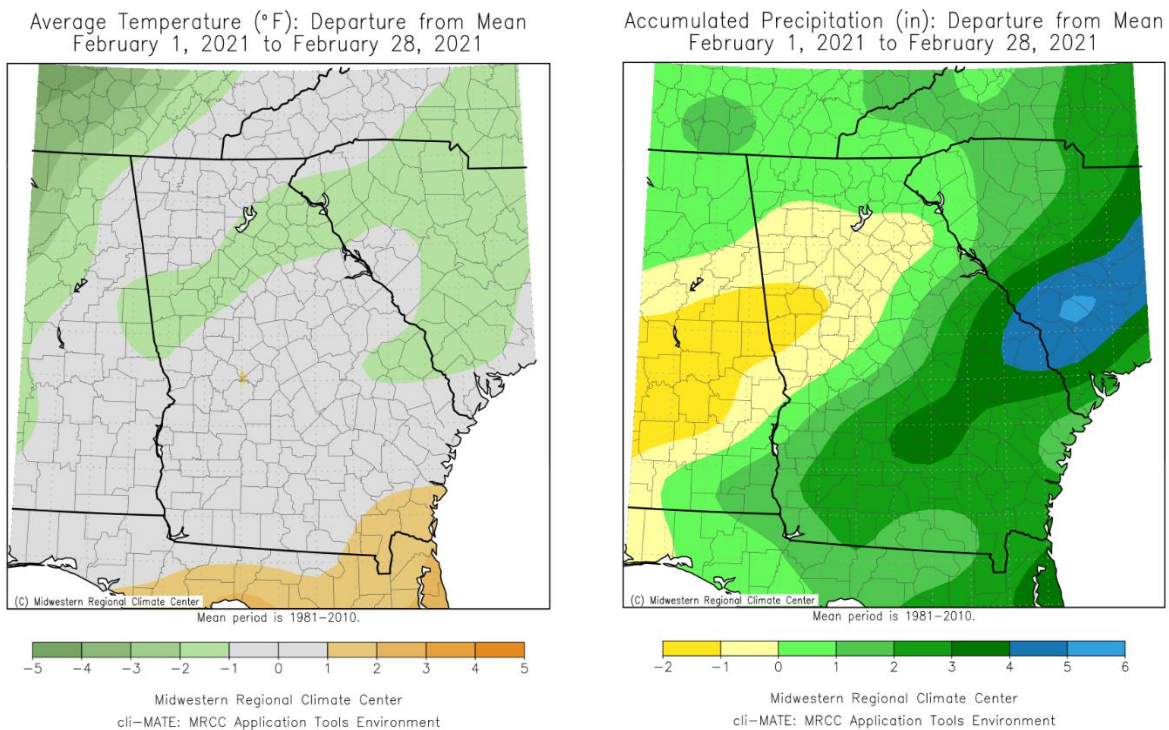


## **February 2021 Climate Summary – Georgia**

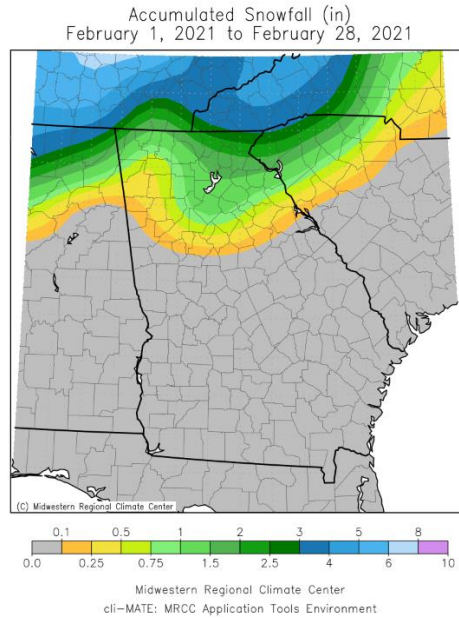
*Nyasha Dunkley and Henian Zhang*

State of Georgia Climate Office

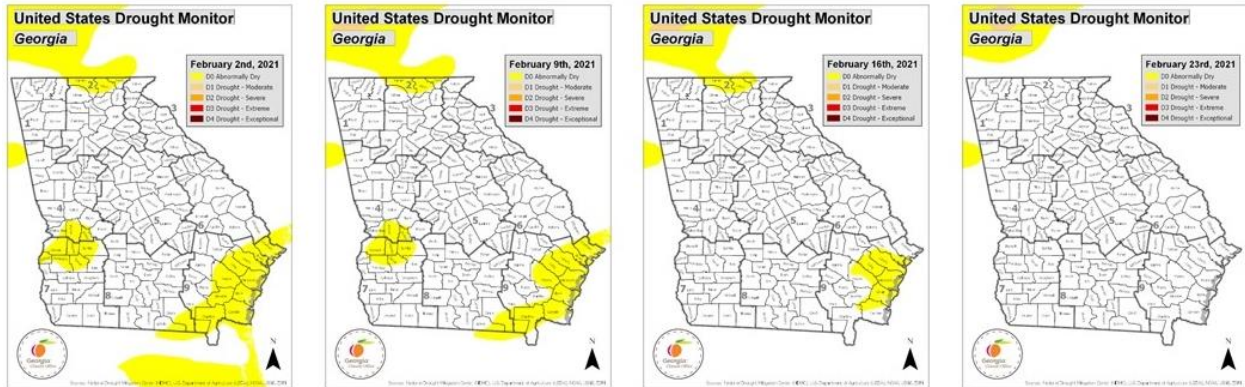
Statewide average temperatures were near normal for February, with an average temperature of 49.7°F (+1.1° above average). On the 28<sup>th</sup>, record high temperatures of 79° and 81° were set at Atlanta and Athens, respectively. Statewide precipitation was above normal with a total amount of 5.44" (+0.93"). Most precipitation was reported in the southeast and less precipitation was reported in the north. Athens and Atlanta received 2.76" and 3.71" of rain, which were 1.72" and 0.96" less than normal, respectively.



Several snow events occurred throughout February associated with cold air outbreaks. Notably, on February 6<sup>th</sup>, a winter storm brought over 3 inches of snow to the elevated mountain areas and sleet to north Georgia, including metro Atlanta. On February 15<sup>th</sup>, severe thunderstorms developed along the boundary of Georgia and Florida, which brought damaging winds and two tornadoes in Early and Seminole counties in South Georgia. A 65-mph wind gust was reported in Baker county as well.



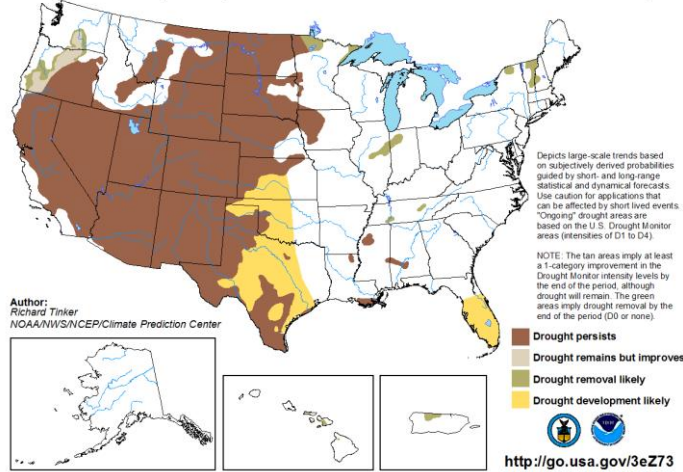
Abnormally dry (D0) conditions remained across a few counties in west Georgia and along the coast during the early part of February, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. Rain from several storm systems tracking northeastward from the Gulf of Mexico was sufficient to remove the lingering D0 areas by the end of the month.



The seasonal outlook from the Climate Prediction Center removed the likelihood of drought development over Central and South Georgia for the February through May period. Precipitation in the short-term provided relief to the region.

**U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook**  
Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for February 18 - May 31, 2021  
Released February 18



Moderate La Niña conditions continued in February with below-average sea surface temperatures extending from the western to the eastern Pacific Ocean. La Niña conditions are likely to continue, with a potential transition to ENSO-neutral during Spring 2021 (~60% chance during April-June). The seasonal outlook from the Climate Prediction Center for March, April, and May favors an equal chance of above or below normal precipitation in the northern part of the state, with below normal precipitation in southern Georgia. Above normal temperatures are also expected across the region.

