



## Climate Summary for Florida October 2010

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Online at: [http://coaps.fsu.edu/climate\\_center/summaries/flmonthly2010\\_10.shtml](http://coaps.fsu.edu/climate_center/summaries/flmonthly2010_10.shtml)

**Average temperatures near normal for October.** Overall, average temperatures for October were near normal (Table 1). Even so, there were many daily records set during the month (Appendix). During the first half of the month 12 daily minimum records were tied or broken. Among these, low temperatures of 45° F at Apalachicola and 47° F at Gainesville on the 7<sup>th</sup> broke records in existence since 1932. During the last eight days of October, 26 daily maximum records were tied or broken. High temperatures of 92° F on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 91° F on the 28<sup>th</sup> at Gainesville broke records in existence since 1932 and 1911, respectively. Tallahassee observed record high minimum temperatures on both the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

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

Station	Average Temperature	Departure from Normal
Pensacola	70.6	1.1
Tallahassee	68.5	-0.6
Jacksonville	69.2	-0.2
Orlando	74.3	-1.0
Tampa	76.2	0.4
Miami	79.6	0.8
Key West	79.6	-0.6

**October rainfall totals much below normal except in the Keys.** October rainfall totals were much below normal in almost all areas of the state (Table 2). Miami's monthly total was more than four and one-half inches below normal. Jacksonville and Orlando did not officially record rain and Tampa recorded only a trace during October. This was the driest October on record at these three stations. In contrast, a localized heavy rain event (3.44 in) on the 26<sup>th</sup> at Key West raised the monthly total above normal. The general sparseness of rainfall across the state during October is depicted in Figure 1. Departures from normal in eastern and southeastern coastal areas exceeded five inches.

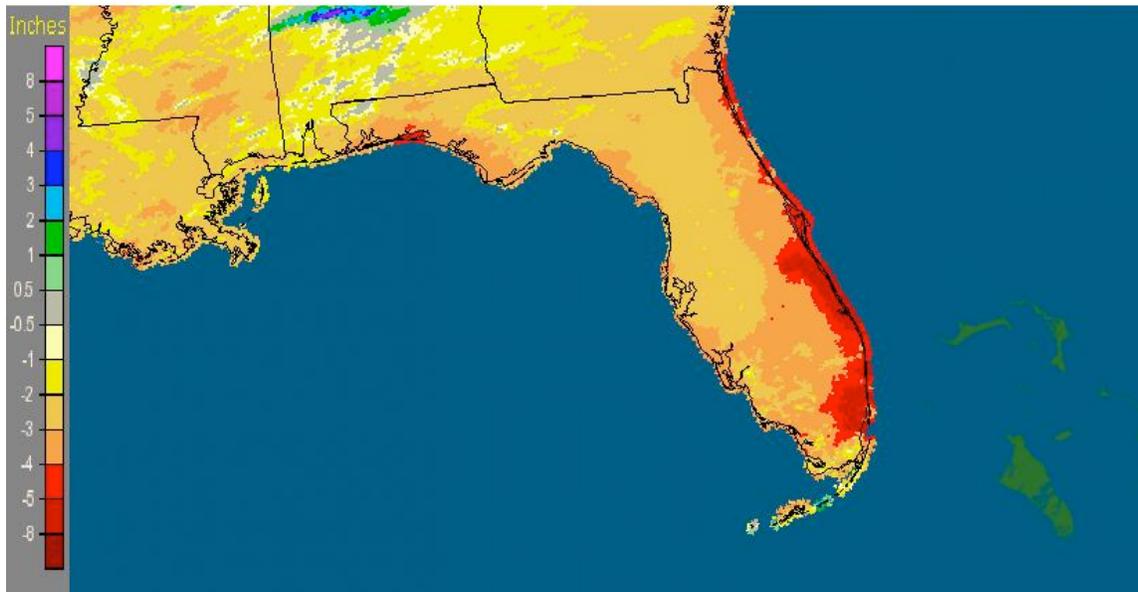
**Table 2.** October precipitation totals and departures from normal (inches) for selected cities.

