

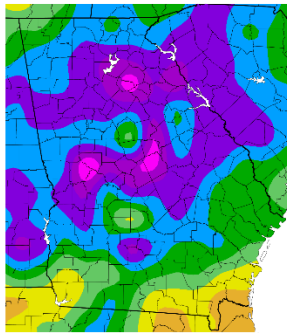
January 2023 Climate Summary – Georgia

Nyasha Dunkley & Eleanor Partington

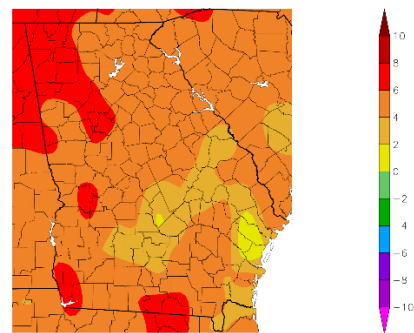
State of Georgia Climate Office

The year began on a warm, wet note across much of the state as Georgia experienced the 13th wettest and 14th warmest January on record since 2017. The average temperature rose over five degrees above normal at 51.7° F, while average rainfall was also above normal at 6.47 inches. Atlanta started the month with record-breaking warmth, as a record high temperature of 74° was set on the 2nd. This broke the old record of 73° set in 2022. The warmth was quickly followed by record-breaking rainfall on the 3rd and 4th, with Macon and Athens receiving 1.38 inches and 3.71 inches, respectively. Macon broke the old record of 1.18 set in 1906, while Athens broke the old record of 1.48 set in 1886. The warm, wet conditions continued through the end of the month as Athens set a record high temperature of 73° on the 19th, breaking the old record of 72° set in 1949. Atlanta received record rainfall of 2.04 on the 22nd, breaking the old record of 1.94 set in 2016.

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
1/1/2023 – 1/31/2023



Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
1/1/2023 – 1/31/2023



Generated 2/10/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers Generated 2/20/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Numerous tornados occurred across north and central Georgia during the month of January with surveys continuing to be analyzed. A strong storm system that moved from Alabama through Georgia on January 12th spawned several tornadoes and caused significant damage across the state. According to the National Weather Service at Peachtree City, many tornadoes were on the ground simultaneously with several merging circulations on a SW to NE path across the state. The Georgia counties that experienced some form of tornadic activity included Spalding, Pike, Troup, Meriweather, Butts, Henry, Newton, and Jasper.

