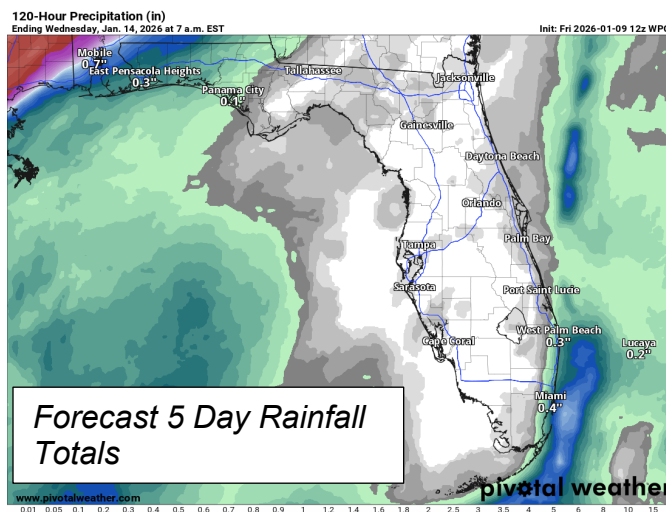
There are no riverine concerns at this time. Rivers and streams across North Florida remain near or below normal with the ongoing long-term drought. Any rainfall this weekend will be beneficial to streamflows. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

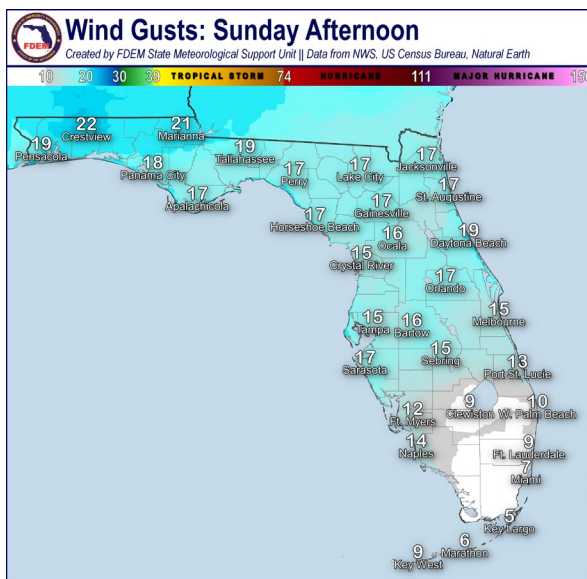
Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 13.26 feet, which is within the operational band and 1.31 feet below normal for this time of year.

## Drought & Fire Weather:

Some beneficial rainfall fell across North Florida last weekend (1/3), bringing widespread 1-2" totals to the Panhandle and Big Bend. However, very little change was made to this week's [Drought Monitor outlook](#) due to long-term drought and above normal temperatures keeping drought in place. Short-term rainfall departures are all below normal across the entire state, with the largest deficits (2-4") over the western Panhandle. Here, **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** remains, with **severe (level 2 of 4)** to **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** persisting over the interior eastern Panhandle and Big Bend. **Severe drought (level 2 of 4)** also remains in place across the Suwannee River Valley where streamflows are well below normal. Some of the biggest changes in recent outlooks has been across West-Central and South Florida where long-term rainfall departures have reached 4-6" in many locations. The **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** has expanded further south along the Gulf coast to include all of Charlotte and Lee counties, and westward to interior Glades and Hendry counties. Expansion of **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** was also added across coastal Southeast Florida. Nearly 87% of the state of Florida is now under a moderate drought (level 1 of 4) or worse. Our next chance for rainfall returns this weekend for the Panhandle; however, rainfall totals do not appear substantial enough to allow for category improvements in next week's outlook. Additionally, any rainfall will only be enough to moisten the topsoil while long-term drought has resulted in low soil moisture at deeper levels. Rivers, creeks, and streams will be unlikely to respond to any of this rainfall. Warm, dry, and breezy conditions may lead to further degradation of drought across South Florida.

