CLIMATE DIAGNOSTICS BULLETIN

MAY 2022
NEAR REAL-TIME OCEAN / ATMOSPHERE
Monitoring, Assessments, and Prediction

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service
National Centers for Environmental Prediction
CLIMATE DIAGNOSTICS BULLETIN

CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER
Attn: Climate Diagnostics Bulletin
Room 3116, NCWCP
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College Park, MD 20740

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  Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory (LDEO)
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Software: Most of the bulletin figures generated at CPC are created using the Grid Analysis and Display System (GrADS).
Climate Diagnostics Bulletin available on the World Wide Web

The CDB is available on the World Wide Web. The address of the online version of the CDB is:

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Tropical Highlights - May 2022

During May 2022, sea surface temperatures (SSTs) remained below-average across the central and eastern equatorial Pacific (Fig. T18). The latest monthly Niño indices based on OISSTV2.1 were -1.4°C for the Niño 1+2 region, -1.1°C for the Niño 3.4 region and -0.9°C for the Niño 4 region (Fig. T5, Table T2). The depth of the oceanic thermocline (measured by the depth of the 20°C isotherm) was below-average across the eastern equatorial Pacific (Figs. T15, T16). The corresponding subsurface temperatures were 1-5°C below-average across the eastern equatorial Pacific (Fig. T17).

Also during May, the lower-level easterly winds and the upper-level westerly winds were above-average over much of the equatorial Pacific (Table T1, Fig. T20, Fig. T21). Meanwhile, tropical convection was suppressed over much of the central and western equatorial Pacific and slightly enhanced over Indonesia (Fig. T25). Collectively, these oceanic and atmospheric anomalies were consistent with La Niña conditions.

