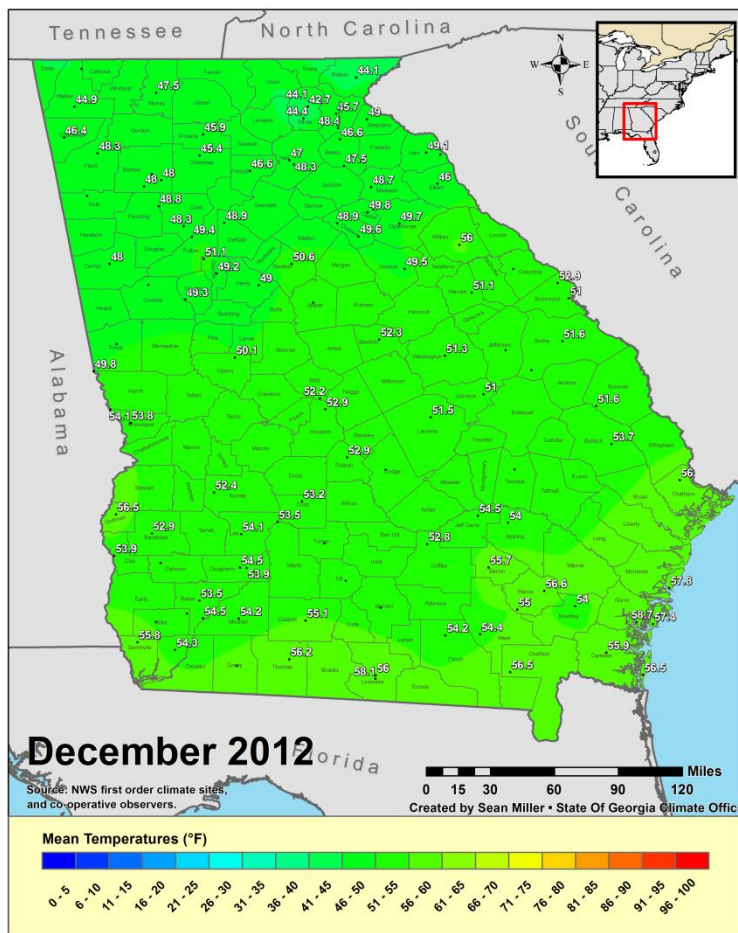


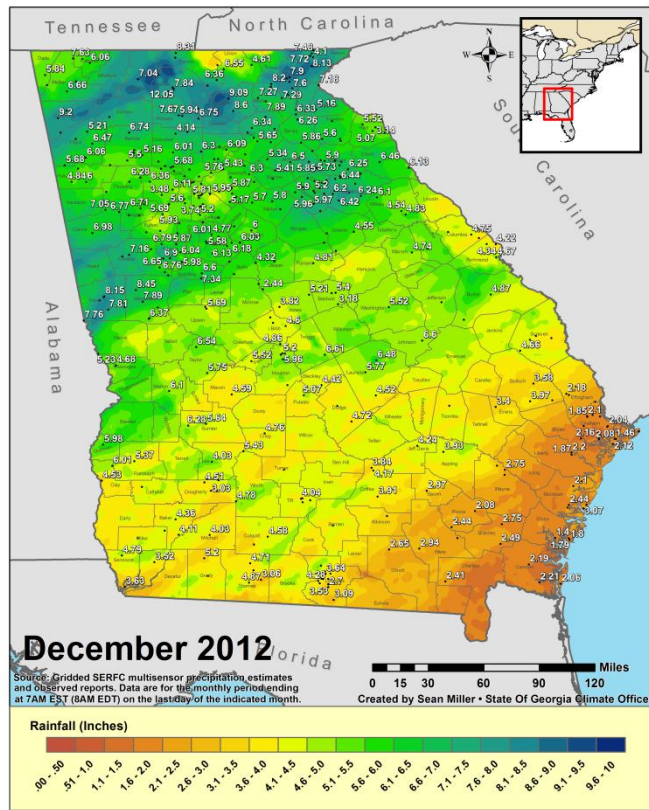
December 2012 Climate Summary - Georgia

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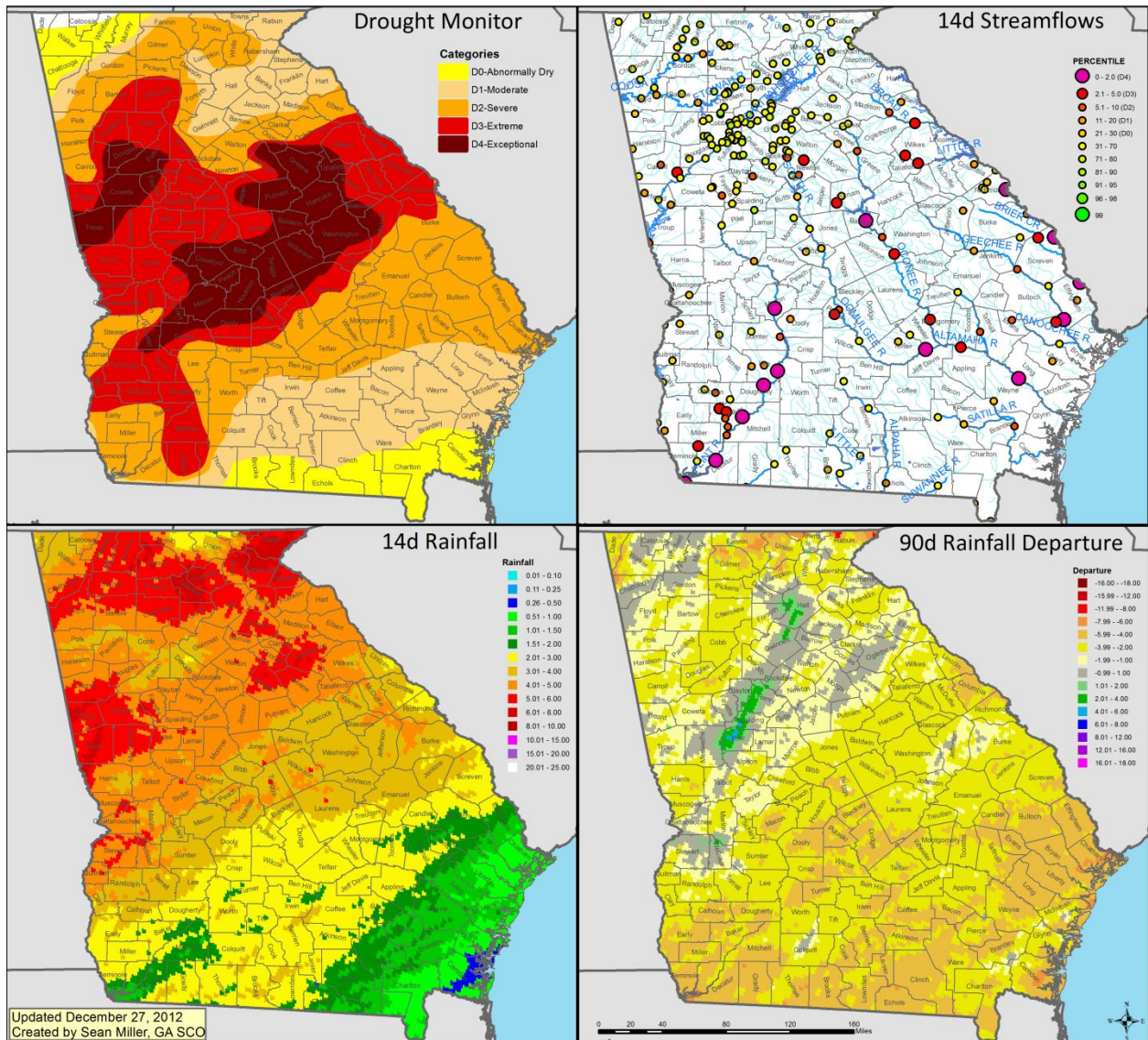
December was a mild month with temperatures averaging above normal for much of the state, as the neutral ENSO pattern continued in the Pacific. Atlanta set a record high temperature of 74°F on December 3rd, which tied the old record of 74° set in 1982. Temperatures averaged 5.8° above the monthly normal for the city. Several other cities across the state, including Athens, Columbus, Macon, and Brunswick, also averaged 3-5°F above normal.



December rainfall totals were slightly above normal across much of the state, with significantly above normal rainfall amounts in areas of Northeast Georgia. Atlanta and Athens airports received a surplus of over 2 inches of rain for the month, while Columbus and Macon received almost an inch of above normal rainfall. Augusta Bush Field received 4.67 inches of rain, which is 1.28 inches above the normal December monthly value of 3.39 inches.



The 90-day rainfall departure plot for the state shows some improvement in areas of north and central Georgia. Drier-than-average conditions prevailed over extreme southeast Georgia and areas of southwest Georgia. St. Simons Island in the southeast fell nearly an inch below the monthly norm of 2.64 inches as drought conditions persisted and intensified across the region.



A strong storm system that moved across the Midwest pulled a cold front through the state on December 17th, spawning a few tornadoes across central Georgia. The National Weather Service at Peachtree City registered a total of three tornado touchdowns in Telfair and Wheeler Counties. Two of the tornadoes were classified as EF-1 with the third one classified as an EF-0.