

2026 Monsoon Outlook

weather.gov/abq

Updated: May 21, 2026



near Guadalúpita, NM August 26, 2025
Photo Courtesy NMDOT



Philmont Scout Ranch, NM | June 17, 2025
Photo Courtesy Tammy Malaney



Ruidoso, NM July 8, 2025
Photo Courtesy Matthew Baird



near Chimayo, NM August 29, 2025
Photo Courtesy NMDOT



San Juan County, NM October 10, 2025
Photo Courtesy SJC Fire & Rescue



Rowe, NM August 31, 2025
Photo Courtesy Juan Jackson



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2026 Monsoon Outlook

Bottom Line Up Front

2026 Monsoon Outlook (updated May 21, 2026):

- **Precipitation:**
There is moderate to high confidence for **near-to-above normal precipitation** across all of NM during the 4-month period from June to September.
- **Temperature:**
There is moderate to high confidence for **near-to-above normal temperatures** across all of NM during the 4-month period from June to September.

Alternative Scenarios:

- Multi-model ensemble analysis favors above normal precipitation in June followed by no clear signal for above-normal, near-normal, or below-normal precipitation in July and August, then a return to above-normal precipitation favored in September.
- NOAA's 2026 eastern Pacific Hurricane Season outlook show a 70% chance of an above-normal season, a 20% chance of a near-normal season, and only a 10% chance of a below-normal season. The 2026 Atlantic Hurricane Season outlook shows a 10% chance of an above-normal season, a 35% chance of a near-normal season, and a 55% chance of a below-normal season. Moisture absorbed into the monsoon circulation has the potential to create active burst patterns with widespread precipitation from any remnant tropical systems.
- The Gulf of California sea surface temperatures (SSTs) remain well above normal in the midst of an intense marine heatwave. Scientists continue to debate the influence of SSTs on moisture transport anomalies and seasonal monsoon precipitation across the southwest U.S. (Johnson and Delworth 2023).
- The analog method will no longer be provided for seasonal climate outlooks. It is becoming increasingly difficult to search historical weather records for previous patterns similar to the current situation to make predictions based on those past patterns. NOAA is leveraging machine learning, AI, simulated model analogs, and highly sophisticated supercomputers to improve seasonal forecasting.

Note: It is important to note that this summary is a seasonal outlook for the entire 4-month period covering June to September. There will be sub-seasonal variability that leads to drier and wetter periods throughout the summer. Due to the highly variable nature of precipitation associated with thunderstorms, there will be areas within an above normal precipitation outlook that receive below normal precipitation and vice versa. All it takes is one extreme rainfall event to produce destructive, life-threatening flooding impacts.



2026 Monsoon Outlook

Motivation, Benefits, & Social Science

Motivation:

The purpose of the seasonal outlook is to deliver climate intelligence and long-range decision support to inform planning and risk management. This outlook serves as a bridge between the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) seasonal outlook and a more locally focused outlook for the summer monsoon in NM. CPC seasonal outlooks provide real-time products and information that predict and describe climate variations on timescales of weeks to years thereby promoting effective management of climate risk and foster a climate-resilient society (CPC Mission). These outlooks do not predict specific weather for a particular day. Instead, they indicate the *probability* that the average temperature or precipitation for an upcoming 3-month period will be "above," "near," or "below" the 30-year historical average (climate.gov). Additional insight is provided using an expanded suite of climate modeling products from various international resources.

Seasonal Outlook Information Benefits:

- Planning and Risk Management Decisions
- Agriculture, Energy, Public Health, & Water Resource Management
- Economic & Financial Stability

Initial Exposure and Anchoring:

While people update their perceptions as events evolve, they often exhibit a tendency to "anchor" on the first forecast they receive (Losee et al., 2017). This is an example of cognitive bias. The CPC outlook and the local monsoon outlook will be updated throughout the summer and there will be changes as the season progresses to better reflect more current forecasts and modeling trends.

Social Media and Misinformation:

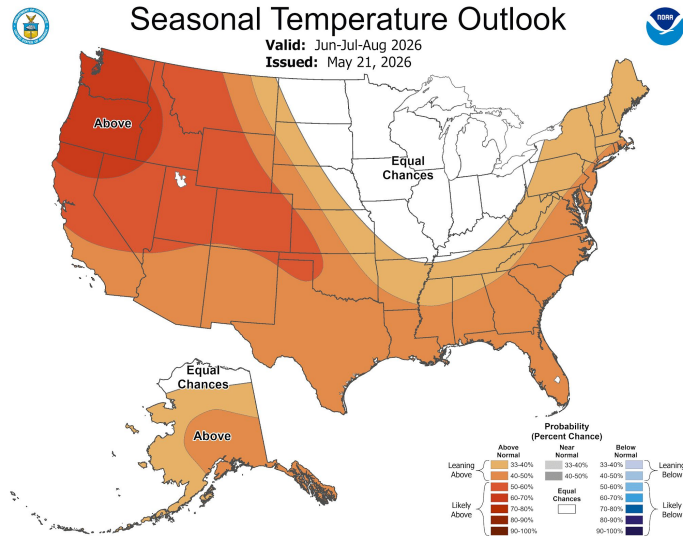
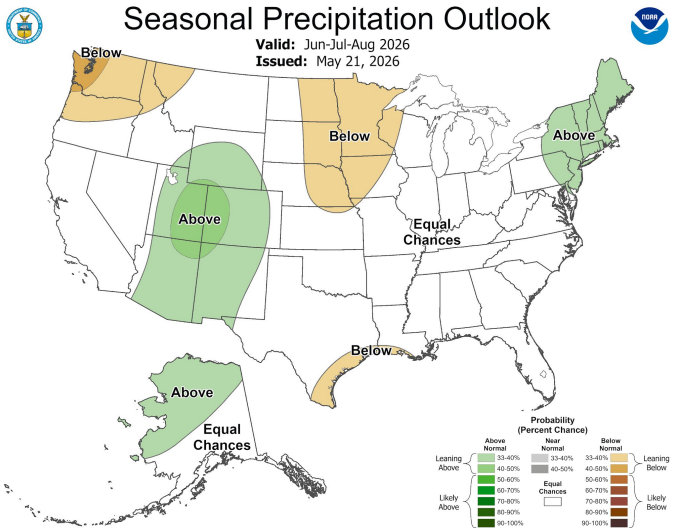
Official weather forecasts and outlooks are intended to enhance public safety and should be verifiable, neutral, and have high scientific standards and accountability. Misinformation on the other hand may be used for social media clicks while appearing sensational and fearful to erode trust and delay response. Always verify sensational weather news by checking official sources like the NWS.



2026 Monsoon Outlook

Climate Prediction Center (June-July-August)

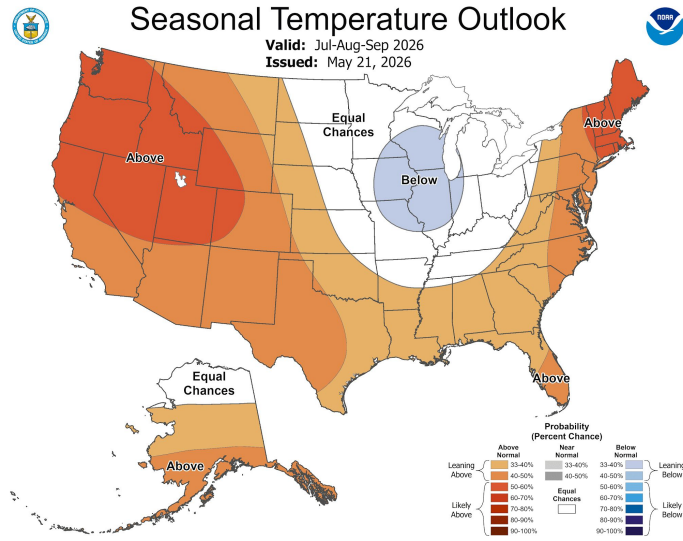
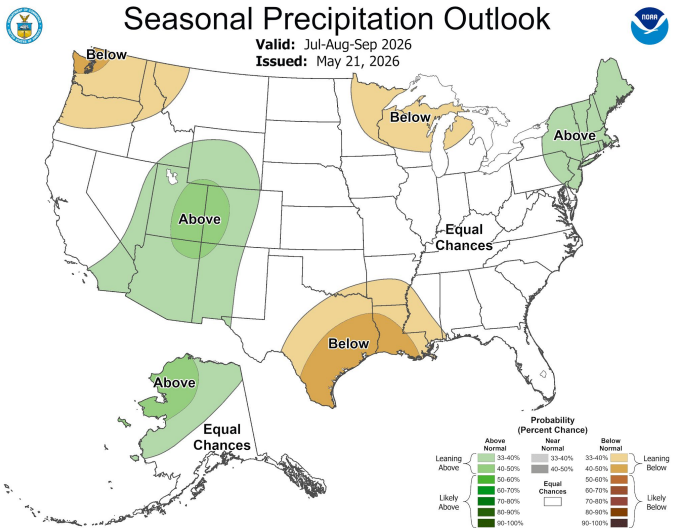
The official CPC seasonal outlook for the 3-month period from June through August indicates there is a 33 to 40% chance that precipitation will lean toward above normal for the western two-thirds of NM, with a 40-50% chance of above normal precipitation in the Four Corners region. There is a 40 to 50% chance that temperatures will lean toward above normal for all of NM. Next CPC update June 18, 2026.



