

OCTOBER 2024 CLIMATE SUMMARIES  
National Weather Service Tallahassee - Tri-State Area  
November 3, 2024

*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 [daily](#) and [monthly](#) products for. Visit <https://www.weather.gov/wrh/climate?wfo=tae> for more information. Corresponding figures can be found below the written content.*

**October Climate Summary:**

Tallahassee - Warmer and much drier than normal. A high of 91° was reached twice in consecutive days on the 25th & 26th, each being [new daily records](#). Two additional [daily record highs](#) were set on the 27th and 30th. It was the first time in recorded history for [KTLH](#) to post more than one 90° day in the last week of October. Only 3 other years prior achieved 90° once - 2016, 1931, 1927. The lowest monthly temperature was 39° on the 17th in the wake of a cold front. It was the first 40° or lower reading of the cool season (early by about 2 weeks on average) and 2nd earliest since 10/10/2000. By contrast, this feat wasn't achieved until 11/23 last year, the latest since 11/23/2015. In terms of precipitation, only 1 day recorded measurable rainfall - 0.22" on the 6th (fringe effects from Milton). All other days registered a trace amount or 0. In fact, Tallahassee is easily in the midst of its driest stretch of the year at 25 consecutive days dating back to 10/7. The next closest periods are merely 9 days from May and April. Despite the exceptional dry spell in October 2024, it is not amongst the driest on record for Tallahassee as there is a 3-way tie for a trace amount between 1987, 1961, 1904.

Remainder of the FL Big Bend - Warmer and much drier than normal. Apalachicola's highest/lowest temperatures were 87°/46° with a monthly mean temperature of 72.5° (1° above normal). Two daily record highs were tied on the [23rd](#) and [27th](#) at 85° and 86°, respectively. Rainfall was few and far between as only 0.28" was measured. Since the 10th, [KAAF](#) has not seen measurable precipitation, good for the driest stretch of the year.

FL Panhandle - Warmer and much drier than normal.

The highest/lowest observed temperatures at Marianna were 91°/37°. There were a total of four 90° days, 3 of which occurred in the last week of October (surpassing 2 from 2010). The 37° on the 17th was early by about 2 weeks on average and the earliest sub-40° day since 10/10/2000. Just like KTLH, [KMAI](#) only saw 1 measurable day of precipitation - 0.01" on the 6th, and is in the midst of its driest stretch of the year. Over the past 25 years, only October 2005 was drier at a trace amount.

The highest/lowest observed temperatures at Panama City NW were 90°/43° with a monthly mean temperature of 71.7° (1.6° above normal). A monthly rain amount of 1.76" is 1.78" below

normal. The greatest 24-hr accumulation was 1.61” from the 3rd-4th. There has been no measurable rainfall since the 7th, which is easily the driest stretch of the year for [KECP](#).

Southwest GA - Warmer and much drier than normal.

The highest/lowest observed temperatures at Albany were 90°/40° (twice). The 40° on the 17th was early by about 2 weeks on average and the earliest since 10/17/2001. Just like KTLH, [KABY](#) only saw 1 measurable day of precipitation - 0.35” on the 6th, and is also in the midst of its driest stretch of the year. Second place for 2024 is 16 straight days from 6/11-6/26.

The highest/lowest observed temperatures at Valdosta were 91°(twice)/41°. Just like KTLH, [KVLD](#) saw three 90° days in the last week of October. 2019 was the only other year on record to register at least one 90° during that same period. Valdosta experienced its 3rd-warmest October on record by average max temperature at 84.3°, trailing 1st place 2019 by a full degree. In terms of precipitation, Valdosta saw 2 days of measurable rain - 0.05” on the 6th and 0.18” on the 9th. The monthly accumulation of 0.23” is good for the top 5 driest on record for October. 1987 is unofficially in first place with a trace amount. Lastly, KVLD is currently in the midst of its 2nd-driest stretch of 2024 at 22 days, trailing 28 days from 5/29-6/25.