Station	Total rainfall	Departure from Normal
Pensacola	0.38	-3.75
Tallahassee	0.78	-2.47
Jacksonville	0.00	-3.86
Orlando	0.00	-2.73
Tampa	Trace	-2.29
Miami	1.58	-4.61
Key West	6.58	2.24



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

Florida: October, 2010 Monthly Departure from Normal Precipitation  
Valid at 11/1/2010 1200 UTC- Created 11/3/10 17:41 UTC



**La Nina continues during October.** Sea surface temperatures in the equatorial Pacific Ocean remained below normal during October, denoting a continued cold phase of ENSO, or La Nina. All five tropical cyclones in the Atlantic basin during October became hurricanes. Such increased tropical cyclone activity is associated with La Nina conditions. The warm, dry conditions across most of the state are also associated with La Nina.

**Hazardous weather.** No severe local storm events were reported during October. As Tropical Storm Paula passed near the Keys on the 12<sup>th</sup>, 8.28 inches of rain was recorded at the Marathon airport, resulting in the wettest day on record at that site. Small areas near the border with Alabama and along the east-central coast have reached extreme drought conditions. Severe drought conditions are present in the western Panhandle and along the northern two thirds of the Atlantic coast. Most of the northern two thirds of the state have abnormally dry conditions.

**Agricultural and other impacts.** Dry soil in western areas of the Panhandle hindered peanut digging as farmers harvested peanuts early in response to the worsening drought. Cattlemen have begun to use hay to supplement pastures that are in poor condition. River and well levels have continued to decrease in northern areas. Wildfire danger increased across most of the state as rainfall remained well below normal.

**Appendix: Temperature Records (° F) Tied or Broken during October (compiled from NWS)**

Date	Location	Record	Tied/Broken	Max/Min	Previous Record
4	Pensacola	49	Tied	Min	49 in 1961
4	Melbourne	60	Broken	Min	61 in 2001
6	Tallahassee	44	Tied	Min	44 in 1979
6	Daytona Beach	57	Tied	Min	57 in 1987
7	Jacksonville	47	Tied	Min	47 in 1978
7	Gainesville	45	Broken	Min	47 in 1932
7	Apalachicola	47	Broken	Min	48 in 1932
7	Orlando	57	Broken	Min	58 in 1979
8	Daytona Beach	56	Tied	Min	56 in 1987
8	Orlando	56	Broken	Min	57 in 1979
10	Miami Beach	69	Broken	Min	70 in 1951
16	Fort Myers	57	Tied	Min	57 in 2004
24	Orlando	89	Tied	Max	89 in 2009
24	Tampa	90	Tied	Max	90 in 1951
24	Naples	90	Tied	Max	90 in 1993
25	Jacksonville	89	Broken	Max	87 in 2001
25	Fort Myers	91	Tied	Max	91 in 1996
25	Naples	90	Broken	Max	89 in 1977
26	Jacksonville	89	Broken	Max	87 in 1997
26	Gainesville	92	Broken	Max	89 in 1932
26	Tallahassee	75	Broken	Min	70 in 1997
26	Orlando	92	Broken	Max	91 in 1981
26	Lakeland	92	Broken	Max	89 in 2009
26	Brooksville	91	Broken	Max	90 in 1978
26	Winter Haven	92	Broken	Max	90 in 1978
26	Plant City	91	Tied	Max	91 in 1996
26	Mountain Lake	92	Tied	Max	92 in 1986
27	Pensacola	87	Broken	Max	85 in 1963
27	Tallahassee	72	Broken	Min	70 in 1997
27	Jacksonville	90	Broken	Max	88 in 1939
27	Gainesville	92	Broken	Max	90 in 1989
27	Orlando	91	Broken	Max	89 in 2009
27	Daytona Beach	89	Tied	Max	89 in 2009
27	Vero Beach	77	Tied	Min	77 in 2009
28	Tampa	90	Broken	Max	89 in 1988
28	Fort Myers	91	Tied	Max	91 in 1978
28	Fort Lauderdale	78	Tied	Min	78 in 2007
28	Tallahassee	88	Tied	Max	88 in 1991
28	Jacksonville	89	Broken	Max	87 in 2002
28	Gainesville	91	Broken	Max	90 in 1911
28	Orlando	92	Tied	Max	92 in 1980
29	Miami	90	Broken	Max	89 in 2009