

El Niño Update

Eastern Region

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24 November 2015

Summary

ENSO Alert System Status: El Niño Advisory

El Niño conditions are present.*

Positive equatorial sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies continue across most of the Pacific Ocean.

El Niño will likely peak during the Northern Hemisphere winter 2015-16, with a transition to ENSO-neutral anticipated during the late spring or early summer 2016.*

Is expected to be among the top 3 strongest El Niños going back to 1950.

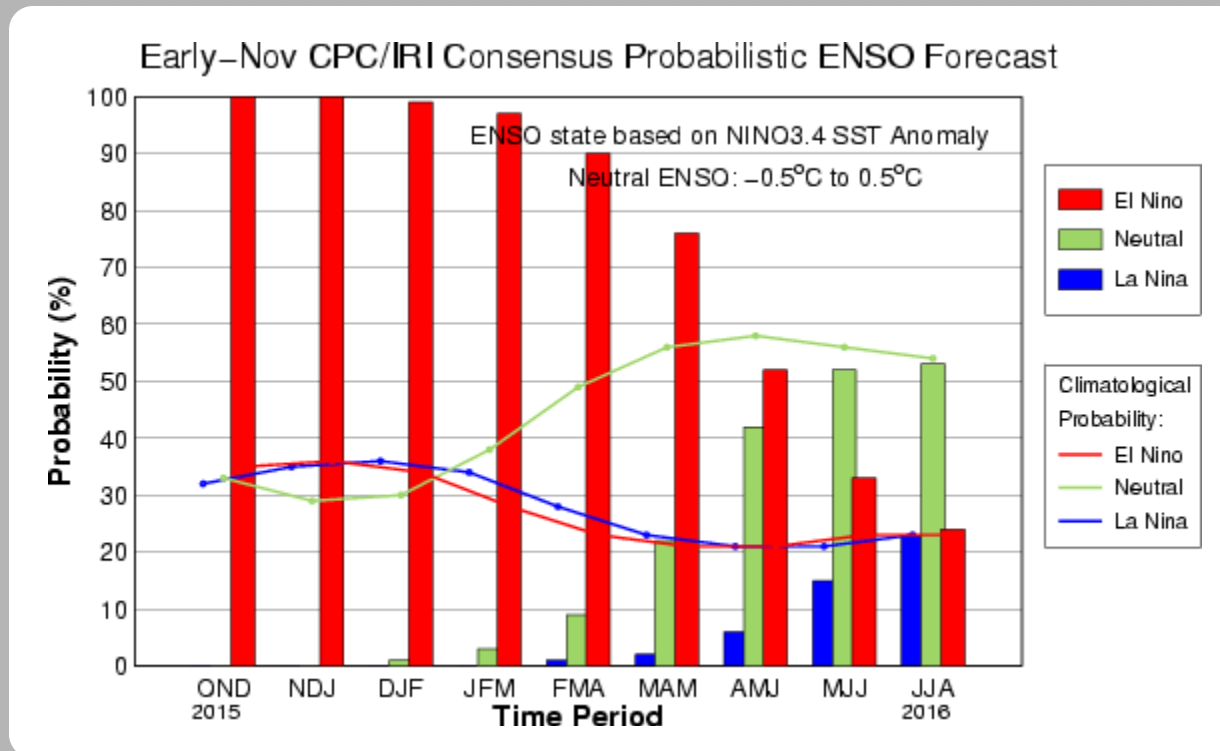
ENSO Diagnostics Discussion http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/enso_advisory/ensodisc.html

