

## National Weather Service Central Region Climate Outlook

## August – October 2020

Thursday, July 16, 2020 7:07 PM



## Important Message:

### **Weak Teleconnection Signals**

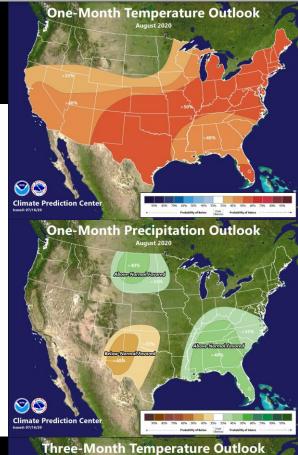
With cool ENSO neutral conditions remaining, a muddled MJO, and other weak teleconnection signals, the forecast relies more heavily on trends and soil moisture, especially in the one month outlook. Nods toward at least some La Niña influence seen within the seasonal outlook with ENSO forecasts leaning towards La Niña development into the fall.

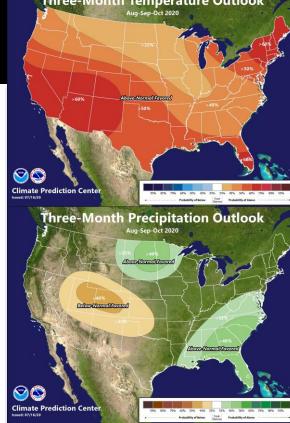
# Aug 2020 Temperature & Precipitation Outlooks

- The majority of Central Region leans towards elevated chances for above normal temperatures, including >50% across much of the southern and eastern third of the region. Equal chances for above, near, or below normal chances exist over Montana, the Dakotas, and northern portions of Wyoming and northern Nebraska.
- Nods toward wetter than normal chances over much of the Dakotas and the Ohio River Valley. Drier than normal chances centered over west Texas/east New Mexico, but do slide into portions of southern Kansas. Equal chances elsewhere.

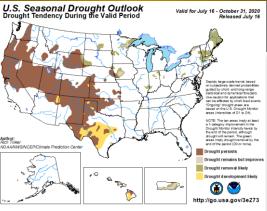
# August through October Temperature & Precipitation Outlooks

- Chances continue to lean toward above normal temperatures across the CONUS, especially within areas outside of Central Region. La Niña and trend influences are best seen across Montana/Dakotas and down into Iowa/Illinois with weaker elevated chances for above normal temperatures there.
- Northern areas of Central Region, west of the Great Lakes, lean towards above normal chances for precipitation, a nod towards possible La Niña conditions. Kentucky leans above normal as well, with a nod towards an active hurricane season.





## Seasonal Drought Outlook



Much of Central Region remains in good shape with regards to current and seasonal forecast drought conditions. Improvement and potential removal is forecast in areas east of the Missouri River and NE Wyoming/SW South Dakota. Existing drought through parts of Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, and Wyoming are expected to persist.

## **Building a Weather-Ready Nation**

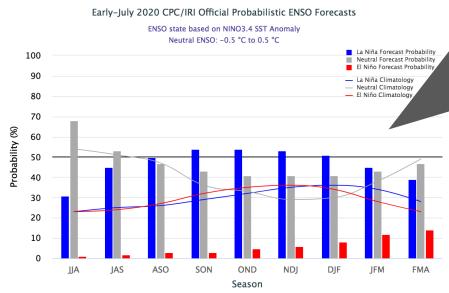
For more info, contact: ray.wolf@noaa.gov

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#### ENSO Status: La Niña Watch

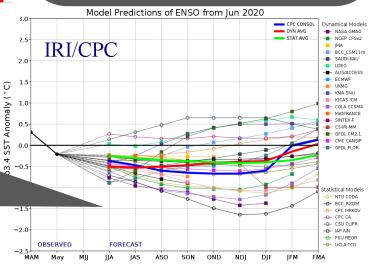
#### IRI/CPC Probabilistic ENSO Forecast/Plumes



Forecast trends continue to lean towards weak La Niña development over the coming months. This continues to be bolstered by the pool of cold sub-surface water temperatures in the eastern Pacific.

A La Niña Watch is in place as a result, with favorable conditions for development over the next 6 months.

Should La Niña conditions develop over the coming months and persist, for Central Region that could suggest a colder than normal winter across the Northern Plains and a wetter than normal winter around the southern Great Lakes and Ohio River Valley regions.



#### **Useful Links/Info:**

News from Climate.gov

Latest ENSO Blog 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

#### **Other Teleconnection Effects**

 Extremely difficult to find confidence in current status of teleconnections, which is not necessarily unusual this time of the year. Instead, trends and local/regional scale soil moisture played heavy role within August and August-September-October temperature and precipitation forecasts.



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