

RMD ENSO Report:

07 May 2025

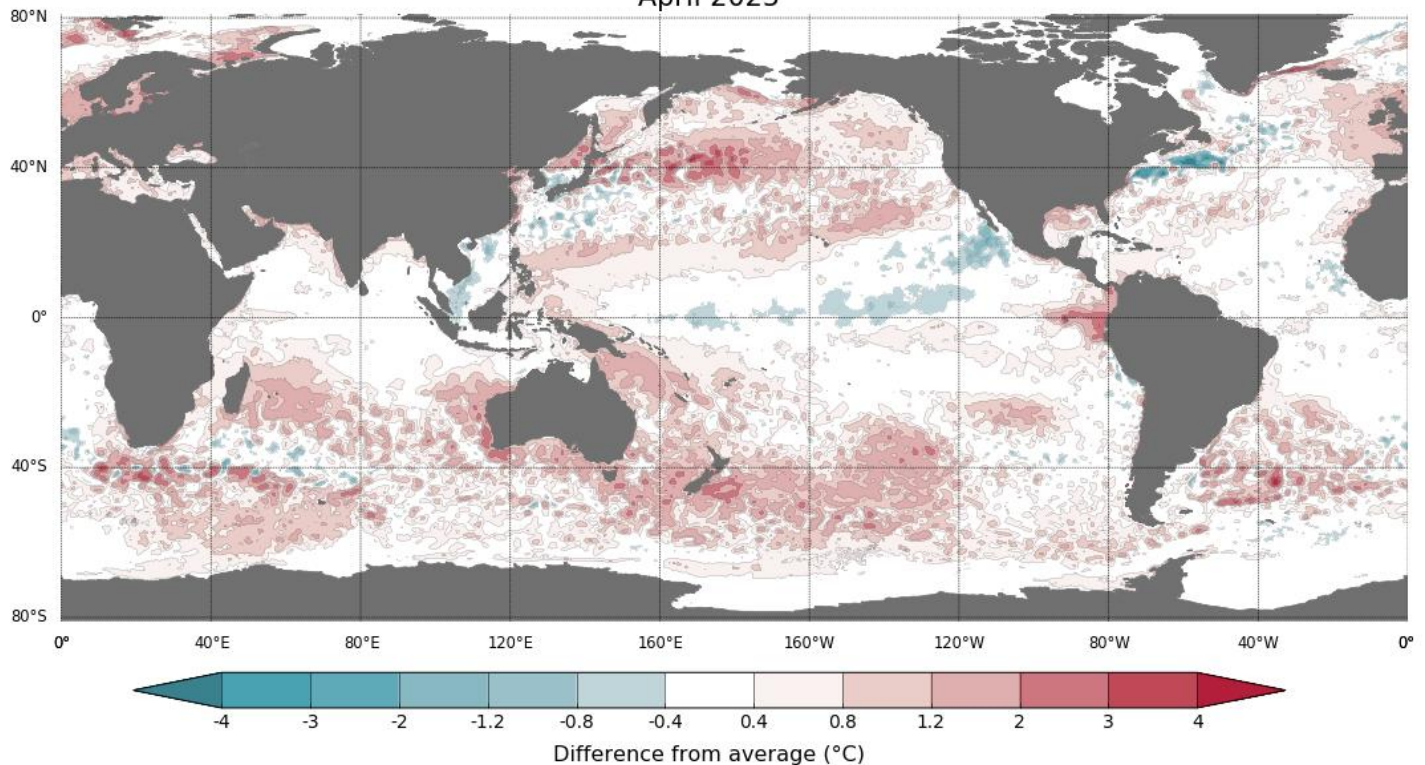
Compiled by Dirk J Fourie

This is not presented as a commodity trading recommendation. Weather is only one of many factors which can influence the market on any given day.

El Niño–Southern Oscillation and Indian Ocean Dipole are neutral

The Pacific Ocean is monitored closely for the current state of the [El Niño–Southern Oscillation](#) (ENSO). ENSO refers to the oscillation between warmer (El Niño) and cooler (La Niña) states of the central and eastern tropical Pacific region. ENSO is considered one of the dominant modes of climate variability in Australia. The influence of each individual event varies, particularly in conjunction with other climate indicators such as the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD). The ENSO signal is characterised by sea surface temperature (SST) patterns in the central and eastern tropical Pacific. Cooler than average SSTs are associated with La Niña, while warmer SSTs are associated with El Niño.

