

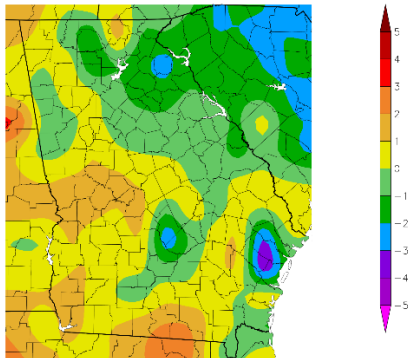
December 2022 Climate Summary – Georgia

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State of Georgia Climate Office

December had its share of temperature extremes across north and central Georgia, although average temperatures for much of the state remained warmer than normal. The average temperature for the month was 49.1°F, which was 2.0° above the mean of 47.1°. The warm December temperatures were a fitting end to an above normal temperature year, with 2022 ending as the 17th warmest on record for the state with an average temperature just slightly above normal at 64.8°. The month began with record-breaking warmth for Atlanta on the 8th, as temperatures rose to 78°. This broke the old record of 76° set in 1978. Atlanta also experienced the 7th warmest year on record at 64.6°, which tied with 2015 and 2021. Macon set a record high temperature on the 8th of 83°, which broke the old record of 79° set in 1966. The warm temperatures did not last however, as temperatures plunged behind a strong cold front that pushed through at the end of the month. Athens set record low temperatures of 11° and 7° on the 23rd and 24th, respectively. The record low on the 23rd broke the previous record of 13° set in 1989, while the temperature on the 24th tied the old record of 7° set in 1983. Atlanta even experienced a record snowfall of 0.1” on the 27th, which tied the old record of 0.1” set in 2010. The drier than average month of December matched a similarly dry year, with the average statewide rainfall for 2022 falling 4.30 inches below the mean of 50.07”.

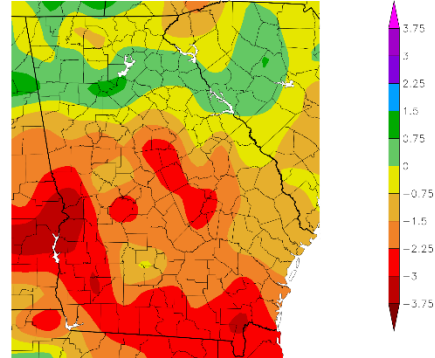
Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
12/1/2022 – 12/31/2022



Generated 1/10/2023 at 11:00 AM using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
12/1/2022 – 12/31/2022

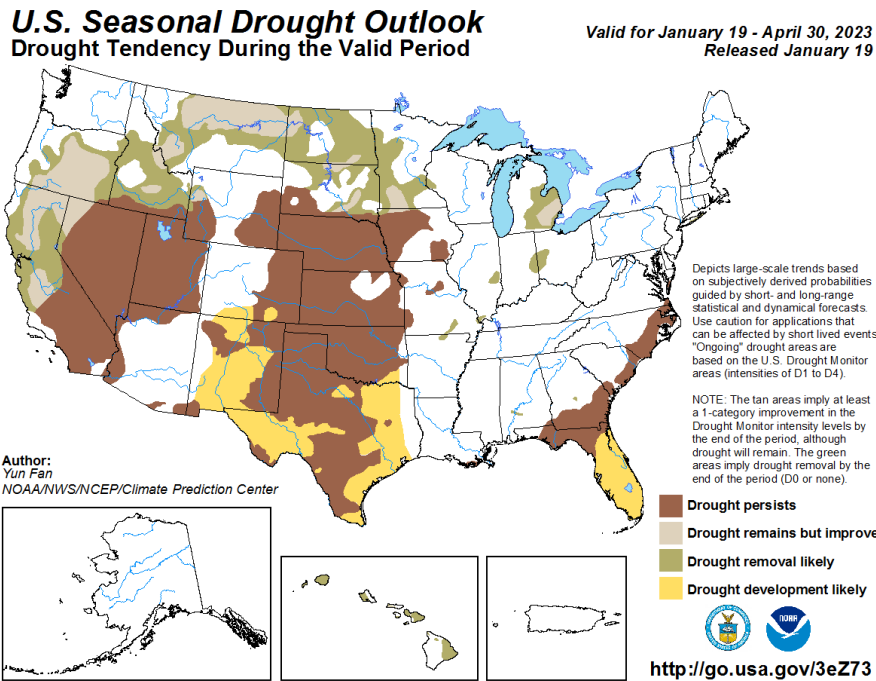
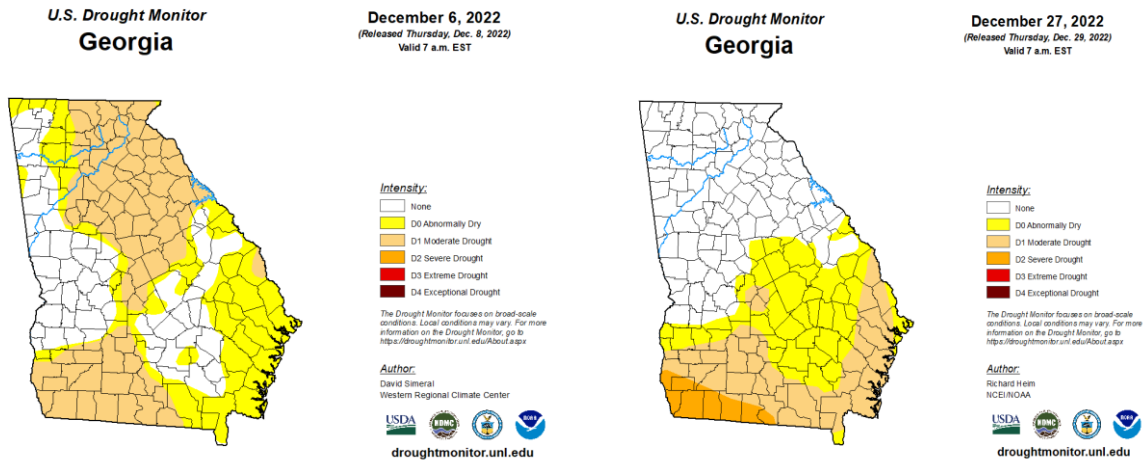


Generated 1/10/2023 at 11:00 AM using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Drought conditions significantly improved throughout the month across the northern half of the state, while severe drought (D2) began to develop in Southwest Georgia, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. The seasonal outlook from the

Climate Prediction Center suggests a tendency for drought to persist in Southern Georgia and dissipate across the rest of the state from January through April.



According to the Climate Prediction Center, La Nina conditions are still present as equatorial sea surface temperatures are below average across most of the Pacific Ocean. A transition from La Nina to ENSO-neutral is anticipated during the February-April 2023 season. By Northern Hemisphere spring (March-May 2023), the chance for ENSO-neutral is 82%. The seasonal outlook from the Climate

Prediction Center for January, February, and March favors above normal temperatures for Georgia and below normal chances of precipitation for the state.

