

Longest streak of negative PDO since the Moon Landing

By Alexandre Aguiar
MetSul Weather Center
Porto Alegre – Brazil

The new released data by the University of Washington indicates another negative month for the PDO. The value for the month of June was -0.31. According to the data from the University of Washington, the current streak of negative PDO is one of the longest in one hundred years. The Pacific Decadal Oscillation is negative for 22 consecutive months. The last time the PDO had a positive monthly value was in August 2007.

September 2007	-0.36
October 2007	-1.45
November 2007	-1.08
December 2007	-0.58
January 2008	-1.00
February 2008	-0.77
March 2008	-0.71
April 2008	-1.52
May 2008	-1.37
June 2008	-1.34
July 2008	-1.67
August 2008	-1.70
September 2008	-1.55
October 2008	-1.76
November 2008	-1.25
December 2008	-0.87
January 2009	-1.40
February 2009	-1.55
March 2009	-1.59
April 2009	-1.65
May 2009	-0.88
June 2009	-0.31

Prior to that, since 1900, there were very few periods with so many consecutive months presenting negative values: 20 months from July 1998 to February 2000; 19 months from December 1974 to June 1976; 20 months from December 1972 to July 1974; 23 months from August 1966 to June 1968; 28 months from May 1961 to August 1963; 25 months from February 1955 to February 1957; and 36 months from July 1948 to June 1951. In other words, this is the longest period of consecutive months of negative PDO in four decades. The last time the PDO stayed negative for some many months in a row was just before the man landed in the Moon, a milestone the world will remember this July 20th 2009.