Centro Regional del Clima en red para el Sur de América del Sur

Centro Regional do Clima na rede para o Sul da América do Sul

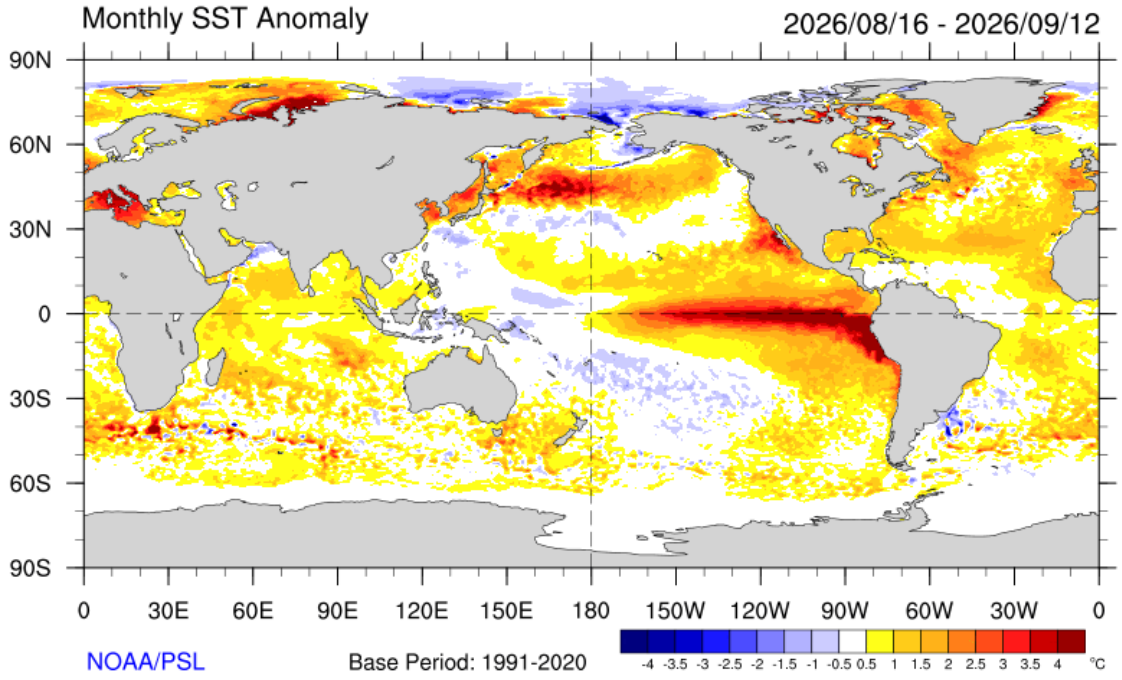
EL NIÑO SOUTHERN OSCILLATION – ENSO

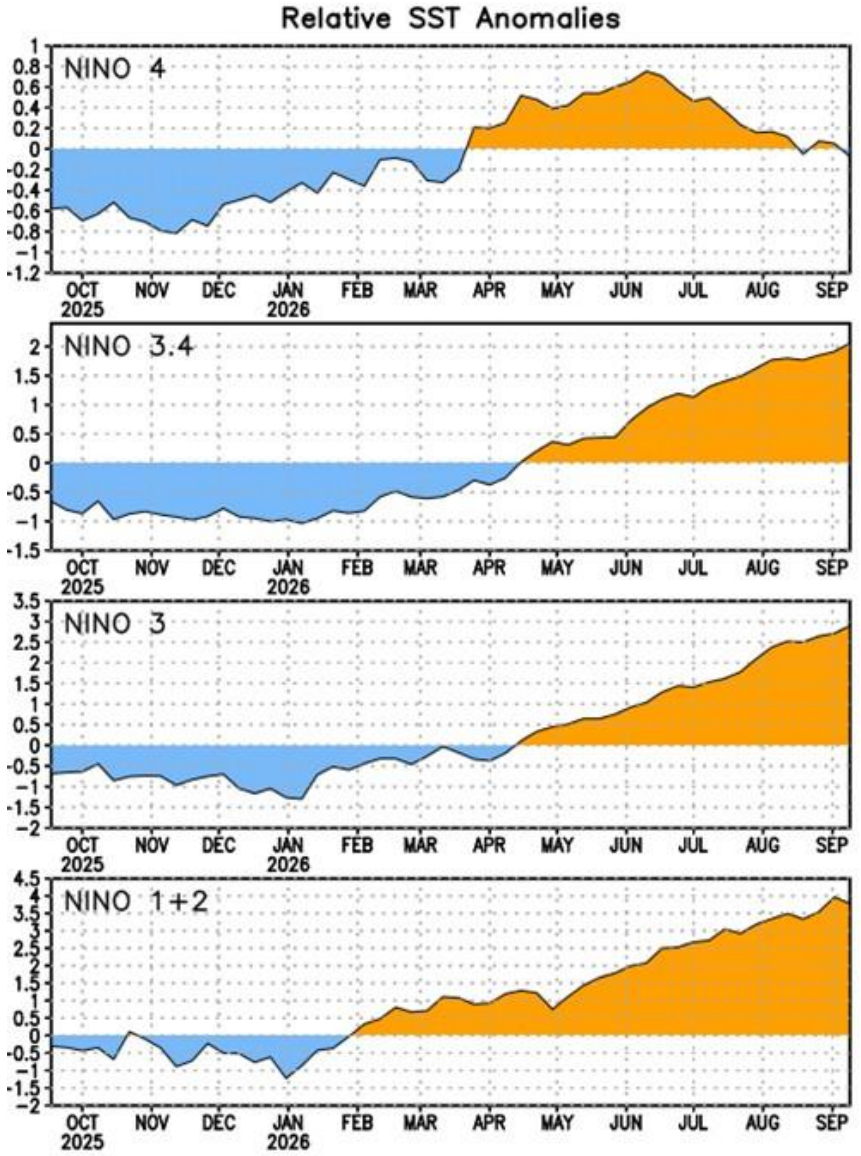
Current State: EL NIÑO CONDITIONS

September 18th, 2026

SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE

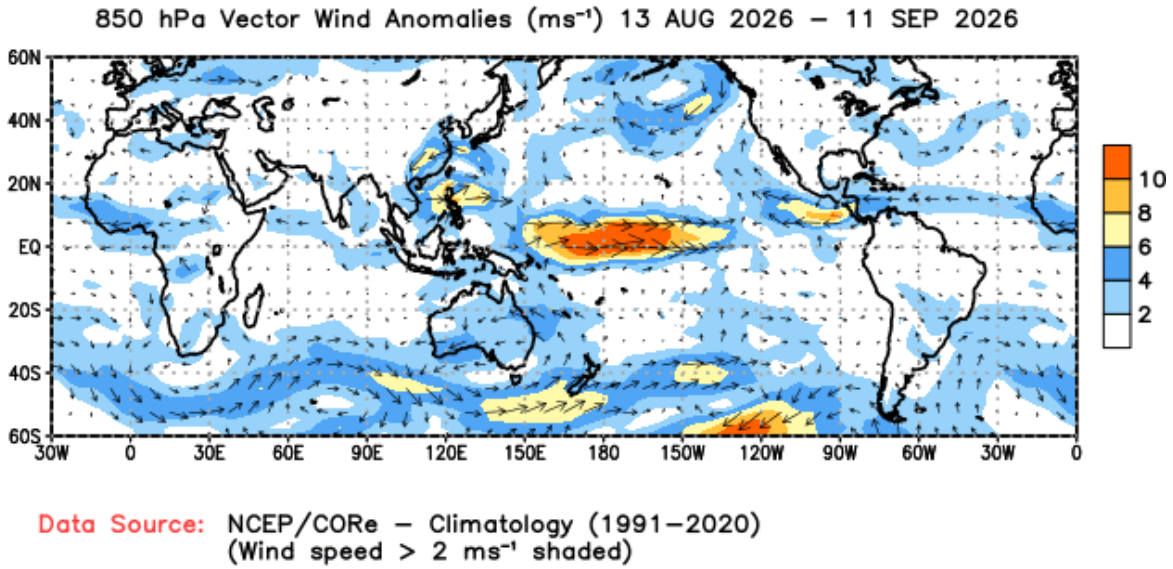
During the last 30 days, sea surface temperatures in the equatorial Pacific Ocean were above normal at east of the dateline (180°). Maximum anomalies, exceeding +3.5°C, were observed a east of 120°W.



