

NOV  
2015

International Research Institute for Climate and Society

# CLIMATE BRIEFING



## What you need to know.

**As of mid-November**, the oceanic & atmospheric conditions in the tropical Pacific indicate a strong El Niño, including a significantly warmed sea-surface temperature, marked weakening of trade winds and above-average cloudiness and rainfall in east-central tropical Pacific. The coupling of the anomalous oceanic and atmospheric patterns helps ensure continuation and possibly some slight further strengthening of El Niño over the coming 1–2 months.

**A new set of model runs indicates probability for El Niño at least 98%** from the October–December season in progress into early spring season of 2016, and about 77% for it to last through spring (lower chart on right). These probabilities are fairly similar to those of the official ENSO forecast issued November 12, which used both models and human judgement.

**A strong majority of models** suggests continuation, and possibly some slight further strengthening, of El Niño through early winter. While precise forecasts of peak strength are not possible, this event appears likely to be among the three strongest previous events since 1950.

## 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!

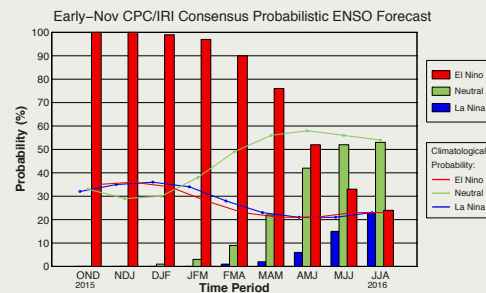


Link: <https://vimeo.com/146199157>\*

\*Video usually posted by Friday noon.

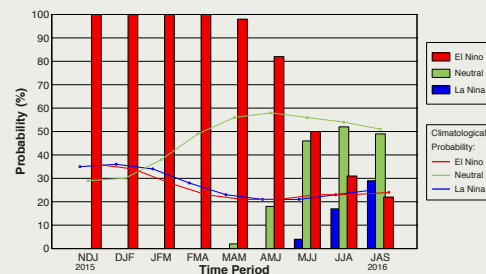
## This month's key graphic.

### Current Official ENSO forecast (issued Oct. 15)



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 (Nov. 19)



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/fctbriefingNov15.ppt](http://iri.columbia.edu/~tonyb/fctbriefingNov15.ppt)

**All of IRI's Forecasts:**  
[iri.columbia.edu/our-expertise/climate/forecasts/](http://iri.columbia.edu/our-expertise/climate/forecasts/)

**IRI's ENSO Map Room:**  
[iridl.ideo.columbia.edu/maproom/ENSO/](http://iridl.ideo.columbia.edu/maproom/ENSO/)

**Email** [media@iri.columbia.edu](mailto:media@iri.columbia.edu) to sign up for this bulletin

**ENSO questions?** Tweet @climatesociety w/ #ENSOQandA