For the latest status of the ENSO cycle see the ENSO Diagnostic Discussion at: http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/enso_advisory/index.html
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TABLE T1 - Atmospheric index values for the most recent 12 months. Indices are standardized by the mean annual standard deviation, except for the Tahiti and Darwin SLP anomalies which are in units of hPa. Positive (negative) values of 200-hPa zonal wind index imply westerly (easterly) anomalies. Positive (negative) values of 850-hPa zonal wind indices imply easterly (westerly) anomalies. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period means.
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**TABLE T2.** Mean and anomalous sea surface temperature (°C) for the most recent 12 months. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 adjusted OI climatology (Smith and Reynolds 1998, *J. Climate*, 11, 3320-3323).
FIGURE T1. Five-month running mean of the Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) (top), sea-level pressure anomaly (hPa) at Darwin and Tahiti (middle), and outgoing longwave radiation anomaly (OLR) averaged over the area 5N-5S, 160E-160W (bottom). Anomalies in the top and middle panels are departures from the 1991-2020 base period means and are normalized by the mean annual standard deviation. Anomalies in the bottom panel are departures from the 1991-2020 base period means. Individual monthly values are indicated by “x”s in the top and bottom panels. The x-axis labels are centered on July.
FIGURE T2. Three-month running mean of a CDAS/Reanalysis-derived (a) Southern Oscillation Index (RSOI), (b) standardized pressure anomalies near Tahiti (solid) and Darwin (dashed), (c) an equatorial SOI ([EPAC] - [INDO]), and (d) standardized equatorial pressure anomalies for (EPAC) (solid) and (INDO) (dashed). Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period means and are normalized by the mean annual standard deviation. The equatorial SOI is calculated as the normalized difference between the standardized anomalies averaged between $5^\circ$N–$5^\circ$S, 80°W–130°W (EPAC) and $5^\circ$N–$5^\circ$S, 90°E–140°E (INDO).
FIGURE T3. Five-month running mean (solid lines) and individual monthly mean (dots) of the 200-hPa zonal wind anomalies averaged over the area 5N-5S, 165W-110W (top), the 500-hPa virtual temperature anomalies averaged over the latitude band 20N-20S (middle), and the equatorial zonally-averaged zonal wind anomalies at 30-hPa (red) and 50-hPa (blue) (bottom). In the top panel, anomalies are normalized by the mean annual standard deviation. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period means. The x-axis labels are centered on January.
FIGURE T4. Five-month running mean (solid line) and individual monthly mean (dots) of the standardized 850-hPa zonal wind anomaly index in the latitude belt 5N-5S for 135E-180 (top), 175W-140W (middle) and 135W-120W (bottom). Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period means and are normalized by the mean annual standard deviation. The x-axis labels are centered on January. Positive (negative) values indicate easterly (westerly) anomalies.
FIGURE T5. Nino region indices, calculated as the area-averaged sea surface temperature anomalies (°C) for the specified region. The Nino 1+2 region (top) covers the extreme eastern equatorial Pacific between 0°-10S, 90W-80W. The Nino-3 region (2nd from top) spans the eastern equatorial Pacific between 5N-5S, 150W-90W. The Nino 3.4 region (3rd from top) spans the east-central equatorial Pacific between 5N-5S, 170W-120W. The Nino 4 region (bottom) spans the date line and covers the area 5N-5S, 160E-150W. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period monthly means (Smith and Reynolds 1998, J. Climate, 11, 3320-3323). Monthly values of each index are also displayed in Table 2.
FIGURE T6. Time-longitude section of mean (top) and anomalous (bottom) sea level pressure (SLP) averaged between 5N-5S (CDAS/Reanalysis). Contour interval is 1.0 hPa (top) and 0.5 hPa (bottom). Dashed contours in bottom panel indicate negative anomalies. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period monthly means. The data are smoothed temporally using a 3-month running average.
FIGURE T7. Time-longitude section of mean (top) and anomalous (bottom) 850-hPa zonal wind averaged between 5N-5S (CDAS/Reanalysis). Contour interval is 2 ms\(^{-1}\). Blue shading and dashed contours indicate easterlies (top) and easterly anomalies (bottom). Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period monthly means. The data are smoothed temporally using a 3-month running average.
FIGURE T8. Time-longitude section of mean (top) and anomalous (bottom) outgoing longwave radiation (OLR) averaged between 5N-5S. Contour interval is 10 Wm⁻². Dashed contours in bottom panel indicate negative OLR anomalies. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period monthly means. The data are smoothed temporally using a 3-month running average.
FIGURE T9. Time-longitude section of monthly mean (top) and anomalous (bottom) sea surface temperature (SST) averaged between 5N-5S. Contour interval is 1°C (top) and 0.5°C (bottom). Dashed contours in bottom panel indicate negative anomalies. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period means (Smith and Reynolds 1998, *J. Climate*, 11, 3320-3323).
FIGURE T10. Time-longitude section of anomalous sea level pressure (hPa) averaged between 5N-5S (CDAS/Re-analysis). Contour interval is 1 hPa. Dashed contours indicate negative anomalies. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period pentad means. The data are smoothed temporally using a 3-point running average.
FIGURE T11. Time-longitude section of anomalous outgoing longwave radiation averaged between 5N-5S. Contour interval is 15 Wm$^{-2}$. Dashed contours indicate negative anomalies. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period pentad means. The data are smoothed temporally using a 3-point running average.
FIGURE T12. Time-longitude section of anomalous 200-hPa velocity potential averaged between 5N-5S (CDAS/Re-analysis). Contour interval is $3 \times 10^6$ m$^2$s$^{-1}$. Dashed contours indicate negative anomalies. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period pentad means. The data are smoothed temporally using a 3-point running average.
FIGURE T13. Time-longitude section of anomalous 850-hPa zonal wind averaged between 5N-5S (CDAS/Reanalysis). Contour interval is 2 ms$^{-1}$. Dashed contours indicate negative anomalies. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period pentad means. The data are smoothed temporally by using a 3-point running average.
