

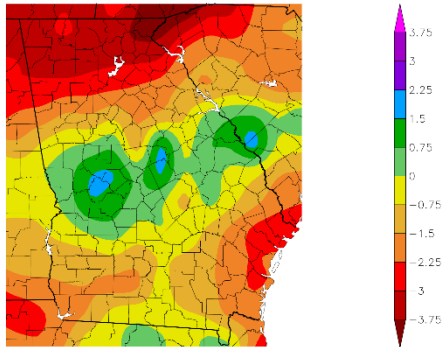
# October 2023 Climate Summary – Georgia

*Nyasha Dunkley and Eleanor Partington*

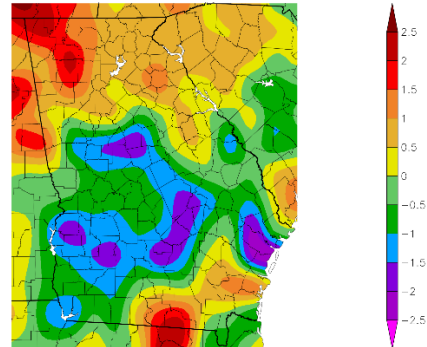
## State of Georgia Climate Office

October is climatologically one of the driest months of the year for Georgia. Such was certainly the case this year, as rainfall averages dipped well below normal across much of the state. While the statewide average rainfall fell 0.67 inches below normal at 2.06" for the month, parts of North and South Georgia saw deficits of over 3 inches, causing drought to spread in those areas. In contrast, central portions of the state received record rainfall during the month. Columbus and Macon set daily rainfall records on the 11<sup>th</sup> of 1.23" and 0.83", respectively, breaking the old records of 0.92" and 0.63". The average temperature statewide of 65.0°F was only +0.8°F above normal, as temperatures varied from north to south. St. Simons Island ended the month with record high temperatures on the 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>, with 85°F on the first two dates and 84°F on the last.

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)  
10/1/2023 – 10/31/2023



Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
10/1/2023 – 10/31/2023

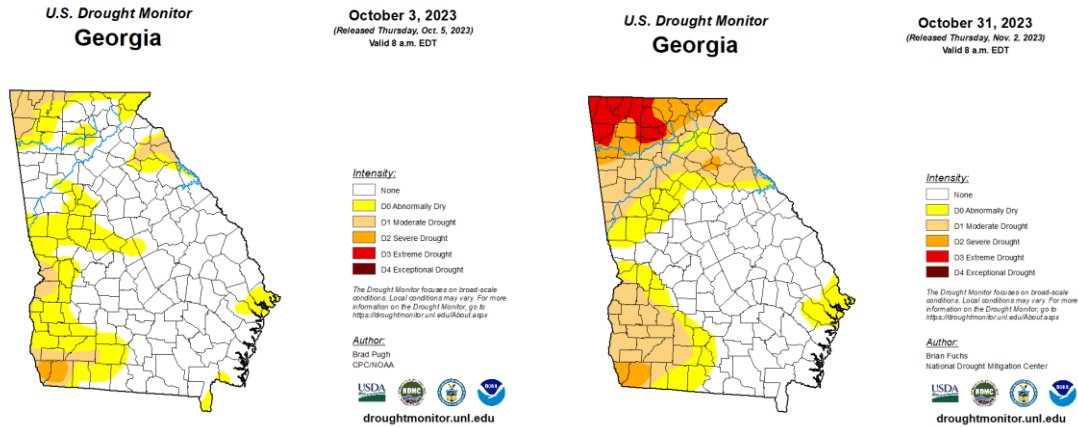


Generated 11/20/2023 at -PRCC using provisional data.

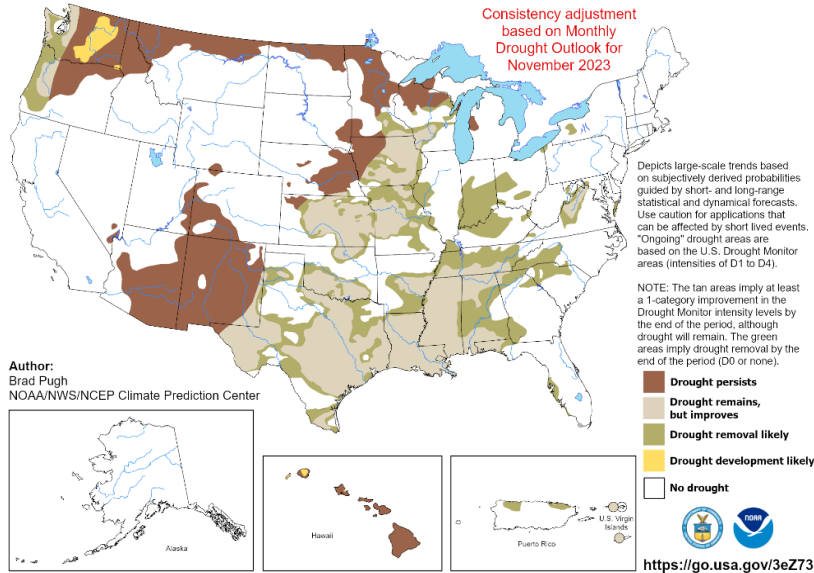
NOAA Regional Climate Centers Generated 11/20/2023 at -PRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, drought intensified quickly in October, especially in Northwest Georgia. By the end of the month, the entire upper third of the state reached a designation of D0 (Abnormally Dry) or higher. The area of D3 (Extreme Drought) in Northwest Georgia marks the first time an area of Georgia has experienced D3 since October 2019. In Southwest Georgia, D1 (Moderate Drought) spread through the region, while the two-county area of Severe Drought remained constant throughout the month. The seasonal outlook from the Climate Prediction Center suggests that drought removal is likely in Northwest and Southwest Georgia and that the rest of the state should remain drought-free through the end of January.



**U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook** Valid for November 1, 2023 - January 31, 2024  
Drought Tendency During the Valid Period Released October 31, 2023



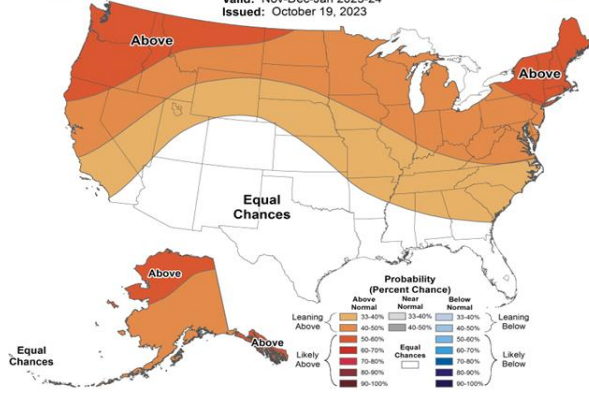
According to the Climate Prediction Center, equatorial sea surface temperatures are above average across the central and eastern Pacific Ocean indicating El Niño conditions are present. El Niño is expected to continue through the spring with a 62% chance during April-June 2024. The seasonal outlook from the Climate Prediction Center for November, December, and January suggests warmer temperatures for all of the state except southern Georgia which has equal chances of warmer or cooler than normal temperatures. The precipitation outlook suggests above average precipitation for the entire state, which aligns with what is expected of a winter in the Southeast during El Niño.



# Seasonal Temperature Outlook



Valid: Nov-Dec-Jan 2023-24  
Issued: October 19, 2023



# Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



Valid: Nov-Dec-Jan 2023-24  
Issued: October 19, 2023