2026 Monsoon Outlook

Climate Prediction Center (July-August-September)

The official CPC seasonal outlook for the 3-month period from July through September indicates there is a 33-40% chance that precipitation will lean toward above normal for all of central and western NM, with a 40% to 50% chance of above normal precipitation in the Four Corners region. There is a 40 to 50% chance that temperatures will lean toward above normal for all of NM. Next CPC update June 18, 2026.



2026 Monsoon Outlook

Historical Precipitation & Temperature for NM

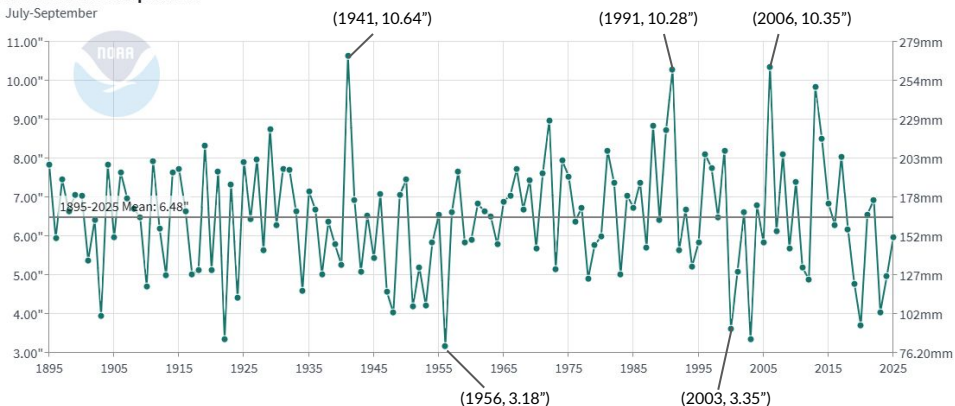
The chart on the upper right shows the July to September average statewide precipitation for NM and the lower right chart shows the average statewide temperature based on the long-term record dating back to 1895 from the National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI).

- **Statewide Average Precipitation July-September**
 - Long-Term (1895-2025): **6.48"**
 - Short-Term (1991-2020): **6.58"**
 - Extremes: 10.64" in 1941, 3.18" in 1956
- **Statewide Average Temperature July-September**
 - Long-Term (1895-2025): **69.7°**
 - Short-Term (1991-2020): **70.7°**
 - Extremes: 74.2° in 2023, 67.2° in 1974

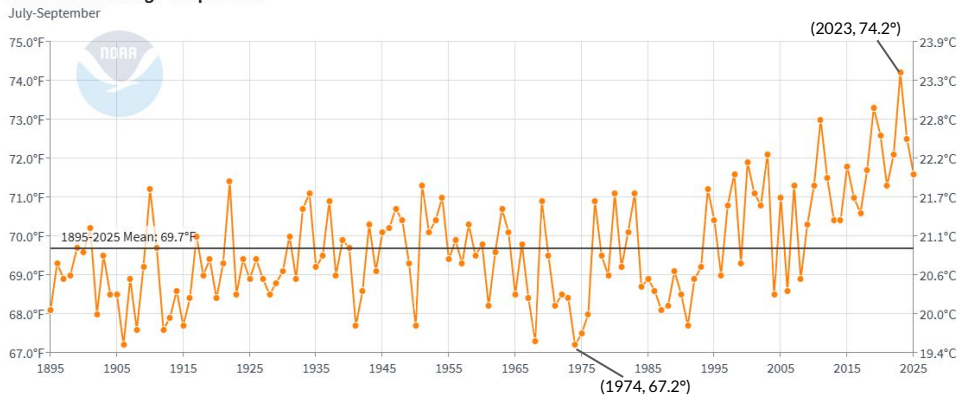
Year-to-year precipitation variability can be dramatic with subtle trends in the overall long-term record. 1941 was the wettest monsoon on record followed by 2006 and 1991 in a close 2nd and 3rd place respectively. Four of the top eight driest summers on record have occurred since 2000. The last eight monsoon seasons have been near-to-below normal.

Statewide average temperatures have trended warmer for July to September since around the 1990s. The top 10 warmest summers have occurred since 2000. The hottest monsoon on record occurred in 2023.

New Mexico Precipitation



New Mexico Average Temperature



2026 Monsoon Outlook

Local Area Precipitation Climatology

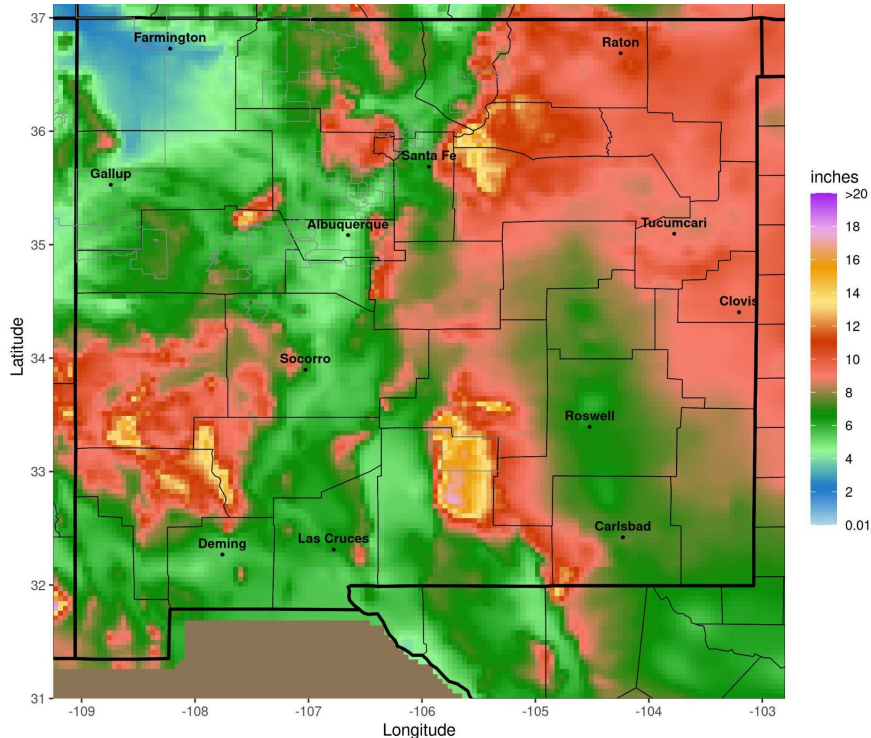
The image to the right shows average summer precipitation for NM between June 15 and September 30 (official dates of monsoon season).

- Select stations via NCEI: *July to September*
 - High-End | Low-End Seasons (where available):
 - Fort Sumner: 1991 - 24.48" | 2000 - 1.15"
 - Portales: 2017 - 17.82" | 2003 - 1.21"
 - Los Alamos: 1952 - 15.95"
 - ABQ Foothills: 2006 - 15.43" | 2003 - 1.14"
 - Chama: 1929 - 15.24"
 - Eagle Nest: 2008 - 11.84"
 - Cuba: 1961 - 11.37"
 - Santa Fe Arpt: 2006 - 10.13" | 1956 - 1.38"
 - Gallup: 2010 - 8.89"
 - Farmington: 1986 - 7.21" | 2009 - 0.25"

Factors that can influence rainfall patterns:

- Moisture availability
- Daytime heating & cloud cover
- Steering flow (direction and speed)
- Complex terrain
- Outflow boundaries
- Tropical remnants

June 15 - September 30 Average Precipitation (1991-2020)



Plot created: 2022-07-19
 The University of Arizona
<https://cais.arizona.edu/climate/>
 Data Source: NOAA MPE Analysis
<https://water.weather.gov/precip/>



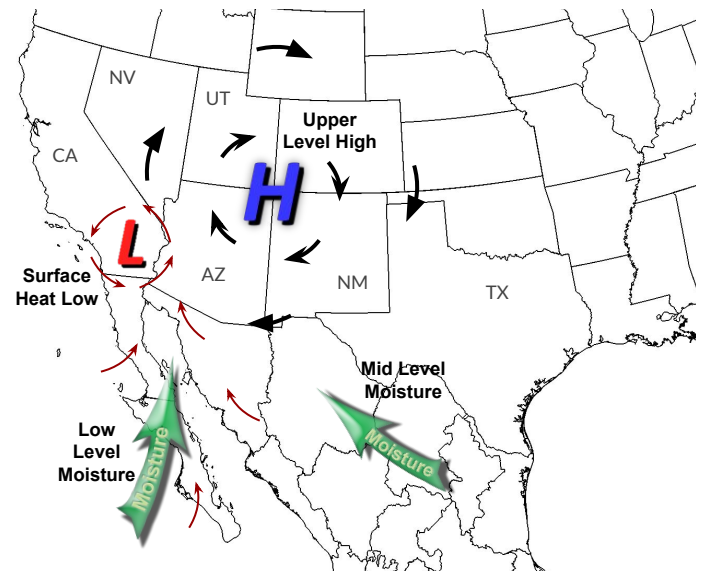
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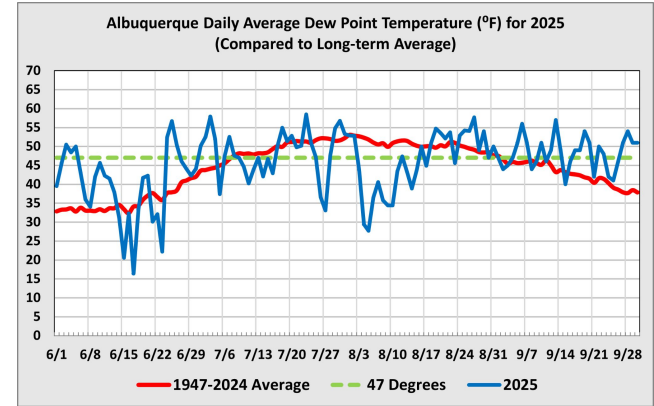
What is the North American Monsoon System?

