

January 2020 Climate Summary – Georgia

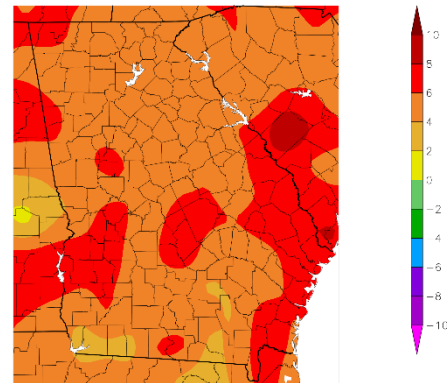
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State of Georgia Climate Office

For the month of January, much of the state experienced above normal temperatures, with wetter than average precipitation in the north and central portions of the state. The average statewide temperature of 51.2° was 5.1° degrees above normal, with only slightly above average precipitation of 4.77" (+0.38").

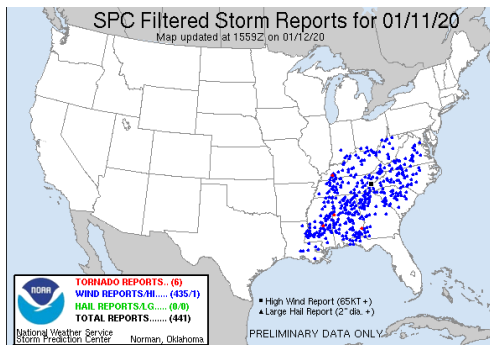
While most of the state experienced above normal temperatures during the month, areas in south and central Georgia reached record-breaking temperatures. Macon, Savannah and Augusta set record high temperatures of 81°, 80°, and 82° on the 3rd, respectively. Savannah also set a record high minimum temperature of 66° on the 3rd, breaking the old record of 61° set in 2019. By the middle of the month, more record-breaking temperatures were experienced across the southern half of the state. Savannah set a record high temperature of 82° on both the 12th and 13th, breaking the old record of 81° set in 2013 and 1972, respectively. Macon and Augusta both set record high temperature records on the 15th at 78° and 79°, respectively. Brunswick set a record high temperature of 82° at St. Simons Island, breaking the old record of 80° set in 1974. This was one degree short of the all-time January high temperature record of 83° set in 1972 at St. Simons Island.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
1/1/2020 – 1/31/2020



Generated 2/10/2020 at 11:00 AM using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers



Dewpoints and precipitable water values were abnormally high mid-month with increased southwesterly flow as the state was positioned between a strong upper level trough to the west and strong upper level ridge to the east. Athens set a daily maximum rainfall record of 1.52” on the 13th, breaking the old record of 1.5” set in 2005.

Numerous wind reports were made across the southeast, with a few reported tornadoes as well. An EF-0 tornado touched down in Paulding County, Georgia on the 11th and crossed over into Cobb County. The damage was minimal, but several large trees were snapped or uprooted, according to the damage

survey conducted by the NWS at Peachtree City. Several areas of straight-line wind damage were also identified in Paulding County and Cobb County, where downed trees impeded road travel and caused significant damage to a home.

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, no drought conditions existed in the state during January with only a small area of abnormally dry conditions across South Georgia. Drought conditions are not expected to arise through Spring, based on the seasonal drought outlook from the Climate Prediction Center. ENSO-neutral conditions are favored through Northern Hemisphere Spring and continuing through Summer, with equatorial sea surface temperatures near-to-above average across the Pacific.

