



## *The Briefing for July 31, 2024*

*The Last Briefing was July 29, 2024*

***Tallahassee, FL 10-Day Weather Forecast - The Weather Channel | Weather.com***  
***Keep an eye on developments in the tropics!***

### ***Legislative Policy Platform Processes Underway!***

Most of the relevant state organizations are beginning the development of proposals for legislative consideration.

- The Florida Association of Counties has outlined a process for County Commissioners to propose issues for consideration. Deadline for policy submittal is August 9 - to submit a policy proposal go to this link - <https://flcounties.wufoo.com/forms/zon2c5v0l6c1nh/>
- The Florida Association of District School Superintendents and the Florida School Boards Association are all engaging in legislative program development. Links will be available soon.
- The Small County Coalition ([www.smallcountycoalition.org](http://www.smallcountycoalition.org)) has begun preparing the 2025 Draft Proposal by reviewing the 2024 Program for revisions. The Coalition will also monitor the FAC process. Any item submitted to be considered in the Florida Association of Counties Policy Process that has relevance to small counties and rural communities will be considered for inclusion in the Coalition's 2025 Program.
- The Small School District Council Consortium ([www.ssdcc.org](http://www.ssdcc.org)) is also tracking developing issues for consideration. A Draft Legislative program will be developed for the SSDCC Officers and Executive Committee for consideration by the membership later this fall.

### ***County Contributions to Medicaid per s. 409.915, F.S.***

**Annual Calculations for FY 2024-25 per Section 409.915, Florida Statutes are estimated to increase by 17.8%. For State Fiscal Year 2024-25, the counties' contribution to Medicaid calculations as determined by the Social Services Estimating Conference, growing \$311.9**

million (the total contribution for FY 2023-24) by 17.8% results in a new total amount of the counties' annual contribution of \$367.4 million for FY 2024-25.

**Calculations and County Allocations (May 24, 2024)**

[County Percentage Shares for FY 2024-25](#)

***BEBR Report shows Consumer Sentiment Improving***

[Microsoft Word - July CSI Report for Website.docx \(thecapitolist.com\)](#)

According to survey conducted by the University of Florida Bureau of Economic and Business Research, consumer sentiment among Floridians increased for the second consecutive month in July, rising to 74.4 points, up 1.2 points from a revised figure of 73.2 in June. Conducted June 1 to July 25, the UF study reflects the responses of 229 individuals who were reached on cellphones and 273 individuals reached through an online panel, a total of 502 individuals, representing a demographic cross section of Florida. The index used by UF researchers is benchmarked to 1966, which means a value of 100 represents the same level of confidence for that year. The lowest index possible is a 2, the highest is 150.

***The 2024 Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday continues through August 11***

<https://floridarevenue.com/backtoschool/Pages/default.aspx>

***When does school start in Florida for the 2024-2025 school year?***

 [school-district-calendars.xlsx](#)