The southwest monsoon is a seasonal shift in the large-scale atmospheric circulation pattern that brings increasing moisture to the southwest United States during the summer months (lower left image). This shift is preceded by a transition out of the drier spring months when periodic bouts of wind and fire weather are common. As moisture increases over the region, showers and thunderstorms with heavy rain, flash flooding, strong winds, hail, and intense lightning become more frequent over the region. Variability is typical throughout the season, characterized by wetter monsoon bursts and lengthy hot and dry spells. The season typically ends in September as the large-scale atmospheric circulation becomes more influenced by an active jet stream. Despite the overall increase in showers and thunderstorms during monsoon season, not everyone experiences the same season due to factors like complex terrain and variable steering flow. It is not uncommon for seasonal rainfall totals to vary by several inches within the same county.



Conceptual Model of Monsoon Circulation

Dewpoint temperature is one of many parameters used to monitor the various moisture surges and dry intrusions that impact the region throughout the summer. The red line on the chart to the right shows the climatology of average daily dewpoint at the Albuquerque Sunport between June 1st and September 30th while the blue line shows the average daily dewpoint for the 2025 season. There are a lot of deviations from average throughout the season but the higher average dewpoints tend to occur from mid July to late August.



Typical weather hazards associated with the monsoon include:

- Heat Stress
- Wildfires
- Downburst Winds
- Dust Storms
- Hail
- Lightning
- Flash Flooding
- Burn Scar Flooding

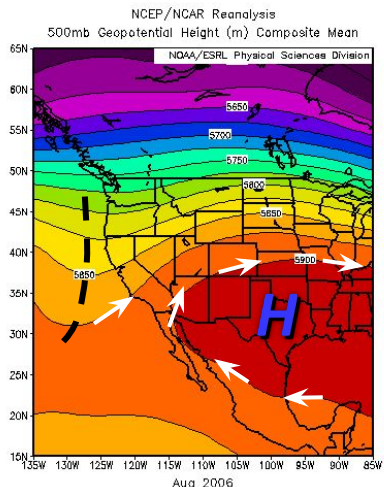
◆ It is worth noting that 2025 summer rainfall was actually below normal for NM but wildfire burn scar flooding was still severe, especially for the Ruidoso area.



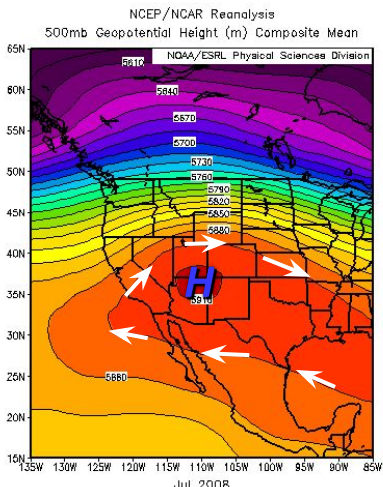
2026 Monsoon Outlook

Monsoon Patterns & Variability

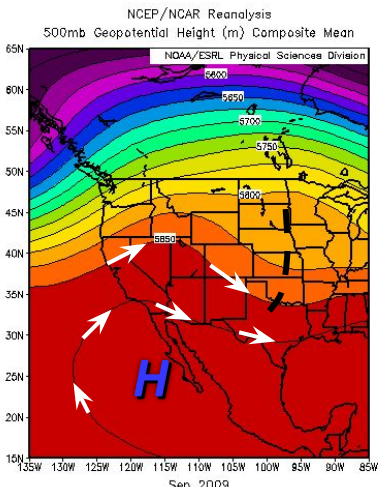
The charts below are generalized illustrations of the various atmospheric height patterns around 18,000 feet above ground level associated with the summer monsoon. The blue “H” on each chart represents the approximate center of upper level high pressure with each pattern. The white arrows show the general circulation that drives storm systems as they move across western North America. The surface weather pattern and monsoon impacts can vary greatly with each of these scenarios and all of these patterns can occur throughout the same monsoon season. Pattern A, which is typically associated with monsoon bursts and greater frequency of heavy rainfall, may dominate the region for several weeks then briefly evolve into pattern D, which is typically associated with intense heat, decreasing storm coverage, and very localized heavy rainfall. A more detailed explanation of each pattern and their associated weather impacts can be found on our [North American Monsoon](#) feature.



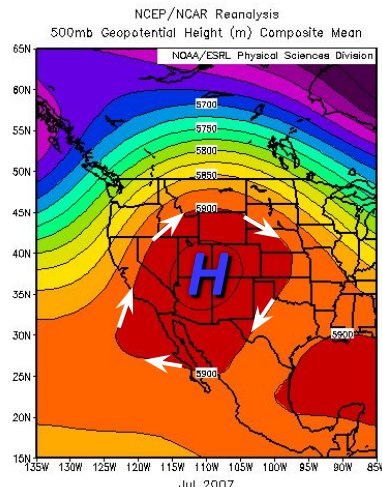
Pattern A:
Bermuda High Extension



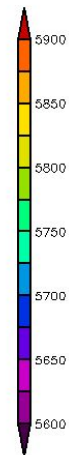
Pattern B:
Four Corners Monsoon High



Pattern C:
“Reverse” Monsoon



Pattern D:
Extreme Monsoon High

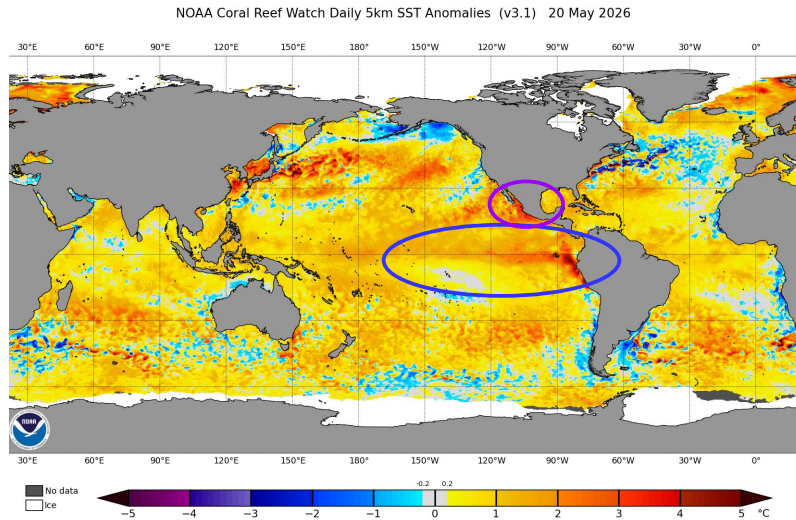


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What is ENSO?

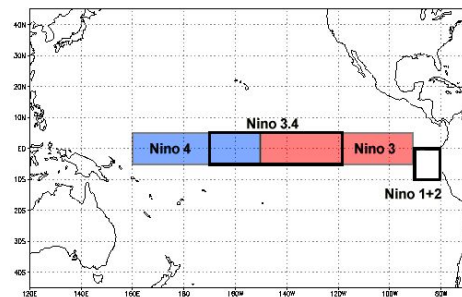
The El Niño - Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is a naturally occurring, large-scale climate pattern involving fluctuations in ocean temperatures and atmospheric pressure across the equatorial Pacific Ocean. It is considered the single most influential natural climate cycle on Earth, directly reshaping weather, rainfall, and temperatures on a global scale. The phenomenon occurs in three phases; the warm phase (El Niño), the cool phase (La Niña), and the neutral phase. The three phases have drastically varying impacts on oceanic and atmospheric circulation patterns across the globe.

El Niño is likely to emerge soon and persist through the winter of 2026-2027. **The correlation to winter precipitation is generally stronger, highly predictable, and geographically distinct while the correlation to summer precipitation is weaker and often localized by regional monsoons and other climate variables.** In addition, the background climate and oceanic temperature patterns are evolving and in many cases no longer fit the conceptual model of what to expect for global and regional weather impacts.



The image on the top right is the NOAA Coral Reef Watch Daily 5km SST anomaly valid on 20 May 2026. The entire region along the eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean continues to warm above normal (blue oval). Note the area off the west coast of Mexico and the Gulf of California also remains above normal (purple oval). Above normal SSTs are also broadly present across most of the Pacific Ocean.

