# Record-High Summer Temperatures Forecasted to Impact U.S. Across Multiple States



### Record-High Summer Temperatures Predicted Across the U.S.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) forecasts an unusually hot summer across nearly every state in the U.S. for the upcoming months, with the period from July through September expected to experience significant temperature increases. States in the western U.S., particularly Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, and parts of Colorado, are predicted to be the most affected, with temperatures anticipated to rise 60 to 70 percent above average levels.

This temperature anomaly is primarily attributed to the La Niña weather pattern, which affects wind patterns and consequently leads to warmer-than-usual conditions during the summer. La Niña typically occurs every three to five years but can happen consecutively. A switch from the El Niño pattern, which warms the ocean's surface, to La Niña, which cools it, is behind the overall warmer and drier weather conditions this summer.

The NOAA's projections extend beyond the West. States from Idaho to Texas and across the Northeast may see temperatures 50 to 60 percent above average, while Oklahoma, Florida, Virginia, and Michigan could experience rises of 40 to 50 percent. Notably, the Dakotas and parts of Minnesota and Iowa have an equal chance of having temperatures within the average range or above or below average for this time of year.

Global temperatures have been on a steady increase since the early 2000s, with many attributing this to climate change. A study from 2023 concluded that current record heat waves would have been unlikely without human-induced global warming, primarily via the burning of fossil fuels. This has raised concerns regarding the U.S. power grid's capability to manage the increased demand for electricity due to higher air-conditioning usage.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advises people to stay hydrated and utilize air-conditioned public spaces if their homes lack air conditioning. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has noted that extreme heat can lead to health issues like heat-related illnesses and increased risks of heart attacks or respiratory diseases, potentially contributing to fatalities not directly recognized as heat-related.