



## Climate Summary for Florida November 2011

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Online at: [http://coaps.fsu.edu/climate\\_center/summaries/flmonthly2011\\_11.shtml](http://coaps.fsu.edu/climate_center/summaries/flmonthly2011_11.shtml)

### **Average temperatures were near normal in November.**

Average temperatures were near normal across the entire state (Table 1). Departures from normal ranged from -0.2°F at Jacksonville to 1.1°F at Tampa. An extremely cold dry air mass pushed into northern parts of the state at the beginning of the month, causing numerous minimum temperature records to be broken or tied from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> (Appendix). The minimum temperature at High Springs, FL on the morning of the 11<sup>th</sup> was 20°F. Because of this cold snap, some of the National Weather Service's offices in the northern part of the state have suspended issuance of Frost Advisories until March 1<sup>st</sup>. After the strong cold front pushed through the state, temperatures rebounded and tied and broke maximum records in a few locations from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup>. Temperatures were slightly warmer than normal ahead of another strong cold front prior to Thanksgiving.

**Table 1:** November average temperatures and departures from normal (° F) for selected cities.

Station	Average Temperature	Departure from Normal
Pensacola	61.0	0.3
Tallahassee	61.0	0.8
Jacksonville	62.0	-0.2
Orlando	68.6	0.1
Tampa	70.2	1.1
Miami	75.2	0.3
Key West	76.4	0.6

**Rainfall totals were below normal statewide in November.** Rainfall totals were below normal statewide in November (Table 2). The month was the 4<sup>th</sup> driest on record at Orlando and the 10<sup>th</sup> driest on record at Key West. The passage of cold fronts through the northern portions of the state were the main source of precipitation for November, though the totals that amounted from each passage were still not enough to impact the lingering drought. Areal patterns of monthly rainfall relative to normal are depicted in Figure 1.

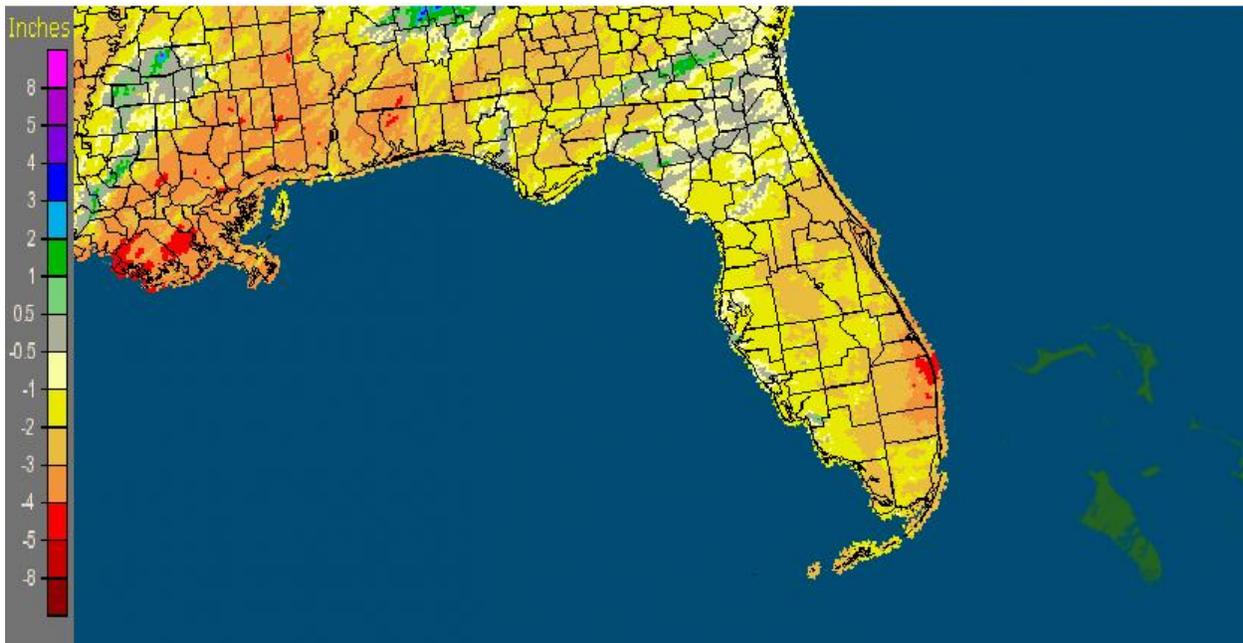


**Table 2.** November precipitation totals and departures from normal (inches) for selected cities.

Station	Total Rainfall	Departure from Normal
Pensacola	1.78	-2.95
Tallahassee	0.93	-2.57
Jacksonville	1.48	-0.63
Orlando	0.13	-2.04
Tampa	1.24	-0.31
Miami	1.80	-1.47
Key West	0.17	-2.13

**Figure 1.** A graphical depiction of the monthly rainfall departure from normal (inches) for November is given in the figure below (courtesy of NOAA, NWS).