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FIGURE T16. Mean (top) and anomalous (bottom) depth of the 20°C isotherm for MAY 2022. Contour interval is 40 m (top) and 10 m (bottom). Dashed contours in bottom panel indicate negative anomalies. Data are derived from the NCEP’s global ocean data assimilation system version 2 which assimilates oceanic observations into an oceanic GCM (Xue, Y. and Behringer, D.W., 2006: Operational global ocean data assimilation system at NCEP, to be submitted to BAMS). Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period means.
FIGURE T17. Equatorial depth-longitude section of ocean temperature (top) and ocean temperature anomalies (bottom) for MAY 2022. Contour interval is 1°C. Dashed contours in bottom panel indicate negative anomalies. Data are derived from the NCEP’s global ocean data assimilation system version 2 which assimilates oceanic observations into an oceanic GCM (Xue, Y. and Behringer, D.W., 2006: Operational global ocean data assimilation system at NCEP, to be submitted to BAMS). Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period means.
FIGURE T19. Mean (top) and anomalous (bottom) sea level pressure (SLP) (CDAS/Reanalysis). In top panel, 1000 hPa has been subtracted from contour labels, contour interval is 2 hPa, and values below 1000 hPa are indicated by dashed contours. In bottom panel, anomaly contour interval is 1 hPa and negative anomalies are indicated by dashed contours. Anomalies are departures from the 1991–2020 base period monthly means.
FIGURE T20. Mean (top) and anomalous (bottom) 850-hPa vector wind (CDAS/Reanalysis) for MAY 2022. Contour interval for isotachs is 4 ms$^{-1}$ (top) and 2 ms$^{-1}$ (bottom). Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period monthly means.
FIGURE T21. Mean (top) and anomalous (bottom) 200-hPa vector wind (CDAS/Reanalysis) for MAY 2022. Contour interval for isotachs is 15 ms⁻¹ (top) and 5 ms⁻¹ (bottom). Anomalies are departures from 1991-2020 base period monthly means.
FIGURE T22. Mean (top) and anomalous (bottom) 200-hPa streamfunction (CDAS/Reanalysis). Contour interval is $20 \times 10^6 \text{m}^2\text{s}^{-1}$ (top) and $5 \times 10^6 \text{m}^2\text{s}^{-1}$ (bottom). Negative (positive) values are indicated by dashed (solid) lines. The non-divergent component of the flow is directed along the contours with speed proportional to the gradient. Thus, high (low) stream function corresponds to high (low) geopotential height in the Northern Hemisphere and to low (high) geopotential height in the Southern Hemisphere. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period monthly means.
FIGURE T23. Mean (top) and anomalous (bottom) 200-hPa divergence (CDAS/Reanalysis). Divergence and anomalous divergence are shaded blue. Convergence and anomalous convergence are shaded orange. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period monthly means.
FIGURE T24. Mean (top) and anomalous (bottom) 200-hPa velocity potential (10^6 m^2 s^-1) and divergent wind (CDAS/Reanalysis). Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period monthly means.
FIGURE T25. Mean (top) and anomalous (bottom) outgoing longwave radiation for MAY 2022 (NOAA 18 AVHRR IR window channel measurements by NESDIS/ORA). OLR contour interval is 20 Wm$^{-2}$ with values greater than 280 Wm$^{-2}$ indicated by dashed contours. Anomaly contour interval is 15 Wm$^{-2}$ with positive values indicated by dashed contours and light shading. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period monthly means.
FIGURE T26. Estimated total (top) and anomalous (bottom) rainfall (mm) based on the Special Sensor Microwave/Imager (SSM/S) precipitation index (Ferraro 1997, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 102, 16715-16735). Anomalies are computed from the SSM/I 1987-2010 base period monthly means. Anomalies have been smoothed for display purposes.
FIGURE T27. Mean (top) and anomalous (bottom) cloud liquid water (g m\(^{-2}\)) based on the Special Sensor Microwave/Imager (SSM/I) (Weng et al 1997: *J. Climate*, **10**, 1086-1098). Anomalies are calculated from the 1987-2010 base period means.
FIGURE T28. Mean (top) and anomalous (bottom) vertically integrated water vapor or precipitable water (kg m$^{-2}$) based on the Special Sensor Microwave/Imager (SSM/I) (Ferraro et al., 1996: *Bull. Amer. Meteor. Soc.*, 77, 891-905). Anomalies are calculated from the 1987-2010 base period means.
FIGURE T29. Pressure-longitude section (100E-80W) of the mean (top) and anomalous (bottom) divergence (contour interval is $1 \times 10^4 \text{ s}^{-1}$) and divergent circulation averaged between 5N-5S. The divergent circulation is represented by vectors of combined pressure vertical velocity and the divergent component of the zonal wind. Red shading and solid contours denote divergence (top) and anomalous divergence (bottom). Blue shading and dashed contours denote convergence (top) and anomalous convergence (bottom). Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period monthly means.
FIGURE T30. Pressure-longitude section (80W-100E) of the mean (top) and anomalous (bottom) divergence (contour interval is $1 \times 10^{-6} \text{s}^{-1}$) and divergent circulation averaged between 5N-5S. The divergent circulation is represented by vectors of combined pressure vertical velocity and the divergent component of the zonal wind. Red shading and solid contours denote divergence (top) and anomalous divergence (bottom). Blue shading and dashed contours denote convergence (top) and anomalous convergence (bottom). Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period monthly means.
FIGURE T31. Pressure-latitude section of the mean (top) and anomalous (bottom) zonal wind (m s\(^{-1}\)) and divergent circulation averaged over the west Pacific sector (120E–170E). The divergent circulation is represented by vectors of combined pressure vertical velocity and the divergent component of the meridional wind. Red shading and solid contours denote a westerly (top) or anomalous westerly (bottom) zonal wind. Blue shading and dashed contours denote an easterly (top) or anomalous easterly (bottom) zonal wind. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period monthly means.
FIGURE T32. Pressure-latitude section of the mean (top) and anomalous (bottom) zonal wind (m s$^{-1}$) and divergent circulation averaged over the central Pacific sector (130W-180W). The divergent circulation is represented by vectors of combined pressure vertical velocity and the divergent component of the meridional wind. Red shading and solid contours denote a westerly (top) or anomalous westerly (bottom) zonal wind. Blue shading and dashed contours denote an easterly (top) or anomalous easterly (bottom) zonal wind. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period monthly means.
During May 2022, 184 satellite-tracked surface drifting buoys were reporting from the tropical Pacific. Strong eastward anomalies of ~50 cm/s were measured by a number of drifters in the near-equatorial band at 100-160W, covering a much broader area than the eastward anomalies seen in April.

