

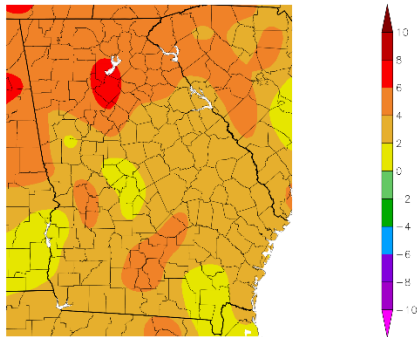
April 2026 Climate Summary – Georgia

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State of Georgia Climate Office

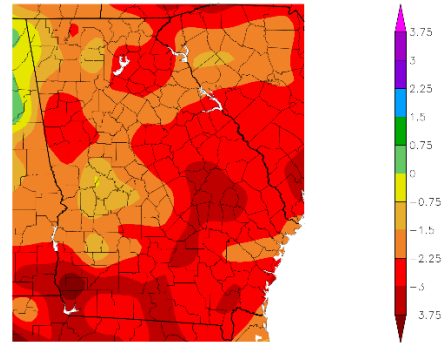
April was warmer and drier than average across the state of Georgia. The statewide average temperature for the month was 67.1°F which is 4.1°F warmer than the 1901-2000 average, making this April the 7th warmest on record (POR 1895). This April was the warmest ever recorded for Atlanta with an average temperature of 68.8°F (Period of Record 1930). It was also the 4th warmest April on record for both Augusta (POR 1942) and Savannah (POR 1948). A record high daily maximum temperature of 90°F was set in Atlanta on April 17, breaking the old record of 89°F set in 1896. This not only broke the daily temperature record, but it was also the earliest 90 degree day on record (POR 1878) for Atlanta. Previously the earliest 90 degree day was April 23, 1980. On April 18, a record high daily temperature of 93°F was set in Savannah, tying the old record set in 1967. The statewide average precipitation for the month was 1.59 inches which is 2.22 inches below the 1901-2000 average, making this April the 10th driest on record (POR 1895). April was the 7th driest for Augusta (POR 1942) and the 3rd driest on record for Savannah (POR 1948). Columbus set a daily record for rainfall with 1.33 inches on April 29th.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
4/1/2026 – 4/30/2026



Generated 5/26/2026 using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
4/1/2026 – 4/30/2026



ACIS Web Services Generated 5/26/2026 using provisional data.

ACIS Web Services

In late April, significant wildfires broke out in South Georgia. The Pineland Road Fire broke out in Clinch County on April 18th when a spark from a welding operation made contact with dry vegetation. As of May 18th, 2026, the Pineland Road Fire has burned more than 32,700 acres. On April 20th, the Highway 82 Fire started in Brantley County when a balloon made contact with powerlines causing sparking electricity to start a fire in the surrounding dry vegetation. As of May 19th, 2026, the Highway 82 Fire has burned over 22,400 acres. Smoke from the fires caused air quality concerns in Atlanta, Valdosta, Brunswick, Augusta, Macon, and other towns across the state on several days in late April. On April 22, Governor Kemp declared a State of Emergency and burn bans for 91 counties in South Georgia. Both fires were

exacerbated by a combination of extremely dry conditions from the ongoing Extreme to Exceptional Drought in South Georgia and leftover debris from Hurricane Helene providing plenty of fuels. Both fires are now mostly contained, although they continue to burn underground. The Georgia Forestry Commission has ongoing efforts to stop the burning, and on April 27th, Georgia EPD declared Level 1 Drought Response statewide.



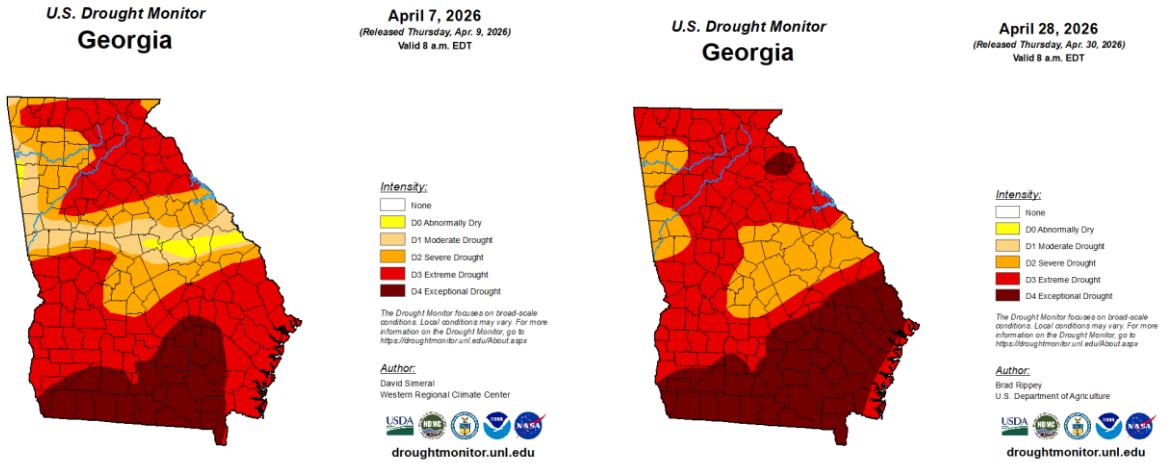
Figure 1 - GFC on the scene of the Pineland Road Fire