The Niño 3.4 region (5°N to 5°S, 120°W to 170°W) shown on the chart in the lower right is the standard area of the central-eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean used by climate scientists to monitor and define El Niño and La Niña events. **To classify as an official El Niño episode, the SST anomaly in the Niño 3.4 region must remain above +0.5°C for five consecutive overlapping 3-month periods.**

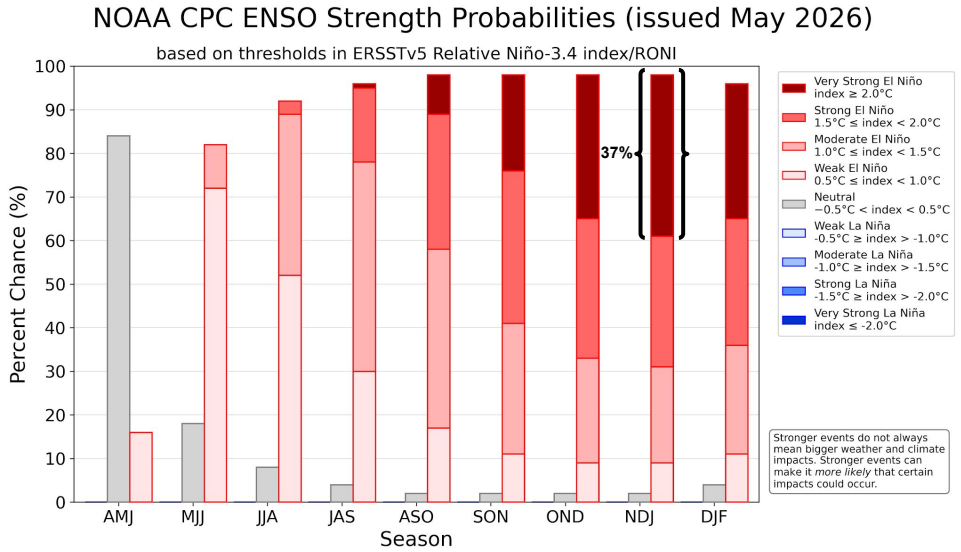
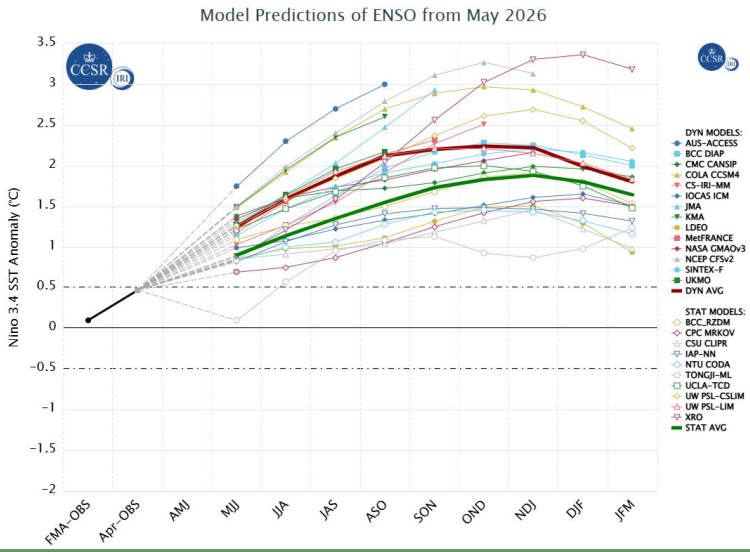


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ENSO Outlook

The ENSO alert system status is currently an El Niño Watch. Equatorial SSTs are near-to-above average across the central and eastern Pacific Ocean. El Niño is likely to emerge soon (82% chance during May-July 2026) and continue through the Northern Hemisphere winter 2026-2027 (96% chance during December 2026 - February 2027). For more detailed information on ENSO evolution, status, and predictions, please review the slides available from [CPC](#).

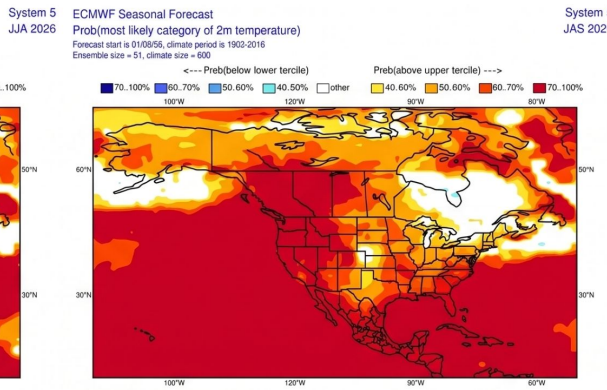
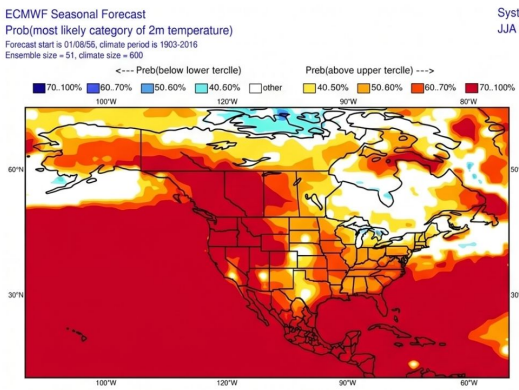
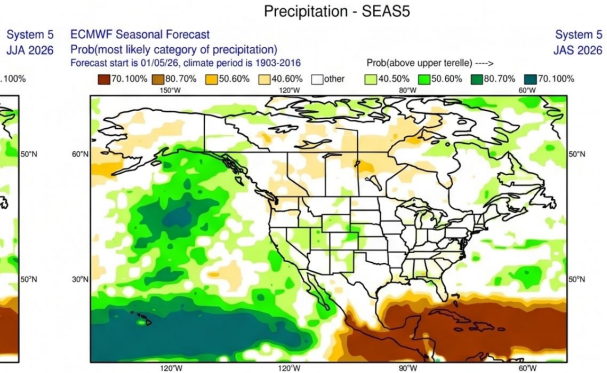
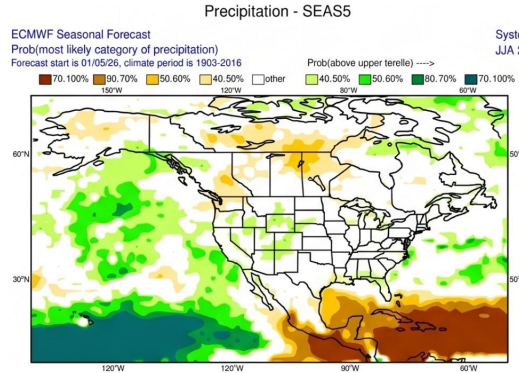
There has been a lot of buzz of a “Super El Niño” developing later this year. This is not an official term recognized by NOAA. Forecasters officially classify events as “very strong” when SSTs in the Niño 3.4 region increase by +2.0°C or more above the long-term average. The probability of a very strong El Niño event is highest during the November-December-January (NDJ) period (37% chance).



2026 Monsoon Outlook

ECMWF (Jun-Jul-Aug & Jul-Aug-Sep 2026)

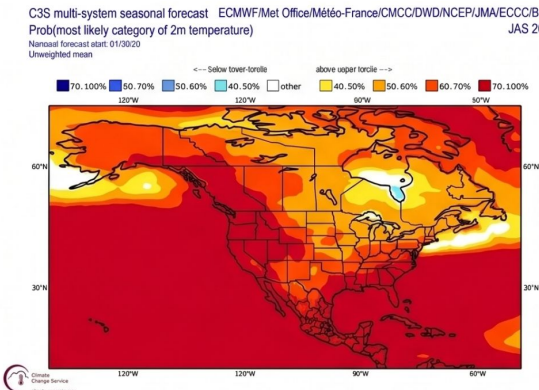
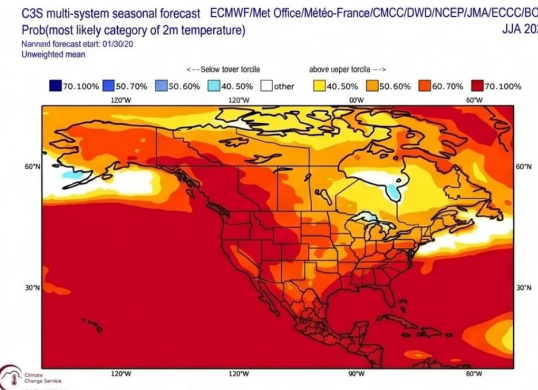
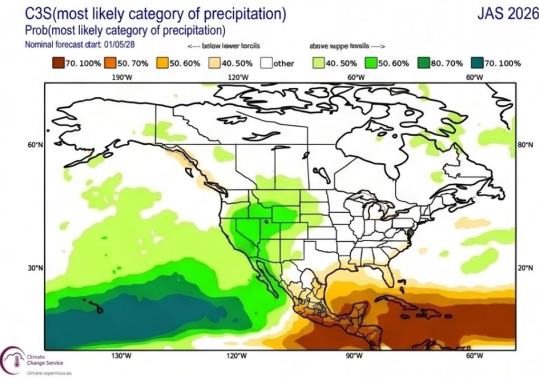
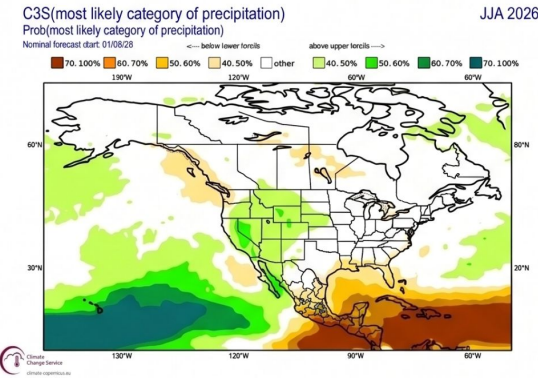
The ECMWF SEAS5 model forecast (a single dynamic modeling system with a 51-member ensemble) for June-July-August (JJA) shows higher probabilities of above normal precipitation for northern and northwest NM (top left). Above normal temperatures (bottom left) are favored for NM, including the entire western United States. The model forecast for July-August-September (JAS) shows higher probabilities of above normal precipitation for several parts of NM (top right). Above normal temperatures (bottom right) are favored for NM, including the entire western United States.



