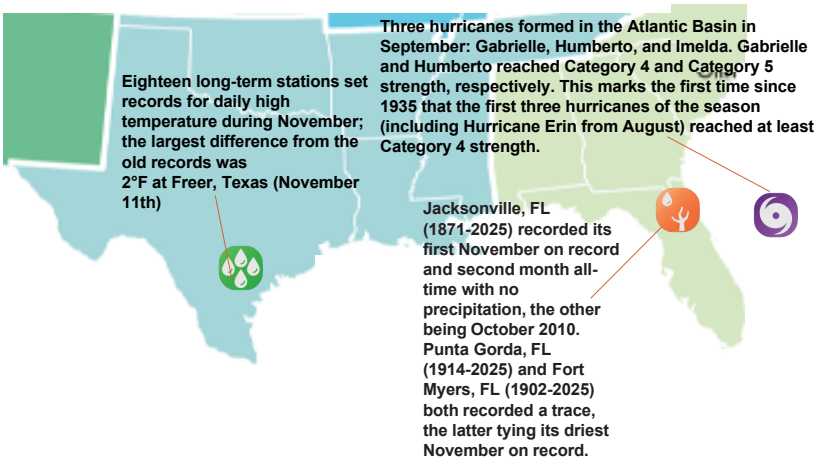
Quarterly Climate Impacts and Outlook

Gulf Coast Region

December 2025

Gulf Coast Region Significant Events — *Fall 2025*



Hot and dry conditions were prevalent this Fall across the Gulf Region. Large swaths of the Region saw drought emerge or deteriorate. La Niña conditions increase the chances for a warm and dry start to 2026 in the Gulf Region.

Overview

Fall began with above normal temperatures in the west of the Gulf Region, with most stations in the Region running four to six degrees F in the west. Temperatures tapered to the east with near-normal temperatures in Florida.

October brought dry conditions to much of the Gulf Region. Almost the entire region saw dry conditions in October. The driest location in the Region was South Texas, where most stations saw less than five percent of normal.

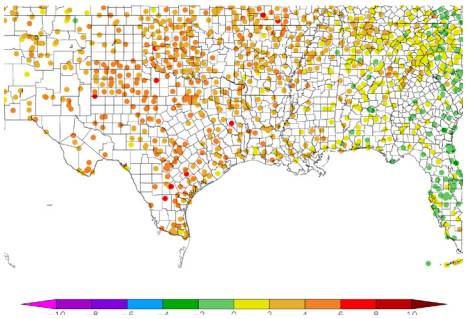
November continued the streak of hot and dry conditions in the Region. Texas saw its warmest November on record as a state. Several long-term stations across Florida saw record dry conditions.

Regional Climate Overview — *Fall 2025*

Temperature and Precipitation

Departure from Normal Temperature °F

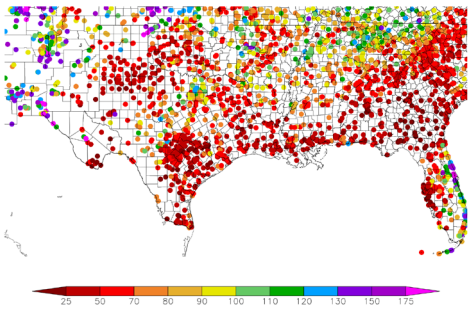
9/1/2025 – 11/30/2025



Fall 2025 temperatures were above normal for the western half of the Gulf Region and near normal in the eastern portions of the Region. Texas was the warm spot for the Region with most stations running four to six degrees F above normal. The cool spot was the Gulf Coast of Florida where most stations were within a degree F of normal.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)

9/1/2025 – 11/30/2025

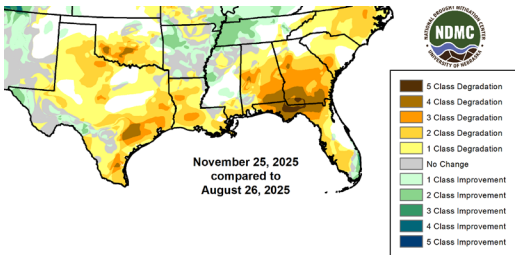


Fall 2025 saw well below normal rainfall across much of the Region, with many stations reporting less than 25 percent of normal. This was true for most stations directly on the coast. Some inland locations in the Gulf Coast Region saw precipitation close to normal in Northern Mississippi, Northern Alabama, and the Atlantic Coast of Florida.

Drought

Overall Change

8/26/2025-11/25/2025



Fall 2025 saw marked deterioration in drought conditions across the Gulf Coast Region. Along the Gulf Coast from Texas to Florida, every state saw deterioration in drought conditions, up to 4 classes in Texas to 5 classes in the Florida Panhandle. Improvements of one to two classes were evident in interior Mississippi, Atlantic Florida, interior portions of Texas.

