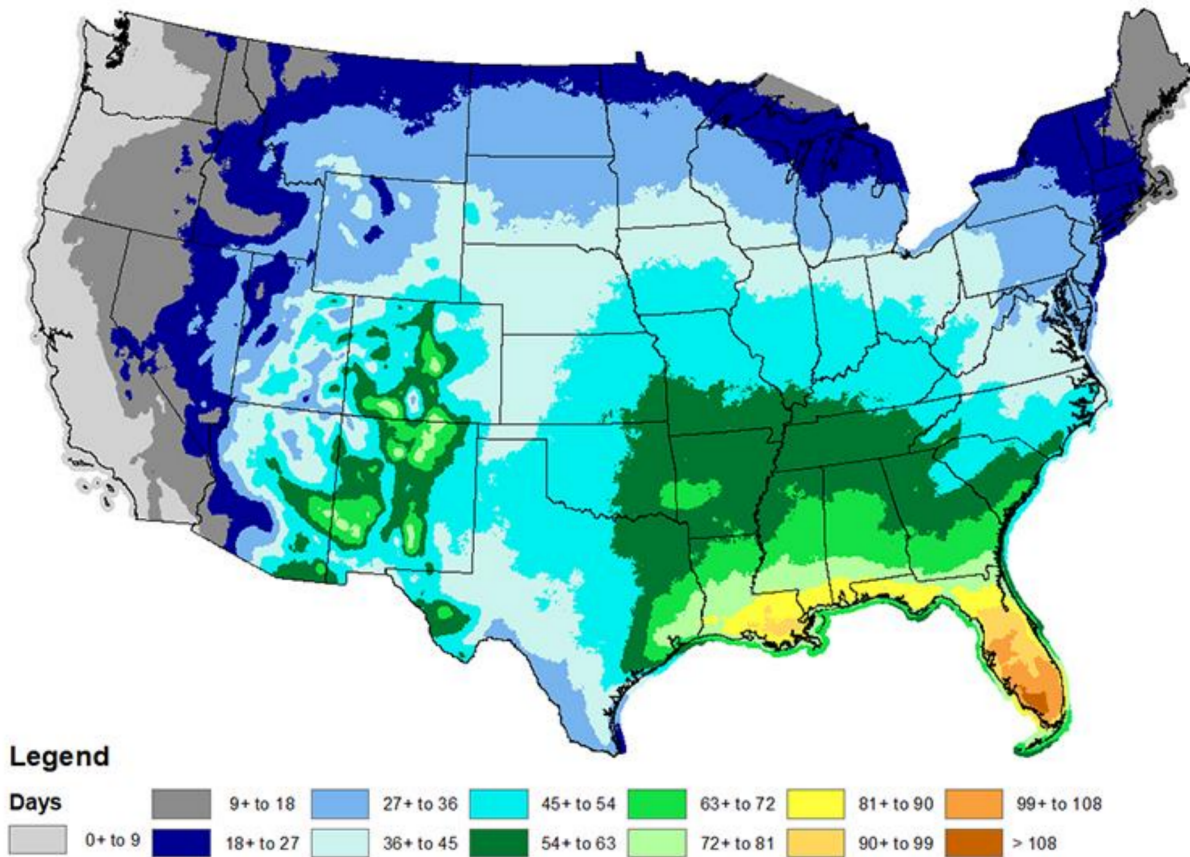


Thunderstorms (includes damaging winds, lightning, and hailstorms)

A thunderstorm is defined as a rain-bearing cloud that also produces lightning. Known for producing dangerous conditions such as tornadoes, damaging winds, hail, and flash flooding, thunderstorm development is favorable in warm, humid conditions, making Florida a likely host to these storms. In fact, as indicated by the graphic below, data by the National Weather Service indicates that from 1993-2018 Florida had the highest number of “thunder” days per year (80 to 105+).

Annual Mean Thunderstorm Days (1993-2018)



Source: https://www.weather.gov/jetstream/tstorms_intro

Thunderstorm formation requires three ingredients: moisture, instability, and a lifting mechanism. Florida, being bordered by the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean, has higher moisture levels in the atmosphere.