

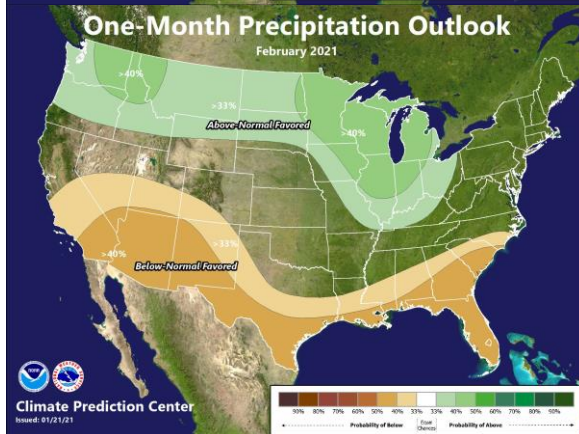
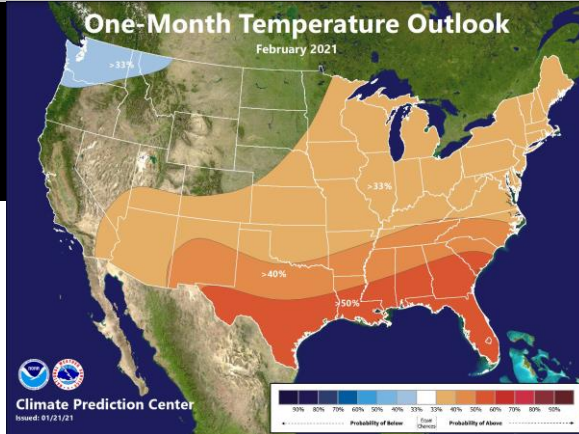


✓ Important Message:
La Niña Continues

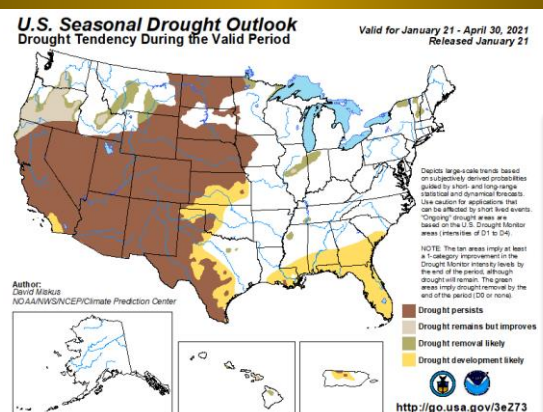
- ✓ La Niña is expected to continue through the Northern Hemisphere winter 2020-21 (~95% chance during January-March), with a potential transition to ENSO-neutral during the spring 2021 (55% chance during April-June).
- ✓ CPC/IRI probabilistic ENSO forecasts indicate the possibility that this could be a double dip (second year) La Niña. This has occurred in 63% of La Niñas.
- ✓ NAO expected to become positive during late January/early February.

February 2021 Temperature & Precipitation Outlooks

- With the exception of the northwest part of Central Region (where equal chances of warmer-, near-, and colder-than-normal are expected), much of Central Region is expected to see odds tilted toward warmer-than-normal temperatures this February.
- The odds are tilted toward wetter-than-normal conditions across the northern and eastern portions of Central Region this February. Meanwhile, drier-than-normal conditions are favored in southern & western Colorado.



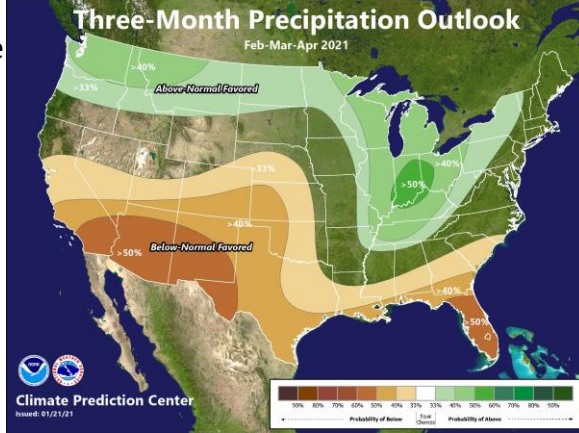
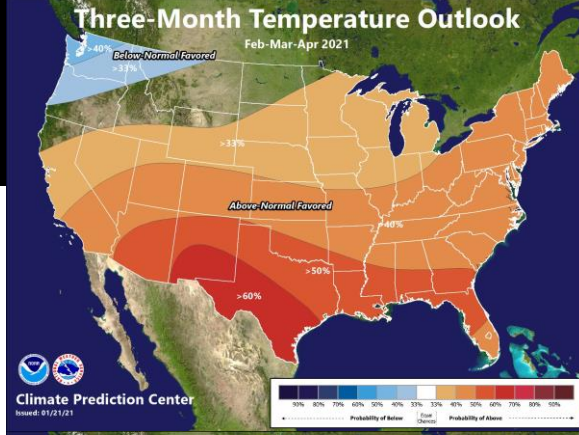
Seasonal Drought Outlook



- Some improvement is expected in the moderate (D1) drought from central Illinois into northern Indiana.
- Elsewhere, the drought is expected to persist across the western half of Central Region.

