

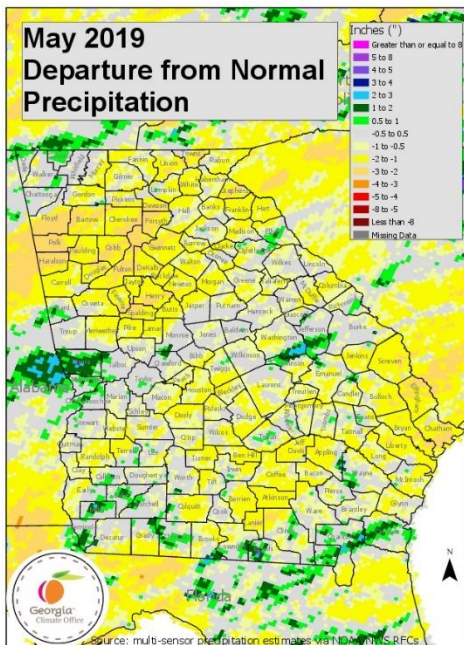
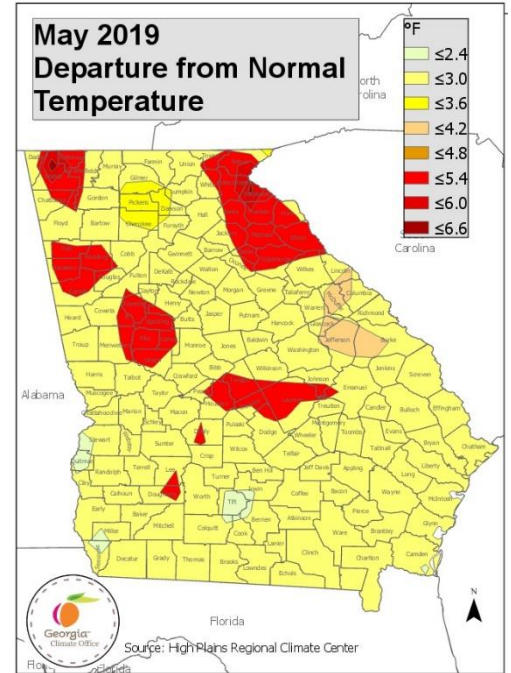
May 2019 Climate Summary – Georgia

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Record-warm temperatures were the major story of Georgia’s weather during May as well as the entire spring 2019 season. All major climate sites ranked in their top three warmest May on record. Precipitation was variable but close to normal across the state. Severe weather was limited to only a few days during the month. The Atlantic Hurricane Season officially started on May 1st, but no impacts from tropical systems were felt in Georgia.

Atlanta and Savannah had their warmest May on record with 76.4°F (+6.3°) and 79.2° (+5.9°), respectively. Atlanta also had its warmest mean minimum temperature on record with 66.9°. Athens, Macon, and Augusta had their 2nd warmest May on record. The monthly average temperature in Athens was 75.5° (+5.5°), Macon recorded 77.1° (+5.2°), and Augusta’s May temperature was 77.5° (+6.4°). Columbus tied for 3rd warmest May on record with 77.8° (+4.8°). Table 1 shows the daily high temperature records broken at major climate sites in Georgia. In addition to the numerous daily temperature records broken, three sites broke all-time highest daily maximum temperature records for the month - Savannah reached 102°, Augusta reached 101° on three days, and Macon hit 100° on two days.

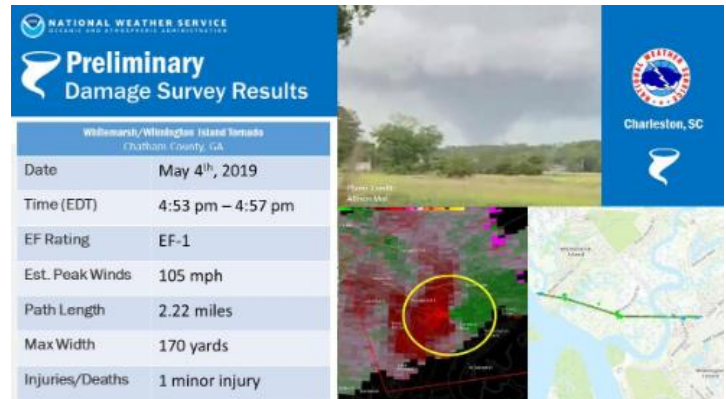


Augusta and Savannah were the only major climate sites to record above normal precipitation. Savannah saw 3.04” (+0.06”) of rainfall in May. The total monthly precipitation in Augusta was 3.70” (+1.05”) and on May 4th, 2.40” of rain fell and broke the previous record of 1.82” set in 1874. Atlanta recorded 2.28” (-1.39”), Athens recorded 1.62” (-1.38”), Macon recorded 1.47” (-1.25”), and Columbus recorded 3.59” (-0.40”).

