## June 2017 Climate Summary – Georgia

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The month of June was characterized by variable but close to average temperatures, with precipitation amounts across Georgia ranging from much above normal in north Georgia to slightly below normal in eastern parts of the state. Generally, these eastern areas of the state saw

above normal temperatures due to lack of cloud cover. The statewide average monthly temperature was below normal at 76.6°F (-0.8°), ending the twelve-month streak of an above normal average monthly temperature. Drought conditions continued to improve dramatically, and severe weather activity was quiet.

Several major sites in Georgia recorded slightly below normal June average temperatures including Atlanta with 76.6°F (-0.7°), Athens with 76.3° (-1.2°), Macon with 77.9° (-1.0°), and Columbus with 78.9° (-0.9°). Augusta and Savannah saw above normal monthly average temperatures, recording  $80.1^{\circ}$  (+1.5°) and  $80.4^{\circ}$ (+0.6°), respectively. Savannah was also the only major climate site to break any daily temperature





records. On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, the city tied a daily high minimum temperature record with 77° (previously set in 1981). Both St. Simons Island and Valdosta had below normal temperatures in



June. St. Simons Island recorded just below normal

with  $80.2^{\circ}$  (-0.1°) and Valdosta's average temperature was  $78.3^{\circ}$  (-1.1°). Further north, temperatures were more variable with Gainesville recording  $74.8^{\circ}$  (-0.8°) and Rome averaging  $76.4^{\circ}$ (+0.5°) for the month.

Atlanta and Athens were the big winners in June total rainfall with 7.71" (+3.76") and 8.33" (+4.15"), ranking as their 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> wettest June on record, respectively. Other sites seeing above normal precipitation include Macon with 5.26" (+1.20"), St. Simons Island with 5.39" (+0.55"),

Valdosta with 8.89" (+2.83"), Gainesville with 6.70" (+2.31"), and Rome with 4.52" (0.42"). Savannah's June total precipitation was also above normal at 6.65" (+0.70"), and on June  $30^{th}$ , a daily rainfall record was set when 3.72" fell, breaking the old record of 3.06" in 1983. Columbus totaled 3.58" (-0.14") and Augusta received 3.52" (-1.20"), seeing below normal monthly precipitation.

Most of the severe weather in Georgia resulted from typical summertime convective

storms that produced damaging wind gusts. The most active days occurred on June  $15^{\text{th}}$  and the evening of June  $22^{\text{nd}}$  into the early morning hours of the  $23^{\text{rd}}$ . The storm reports were primarily associated with strong winds and mostly located in the northern half of the state. Both events were characterized by moist, southerly flow and an unstable air mass that interacted with a passing cold front.

The United States Drought Monitor showed that drought conditions greatly improved statewide throughout June. D2 (severe drought) and D1 (moderate drought) conditions were eliminated in south and central Georgia by the end of the month so that only D0 (abnormally dry) conditions remained. In northeast Georgia, only a small pocket of D1 conditions were present.

According to the Climate Prediction Center, ENSO-

Neutral conditions are present. ENSO-Neutral is favored with a 50 to 55% chance through the Northern Hemisphere fall 2017. The CPC's three-month seasonal outlooks shows chances for above normal temperatures, particularly in south Georgia, and equal chances for above, near, or below normal precipitation during July, August, and September.





**U.S. Drought Monitor** 

Georgia

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