Southeast AL - Warmer and much drier than normal. The highest/lowest temperatures at Dothan were 90°/41° with a mean monthly temperature of 70.3° (1.4° above normal). Only 0.06” of rain fell at [KDHN](#) (all on the 6th), and is good for the 2nd driest October on record. First place is a two-way tie between 2016 and 1987 with a trace amount. Since the 6th, there has been no measurable precipitation, which is easily the driest stretch of the year.

### **Local Drought Status:**

Given the aforementioned dearth in rainfall dating back to late September, much of the region has experienced a Class 1 degradation to the D0, or abnormally dry category as of October 31st.

### **Atlantic Hurricane Season Monthly Recap & Climatology:**

October saw 4 named storms, 3 hurricanes, and 1 major hurricane. Leslie became the easternmost forming October Atlantic hurricane on record, surpassing its predecessor, Hurricane Kirk by 5° longitude! Leslie was also among the lowest latitude forming Atlantic hurricanes at 10.4°N. Hurricane Ivan 2004 holds the record at 9.5°N.

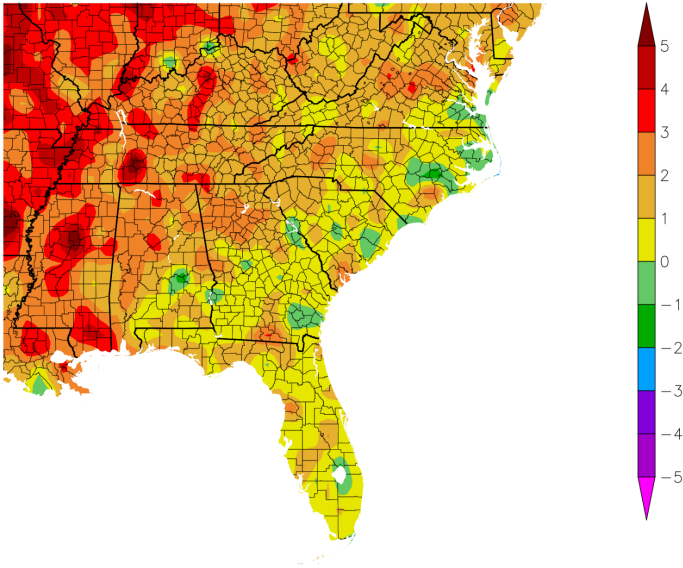
Milton was easily the highlight of the month as it explosively intensified (3rd fastest rate on record) over the Southern Gulf into the 5th most intense Atlantic hurricane observed with a minimum central pressure of 897 mb! Milton was the strongest hurricane in the Gulf since Rita 2005, tied Mitch 1998/Rita 2005/Irma 2017 for 3rd strongest overall by maximum sustained winds at 180 mph, and 1st on record to reach a central pressure of 905 mb or lower on 2 separate occasions! Milton eventually made landfall near Siesta Key, FL at category-3 strength and produced significant impacts to Central FL, including a prolific South FL tornado outbreak

highlighted by multiple EF-3s. Milton became the 3rd hurricane to make a FL landfall this season (tied for most on record), and 5th overall in the US (all in the Gulf). The latter is tied with 2005 & 2020 for 2nd most on record with 1st place being 6 from 1886!

Nadine was a short-lived tropical storm that made landfall near Belize, though its remnants helped facilitate the development of Hurricane Kristy in the Eastern Pacific which went on to rapidly intensify into category-5 strength. By contrast, Oscar developed from a long-lived Cape Verde tropical wave, and underwent a somewhat unnoticed period of rapid intensification to a category-1 hurricane ahead of landfall in Eastern Cuba near Guantanamo Bay. Oscar's "sneaky strengthening" resulted from its very compact size for which satellite intensity estimates and most computer models could not fully grasp. In fact, Oscar became the smallest Atlantic hurricane on record with hurricane-force winds only extending just under 6 mi from its <4 mi wide eye. Subtropical Storm Patty formed just west of the Azores on November 2nd.

Based on NOAA's [Historical Hurricane Tracks](#), roughly 15 tropical storms or hurricanes have tracked within 60 nm of Apalachicola in October. The overwhelming majority were before 1950, though Hurricane Michael 2018 is easily the most infamous.