***School/District Grades for the 23-24***

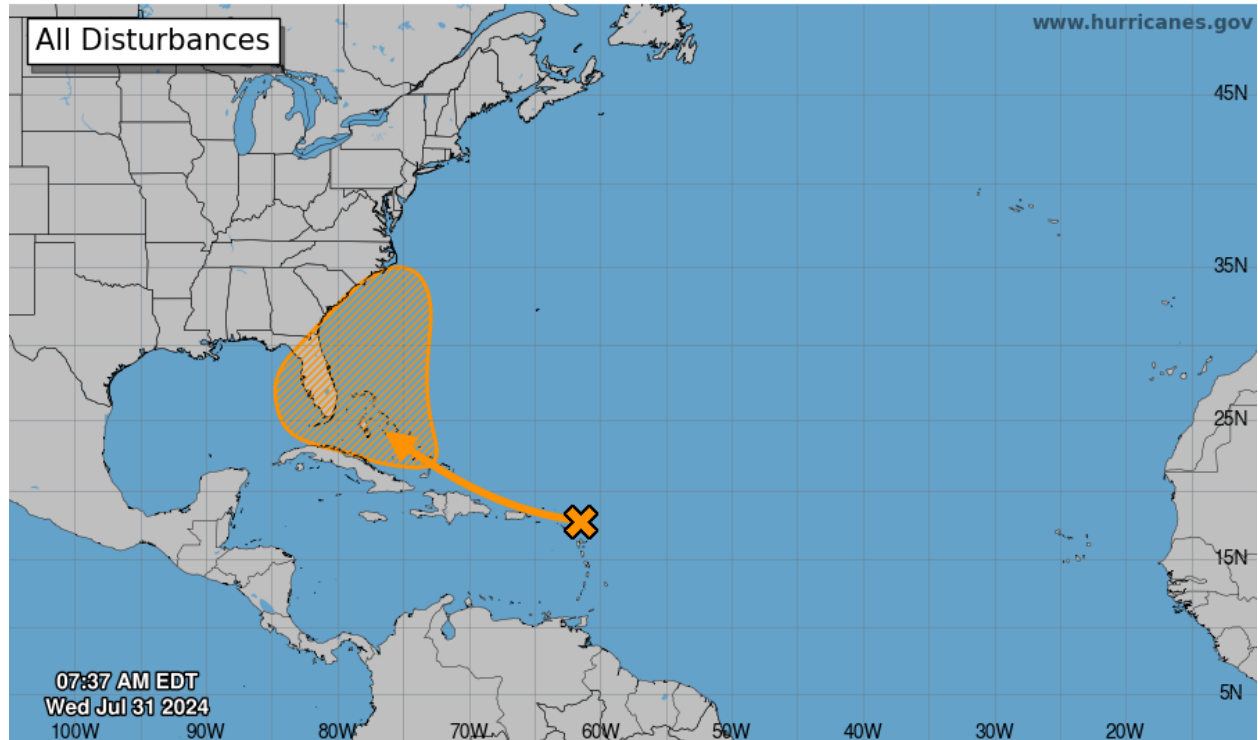
To find out the grade for each school and district in the State go to the following link - [Fldoe.org](http://fldoe.org).

**Tropical Outlook**

<https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>



**Seven-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook**  
National Hurricane Center Miami, Florida



07:37 AM EDT  
Wed Jul 31 2024  
100W 90W 80W 70W 60W 50W 40W 30W 20W

Current Disturbances and Seven-Day Cyclone Formation Chance: < 40% 40-60% > 60%  
Tropical or Sub-Tropical Cyclone: Depression Storm Hurricane  
 Post-Tropical Cyclone or Remnants

**Headlines Around the State**

[CBS Miami: South Florida elected leaders ask Biden to take immediate action on Venezuela](#)

[Democrat: Report: Targeted for deportation by Trump, undocumented immigrants pay billions in taxes](#)

[Times: Florida computer error wrongly removed people from Medicaid, per testimony in court case](#)

[WUSF: Plaintiffs push back in a Florida trans treatment fight](#)

[FlaPol: Audit shows FloridaCommerce staff had access to confidential information, IT systems without being screened](#)

[WLRN: Can Florida's lagging film industry attract big-budget movies and TV again?](#)

[WUSF: How USF's policy changes could restrict how students gather on campus](#)

[PNJ: Florida homeowners can soon cash in on up to \\$14K in energy rebates. How to cash in](#)

[Post: 'A consummate professional': Secret Service director once worked for West Palm Beach police](#)

[PNJ: More than 30,000 treated in Florida for heat-related illnesses. How to avoid heat stroke](#)

[Axios: Florida has the country's 6th highest car insurance rates](#)

[Herald: Why did Miami Beach mayor resign from federal job? He's mum — and agency says it's secret](#)

[WUSF: Pinellas County votes in favor of paying for new Tropicana Field redevelopment plan](#)

[Axios: Pinellas County approves Rays stadium agreement, Gas Plant redevelopment](#)

[WUSF: Here's how the Rays and St. Petersburg got to the historic redevelopment vote](#)

[FlaPol: What the Rays stadium deal means for Tampa Bay families](#)

[Ledger: Another Florida Poly trustee departs, leaving only one who voted against hiring president](#)

[WLRN: Mysterious sawfish die-off has likely ended. Scientists keep searching for why it happened](#)

[Bradenton Herald: Was Ashley Benefield a victim of domestic violence? Expert testifies in murder trial](#)

[News4Jax: Former JEA CEO guilty of fraud, conspiracy charges sentenced to 4 years in federal prison](#)

[Herald: Controversial former Miami city attorney named state's municipal 'Attorney of the Year'](#)

[The Capitolist: Three Florida cities among top ten Best places to start a business in 2024](#)

[The Capitolist: Miami, Orlando, Fort Lauderdale among top U.S. destinations for international travelers](#)

