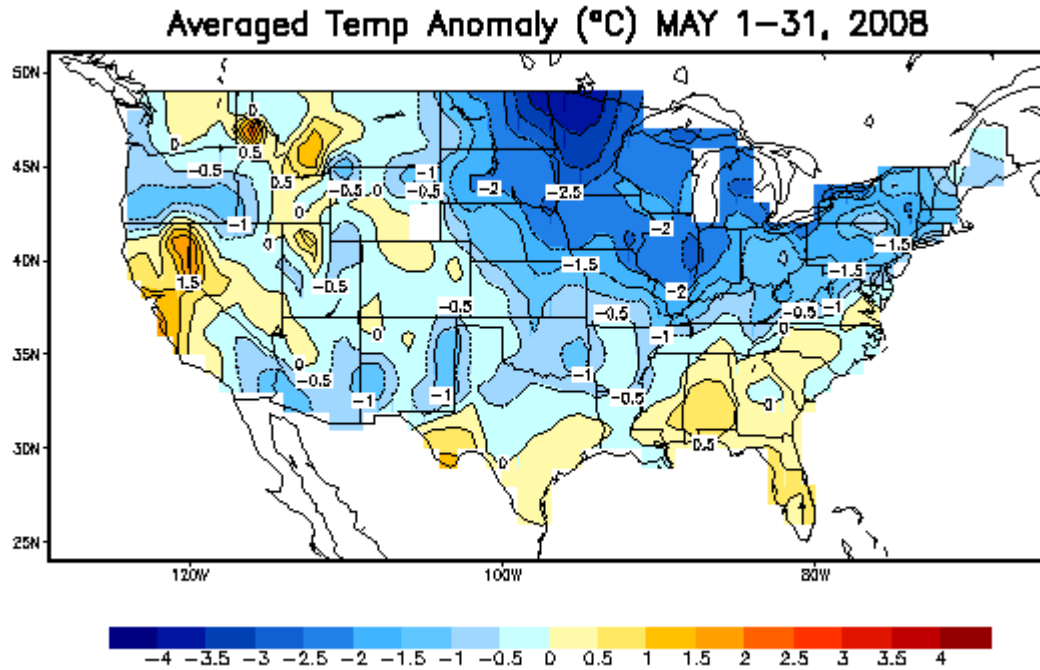


May 2008 Was Another Cold Month

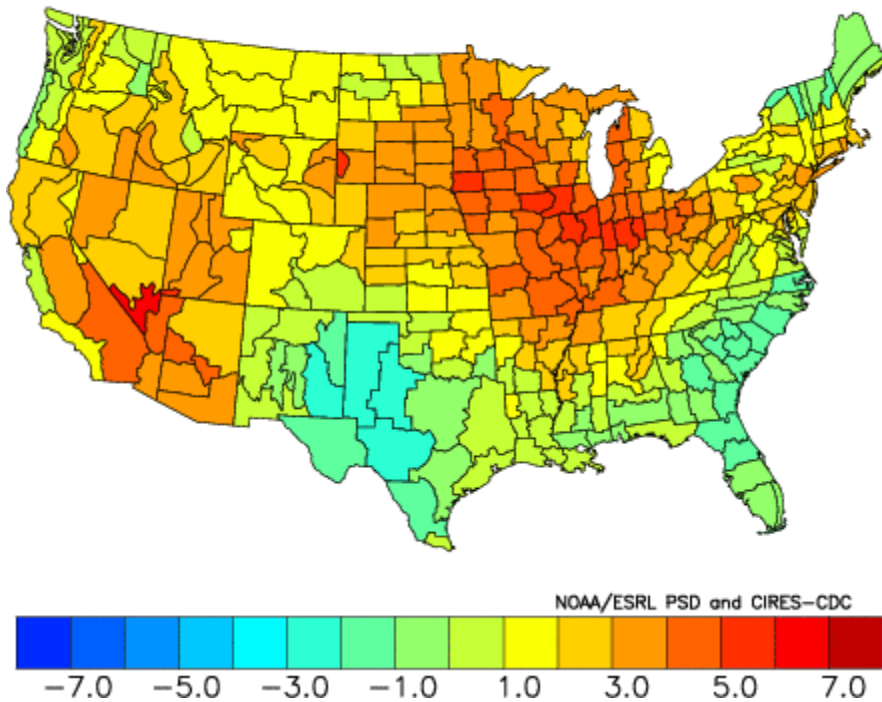
By Joseph D'Aleo, CCM

For 75% of the nation, May was cooler than normal, as much as 6F below in the far North Central.



This is in sharp contrast to May 2007 which was warm in the same areas it was cold this year. May 2007 was the 11th warmest May for the US.

Temperature Anomalies (F)
May 2007
Versus 1950–1995 Longterm Average



We will see in a few days where this May ranks. Clearly it will be colder than normal. UAH [MSU