

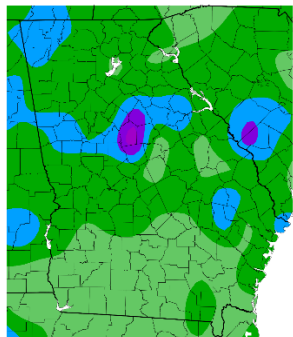
May 2025 Climate Summary – Georgia

Nyasha Dunkley and Eleanor Partington

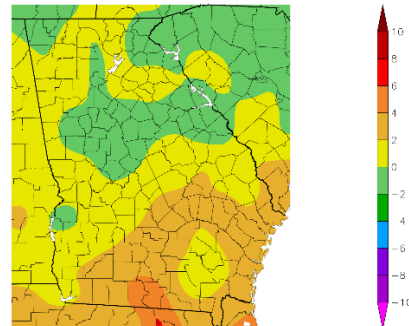
State of Georgia Climate Office

The last full month of Spring ended on a much wetter and warmer note than average for Georgia. The statewide average temperature of 72.5° was 1.5° above the normal of 71.0° for the month of May. The 3-month average temperature of 66.1°, from March-May 2025, is the 3rd warmest 3-month period on climatological record (1895-2025) for the state. Several cities reached 90° or above, with Columbus and Macon both reaching 92° during the month. A record high temperature of 95° was tied at Savannah on 5/16, tying the old record of 95° set in 1915. Statewide precipitation was well above normal at 7.07 inches, making it the 5th wettest May on record. Atlanta and Columbus received 7.06” and 7.70” of rain, respectively, while Peachtree City received 8.37 inches. Rainfall totals for Rome climbed +6.20 inches above normal for the month, with a total of 9.86 inches of rain.

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
5/1/2025 – 5/31/2025



Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
5/1/2025 – 5/31/2025

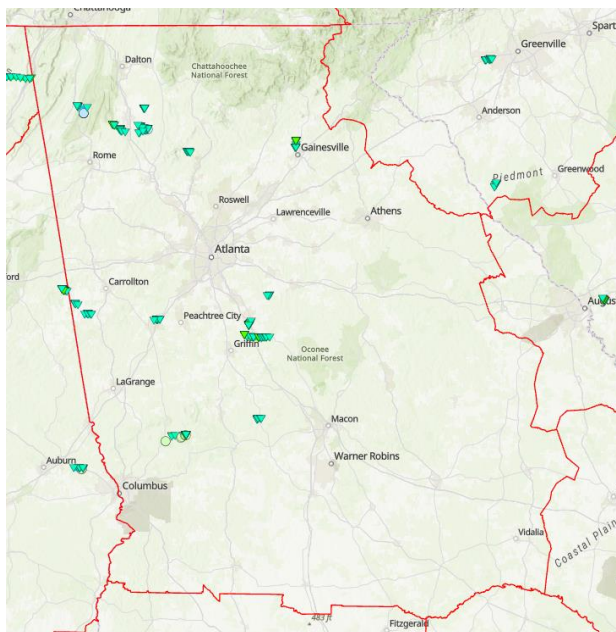


Generated 6/20/2025 using provisional data.

ADIS Web Services Generated 6/20/2025 using provisional data.