[TCPalm: Richard Del Toro, TCPalm, Blake Fontenay sued for defamation by Fort Pierce businessman](#)

[Sun: UF Health-developed genetic score improves outcomes by personalizing leukemia therapy](#)

[Democrat: Judge tosses lawsuit filed against FAMU by former assistant athletics director](#)

[WUSF: DeSantis seeks to end a lawsuit over Monique Worrell's suspension](#)

[The Capitolist: Sheriffs, police chiefs oppose pot initiative](#)

[Sun-Sentinel: 'A lower quality of life for all': Law enforcement lines up against legal marijuana in Florida](#)

[Democrat: Police groups oppose Florida recreational weed. Supporters says prohibition drains money](#)

[FlaPol: Anti-abortion PC launches to fight for 'dignity of life'](#)

[Times: After Sasse's exit, what's next for UF? Likely a quiet — and costly — search.](#)

[FlaPol: 'The world is watching': Lauren Book launches petition to ban convicted pedophiles from Olympics](#)

[Sentinel: Safety commission backs grant to help boost safety in Florida's private schools](#)

[Democrat: It's official: Florida A&M trustees OK Interim President Timothy Beard's contract](#)

[The Capitolist: FAMU Board of Trustees approve \\$400k contract for interim president](#)

[WUSF: FAMU Board of Trustees pick Dr. Timothy Beard for interim president](#)

[WUSF: Public official Moran spent \\$36,000 in taxpayers money on lavish travel, steak dinners, and booze](#)

[Herald Tribune: Mike Moran's receipts detail spending by Florida PACE Funding Agency](#)

[FlaPol: State Attorney won't pursue charges against Mike Horner after altercation with Jon Arguello](#)

[Sentinel: Farm founded by state Rep. Truenow fined \\$16,000 after 2023 worker death](#)

[Today: Four Republicans seek to fill Randy Fine's District 33 seat in Florida House](#)  
[NBC Miami: 'I did nothing wrong': Broward School Board suspends mom after transgender athlete controversy](#)

[Herald: 'I fought very hard': Broward schools suspends employee, mother of trans student](#)  
[FlaPol: SAVE Action PAC backs 'steadfast advocate' J.C. Planas for Miami-Dade Supervisor of Elections](#)

[WUSF: Clearwater vote could set the stage to replace Duke Energy with a locally run utility](#)  
[Democrat: Tiger Bay Q&A with Craig Fugate, Florida Master of Disasters, Waffle House Index inventor](#)

[Times: Hillsborough school officials find more flaws in county's delay of tax vote](#)  
[FlaPol: November ballot will ask Miami-Dade voters if they want countywide Wi-Fi](#)  
[WUSF: USF Health Taneja College of Pharmacy opens new home in downtown Tampa](#)  
[Democrat: Five Leon schools receive grades after being marked 'incomplete,' here's how they scored](#)

[Democrat: Leon County Schools tax rate going down but taxes still going up. Here's why](#)  
[Sentinel: Orange lets voters decide: Should the county more closely guard its rural areas?](#)  
[Sentinel: With Kamala Harris on the ballot, could the outlook improve for Florida's abortion and marijuana amendments?](#)

[FlaPol: 3 Florida lawmakers appointed to Special Committee investigating assassination attempt on Donald Trump](#)

[Ledger: Rep. Laurel Lee appointed to task force investigating attempted assassination of Trump](#)

[FlaPol: Florida political leaders slam Nicolás Maduro's questionable claim of election victory](#)

[Herald: 'A clear subversion': Venezuelans in Miami mourn country's future after critical election](#)

[FlaPol: State moves quickly to settle Medicaid managed care legal challenges](#)

[Sun-Sentinel: Health insurers claim they were shut out of Florida's Medicaid contracts](#)

[PNJ: Home insurance in Florida is \\$3,303 more than the national average](#)

[WLRN: A court decision worries developers eyeing Florida's aging condos](#)

[Democrat: Former FSU researcher pleads guilty in Mississippi welfare scandal](#)

[Today: Florida's healthcare ranking is among this list's worst. Here's why.](#)

[PNJ: West Nile virus cases confirmed in Walton, Marion counties as officials issue advisory](#)

[Today: Unemployment claims in Florida declined last week](#)

[CBS Miami: JetBlue ends service from Fort Lauderdale to Tallahassee](#)

[Herald: After a big drop, gas prices in Florida are on the way up again. See what's changing](#)

