FloridaClimateCenter
Office of the State Climatologist

Climate Summary for Florida – February 2019

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Online at: http://climatecenter.fsu.edu/products-services/summaries

Mean temperatures in February were well above normal statewide. (Table 1 and Appendix 1). Among select major stations, it was the warmest February on record at Gainesville and Key West, second warmest at Orlando, tied for second warmest at Miami and Tampa, tied for third warmest at Pensacola, and fourth warmest at Tallahassee. Several daily high temperature records were tied or broken across the state (Appendix 2).

Table 1. February average temperatures and departures from normal (˚F) for selected cities.

Station	Mean Temperature	Departure from Normal
Pensacola	63.6	+9.0
Tallahassee	63.4	+8.7
Jacksonville	64.5	+8.0
Orlando	70.1	+7.1
Tampa	70.9	+7.5
Miami	74.9	+4.7
Key West	77.2	+6.2

Rainfall totals in February were well below normal over much of the northern part of the state and mixed elsewhere (Figure 1). No daily rainfall records were tied or broken in February.

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

Station	Total Rainfall	Departure from Normal
Pensacola	2.27	-2.79
Tallahassee	1.14	-3.45
Jacksonville	1.83	-1.36
Orlando	1.76	-0.62
Tampa	2.91	+0.10
Miami	1.53	-0.72
Key West	1.29	-0.20

Table 3. Select daily rainfall records (inches) broken during February. (Compiled from NOAA, NWS)

(none broken)