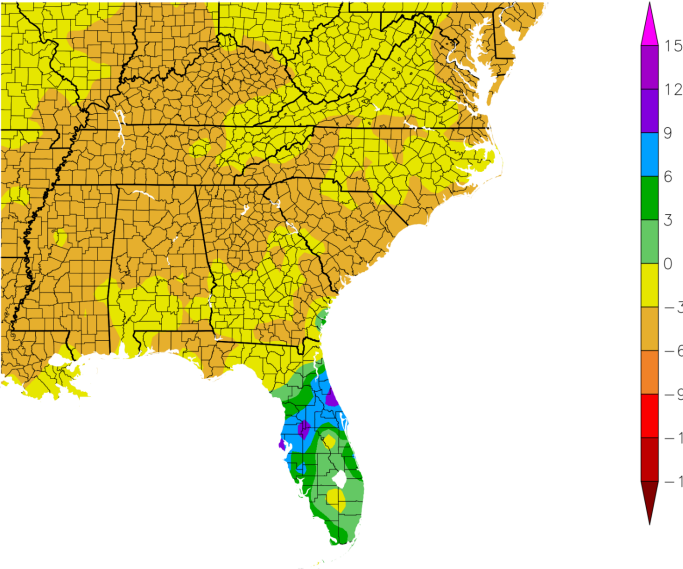
Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
10/1/2024 – 10/31/2024



Generated 11/2/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

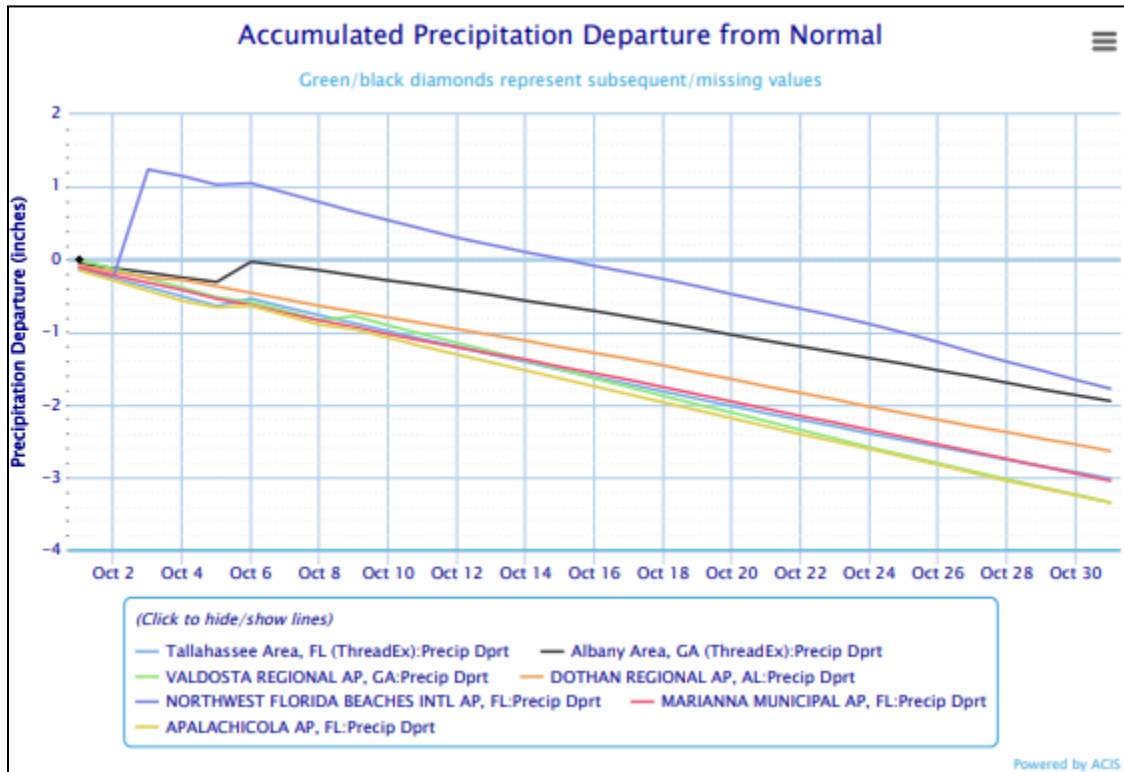
Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)  
10/1/2024 – 10/31/2024