ENSO Blog <http://www.climate.gov/news-features/department/enso-blog>

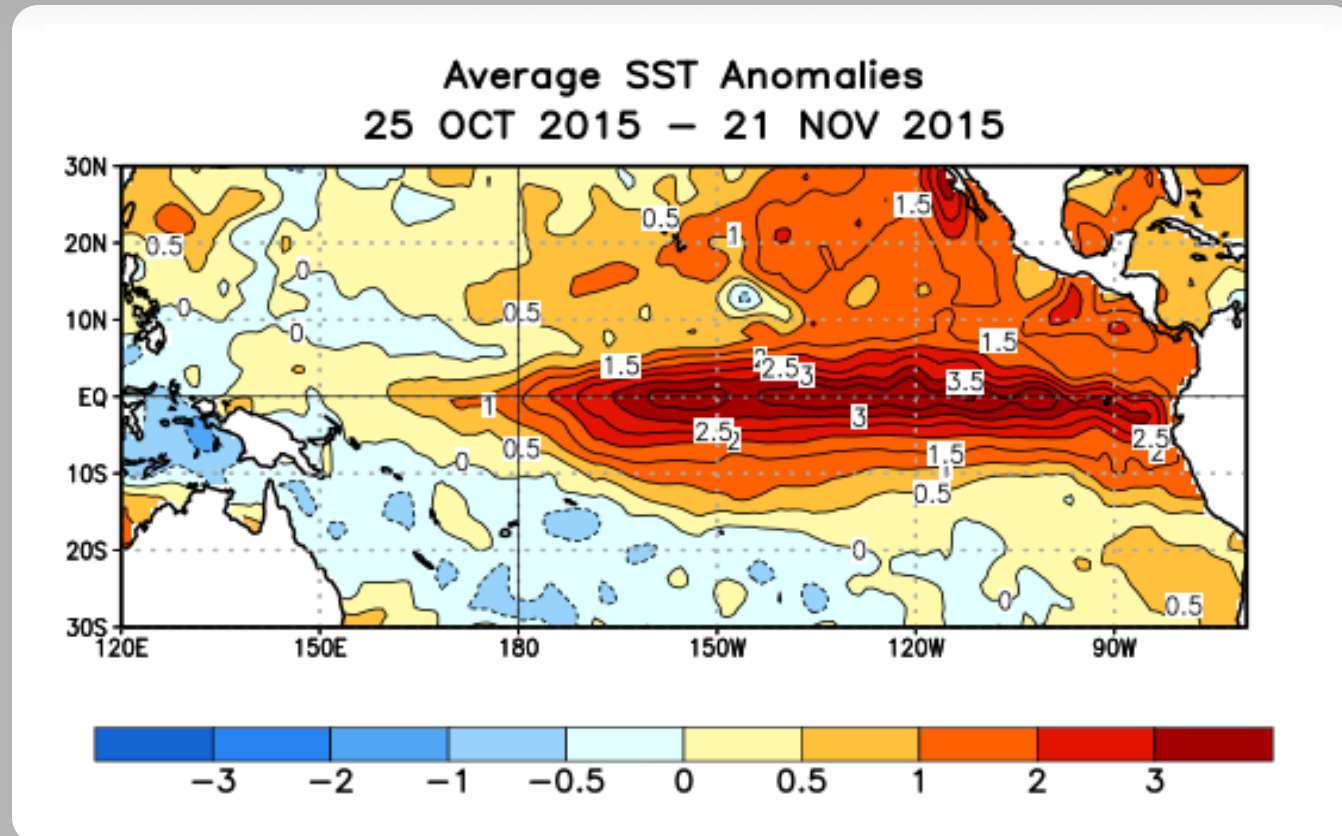
Current Niño-3.4 SST Probabilities

Updated: 12 November 2015

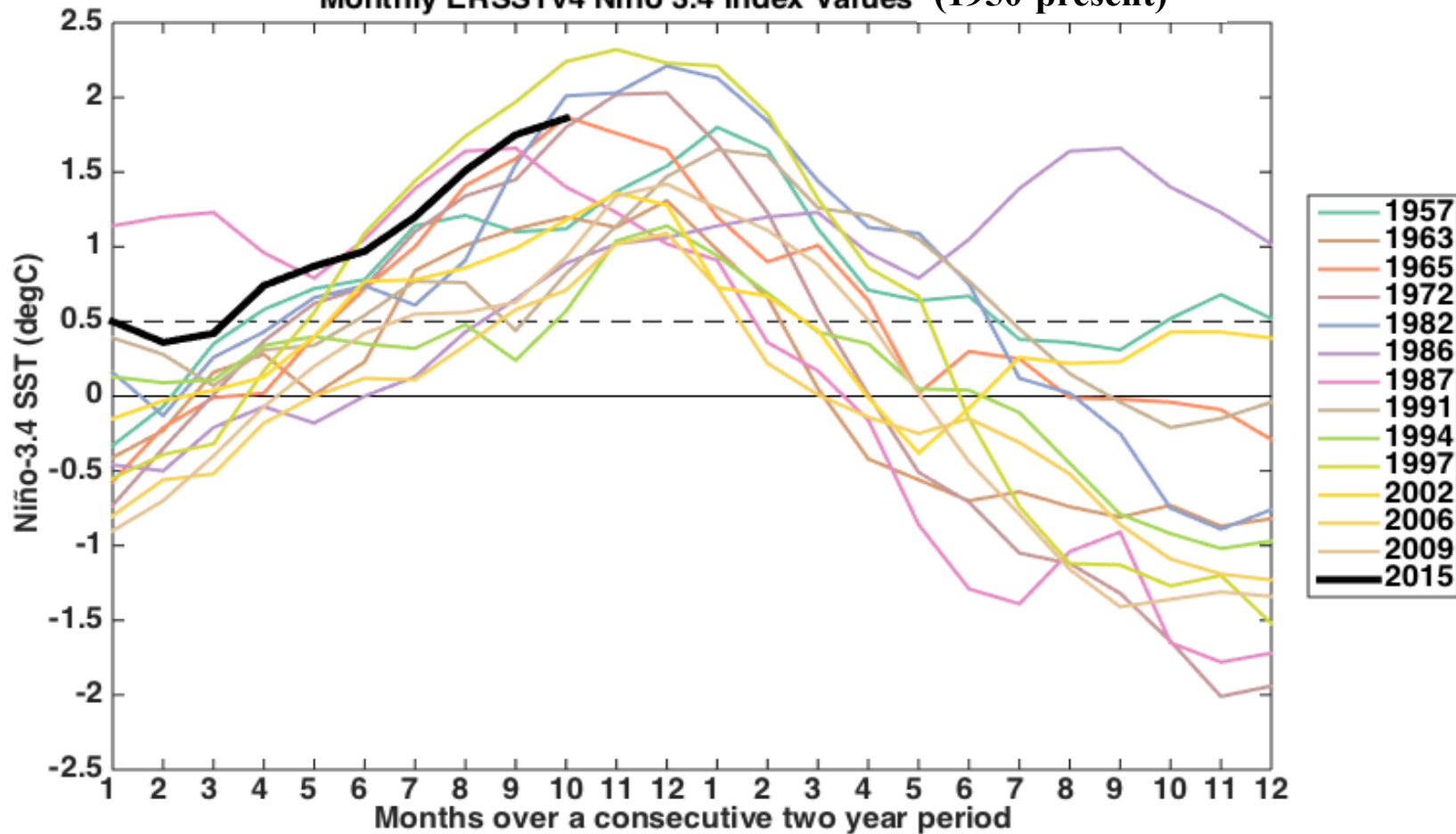
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SST Departures (°C) in the Tropical Pacific During the Last Four Weeks

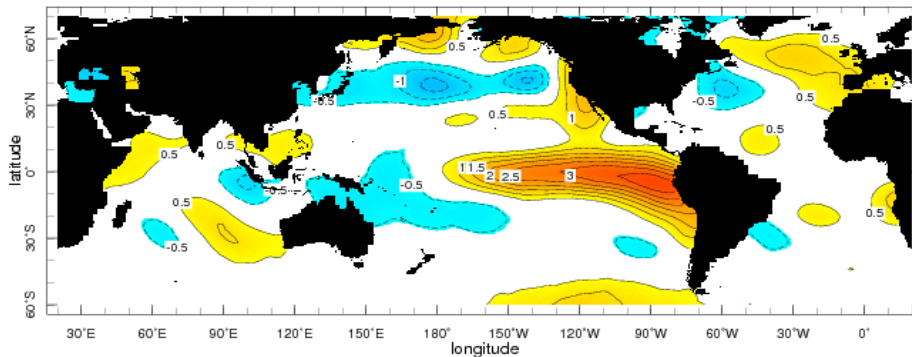


Monthly ERSSTv4 Niño 3.4 Index Values (1950-present)