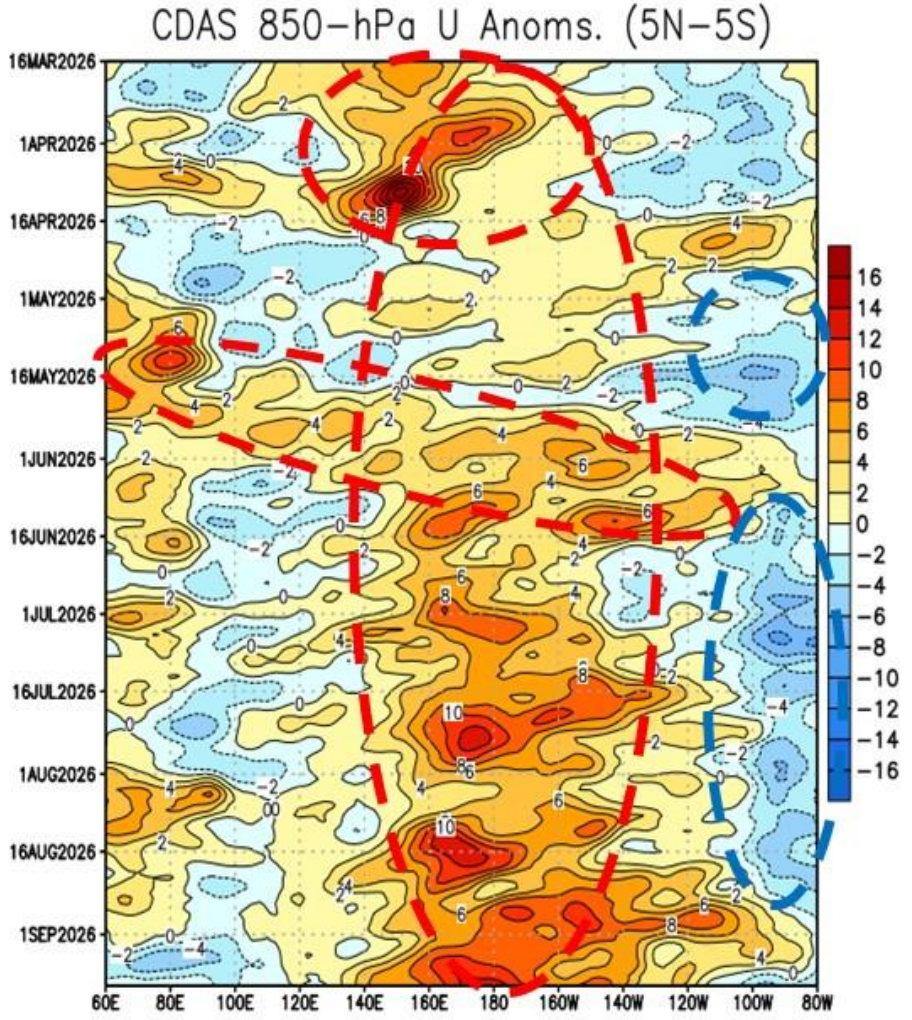


TRADE WINDS

During the last 30 days, equatorial Pacific trade winds were weaker than normal across most of the region.

