NOAA

La Niña Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly

Sea surface temperature anomaly is the difference between the current temperature and the long-term temperature average. Negative temperature differences (blue) indicate that the ocean is cooler than average, while positive temperature differences (red) indicate that the ocean is warmer than average. Tracking sea surface anomalies helps scientists quickly identify areas of warming and cooling, which can affect coral reef ecosystems, hurricane development, and the development of El Niño and La Niña. This example shows a La Niña pattern.

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