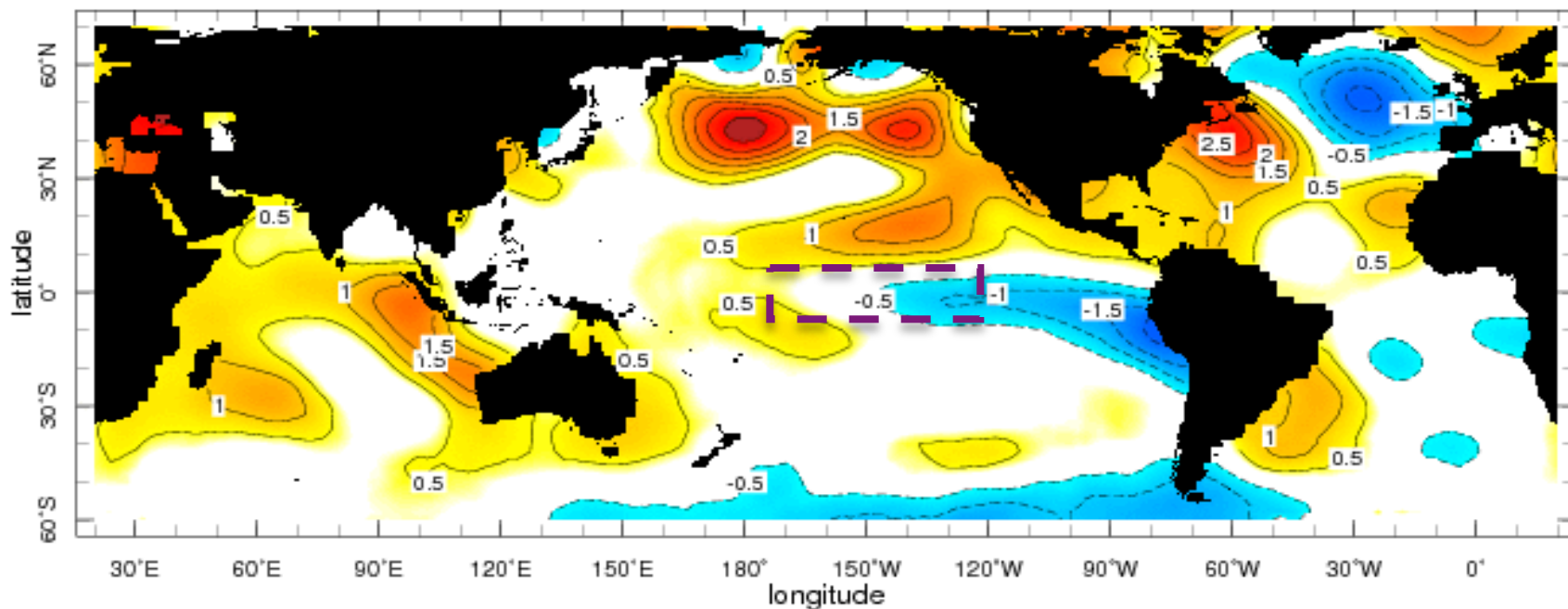
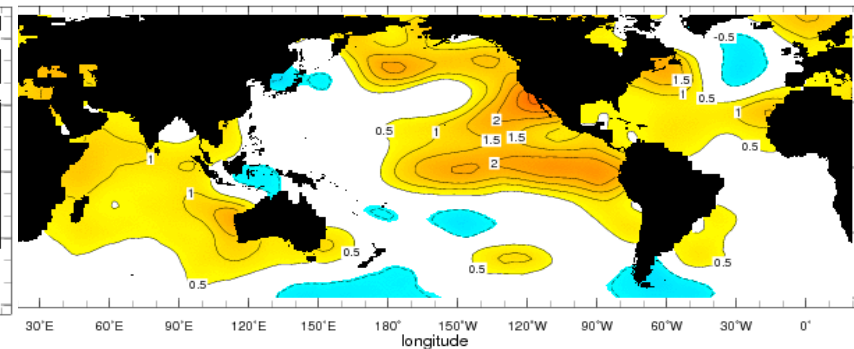


How October 2015 is Different from 1997 (ERSSTv4)