[Axios: Tampa is one of the nation's worst cities for urban heat. See its hottest areas.](#)

[WUSF: Will the Rays get a new stadium? Pinellas commissioners are set to decide](#)

[Democrat: Gov. DeSantis OK with US Supreme Court term limits – if Congress term limited too](#)

[Sentinel: Florida Supreme Court vows to move quickly on abortion ballot statement](#)

[Democrat: What is Project 2025? 5 ways its ideas are similar to Florida laws](#)

[WUSF: Report: Florida Department of Corrections needs \\$2.2 billion to fix dire infrastructure issues](#)

[WLRN: Florida judge rejects a lawsuit challenging public-employee union restrictions](#)

[FlaPol: 'America run on hate': Dem-turned-GOP Senate candidate bashes U.S. in resurfaced video](#)

[Democrat: Florida Gov. DeSantis signs death warrant in 1994 murder of FSU student](#)

[WTXL: Gov. DeSantis signs death warrant for man convicted of murdering FSU student in 1994](#)

[Ledger: DeSantis appoints Jerry Haag, leader of Lakeland-based One More Child, to state board](#)

[Today: Term limits, insurance converge for Mayfield, Weldon in Florida House District 32 primary](#)

[Sentinel: Two lawyers face off in GOP state attorney primary as DeSantis' actions make for unusual race](#)

[Sentinel: Top tier Democratic names, undaunted Republicans face off in Senate District 25 primaries](#)

[FlaPol: Fitting or chilling? Miami-Dade ethics panel issues first-ever fine for 'frivolous' complaint](#)

[CBS Miami: Summer initiative to help Miami Beach homeless, city to enforce laws against sleeping in public](#)

[Sun-Sentinel: FIU bridge collapse spurs continuing legal fight over engineering firm's future projects](#)

[Yahoo News: Warner University in Lake Wales appoints G. Craig Williford as interim president](#)

[Times: In a warming world, is a new Tampa Bay Rays stadium ready for the future?](#)

[Ledger: Lakeland's Southeastern University promotes two top administrators to new roles](#)

[Star-Banner: UF, Jacksonville Jaguars announce four-year branding partnership](#)

### ***On The Docket***

#### **WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 2024**

- SCHOOL SAFETY - Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. The state's Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission will meet. Location: Amerant Bank Arena, Chairman's Club, 1 Panther Parkway., Sunrise.
- PAROLE CASES - Wednesday, 9 a.m. The Florida Commission on Offender Review will meet. Location: Betty Easley Conference Center, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee. Call-in number: 1-877-309-2073. Code: 337350165
- PROPERTY TAXES - Wednesday, 9 a.m. The Revenue Estimating Conference will analyze ad valorem, or property, tax revenues. Location: 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- UNEMPLOYMENT CASES - Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. The state Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission is scheduled to meet. Location: Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission, 1211 Governors Square Blvd., Suite 300, Tallahassee. Call-in number: 850-988-5144. Code: 261180880
- FIU TRUSTEES - Wednesday, 1 p.m. The Florida International University Board of Trustees will meet. Location: Information at <https://calendar.fiu.edu/event/bot-meeting-20240731>
- CRIMINAL JUSTICE ISSUES - Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. The Criminal Justice Estimating Conference will meet. Location: 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.

#### **THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 2024**

- FUCHS TAKES HELM - Former University of Florida President Kent Fuchs is scheduled to begin serving as interim university president after the resignation of President Ben Sasse.

