In 1893. the first American gasoline-powered automobile was built for public sale, a gallon of gasoline sold for roughly 4.5 to 5 cents per gallon.
100 years later. a gallon of gas cost an average of about $1.11 to $1.17
Today, a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline is $4.47 according to AAA.

The Briefing for Tuesday, September 22, 2026

The Last Briefing was Monday, September 21, 2026

There are 42 days until November 3, 2026.

What's the weather outlook?

10-Day Weather Forecast for Tallahassee, FL – The Weather Channel

College Football Scores and Schedules

https://www.espn.com/college-football/schedule

Florida Teams at Play

#4 Ole Miss at #21 Florida
Central Michigan at #6 Miami
Central Arkansas at FSU
Alabama A&M at FAMU
Long Island University at FIU
FAU at UL Monroe
TCU at UCF
USF at Bowling Green

Constitutional Minimum Wage of $15 per hour effective October 1

The final $1 increase in the state's voter-approved minimum wage will also take effect Sept. 30, pushing it up to $15 per hour as part of the 2020 constitutional amendment requiring minimum wage

increases. The minimum wage requirement went to $10 an hour on Sept. 30, 2021, and grew by $1 on Sept. 30 of each subsequent year. Any future increases will be based on inflation.

Salaries of Elected County Constitutional Officers and School District Officials Not Available Yet!

Establishing Salaries for Elected County Constitutional Officers and School District Officials the 26-27 is contingent on DMS certifying the updated data. DMS has not received Here is a recent update from the Office of Economic and Demographic Research.

DMS has not yet provided relevant data from the Governors Office of Planning and Budget necessary for DMS staff to make the annual certification. When DMS receives the relevant data from OPB, the certification can be made. EDR has not yet received the DMS' certification.

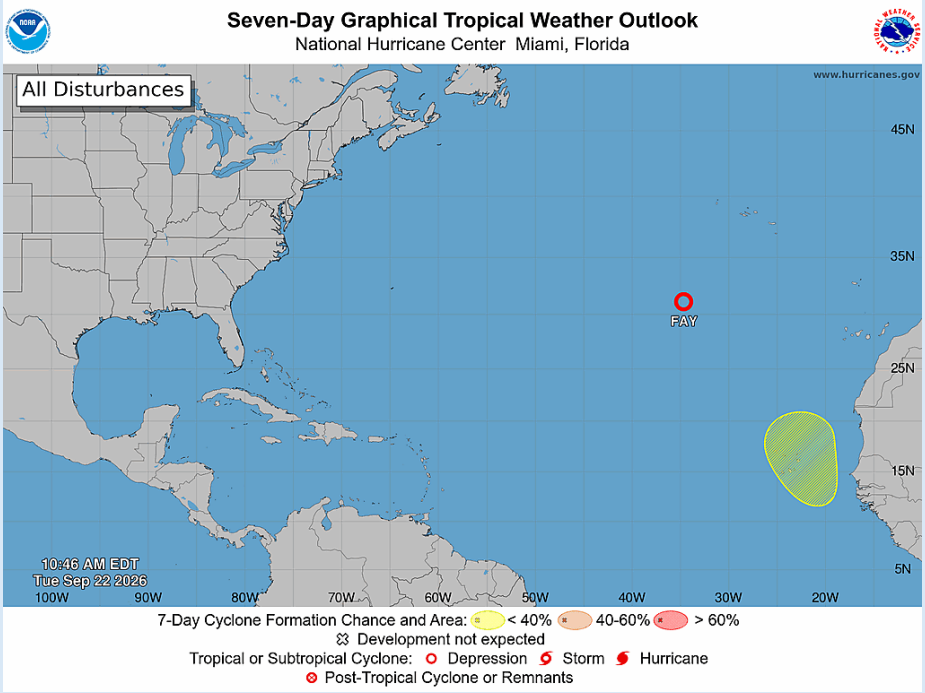
Once EDR receives the certification and makes the FY 2026-27 salary calculations, the updated 'Salaries' report will be posted on the EDR's website, via the following link - Salaries of Elected County Constitutional Officers and School District Officials

