

National Weather Service Central Region Climate Outlook

October – December 2020

Friday, September 18, 2020 4:33 AM



Important Message:

La Niña Advisory in Effect

La Niña conditions have developed and will play an increasing role in the seasonal forecasts heading into the winter months.

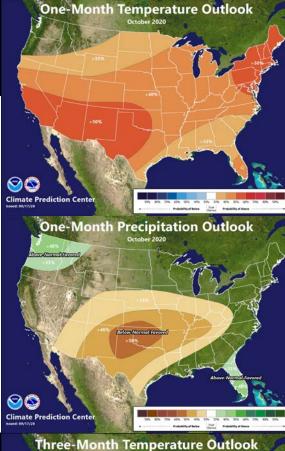
A majority of models predict La Niña to continue through the winter months, with some models indicating a strong event (although current consensus is for a moderate even this winter).

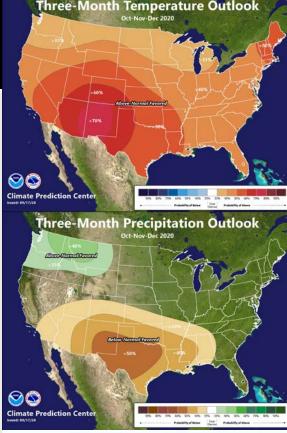
October 2020 Temperature & Precipitation Outlooks

- ◆ Above normal temperatures are favored across all of Central Region this October. This is a reflective of long term trends and model data. A little weakness in the above normal temperatures is indicated from the Great Lakes Region into the northern Plains, largely due to the background state of La Niña being incorporated into the forecast.
- Below normal precipitation is favored from the southwest and across the Central Plains. Equal chances are favored across northern Central Region. This is consistent with model guidance, long term trends, and La Niña.

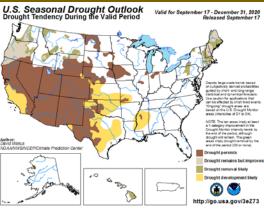
October through December Temperature & Precipitation Outlooks

- Both model guidance and trends favor above normal temperatures across the entire CONUS for the October through December time period. Above normal temps are only slightly favored across the northern tier of states, which covers parts of Central Region.
- Near equal chances for below, near or above normal precipitation are indicated for much of Central Region from October through December, with below normal precip favored across the southern fringes of the region. This is largely based on trends and model data as well as influence from La Niña.





Seasonal Drought Outlook



Drought has expanded significantly across much of the CONUS. Severe or greater drought now covers 25% of the country. Climatology for the Oct-Dec period is fairly dry for the central US, and drought persistence or expansion is expected across much of Central Region, with some improvement possible across northern Wyoming.

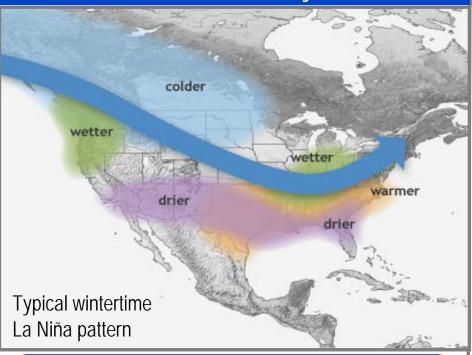
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For more info, contact: ray.wolf@noaa.gov

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ENSO Status: La Niña Advisory



La Niña has arrived and has a 75% chance of continuing through DJF. The greatest impacts from ENSO events tend to come during the winter season, and the above graphic represents the typical position of the jet stream during La Niña winters as well as its typical impacts on weather.

Useful Links/Info:

News from <u>Climate.gov</u>

<u>Latest ENSO Blog</u> from Climate.gov

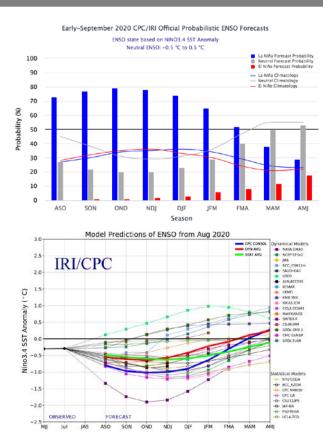
<u>Sea Surface Temperatures</u> from the Climate Prediction

Center

<u>Latest ENSO Discussion</u> from the Climate Prediction Center <u>Drought Information</u> from the US Drought Monitor <u>Interactive GIS Mapping</u> from NCEI (Anomalies/Rankings) <u>Local Climate Analysis Tool</u> (LCAT) – Account registration required

NWS Forecast Maps from Western Region

IRI/CPC Probabilistic ENSO Forecast/Plumes



- Consolidated and Multi Model Ensembles are both consistent and indicative of a moderate La Niña event.
- A return to ENSO neutral conditions are favored for next spring.

Other Teleconnection Effects

 MJO conditions were downplayed in the latest monthly and seasonal forecasts due to the impact from the combination of higher frequency states introduced by recent tropical cyclone activity as well as the lower frequency state of La Niña, which together make it difficult to predict the future evolution the MJO.



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