

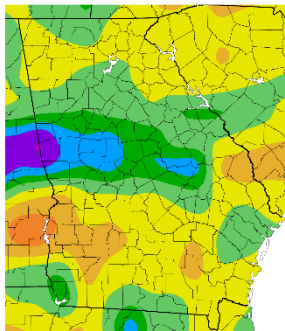
# March 2023 Climate Summary – Georgia

*Eleanor Partington*

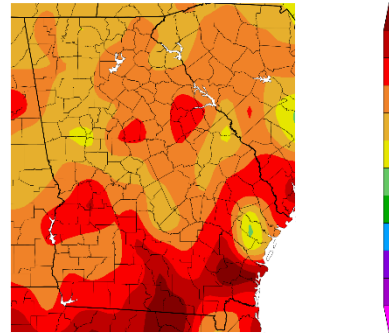
State of Georgia Climate Office

March was a warm month across the entire state and especially in South Georgia. Rainfall levels varied across the state, as above average precipitation fell across Central Georgia and some small patches in South Georgia received below normal precipitation. The average temperature for the month was 59.3°F, which was 3.9°F above the 1901-2000 average of 55.4°F. Average precipitation for March was 4.47 inches, 0.59 inches below the 1901-2000 average of 5.06 inches. A warm end of February persisted into the beginning of March, leading to a couple of new records throughout the state. A record of 86°F in Macon on 3/7 broke the previous record of 84°F in 1956 and Columbus tied 1918's record of 85°F on 3/7.

