

SUMMARY ABOUT EL NIÑO IN AUSTRALIA

SPOTTING AN EL NIÑO



TEMPERATURES

in the tropical Pacific Ocean warm, both at the surface and below



SURFACE PRESSURE

changes across the Pacific; higher in the west, lower in the east



TRADE WINDS

weaken, and sometimes reverse



CLOUD

increases near the Date Line

TYPICAL IMPACTS ON OUR CLIMATE

↓ RAINFALL DECREASES IN EASTERN AUSTRALIA

↑ TEMPERATURE INCREASES IN SOUTHERN AUSTRALIA (DAYTIME TEMPERATURES)



OTHER IMPACTS

INCREASED BUSHFIRE RISK



FEWER TROPICAL CYCLONES



LATER START TO NORTHERN WET SEASON



MORE HEATWAVES



LONGER FROST RISK SEASON



REDUCED CHANCE OF WIDESPREAD FLOODS



LESS CHANCE OF INDIAN OCEAN HEATWAVES



STRONGER SEABREEZES



WHEN DO THEY OCCUR?

USUALLY EL NIÑO DEVELOPS IN **AUTUMN TO WINTER** AND STARTS TO DECAY IN SUMMER



EL NIÑO EVENTS CAN LAST FOR AS LITTLE AS

6 MONTHS OR AS LONG AS **2** YEARS

ON AVERAGE THEY OCCUR EVERY

3 TO 5 YEARS

THE LAST

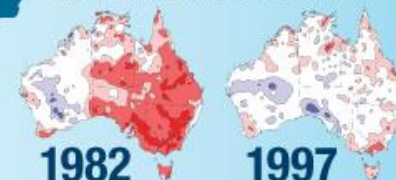
EL NIÑO WAS IN **2009-10**

GLOBALLY, **7** OUT OF **10**

OF THE HOTTEST YEARS ON RECORD WERE IN AN EL NIÑO YEAR OR THE YEAR FOLLOWING

EVERY EL NIÑO IS DIFFERENT

EL NIÑO WINTER AND SPRING RAINFALL



RED = DRIER THAN NORMAL BLUE = WETTER THAN NORMAL

THERE HAVE BEEN

26 EL NIÑO EVENTS SINCE 1900 **17** HAVE BROUGHT WIDESPREAD DROUGHT

7 OF AUSTRALIA'S 10 DRIEST YEARS ON RECORD WERE DURING EL NIÑO



Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology

www.bom.gov.au