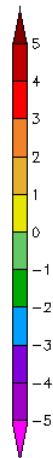
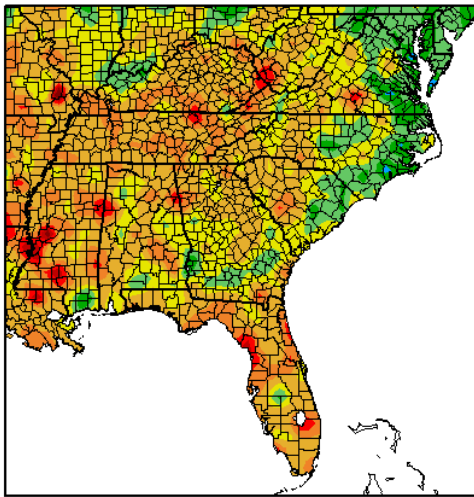


# April 2016 Climate Summary – Georgia

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April in Georgia started on a wet note when areas of the state saw several inches of rain in one day, and ended on a warm one when temperatures climbed more than 10°F above average statewide. The state saw above normal temperatures overall this month, while precipitation was variable but generally above normal in the southern half and below normal in the northern half. The weather pattern was characterized by an active long-wave pattern that included quick-moving surface cold fronts, and some severe weather reports, as well as a prominent omega blocking pattern that set up to cause above normal temperatures.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
4/1/2016 – 4/30/2016

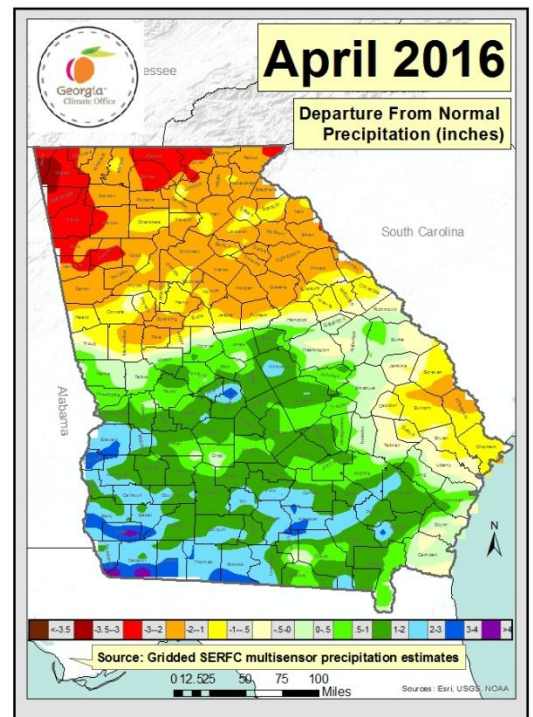


Atlanta’s average April temperature was 64.1° (+2.1°), Athens recorded 63.4° (+1.7°), Macon’s average temperature was 63.8° (+0.4°), Columbus recorded 65.2° (+0.6°), Augusta’s monthly average temperature was 63.8° (+1.1°), Savannah recorded 67.0° (+1.4°), and St. Simons Island’s average temperature was 67.5° (+1.0°). On April 29<sup>th</sup>, Atlanta, Athens, Augusta, and Savannah all tied their daily record high temperatures with 88°, 90°, 91°, and 93°, respectively.

