

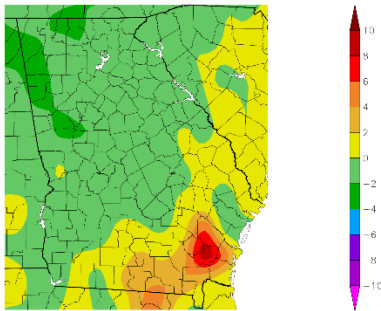
# January 2024 Climate Summary – Georgia

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State of Georgia Climate Office

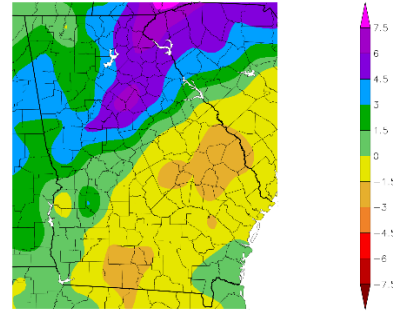
The year began with near normal temperatures and above average precipitation statewide. While much of the state experienced cooler than average temperatures, areas of southeast Georgia climbed well above normal, leading to a state average temperature of 46 °F (-0.1 below the climate average of 46.1 °F). A strong storm system passing through the southeast at the start of the month led to much needed rainfall to help improve short- and long-term drought conditions. The average precipitation for the state rose 1.05 inches above normal at 5.44 inches. Athens experienced the 2<sup>nd</sup> wettest January on record, receiving a total of 10.44 inches (+6.08 above normal). A record rainfall total was set in Athens on 1/9 of 4.56", breaking the old record of 1.80" set in 1977. Atlanta, Columbus, and Macon also set record 24-hr rainfall totals on 1/9 of 2.75, 2.84, and 3.32 inches of rain, respectively.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
1/1/2024 – 1/31/2024



Generated 2/20/2024 at 4:00PM using provisional data.

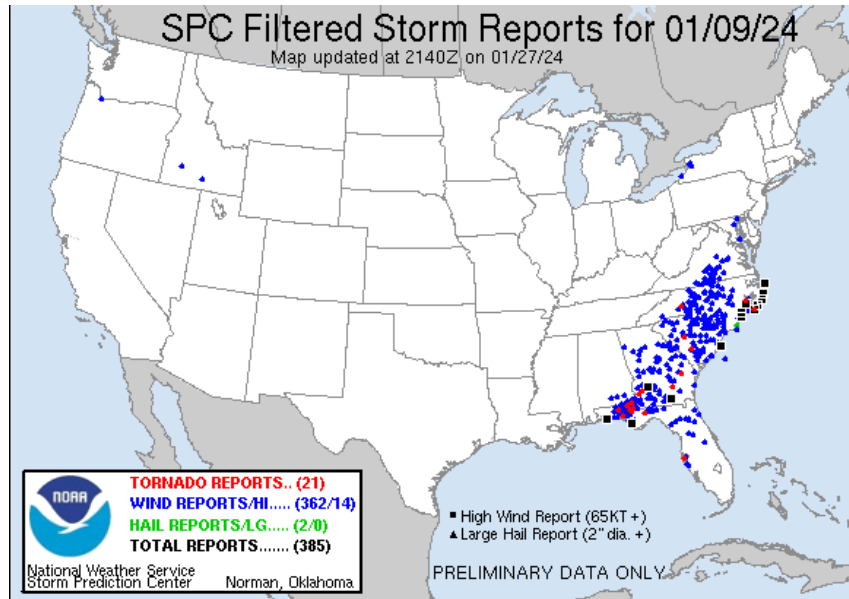
Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)  
1/1/2024 – 1/31/2024



