



Important Message:

Transition To La Niña

The probability of a La Niña developing has increased to a 60% for the fall, with a 55% chance to continue through the winter

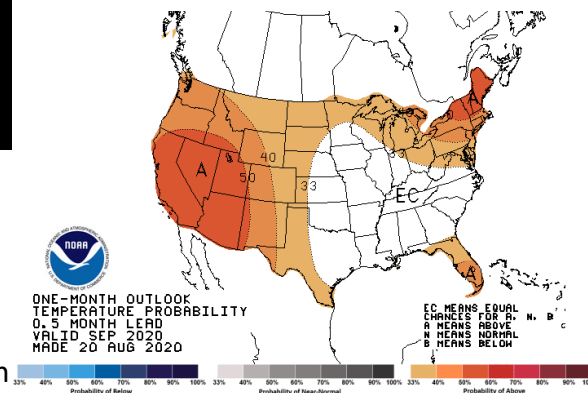
La Niña is the major driving climate factor in the seasonal outlook, but also contributed to warm and dry conditions favored in parts of Central Region for September

Soil moisture was a factor in the monthly outlook but becomes less influential towards the end of September, and was thus not used for the seasonal outlook

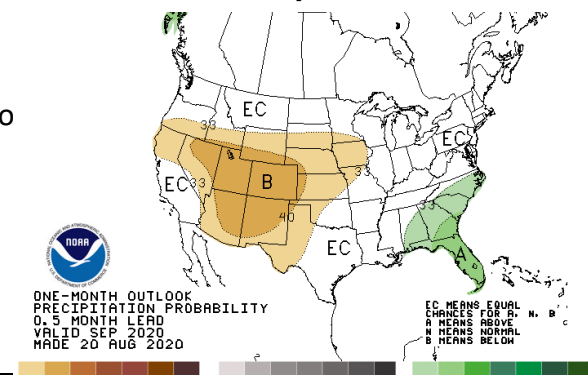
Sep 2020 Temperature & Precipitation Outlooks

- Above average temperatures are slightly favored for the Rockies through the Northern Plains and Great Lakes, while there are equal chances for above, below, and normal temperatures for the eastern Plains into the Midwest. This was based on consensus from dynamical models, as well as soil moisture.
- Below average precipitation is favored for the southern Rockies into the central Plains. There is an equal chance for above, below, or normal precipitation for the far Northern Plains, into the Great Lakes and eastern Midwest. Dynamical model guidance influenced this outlook.

One Month Temperature Outlook



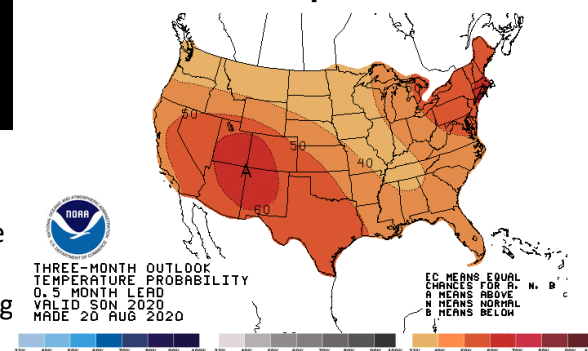
One Month Precipitation Outlook



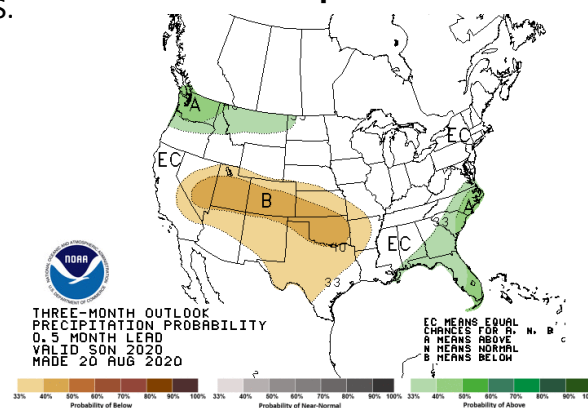
Sept through November Temperature & Precipitation Outlooks

- Above average temperatures are favored across all of Central Region, with the lowest probabilities across the Northern Plains into the Midwest. This is from long-term warming trends being damped due to the expected La Niña conditions bringing cooler temperatures into the northern CONUS.
- Below average precipitation is favored in Colorado and the southern Plains, with a tilt towards above average precipitation in northwest North Dakota. The rest of Central Region has equal chances for above, below, or normal precipitation. This shows the beginning of the transition towards the typical La Niña precipitation pattern.