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)  
3/1/2023 – 3/31/2023



Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
3/1/2023 – 3/31/2023

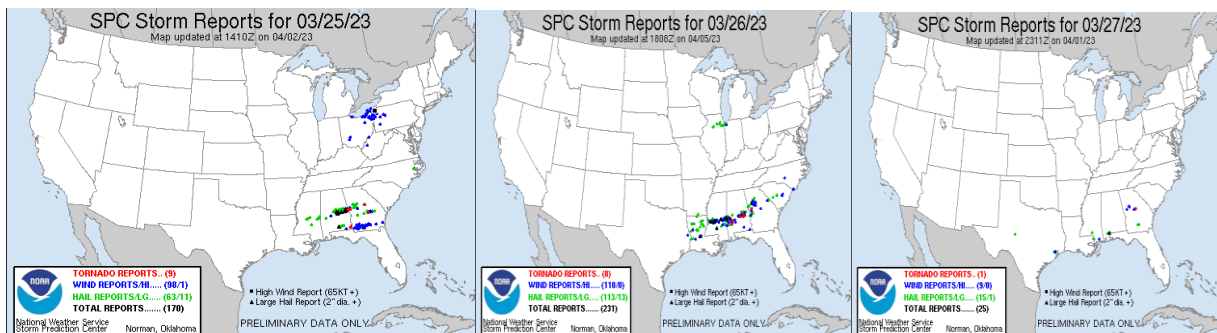


Generated 4/26/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

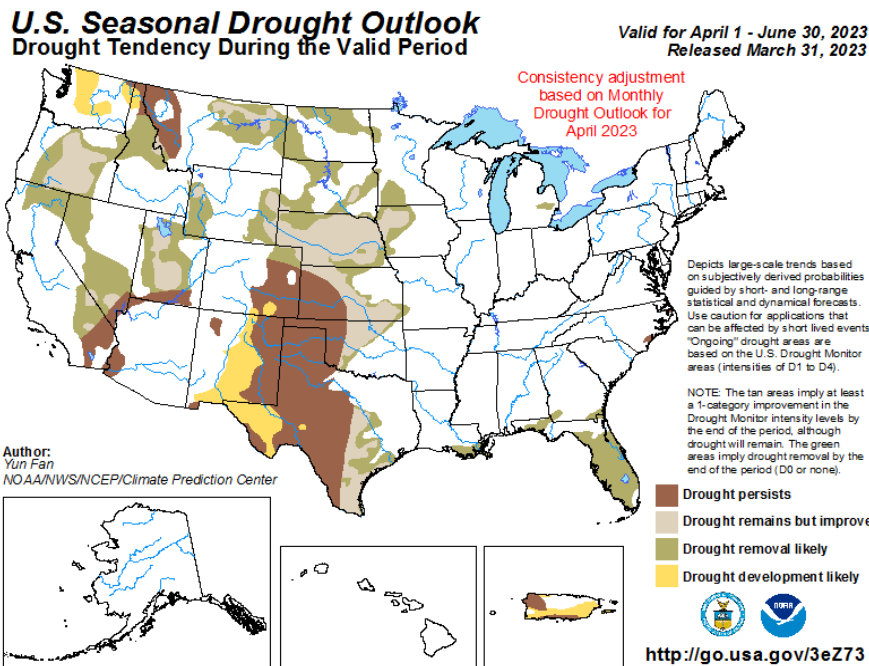
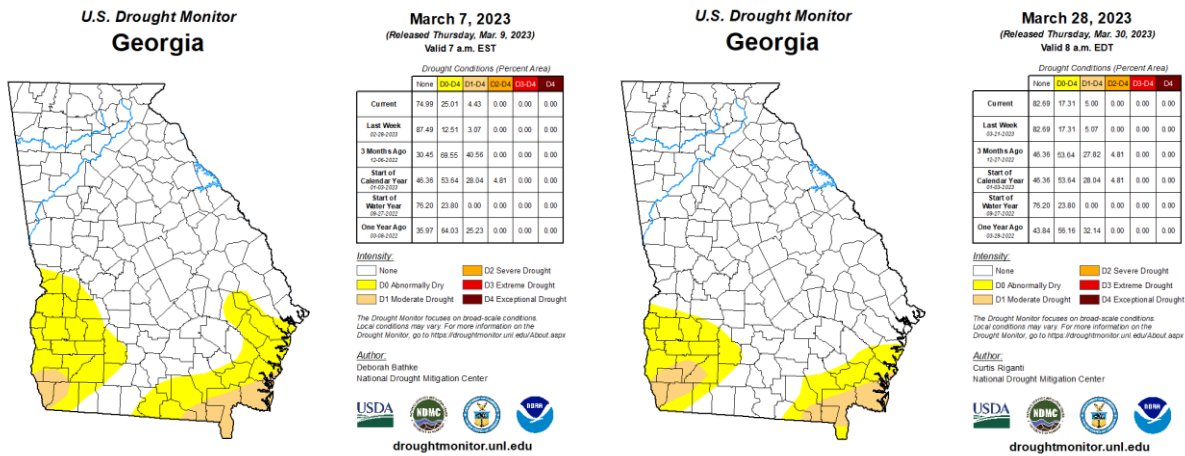
\044 Regional Climate Centers Generated 4/20/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

\044 Regional Climate Centers

Four tornadoes touched down in Central Georgia from March 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, as part of a severe storm system that traveled from Texas to the Southeast coast. The first was an EF0 tornado which spun up briefly in Laurens County on 3/25. The severe weather worsened on 3/26 with an EF3 reported in Troup and Meriwether County and an EF1 in Baldwin County near Milledgeville. On 3/27, Meriwether County saw an additional EF1 tornado. The most damage came from the 3/26 long-track EF3 tornado, in which winds reached a peak of 150 mph.



In March, drought conditions improved slightly as Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions in the two southern corners of the state decreased. Additionally, the area of Moderate Drought (D1) diminished in Southeast Georgia. However, the area of Moderate Drought (D1) in Southwest Georgia expanded. Overall, the drought conditions remained relatively consistent over the course of the month. The seasonal outlook from the Climate Prediction Center suggests that drought will remain absent from most of the state and any current drought in South Georgia is likely to dissipate through the end of June.



According to the Climate Prediction Center, La Niña conditions ended and ENSO-neutral began in late February to early March of 2023 as sea surface temperatures began warming to normal temperatures. ENSO-neutral conditions are expected to persist through the spring. In May-July 2023, there is a 62% chance of a transition to El Niño.

Georgia's seasonal outlook from the Climate Prediction Center for April, May, and June predicts normal levels of precipitation and warmer than normal temperatures.