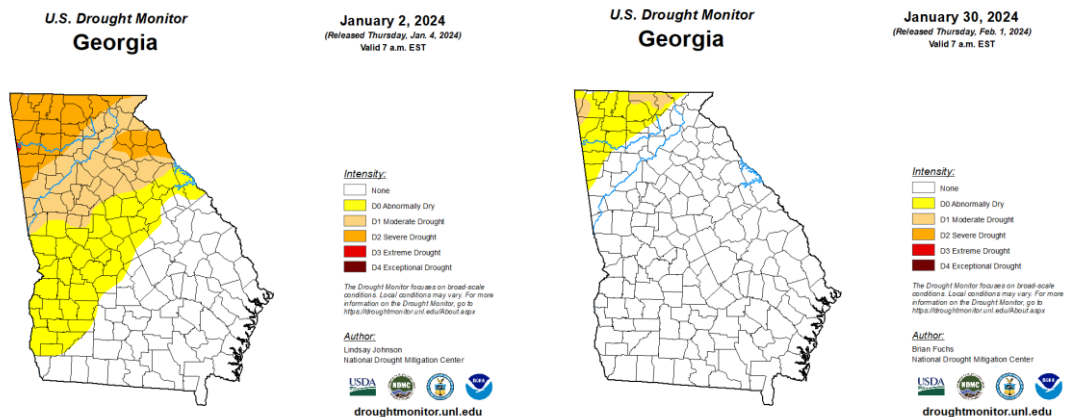
NOAA Regional Climate Center - Generated 2/20/2024 at 4:00PM using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Center

A severe weather outbreak on January 9<sup>th</sup> spawned a few tornado reports and numerous reports of wind damage across the state. A National Weather Service storm survey team confirmed an EF1 tornado with peak winds of 100 MPH in southwest Evans County. Several trees and powerlines were downed in the southern counties of Pike, Miller and Douglas, GA. Within the Metro Atlanta area, Dekalb County reported trees and powerlines down as well. There was one fatality in Clayton County as a tree fell onto a vehicle along Highway 54.

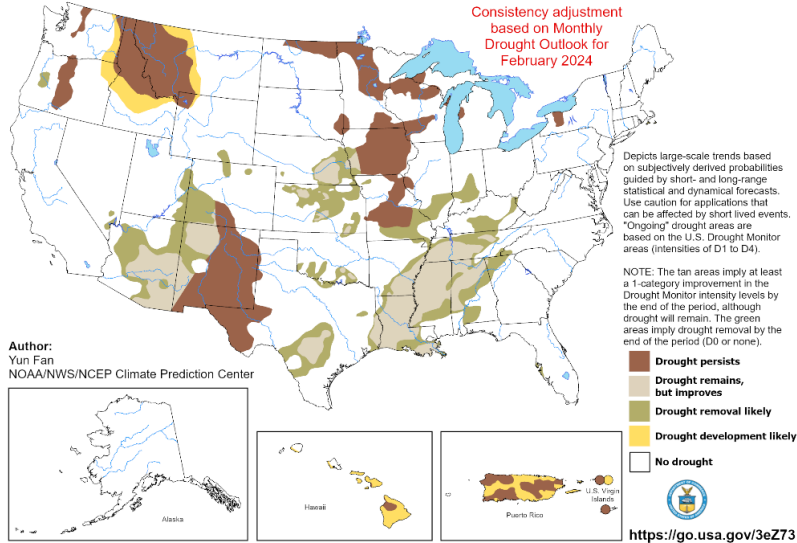


While January began with half of the state experiencing Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions or worse, the entire state except for northwest Georgia was drought-free by the end of the month. Northwest Georgia experienced the worst dryness during the 2023 Fall Drought, but the precipitation this January accelerated the area’s recovery. All Severe and Extreme Drought (D2 and D3) conditions present in north Georgia at the beginning of the month improved to Abnormally Dry (D0) with two small areas of Moderate Drought (D1) by January 30. According to the seasonal drought outlook from the Climate Prediction Center, drought removal is likely for all of northwest Georgia except for a small area that will remain but improve.



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

Valid for February 1 - April 30, 2024  
Released January 31, 2024



According to the Climate Prediction Center, equatorial sea surface temperatures are currently above average across the central and eastern Pacific Ocean indicating El Niño conditions. However, there is a 79% chance of a transition to ENSO-neutral conditions by April-June. It is also becoming increasingly likely (55% chance) that La Niña conditions will develop in June-August. The Climate Prediction Center's seasonal outlook for February, March, and April suggests that Georgia is likely to experience near normal temperatures and above normal precipitation in the coming months.

