

Southeast Region: (Information provided by the Southeast Regional Climate Center)

- Temperatures were near average (i.e. within 3 degrees F (1.5 degrees C)) across the Southeast and Puerto Rico for the month of July. Monthly mean temperatures were over 3 degrees F (1.5 degrees C) above normal in only 5 of the 197 long-term (i.e., period of record equaling or exceeding 50 years) stations across the region. There were no stations that ranked 1st warmest or coldest in the Southeast region as far as mean temperatures. Maximum temperatures ranged from 5.7 degrees F (2.9 degrees C) above normal in Pelion, SC (1947-2019) to 2.9 degrees F (1.5 degrees C) below normal in Oneonta, AL (1894-2019). Minimum temperatures ranged from 5.9 degrees F (3 degrees C) above normal in Marion, NC (1893-2019) to 3.7 degrees F (1.9 degrees C) below normal in Tifton, GA (1911-2019), which was the only station to rank 1st coldest. Jacksonville, FL (1871-2019) was the only station to rank 1st warmest at 4.9 degrees F (2.5 degrees C) above normal for minimum temperatures. The July 4th holiday saw some of the warmest temperatures of the month due to the presence of an upper level ridge over the region. Columbia, SC (1887-2019) had a maximum temperature of 101 degrees F (38 degrees C) and Cape Hatteras, NC (1893-2019) had a maximum temperature of 91 degrees F (32 degrees C), tying for the warmest July 4th on record. Pensacola, FL (1879-2019) had a maximum temperature of 97 degrees F (36 degrees C), also tying for the warmest July 4th on record. Many stations reported maximum temperatures reaching more than 5 degrees F (2.5 degrees C) above normal. Greenville, NC (1875-2019) had a maximum temperature 9 degrees F (4.5 degrees C) above normal. In contrast, the coolest weather of the month came around July 10th, after a cold front passed through the region. Maximum temperatures were around 5 degrees F (2.5 degrees C) below normal. The coolest minimum temperatures occurred on July 25th, after the passage of another cold front. Marshall, NC (1898-2019; 1st coldest) got down to 49 degrees F (9 degrees C), Macon, GA (1892-2019; 1st coldest) got down to 60 degrees F (15 degrees C), and Charlotte, NC (1878-2019) had a minimum temperature of 61 degrees F (16 degrees C) ranking the first coldest minimum temperature for July 25th. Minimum temperatures across many stations were 7 to 10 degrees F (3.5 to 5 degrees C) below normal.
- Precipitation was variable across the Southeast during the month of July, which is common during the summer. Precipitation across Puerto Rico, on the other hand, was near normal, with San Juan (1898-2019) receiving 6.72 inches (170 mm) and Juncos (1931-2019) receiving 5.79 inches (147 mm). Monthly precipitation totals ranged from 50 to less than 5 percent of normal across much of Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina. Oneonta, AL (1894-2019) observed its driest July on record, with only 0.68 inches (17 mm) of precipitation. In contrast, parts of North Carolina and the western half of the Florida Peninsula were exceptionally wet. Monthly precipitation totals ranged from 150 to more than 200 percent of normal in these areas. Naples, FL (1942-2019) observed its second wettest July on record with 17.88 inches (454 mm) of precipitation. As is typical of July, localized heavy rainfall produced flash flooding across local parts of the region. On July 8th, Reagan National Airport (1929-2019) observed its

4th wettest July day on record with 3.44 inches (87 mm) of precipitation. Most of the precipitation (2.79 inches (70 mm)) fell in a single hour. The heavy rains overwhelmed the city's drainage system and flooded many roads. More than a dozen water rescues were performed. A series of training thunderstorms produced flash flooding in Greensboro, NC (1903-2019) on July 31st. At the airport, 1.96 inches (50 mm) of precipitation fell, ranking it the 1st wettest July 31st on record. Radar estimates, however, indicate up to 6 inches (152 mm) of precipitation fell around the city. With the flooding came over 40 water rescues and more than a dozen road closures.

- There were 626 severe weather reports across the Southeast during July, which is about 108 percent of the median monthly frequency of 578 reports during 2000-2018. Of these reports, 96 percent were wind (603 of 626). On July 6th, a 50 mph (22 m/s) wind gust in Lauderdale, AL resulted in one fatality and two injuries, when a tree fell on three kayakers. On July 22nd, severe winds knocked down a tree during a training exercise at Fort Pickett, VA, killing one soldier and injuring two others. There were 3 tornadoes for the month, much less than the average of 10. An EF-0 and EF-1 were reported in Willow Spring, NC, and an EF-0 was reported in Palm Beach, FL. No injuries or fatalities were reported with the tornadoes. There were only 20 reports of hail, which is about one third of the 62 average reports for the month of July. There were two lightning fatalities for the month. The first occurred on July 4th in Lawshee Plantation, SC, where a 44 year old man was struck at a family get-together. The second occurred on July 21st in Clearwater Beach, FL where a 32 year old man was struck at the beach, making it the 10th U.S. lighting fatality for the year and the 2nd one in Florida.
- Drought conditions changed little throughout the month of July. At the end of the month, severe drought (D2) still covered pockets of areas in Alabama that did not experienced localized thunderstorms that are common during the summer. Moderate drought (D1), ringed by an area of dry conditions (D0), covered parts of southeastern North Carolina, northeastern South Carolina, central Georgia, northern Florida, and central and southern Alabama. Puerto Rico ended the month with D2 conditions covering the southern areas at 13 percent, D1 conditions at 23 percent and D0 conditions at 48 percent. This season continues to produce a great peach crop in Georgia due to the relative absence of extreme weather. Crops are beginning to show signs of stress in areas that have not seen as much rain in the Piedmont and Coastal North Carolina, as well as parts of Alabama and Georgia. However, areas that have seen some rain are reporting normal crop conditions. The citrus region in Florida continues to remain drought-free, and groves are progressing well. However, Dixie and Lafayette counties in Florida are seeing peanut losses due to standing water in the fields from the July thunderstorms.