![Drifting buoy tracks](image)

**Figure A1.1** Top: Movements of drifting buoys in the tropical Pacific Ocean during May 2022. The linear segments of each trajectory represent a one week displacement. Trajectories of buoys which have lost their subsurface drogues are gray; those with drogues are black.

Middle: Monthly mean currents calculated from all buoys 1993-2002 (gray), and currents measured by the drogued buoys this month (black) smoothed by an optimal filter.

Bottom: Anomalies from the climatological monthly mean currents for this month.
NSU SURFACE PSEUDO-STRESS VECTORS AND ANOMALIES: May 2022. Pseudo-stress vectors (top) are objectively analyzed from ship and buoy winds on a 2° grid. Ship and buoy data are independently weighted and the background field is created from the data. Contour interval of the vector magnitudes is 20 m s⁻². Anomalies (bottom) are departures from 1981–2010 mean. The contour interval is 15 m s⁻². For more information, please visit our web site at http://www.coaps.fsu.edu/RVSMDC/html/winds.shtml. Produced by Shawn R. Smith and Mark A. Bourassa, Center for Ocean-Atmospheric Prediction Studies, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306–2840, USA.
Forecast Forum

The canonical correlation analysis (CCA) forecast of SST in the central Pacific (Barnett et al. 1988, Science, 241, 192196; Barnston and Ropelewski 1992, J. Climate, 5, 13161345), is shown in Figs. F1 and F2. This forecast is produced routinely by the Prediction Branch of the Climate Prediction Center. The predictions from the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Coupled Forecast System Model (CFS03) are presented in Figs. F3 and F4a, F4b. Predictions from the Markov model (Xue, et al. 2000: J. Climate, 13, 849871) are shown in Figs. F5 and F6. Predictions from the latest version of the LDEO model (Chen et al. 2000: Geophys. Res. Let., 27, 25852587) are shown in Figs. F7 and F8. Predictions from the ENSO CLIPER statistical model (Knaff and Landsea 1997, Wea. Forecasting, 12, 633 652) are shown in Fig. F9. Niño 3.4 predictions are summarized in Fig. F10, provided by the Forecasting and Prediction Research Group of the IRI.

The CPC and the contributors to the Forecast Forum caution potential users of this predictive information that they can expect only modest skill.

ENSO Alert System Status: La Niña Advisory

Outlook

Though La Niña is favored to continue through the end of the year, the odds for La Niña decrease into the Northern Hemisphere late summer (52% chance in July-September 2022) before slightly increasing through the Northern Hemisphere fall and early winter 2022 (58-59% chance).

Discussion

During May, below-average sea surface temperatures (SSTs) continued across most of the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean (Fig. T18). The monthly Niño index values ranged from -0.9°C to -1.4°C (Table T2). Subsurface temperatures anomalies (averaged between 180°-100°W and 0-300m depth) also weakened with values returning to near zero. Below-average subsurface temperatures persisted near the surface to at least ~75m depth from the central to the eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean, with above-average temperatures continuing at depth (~100 to 200m) in the western and central Pacific Ocean (Fig. T17). Low-level easterly wind anomalies prevailed in the east-central equatorial Pacific, while upper-level westerly wind anomalies continued over most of the equatorial Pacific (Figs. T20 & T21). Convection was suppressed over the western and central Pacific and was weakly enhanced over parts of Indonesia (Fig. T25). Overall, the coupled ocean-
atmosphere system continues to reflect La Niña.

The most recent IRI/CPC plume average for the Niño-3.4 SST index forecasts La Niña to persist into the Northern Hemisphere winter 2022-23 (Figs. F1-F12). This is now in greater agreement with the forecast consensus this month, which also predicts La Niña to continue into the winter. However, it is clear that recent observed oceanic and atmospheric anomalies have weakened and this is anticipated to continue through the summer. Uncertainty remains over whether La Niña may transition to ENSO-neutral during the summer, with forecasters predicting a 52% chance of La Niña and a 46% chance of ENSO-neutral during July-September 2022. After this season, the forecast is for renewed cooling, with La Niña favored during the fall and early winter. In summary, though La Niña is favored to continue through the end of the year, the odds for La Niña decrease into the Northern Hemisphere late summer (52% chance in July-September 2022) before slightly increasing through the Northern Hemisphere fall and early winter 2022 (58-59% chance).