February through April 2021 Temperature & Precipitation Outlooks

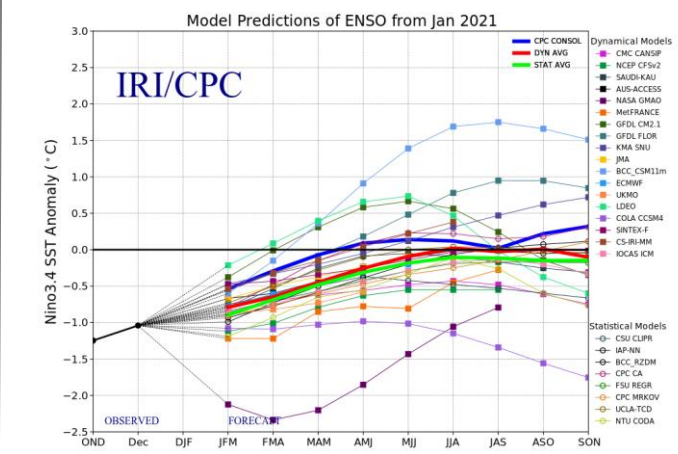
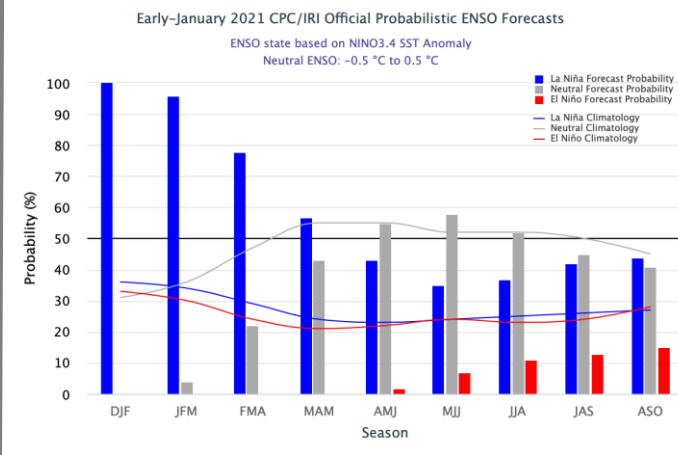
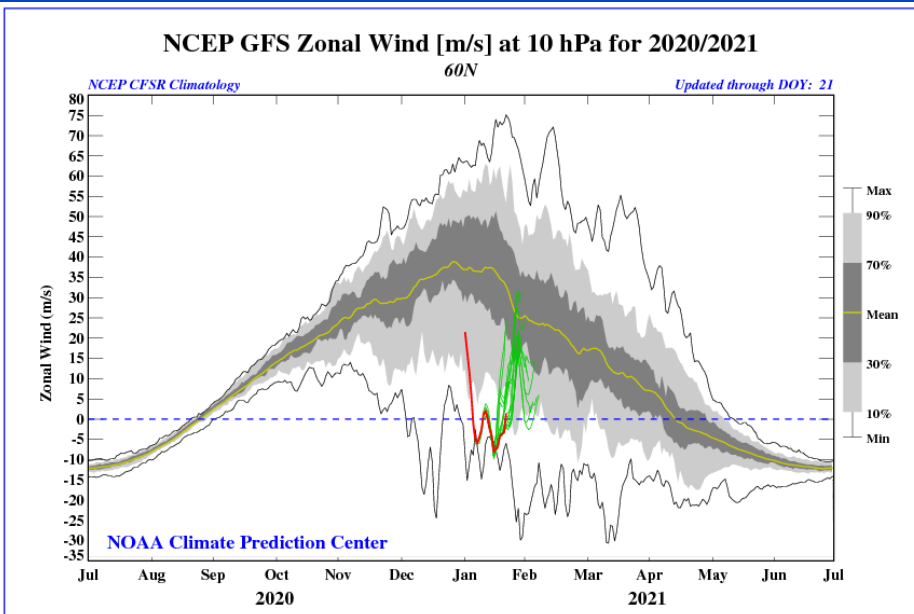
- The odds are tilted toward warmer-than-normal conditions across most of Central Region February through April. The highest probabilities (40-50%) will be across the southern portion of the region.
- Wetter-than-normal conditions are favored from the Great Lakes south into Kentucky, and into northern Minnesota and North Dakota this February through April. Meanwhile, the odds are tilted toward drier-than-normal conditions in Kansas, Nebraska, & Colorado.





**ENSO Status:
La Niña Advisory**

**IRI/CPC Probabilistic ENSO
Forecast/Plumes**



- Stratospheric winds have briefly reversed due to sudden stratospheric warming, but are expected to return to near normal over the next 16 days, which extends into early February. This will not be long enough for a long duration cold pattern to become established across the eastern portions of Central Region in the late January & early February time frame. ([Stratospheric Analyses & Forecasts from CPC](#))

- ENSO neutral will have the highest probability of occurrence by the April-June time period. This is not that unusual for La Niña. This occurs even in multiple year La Niñas.

Useful Links/Info:

- News from [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

- MJO is expected to remain weak. Throughout this winter, the MJO signal has weakened over the Central Pacific, so we have not been seeing phases 6-8.