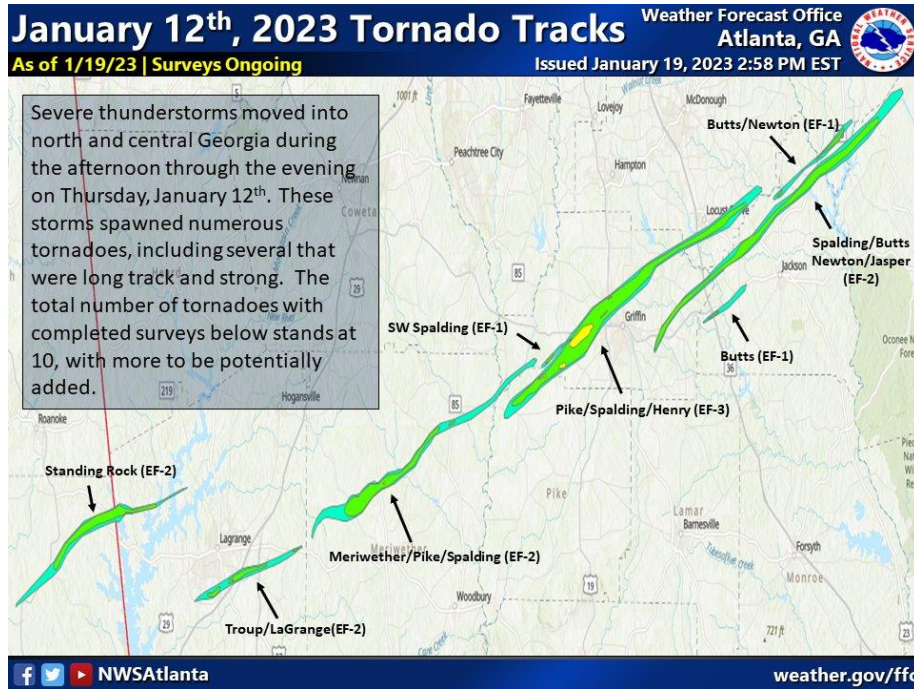
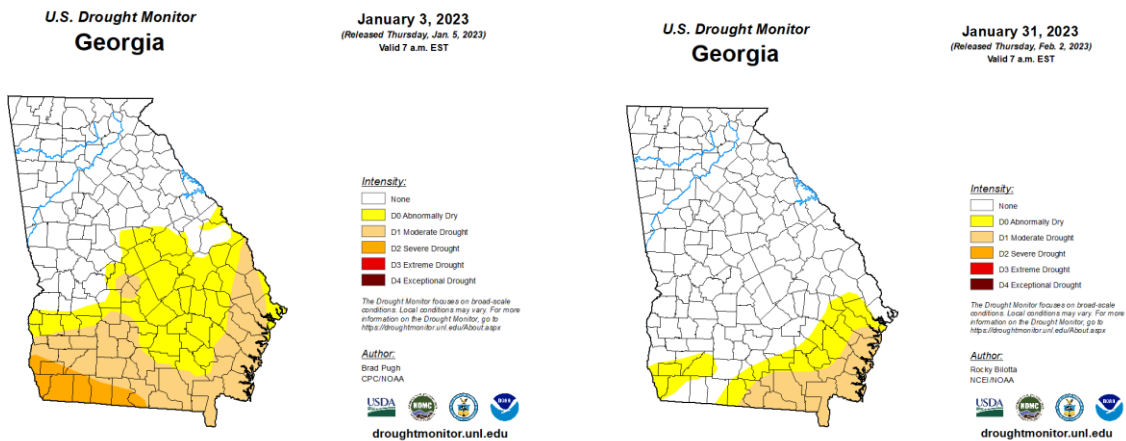


Figure – Preliminary analysis of January 12th tornado tracks from the National Weather Service

In January, drought conditions improved, especially in Southwest and Central Georgia, and no Severe Drought (D2) conditions remained by the end of the month, 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 remain absent from the rest of the state through the end of April.

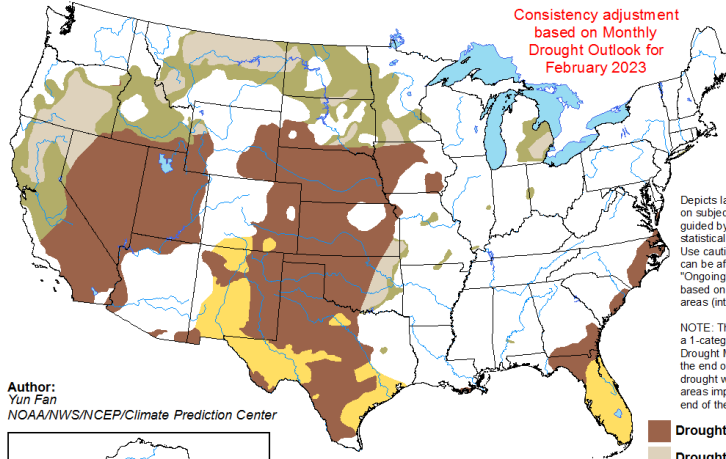


U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for February 1 - April 30, 2023
Released January 31, 2023

Consistency adjustment
based on Monthly
Drought Outlook for
February 2023



Author:
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NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center



Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

- Drought persists
- Drought remains but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

According to the Climate Prediction Center, La Niña conditions are still present as equatorial sea surface temperatures are below average across most of the Pacific Ocean. However, La Niña conditions are weakening, and it is very likely that conditions will transition to ENSO-neutral during the February-April 2023 season. In February-April 2023, there is an 85% chance of ENSO-neutral. Georgia's seasonal outlook from the Climate Prediction Center for February, March, and April favors above normal temperatures and mostly normal levels of precipitation.