Weekly updates of oceanic and atmospheric conditions are available on the Climate Prediction Center homepage (El Niño/La Niña Current Conditions and Expert Discussions).
FIGURE F1. Canonical correlation analysis (CCA) sea surface temperature (SST) anomaly prediction for the central Pacific (5N to 5S, 120W to 170W (Barnston and Ropelewski, 1992, J. Climate, 5, 1316-1345)). The three plots on the left are, from top to bottom, the 1-month, 2-month, and 3-month lead seasonal forecasts from the past 12 months plus the current month. The triangles in each plot are the observed SST anomaly through the latest available season. The lines at the mid-points of the forecast error bars represent the real-time CCA predictions based on the anomalies of quasi-global sea level pressure, the anomalies of tropical Pacific SST, and heat content of the upper 300 meters of the near-equator tropical Pacific (10S to 10N). The vertical lines represent the two standard deviation error bars for the predictions based on past performance. The three plots on the right are skill values for the corresponding seasons, from the correlations of the predicted and observed SST in the prior 10 years of simulated real-time forecasts. Skill values show a clear annual cycle and are inversely proportional to the length of the error bars depicted in the forecast time series.
FIGURE F2. Canonical Correlation Analysis (CCA) forecast of sea-surface temperature anomalies for the Nino 3.4 region (5N-5S, 120W-170W) for the upcoming year of three-month overlapping periods. The CCA predictions are based on anomaly patterns of sea level pressure, tropical Pacific SST, and heat content of the upper 300 meters of the near-equator tropical Pacific (10S to 10N). Small squares at the midpoints of the vertical forecast bars represent the CCA predictions, and the bars show the one (thick) and two (thin) standard deviation errors. The triangles and line represent the observed three-month mean SST anomaly in the Nino 3.4 region up to the most recently available data.
FIGURE F3. Predicted 3-month average sea surface temperature (left) and anomalies (right) from the NCEP Coupled Forecast System Model (CFS03). The forecasts consist of 40 forecast members. Contour interval is 1°C, with additional contours for 0.5°C and -0.5°C. Negative anomalies are indicated by dashed contours.
FIGURE F4. Predicted and observed sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies for the Nino 3 (top) and Nino 3.4 (bottom) regions from the NCEP Coupled Forecast System Model (CFS03). The forecasts consist of 40 forecast members. The ensemble mean of all 40 forecast members is shown by the blue line, individual members are shown by thin lines, and the observation is indicated by the black line. The Nino-3 region spans the eastern equatorial Pacific between 5N-5S, 150W-90W. The Nino 3.4 region spans the east-central equatorial Pacific between 5N-5S, 170W-120W.
FIGURE F5. Predicted 3-month average sea surface temperature anomalies from the NCEP/CPC Markov model (Xue et al. 2000, J. Climate, 13, 849-871). The forecast is initiated in MAY 2022. Contour interval is 0.3°C and negative anomalies are indicated by dashed contours. Anomalies are calculated relative to the 1971-2000 climatology.
FIGURE F6. Time evolution of observed and predicted SST anomalies in the Nino 3.4 region (up to 12 lead months) by the NCEP/CPC Markov model (Xue et al. 2000, J. Climate, 13, 849-871). Anomalies are calculated relative to the 1971-2000 climatology. Shown in each panel are the forecasts grouped by three consecutive starting months: (a) is for December, January, and February, (b) is for March, April, and May, (c) is for June, July, and August, and (d) is for September, October, and November. The observed Nino 3.4 SST anomalies are indicated by the black dashed lines. The Nino 3.4 region spans the east-central equatorial Pacific between 5N-5S, 170W-120W.
**FIGURE F7.** Forecasts of the tropical Pacific Predicted SST (shading) and vector wind anomalies for the next 3 seasons based on the LDEO model. Each forecast represents an ensemble average of 3 sets of predictions initialized during the last three consecutive months (see Figure F8).
FIGURE F8. LDEO forecasts of SST anomalies for the Nino 3 region using wind stresses obtained from (top) QuickSCAT, (middle) NCEP, and (bottom) Florida State Univ. (FSU), along with SSTs (obtained from NCEP), and sea surface height data (obtained from TOPEX/POSEIDON) data. Each thin blue line represents a 12-month forecast, initialized one month apart for the past 24 months. Observed SST anomalies are indicated by the thick red line. The Nino-3 region spans the eastern equatorial Pacific between 5N-5S, 150W-90W.
FIGURE F9. ENSO-CLIPER statistical model forecasts of three-month average sea surface temperature anomalies (green lines, deg. C) in (top panel) the Nino 4 region (5N-5S, 160E-150W), (second panel) the Nino 3.4 region (5N-5S, 170W-120W), (third panel) the Nino 3 region (5N-5S, 150W-90W), and (fourth panel) the Nino 1+2 region (0-10S, 90W-80W) (Knaff and Landsea 1997, Wea. Forecasting, 12, 633-652). Bottom panel shows predictions of the three-month standardized Southern Oscillation Index (SOI, green line). Horizontal bars on green line indicate the adjusted root mean square error (RMSE). The Observed three-month average values are indicated by the thick blue line. SST anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period means, and the SOI is calculated from the 1951-1980 base period means.
FIGURE F10. Time series of predicted sea surface temperature anomalies for the Nino 3.4 region (deg. C) from various dynamical and statistical models for nine overlapping 3-month periods. The Nino 3.4 region spans the east-central equatorial Pacific between 5N-5S, 170W-120W. Figure provided by the International Research Institute (IRI).
Extratropical Highlights – May 2022

1. Northern Hemisphere

The 500-hPa circulation during May featured several wave patterns, including for the Western Hemisphere, a canonical response to La Nina, with some damping of that pattern due to a negative Pacific North America (PNA) pattern, an anomalous wave pattern across Europe and North Asia, and an anomalous wave pattern arcing over the North Pole (Figs. E7, E9).