daily data](#) suggests the global average will be well below last year as well. Stay tuned for official updates.

That should continue [the downslide](#) we have seen starting in 2002 which accelerated the last year with the Pacific cooling and La Nina.

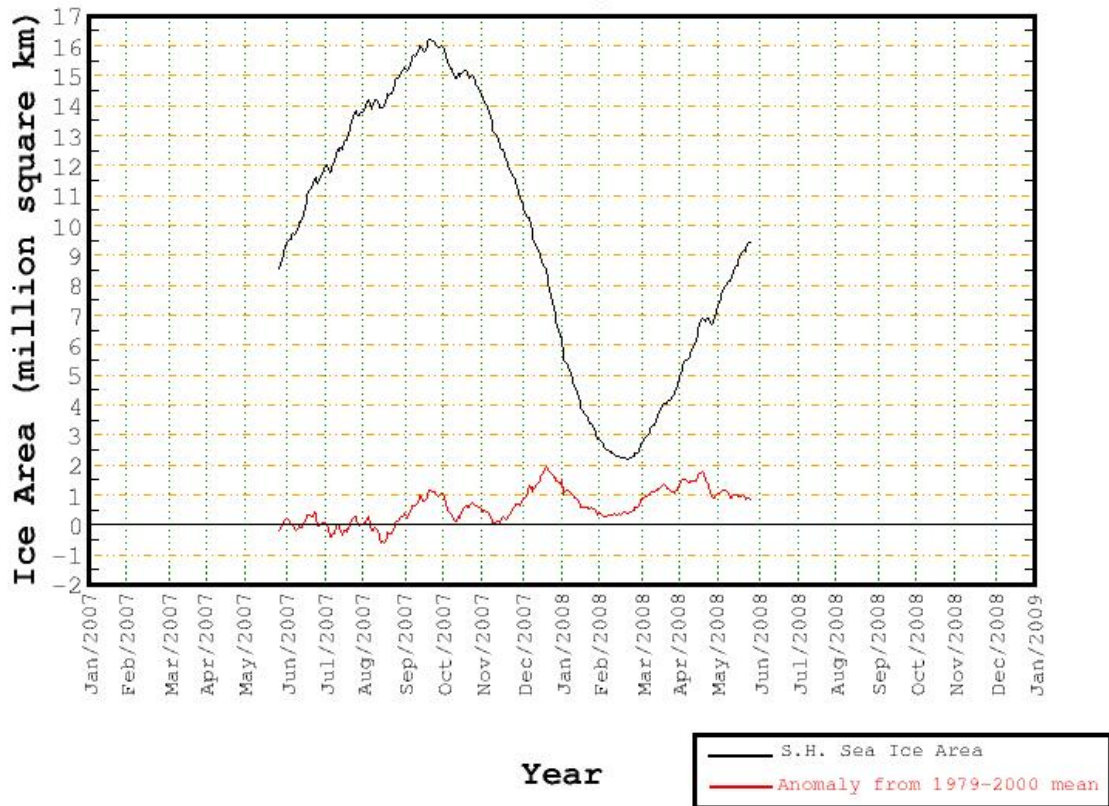
ICE UPDATE

ANTARCTICA

As of the latest update, Antarctic ice remains at 1 million square kilometers ahead of last year at this time and ahead of the average since 1979. If it stays at this anomaly, we will surpass the record set late last winter there.

