

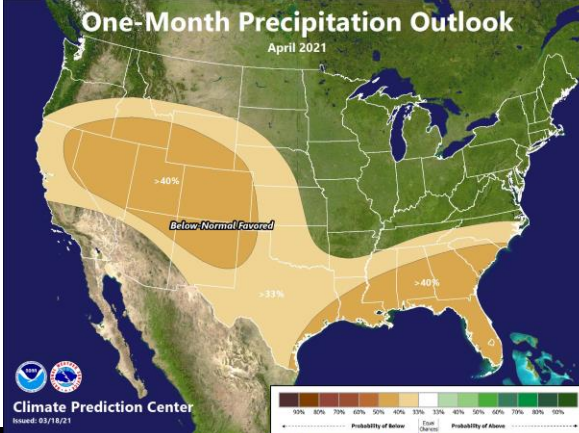
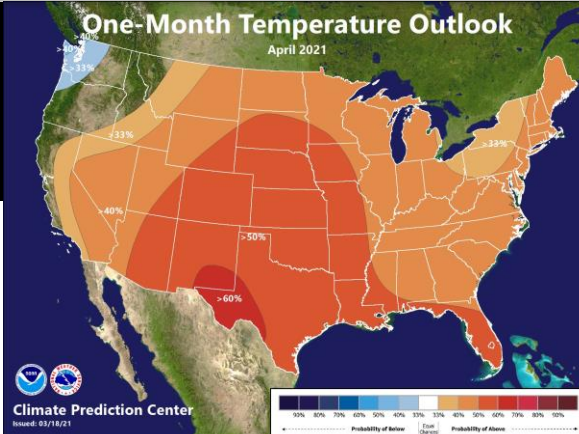


Important Message:
Warm Temps Favored

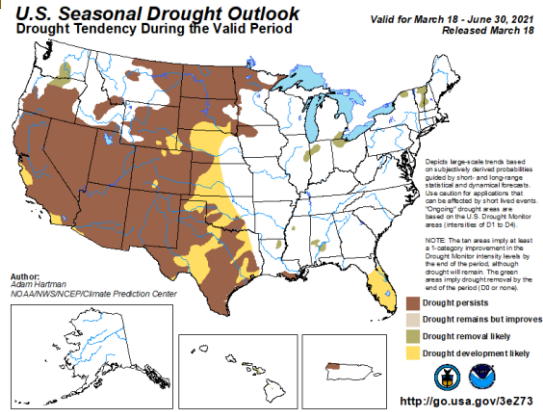
- ✓ Warmer than normal temperatures are favored for Central Region.
- ✓ There are equal chances of above or below normal precipitation for much of the region, with below normal precipitation favored to the west.
- ✓ The equal-chances area is a result of conflicting La Niña and dynamical model guidance precipitation forecasts.
- ✓ La Niña is ongoing, so this and dynamical model guidance were key factors to the April outlook.
- ✓ There is an active MJO at this time, though there is uncertainty in how this evolves.

April 2021 Temperature & Precipitation Outlooks

- The favored above-normal temperatures will further exasperate drought conditions from Colorado through the Dakotas.
- The favored above-normal temperatures can kick-start the growing season.
- Outside of possible rainy episodes, field work could begin in a timely fashion.
- Alternatively, parts of the Mississippi and Ohio River Valleys may appreciate a break from rain.



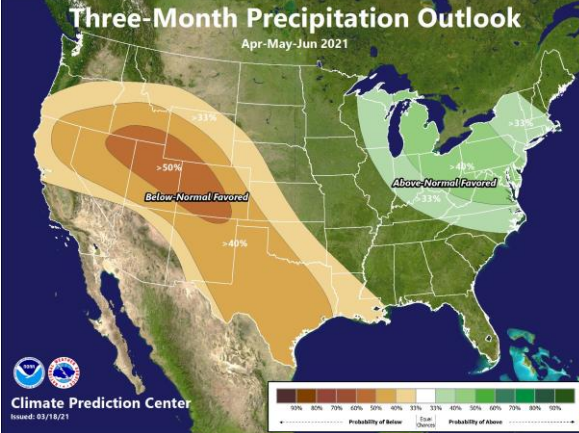
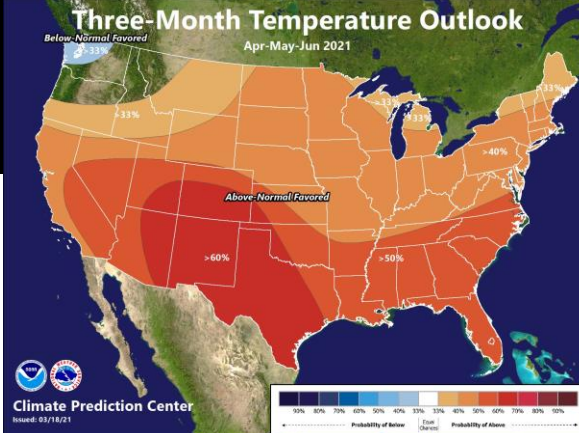
Seasonal Drought Outlook



Drought continues for the western portion of Central Region. Due to frozen ground in some locations, snowmelt did not provide adequate soil moisture recharge. As such, soils remain anomalously dry for much of the region. Based on the three-month outlook, the favored dry pattern will likely prolong drought in Central Region.

