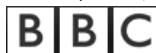


« back to results for ""**This would mean global temperatures have not risen since 1998, prompting some to question climate change theory**""  
 Below is a cache of <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/7329799.stm>. It's a snapshot of the page taken as our search engine crawled the Web. We've highlighted the words: **this would mean global temperatures have not risen since 1998 prompting some to question climate change theory**  
 The web site itself may have changed. You can check the [current page](#) (without highlighting) or check for previous versions at [the Internet Archive](#).  
 Yahoo! is not affiliated with the authors of this page or responsible for its content.

Low Graphics | Accessibility help



Search

**LIVE** BBC NEWS 24

Page last updated at 00:42 GMT, Friday, 4 April 2008 01:42 UK

[E-mail this to a friend](#)

[Printable version](#)

## Global temperatures 'to decrease'

By Roger Harrabin  
 BBC News environment analyst

**Global temperatures this year will be lower than in 2007 due to the cooling effect of the La Nina current in the Pacific, UN meteorologists have said.**

The World Meteorological Organisation's secretary-general, Michel Jarraud, told the BBC it was likely that La Nina would continue into the summer.

This would mean global temperatures have not risen since 1998, prompting some to question climate change theory.

But experts have also forecast a record high temperature within five years.

### 'Variability'

La Nina and El Nino are two great natural Pacific currents whose effects are so huge they resonate round the world.

El Nino warms the planet when it happens, La Nina cools it. This year, the Pacific is in the grip of a powerful La Nina.

It has contributed to torrential rains in Australia and to some of the coldest temperatures in memory in snow-bound parts of China.

Mr Jarraud told the BBC that the effect was likely to continue into the summer, depressing temperatures globally by a fraction of a degree.

This would mean that temperatures have not risen globally since 1998 when El Nino warmed the world.

A minority of scientists question whether this means global warming has peaked and the earth has proved more resilient to greenhouse gases than predicted.

But Mr Jarraud insisted this was not the case and noted that 1998 temperatures would still be well above average for the century.

"When you look at climate change you should not look at any particular year," he said. "You should look



La Nina caused some of the coldest temperatures in memory in China

### LA NINA KEY FACTS



La Nina translates from the Spanish as "The Child Girl"

Refers to the extensive cooling of the central and eastern Pacific

Increased sea temperatures on the western side of the Pacific means the atmosphere has more energy and frequency of heavy rain and thunderstorms is increased

Typically lasts for up to 12 months and generally less damaging event than the stronger El Nino

### CLIMATE CHANGE



#### Animated guide

Find out how the greenhouse effect works and more...

### GLOBAL POLITICS

Climate deal sealed by US U-turn  
 Gore plea to US and China  
 Critics angry at Bush climate plan

### EU/UK POLITICS

PM outlines climate action plan  
 Climate bill's 60% emission cut

### LATEST SCIENCE

Arctic summers ice-free 'by 2013'  
 'Tropics expand' as world warms  
 'Unexpected growth' in CO2 found

### IPCC ASSESSMENT

UN challenges states on warming  
 Human climate impact defined  
 Billions face climate change risk  
 Mapping climate change

### FEATURES

Bali deal: Small presents for all  
 Time to stop the blame game  
 50 years on: The Keeling legacy  
 Tackling the fossil fuel juggernaut

### BACKGROUND

State of the planet, in graphics  
 The evidence  
 Models 'key to climate forecasts'

### FROM ACROSS THE BBC

Climate change portal  
 Bangladesh river journey

### RELATED BBC LINKS

[BBC Weather Centre - La Nina](#)

### RELATED INTERNET LINKS

[World Meteorological Organization \(WMO\)](#)  
[Met Office Hadley Centre](#)

### News Front Page

[World](#)

[UK](#)

[England](#)

[Northern Ireland](#)

[Scotland](#)

[Wales](#)

[Business](#)

[Politics](#)

[Health](#)

[Education](#)

[Science/Nature](#)

[Technology](#)

[Entertainment](#)

[Also in the news](#)

[Video and Audio](#)

[Have Your Say](#)

[Magazine](#)

[In Pictures](#)

[Country Profiles](#)

[Special Reports](#)

### Related BBC sites

[Sport](#)

[Weather](#)

[Radio 1 Newsbeat](#)

[CBBC News](#)

[On This Day](#)

[Editors' Blog](#)

### Site Version

[UK Version](#)

[International Version](#)

[About the versions](#)

at trends over a pretty long period and the trend of temperature globally is still very much indicative of warming."

"La Nina is part of what we call 'variability'. There has always been and there will always be cooler and warmer years, but what is important for climate change is that the trend is up."

Experts at the UK Met Office's Hadley Centre for forecasting in Exeter said the world could expect another record temperature within five years or less, probably associated with another episode of El Nino.

The BBC is not responsible for the content of external internet sites

TOP SCIENCE/NATURE STORIES

- Global temperatures 'to decrease'
- Robot space truck docks with ISS
- Faeces hint at first Americans

News feeds

E-mail this to a friend

Printable version

Bookmark with:

What are these?

- Delicious
- Digg
- reddit
- Facebook
- StumbleUpon

MOST POPULAR STORIES NOW

- E-MAILED
- READ
- WATCHED/LISTENED

- Hundreds trapped on Underground
- Naomi arrested after row on plane
- Global temperatures 'to decrease'
- The world's most dangerous gang
- Zimbabwe police 'raid MDC office'

Most popular now, in detail

FEATURES, VIEWS, ANALYSIS



Lethal import  
How US is coping with a violent gang from El Salvador.



As dust settles  
Just who is to be believed over battle for Basra?



7 days quiz  
They're back - who was first to bark 'RICKY'

PRODUCTS & SERVICES

Interactive TV

Podcasts

Alerts

News feeds

BBC © MMVIII

The BBC is not responsible for the content of external internet sites.

News Sources  
About BBC News

BBC Help  
Accessibility Help  
Jobs  
Advertise with us

About the BBC  
Contact Us  
Terms of Use  
Privacy & Cookies