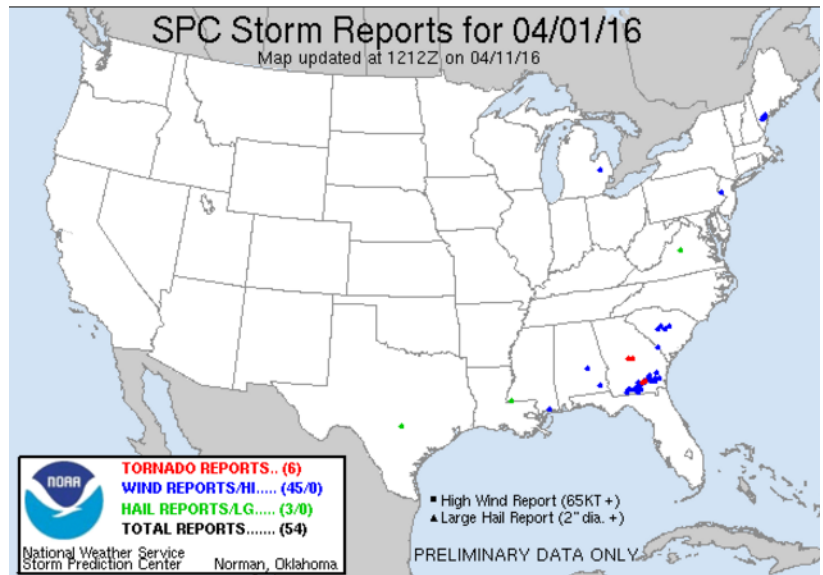
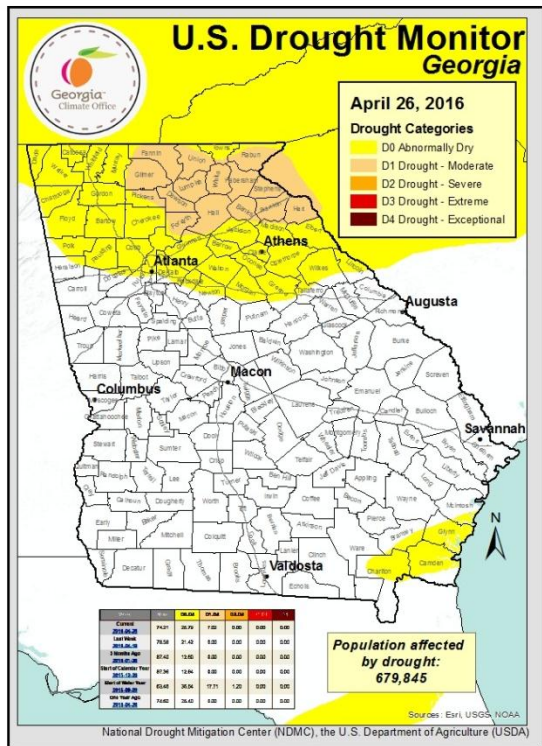
Areas in southern Georgia saw above normal April precipitation, including Columbus with 6.94” (+3.39”), Augusta with 4.42” (+1.58”), St. Simons Island with 2.65” (+0.16”), and Macon with 7.63” (+4.67”) and its 6<sup>th</sup> wettest April on record. The first day of the month

contributed the most to the total monthly precipitation. On April 1<sup>st</sup>, 5.42” of rain fell in Macon, shattering the old record of 2.63” set in 1981, while Augusta saw 3.92” and also broke their old record of 2.14” set in 1936. Atlanta’s total monthly precipitation was 3.15” (-0.21”), Athens recorded 2.57” (-0.58”), and Savannah’s total precipitation was 2.26” (-0.81”).

Several rounds of severe storms tracked across central Georgia causing six tornadoes in the morning hours of April 1<sup>st</sup>. Four were rated EF-1 and two were rated EF-0. Damaging winds were also reported in south Georgia in association with the strong storm system. On April 7<sup>th</sup>, an EF-2 tornado tracked across Randolph county and into Calhoun county; several mobile homes were destroyed and six injuries were reported. This same storm system brought strong winds and hail to north Georgia.



Due to the lack of rainfall in the northern half of the state, the U.S. Drought Monitor shows that D1 (moderate drought) conditions were introduced into northeast Georgia during April. D0 (abnormally dry) conditions remained in north and southeast Georgia. Conditions will need to be monitored over the long-term since high pressure building into the southeast will likely cause dry conditions to persist.



According to the Climate Prediction Center, there is currently an El Niño Advisory and a La Niña Watch. The current El Niño that is present is weakening. A transition to ENSO-neutral is likely during late Northern Hemisphere spring or early summer 2016, with an increasing chance of La Niña during the second half of the year. The CPC's three-month seasonal outlook shows chances for both above normal temperatures and above normal precipitation in May, June, and July.

