JANUARY 2025 CLIMATE SUMMARIES National Weather Service Tallahassee - Tri-State Area February 16, 2025

Note: The data below is based on our seven official climate sites across the FL Big Bend/Panhandle, SE AL, and SW GA, which we issue <u>daily</u> and <u>monthly</u> products for. Visit <u>https://www.weather.gov/wrh/climate?wfo=tae</u> for more information. Corresponding figures can be found below the written content.

January Climate Summary:

Tallahassee - Much colder and slightly wetter than normal.

January 2025 ranks among the top-10 coldest Januaries for Tallahassee by average mean and top-5 by average min temperature. There were a total of 15 freezing days (tied for the most since 2018 and tied for the 6th most overall on record). The capital city experienced 7 consecutive freezing days from the 20th-26th, of which 4 straight hard freezes were observed from the 22nd-25th (the first of the cool season on the 23rd - late by 1 month on average). The latter is 2 days off tying 1st place from January 9-14, 2010. The highest/lowest temperatures of the month were $78^{\circ}/20^{\circ}$. On the 22nd, TLH set a <u>new daily record cold high</u> of 42°, surpassing 44° from 2022.

Precipitation was slightly above average with a *liquid* total approaching 4.5", or nearly a ³/₄ inch wetter than normal. The greatest 24-hr rainfall accumulation was 2.43" on the 13th, which broke the <u>daily record of 2.25" from 1905</u>. However, the biggest story was Tallahassee's first measurable snow/sleet late in the month from a historic winter storm since 0.1" on January 3, 2018! We measured a 2-day total of 1.9" from the 21st-22nd, ranking 2nd only behind the <u>2.8" from February 12-13, 1958</u>! For perspective on the rarity of snowfall down here, only February 10, 1973 and December 22-23, 1989 featured measurable snow in the capital city between 2018 and the late 1950s!

Remainder of the FL Big Bend - Much colder than normal with variable precipitation.

January 2025 ranks among the top-8 coldest Januaries for Apalachicola by average mean and min temperature. There were a total of 10 freezing days (tied for the 4th most on record), though none dropped to hard freeze. 2018 was the last time AAF experienced that many freezes. Apalachicola recorded 7 consecutive freezing days from the 20th-26th. The first freeze of the season occurred on the 8th, which was late by 26 days on average. The highest/lowest temperatures of the month were 75°/26°. On the 22nd, AAF set a <u>new daily record cold high</u> of 38°, surpassing 47° from 1985.

Precipitation was near normal with a *liquid* total approaching 4.08". The greatest 24-hr rainfall accumulation was 1.42" on the 18th. Apalachicola narrowly missed out on measurable snow/sleet, but did see freezing rain and some ice pellets. An *unofficial* ice accumulation was estimated at about a half inch based on observations from the FL State Climatologist on the

21st-22nd. Snow and/or sleet was reported by the public as far east as Jefferson County - up to 1.3" via a CoCoRaHS site: *Monticello 2.9 WSW* on the 22nd, and Taylor County - 0.3" in Perry. Ice accumulations of 0.5" were reported in Indian Pass and 0.1" at *4 WSW Hyde Park* in Wakulla County. Records show that the last time AAF measured snowfall was 0.4" on 1/18/1977 while the Franklin County record is 1.2" at the Apalachicola Airport on 2/12/1958.

<u>FL Panhandle</u> - Much colder and drier than normal.

Marianna's average mean temperature was 45.8° , or 6° below normal. The highest/lowest temperatures were $75^{\circ}/19^{\circ}$. There were a total of 17 freezing days, including 8 consecutive from the 19th-26th. Additionally, MAI saw 6 hard freezes, of which 4 were consecutive from the 22nd-25th - the most since 12/23-12/26/2022. The first hard freeze of the season was 25° on the 9th, which was late by 16 days on average. *Liquid* precipitation was near normal for January with a monthly total of 3.88° . The greatest 24-hr accumulation was 1.52° on the 13th. However, the biggest story was Marianna's first measurable snowfall on the 21st since 2° on 2/12/1958. A snow report of 5" was obtained from a CoCoRaHS site *FL-JK-6: Marianna 0.8 NNE*. Another CoCoRaHS site in *Graceville 7.0 S* (Jackson County) measured 6.4"!

Panama City NW's average mean temperature was 47.5° , or 5° below normal. The highest/lowest temperatures were $79^{\circ}/15^{\circ}$. There were a total of 14 freezing days, including 8 consecutive from the 19th-26th. Additionally, ECP saw 3 hard freezes from the 22nd-24th - the most since 12/23-12/26/2022. The first hard freeze of the season was 19° on the 22nd, which was late by 28 days on average. *Liquid* precipitation was below normal for January with a monthly total of 3.39° . The greatest 24-hr accumulation was 1.74° on the 13th. However, the biggest story was Panama City area's first measurable snowfall on the 21st since at least 2/13/1958 when 2" was reported. A snow report of 3.5° was obtained from a CoCoRaHS site *FL-BY-19: Lynn Haven 0.4 E* (Bay County). There were also 3 public reports in Bay County of 6" with the highest snowfall measurement in Bonifay (Holmes County) at 8"!

Southwest GA - Much colder and mostly drier than normal.