The [Keetch-Byram Drought Index](#) average for Florida is **463 (+4)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **28** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).





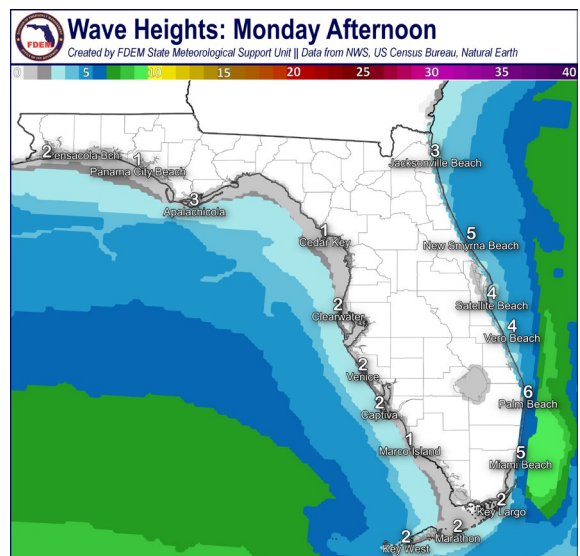
Warm and dry conditions this past week have helped to further dry out much of the state, with **locally sensitive wildfire conditions** persisting statewide, especially in the hardest hit areas with drought. In the wake of the cold frontal passage Sunday, breezy winds with gusts **upwards of 30 mph** and lower relative humidities **approaching critical thresholds (30-35% RH values)** may lead to **locally elevated wildfire conditions**. These breezy winds will diminish across North Florida starting Monday, however RH values will still dip near or below critical thresholds which may keep the **locally elevated wildfire conditions** in place. **Burn bans** remain in effect throughout most of West-Central Florida and portions of the upper Suwannee River Valley. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are currently 23 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 531 acres.

### Rip Currents & Marine Hazards:

The stretch of relatively calm marine conditions will come to an end this weekend as the next frontal system approaches. A **moderate to high risk for rip currents** is expected for all Panhandle beaches through the forecast period. Breezy southerly winds ahead of the frontal system on Friday and Saturday will lead to an onshore component and dangerous swimming conditions. In the wake of the front, breezy post-frontal winds will build an ocean swell keeping the elevated rip current risk in place. A **moderate risk for rip currents** across the East Coast is expected to start the weekend before an Atlantic ocean swell builds with the breezy post-frontal winds. As such, a **high risk for rip currents** is expected Sunday through the forecast period. A low risk for rip currents for West Coast beaches will increase to a **moderate to high risk** Sunday and Monday, before diminishing on Tuesday.

Breezy southerly winds will bring increased surf of **2-4'** to the Panhandle on Friday and Saturday, with all other statewide beaches remaining in the 1-3' range. However, breezy winds behind the cold front on Sunday will build an ocean swell in both the Gulf and Atlantic. This will increase wave heights to **3-5'** for some Panhandle beaches, with the largest waves in the surf zone. These larger waves will move southward towards the West Coast of Florida Monday, with waves increasing to 2-3'. Surf will diminish on Tuesday for all Gulf-facing beaches, with waves back down near 1'. East Coast beaches will see waves significantly increase Sunday night and Monday with waves of **4-6'** expected. A few waves **upwards of 8'** cannot be ruled out in the surf zone across Southeast Florida beaches. Waves will diminish back down to **2-4'** for Northeast and East-Central Florida beaches Tuesday, with waves remaining elevated in the **4-6'** range for Southeast Florida beaches.

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 in Lake Echo and Hobbs Lake in West-Central Florida. **Moderate bloom potential** was observed within Lake



Avalon in Southwest Florida, Lake Gaitlin, Florence, Marion, and Placid in Central Florida, and Georges Lake in Northeast Florida.

[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](#)

[NWS Miami Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

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

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Have a wonderful weekend!

Evan Newman, Assistant State Meteorologist

Florida Division of Emergency Management

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