Difference from average sea surface temperature observations
April 2025



Data: GAMSSA SST
Climatology baseline: 1991 to 2020
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<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate>

Monthly average: April 2025
Created: 05/05/2025

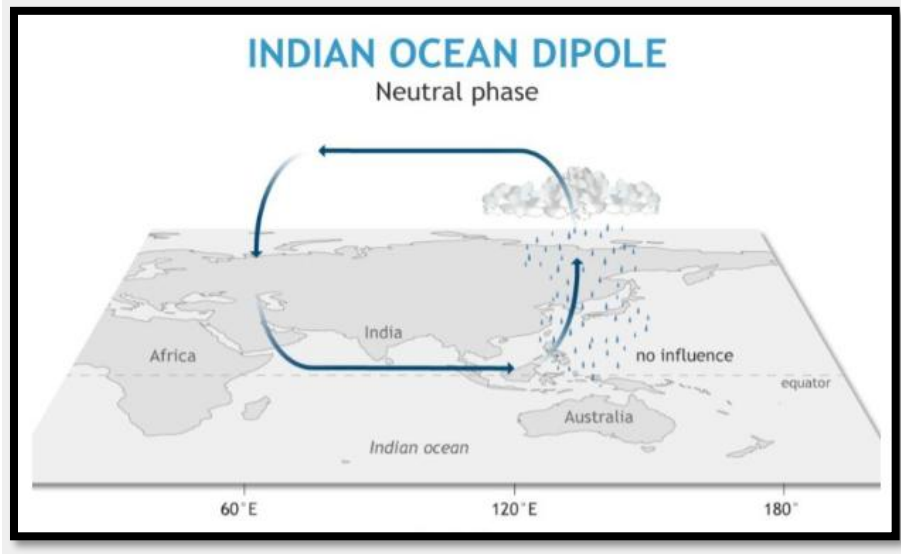
El Niño /La Niña map

The latest model predicts neutral ENSO (neither El Niño nor La Niña) until at least September. This is consistent with forecasts from a range of international models. However, skill for ENSO forecasts made at this time of the year has historically been low beyond winter.

Indian Ocean

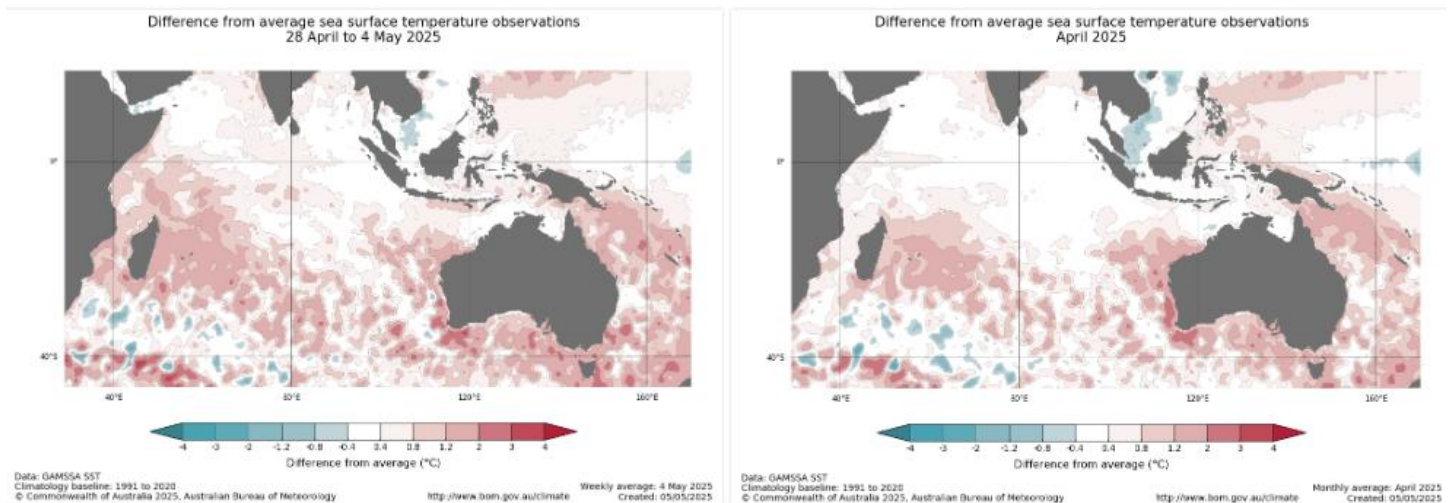
The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is defined by the difference in sea surface temperatures between the eastern and western tropical Indian Ocean. The influence of the IOD varies in conjunction with other climate indicators such as the El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO).