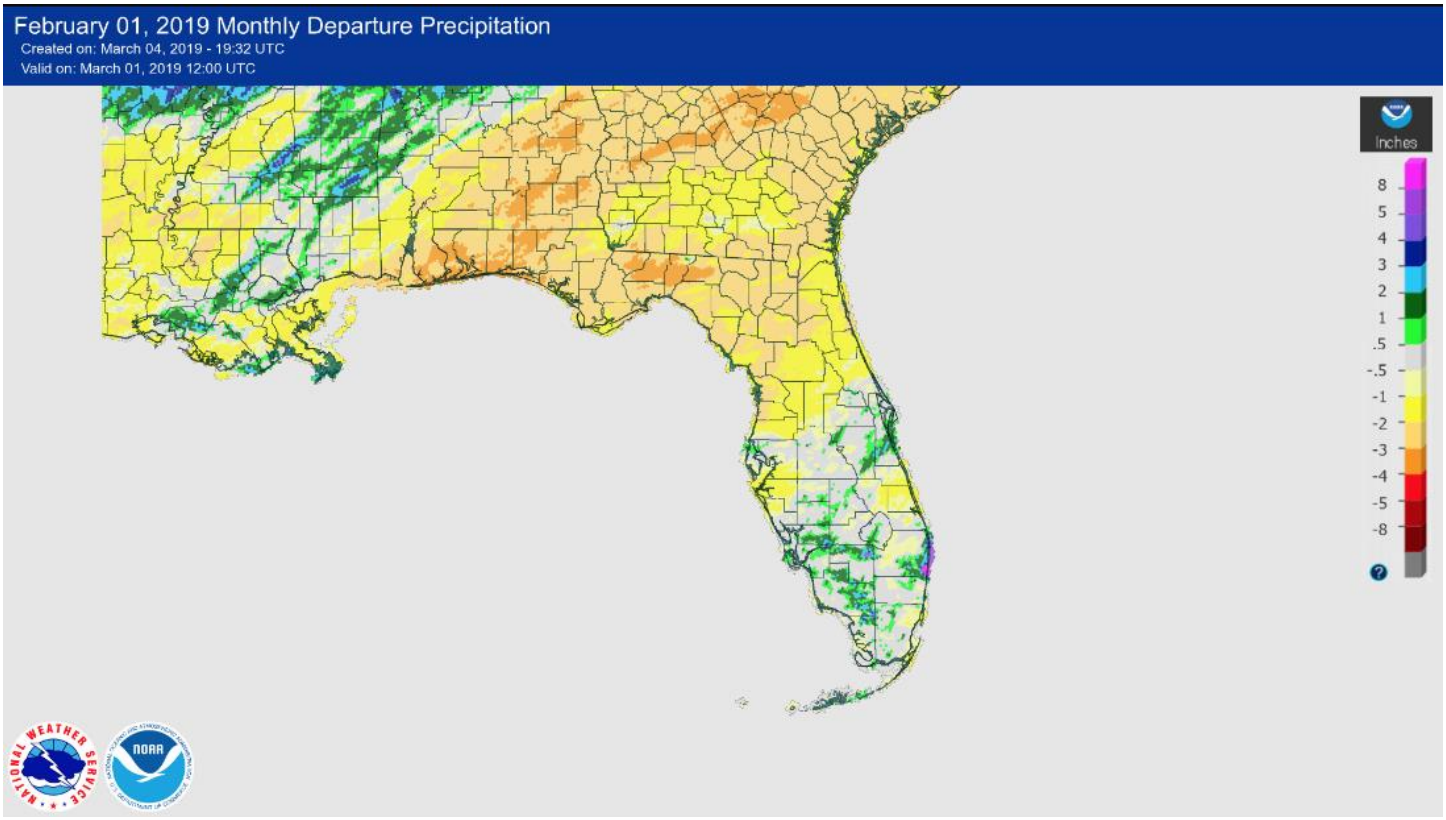


Figure 1. A graphical depiction of the monthly rainfall departure from normal (inches) for February is given in the figure below (courtesy of NOAA, NWS).

El Niño is officially here.

Based on current data and forecast models, forecasters with the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) issued an El Niño Advisory at mid-month. Sea-surface temperatures show positive anomalies over most of the equatorial Pacific Ocean. This El Niño event is weak and is expected, at 55% probability, to remain so through the 2019 boreal spring (MAM).

Hazardous Weather Events in February.

According the Local Storm Reports (LSRs) issued by the local National Weather Service (NWS) offices serving Florida, the following instances of hazardous weather were reported across the state in February 2019.

Table 4. Breakdown of storm reports submitted in Florida during the month of February. (Compiled from Iowa State University/Iowa Environmental Mesonet.)

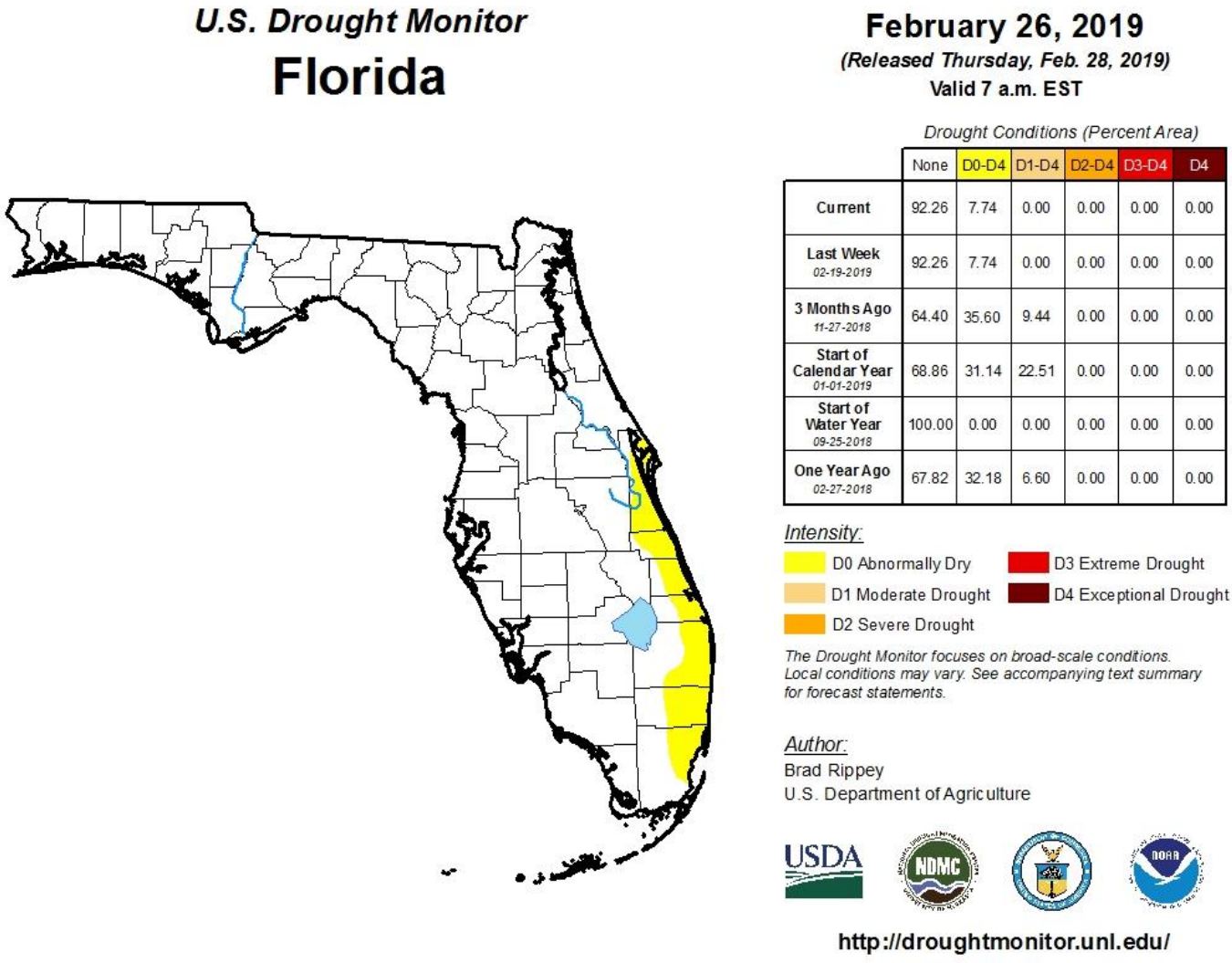
Report Type	Number of Reports
Coastal Flood	0
Dense Fog	0
Flash Flood	0
Flood	0
Hail	0