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C3S (Jun-Jul-Aug & Jul-Aug-Sep 2026)

The C3S is a multi-model ensemble forecast system provided by the European Union's Copernicus Programme. It uses the ECMWF SEAS5 output and adds several other international models along with providing bias correction. The C3S forecast for June-July-August (JJA) shows higher probabilities of above normal precipitation for much of the desert southwest (top left), including NM. Above normal temperatures (bottom left) are favored for the entire United States, especially the southern and western United States. The model forecast for July-August-September (JAS) shows even higher probabilities of above normal precipitation for the desert southwest (top right), including NM. Above normal temperatures (bottom right) are favored for the entire United States, especially the southern and western United States.



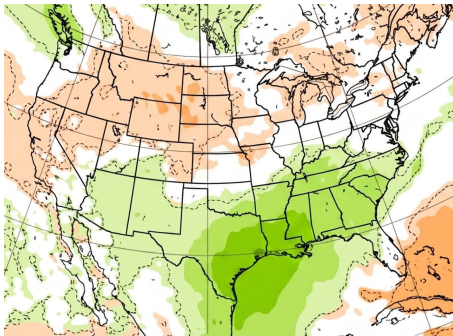
2026 Monsoon Outlook

ECMWF (Weekly Precipitation Anomaly Outlook)

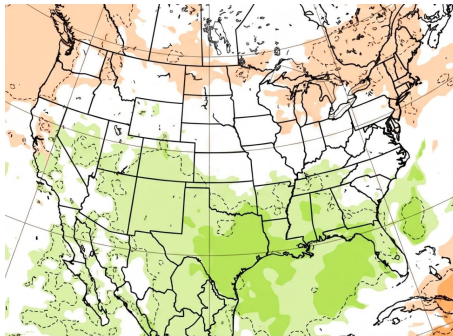


Issued May 18, 2026: [ECMWF sub-seasonal range ensemble](#) 7-day average precipitation anomaly

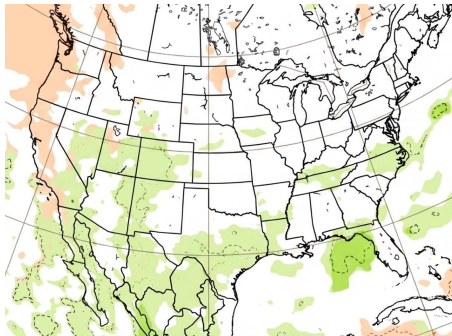
May 25-June 1, 2026



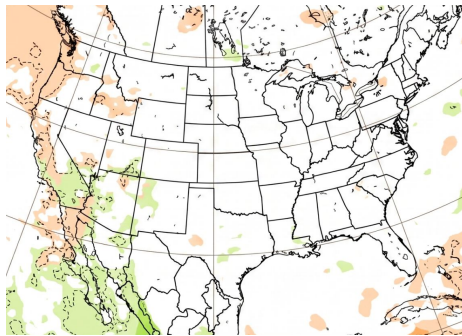
June 1-8, 2026



June 8-15, 2026



June 15-22, 2026



The ECMWF sub-seasonal ensemble shows a large swath of above normal precipitation across NM for the last week of May through early June. The anomaly trends closer to normal toward mid to late June for NM but remains above normal over western NM. Late May and early June climatologically trends wetter across our region as moisture advection begins to increase as we transition out of the dry spring months.

Let's take a look at the associated upper level height anomaly forecast to see what clues may lie behind the trends in the precipitation forecast.

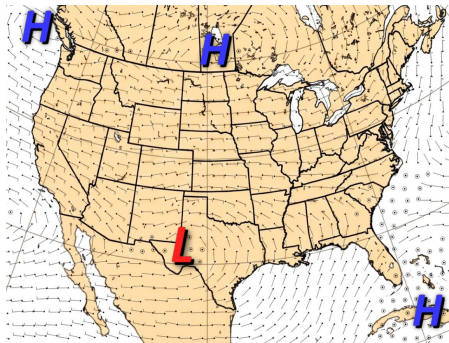


2026 Monsoon Outlook

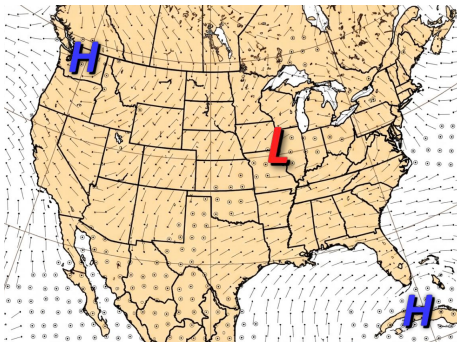
ECMWF (Weekly 500mb Height Anomaly Outlook)

Issued May 18, 2026: [ECMWF sub-seasonal range ensemble](#) 7-day average 500mb wind anomaly

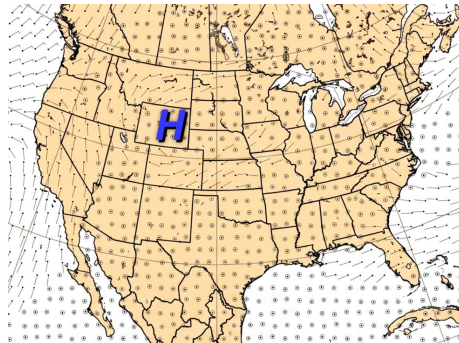
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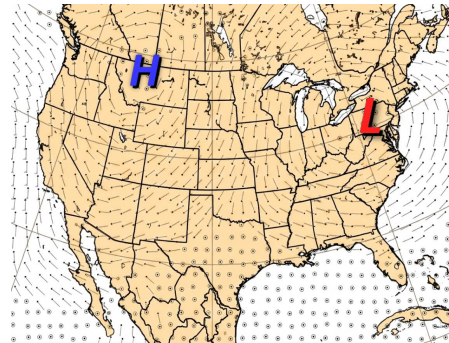
June 1-8, 2026



June 8-15, 2026



June 15-22, 2026



The 7-day average 500mb wind anomaly shows the deviation from average wind patterns around 18,000 ft above ground level for the associated time of year. An area of lower pressure is projected to develop over west TX while higher pressure takes hold of the northern Great Plains and Pacific Northwest during the last week of May into early June. This pattern will help to advect deeper moisture from the southern plains into NM. This area of lower pressure is shown progressing eastward across the central U.S. through early June while higher pressure remains anchored over the northern Rockies. This pattern may help to trigger a greater frequency of backdoor cold fronts into eastern NM with moisture continuing to advect westward from the plains.



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Gemini was used to assist with drafting. The content has been reviewed and edited by NWS staff.

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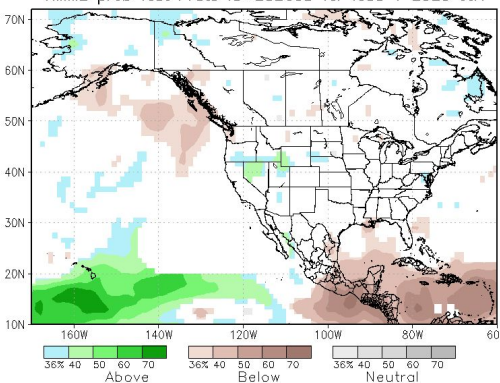
NMME (June-July-August 2026)

NMME (North American Multi-Model Ensemble) - The North American Multi-Model Ensemble (NMME) is a multi-model seasonal forecasting system consisting of coupled models from North American modeling centers ([User's Guide](#)).

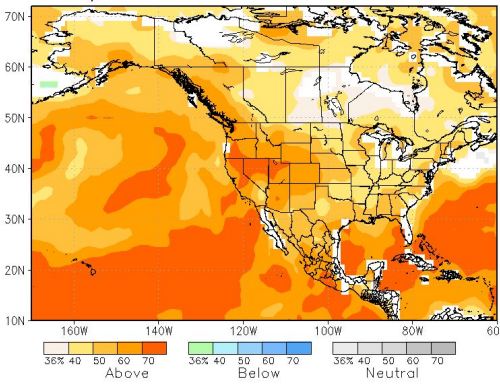
The upper left and lower left images are the calibrated probabilities of precipitation and temperature for the three month period from June through August, respectively. Calibrated probabilities are calculated using model hindcasts to account for biases and errors. Skill maps are also included in the upper right and lower right charts to assist with explaining model accuracy of each respective variable. In general, a higher skill score means a better model forecast or greater reliability.

The June-July-August precipitation outlook from the NMME indicates equal chances that precipitation will lean above, near, or below-normal across all of NM. There is a greater than 50% chance that temperatures will lean toward above-normal for this same period, except greater than 60% over northern NM. Model skill is higher for the temperature forecast during this period compared to the precipitation forecast.

