April 2022 Climate Summary – Georgia

Henian Zhang and Nyasha Dunkley State of Georgia Climate Office

The month of April was characterized by a near normal average temperature of 62.9°F (-0.1°F) and near normal precipitation of 3.75" (-0.06"). However, the precipitation was unevenly distributed with southeast Georgia receiving the least amount, causing drought development. Central Georgia received the most precipitation. On April 6th, a daily record maximum rainfall of 4.16" was set at Macon, which broke the old record of 3.71" set in 1938.



Two rounds of severe weather outbreaks occurred on April 5th and 6th due to warm, moist, and unstable air masses. Tornadoes, hail, and high winds caused severe damages across Georgia. On April 5th, an EF-3 tornado was reported in Houston County with the peak winds estimated to be 160 mph, causing one injury. An EF-4 tornado was reported in Bryan County on April 5th with the estimated peak wind speed of 185 mph, causing one fatality and 12 injuries. This was the second EF4 tornado reported in a decade and the 11th in Georgia since 1950. The previous EF4 occurred on March 25th, 2021, and traveled through Heard, Coweta, and Fayette County.



Storm Prediction Center Local Storm Reports



April 5th, 2022

April 6th, 2022

EF4 Tornadoes in Georgia

DATE	COUNTIES AFFECTED	FATALITIES	INJURIES
4/5/2022	BRYAN	1	12
3/25/2021	HEARD/COWETA/FAYETTE	1	0
4/27/2011	CATOOSA	7	30
5/11/2008	MCINTOSH	0	9
3/27/1994	FLOYD/BARTOW/CHEROKEE/PICKENS	3	Unknown
11/22/1992	CHEROKEE/COBB	0	46
11/22/1992	PUTNAM/GREENE	5	86
4/3/1974	GORDON/WHITFIELD/MURRAY	9	67
4/3/1974	PICKENS/DAWSON/LUMPKIN	6	30
4/3/1974	FANNIN	0	0
4/30/1953	HOUSTON	18	300

Data from https://www.weather.gov/ffc/ef4tornado_history

Abnormally dry and moderate drought conditions continued across South Georgia during the month of April due to lack of precipitation, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. The seasonal drought outlook from the Climate Prediction Center suggests drought conditions in Georgia will likely improve for the May through July period.





According to the Climate Prediction Center, La Niña is present and likely to continue. Though La Niña is favored to continue, there is the probability for La Niña to decrease into the late Northern Hemisphere summer (58% chance in August-October 2022) before slightly increasing through the Northern Hemisphere fall and early winter 2022 (61% chance). The seasonal outlook from the Climate Prediction Center for May, June, and July favors above normal temperatures and near normal rainfall for Georgia.