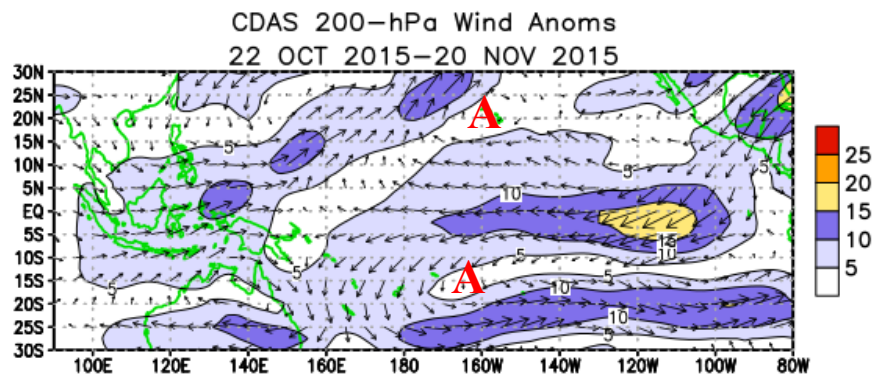
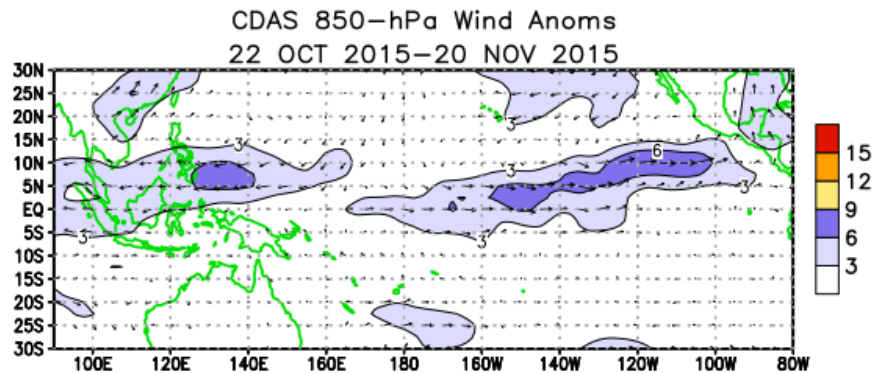
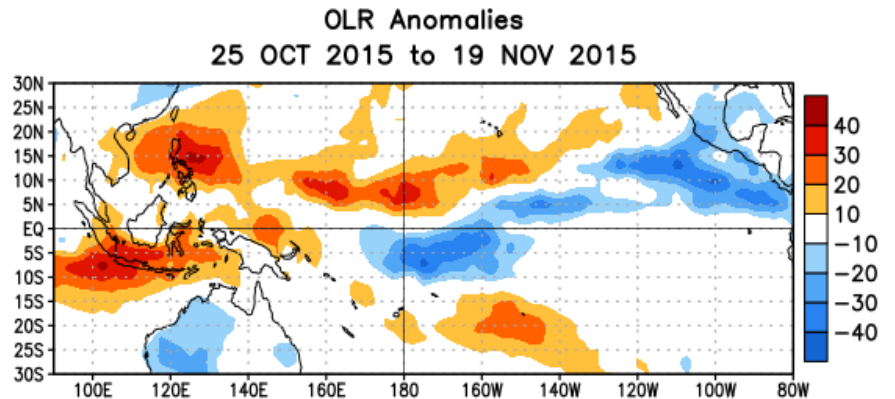
Oct 1997



