October 2014 Climate Summary - Georgia

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October was characterized by warmer than normal temperatures and below normal rainfall across eastern parts of the state, with above normal rainfall in the north and west. Climatogically, the fall season is one of the driest periods for the region. The month began with severe weather and subsequently cooler temperatures. A strong shortwave and associated cold front moved across the state, causing Atlanta, Athens, and Macon to set record low daily maximum temperature records of 65°, 66° and 69° on the 4th, respectively. Record low temperatures continued as Athens set a record low of 38° and Macon 37° on the 5th. Alma tied a record low of 45° on the 6th.

A persistent longwave trough remained across the eastern U.S. with disturbances in the flow setting off a round of severe weather on the 6^{th} . The NWS at Peachtree City (FFC) recorded an EF-1 tornado just north of Ringgold at approximately 7:40PM EDT on the 6^{th} . The tornado was on the ground less than half a mile and for less than a minute but dozens of trees were snapped or uprooted

in the Calloway Farms Subdivision, according to the NWS FFC office.

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Courtesy of National Weather Service at Peachtree City

County	Rating	# of Injuries	KML
Catoosa	EF-1	0	

Rating: EF-1
Peak Wind: 110 MPH
Path Length: 0.3 MILES
Path Width: 100 YARDS

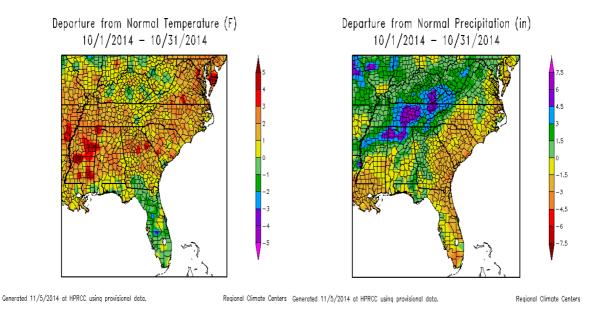
Fatalities: 0
Injuries: 0

Start Date: October 6, 2014

Start Time: Approximately 7:40PM EDT
Start Location: 1 Mile NNW Ringgold
Start Lat/Lon: 34.9304/-85.1225
End Date: October 6, 2014

End Time: Approximately 7:40PM EDT
End Location: 1 Mile NNW Ringgold
End Lat/Lon: 34.9307/-85.1174

A warm spell occurred from the 9th through the 13th with temperatures in central and southern areas reaching into the 80s and lower 90s. Numerous record high temperatures were set across the state. Columbus, Macon and Augusta each set or tied record high temperatures for three consecutive days during the period. Atlanta and Alma tied record high temperatures of 86° and 90°, respectively, on the 11th.



Intense convective activity associated with a cold front pushing through on the 13th and 14th allowed several sites to record daily maximum rainfall totals. Atlanta set a record rainfall of 2.54 inches, which broke the old record of 1.92 set in1959. Athens also recorded a record daily maximum rainfall of 2.78 in., which broke the old record 1.3 set in 1959. Daily rainfall totals reached 3.91 inches at Columbus, which exceeded the previous record of 1.49 set in 2009. Severe weather associated with the system spawned several short-lived tornadoes across north and central Georgia. Five of the six tornadoes passed across the metro Atlanta area, with the most notable being an EF-1 tornado causing damage in the Alpharetta area.

A persistent ridge of high pressure at the end of the month propelled temperatures to record warmth once again. Macon and Augusta set record high temperatures of 88° and 90°, respectively, on the 26th. Brunswick and Alma along coastal Georgia both set record high temperatures of 84° and 89°, respectively, on the 27th.

Seasonal Outlook

The three month seasonal outlook from NOAA's Climate Prediction Center reflects an equal chance of above, below or normal temperatures for Georgia and increased chance of above normal precipitation across the southern third of state, mostly due to a more moist and cool Pacific flow pattern. This flow pattern could set up some kind of precipitation gradient across the state as we head into the winter recharge season, depending on the orientation of the storm track. The temperature and precipitation outlooks continue to be influenced by potential impacts of a weak El Nino beginning with NDJ 2014-2015 and continuing primarily through FMA 2015, according to the CPC.

Climate Statistics for October 2014

Location	Avg. Maximum Temperature (departure) Ranking*	Avg. Minimum Temperature (departure) Ranking*	Mean Temperature (departure) Ranking*	Total Rainfall (departure) Ranking*
Athens	77.3 (+2.9)	51.1 (-0.4)	64.2 (+1.2)	3.41 (-0.14)
	18th warmest	T-52nd coldest	31st warmest	41st wettest
Atlanta	77.2 (+4.5)	55.1 (+1.1)	66.2 (+2.8)	3.54 (+0.13)
	T-6th warmest	T-38th warmest	T-12th warmest	40th wettest
Augusta	81.4 (+3.7)	49.3 (-1.8)	65.3 (+1.0)	0.61 (-2.66)
	T-6th warmest	T-30th coldest	T-56th warmest	29th driest
Columbus	79.9 (+2.6)	55 (-0.6)	67.5 (+1.0)	4.26 (+1.68)
	T-9th warmest	T-32nd warmest	16th warmest	11th wettest
Macon	80.3 (+2.9)	50.4 (-2.0)	65.3 (+0.4)	1.57 (-1.22)
	13th warmest	25th coldest	T-55th warmest	53rd driest
Savannah	82.1 (+3.7)	57.9 (+0.4)	70 (+2.0)	1.72 (-1.97)
	4th warmest	T-62nd coldest	T-30th warmest	T-61st driest