Heavy Rain	3
Marine Hail	0
Marine Thunderstorm Wind	2
Non-Thunderstorm Wind Damage	0
Non-Thunderstorm Wind Gust	0
Tornado	0
Thunderstorm Wind Damage	0
Thunderstorm Wind Gust	7
Waterspout	2

Drought-Related Impacts.

At the end of February 2019, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor, abnormally dry conditions were found in the near-coastal areas of the counties along the Atlantic Ocean from Brevard to Miami-Dade. Moderate drought conditions had been found in the very near coastal areas of those same areas earlier in the month.

As of 4 March, the Lake Okeechobee water level was at 12.71 ft. above sea level, which is below average for this time of the year.



Agriculture-Related Impacts.

Most seasonal agricultural activities proceeded normally. At the end of the month, soil moisture was adequate in 79% of the state, short in 14%, very short in 1%, and at a surplus in 6%.

Appendix 1
Additional February Departures from Normal Data for Florida Locations

Station	Total rainfall (in.)	Departure from Normal (in.)	Average Temperature (˚F)	Departure from Normal (˚F)
Gainesville	1.01	-2.19	68.1	+10.6
Melbourne	3.83	+1.30	70.4	+7.8
Fort Lauderdale	3.30	+0.06	73.8	+5.9
Fort Myers	2.46	+0.31	72.9	+6.3

Appendix 2
Select daily maximum and minimum temperature records (º F) tied or broken during February.
(Compiled from NOAA, NWS)

Date	Station	Type	Value	Broken/Tied	Last
21	Tallahassee	Max	83	Broken	82 in 2018
23	Tallahassee	Max	83	Tied	83 in 2018
7	Jacksonville	Max	82	Broken	81 in 2017
8	Jacksonville	Max	85	Broken	84 in 1957
12	Jacksonville	Max	84	Broken	83 in 1965
18	Jacksonville	Max	86	Broken	85 in 1956
22	Jacksonville	Max	87	Broken	85 in 1962
11	Tampa	Max	84	Tied	84 in 2018
18	Miami	High Min	75	Broken	73 in 1995
20	Miami	High Min	75	Broken	74 in 1987
21	Miami	High Min	75	Tied	75 in 1989
11	Key West	High Min	76	Tied	76 in 2018
12	Key West	High Min	77	Tied	77 in 2018
18	Key West	Max	84	Tied	84 in 1992
19	Key West	Max	84	Tied	84 in 1990
19	Key West	High Min	78	Broken	75 in 1975
20	Key West	High Min	76	Tied	76 in 2018
22	Key West	Max	85	Tied	85 in 1989
23	Key West	Max	85	Broken	84 in 1994
24	Key West	Max	84	Tied	84 in 2008
24	Key West	High Min	78	Broken	77 in 1965