- FGCU TRUSTEES - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. The Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees will meet. Location: <https://www.fgcu.edu/about/leadership/fgcuboardoftrustees/boardcast>
- TRANSPORTATION MONEY - Thursday, 9 a.m. The Revenue Estimating Conference will discuss transportation revenues. Location: 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- SAUNDERS V. SAUNDERS HEARING HELD - Thursday, 10 a.m. Miami-Dade County Circuit Judge Robert T. Watson has scheduled a hearing in an attempt by Democratic state House candidate Joe Saunders to prevent his aunt — running as Moe Saunders — from competing for the seat. Joe Saunders, a former lawmaker who is seeking to unseat Rep. Fabian Basabe, R-Miami Beach, in Miami-Dade’s House District 106, filed the lawsuit June 25 after his aunt, Maureen Saunders Scott, qualified to run for the seat without party affiliation. The aunt, a resident of St. Johns County, roughly 300 miles from the district, would appear on the ballot as Moe Saunders. Location: Miami-Dade County Courthouse, 73 West Flagler St., Miami.
- CITIZENS RATE HIKES - Thursday, 1 p.m. The Florida Office of Insurance Regulation will hold a hearing on proposed rate increases by the state’s Citizens Property Insurance Corp. Location: 412 Knott Building, the Capitol. <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3788507392134968671>. Call-in number: 1-877-568-4108. Code: 768800634
- NURSING BOARD - Thursday, 1:30 p.m. The Florida Board of Nursing will meet. Location: Fort Lauderdale Marriott Coral Springs, 11775 Heron Bay Blvd., Coral Springs.
- OPIOID ISSUES - Thursday, 2 p.m. The Statewide Council on Opioid Abatement will meet. Location: AdventHealth Altamonte Springs, Chatlos Conference Center, 601 East Altamonte Dr., Altamonte Springs.

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 2024**

- HD 81 CANDIDATES AT FORUM - Friday, 7:30 a.m. Yvette Benarroch and Greg Folley, Republican candidates in Collier County’s House District 81, are expected to appear at a forum held by the Republican Men’s Club of Collier County. Location: Naples Hilton, 5111 Tamiami Trail North, Naples.
- BOARD OF MEDICINE - Friday, 8 a.m. The Florida Board of Medicine will meet. Location: Drury Plaza Hotel-Orlando-Disney Springs Area, 2000 Hotel Plaza Blvd., Lake Buena Vista.
- NURSING BOARD - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. The Florida Board of Nursing will meet. Location: Fort Lauderdale Marriott Coral Springs, 11775 Heron Bay Blvd., Coral Springs.
- LABOR MARKET - Friday, 9 a.m. The Labor Market Estimating Conference will discuss a labor-market forecast. Location: 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- FINANCIAL ‘OUTLOOKS’ - Friday, 1:30 p.m. The Revenue Estimating Conference will discuss issues related to financial “outlooks.” Location: 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- FINANCE REPORTS DUE - State candidates and political committees face a Friday deadline for filing updated finance reports.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 2024**

- SCOTT SPEAKS AT GOP EVENT - Saturday, 5 p.m. U.S. Sen. Rick Scott, R-Fla., is scheduled to speak during a Lake County Republican Party Lincoln-Reagan Dinner. Location: The Venetian Center, 1 Dozier Court, Leesburg.

**CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES PROJECTED FOR FY 24-25**

*Activities listed involve local elected county commissioners, school board members and school superintendents.*

**2024**

- August 20 - Primary Election Day
  - Sept. 18-19- FAC Policy Conference – Pensacola
  - November 5 - General Election Day
  - November 19 - Newly Elected local officials take office
  - November 20-22 Rural Economic Development Summit
  - December 3-6 - FSBA/FADSS - Winter Meeting – Tampa
  - December 4 - Small County Coalition Legislative Meeting - Tampa
  - December 5 - Small District Meeting – Tampa
  - December 4-6 FAC Legislative Conference – Tampa
- 2025**
- January-February - Legislative Committee Weeks
  - February 2 - Deadline for release of Governors recommended budget
  - March 4 Regular Session Begins
  - March 18 - Small County Coalition Legislative Briefing/Reception
  - March 19- FAC Day in the Legislature
  - March 19 – 20 FSBA 38th Annual Day in the Legislature, Tallahassee, FL
  - March 19 Small School District Legislative Briefing
  - March 19 -20 Rural Counties Day in the Legislature
  - May 2 - Regular Session Ends
  - June 11 – 13 FSBA/FADSS Annual Summer Conference, Tampa, FL
  - June 12 - Small School District Breakfast Meeting
  - June 24-27 FAC Annual Summer Meeting - Orlando
  - June 25 Small County Coalition Annual Business Meeting - Orlando

***About the Briefing!***

***The Briefing is prepared by Chris Doolin***

[cdoolin@doolinandassoc.com](mailto:cdoolin@doolinandassoc.com)

The Briefing is compiled to provide information to elected officials and staff in counties that are members of the Small County Coalition and the Small School District Council Consortium. It is also sent to Professional Colleagues and Associates. For Questions Email [cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com](mailto:cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com)

[www.smallcountycoalition.org](http://www.smallcountycoalition.org) or [www.ssdcc.org](http://www.ssdcc.org) and click on the red Briefing button