## **Georgia Climate Summary for December 2013**

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#### Summary



The mean circulation pattern in December featured pronounced ridging over the eastern north Pacific and western North America, with troughing prevalent from eastern Canada into the central United States. An active storm track combined with an absence of cold-air intrusions kept the state

relatively warm and wet throughout the month.

## Temperatures

Monthly average temperatures were above normal statewide, with the greatest departures found along the upper coast. Savannah had a mean temperature of 57.3°, which is 5.6° above normal for December. Other monthly averages include Athens with  $47.6^{\circ}$  (2.2° above normal), Atlanta with  $48.1^{\circ}$  (+2.8°), Augusta with 50.3° (+3.1°), Columbus with 51.5° (+2.4°), and Macon with 50.4° (+2.4°). Several daily temperature records were set



during warm spells on the 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>, with monthly maximum temperature records set at Augusta and tied at Savannah with 83°.

# Precipitation

Precipitation was variable across the state in December. Coastal



sections remained driest, with departures of around one inch below normal. Conversely, portions of the west central and north received plentiful rainfall with departures exceeding four (to locally six) inches above the mean. Athens received 7.62" (3.89" above normal), Atlanta had 7.80" (+3.90"), Augusta had 6.90" (+3.51"), Columbus had 8.87" (+4.60"), Macon had 9.04" (+5.00"), and Savannah had 2.38" (+0.57"). Noteworthy precipitation events occurred on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, resulting

in widespread stream and isolated stem river flooding primarily in northern and central portions of the state. The CoCoRaHS observer located near McDonough picked up an impressive 5.61" with heavy rainfall on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Storm Reports**

Only two storm reports, both associated with severe thunderstorms, were received in December. The reports include tree and power line damage in Perry on the 5<sup>th</sup> and damage to a boathouse and trees near Ludowici on the 12<sup>th</sup>. As mentioned in the previous section, heavy rainfall was the predominant weather hazard in December.





Limited quality control has been applied.

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Map created using provisional data from various meteorological networks. All values are considered preliminary.State of GeorgiaLimited quality control has been applied.Climate Office



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