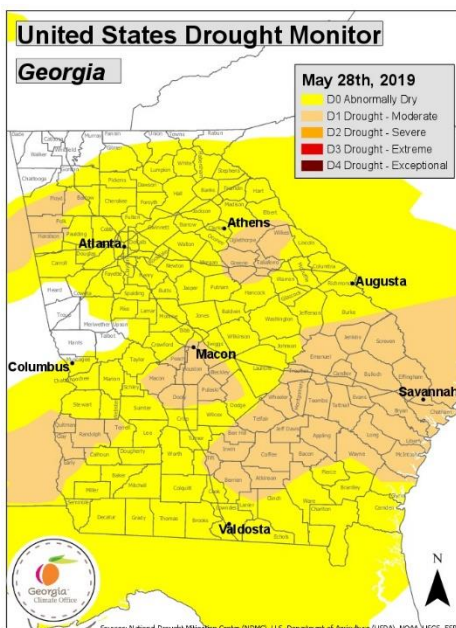
Meteorological spring ended on May 31st and all major climate sites recorded much above normal temperatures during March, April, and May. Atlanta’s average spring temperature was 65.7° (+10.7°) and ranked as 3rd warmest Spring on record, Savannah recorded 69.2° (+9.4°) ranking as 7th warmest Spring on record, Athens recorded 64.3° (+6.9°) and

ranked as 8th warmest Spring on record, Augusta's average temperature was 66.8° (+10.8°) ranking as 9th warmest Spring on record, Columbus recorded 67.3° (+6.6°) and ranked as 11th warmest Spring on record, and Macon's average spring temperature was 66.3° (+6.8°) ranking as 12th warmest Spring on record. On the other hand, all major climate sites recorded below normal precipitation during spring and ranked anywhere from 17th driest to 50th driest on record. Atlanta recorded 10.79" (-1.05"), Athens recorded 7.09" (-3.49"), Macon's total spring precipitation was 5.89" (-4.34"), Columbus recorded 10.41" (-2.59"), Augusta's total rainfall was 8.94" (-0.73"), and Savannah recorded 7.23" (-2.55").

There were several days of wind and hail reports in Georgia due to strong convective thunderstorms. On May 4th, an EF-1 tornado was reported in Chatham county with winds up to 105 miles per hour. The tornado hit the Savannah Yacht Club causing one injury and significant damage to boats and cranes on the facility. NOAA also released its 2019 Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook, which calls for a near normal season with 9 to 15 named storms, 4 to 8 hurricanes, and 2 to 4 major hurricanes. Andrea, a short-lived subtropical storm, formed on May 20th and dissipated the next day with no impacts to the east coast.



The United States Drought Monitor for Georgia showed that D0 (abnormally dry) conditions existed in the southern two-thirds of the state at the beginning of May and expanded to almost all north Georgia by the end of the month. D1 (moderate) drought conditions were present in several parts of south Georgia during the month. The D1 areas expanded in much of southeast Georgia and new D1 was introduced in northwest Georgia by the end of May.



According to the Climate Prediction Center, El Niño is present and there is currently an El Niño Advisory. Equatorial sea surface temperatures are above average across most of the Pacific Ocean. El Niño is likely to continue through the Northern Hemisphere summer 2019 with about a 70% chance and fall with a 55% to 60% chance. The three-month seasonal outlook shows chances for above normal temperatures and equal chances of above, near, or below normal precipitation statewide during June, July, and August.

