

November 2017 Climate Summary – Georgia

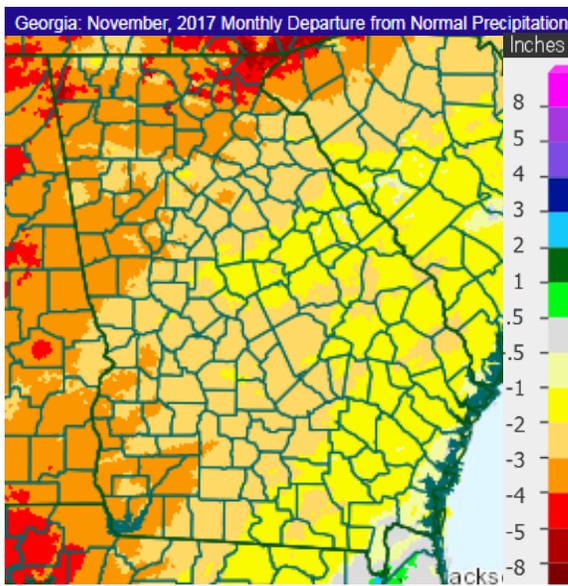
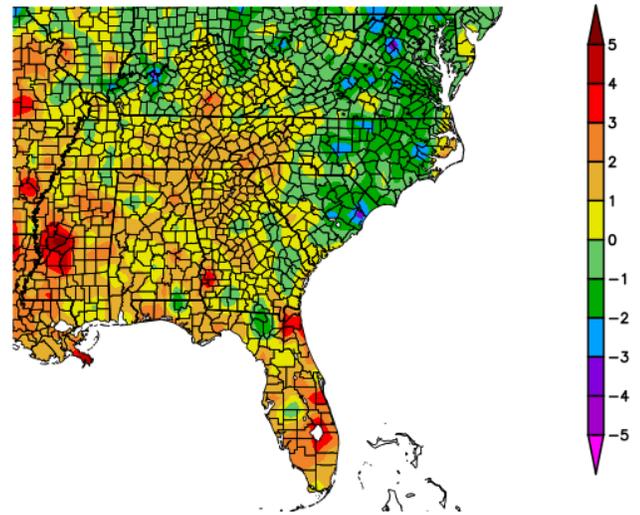
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The last month of meteorological fall was characterized by variable temperatures and below normal precipitation across the state, with the worst deficits across much of north and southwest Georgia, causing drought conditions to worsen there. Areas that saw the least rainfall deficits generally saw slightly below or close to normal temperatures due to cloud cover, especially in southeast Georgia. Hurricane season ended with no activity affecting Georgia, and severe weather was not rampant during November.

Atlanta's average November temperature was 56.2°F (+2.2°) and three daily maximum temperature records were tied during the month, including November 4th with 80° (previously set in 2016), November 6th with 78° (previously set in 1994), and November 7th with 79° (previously set in 2005). Athens had a monthly average temperature of 54.8° (+1.0) and tied a daily maximum temperature record on November 6th with 82° (previously set in 2003), and the site broke a daily temperature record on November 7th with 84° (previous record of 80° set in 2005). Augusta recorded 55.5° (+0.3°) and also had two daily temperature records. On November 3rd, the temperature reached 87° and tied the record previously set in 2016, and on November 4th the temperature reached 86° and broke the previous record of 85° set in 1961. Macon's average monthly temperature was 56.9° (+1.0°), Columbus recorded 59.4° (+2.1°), and Savannah's average November temperature was 60.1° (+0.8°).

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
11/1/2017 – 11/30/2017



All major climate sites saw rainfall deficits in November, with Atlanta seeing the greatest with a total of 1.04" this month, or 3.06" below normal. Athens recorded 1.22" (-2.60"), Macon's monthly precipitation totaled 1.09" (-2.23"), Columbus recorded 1.62" (-2.48"), Augusta saw 1.36" (-1.46"), and Savannah's total November precipitation was 1.29" (-1.08"). There were no daily rainfall records broken during the month, and although precipitation was much below normal, none of the major climate sites ranked high for least amount of November rainfall.

The vast majority of Georgia saw above normal temperatures during meteorological fall, with a statewide average three-month temperature of 65.7° (+1.4°). Precipitation was very close to normal during September through November, with average statewide precipitation totaling 9.52" (+0.01"). Table 1 shows

climatological statistics for the major climate sites in Georgia during fall.