Ten new Florida laws are scheduled to take effect on October 1, 2026 Links to Staff Analysis of legislation are provided

- **SB 246 — Specialty Plates**: Authorizes new specialty license plates through the DHSMV. Final Staff Analysis for 246
- **HB 397 — Pretrial Release Violation**: Imposes stricter rules and penalties for violations of pretrial release conditions. Final Staff analysis for 397
- **HB 429 — Gang Membership Criteria**: Refines how law enforcement identifies and classifies criminal gang members. Final Staff analysis for 429
- **SB 432 — "Meg's Law":** Enacts tougher regulations and penalties regarding nitrous oxide and xylazine. Final Staff analysis for 432
- **SB 488 — Transportation**: Updates state transportation regulations and clarifies license plate frame rules. Final Staff Analysis of 488
- **SB 490 — DHSMV Public Records**: Changes public record provisions related to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. Final Staff analysis for 490
- **HB 559 — Animal Welfare**: Enhances protections and penalties concerning animal cruelty, including involvement in animal fighting. Final Staff analysis for 599
- **HB 1293 — Fraudulent Entry into Rental Homes**: Establishes harsher penalties for illegal squatting and rental property fraud. Final Staff analysis for 1293
- **SB 1332 — Habitual Felony Offender Registration**: Strengthens registration and tracking requirements for repeat felony offenders. Final Staff analysis for 1332
- **HB 1525 — Lewd Acts**: Increases penalties surrounding specific lewd or illicit acts. Final Staff analysis for 1525

Tropical Weather Outlook

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



On The Docket

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

- SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT - Tuesday, 5:15 p.m. - The South Florida Water Management District Governing Board is holding a hearing on the fiscal year 2026-2027 tax rate and budget. - SFWMD Headquarters, B-1 Building, 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach.
- SBA - 9 a.m. - The State Board of Administration is holding a meeting on its Audit Committee. - Panther Room, Fifth Floor, The Hermitage Centre, 1801 Hermitage Blvd, Tallahassee.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

- CITIZENS PROPERTY - Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. - The Citizens Property Insurance Corporation Board and committees are meeting. - Westin Lake Mary, 2974 International Parkway, Lake Mary.
- UNF TRUSTEES - Wednesday, 9 a.m. - The University of North Florida Board of Trustees is meeting. - Adam W. Herbert University Center, Jacksonville.
- NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER - Wednesday, 5:05 p.m. - The Northwest Florida Water Management District is holding its final public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 tax rate and budget. - Gulf Coast State College, Student Union East Building, Room 10, 5230 West Highway 98, Panama City.
- DISTRICT 16 FORUM - Wednesday, 12 p.m. - The League of Women Voters of Manatee County and the League of Women Voters of the St. Petersburg Area is hosting a virtual candidate forum --- independent Mark Davis, Republican Sydney Gruters and Democrat Kelly Kirschner --- for Congressional District 16, which includes all of Manatee, DeSoto and Hardee counties, and parts of Pinellas, Sarasota and Polk counties. - Register: us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/Kt0Xl5YiQ-OmDRKqOflE5A#/registration

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

- SUPREME COURT RELEASES OPINIONS - Thursday, 11 a.m. - The Florida Supreme Court is scheduled to release opinions.
- EAST CENTRAL PLANNING ROUNDTABLE - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The East Central Florida Regional Planning Council is to consider the Powering the Future roundtable. - 455 N. Garland Avenue, Suite 414, Orlando.
- UCF TRUSTEES - Thursday, 4 p.m. - The University of Central Florida Board of Trustees is meeting after a series of committee meetings that being at 8:30 a.m. - FAIRWINDS Alumni Center, 12676 Gemini Boulevard N, Orlando.
- INDEPENDENT EDUCATION - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The Commission for Independent Education is meeting regarding degree granting institutions. - Mission Inn Resort and Club, 10400 County Road 48, Howey-In-The-Hills.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

