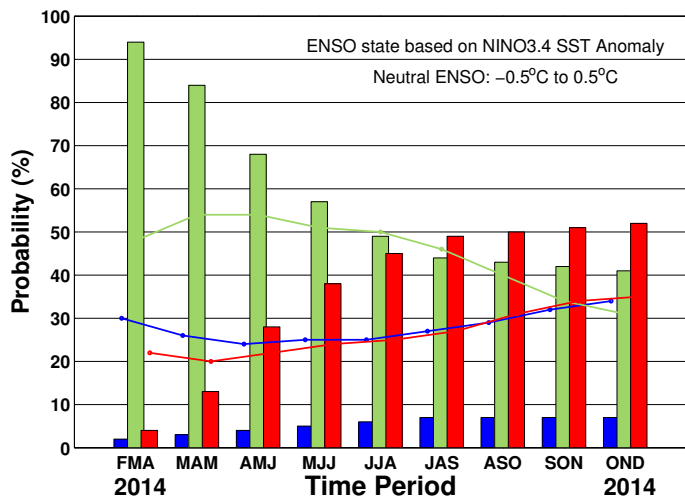


# ENSO QUICK LOOK March 20, 2014

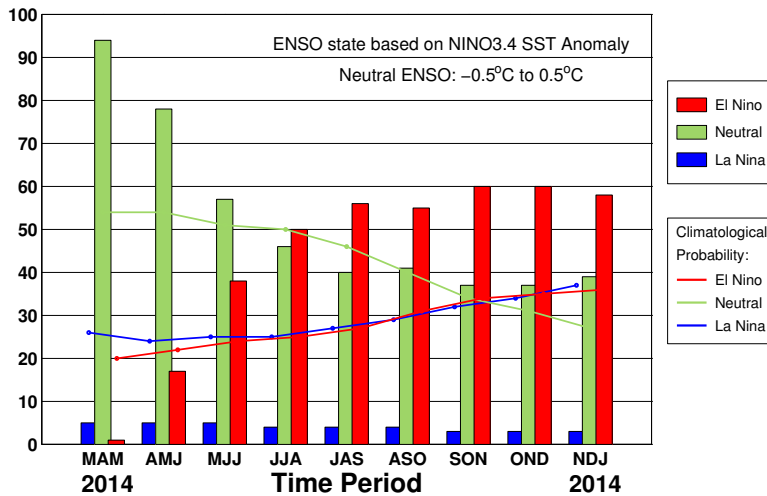
A monthly summary of the status of El Niño, La Niña and the Southern Oscillation, or “ENSO”, based on NINO3.4 index (120-170W, 5S-5N)

During February through mid-March the observed ENSO conditions varied from cool-neutral to the borderline of weak La Niña. However, many of the ENSO prediction models indicate a warming trend, with neutral ENSO during northern spring 2014 and a fairly likely development of weak El Niño conditions by the end of northern summer.

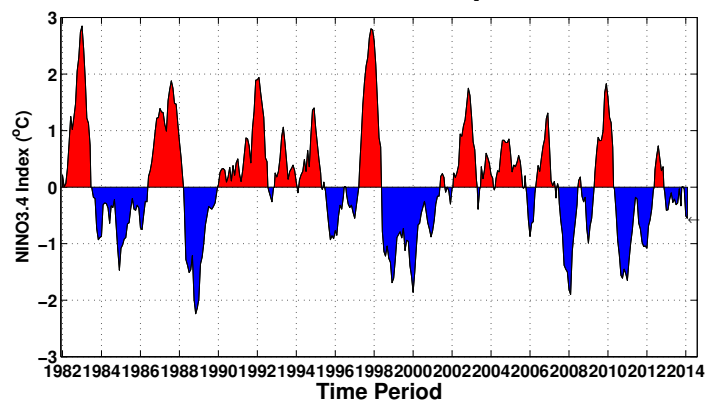
Early-Mar CPC/IRI Consensus Forecast<sup>1</sup>



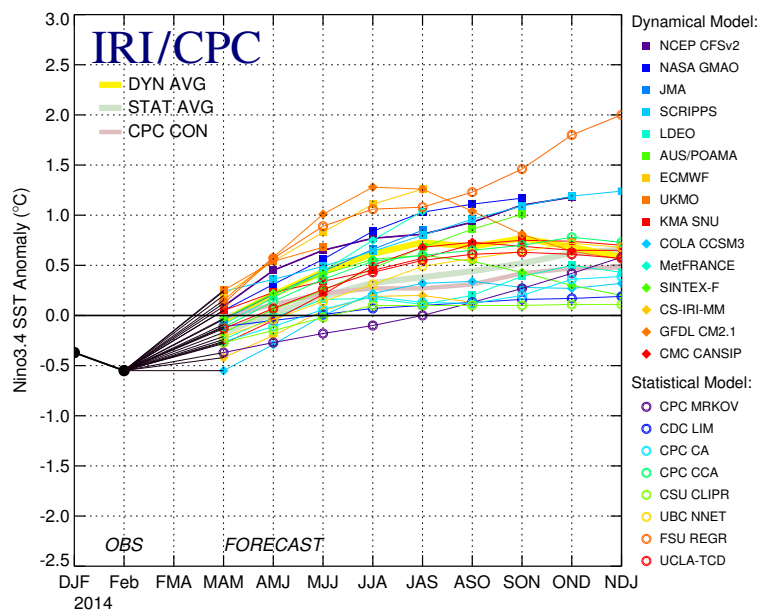
Mid-Mar IRI/CPC Plume-Based Forecast<sup>2</sup>



Historical Sea Surface Temperature Index



Mid-Mar 2014 Plume of Model ENSO Predictions



## Historically Speaking

- El Niño and La Niña events tend to develop during the period Apr-Jun and they:*
- Tend to reach their maximum strength during Dec-Feb
  - Typically persist for 9-12 months, though occasionally persisting for up to 2 years
  - Typically recur every 2 to 7 years

<sup>1</sup>Based on a consensus of CPC and IRI forecasters, in association with the official CPC/IRI ENSO Diagnostic Discussion.

<sup>2</sup>Purely objective, based on regression, using equally weighted model predictions from the plume.