Table 1:

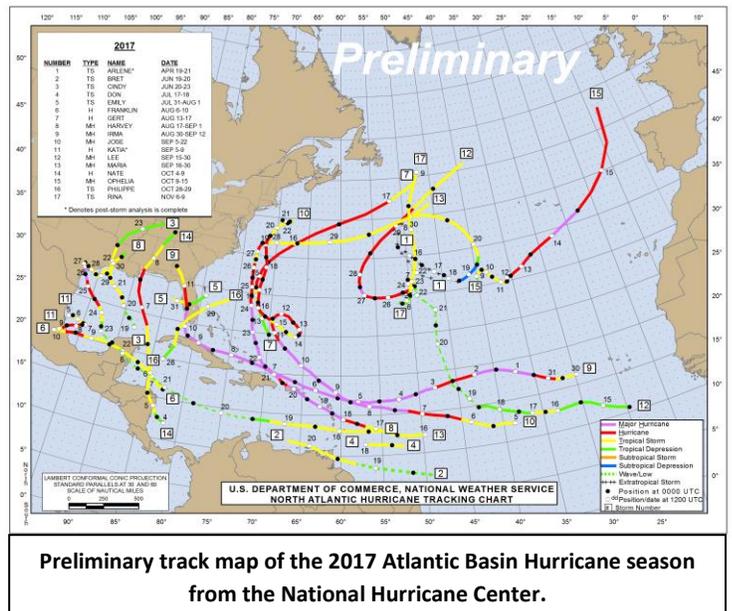
2017 Meteorological Fall – Temperature and Precipitation (September – November)						
	Atlanta	Athens	Macon	Columbus	Augusta	Savannah
Average Temperature	65.2° <i>(13th warmest)</i>	63.9° <i>(23rd warmest)</i>	66.4° <i>(20th warmest)</i>	68.7° <i>(14th warmest)</i>	66.9° <i>(16th warmest)</i>	70.1° <i>(11th warmest)</i>
Total Precipitation	9.16" <i>(66th wettest)</i>	11.12" <i>(43rd wettest)</i>	7.90" <i>(58th wettest)</i>	9.43" <i>(45th warmest)</i>	6.47" <i>(45th driest)</i>	8.53" <i>(59th driest)</i>

(rankings include ties)

November was the last month of the official Atlantic Basin Hurricane Season. There was only one storm that formed during the month, Tropical Storm Rina, which formed on November 7th in the central Atlantic and moved northward before dissipating. No impacts were felt in the state from Rina. During this extremely active and deadly hurricane season, there were 17 total named storms, making it the 5th most active season on record and the most active since 2005. The notable storms affecting Georgia this year include Cindy, Harvey, Nate and particularly Irma.

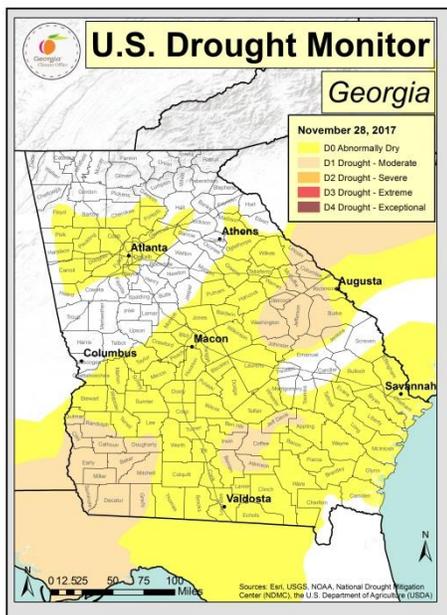
Severe weather in Georgia was very quiet during November. There were two days with a few wind and hail reports, including the 18th when a strong line of storms associated with a cold front impacted the state.

The United States Drought Monitor shows that drought conditions increased fairly significantly during November. D0 (abnormally) conditions expanded to cover the southern two-thirds of the state as well as areas around and west of the metro Atlanta area. In addition, D1 (moderate drought)



Preliminary track map of the 2017 Atlantic Basin Hurricane season from the National Hurricane Center.

conditions were introduced into southwest, south central, and east central Georgia by the end of the month.



According to the Climate Prediction Center, La Niña conditions are present. Equatorial sea surface temperatures are below average across the central and eastern Pacific Ocean. La Niña conditions are predicted to continue with about a 65% to 75% chance at least through the Northern Hemisphere winter 2017 through 2018. The CPC’s three-month seasonal outlook shows chances for above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation statewide, with increasing chances for below normal precipitation as you move southeastward in the state.