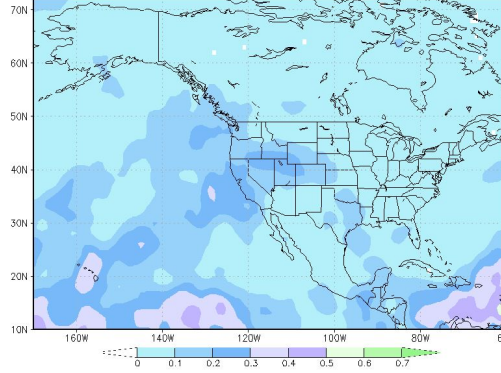
NMME prob fcst Prate IC=202605 for lead 1 2026 JJA



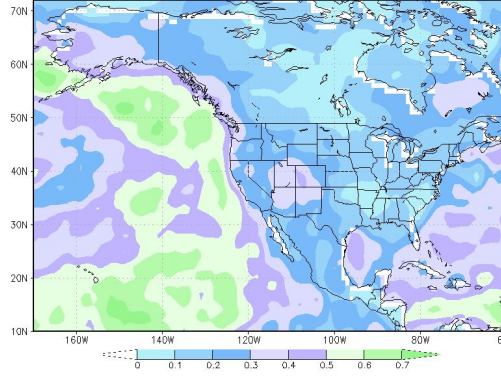
NMME prob fcst TMP2m IC=202605 for lead 1 2026 JJA



Forecast of Prec. rate Anom IC=05 for Lead 1 JJA



Forecast of TMP2m Anom IC=05 for Lead 1 JJA



2026 Monsoon Outlook

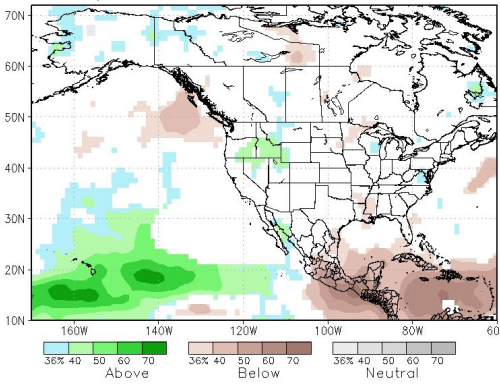
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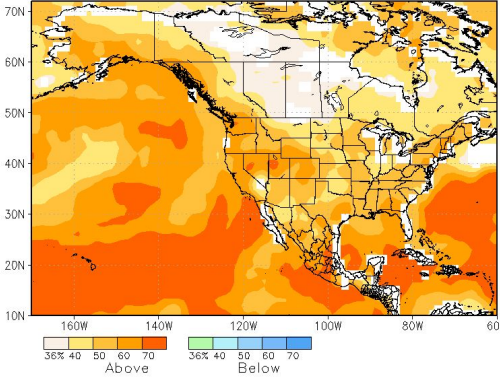
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The July-August-September precipitation outlook from the NMME indicates equal chances that precipitation will lean above, near, or below-normal across all of NM. There is a greater than 50% chance that temperatures will lean toward above-normal for this same period. Model skill is higher for the temperature forecast during this period compared to the precipitation forecast.

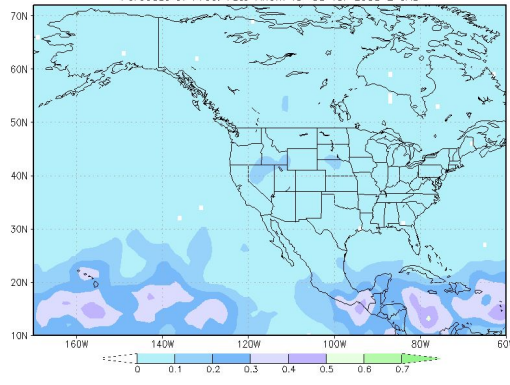
NMME prob fcst Prate IC=202605 for lead 2 2026 JAS



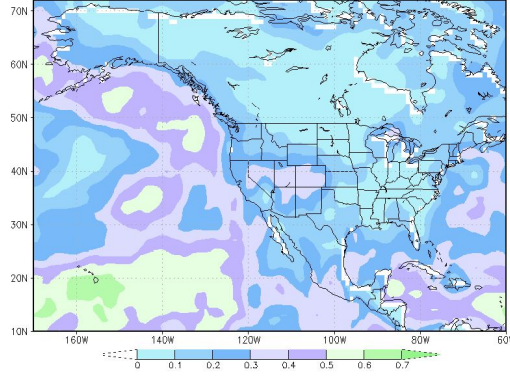
NMME prob fcst TMP2m IC=202605 for lead 2 2026 JAS



Forecast of Prec. rate Anom IC=05 for Lead 2 JAS



Forecast of TMP2m Anom IC=05 for Lead 2 JAS



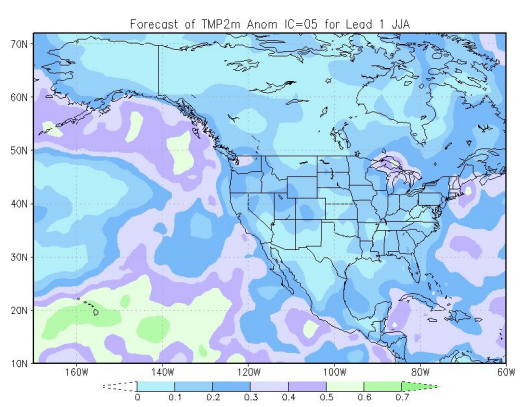
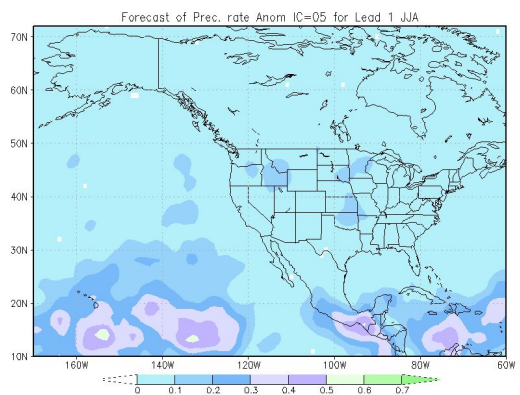
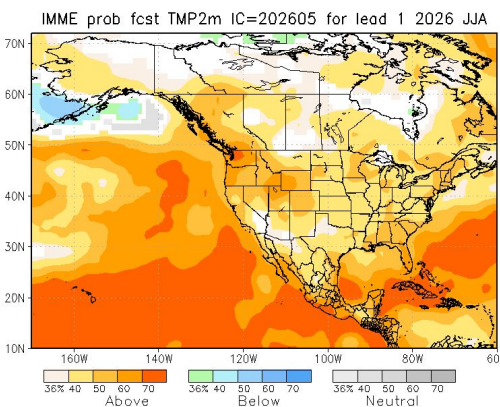
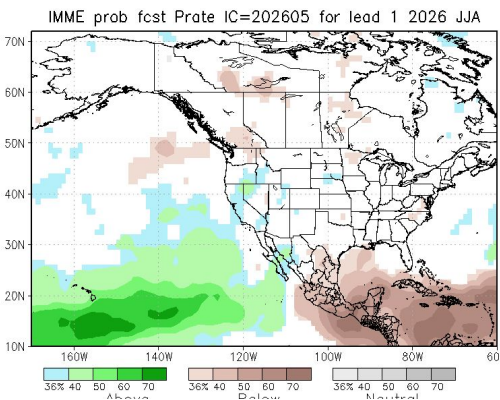
2026 Monsoon Outlook

IMME (June-July-August 2026)

IMME (International Multi-Model Ensemble) - The International Multi-Model Ensemble (IMME) is a multi-model seasonal forecasting system consisting of coupled models from international modeling centers ([AGU Abstract](#)).

The upper left and lower left images are the calibrated probabilities of precipitation and temperature for the three month period from June through August, respectively. Calibrated probabilities are calculated using model hindcasts to account for biases and errors. Skill maps are also included in the upper right and lower right charts to assist with explaining model accuracy of each respective variable. In general, a higher skill score means a better model forecast or greater reliability.

The June-July-August precipitation outlook from the IMME indicates equal chances that precipitation will lean above, near, or below-normal across most of NM, except a 36 to 40% chance that precipitation will lean above-normal over northwest NM. There is a greater than 40% chance that temperatures will lean toward above-normal for all of NM, except near 50% chance for far northern NM. Model skill is higher for the temperature forecast during this period compared to the precipitation forecast (but still less than the NMME).



2026 Monsoon Outlook

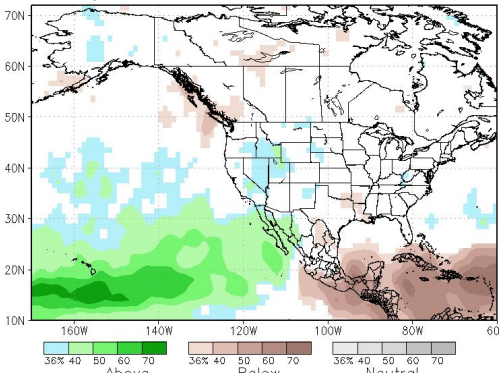
IMME (July-August-September 2026)

IMME (International Multi-Model Ensemble) - The International Multi-Model Ensemble (IMME) is a multi-model seasonal forecasting system consisting of coupled models from international modeling centers ([AGU Abstract](#)).

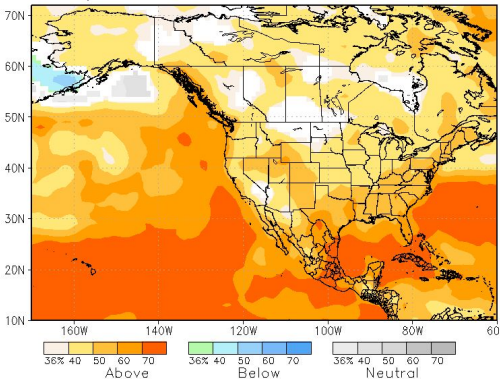
The upper left and lower left images are the calibrated probabilities of precipitation and temperature for the three month period from July through September, respectively. Calibrated probabilities are calculated using model hindcasts to account for biases and errors. Skill maps are also included in the upper right and lower right charts to assist with explaining model accuracy of each respective variable. In general, a higher skill score means a better model forecast or greater reliability.

The July-August-September precipitation outlook from the IMME indicates a 36 to 40% chance that precipitation will lean toward above-normal over parts of eastern NM. There is a greater than 50% chance that temperatures will lean toward above-normal for most of NM. Model skill is higher for the temperature forecast during this period compared to the precipitation forecast (but still less than the NMME again).