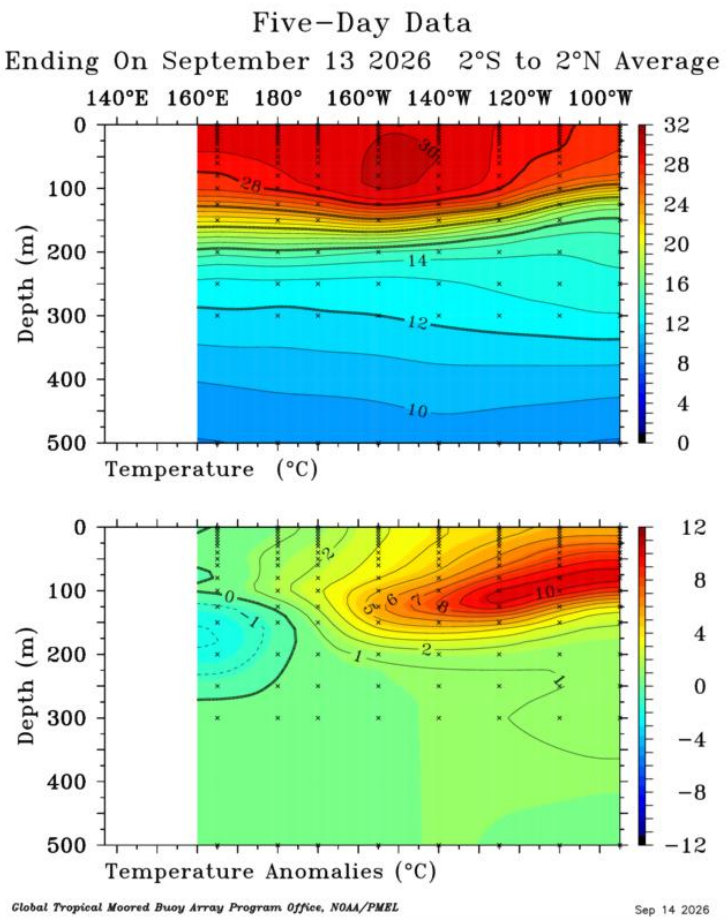


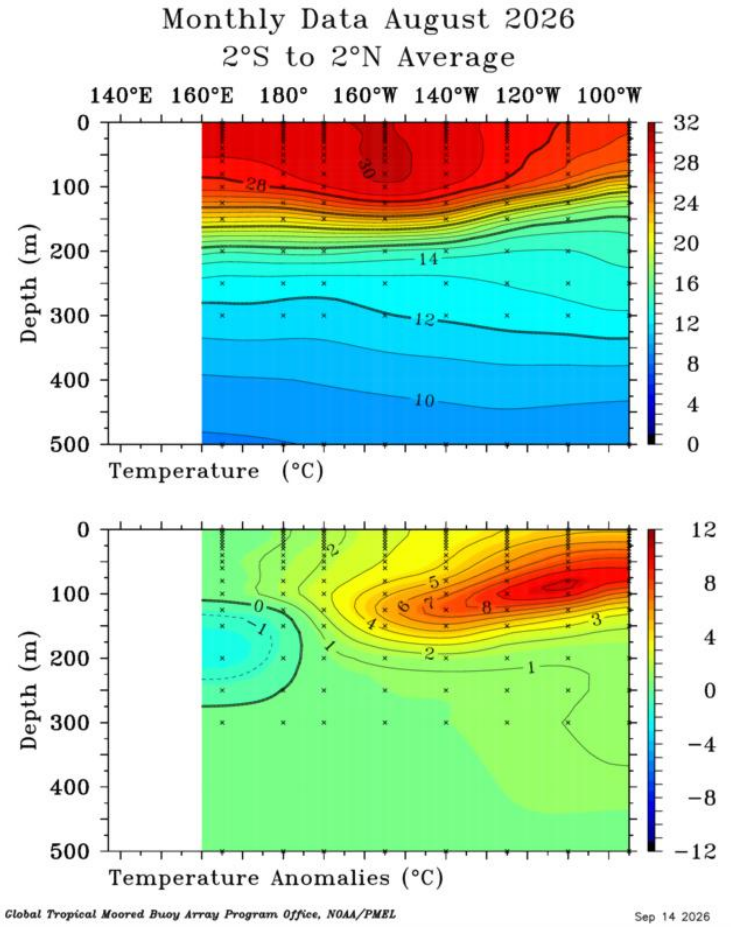
Data Source: NCEP/CORe – Climatology (1991–2020)
(Wind speed > 2 ms⁻¹ shaded)



SUB-SURFACE SEA TEMPERATURE