- FLORIDA HOUSING - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - The Florida Housing Finance Corporation is meeting. - Miami Airport Marriott, 1201 NW 42nd Avenue, Building A, Miami.
- INDEPENDENT EDUCATION - Friday, 9 a.m. - The Commission for Independent Education is meeting regarding non-degree granting institutions. - Mission Inn Resort and Club, 10400 County Road 48, Howey-In-The-Hills.
- CABINET AIDES - Friday, 10 a.m. - The Cabinet aides for Gov. Ron DeSantis, Chief Financial Officer Blaise Ingoglia, Attorney General James Uthmeier and Agriculture Commissioner Wilton Simpson meet ahead of the September 29 Cabinet meeting and September 30 Board of Executive Clemency meeting. - Cabinet Meeting Room, Lower Level, the Capitol.
- FINANCE REPORTS - Friday - State candidates and political committees face a deadline for filing reports showing finance activity between Sept. 11 and Sept. 17. - Department of State, Division of Elections, Bureau of Election Records, R.A. Gray Building, Room 316, 500 South Bronough Street, Tallahassee.

Headlines Around The State

Tuesday - SEP. 22, 2026

CBS Miami: Florida counties begin receiving mail ballots as 8 million votes expected in November election

FlaPol: Ashley Moody urges Air Force to relocate elite think tank from Alabama to Florida

Times: Most Florida colleges fall in new U.S. News rankings. One shows a huge gain.

Post: UF is No. 1 among Florida universities in U.S. News rankings

Sun: UF drops three spots in U.S. News & World Report college rankings

Democrat: FSU remains in Top 25, but falls to 24th in U.S. News' rankings

Democrat: FAMU rises in rankings, loses seven-year streak as top public HBCU

News4JAX: Florida gas prices surge 21 cents to 4-month high as crude oil costs climb

Post: Florida 2nd in US in lethal brain eating amoeba cases. How to avoid it

WUSF: How Florida ties localities hands on everything from environmental regulation to worker protections

Herald: GMOs, drones and radiation: Florida's war on mosquitoes goes high-tech

FlaPol: 'What kind of city do we want to be?': Donna Deegan condemns Amendment 3

News4JAX: Jacksonville budget vote happens Tuesday. Mayor Deegan warns of 'uncharted waters' if Amendment 3 passes

Post: Burmese pythons have established a foothold outside Florida Everglades

Post: Florida reports 1st dengue death, more cases. Check your county's risk

Here are key dates for 26-27

2026 Events

Nov 3 –	General Election
Nov. 17-19-	Rural Summit – Ocala – Sponsored by FREDA
Nov. 30 – Dec. 3	Legislative Committee Meetings
Dec 2-4 –	Florida Association of Counties Legislative Conference
Dec 2 -	Small County Coalition Breakfast –
Dec 2-4 –	FSBA Legislative Conference – Tampa
Dec 3 -	Small District– SSDCC Legislative Meeting in Tampa

2027 Events

January 4 – 7	Legislative Committee Meetings
January 11 – 14	Legislative Committee Meetings
February 1 – 4	Legislative Committee Meetings
February 8 – 11	Legislative Committee Meetings
February 15 – 18	Legislative Committee Meetings
March 2 -	Legislature convenes
March 16 -	Small County Coalition/Small School District Joint Legislative Reception
March 17 -	Small School District Council Consortium Legislative Briefing
March 17 -	Florida Association Counties – Legislative Day
March 17-18-	Rural Days 2027 – Tentative
April 30 -	Legislative Session 60 Days – Sine Die!
June 9 – 11	FSBA/FADSS Annual Summer Conference, Kissimmee, FL
June 10 -	Small School District Council Consortium – Annual Meeting
June 22-25	FAC Annual Summer Meeting - Hilton Orlando
June 22 -	Small County Coalition Annual Meeting Breakfast – Orlando
Nov. 30 – Dec. 3	FSBA/FADSS 82nd Annual Joint Conference, Kissimmee, FL

Briefing is prepared by Chris Doolin

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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

If you want to see all of the latest briefings – you can go www.smallcountycoalition.org or www.ssdcc.org and click on the red Briefing button

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