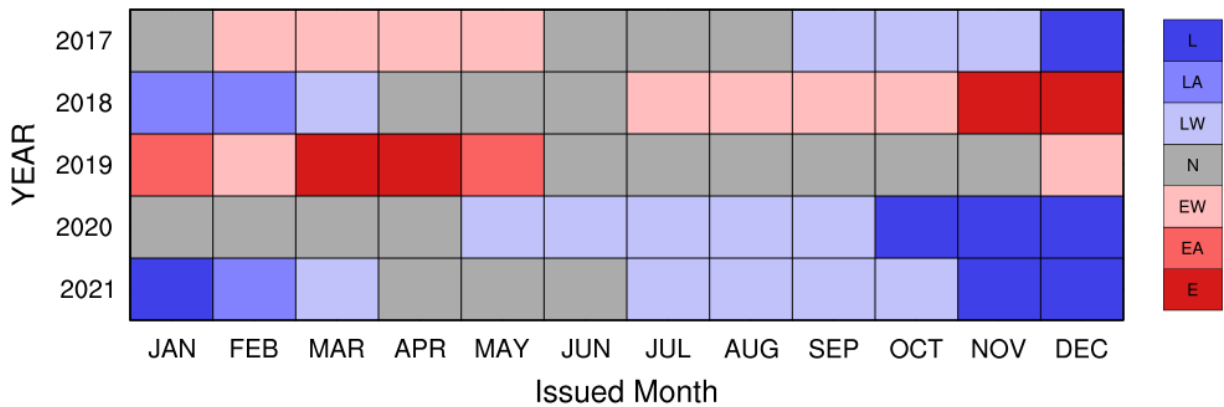


## APCC ENSO Alert History



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E: El Niño EA: El Niño Alert EW: El Niño Watch N: Neutral L: La Niña LA: La Niña Alert LW: La Niña Watch

### El Niño Watch

Issued when conditions are favorable for the development of El Niño within the next 3-4 months with chance greater than or equal to 50%. One of the following criteria needs to be satisfied :

- Observation: SSTA<sup>1)</sup> greater than or equal to 0.5°C and ONI<sup>2)</sup> between -0.5°C and 0.5°C in the latest month
- Prediction: SSTA greater than or equal to 0.5°C for 2 months out of the next 4 months, or chance<sup>3)</sup> of El Niño development greater than or equal to 50% for the next 3 months

### El Niño Alert

Issued when conditions are favorable for the development of El Niño within the next 3-4 months with chance greater than or equal to 60%. All of the following criteria need to be satisfied :

- Observation: SSTA greater than or equal to 0.5°C in the latest 2 months, and ONI greater than or equal to 0.5 °C in the latest month
- Prediction: ONI greater than or equal to 0.5°C for the next 2 months, or chance of El Niño development greater than or equal to 60% for the next 3 months

### El Niño

Issued when El Niño is nearly developed and expected to persist in the next 3 months. All of the following criteria need to be satisfied :

- Observation: SSTA greater than or equal to 0.5°C in the latest 2 months, and ONI greater than or equal to 0.5 °C in the latest month
- Prediction: ONI greater than or equal to 0.5°C for the next 3 months

## ■ La Niña Watch

Issued when conditions are favorable for the development of La Niña within the next 3-4 months with chance greater than or equal to 50%. One of the following criteria needs to be satisfied :

- Observation: SSTA less than or equal to  $-0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  and ONI between  $-0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  in the latest month
- Prediction: SSTA less than or equal to  $0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 2 months out of the next 4 months, or chance of La Niña development greater than or equal to 50% for the next 3 months

## ■ La Niña Alert

Issued when conditions are favorable for the development of La Niña within the next 3-4 months with chance greater than or equal to 60%. All of the following criteria need to be satisfied :

- Observation: SSTA less than or equal to  $-0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  in the latest 2 months, and ONI less than or equal to  $-0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  in the latest month
- Prediction: ONI less than or equal to  $-0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  for the next 2 months, or chance of La Niña development greater than or equal to 60% for the next 3 months

## ■ La Niña

Issued when La Niña is nearly developed and expected to persist in the next 3 months. All of the following criteria need to be satisfied :

- Observation: SSTA less than or equal to  $-0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  in the latest 2 months, and ONI less than or equal to  $-0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  in the latest month
- Prediction: ONI less than or equal to  $-0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  for the next 3 months

## ■ Inactive

No favorable conditions to exceed El Niño/La Niña warning criteria within the next 3-5 months

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1) SSTA : Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly at the Niño 3.4 region ( $5^{\circ}\text{N}\sim 5^{\circ}\text{S}$ ,  $120^{\circ}\text{W}\sim 170^{\circ}\text{W}$ )

2) ONI : Oceanic Niño Index; defined as the 3-month running mean average Niño 3.4 index

3) ENSO probability based on APCC MME probabilistic forecast issued every month