April through June 2021 Temperature & Precipitation Outlooks

- Above normal temperatures are favored for Central Region.
- This above normal forecast is mainly a result of overwhelming dynamical model guidance which favors this solution.
- Low soil moisture over the Great Plains was a contributing factor.
- Those in the western reaches of Central Region are favored to experience below normal precipitation, while eastern areas favor above normal precipitation.
- The above normal precipitation signal in the east is a result of a potential lingering La Niña.



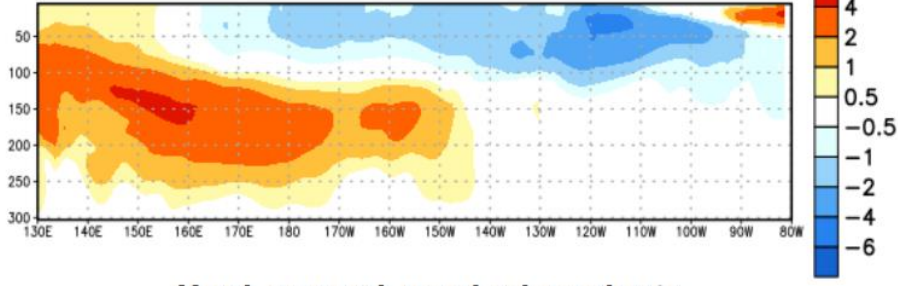


ENSO Status: La Niña Advisory

IRI/CPC Probabilistic ENSO Forecast/Plumes

EQ. Subsurface Temperature Anomalies (deg C)

Pentad centered on 09 MAR 2021

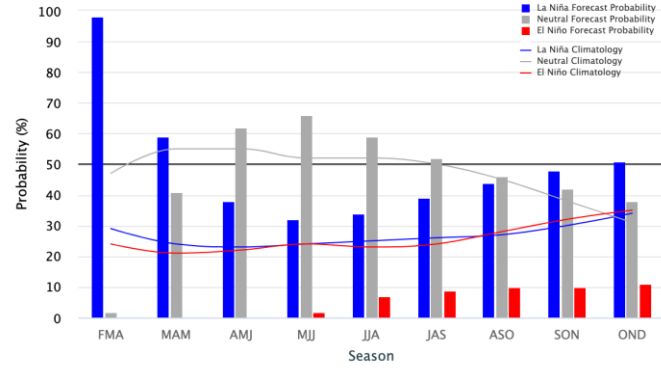


Most recent pentad analysis

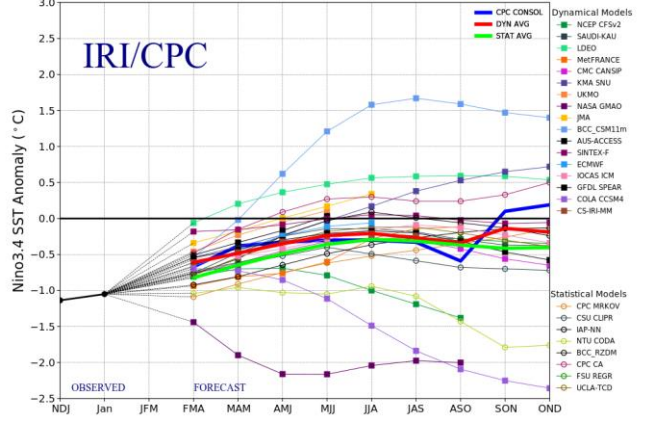
ABOVE: According to the Climate Prediction Center, the negative subsurface anomalies have weakened. Positive temperature anomalies noted in the western Pacific have shifted eastward. Read CPC's full discussion via the "Useful Links" below.

Early-March 2021 CPC/IRI Official Probabilistic ENSO Forecasts

ENSO state based on NINO3.4 SST Anomaly
Neutral ENSO: -0.5 °C to 0.5 °C



Model Predictions of ENSO from Feb 2021



- La Niña is favored to continue through much of spring, then transition to ENSO neutral.
- Typically, the spring offers a lower predictability score.
- Following ENSO neutral, it is not out of the realm of possibility to return to La Niña, but this is not a guarantee.

Useful Links/Info:

- News from [Climate.gov](https://climate.gov)
- [Latest ENSO Blog](#) from Climate.gov
- [Sea Surface Temperatures](#) from the Climate Prediction Center
- [Latest ENSO Discussion](#) from the Climate Prediction Center
- [Drought Information](#) from the US Drought Monitor
- [Interactive GIS Mapping](#) from NCEI (Anomalies/Rankings)
- [Local Climate Analysis Tool](#) (LCAT) – Account registration required
- [NWS Forecast Maps](#) from Western Region

Other Teleconnection Effects

There is an active MJO at this time, though there is uncertainty in how this will evolve through April.

