

## El Niño/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Diagnostic Discussion.

### **Part 1 - Mission Connection**

a. Product/Service Description. The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) issues this monthly bulletin to provide insight into climate outlooks by reviewing the potential effects of the ENSO.

b. Purpose/Intended Use. CPC issues this bulletin to provide insight into climate outlooks by reviewing past ENSO conditions and looking ahead to implications on the upcoming seasons.

c. Audience. The product is intended for use by decision makers (having a technical background in climate variability) in weather and climate sensitive activities sensitive to seasonal and inter-annual climate variation.

d. Presentation Format. The summary is presented in text on AWIPS. It is also posted on the CPC web site. The text refers to various graphics.

e. Feedback. Go to: <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/comment-form.html>

### **Part 2 - Technical**

a. Format and Science Basis. CPC will indicate the expected occurrence (or lack of occurrence) of El Niño or La Niña for the next 3 months. El Niño. (La Niña) is defined by a positive (negative) sea surface temperature (SST) anomaly of 0.5°C or greater from the average over 3 consecutive months in the Niño 3.4 region of the Pacific Ocean (5°N to 5°S and 120°W to 170°W). Niño 3.4 three month SST area averages are computed from 1971-2000 SST base period means.

CPC will also address current oceanic and atmospheric conditions in the Pacific and climate outlooks for the following one to three seasons. They include analysis of current and recent patterns in surface and subsurface water temperature anomalies in the tropical Pacific; related analyses such as rainfall, outgoing long wave radiation, etc.; influencing factors such as Madden-Julian Oscillations, Kelvin waves, etc; and statistical and coupled model predictions.

The following is a generic format. The current discussion is at [\\_](#)

EL NINO/SOUTHERN OSCILLATION (ENSO) DIAGNOSTIC DISCUSSION  
NWS CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER CAMP SPRINGS MD  
1000 AM E-T THU mo. # 20--

NOTE: FIGURES MENTIONED IN THE DISCUSSION ARE AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT ([url](#)).

---text---

THIS DISCUSSION IS A TEAM EFFORT OF NOAA AND ITS FUNDED INSTITUTIONS.  
UPDATES OF SST... 850-HPA WIND... OLR AND THE EQUATORIAL SUBSURFACE

TEMPERATURE STRUCTURE ARE AVAILABLE ON THE CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER WEB PAGE AT [HTTP://WWW.CPC.NCEP.NOAA.GOV](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov) (WEEKLY UPDATE). FORECASTS FOR THE EVOLUTION OF EL NIÑO/LA NIÑA ARE UPDATED MONTHLY IN CPC'S CLIMATE DIAGNOSTICS BULLETIN FORECAST FORUM. TO RECEIVE AN E-MAIL NOTIFICATION WHEN UPDATED ENSO DIAGNOSTIC DISCUSSIONS ARE RELEASED PLEASE SEND YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS TO:

CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER  
NATIONAL CENTERS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PREDICTION  
NOAA/NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
CAMP SPRINGS MD 20746-4304  
E-MAIL: (contact) -optional-

\$\$

b. Availability. CPC will usually issue this monthly discussion on the Thursday from the 5th to the 11<sup>th</sup>, at around 10:00 a.m. Eastern local time. If necessary, the issuance date may be changed with advance notice (e.g. due to holidays). The issuance time may be delayed a few hours if it is part of a climate outlook press conference. It is issued in NWS dissemination systems under the following IDs:

WMO heading - FXUS24 KWNC AWIPS ID - PMDENS

It is also available in the CPC web site at the address in section a.

c. Other information

Valid Time. This product is valid until the next issuance.

Product Expiration Time. This product expires with the next issuance.

Creation Software. CPC issues the publication using a text editor.