Generated 11/2/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

## All Well Below Normal



### Time Series Summary for Tallahassee Area, FL (ThreadEx)

Click column heading to sort ascending, click again to sort descending

Rank	Ending Date	Number of Days Max Temperature $\geq 90$ Oct 25 to Oct 31
1	2024-10-31	3
2	2016-10-31	1
-	1931-10-31	1
-	1927-10-31	1

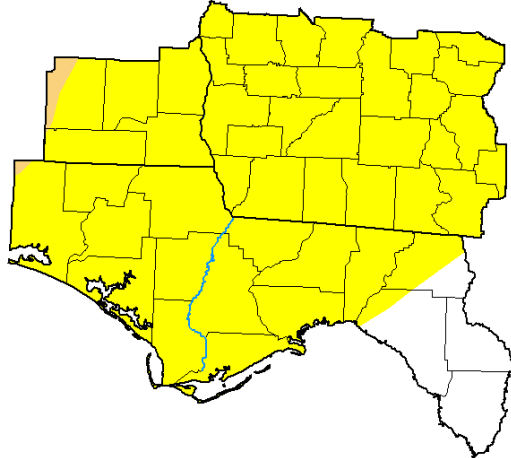
### Number of Consecutive Days Precipitation $< 0.01$ for Tallahassee Area, FL (ThreadEx)

Click column heading to sort ascending, click again to sort descending.

Rank	Run Length	Dates
1	25	2024-10-07 through 2024-10-31
2	9	2024-05-19 through 2024-05-27
-	9	2024-04-22 through 2024-04-30
-	9	2024-04-12 through 2024-04-20

# U.S. Drought Monitor Tallahassee, FL WFO

**October 29, 2024**  
(Released Thursday, Oct. 31, 2024)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	8.68	90.32	0.82	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 10-22-2024	92.94	7.06	0.43	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 07-30-2024	86.45	13.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-02-2024	66.77	33.23	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 10-01-2024	94.40	5.60	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 10-31-2023	23.71	76.29	53.49	21.70	6.28	0.00

Intensity

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

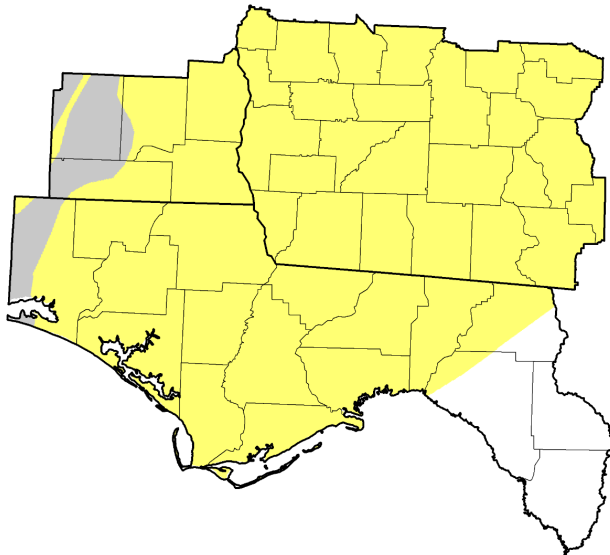
Author:

Brian Fuchs  
National Drought Mitigation Center



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

## U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - Tallahassee, FL WFO 4 Week

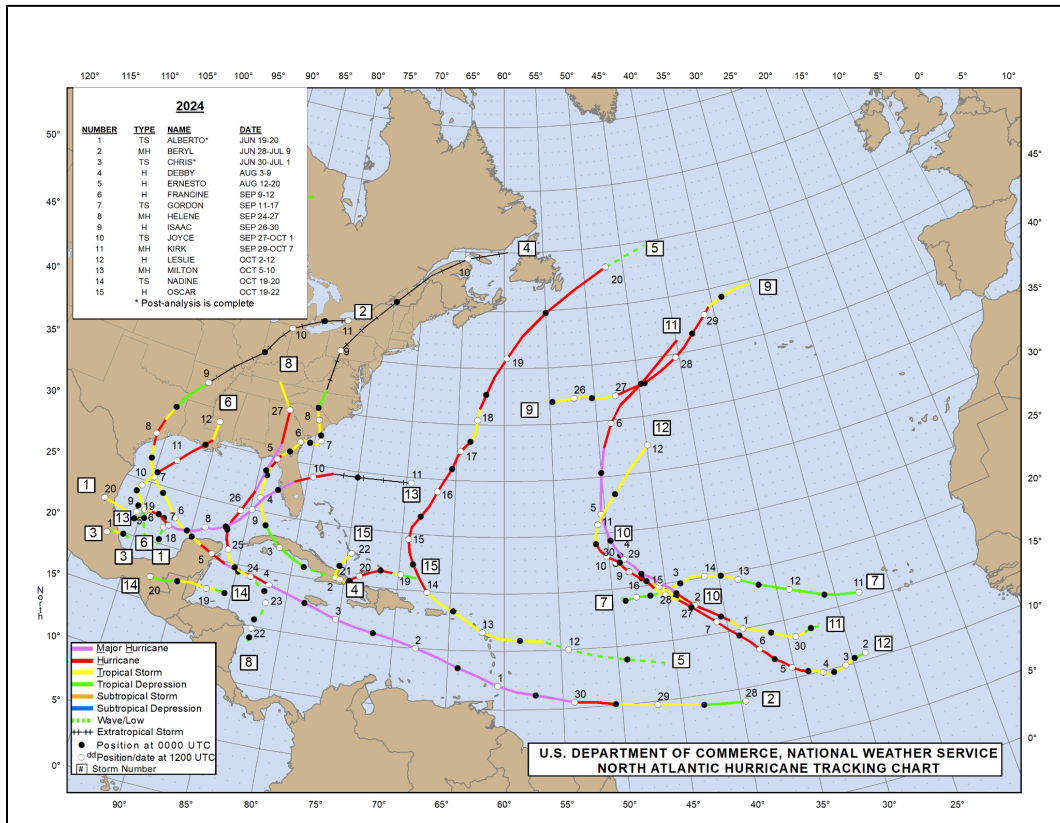


- 5 Class Degradation
- 4 Class Degradation
- 3 Class Degradation
- 2 Class Degradation
- 1 Class Degradation
- No Change
- 1 Class Improvement
- 2 Class Improvement
- 3 Class Improvement
- 4 Class Improvement
- 5 Class Improvement

October 29, 2024  
compared to  
October 1, 2024

[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

# Atlantic Hurricane Season Preliminary Track Chart - Through October 2024



## 2024 Atlantic Hurricane Season By The Numbers

Through November 2nd

2024 Atlantic Tropical Cyclone Names

Alberto  
Beryl  
Chris  
Debby  
Ernesto  
Francine  
Gordon

Helene  
Isaac  
Joyce  
Kirk  
Leslie  
Milton  
Nadine

Oscar  
Patty  
Rafael  
Sara  
Tony  
Valerie  
William

Names provided by the World Meteorological Organization

- 16 named storms, 10 hurricanes, 4 major hurricanes (above average, below):
  - 14 named storms, 7 hurricanes, 3 major hurricanes
  - Landfalls: 3.6 named storms, 1.6 hurricanes, 0.5 major hurricanes
- 5 US hurricane landfalls (all in the Gulf): Beryl, Debby, Francine, Helene, Milton
  - 1886, 2005, 2020 were the only other seasons to have 5+ Gulf landfalls
- Beryl - earliest category-5 hurricane on record.
- Helene - strongest observed hurricane over Apalachee Bay.
- Milton - 5th most intense hurricane on record.

Be prepared: Visit [hurricanes.gov](https://hurricanes.gov) and follow @NWS and @NHC\_Atlantic on X. May 2024

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
**Tallahassee Florida**  
[weather.gov/tallahassee](https://weather.gov/tallahassee)  
 @NWS\_Tallahassee

Patty is active as of 11/2 Updated: November 3, 2024

# Local Tropical Storm/Hurricane October Climatology