The main land-surface temperature signals were above-average temperatures across the southern tier of the United States and Mexico, as well as Europe and Central Asia (Fig. E1). The main precipitation signals were above-average rainfall in South Asia, parts of North America and Russia, and below-average rainfall for Europe and parts of North America (Fig. E3).

a. North America

The anomalous height pattern over North America for the month of May featured above-average heights over western Alaska, the Aleutian Islands, southern California, the Gulf of California, eastern Canada, and the U.S. Midwest and Northeast, and below-average height anomalies over western Canada, the Gulf of Alaska, the Pacific Northwest and north-central U.S. (Fig. E9). The pattern contributed to above-average temperature anomalies for the southern tier of the U.S. and Mexico, as well as the eastern half of the U.S. and Canada, where percentiles reached the 90th percent of occurrences for some regions (Fig. E1). Moderately above-average temperature anomalies were observed in Alaska as well. Below-average temperature anomalies were observed for parts of western Canada and the Pacific Northwest region of the U.S, where percentiles reached the 30th percent of occurrences (Fig. E1). The anomalous below-average heights in the Pacific Northwest ushered in above-average precipitation anomalies for that region, as well as for central Canada and Quebec (Figs. E1). The central U.S. and Northern Plains also observed above-average rainfall leading to improvements in the drought conditions for those areas, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor, however, Texas and the Southwest observed below-average rainfall for the month of May, leading to a degradation of drought conditions (Fig. E6).

b. Eurasia

An anomalous wave pattern across Eurasia brought above-average heights to Europe and central Russia, which straddled anomalous below-average heights over western Russia (Fig. E9). The anomalous height pattern across Eurasia ushered in above-average temperatures for Europe and
central Russia, and a slight tilt toward below-average temperatures in western Russia (Fig. E1). Above-average temperatures reached the 90th percentile across much of Europe and central Asia. Below-average rainfall was observed in Europe and above-average rainfall was observed for much of southern Asia and western Russia, with anomalies reaching the 90th percentile in many areas (Fig. E3).

2. Southern Hemisphere

The 500-hPa circulation during May featured an annular mode of above-average height anomalies adjacent to Antarctica and over the South Pacific Ocean and below-average heights in the center of the above-average height anomalies (Fig. E15). Observed temperatures in Australia were near-normal for most of the interior and above-average for northern and eastern coastal areas (Fig. E1). Observed precipitation was also near-normal for much of Australia with above-average rainfall observed along the coast of Queensland and below-average rainfall observed along the southern coast of Western Australia (Fig. E3). Below-average rainfall was observed for much of South America (Fig. E3) with SE South America reaching the lower 40th percentile of occurrences (Fig. E4). Both the Sahel of Africa and South Africa observed rainfall that exceeded the 80th percentile of occurrences (Figs. E3, E4), while east of the Congo, from Sudan to Tanzania, below-average rainfall was observed, reaching the lowest 10th percentile in some areas (Fig. E3). Temperature anomalies were largely near-normal for much of the African continent with the exception of the Sahel and east of the Congo, where above-average temperature anomalies reached the 70th percentile (Fig. E1).
### TELECONNECTION INDICES

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**TABLE E1:** Standardized amplitudes of selected Northern Hemisphere teleconnection patterns for the most recent thirteen months (computational procedures are described in Fig. E7). Pattern names and abbreviations are North Atlantic Oscillation (NAO); East Atlantic pattern (EA); West Pacific pattern (WP); East Pacific - North Pacific pattern (EP-NP); Pacific/North American pattern (PNA); Tropical/Northern Hemisphere pattern (TNH); East Atlantic/Western Russia pattern (EATL/WRUS-called Eurasia-2 pattern by Barnston and Livezey, 1987, *Mon. Wea. Rev.*, **115**, 1083-1126); Scandinavia pattern (SCAND-called Eurasia-1 pattern by Barnston and Livezey 1987); and Polar Eurasia pattern (POLEUR). No value is plotted for calendar months in which the pattern does not appear as a leading mode.
FIGURE E1. Surface temperature anomalies (°C, top) and surface temperature expressed as percentiles of the normal (Gaussian) distribution fit to the 1991-2020 base period data (bottom) for MAY 2022. Analysis is based on station data over land and on SST data over the oceans (top). Anomalies for station data are departures from the 1991-2020 base period means, while SST anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 adjusted OI climatology. (Smith and Reynolds 1998, *J. Climate*, 11, 3320-3323). Regions with insufficient data for analysis in both figures are indicated by shading in the top figure only.
FIGURE E2. Monthly global (top), Northern Hemisphere (middle), and Southern Hemisphere (bottom) surface temperature anomalies (land only, °C) from January 1990 - present, computed as departures from the 1991-2020 base period means.
FIGURE E3. Anomalous precipitation (mm, top) and precipitation percentiles based on a Gamma distribution fit to the 1981-2010 base period data (bottom) for MAY 2022. Data are obtained from a merge of raingauge observations and satellite-derived precipitation estimates (Janowiak and Xie 1999, *J. Climate*, 12, 3335–3342). Contours are drawn at 200, 100, 50, 25, -25, -50, -100, and -200 mm in top panel. Percentiles are not plotted in regions where mean monthly precipitation is <$5$ mm/month.
FIGURE E4. Areal estimates of monthly mean precipitation amounts (mm, solid lines) and precipitation percentiles (% bars) for the most recent 13 months obtained from a merge of raingauge observations and satellite-derived precipitation estimates (Janowiak and Xie 1999, *J. Climate*, 12, 3335–3342). The monthly precipitation climatology (mm, dashed lines) is from the 1981-2010 base period monthly means. Monthly percentiles are not shown if the monthly mean is less than 5 mm.
FIGURE E5. Areal estimates of monthly mean precipitation amounts (mm, solid lines) and precipitation percentiles (% bars) for the most recent 13 months obtained from a merge of raingauge observations and satellite-derived precipitation estimates (Janowiak and Xie 1999, *J. Climate*, 12, 3335–3342). The monthly precipitation climatology (mm, dashed lines) is from the 1981-2010 base period monthly means. Monthly percentiles are not shown if the monthly mean is less than 5 mm.