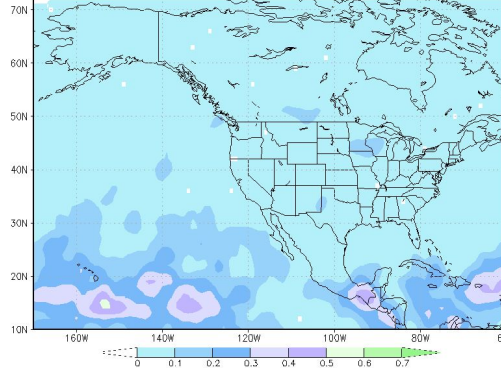
IMME prob fcst Prate IC=202605 for lead 2 2026 JAS



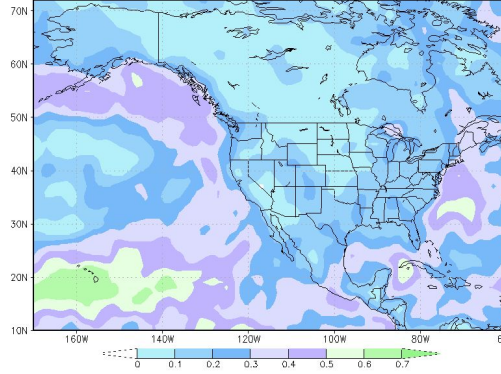
IMME prob fcst TMP2m IC=202605 for lead 2 2026 JAS



Forecast of Prec. rate Anom IC=05 for Lead 2 JAS



Forecast of TMP2m Anom IC=05 for Lead 2 JAS



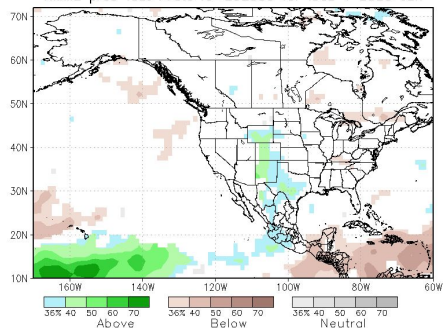
2026 Monsoon Outlook

June 2026 Outlook

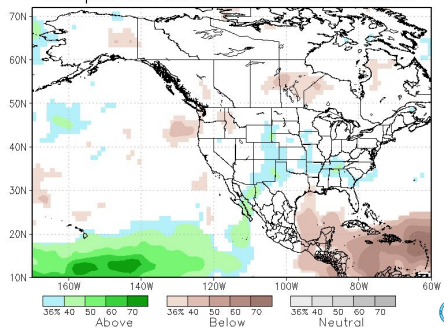
The analysis for June includes the NMME (left column), IMME (middle column), and the official CPC outlook (right column).

The NMME, IMME, and CPC outlook all show that odds strongly favor above normal precipitation for June while odds favor above normal temperature.

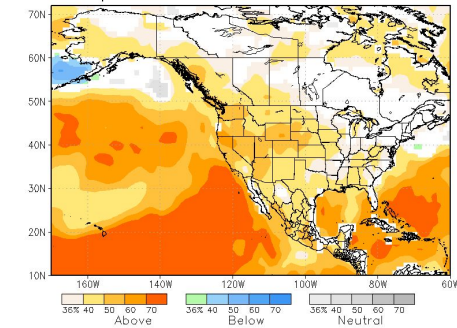
NMME prob fcst Prate IC=202605 for lead 1 2026 Jun



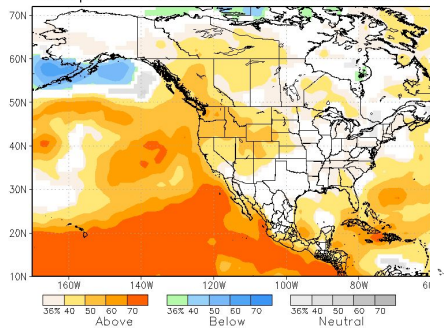
IMME prob fcst Prate IC=202605 for lead 1 2026 Jun



NMME prob fcst TMP2m IC=202605 for lead 1 2026 Jun

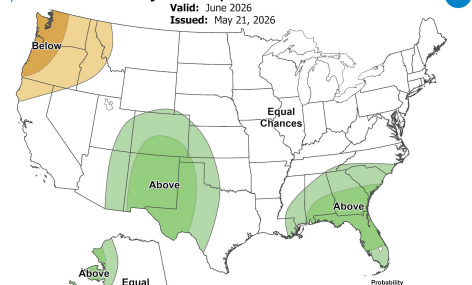


IMME prob fcst TMP2m IC=202605 for lead 1 2026 Jun



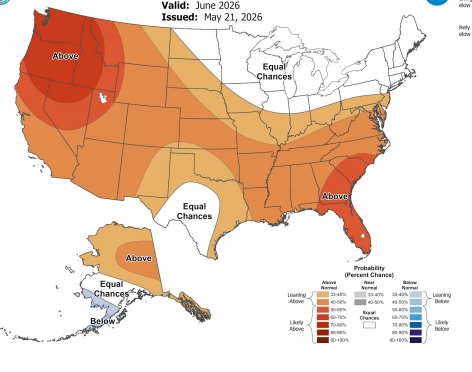
Monthly Precipitation Outlook

Valid: June 2026
Issued: May 21, 2026



Monthly Temperature Outlook

Valid: June 2026
Issued: May 21, 2026

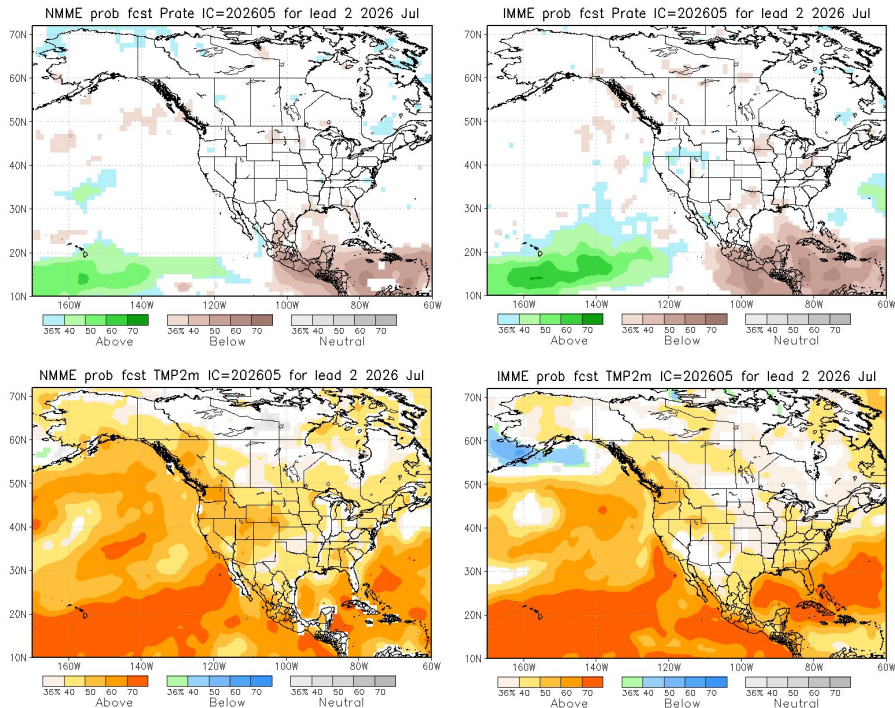


2026 Monsoon Outlook

July 2026 Outlook

The analysis for July includes the NMME (left column), IMME (middle column), and the official CPC outlook (right column).

Both the NMME and IMME show that there is no clear signal for above, below, or near-normal precipitation for July while odds slightly favor above normal temperature.



The CPC July precipitation & temperature outlook will be available June 18, 2026.



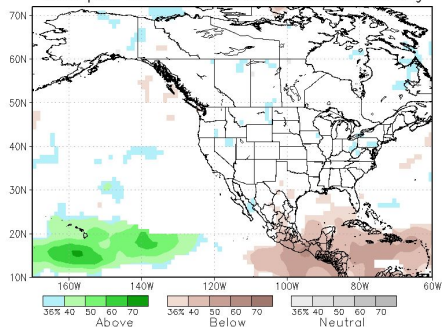
2026 Monsoon Outlook

August 2026 Outlook

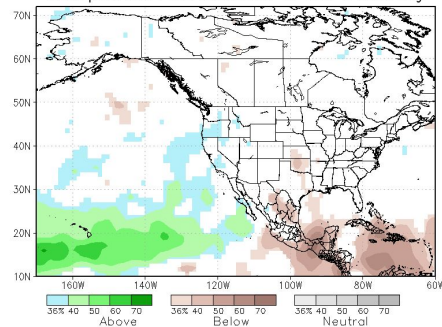
The analysis for August includes the NMME (left column), IMME (middle column), and the official CPC outlook (right column).

Both the NMME and IMME show that there is no clear signal for above, below, or near-normal precipitation for August while odds slightly favor above normal temperature.

