

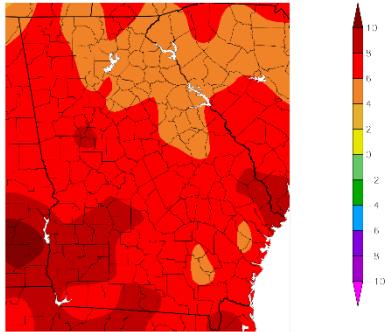
## March 2020 Climate Summary – Georgia

*Nyasha Dunkley and Henian Zhang*

State of Georgia Climate Office

Warm temperatures and above normal precipitation continued into the month of March across much of the state. Above average temperatures led to the 5<sup>th</sup> warmest March on record at 63.0° (+7.6°). While the average precipitation statewide was 5.28", most of Georgia received one to two inches more precipitation than normal.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
3/1/2020 – 3/31/2020



Generated 4/6/2020 at HPRCC using provisional data.

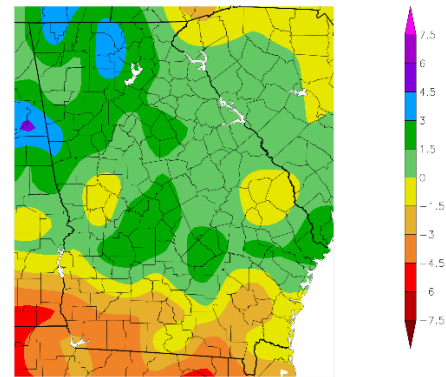
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The major climate sites all ranked within the top five warmest March on record. Atlanta and Athens experienced their 3<sup>rd</sup> warmest March with average temperatures of 61.6° and 60.8°. South Georgia recorded very warm temperatures with the warmest March on record at Brunswick Airport and 2<sup>nd</sup> warmest in Savannah. Savannah set a record high temperature of 87° on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 90° on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Athens also experienced record high temperatures at the end of the month.

A record high of 86° was set on both the 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, with a record of 89° set on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

The cities of Atlanta, Macon, Athens and Cartersville all received one to two inches above normal precipitation, with total precipitation of 7.45", 6.00", 5.42", and 7.02", respectively. On the 5<sup>th</sup>, Peachtree City, Dekalb Peachtree Airport, and Fulton County Airport recorded daily maximum rainfall of 1.65", 1.49", and 1.57", respectively. Later in the month, Cartersville and Gainesville received record daily maximum rainfall of 1.63" and 1.98" on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

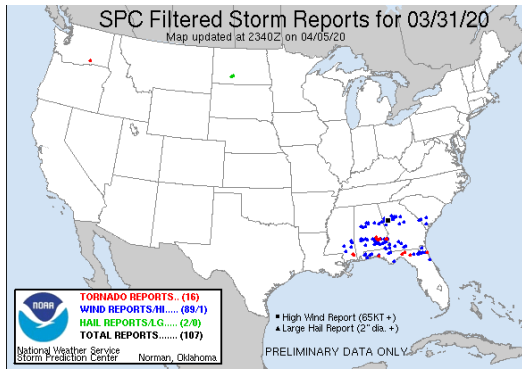
Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)  
3/1/2020 – 3/31/2020



Generated 4/6/2020 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

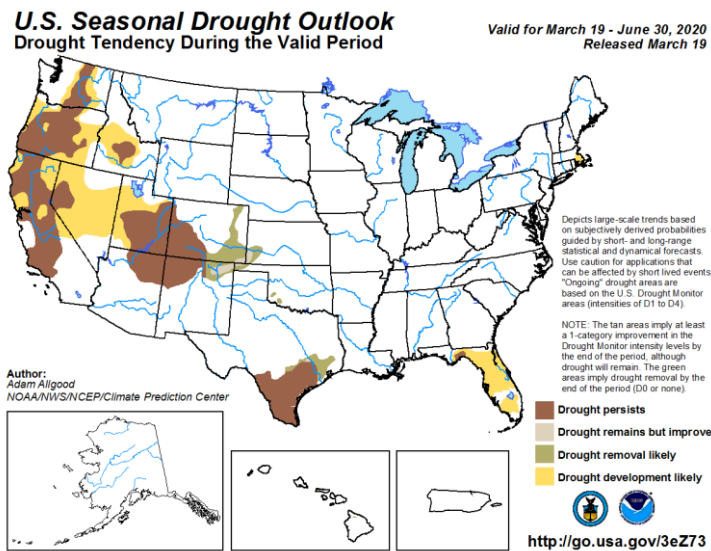
It has been one of the wettest years on record thus far. Gainesville has received a record amount of 24.77" so far this year. Total precipitation of 26.04" from the first three months of the year gives Atlanta its 4<sup>th</sup> wettest start to a year. Athens is ranked 4<sup>th</sup> on record at 23.96", while Columbus is also 4<sup>th</sup> with 23.06". Macon is ranked 7<sup>th</sup> on record with 20.04".



An area of low pressure pulling a warm front across the region set off severe weather on the last day of the month. Numerous reports of wind damage and hundreds of downed trees were recorded across Coweta county. The swath of wind damage continued eastward as the storm moved through areas of south Metro Atlanta. Several reports of downed trees and power lines

were recorded in Henry, Fayette, Clayton, Dekalb and Rockdale counties. An EF1 tornado was also confirmed in Quitman county, on the border of Georgia and Alabama.

Rainfall during the first two weeks of March reduced the lingering abnormal dryness in South Georgia, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. A small percentage of abnormally dry conditions returned to South Georgia during the second half of the month. No drought conditions are expected through early summer according to the U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook.



According to the Climate Prediction Center (CPC), ENSO-neutral conditions remain present, with equatorial sea surface temperatures near-to-above average across the Pacific. ENSO-neutral conditions are favored for the Northern Hemisphere summer 2020 and likely continuing through autumn 2020. The CPC’s three-month seasonal outlook favors above normal temperatures and precipitation statewide with a higher chance of above normal rainfall in the northeast Georgia.