Current Southern Hemisphere Sea Ice Area

recent 365 days shown

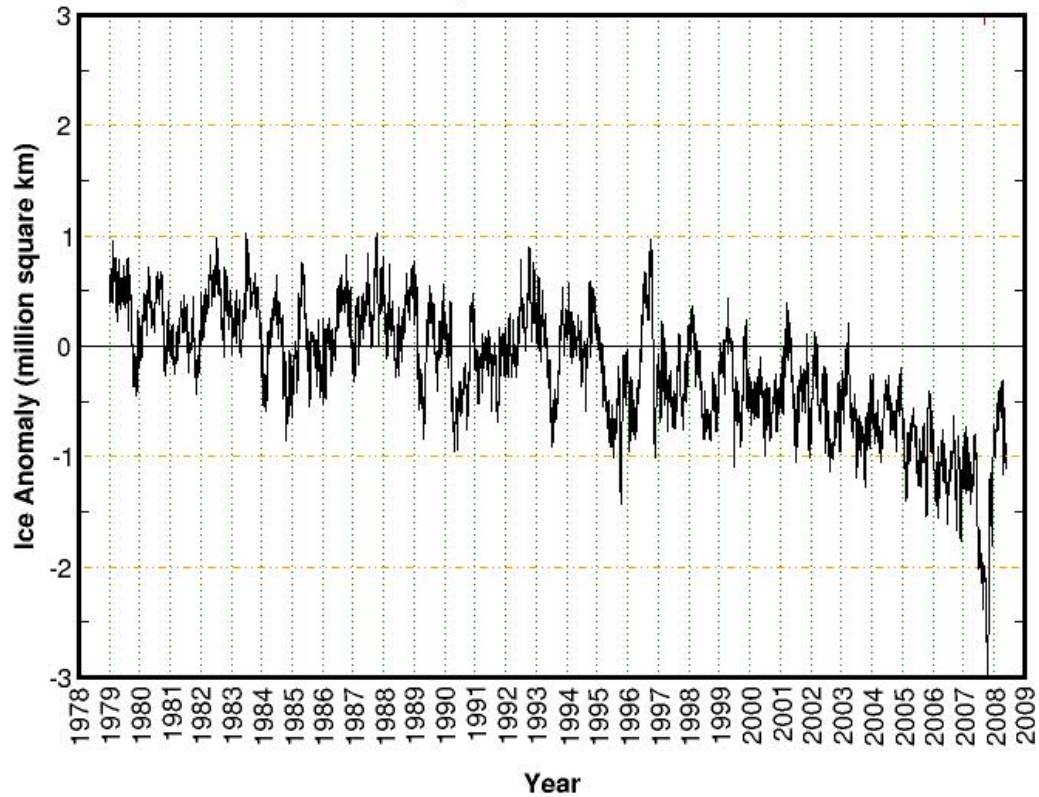


ARCTIC ICE

The arctic ice recovered nicely this past winter from the record (since 1979) low level set in September. It returned to levels of a several years back.

Northern Hemisphere Sea Ice Anomaly

Anomaly from 1978-2000 mean



The big decline began last year in June. It is too early to say with any certainty whether the same unusual flow pattern will develop this summer and cause a repeat. We can say that the North Pacific waters off Alaska and the Bering Strait are much colder than normal (as much as 7F!). We [have shown](#) how the arctic ice melt relates to warm water entering the arctic from the North Atlantic and North Pacific. The Atlantic is believed to contribute more to the ice melt but the North Pacific plays a role. See the cold water here.

Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly (C)

SST analysis for 00Z 31 MAY 08