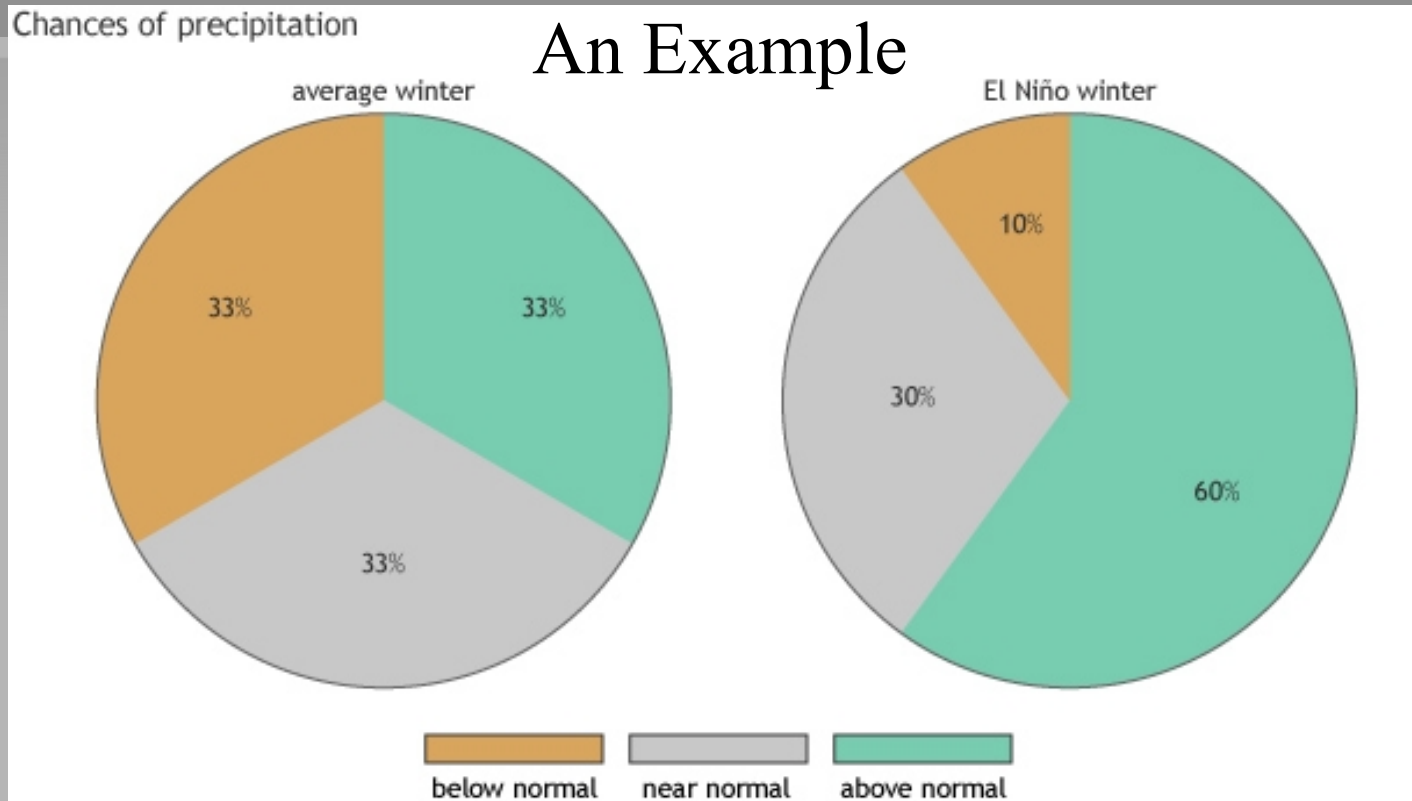
Oct 2015



Tropical OLR and Wind Anomalies During the Last 30 Days



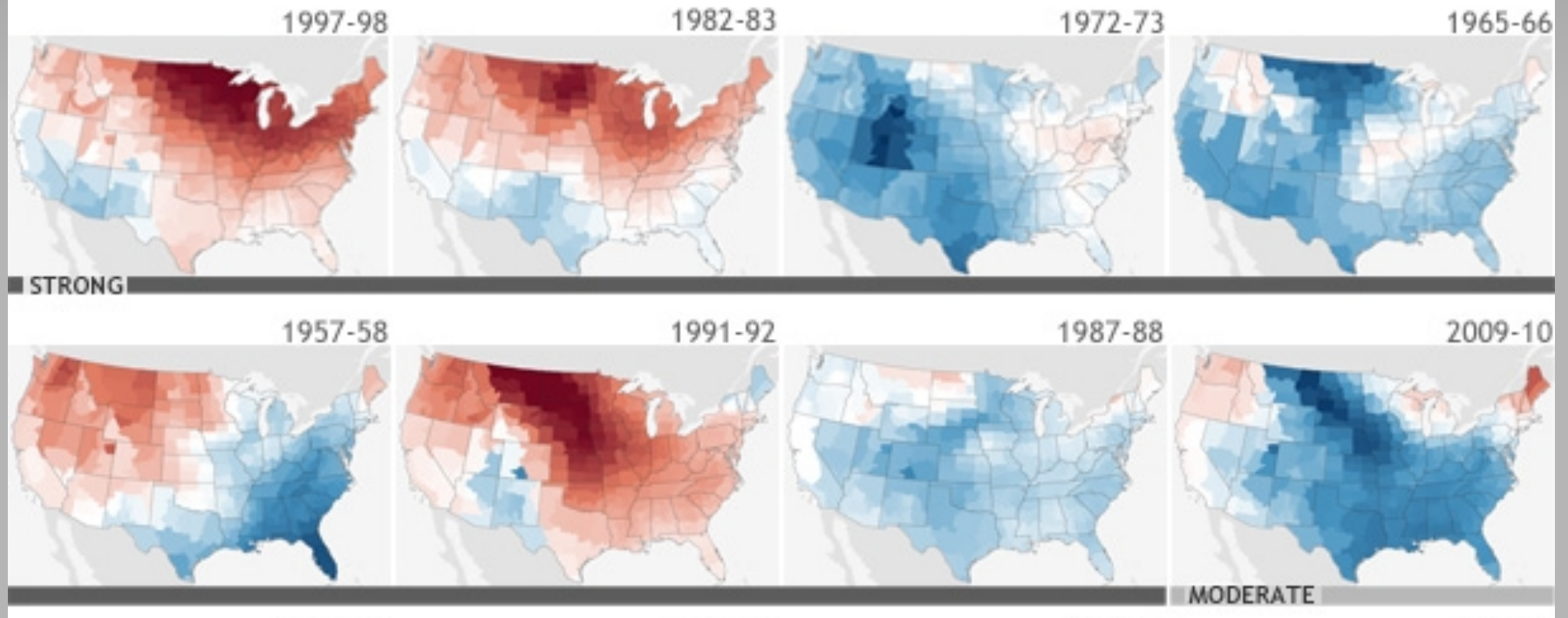
El Niño changes the odds for certain impacts.
The % shift tends to be larger for stronger El Niño events.



