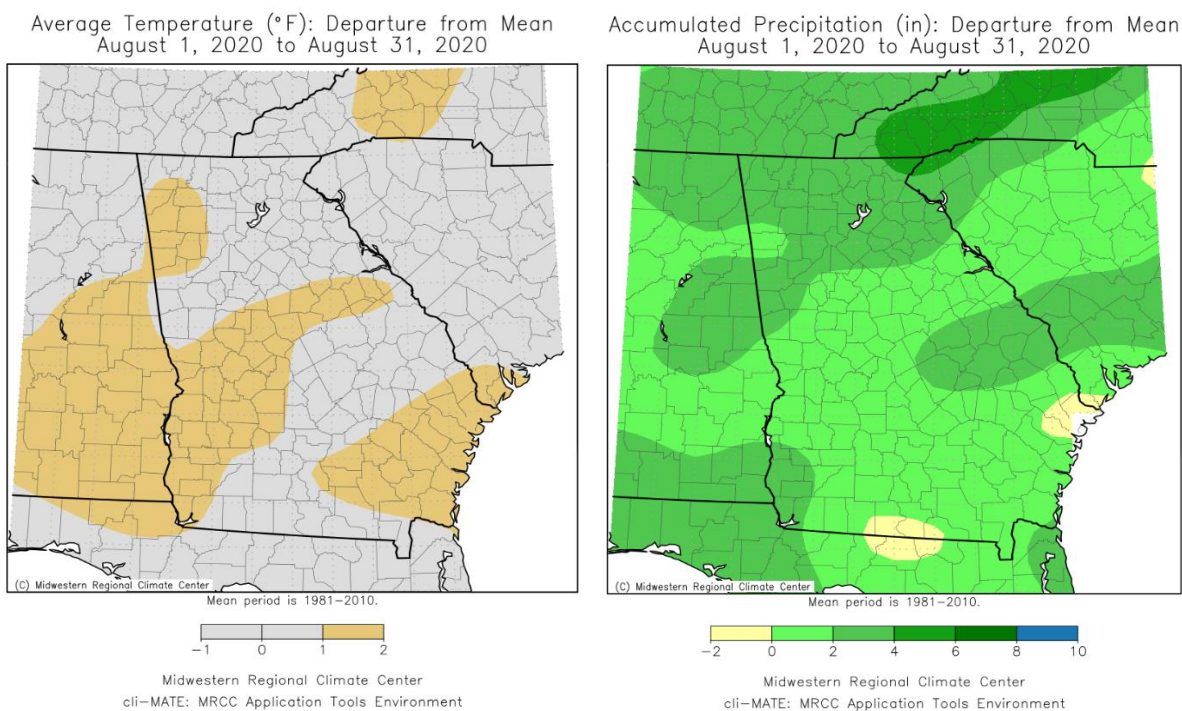


August 2020 Climate Summary – Georgia

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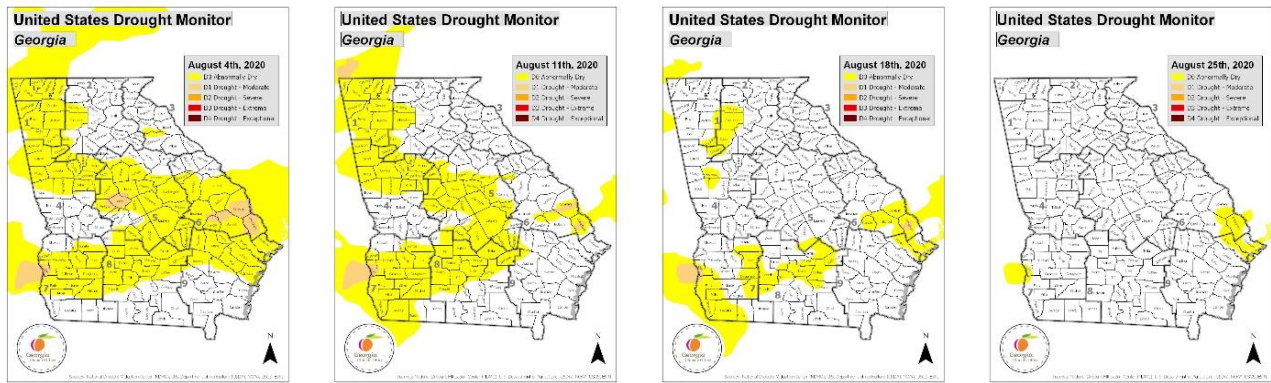
August was characterized by near to above normal average temperatures. Temperatures were 1° to 2° above normal across parts of central and southeast Georgia. Nearly everywhere in the state received above normal precipitation, especially north and central east Georgia which received 2" to 4" more precipitation than usual. Hurricane Isaias brought some rain to areas near the coast in the beginning of August. Hurricanes Laura and Marco brought rain to parts of the state near the end of August. Storms were at either Tropical Storm or Tropical Depression stage when their rainbands propagated into Georgia.



The major climate sites all had above normal temperatures for the month of August. Atlanta, Athens, Macon, and Columbus had average temperatures of 80.9° (+1.5°), 81.3° (+1.7°), 82.6° (+1.7°), and 83° (+1.1°), respectively. Cartersville and Rome had average temperatures of 80.6° (+2.4°) and 80.9° (+2.3°), respectively. Multiple daily highest minimum temperature records were reached or set across the state. Overall, the August minimum temperature ranked 9th warmest for the state. Nearly everywhere in the state received above average precipitation. Atlanta, Athens, Macon, and Columbus received 7.04" (+3.14"), 9.27" (+5.74"), 5.34" (+1.24"), and 6.93" (+3.16") of rain, respectively.

There were a few hail reports and multiple wind damage reports on August 3rd as Tropical Storm Isaias, located off the east coast of Georgia, and a warm front approached from the northwest. Tennis ball-sized hail was reported in Gordon county leaving dents in cars. Quarter-sized hail was spotted in Dawson and Forsyth county.

Above normal precipitation over many of the abnormally dry (D0) areas of the state lead to improvements in drought conditions throughout the month, according to the U.S Drought Monitor. By the end of August, only a small area of D0 remained in the southeast and southwest portions of Georgia. The seasonal outlook from the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) continues to show that drought development is unlikely across the Southeast U.S.



According to the CPC, La Niña conditions were present in August, with below-average sea surface temperatures across the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean. A La Niña Advisory is in effect as La Niña conditions are likely to continue through the Northern Hemisphere winter (~75% chance). The three-month seasonal outlook favors above normal temperatures for the entire state and higher chance of above normal rainfall in the southern half of Georgia.

