

JULY
2015

International Research Institute for Climate and Society

CLIMATE BRIEFING



What you need to know.

Since mid-May, both oceanic & atmospheric conditions in the tropical Pacific met thresholds required for moderate strength El Niño, including a warmed sea-surface temperature, significant weakening of trade winds and establishment of above-average cloudiness and rainfall in east-central tropical Pacific. The coupling of the anomalous oceanic and atmospheric patterns helps ensure continuation and likely further strengthening of El Niño over the coming months.

A new set of model runs indicates probability for El Niño greater than 95% from the July-September season in progress through the northern winter season, and at least 85% into spring 2016 (lower chart on right). These probabilities are slightly greater than those of the official ENSO forecast issued July 9, which used both models and human judgement.

A majority of models suggests at least continuation, if not further strengthening, of El Niño during summer and autumn, likely to become a strong event. Some uncertainty remains for forecasts of the El Niño's peak strength.

Tony's Take*

IRI Chief Climate Forecaster Anthony Barnston gives a video rundown of the climate briefing in under two minutes. Feel free to embed!

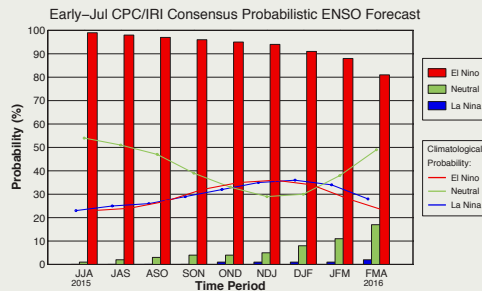


Link: <https://vimeo.com/133610715>

*Video usually posted by 5 pm on the day of the briefing.

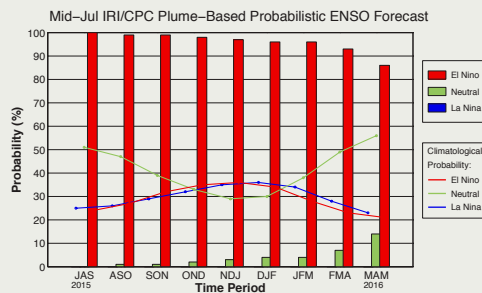
This month's key graphic.

Current Official ENSO forecast (issued July 9)



NOAA's Climate Prediction Center and IRI jointly produce this forecast every second Thursday. It stands as the official consensus forecast for ENSO.

Updated ENSO forecast (July 16)



IRI and CPC issue an updated model-based ENSO forecast on the third Thursday of each month.

Additional Resources.

Powerpoint of this month's briefing:

iri.columbia.edu/~tonyb/fctbriefingJul15.ppt

All of IRI's Forecasts:

iri.columbia.edu/our-expertise/climate/forecasts/

IRI's ENSO Map Room:

iridl.ideo.columbia.edu/maproom/ENSO/

Email media@iri.columbia.edu to sign up for this bulletin

ENSO questions? Tweet @climatesociety w/ #ENSOQandA