Data updated through May 2022
FIGURE E6. Observed precipitation (upper left), departure from average (upper right), percent of average (lower left), and average precipitation (lower right) for May 2022. The units are given on each panel. Base period for averages is 1991-2020. Results are based on CPC’s U.S. daily precipitation analysis, which is available at http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/precip/realtime.
FIGURE E7. Standardized monthly Northern Hemisphere teleconnection indices. The teleconnection patterns are calculated from a Rotated Principal Component Analysis (RPCA) applied to monthly standardized 500-hPa height anomalies during the 1991-2020 base period. To obtain these patterns, ten leading un-rotated modes are first calculated for each calendar month by using the monthly height anomaly fields for the three-month period centered on that month: [i.e., The July modes are calculated from the June, July, and August standardized monthly anomalies]. A Varimax spatial rotation of the ten leading un-rotated modes for each calendar month results in 120 rotated modes (12 months x 10 modes per month) that yield ten primary teleconnection patterns. The teleconnection indices are calculated by first projecting the standardized monthly anomalies onto the teleconnection patterns corresponding to that month (eight or nine teleconnection patterns are seen in each calendar month). The indices are then solved for simultaneously using a Least-Squares approach. In this approach, the indices are the solution to the Least-Squares system of equations which explains the maximum spatial structure of the observed height anomaly field during the month. The indices are then standardized for each pattern and calendar month independently. No index value exists when the teleconnection pattern does not appear as one of the ten leading rotated EOFs valid for that month.
FIGURE E8. Northern Hemisphere mean and anomalous sea level pressure (CDAS/Reanalysis) for MAY 2022. Mean values are denoted by solid contours drawn at an interval of 4 hPa. Anomaly contour interval is 2 hPa with values less (greater) than -2 hPa (2 hPa) indicated by dark (light) shading. Anomalies are calculated as departures from the 1991-2020 base period monthly means.
FIGURE E9. Northern Hemisphere mean and anomalous 500-hPa geopotential height (CDAS/Reanalysis) for MAY 2022. Mean heights are denoted by solid contours drawn at an interval of 6 dam. Anomaly contour interval is 3 dam with values less (greater) than -3 dam (3 dam) indicated by dark (light) shading. Anomalies are calculated as departures from the 1991-2020 base period monthly means.
FIGURE E10. Northern Hemisphere mean (left) and anomalous (right) 300-hPa vector wind (CDAS/Reanalysis) for MAY 2022. Mean (anomaly) isotach contour interval is 10 (5) ms$^{-1}$. Values greater than 30 ms$^{-1}$ (left) and 10 ms$^{-1}$ (rights) are shaded. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period monthly means.
FIGURE E11. Northern Hemisphere percentage of days during MAY 2022 in which 500-hPa height anomalies greater than 15 m (red) and less than -15 m (blue) were observed. Values greater than 70% are shaded and contour in-
FIGURE E12. Northern Hemisphere: Daily 500-hPa height anomalies for MAY 2022 averaged over the 5° latitude band centered on 40°N. Positive values are indicated by solid contours and dark shading. Negative values are indicated by dashed contours and light shading. Contour interval is 60 m. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period daily means.
FIGURE E13. Northern Hemisphere 500-hPa heights (thick contours, interval is 6 dam) overlaid with (Top) Standard deviation of 10-day high-pass (HP) filtered height anomalies and (Bottom) Normalized anomalous variance of 10-day HP filtered height anomalies. A Lanczos filter is used to calculate the HP filtered anomalies. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 daily means.
FIGURE E14. Southern Hemisphere mean and anomalous sea level pressure (CDAS/Reanalysis) for May 2022. Mean values are denoted by solid contours drawn at an interval of 4 hPa. Anomaly contour interval is 2 hPa with values less (greater) than -2 hPa (2 hPa) indicated by dark (light) shading. Anomalies are calculated as departures from the 1991-2020 base period monthly means.
FIGURE E15. Southern Hemisphere mean and anomalous 500-hPa geopotential height (CDAS/Reanalysis) for MAY 2022. Mean heights are denoted by solid contours drawn at an interval of 6 dam. Anomaly contour interval is 3 dam with values less (greater) than -3 dam (3 dam) indicated by dark (light) shading. Anomalies are calculated as departures from the 1991-2020 base period monthly means.