During a negative IOD, waters are typically warmer than average in the eastern parts of the tropical Indian Ocean and cooler than average in the west. During a positive event, the reverse occurs, with cooler than average waters in the eastern parts of the tropical Indian Ocean and warmer in the west. Specific regions are monitored in the eastern and western Indian Ocean to identify IOD event development.



The Indian Ocean Dipole.

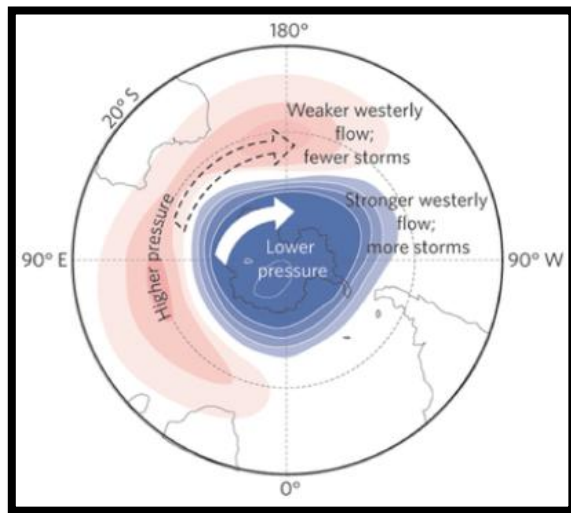
The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is neutral. The latest value of the IOD index for the week ending 4 May is $+0.50\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. This is the second week it has been above the positive IOD threshold of $+0.40\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. However, for an event to be considered established, the IOD index would need to be sustained above the positive threshold for at least 6 to 8 consecutive weeks. Despite recent positive IOD index values, the Bureau's model predicts an overall neutral state of the IOD until at least August. This is consistent with a range of international models that are also predicting neutral IOD for at least the next 2 months. Skill for IOD forecasts made at this time of the year has historically been low for forecasts beyond a month ahead.



Southern Annular Mode (SAM)

The Southern Annular Mode (SAM) refers to the north-south movement of rain-bearing westerly winds and weather systems in the Southern Ocean, compared to the usual seasonal position. A positive SAM refers to a southward shift while a negative SAM refers to a northward shift. The typical impact on Australian rainfall from positive and negative phases of SAM depends on the time of year and interaction with other climate indicators such as El Niño or La Niña.

Sustained values of the SAM index above +1 indicate a positive SAM event, while sustained values below -1 indicate a negative SAM event



The Southern Annular Mode (SAM) is neutral as of 3 May. Forecasts show the SAM will likely return to a positive phase within the next fortnight, with a tendency towards positive SAM index values throughout May being likely.

- The latest weekly SST analysis (ending 4 May) shows warmer than average waters around most of the Australian coastline, reaching up to 3 °C above average to Australia's south-west, south and east.
- Global SSTs remain substantially above average. Each month in 2025 has been the second warmest recorded for its respective month, only slightly cooler than 2024.
- The El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is neutral. The latest Niño3.4 value for the week ending 4 May is −0.03 °C. Neutral ENSO values are between −0.8 °C and +0.8 °C.

Source:

bom.gov / SAWB / GRADS/ NASS / DTN / AWB / CWB / Intellicast / FNMOC / Unisys/ NOAA/ YR / KBWS / Wunderground / TWC / WordPress / WXRisk / Drovers / TWC / AG-BoM / Accuweather / SPC / NOAA / soybeansandcorn / Windy / agrimoney / en sat24 / agweb / blackseagrain / Europa / woeurope / timeanddate / myweather2 / meteoX / meteoblue / intellicast / iweather / Columbia / weather-atlas / ec.europa.eu / NASA / nasagrace / usda.gov / USDA/WAOB

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