... but, impacts are never guaranteed in seasonal climate prediction because there are unpredictable elements that influence the result.

December-February Temperature & Precipitation Impacts are not identical even with a Strong El Niño

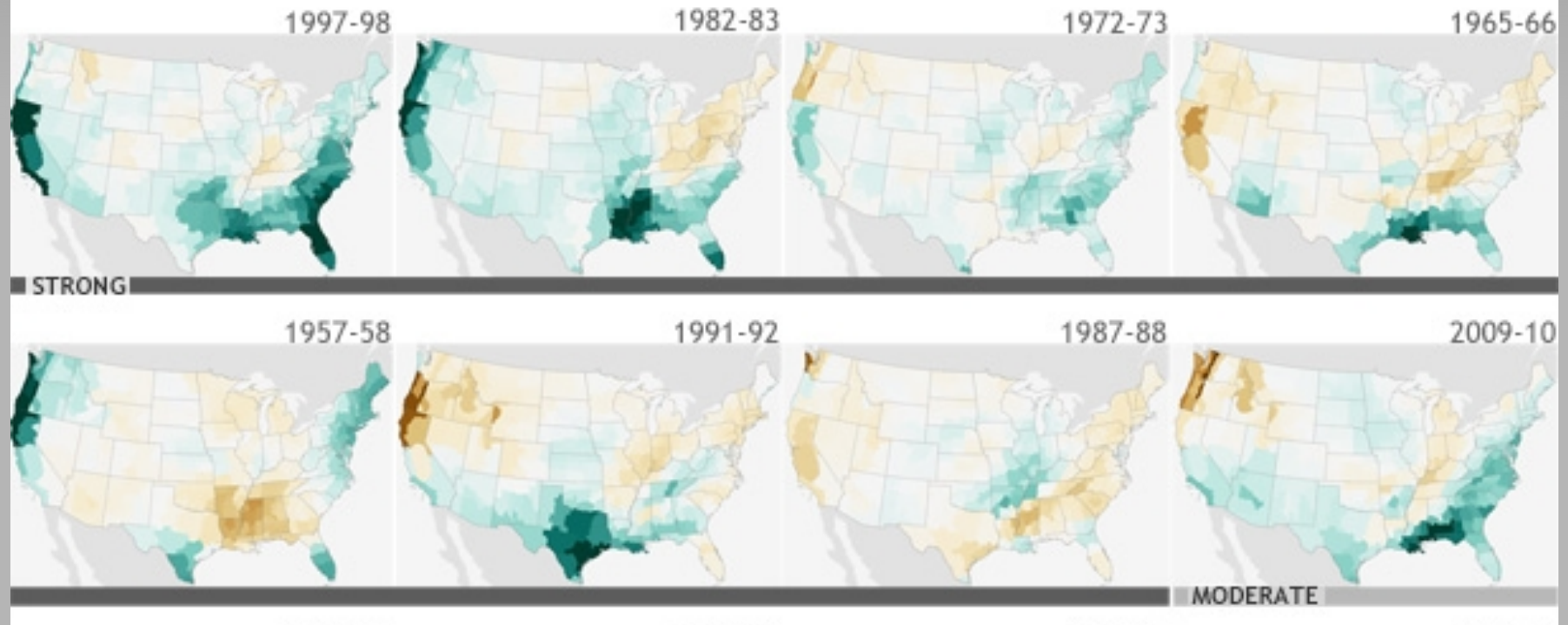
Winter temperature patterns during strong, moderate, and weak El Niño events since 1950