FIGURE E16. Southern Hemisphere mean (left) and anomalous (right) 300-hPa vector wind (CDAS/Reanalysis) for MAY 2022. Mean (anomaly) isotach contour interval is 10 (5) ms$^{-1}$. Values greater than 30 ms$^{-1}$ (left) and 10 ms$^{-1}$ (rights) are shaded. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period monthly means.
FIGURE E17. Southern Hemisphere percentage of days during MAY 2022 in which 500-hPa height anomalies greater than 15 m (red) and less than -15 m (blue) were observed. Values greater than 70% are shaded and contour in-
FIGURE E18. Southern Hemisphere: Daily 500-hPa height anomalies for MAY 2022 averaged over the 5° latitude band centered on 40°S. Positive values are indicated by solid contours and dark shading. Negative values are indicated by dashed contours and light shading. Contour interval is 60 m. Anomalies are departures from the 1991-2020 base period daily means.
FIGURE S1. Stratospheric height anomalies (m) at selected levels for MAY 2022. Positive values are indicated by solid contours and dark shading. Negative values are indicated by dashed contours and light shading. Contour interval is 60 m. Anomalies are calculated from the 1991-2020 base period means. Winter Hemisphere is shown.
FIGURE S2. Height-longitude sections during MAY 2022 for height anomalies (contour) and temperature anomalies (shaded). In both panels, positive values are indicated by solid contours and dark shading, while negative anomalies are indicated by dashed contours and light shading. Contour interval for height anomalies is 60 m and for temperature anomalies is 2°C. Anomalies are calculated from the 1991-2020 base period monthly means. Winter Hemisphere is shown.
FIGURE S4. Daily mean temperatures at 10-hPa and 2-hPa (thick line) in the region 65°–90°N and 65°–90°S for the past two years. Dashed line depicts the 1991-2020 base period daily mean. Thin solid lines depict the daily extreme maximum and minimum temperatures.
FIGURE S5. Monthly ozone anomalies (percent) from the long term monthly means for five zones: 50N-30N (NH mid-latitudes), 25N-10N (NH tropical surf zone), 10N-10S (Equatorial-QBO zone), 10S-25S (SH tropical surf zone), and 30S-50S (SH mid-latitudes). The long term monthly means are determined from the entire data set.
FIGURE S6. Northern (top) and Southern (bottom) Hemisphere total ozone anomaly (percent difference from monthly mean for the period 1979-1986). The region near the winter pole has no SBUV/2 data.
FIGURE S7. Daily vertical component of EP flux (which is proportional to the poleward transport of heat or upward transport of potential energy by planetary wave) at 100 hPa averaged over (top) 30°N–90°N and (bottom) 30°S–90°S for MAY 2022. The EP flux unit (kg m⁻¹ s⁻²) has been scaled by multiplying a factor of the Brunt Vaisala frequency divided by the Coriolis parameter and the radius of the earth. The letter ‘M’ indicates the current monthly mean value and the letter ‘C’ indicates the climatological mean value. Additionally, the normalized departures from the monthly climatological EP flux values are shown.
FIGURE S8. Daily time series showing the size of the SH polar vortex (representing the area enclosed by the 32 PVU contour on the 450K isentropic surface), and the areal coverage of temperatures < -78°C on the 450K isentropic surface.
FIGURE A2.1. (a) Daily amplitudes of the Arctic Oscillation (AO) the North Atlantic Oscillation (NAO), and the Pacific-North American (PNA) pattern. The pattern amplitudes for the AO, (NAO, PNA) are calculated by projecting the daily 1000-hPa (500-hPa) height anomaly field onto the leading EOF obtained from standardized time-series of daily 1000-hPa (500-hPa) height for all months of the year. The base period is 1991-2020.

(b-d) Northern Hemisphere mean and anomalous 500-hPa geopotential height (CDAS/Reanalysis) for selected periods during MAY 2022 are shown in the remaining 3 panels. Mean heights are denoted by solid contours drawn at an interval of 8 dam. Dark (light) shading corresponds to anomalies greater than 50 m (less than -50 m). Anomalies are calculated as departures from the 1991-2020 base period daily means.
FIGURE A2.2. SSM/I derived snow cover frequency (%) (left) and snow cover anomaly (%) (right) for the month of MAY 2022 based on departure from 1987-2010 baseline for the Northern Hemisphere (top) and Southern Hemisphere (bottom). It is generated using the algorithm described by Ferraro et. al, 1996, Bull. Amer. Meteor. Soc., vol 77, 891-905.