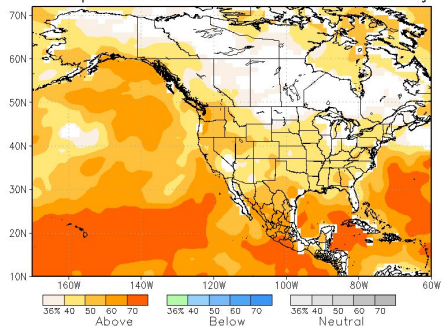
NMME prob fcst Prate IC=202605 for lead 3 2026 Aug



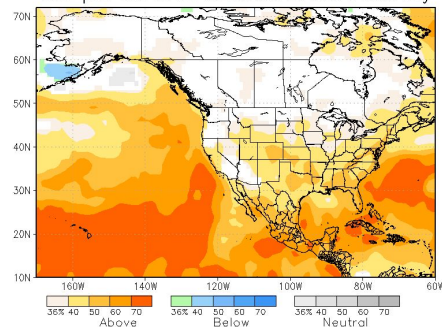
IMME prob fcst Prate IC=202605 for lead 3 2026 Aug



NMME prob fcst TMP2m IC=202605 for lead 3 2026 Aug



IMME prob fcst TMP2m IC=202605 for lead 3 2026 Aug



The CPC August precipitation & temperature outlook will be available July 16, 2026.

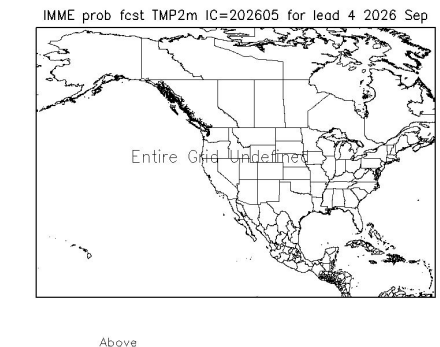
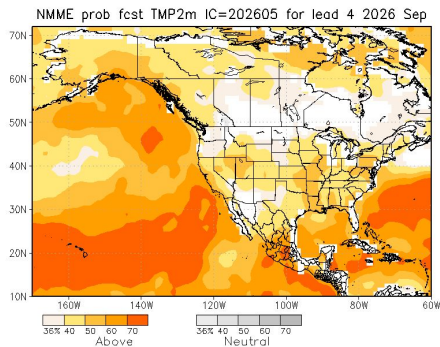
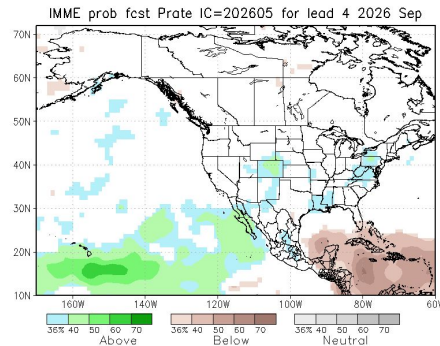
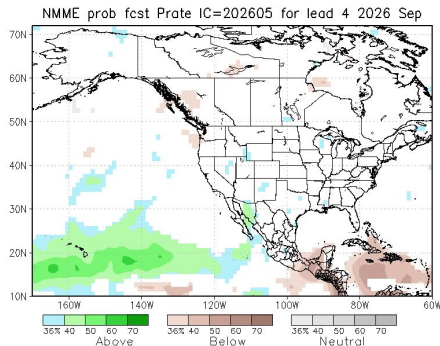


2026 Monsoon Outlook

September 2026 Outlook

The analysis for September includes the NMME (left column), IMME (middle column), and the official CPC outlook (right column).

Both the NMME and IMME show that odds favor above-normal precipitation for parts of NM for September while odds slightly favor above-normal temperature in the NMME.



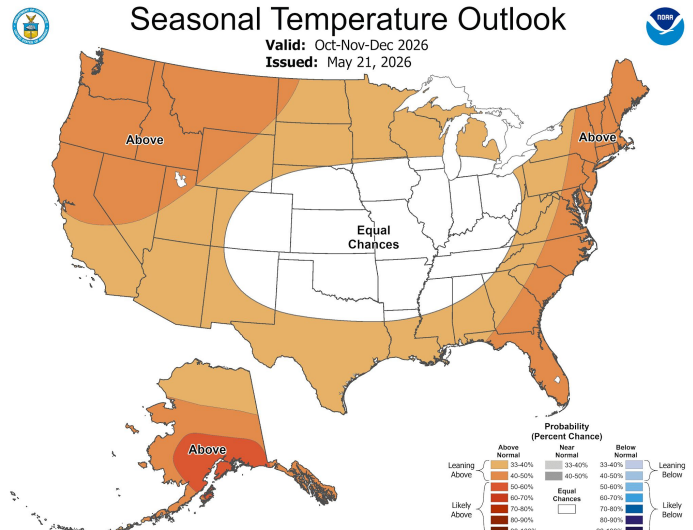
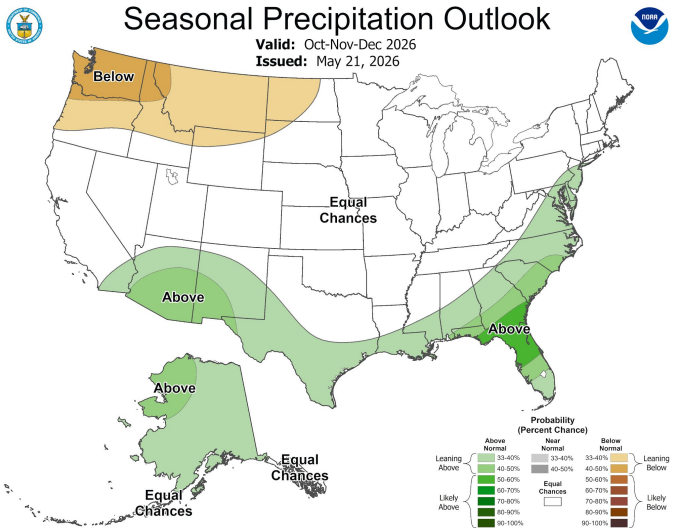
The CPC September precipitation & temperature outlook will be available August 20, 2026.



2026 Monsoon Outlook

Fall Preview (October-November-December)

The CPC seasonal outlook for the 3-month period from October through December indicates there is a 33 to 40% chance that precipitation will lean toward above-normal for central and southern NM, while southwest NM has a 40 to 50% chance that precipitation will be above-normal. There is a 33 to 40% chance that temperatures will lean toward above-normal for southern and western NM. Next CPC update June 18, 2026.



2026 Monsoon Outlook

Summary

2026 Monsoon Outlook (updated May 21, 2026):

- **Precipitation:**
There is moderate to high confidence for **near-to-above normal precipitation** across all of NM during the 4-month period from June to September.
- **Temperature:**
There is moderate to high confidence for **near-to-above normal temperatures** across all of NM during the 4-month period from June to September.

Alternative Scenarios:

- Multi-model ensemble analysis favors above-normal precipitation in June followed by no clear signal for above-normal, near-normal, or below-normal precipitation in July and August, then a return to above-normal precipitation favored in September.
- NOAA's 2026 eastern Pacific Hurricane Season outlook show a 70% chance of an above-normal season, a 20% chance of a near-normal season, and only a 10% chance of a below-normal season. The 2026 Atlantic Hurricane Season outlook shows a 10% chance of an above-normal season, a 35% chance of a near-normal season, and a 55% chance of a below-normal season. Moisture absorbed into the monsoon circulation has the potential to create active burst patterns with widespread precipitation from any remnant tropical systems.
- The Gulf of California sea surface temperatures (SSTs) remain well above normal in the midst of an intense marine heatwave. Scientists continue to debate the influence of SSTs on moisture transport anomalies and seasonal monsoon precipitation across the southwest U.S. (Johnson and Delworth 2023).
- The analog method will no longer be provided for seasonal climate outlooks. It is becoming increasingly difficult to search historical weather records for previous patterns similar to the current situation to make predictions based on those past patterns. NOAA is leveraging machine learning, AI, simulated model analogs, and highly sophisticated supercomputers to improve seasonal forecasting.

Note: It is important to note that this summary is a seasonal outlook for the entire 4-month period covering June to September. There will be sub-seasonal variability that leads to drier and wetter periods throughout the summer. Due to the highly variable nature of precipitation associated with thunderstorms, there will be areas within an above normal precipitation outlook that receive below normal precipitation and vice versa. All it takes is one extreme rainfall event to produce destructive, life-threatening flooding impacts.



2026 Monsoon Outlook

Resources, Citations, & Contact Information

Contact Us:

- Email: sr-abq.webmaster@noaa.gov

Resources & Citations:

- [CPC Outlooks](#)
- [NMME Probability Forecasts](#)
- [IMME Probability Forecasts](#)
- [IRI ENSO Forecasts](#)
- [University of Arizona - Arizona Cooperative Extension](#)
- [University of Arizona - CLIMAS](#)
- [The North American Monsoon - Climate.gov](#)
- [Impacts of El Niño and La Niña on the Hurricane Season - Climate.gov](#)
- [NOAA Hurricane Season News Release](#)
- Johnson, Benjamin O., and Delworth, Thomas L., 2023: The Role of the Gulf of California in the North American Monsoon. *Journal of Climate*. **36-6**, 1541-1559, <https://doi.org/10.1175/JCLI-D-22-0365.1>.
- Juang, Henry H.M., and Mo, Kingtse C., 2003: Influence of sea surface temperature anomalies in the Gulf of California on North American monsoon rainfall. *Journal of Geophysical Research*. **108-D3**, 4112, <https://doi.org/10.1029/2002JD002403>.
- Losee, J. E., Naufel, K. Z., Locker, L., Jr., & Webster, G. D. (2017). Weather warning uncertainty: High severity influences judgment bias. *Weather, Climate, and Society*, 9(3), 441–454. <https://doi.org/10.1175/WCAS-D-16-0124.1>