Florida: November, 2011 Monthly Departure from Normal Precipitation  
Valid at 12/1/2011 1200 UTC- Created 12/1/11 15:44 UTC



**La Niña continued during November.**

La Niña conditions continue to be present across the equatorial Pacific, with sea surface temperatures (SST) at least 0.5°C below average for the region. The atmospheric circulation anomalies and winds are consistent with La Niña. The current La Niña is forecasted to strengthen and continue through the winter of 2011/2012. The Climate Prediction Center has predicted warmer than normal temperatures and below normal precipitation during this La Niña. However, the 'Wild Card' will be the Arctic Oscillation (AO), which has the potential to trump the typical La Niña pattern. The AO is always present and fluctuates between positive and negative phases. The negative phase of the AO pushes cold Canadian air into the US, leading to periods of well-below normal temperatures, as it has the last two winters. Strong AO phases typically last a few weeks and are very difficult to predict more than a week or two in advance.

**Hazardous weather.**

The only severe weather report for the month came out of Hamilton County as a line of strong storms moved through portions of southern Alabama and Georgia on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Numerous trees were reportedly knocked over, there was some minor damage done to a shed, and shingles were pulled from a roof.

**Agricultural and other impacts.**

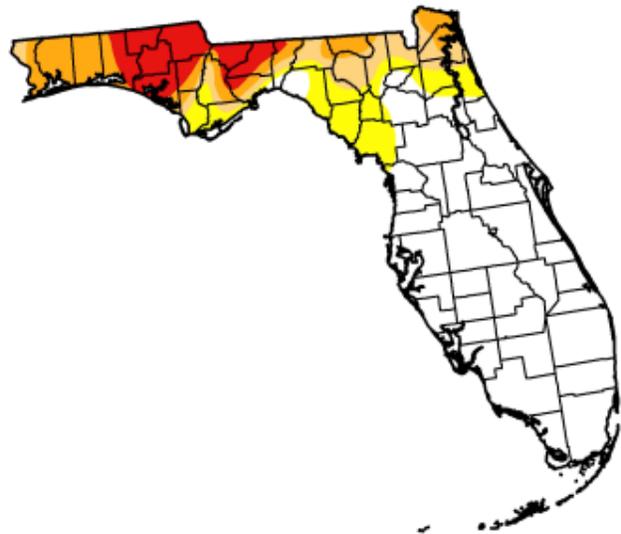
The cold snap earlier in the month damaged vegetable crops in portions of the Florida Panhandle, while warmer temperatures and precipitation caused disease issues in St. Lucie County and the agricultural areas to the southwest of Lake Okeechobee. The continued drought limited the amount of small grain forage being planted in the state. Since the October 25 release of the National Drought Monitor, there has been little change to the drought. Extreme drought lingers in the Panhandle, while Escambia, Santa Rosa and Okaloosa Counties have gone from moderate to severe drought. Water restrictions remain in place in South Florida, even though Lake Okeechobee has maintained a water level of 13.84 ft. This is due the forecasted La Niña and decreased chance of precipitation throughout the winter.

**Figure 2.** Drought conditions in Florida as of November 29, 2011 (courtesy of U.S. Drought Monitor).

**U.S. Drought Monitor** **November 29, 2011**  
Valid 7 a.m. EST  
**Florida**

*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	63.01	36.99	26.19	18.79	8.62	0.00
Last Week (11/22/2011 map)	63.01	36.99	26.19	19.98	8.71	0.00
3 Months Ago (08/30/2011 map)	30.79	69.21	48.67	27.73	9.28	0.00
Start of Calendar Year (12/28/2010 map)	0.18	99.82	86.04	50.84	20.21	0.00
Start of Water Year (09/27/2011 map)	43.12	56.88	28.83	16.85	7.85	0.00
One Year Ago (11/23/2010 map)	8.48	91.52	49.46	26.32	1.97	0.00



Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.*

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>



**Released Thursday, December 1, 2011**  
David Miskus, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

**Appendix:** Daily maximum and minimum temperature records (° F) tied or broken during November.  
(Compiled from NOAA, NWS)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Station</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Broken/Tied</b>	<b>Last</b>
11	Daytona Beach	Low Max	63	Tied	63 in 1977
11	West Palm Beach	Low Max	73	Tied	73 in 1991
11	Apalachicola	Low	35	Tied	35 in 1977
12	Tallahassee	Low	22	Record	27 in 1971
12	Crestview	Low	26	Record	29 in 1987
12	Gainesville	Low	30	Record	34 in 1977
12	Jacksonville	Low	31	Record	33 in 1987
12	Apalachicola	Low	34	Record	34 in 1977
15	West Palm Beach	High Min	76	Tied	76 in 1985
15	West Palm Beach	High Min	76	Tied	76 in 1988
16	Melbourne	Max	87	Record	85 in 2010
16	Gainesville	Max	86	Record	85 n 2005
16	Jacksonville	Max	85	Tied	85 in 2005
16	Tampa	High Min	72	Record	71 in 1957
16	Apalachicola	High Min	71	Record	69 in 1988
16	Daytona Beach	High Min	70	Tied	70 in 1980
16	Tallahassee	High Min	69	Record	67 in 1998
16	Gainesville	High Min	68	Record	66 in 1994
17	Palm Beach	Max	87	Tied	87 in 1961
20	Tampa	Max	86	Record	85 in 1944
21	Tampa	Max	86	Tied	86 in 1948
21	Tallahassee	Max	85	Record	84 in 1942
22	Pensacola	Max	81	Record	80 in 1973
22	Pensacola	High Min	66	Record	64 in 2010
27	Melbourne	High Min	71	Tied	71 in 1988