

# Climate Services

The State Climate Office's primary mission is to provide climate services to the community. As the official repository of weather and climate data for North Carolina, the SCO provides not just data but a full range of services.

- Research on impacts of weather and climate on agriculture
- Hourly updates of current weather conditions statewide
- Online climate data retrieval for community needs
- Regular reports on climate conditions and climate outlooks
- Climate monitoring and validation of unusual weather events
- Product development for energy and agricultural needs
- Community presentations on weather and climate issues
- Research on severe weather trends and impacts in NC

As part of the collaboration with National Weather Service, scientists from the SCO work closely with forecasters and researchers in the Raleigh NWS Office, which is located just above the State Climate Office in the Research III Building on NC State University's Centennial Campus.

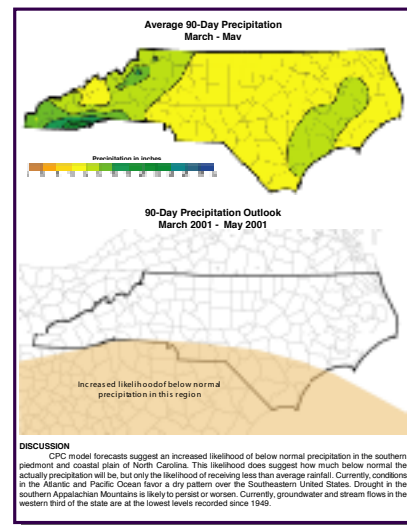
The North Carolina Environment and Climate Observing Network (NC ECONet) combines weather observations collected by the State Climate Office and National Weather Service to enhance the weather and climate information in North Carolina. Increased weather observations can improve local and regional forecasts.

The SCO also works closely with the National Weather Service (NWS) to provide climate expertise and weather information for monthly and seasonal forecast generation and evaluation. In 2001, the SCO began a data exchange program with the Raleigh Forecast Office of NWS, and continues to provide NWS with hourly weather information from the North Carolina Environment and Climate Observing Network (NC ECONet). Additionally, the SCO is working with local National Weather Service offices to provide more informative and detailed climate outlook products for statewide and local use.

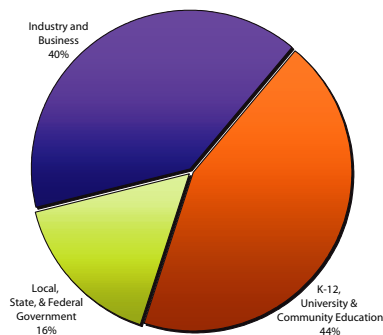
Most importantly, the State Climate Office provides a local resource for weather and climate information for state agencies and the public. As the official repository for weather and climate data for the state, the SCO has a profound duty to ensure that every community has access to information and expertise on weather and climate issues that play a role in our everyday lives.



Automated sensor arrays such as this one in Lumberton are operated by the National Weather Service and Federal Aviation Administration. Data from such sensors across North Carolina are collected as part of the NC ECONet.



The SCO and NWS are working to improve public use and understanding of seasonal climate outlooks. Seasonal outlooks are often cited as critical for agriculture, tourism, and energy planning needs.



Since its inception, the State Climate Office has been an extension and service arm of the UNC system. Service to the community occurs on many levels, with a focus on assisting agencies and businesses, and educating the public on the use, value, and importance of weather and climate data and research. Currently, SCO staff and students provide services to a wide range of constituents.

Clients can quickly request climate information through an automated form on the SCO web site.