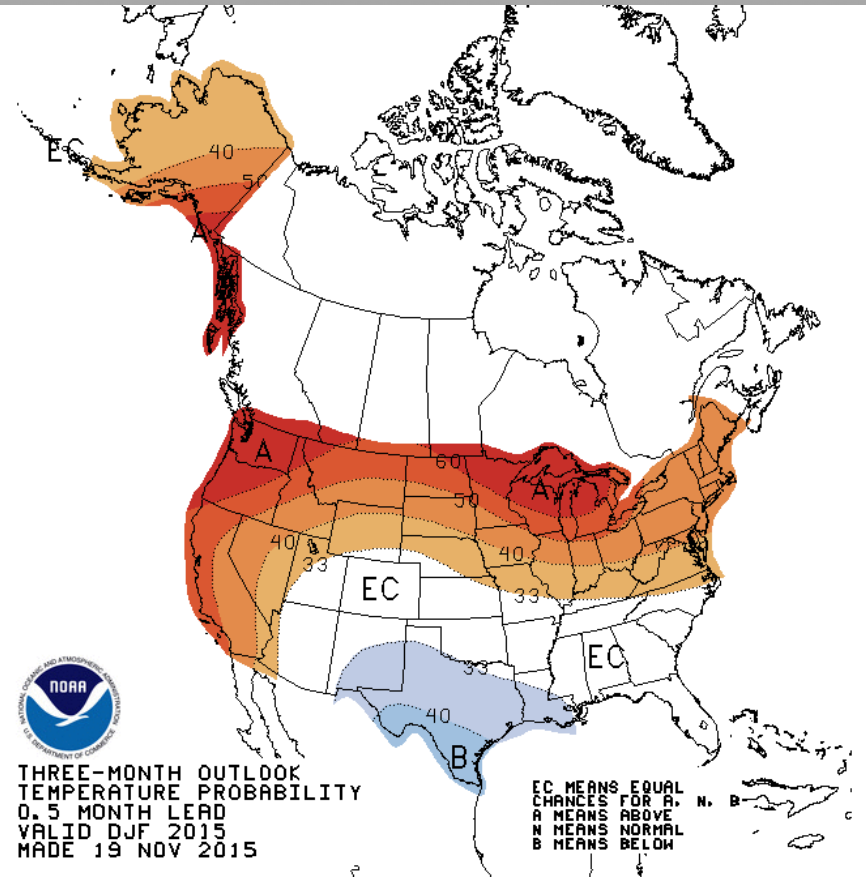
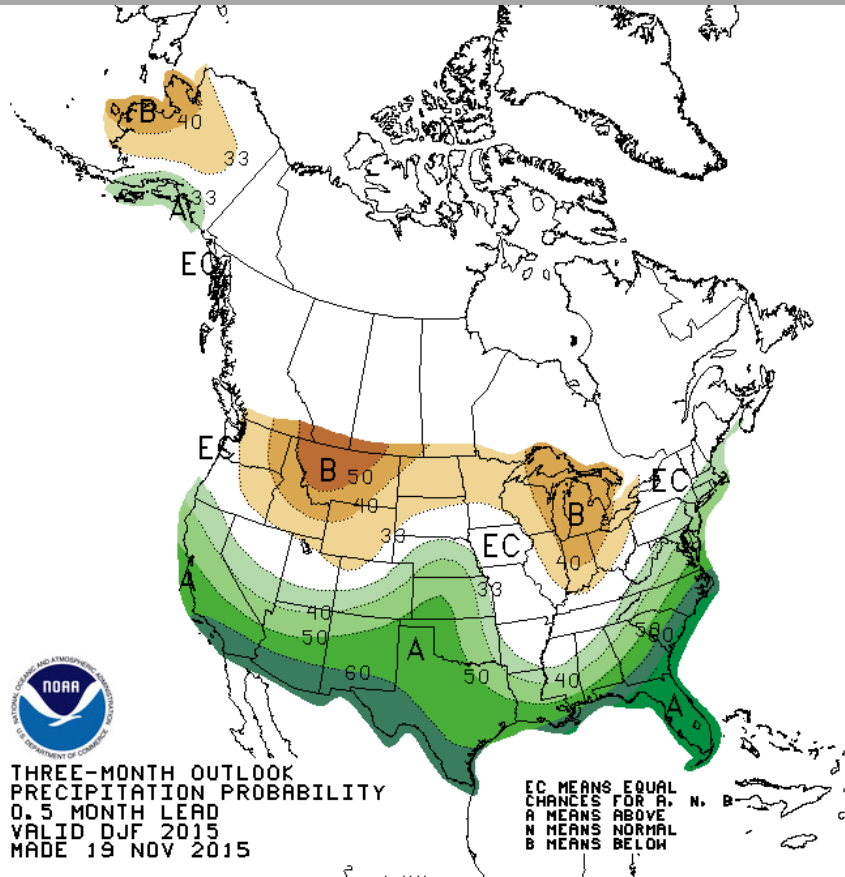
December-February Temperature & Precipitation

Impacts are not identical even with a Strong El Niño

Winter precipitation patterns during strong, moderate, and weak El Niño events since 1950



December-January-February (DJF) Outlook (similar in JFM and FMA)



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