

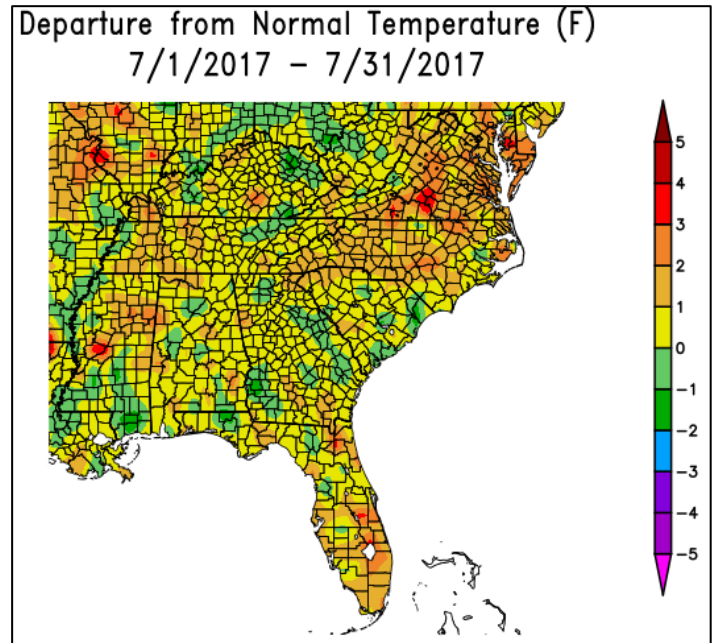
July 2017 Climate Summary – Georgia

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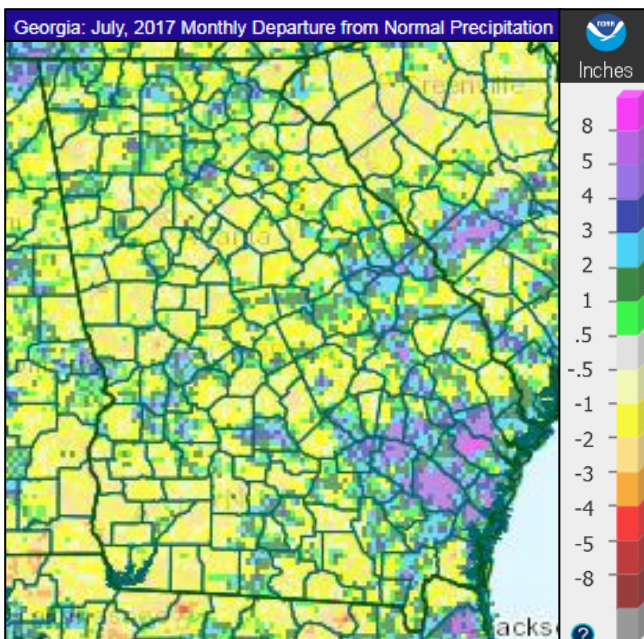
State of Georgia Climate Office

July in Georgia was fairly close to climatological normal with variable temperatures and precipitation across the state. Areas that received above normal rainfall during the month generally saw slightly below normal temperatures due to cloud cover, particularly along the coast where sea breeze convection brought plentiful rainfall. Drought conditions continued to improve, and the month was characterized by typical summertime afternoon showers with some storms reaching severe levels.

Atlanta's average July temperature was 81.2° (+1.0°), Athens recorded 80.9° (+0.3°), Macon's monthly temperature was 82.2° (+0.4°), Columbus recorded 83.6° (+1.1°), Savannah's temperature was 83.3° (+0.7°), Valdosta recorded 81.5° (+0.1°), and Rome's average temperature was 80.7° (+1.3°) for July. Augusta's average temperature was 86.6° (+2.0°) and the city had its 10th warmest July on record. On July 29th, Augusta broke its daily high minimum temperature record with 79° (the previous record of 78° was set in 1949). St. Simons Island also had a warm month with 83.7° (+0.9°). The site tied or broke daily high minimum temperatures on July 5th, July 6th, and July 14th with 79°, 80°, and 81° as the mornings' recorded lows, respectively. Interestingly, on July 30th St. Simons tied its daily low maximum temperature with 84° (previously set in 1975).



Locations in Georgia that recorded below normal precipitation during July include Atlanta with 2.68" (-2.59"), Athens with 3.08" (-1.39"), Macon with 3.64" (-1.31"), Valdosta with 3.28" (-3.35"), and Rome with 2.94" (-1.38"). Columbus received 4.98" (+0.22"), Augusta recorded 5.04" (+0.71"), Savannah received 6.21" (+0.61"), and St. Simons Island's total July precipitation was 6.58" (+2.50"). Rainfall was generally close to normal during the month, so there were no notable precipitation records set.



The month of July was quite active in terms of severe weather, although there was no major tornado outbreak. Almost every day of the month had reports of wind damage, and in many cases they were scattered and widespread throughout the state. The gusty and damaging winds were generally due to thunderstorms caused by typical summertime afternoon convection.

The Atlantic Basin Hurricane Season remained active throughout July. Three named storms formed in July – Tropical Depression Four, Tropical Storm Don, and Tropical

Storm Emily. Tropical Depression Four and Tropical Storm Don both tracked across the Atlantic towards the Caribbean before entering unfavorable conditions, including a dry and stable environment caused by a Saharan Air Layer that inhibited further development and intensification. No impacts were felt in Georgia from Four and Don. Emily formed very rapidly in the Gulf of Mexico and made landfall on the central Florida coast on July 31st, with no major impacts to Georgia.

The United States Drought Monitor shows that the state was drought-free throughout July. A small area of D0

(abnormally dry) conditions remained in the Augusta area for half of the month until abundant rainfall improved conditions there.

According to the Climate Prediction Center, ENSO-Neutral conditions are present. ENSO-Neutral is favored through the Northern Hemisphere winter 2017-18, with an 85% chance during July through September, and decreasing to a 55% change during December through February. The CPC's three-month seasonal outlook calls for above normal temperatures, particularly for extreme south Georgia, and equal chances of above, near, or below normal precipitation in August, September, and October.