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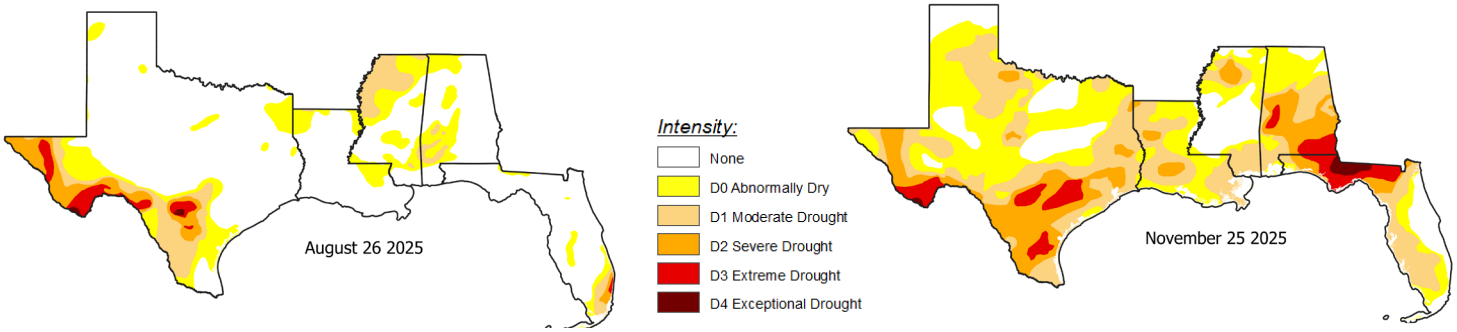
Gulf Coast Regional Impacts

Drought, Agriculture, and Water Supply

Fall 2025 saw the extent of drought-free area along the Gulf Coast decrease from 85 percent to 49 percent from August 26th through November 25th. All drought categories showed deterioration across the Gulf Region. Abnormal Dryness increased from 15 percent to 29 percent, Moderate Drought increased from 8 percent to 30 percent. Severe Drought increased from 4 percent to 15 percent. Extreme Drought increase from 2 percent to 6 percent and Exceptional Drought from .1 percent to .7 percent.

Despite the widespread drought degradation, there was some improvements in interior locations of several Gulf states. Starting on the 20th the Texas Hill Country saw a persistent line of thunderstorms and rain that moved northeast towards the Dallas Fort Worth Metro. These storms led to a flash flood emergency being declared for southeastern Concho, western McCulloch, and central Menard counties in Texas.



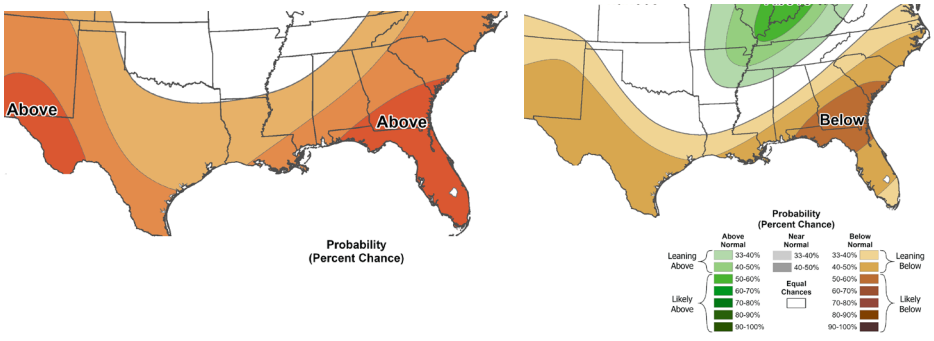
US Drought Monitor depiction of the Gulf Region. The US Drought Monitor is produced by the National Drought Mitigation Center, the USDA, and NOAA.

Seasonal Outlook

Temperature

Precipitation

Outlook for January-March 2026



The seasonal temperature outlook from NOAA's Climate Prediction Center calls for enhanced probabilities of above normal temperature for almost the entire Gulf Region. The greatest probabilities of above normal temperatures (50 to 60 percent) are located in much of Florida and a small portion of southeastern Alabama. Looking west across the Gulf Region, probabilities taper to 33 to 40 percent along the western Louisiana Gulf Coast and northern half of the Texas Gulf Coast.

The precipitation outlook for January through March 2026 calls for enhanced probabilities of below normal precipitation for much of the Region. The greatest probabilities for below normal precipitation (50 to 60 percent) are along the Northern Gulf Coast of Florida. To the south and west these probabilities taper off but still are on the dry side. Interior Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama have equal chances of above or below normal precipitation.

ENSO Outlook

Currently, conditions in the Tropical Pacific indicate we are in a weak La Niña, with cooling expecting to continue through the winter months. During winter, La Niña conditions in the Tropical Pacific lead to drier and warmer than normal conditions across the Gulf Region.

Gulf Coast Partners

NOAA/NWS Climate Prediction Center (cpc.ncep.noaa.gov)

NOAA National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (coastalscience.noaa.gov)

NOAA Gulf of America Collaboration Team (noaa.gov/regional-collaboration-network/regions-gulf-of-america)

NOAA/NESDIS National Centers for Environmental Information (ncei.noaa.gov)

NOAA/NWS Southern Region (weather.gov/srh)

Southeast Regional Climate Center (sercc.com)

Southern Regional Climate Center (srcc.tamu.edu)

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