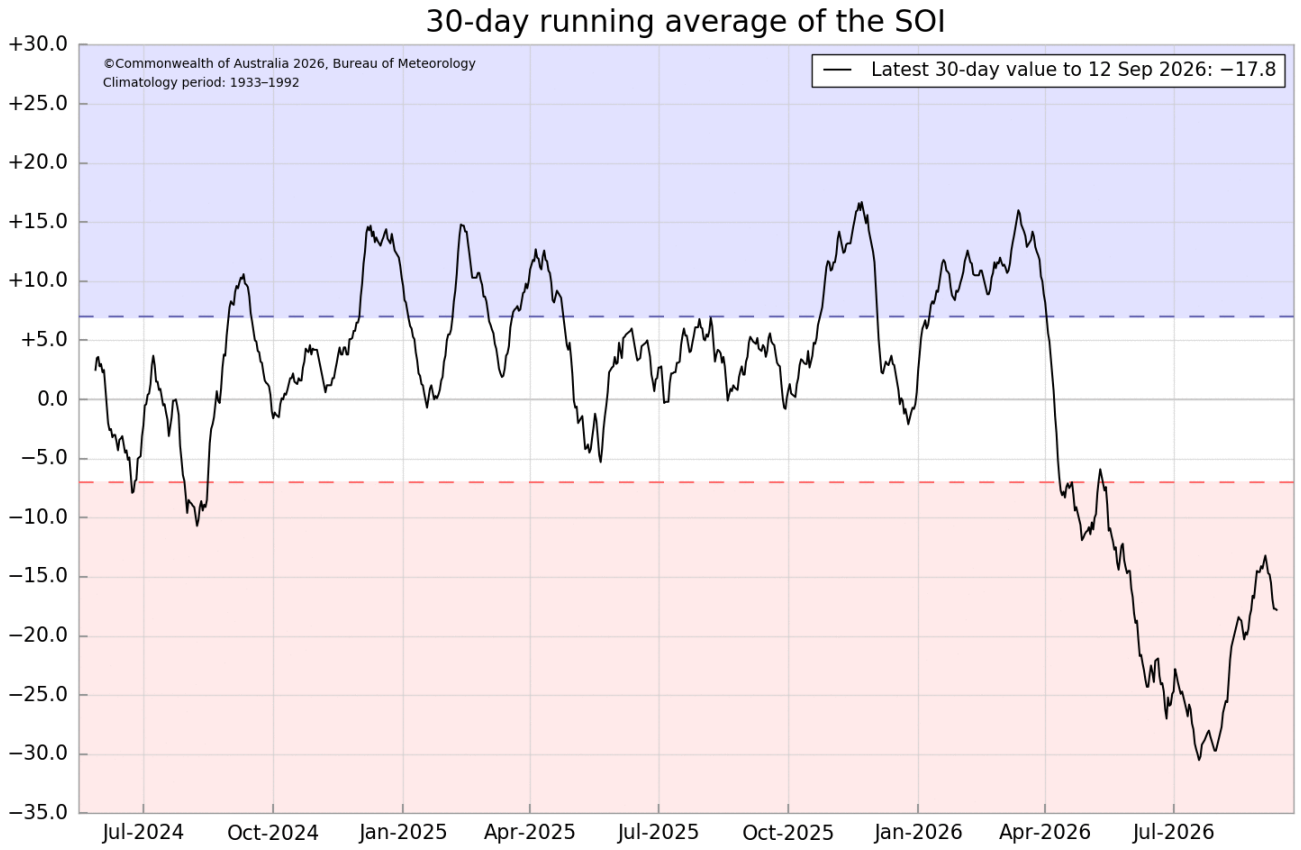
At subsurface levels of the equatorial Pacific Ocean, warmer-than-normal temperatures were observed east of 170°W, from the surface down to approximately 150/200 m depth.





