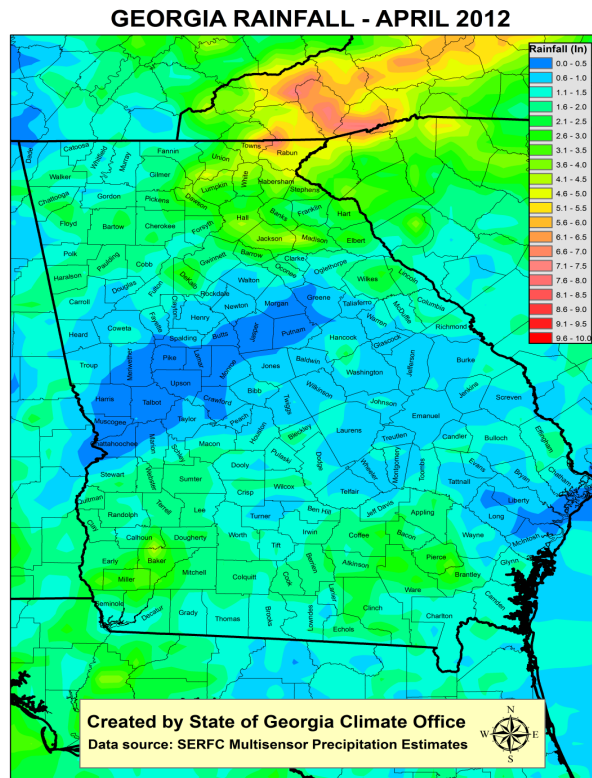


April 2012 Climate Summary - Georgia

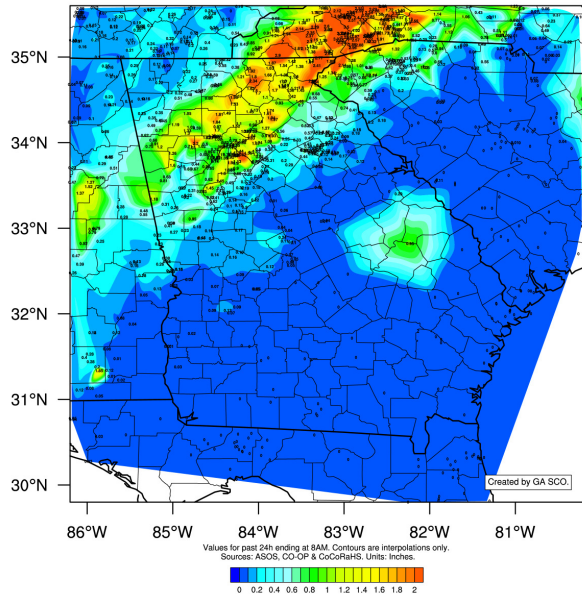
Prepared by Nyasha Dunkley, *Deputy State Climatologist*
State of Georgia Climate Office

The overall pattern of above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation persisted across the state through the month of April. Despite a cold snap on April 12th, which led to numerous low temperatures at or below freezing across the northern part of the state, numerous cities still set new records for high temperatures. Several of those cities included Atlanta (87° on 4/3), Columbus (90° on 4/29 and 94° on 4/30), Brunswick (89° on 4/2), and Macon (92° on 4/29 and 93° on 4/30). Observed rainfall for the month reflected larger amounts in the far northeast corner of the state, with smaller amounts recorded in areas that could benefit the most from it.

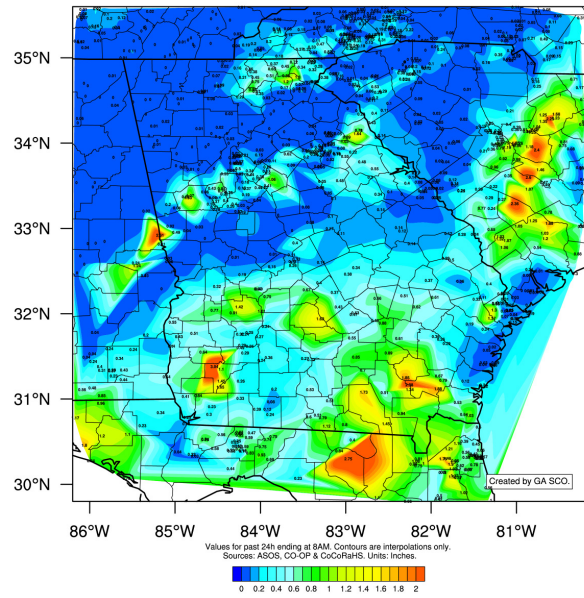


Moderate to heavy rainfall fell on the 18th and 22nd of the month with several passing shortwave troughs, but had only scattered impact on the overall rainfall departures from normal for April. Areas such as Columbus, GA received less than a half-inch (0.49) for the entire month, which was a departure of -3.06 inches from the normal. Brunswick and Macon were both nearly 2 inches below the norm (-1.96 and -1.93, respectively), while Atlanta benefited from modest rainfall and fell only -1.13 below normal.