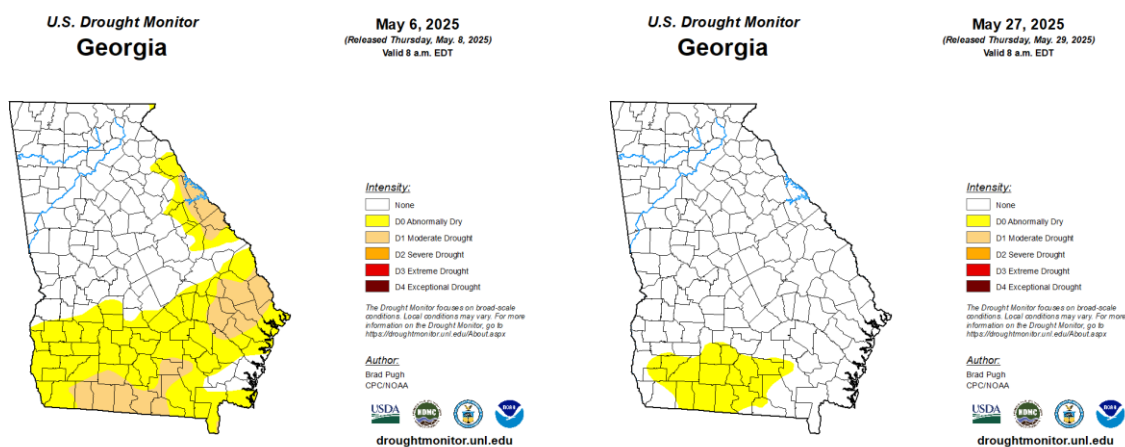
ADIS Web Services

According to the National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI), the year-to-date period of January-May 2025 has been full of severe weather outbreaks. Preliminary estimates suggest that there have been 1,040 tornado occurrences nationwide, which is about 172% of the average of 606.3. If confirmed, this would be the second highest tornado count on record for this period, behind 1,230 tornadoes in 2011. Georgia experienced several tornadoes throughout the month of May, with 15 occurring across north and central Georgia. While most were ranked as EF0 and EF1, an EF2 tornado occurred in Henry County on May 29th. According to the NWS Damage Survey, the tornado had an estimated peak wind of 135 mph, with a path length of 1.82 miles.



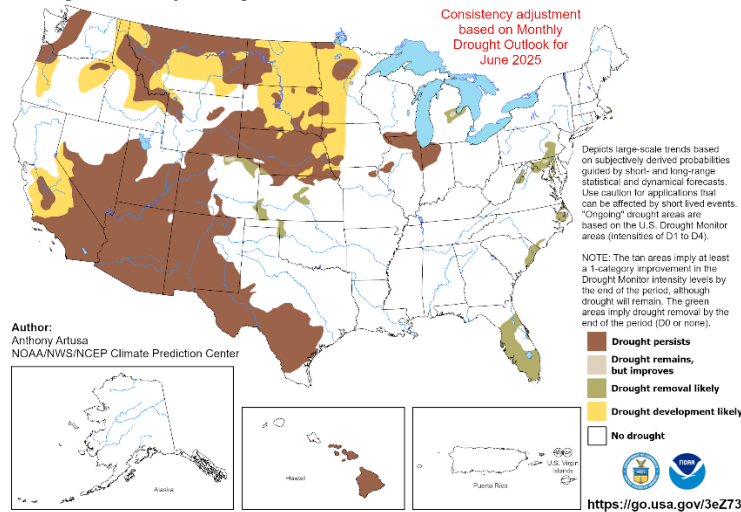
Map of the 15 tornadoes for May across North and Central Georgia (from the NWS office at Peachtree City)

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, roughly half of the state began the month under Abnormally Dry (D0) or Moderate Drought (D1) conditions. The D1 conditions were present in two locations along the border with South Carolina, as well as in far South Georgia along the Florida border. By the end of May, an area of Abnormally Dry conditions remained in South Georgia, and all dry conditions along the South Carolina border improved. According to the Climate Prediction Center, there will likely be no drought across the state through August.



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

Valid for June 1 - August 31, 2025
Released May 31, 2025



According to the Climate Prediction Center, ENSO-neutral conditions are present with near average equatorial sea surface temperatures in the Pacific Ocean. ENSO-neutral is favored to persist through the summer (82% chance in June-August) and may continue into winter 2025-2026, though confidence is lower (48% chance of Neutral and 41% chance of La Niña in November-January). The seasonal outlooks from the Climate Prediction Center for June-August depict a 40%-50% chance of above normal temperatures across the state, a 33%-40% chance of above normal precipitation in North Georgia, and a 40%-50% chance of above normal precipitation in Central and South Georgia.

