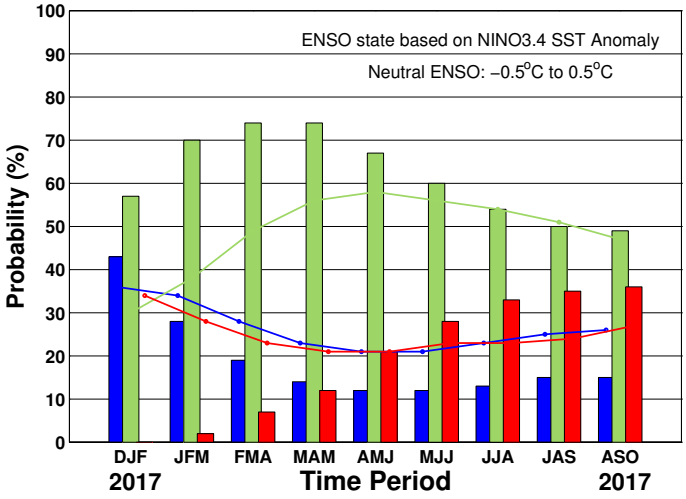
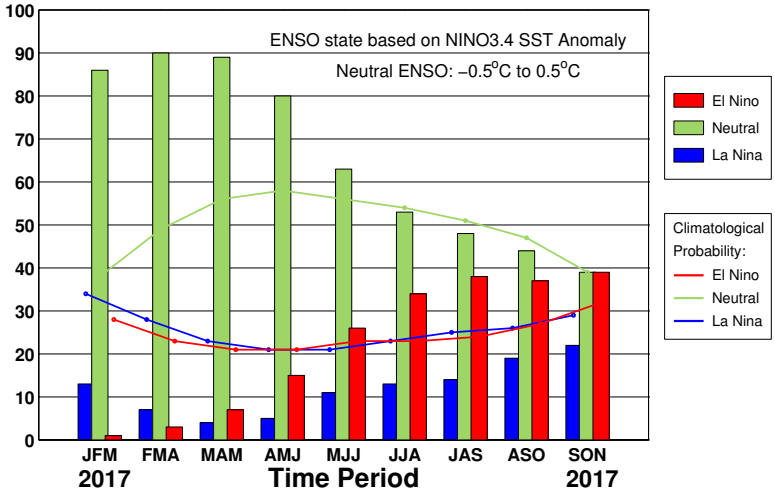
ENSO *QUICK LOOK* **Jan 19, 2016 A monthly summary of the status of El Niño, La Niña and the Southern Oscillation, or "ENSO",** based on NINO3.4 index (120-170W, 5S-5N)

During mid-January 2017 the tropical Pacific SST anomaly was near -0.5C, the threshold for weak La Niña. Many of the atmospheric variables across the tropical Pacific also remain consistent with weak La Niña conditions, although some have become only weakly so. The upper and lower atmospheric winds have continue to be weakly suggestive of a strengthened Walker circulation. The cloudiness and rainfall remain suggestive of La Niña conditions. The collection of ENSO prediction models indicates SSTs, now near the threshold of La Niña, is in the process of dissipating to neutral levels by February.

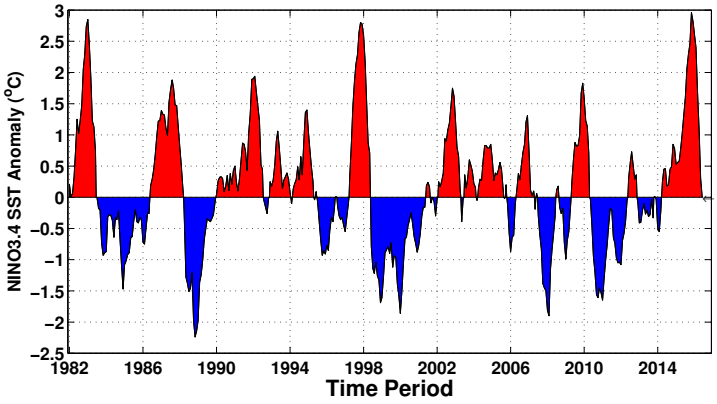
Early-Jan CPC/IRI Official Forecast[1]



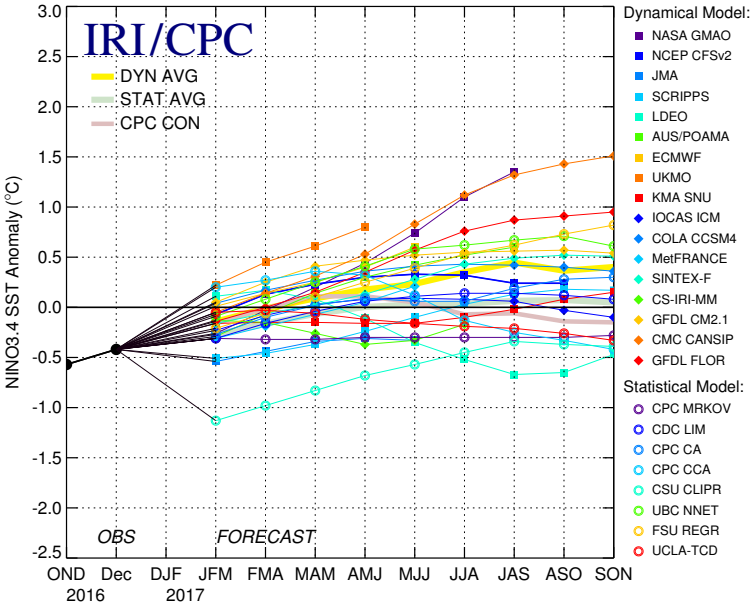
Mid-Jan IRI/CPC Model-Based Forecast[2]



Historical NINO3.4 SST Anomaly



Mid-Jan 2017 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

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