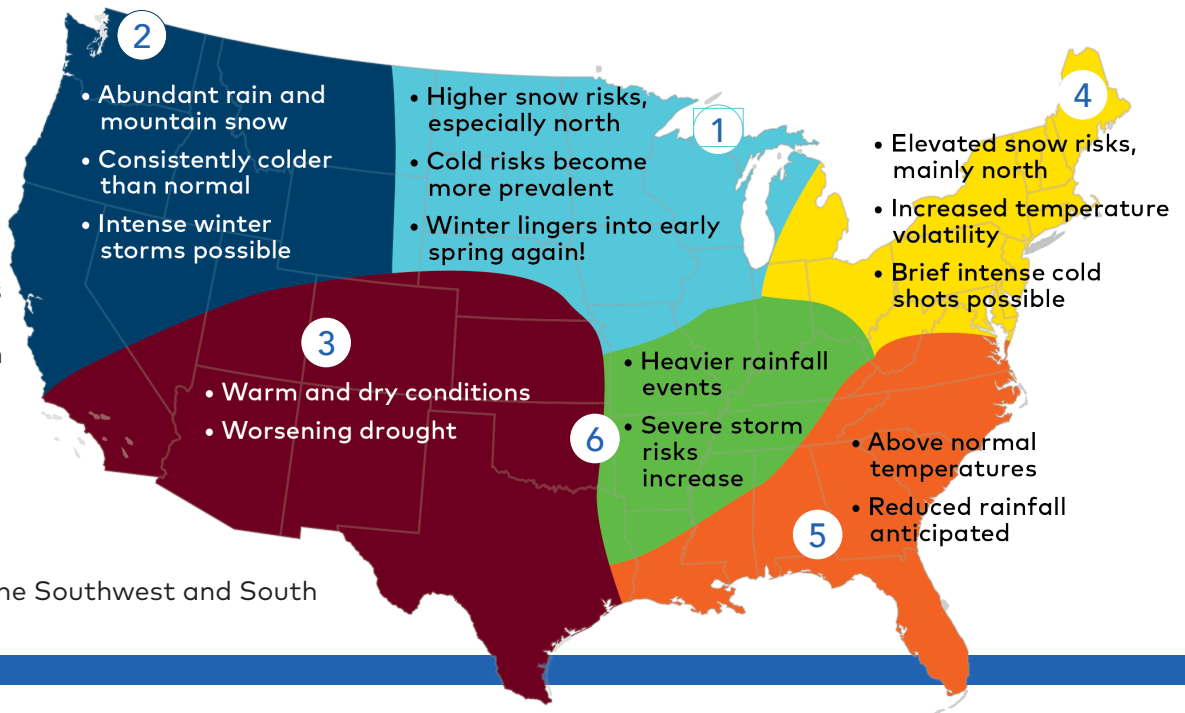


# 2021 U.S. Winter Season Outlook

## U.S. Outlook Highlights

- Moderate La Niña gradually weakens into spring
- Severe storm threats increase across the Southeast and South Central U.S.
- Cold and snow risks increase for North Central and Northwest states
- Growing drought in the Southwest and South Central U.S.



### 1 North Central



#### Temperature

- Below normal temperatures loom
- Arctic air intrusions possible
- Coldest risks favor northern Plains

#### Precipitation

- Becoming wetter closer to the MS River
- Near to above normal snow possible region-wide
- Mixed precipitation events remain possible

### 2 Northwest



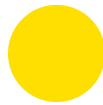
#### Temperature

- Consistent cold anomalies ahead
- Winter lingers into early spring
- Short-lived arctic shots expected

#### Precipitation

- Above average rain/snow for most of the region
- Significant rain/snow events possible
- Widespread drought improvement expected

### 3 Southwest



#### Temperature

- Warm anomalies are anticipated
- Occasional cool risks for CA/NV
- Warmth favors southern deserts

#### Precipitation

- Dry pattern continues into spring
- Worsening drought conditions for most
- Short-term drought relief possible in northern CA/NV

### 4 Northeast



#### Temperature

- Increased temperature variability
- Brief intense cold shots possible
- Warmer interludes are expected

#### Precipitation

- Wetter pattern is likely in February/March in OH Valley
- Busy storm track through most areas in February
- Increased snow risks for Great Lakes/New England

### 5 Southeast



#### Temperature

- Predominantly above normal
- Brief cool shots are possible
- Spring takes full control in April

#### Precipitation

- Drier than average for Gulf/Southeast states
- Late winter rains favor the TN Valley
- Increased severe weather risks

### 6 South Central



#### Temperature

- Above normal temperatures likely
- Brief intense cold shots possible
- Spring warmth shows up early

#### Precipitation

- Continued drier than normal for most areas
- Drought enhancement in the southern Plains
- Elevated severe weather risks develop in early spring

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