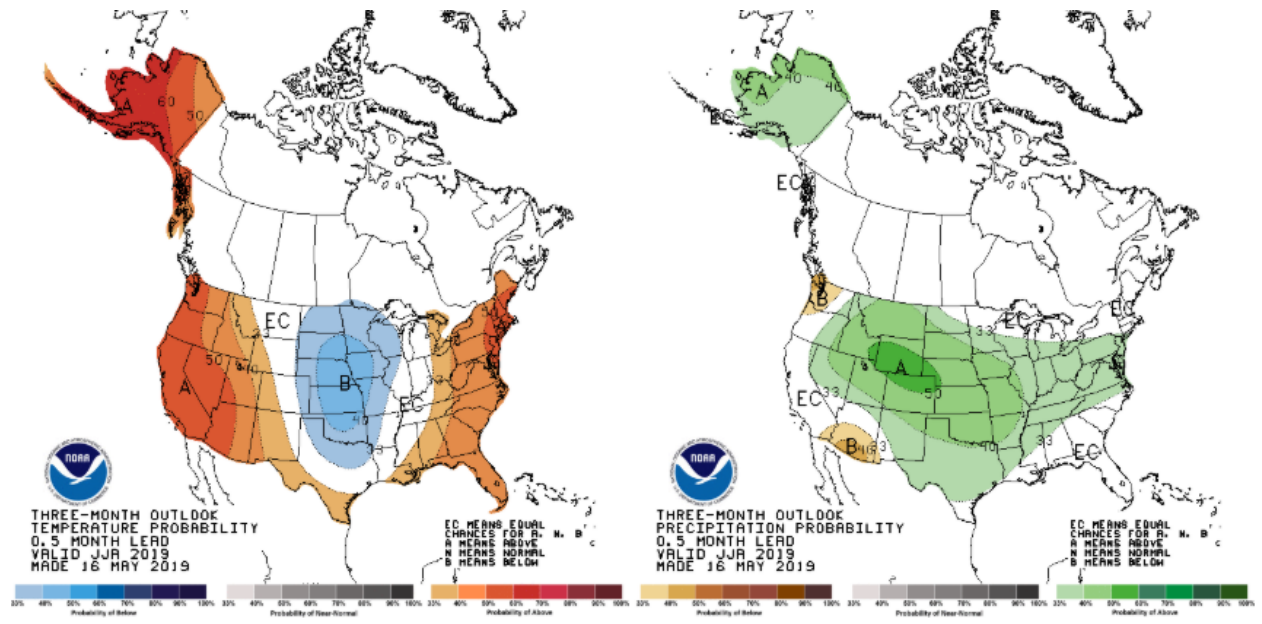


Table 1:

ATLANTA – 1st Warmest May on Record

Date	Record	Temperature	Previous Record
5/20	High Minimum	71°	70° set in 1996
5/22	High Minimum	73°	70° set in 1996
5/23	High Minimum	72°	71° set in 1941
5/25	High Minimum	74°	72° set in 2004
5/25	High Maximum	94°	93° set in 1960
5/26	High Minimum	74°	73° set in 1989)
5/26	High Maximum	95°	94° set in 1936
5/28	High Minimum	75°	72° set in 1991
5/28	High Maximum	94°	1941 (tie)
5/30	High Minimum	74°	1941 (tie)

SAVANNAH – 1st Warmest May on Record

Date	Record	Temperature	Previous Record
5/25	High Maximum	100°	1953 (tie)
5/26	High Maximum	102°	100° set in 1953
5/27	High Maximum	101°	98° set in 1989
5/28	High Maximum	101°	96° set in 1964
5/29	High Maximum	99°	98° set in 1945
5/30	High Minimum	76°	75° set in 1924
5/31	High Minimum	75°	2004 (tie)

ATHENS – 2nd Warmest May on Record

Date	Record	Temperature	Previous Record
5/25	High Minimum	71°	2004 (tie)
5/28	High Minimum	97°	1914 (tie)
5/29	High Minimum	70°	2018 (tie)
5/30	High Minimum	71°	2018 (tie)

MACON – 2nd Warmest May on Record

Date	Record	Temperature	Previous Record
5/22	High Maximum	97°	1962 (tie)
5/23	High Minimum	72°	1938 (tie)
5/24	High Maximum	97°	1960 (tie)
5/25	High Maximum	99°	97° set in 2000
5/26	High Maximum	100°	98° set in 1962
5/27	High Maximum	99°	1953 (tie)
5/28	High Maximum	100°	99° set in 1962
5/29	High Maximum	99°	98° set in 2011
5/30	High Maximum	99°	98° set in 1898

AUGUSTA – 2nd Warmest May on Record

Date	Record	Temperature	Previous Record
5/24	High Maximum	98°	1878 (tie)
5/25	High Maximum	100°	99° set in 2000
5/26	High Maximum	101°	100° set in 1926
5/27	High Maximum	100°	99° set in 2000
5/28	High Maximum	101°	99° set in 1964

5/29	High Maximum	101°	99° set in 1914
5/30	High Maximum	99°	1941 (tie)
<i>COLUMBUS – 3rd Warmest May on Record</i>			
Date	Record	Temperature	Previous Record
5/20	High Minimum	71°	2017 (tie)
5/23	High Minimum	74°	73° set in 1983