Three Month Temperature Outlook

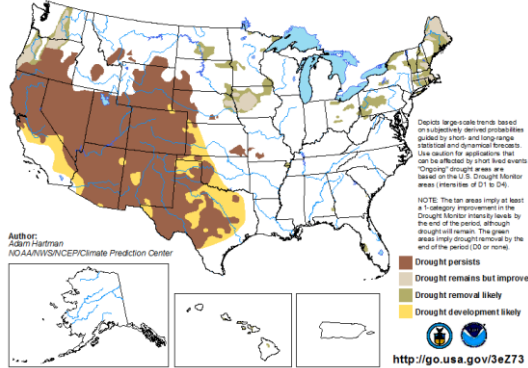


Three Month Precipitation Outlook



Seasonal Drought Outlook

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook
Drought Tendency During the Valid Period
Valid for August 20 - November 30, 2020
Released August 20



Existing drought is expected to continue in parts of Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, and South Dakota, with additional development likely in these areas. Drought is expected to improve or be removed completely in parts of the Dakotas and the upper Midwest. Dry and warm conditions in the southwest during SON, due to La Niña, will help drought persist.

Building a Weather-Ready Nation

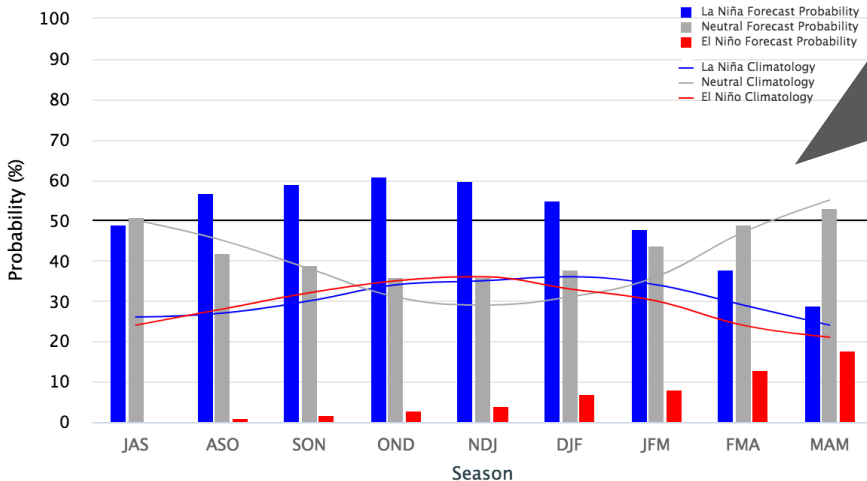


ENSO Status: *La Niña Watch*

IRI/CPC Probabilistic ENSO Forecast/Plumes

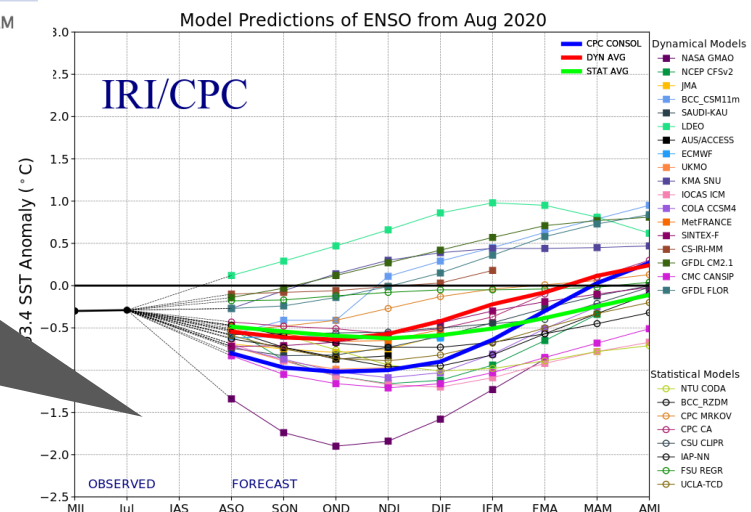
Early-August 2020 CPC/IRI Official Probabilistic ENSO Forecasts

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



The probability of a La Niña developing increased this month, up to a 60% chance for this fall and a 55% chance to continue through the winter. There is a large reservoir of cold subsurface SST anomalies in the central Pacific, and low and upper level wind field anomalies indicate the atmospheric transition to La Niña conditions.

Models still have a large spread in SST anomalies, with both the dynamical and statistical averages showing a weak La Niña developing in the fall. Uncertainty increases into the spring, with many members showing a trend towards ENSO-neutral SST anomalies.



Useful Links/Info:

News from [Climate.gov](https://climate.gov)
[Latest ENSO Blog](https://climate.gov/enso) from Climate.gov
[Sea Surface Temperatures](https://climate.gov/sea-surface-temperatures) from the Climate Prediction Center
[Latest ENSO Discussion](https://climate.gov/enso-discussion) from the Climate Prediction Center
[Drought Information](https://droughtmonitor.noaa.gov) from the US Drought Monitor
[Interactive GIS Mapping](https://climate.gov/interactive-gis-mapping) from NCEI (Anomalies/Rankings)
[Local Climate Analysis Tool](https://climate.gov/local-climate-analysis-tool) (LCAT) – Account registration required
[NWS Forecast Maps](https://westernregion.noaa.gov) from Western Region

Other Teleconnection Effects

- The MJO is largely in a wave 1 pattern, which was a factor in the monthly outlook. Otherwise, the influence of other teleconnections is low as we continue the transition from ENSO-neutral to La Niña conditions.



Building a Weather-Ready Nation