



THREE-MONTH SEASONAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK STATEMENT
Temperature probabilities for April to June 2003, issued 18th March 2003

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Odds favour warmer season across the NT

The latest seasonal temperature odds from the Bureau's National Climate Centre show moderate to strong swings towards above average temperatures in the tropics and Western Australia for the June quarter.

For the **April to June** period the chances of above average *seasonal maximum temperatures* are over 60% across central parts of the NT, reaching about 80% in the far north of the Territory (see Figure 1). In the south, the chances are closer to 50%. These probabilities have resulted from higher than average sea temperatures in both the tropical Pacific and Indian Oceans.

So with climate patterns like the current, about 7 seasons out of every 10 are warmer than average across the Top End, with about 3 out of 10 being cooler. Furthermore, the objective statistical outlook model has moderate to high reliability over most of the Territory for the April to June period (see background on page 1).

The chances of above average *seasonal minimum temperatures* are between 60 and 80% across the NT (see Figure 2), favouring warmer than average nights for the June quarter. The minimum temperature outlooks for this period have moderate to high reliability over the northern half of the NT, but only low to moderate reliability across the southern half.

Background Information:

- These outlooks are for the average maximum and minimum temperatures for the entire outlook period. Information about whether individual days or weeks may be unusually hot or cold, is unavailable.
- This outlook uses data from both the Pacific and Indian Oceans, with the Pacific Ocean having the major influence on the north of the country and the Indian Ocean the chief influence on southern areas.
- This outlook represents a summary.
- Answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are shown on page 3.

Fig.1: Chance that max temps averaged over Apr-June will be above median (warmer)

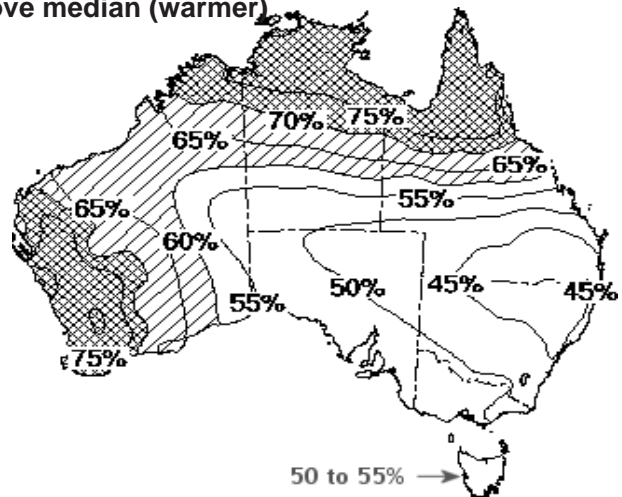
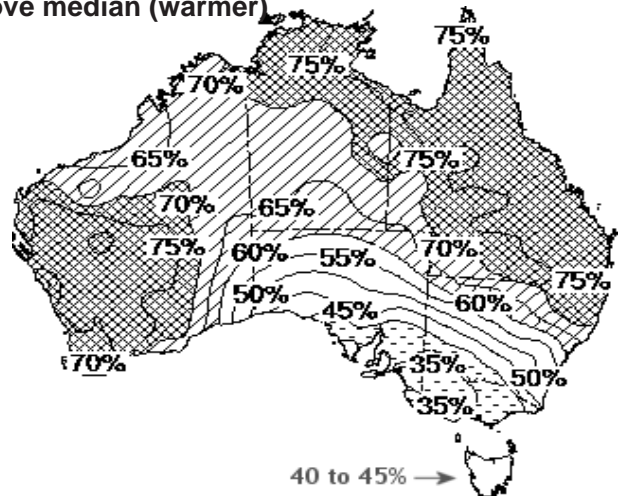


Fig.2: Chance that min temps averaged over Apr-June will be above median (warmer)



The national text, with colour maps, is also on the WEB at http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/ahead/temps_ahead.shtml.

More information on this outlook is available from 9:00am to 5:00pm (CST) Monday to Friday by contacting the Climate and Consultancy section in the Bureau's Darwin Office: (08) 8920 3813.