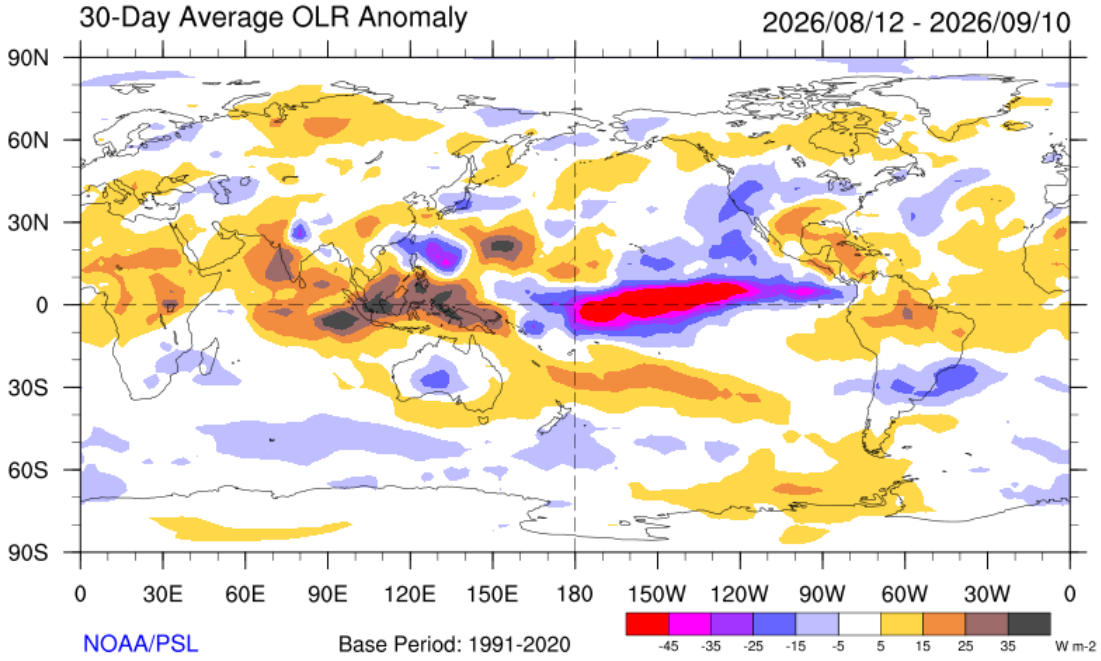
SOUTHERN OSCILLATION INDEX

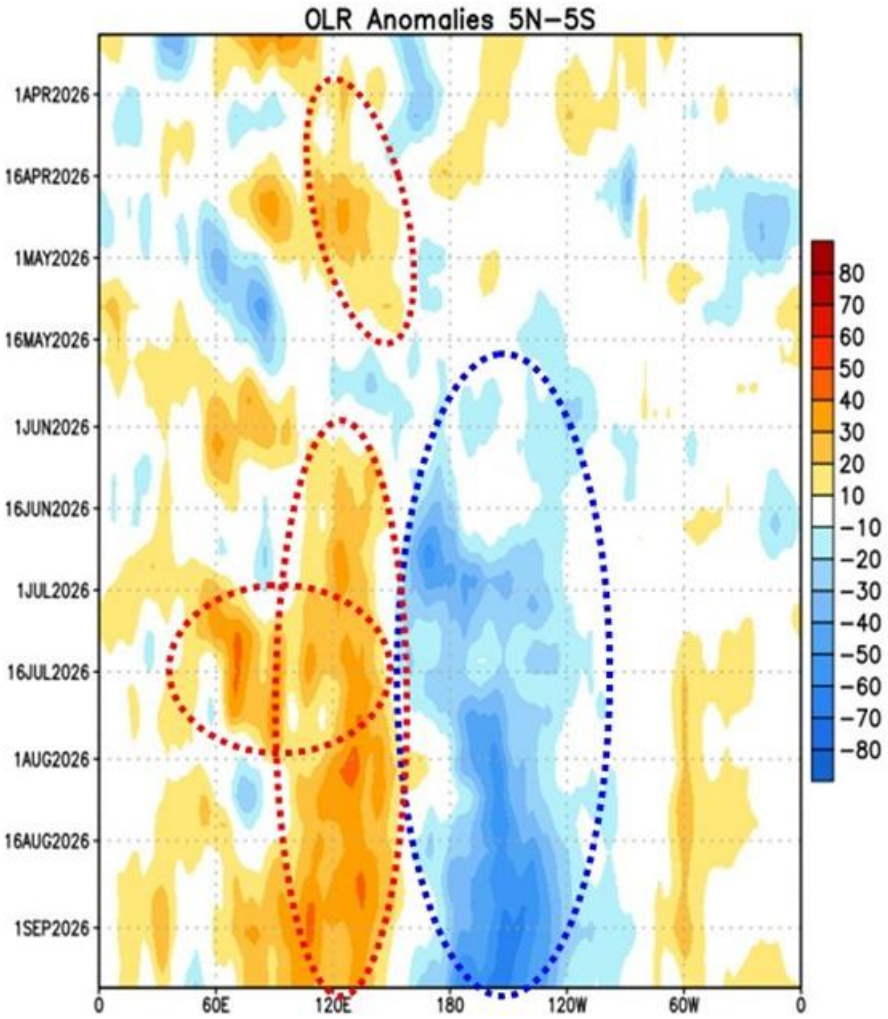
The 30-day running mean of the Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) maintains negative values, according to the warm phase. SOI value for the period ending on September 12th was -17.8.



CLOUDINESS

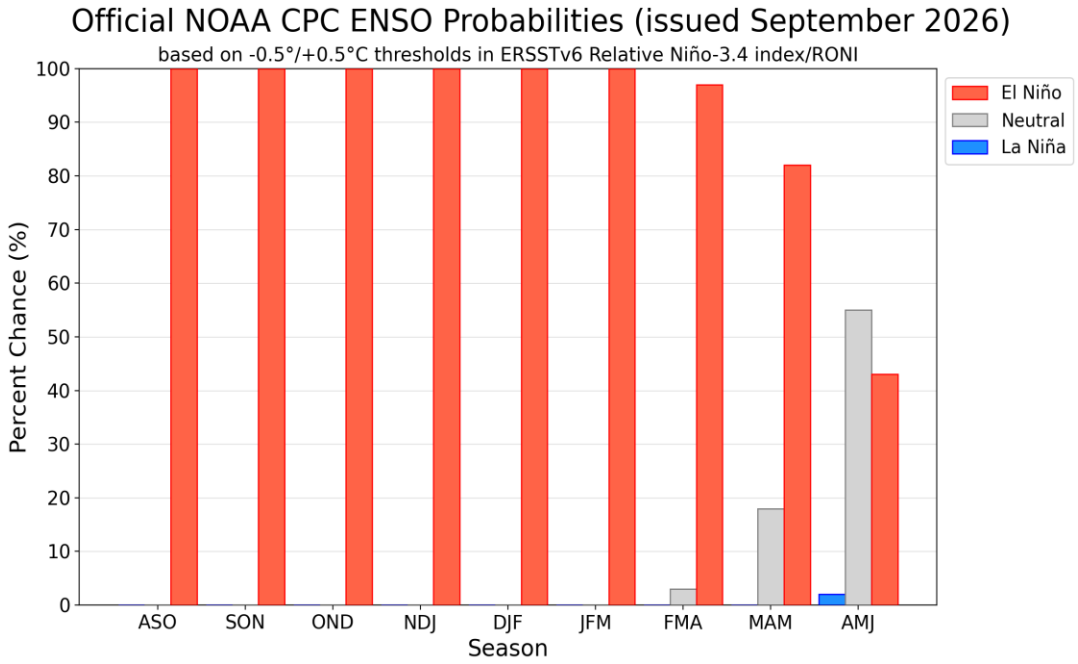
During the last 30 days, convection over equatorial Pacific Ocean was above normal between 160°E and South American coast. Convection was below normal at west of 150°E.

