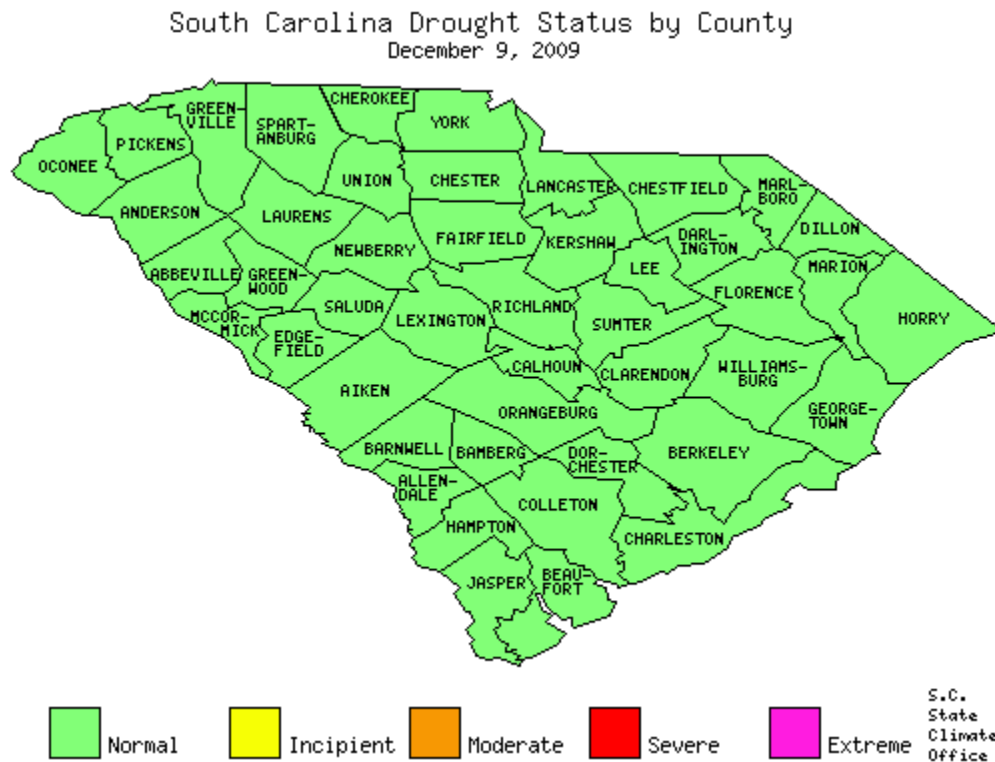


# South Carolina Current Drought Status

State Climate Office 803-734-9100  
SPECIAL NEWS RELEASE #09-18 DNR News 803-734-3815  
December 9, 2009

## DROUGHT OFFICIALLY OVER FOR ALL SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTIES



### Discussion:

The drought is officially over for all South Carolina counties after the State agency members of the S.C. Drought Response Committee removed the incipient declaration for 9 counties on Wednesday, December 9, 2009. Much of the State, including the counties that were still in drought, received 150% to 300% of normal rainfall over the past 30 to 60 days. According to Hope Mizzell, S.C. State Climatologist, the wet pattern this fall (September through November) was just what was needed to saturate the ground and jump start refilling and recharging our lakes and groundwater. Some areas of the State such as Walhalla reported the wettest fall on record receiving 27.65" that is 14.8" above normal.

The wet pattern is expected to continue based on NOAA's long-range projections. According to Mark Malsick, S.C. State Climatology Office Severe Weather Liaison, "The current El Nino pattern has established an active, productive storm track over the southern US that will continue to deliver rainfall events to South Carolina every 4-5 days. This southerly track allows storms to tap into abundant warm moist Gulf of Mexico air. This warm moist air increases the chances for State-wide precipitation, and also intensifies the passing storms, which ensures

even more rainfall per storm. The long range computer models continue to advertise this wet early winter trend through January."

Contact South Carolina State Climatologist Dr.Hope Mizzell in Columbia at (803) 734-9568 or e-mail at [mizzellh@dnr.sc.gov](mailto:mizzellh@dnr.sc.gov) for more information.

South Carolina's natural resources are essential for economic development and contribute nearly \$30 billion and 230,000 jobs to the state's economy overall. Find out why "[Life's Better Outdoors](#)".

**Drought Status: 12-09-2009**

<b>County</b>	<b>Status</b>
Abbeville	Normal
Aiken	Normal
Allendale	Normal
Anderson	Normal
Bamberg	Normal
Barnwell	Normal
Beaufort	Normal
Berkeley	Normal
Calhoun	Normal
Charleston	Normal
Cherokee	Normal
Chester	Normal
Chesterfield	Normal
Clarendon	Normal
Colleton	Normal
Darlington	Normal
Dillon	Normal
Dorchester	Normal
Edgefield	Normal
Fairfield	Normal
Florence	Normal
Georgetown	Normal
Greenville	Normal
Greenwood	Normal
Hampton	Normal

<b>County</b>	<b>Status</b>
Horry	Normal
Jasper	Normal
Kershaw	Normal
Lancaster	Normal
Laurens	Normal
Lee	Normal
Lexington	Normal
Marion	Normal
Marlboro	Normal
McCormick	Normal
Newberry	Normal
Oconee	Normal
Orangeburg	Normal
Pickens	Normal
Richland	Normal
Saluda	Normal
Spartanburg	Normal
Sumter	Normal
Union	Normal
Williamsburg	Normal
York	Normal