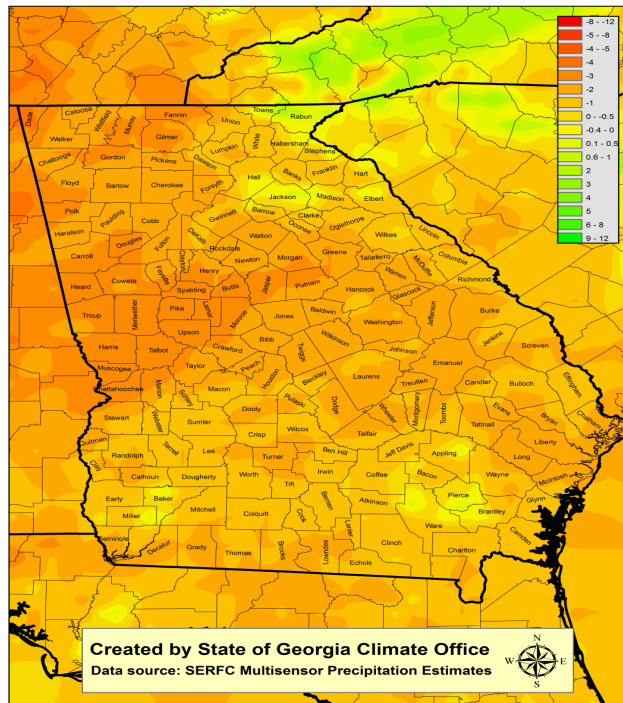
Georgia Daily Rainfall: 2012-04-18



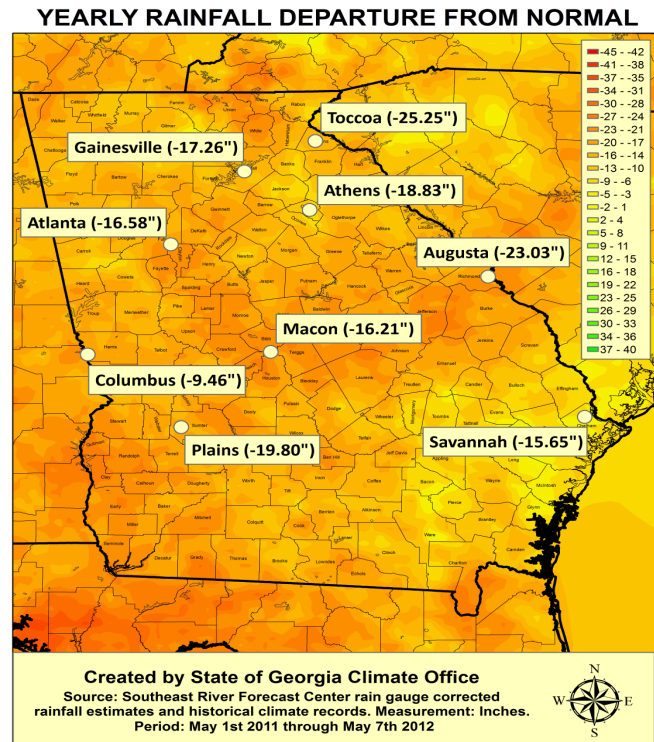
Georgia Daily Rainfall: 2012-04-22



RAINFALL DEPARTURES - APRIL 2012



Yearly rainfall departures from normal are at record proportion across the state for the period of 5/1/2011 thru 5/7/2012, with some areas experiencing a deficit of over 25 inches. Athens, Augusta, Macon, and Toccoa were among the cities that had the highest rainfall departure from normal on record. Atlanta was ranked 3rd in rainfall departures from normal, based on 134 years of data.



The drought is expected to persist or intensify as we transition into a more neutral summertime pattern with widespread rainfall events becoming less frequent as the upper jet shifts northward. The latest summer climate outlook gives Georgia equal chances for above or below normal rainfall with greater than normal probabilities for above normal temperatures.