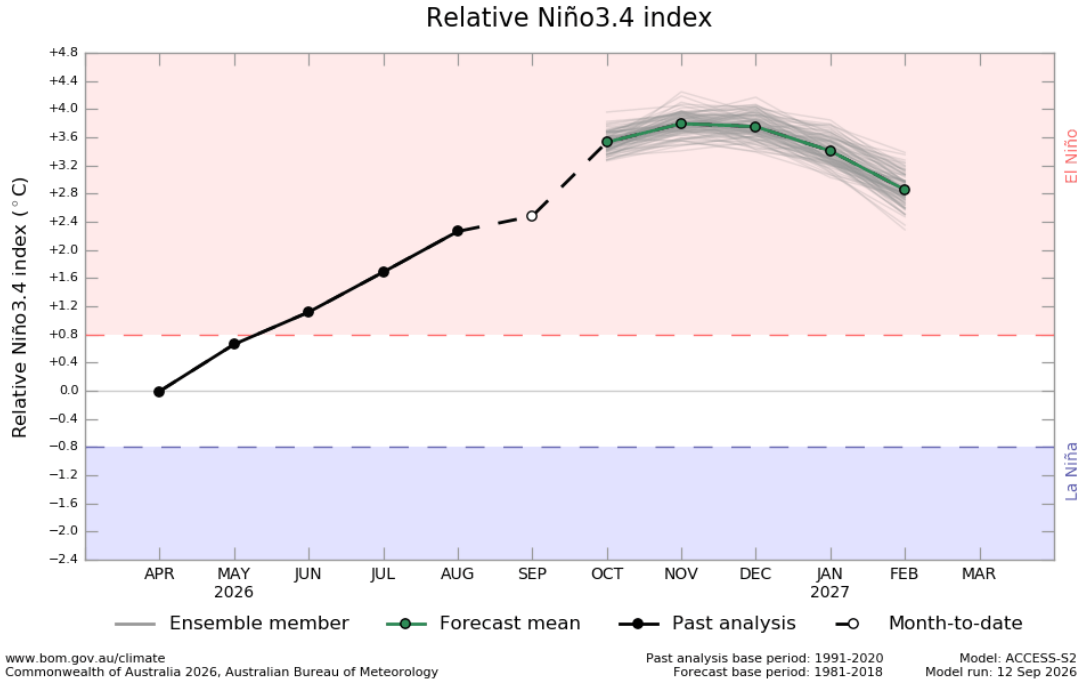


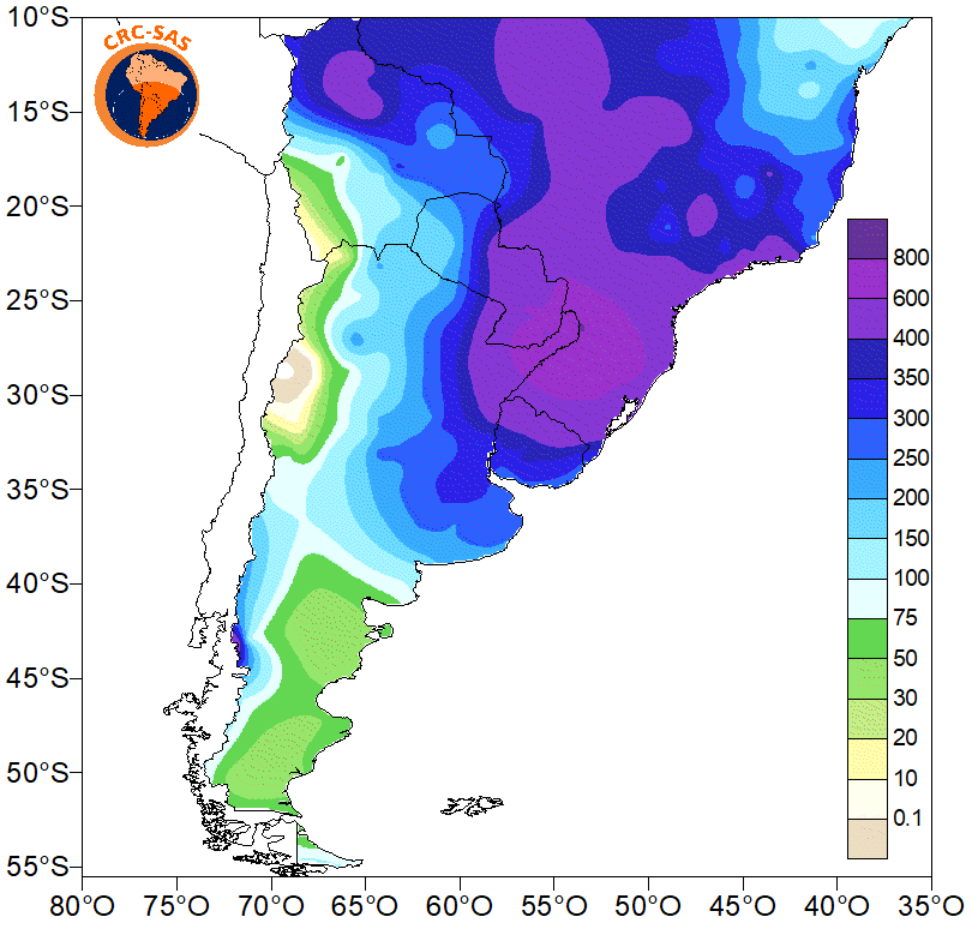
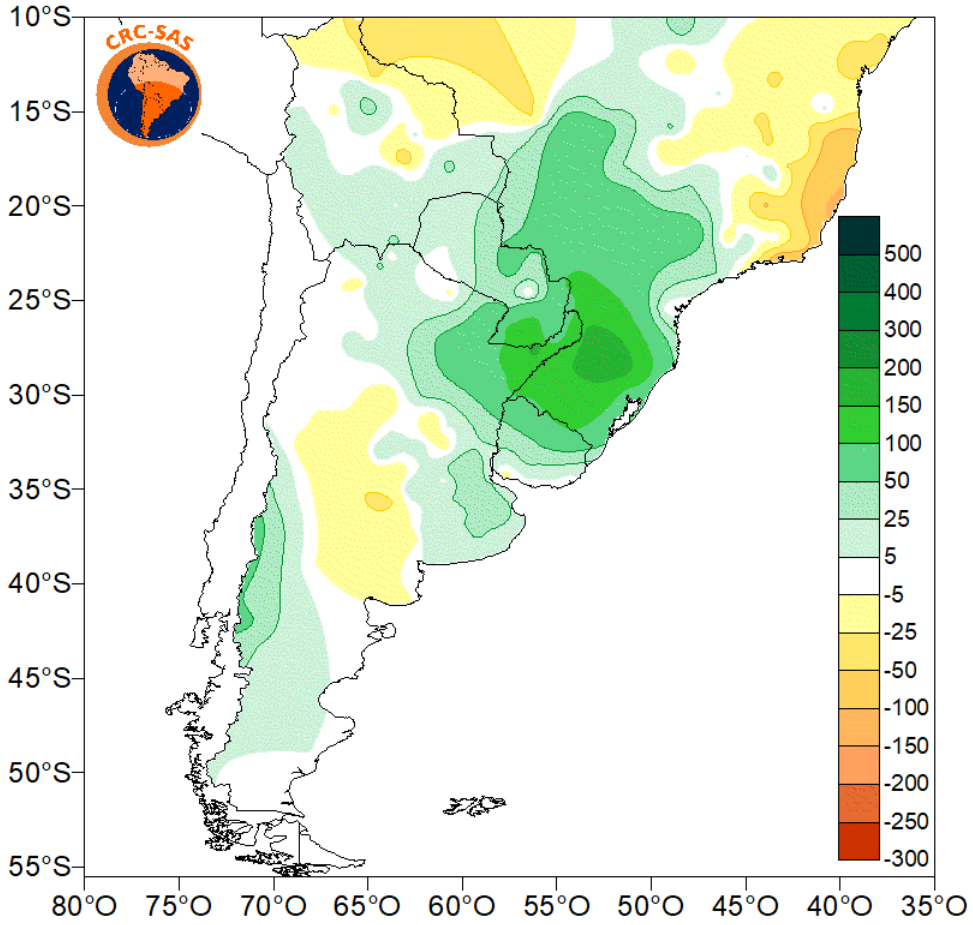


FORECASTS

Dynamical and statistical models predict 100% of keeping El Niño phase during the season September-October-November 2026. These probabilities remain high during spring and the beginning of summer.





COMPOSITES

Composites of seasonal precipitation and precipitation anomaly for El Niño years between 1981-2025, for September-October-November.