ENSO Transition Forecast

March-May 2026 Climate Outlook

WMO Global Seasonal Climate Prediction Centers

LA NIÑA WEAKENING

Current weak La Niña conditions are losing strength and transitioning toward ENSO-neutral state

CONTEXT

Pacific sea surface temperatures and atmospheric indicators show clear weakening since mid-February 2026

March-May 2026 Probabilities

60%	30%	10%
ENSO-NEUTRAL	LA NIÑA CONTINUES	EL NIÑO DEVELOPS
increasing	**declining**	**minimal**

Regional Forecast Breakdown

Region	Neutral Probability	La Niña Probability
Central Pacific	60%	30%
Eastern Pacific	60%	30%
Combined Assessment	60%	30%

WMO Global Seasonal Climate Prediction Centers

WMO Monitoring Framework

- Global Seasonal Climate Prediction Centers execute dynamic models
- Periodic climate forecasts issued for upcoming months
- Expert evaluations complement model outputs

- National Meteorological Services provide regional interpretations
- Continuous monitoring of ENSO evolution
- Regular updates on climate variability impacts

EXPERT ASSESSMENT

“WMO Members and partners will continue to closely monitor ENSO evolution. Climate prediction experts will periodically develop more detailed interpretations of regional climate variability effects.”

— WMO Global Seasonal Climate Update

CRITICAL PLANTING SEASON

March-May represents crucial agricultural planning period with heightened uncertainty

CONTEXT

Farmers face difficult crop selection decisions as ENSO patterns shift during spring predictability barrier

FOOD SECURITY WARNING

Unpredictable weather patterns during transition may disrupt crop planning, potentially causing food price spikes and threatening vulnerable populations in ENSO-sensitive regions.

ENSO Global Influence

- Atmosphere-ocean interactions in tropical Pacific drive global weather patterns
- Decades of research confirm worldwide climate impacts
- Regional weather characteristics strongly influenced by ENSO state

- Transition periods create heightened forecast uncertainty
- Spring predictability barrier complicates seasonal forecasting
- Agricultural sectors particularly vulnerable during transitions

Forecast Confidence Levels

ENSO-Neutral Confidence **60%**

La Niña Persistence **30%**

El Niño Development **10%**

Sources

- World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Global Seasonal Climate Update
- WMO Global Seasonal Climate Prediction Centers
- National Meteorological and Hydrological Services
- WMO Climate into the 21st Century (2003)
- Regional climate variability assessments and expert evaluations