



THREE-MONTH SEASONAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK STATEMENT
Temperature probabilities for May to July 2003, issued 15th April 2003

Page 2

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 southwest WA.

For the **May to July** period the chances of above average *seasonal daytime temperatures* are between 60 and 75% across the northern half of the Northern Territory (see Figure 1). So with climate patterns like the current, about 6 to 7 seasons out of every 10 are expected to be warmer than average across these parts of the Territory, with about 3 to 4 out of 10 being cooler. The chances of above median maximum temperatures are slightly lower, between 50 and 60% across the southern half of the Territory. These probabilities have resulted from higher than average sea temperatures in both the tropical Pacific and Indian Oceans.

The objective statistical outlook model has moderate to high reliability over the northern half of the Territory for the May to July period, but lower reliability over the southern half (see background on page 1).

The chances of above average *seasonal minimum temperatures* are between 65 and 80% across the Northern Territory (see Figure 2). This means the chances of **BELOW** median seasonal minimum temperatures are between 20 and 35%. The outlooks have moderate to fairly high reliability across the Territory for the May to July period.

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, both of which are warmer than average.
- This outlook represents a summary: more detail is available from the contact people or web site listed below.
- Answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are shown on page 3.

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

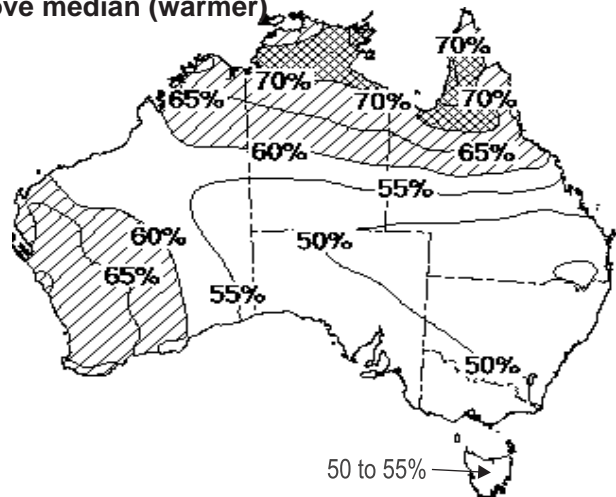
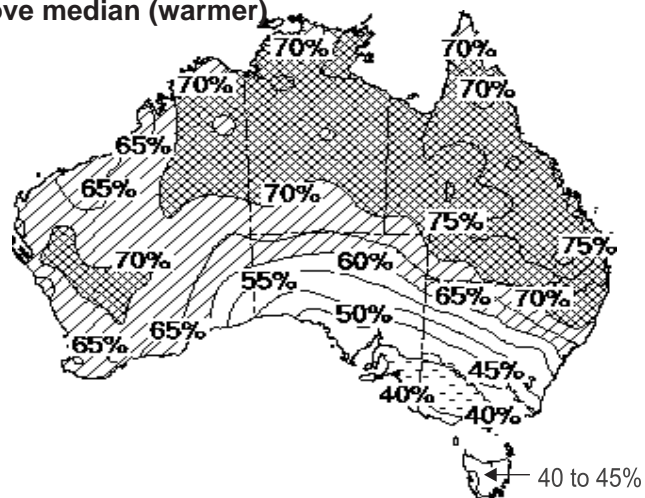


Fig.2: Chance that min temps averaged over May-July will be above median (warmer)



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.