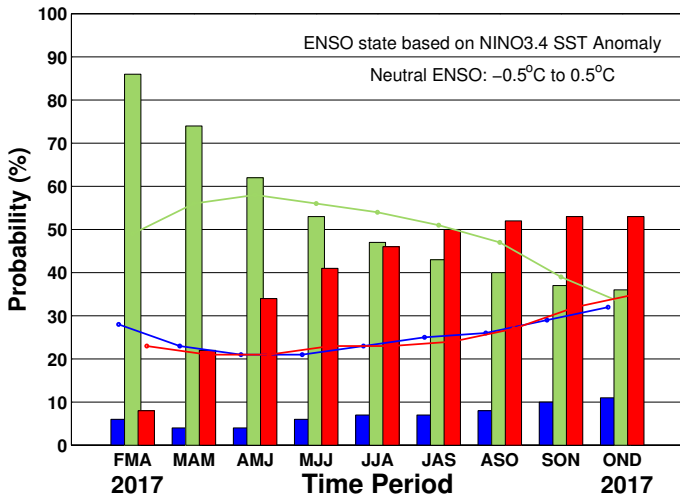


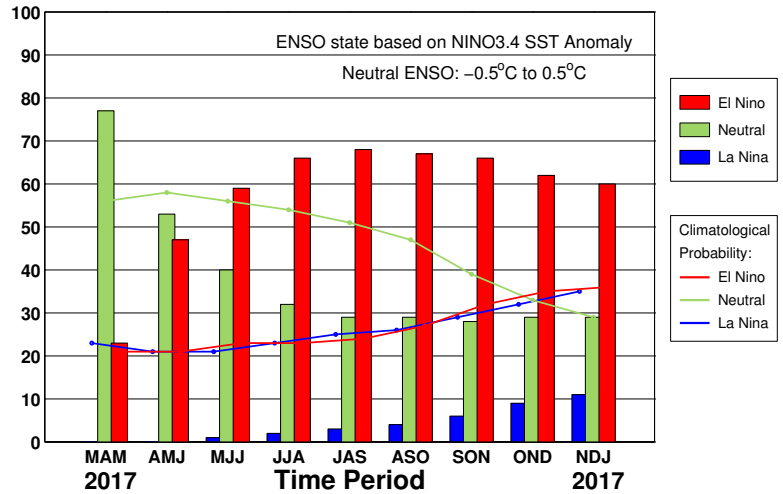
ENSO QUICK LOOK Mar 16, 2017 A monthly summary of the status of El Niño, La Niña and the Southern Oscillation, or “ENSO”, based on NINO3.4 index (120-170W, 5S-5N)

During mid-March 2017 the tropical Pacific SST anomaly was mainly in the ENSO-neutral range, but warmer than average SST was observed in the eastern one-third of the basin. Although most of the atmospheric variables across the tropical Pacific are now approximately ENSO-neutral, the pattern of cloudiness, rainfall and winds in the central and western tropical Pacific continues to suggest a borderline La Niña condition. The collection of ENSO prediction models indicates SSTs are likely to remain neutral through spring 2017, with an increasing chance for El Niño development during summer or fall.

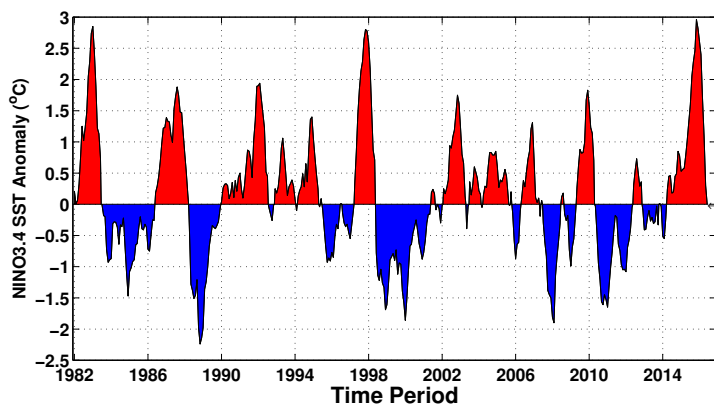
Early-Mar CPC/IRI Official Forecast¹



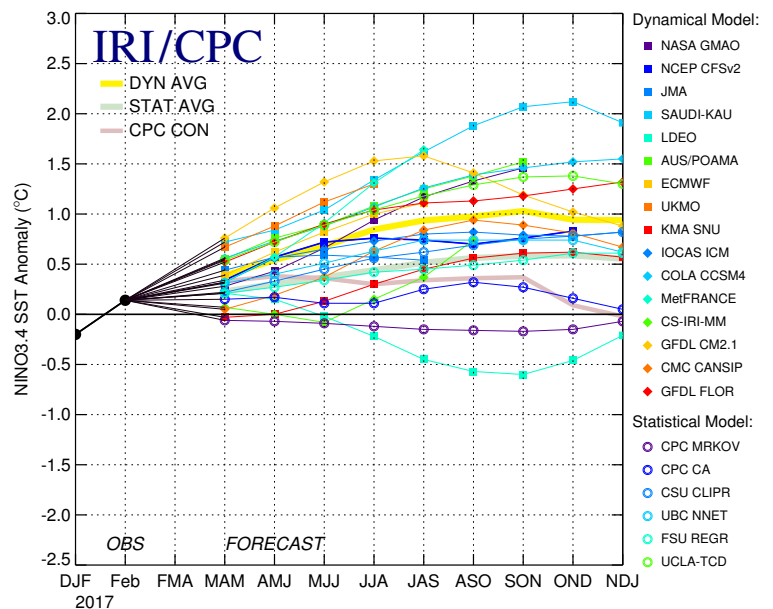
Mid-Mar IRI/CPC Model-Based Forecast²



Historical NINO3.4 SST Anomaly



Mid-Mar 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

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

²Ensemble prediction based on ensemble-averaging of all available model predictions from the plume.