Figure 2 - The Highway 82 Fire from the air

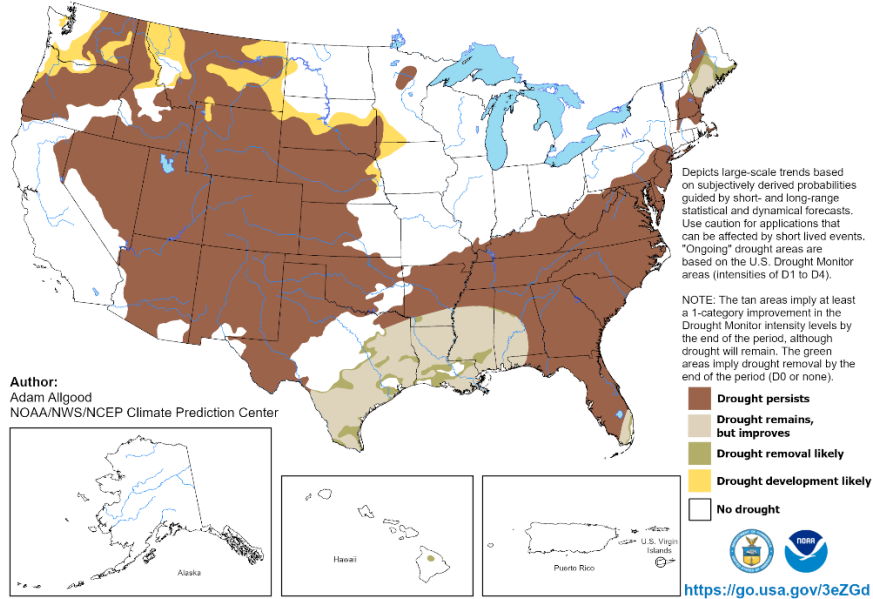
According to the U.S Drought Monitor, drought conditions across Georgia worsened throughout the month, especially across central, eastern, and southern parts of the state. At the beginning of April, the most severe drought was mainly limited to South Georgia, but by the end of the month those conditions had expanded and intensified. Exceptional drought (D4) spread farther east and north, while many areas moved from moderate (D1) or severe drought (D2) into

extreme drought (D3) categories. Overall, April showed a clear increase in drought severity across much of the state. According to the Climate Prediction Center, drought is likely to persist through May.



U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook
Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for May 2026
 Released April 30, 2026

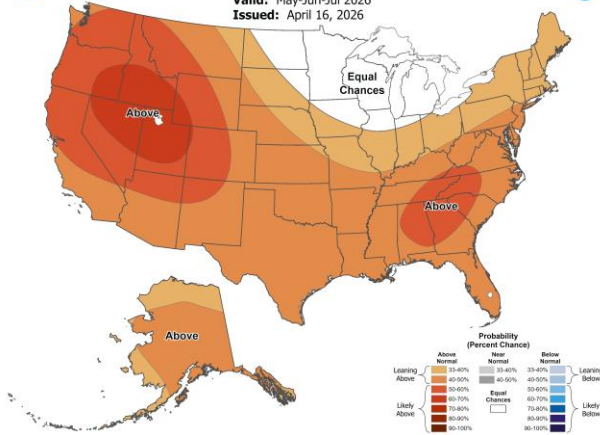


According to the Climate Prediction Center, ENSO-neutral conditions are present in the east-central Pacific Ocean as equatorial sea surface temperatures are near-to-above average. El Nino is likely to emerge (82% chance in May-July 2026) and continue through Northern Hemisphere winter. The seasonal outlooks from the Climate Prediction Center show a likelihood of above normal temperatures across the entire state and above normal precipitation in the southern half during the period of May-July 2026.



Seasonal Temperature Outlook

Valid: May-Jun-Jul 2026
Issued: April 16, 2026



Seasonal Precipitation Outlook

Valid: May-Jun-Jul 2026
Issued: April 16, 2026