January 2025 ranks among the top-10 coldest Januaries for Albany & Valdosta by average mean and min temperature. There were a total of 19 freezing days at ABY (tied for 5th most on record and the most since 2018) and 13 at VLD. Each site experienced 7 consecutive freezing days from the 20th-26th and 4-5 hard freezes. The first hard freeze of the season for Albany was 25° on the 12th (late by about 3 weeks on average) while Valdosta's was delayed until 25° on the 23rd (late by 19 days on average). The highest/lowest temperatures of the month for ABY/VLD were 78°/12° and 81°/24°, respectively. The 12° on the 22nd was the first such reading or lower in the Albany Area since Christmas Day 1989! It was also the first time since December 23-25, 1989 that the high temperature was 37° or less for two or more consecutive days (21st-22nd).

Precipitation was mostly below average with monthly *liquid* totals ranging from 1.5-3.3" between Albany & Valdosta. The greatest 24-hr rainfall accumulation for ABY and VLD were

1.75" (12th-13th) and 1.31" on the 13th, respectively. However, the biggest story was SW GA's first measurable snow/sleet from this historic winter storm since January 2018. The Albany Area set a <u>new max snowfall record of 7.5</u>" on the 21st, more than doubling the <u>3" from February 10</u>, <u>1973</u>! This amount coincides with a trained spotter measurement at *I SW Putney* in Dougherty County. For Valdosta, 2.2" of snow/sleet was recorded from the 21st-22nd, consistent with a CoCoRahs measurement at *Valdosta 5.1 WSW* in Lowndes County. Previously, VLD reported 0.6" on January 3, 2018 with no other historical snowfall data listed, despite nearby greater-than-trace-amount reports of <u>2" on February 23, 1958</u> and <u>0.8" on December 23-24, 1989</u>. Regardless, it appears that a new Lowndes County record may be set from this recent event.

Southeast AL - Much colder and drier than normal.

January 2025 ranks among the top-5 coldest Januaries for Dothan by average mean and min temperature. There were a total of 14 freezing days, the most since 16 in 2018. Dothan experienced 8 consecutive freezing days from the 19th-26th, of which 6 straight hard freezes were observed from the 20th-25th (the first of the cool season on the 12th - late by 13 days on average). The latter ties 1/16-1/21/1977 for most on record. The highest/lowest temperatures of the month were $75^{\circ}/9^{\circ}$. The 9° on the 22nd is tied with 12/24/1989 for 3rd coldest reading observed on record for DHN!

Precipitation was well below average with a *liquid* total of 2.74", or nearly 2" drier than normal. The greatest 24-hr rainfall accumulation was 0.87" on the 12-13th. However, the biggest story was Dothan's first measurable snow from this historic winter storm since 0.2" on 1/17/2018! A single-day total of 5.5" was measured on the 21st, ranking 1st on record for DHN! A snow report from a NWS COOP site *HDLA1* was used for the measurement to represent Dothan. The highest report in Houston County was 8" in *Pansey* from a broadcast media member. Additional 8-inch reports came in from remaining SE AL counties, including the highest overall locally in Coffee County (8.8" in *2 N Damascus* from a trained spotter). Only 5 other times have there been snow measured in Dothan on record - 2/12/2010, 3/13/1993 (Superstorm), 1/31/1977, 2/9-2/10/1973.

Statewide Analyses:

<u>Florida</u> - 16th coldest January on record by average mean temperature (53.9°) and min temperature (42°) . 1940 is ranked first when the average monthly temperature was 48.2° . It was the coldest January since 2018 with 2010 being the last time the mean monthly min temperature was colder. The average mean temperature trend during the current 30-yr climate normal period from 1991-2020 is -0.2°/decade. <u>Precipitation</u> was drier than normal by 0.53" with an average mean accumulation of 2.75" and ranks as the 68th wettest on record. State records date back to 1895.

<u>Georgia</u> - 15th coldest January on record by average mean temperature (41.2°) and 10th coldest by min temperature (29.1°) . 1940 is ranked first when the average monthly temperature was 34.2°. It was the coldest January since 2018 with 2014 being the last time the mean monthly min temperature was colder. The average mean temperature trend during the current 30-yr climate normal period from 1991-2020 is -0.1°/decade. <u>Precipitation</u> was drier than normal by 1.62" with an average mean accumulation of 2.85" and ranks as the 32nd driest on record. State records date back to 1895.

<u>Alabama</u> - 15th coldest January on record by average mean temperature (40°) and 14th coldest by min temperature (28.1°). 1940 is ranked first when the average monthly temperature was 32.1° . It was the coldest January since 2018 with 2014 being the last time the mean monthly min temperature was colder. The average mean temperature trend during the current 30-yr climate normal period from 1991-2020 is -0.1° /decade. <u>Precipitation</u> was drier than normal by 2.01" with an average mean accumulation of 3.28" and ranks as the 20th driest on record. State records date back to 1895.

Local Drought Status:

As of mid February, abnormally dry (D0) to moderate drought (D1) conditions are in place mainly from the Wiregrass Region into the Flint River Valley. The most afflicted locations are along the Dothan-Albany line where the percent of normal precipitation is generally 50% or less. There have been no changes for much of that area over the last 4 weeks. However, Class 1-2 improvement was observed mainly along the Forgotten Coast into the SE FL Big Bend. Class-1 degradation was also noted over the I-75 corridor and portions of the FL Panhandle & Central Big Bend.









Satellite Image of the Snow-Covered Region - January 22, 2025 950AM EST Tallahassee is the Red Circle



Local Storm Report Map from Historic Snowstorm - January 21-22, 2025





Coldest January since 2018





Coldest January since 2018





Coldest January since 2018



Alabama Minimum Temperature