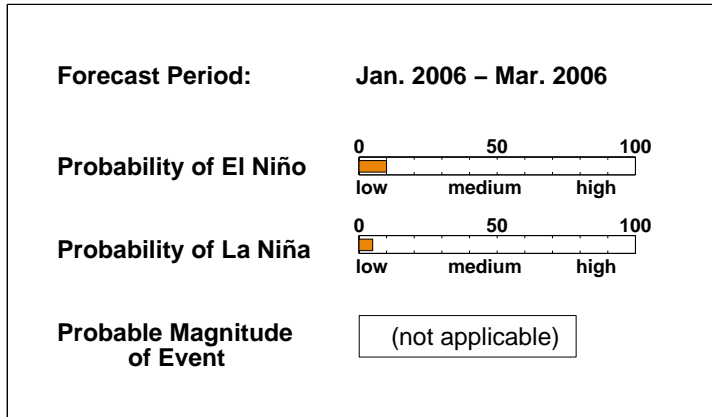


# ENSO QUICK LOOK September 14, 2005

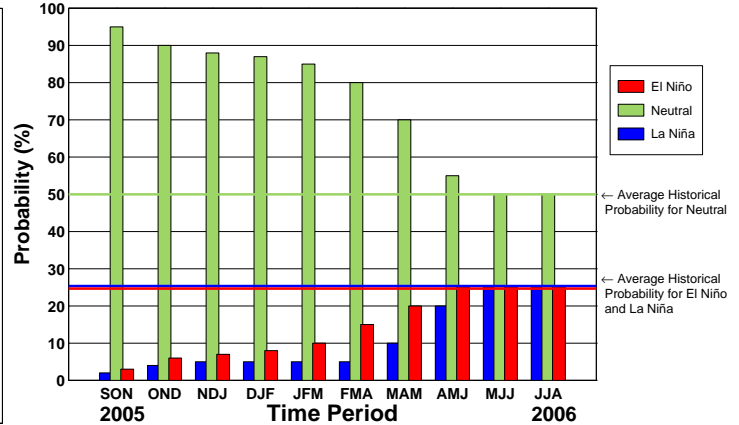
A monthly summary of the status of El Niño, La Niña and the Southern Oscillation, or "ENSO"

Sea surface temperatures across the equatorial Pacific are mainly near average, and are neutral in terms of the ENSO condition. Based on the latest observations and forecasts, it is approximately 95 percent likely that neutral conditions will prevail over the Sep-Oct-Nov 2005 season.

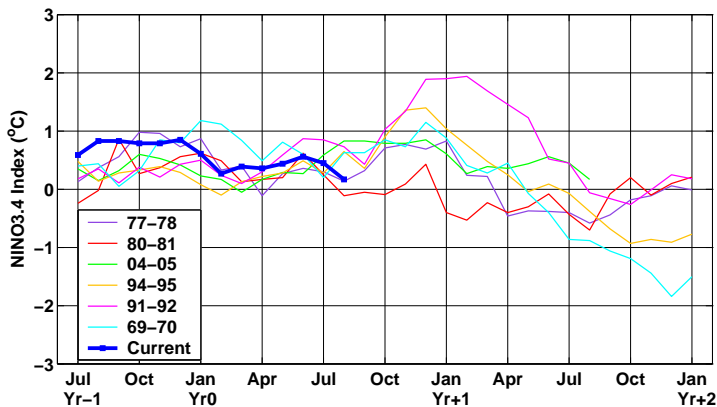
## Current ENSO Forecast Summary<sup>1</sup>



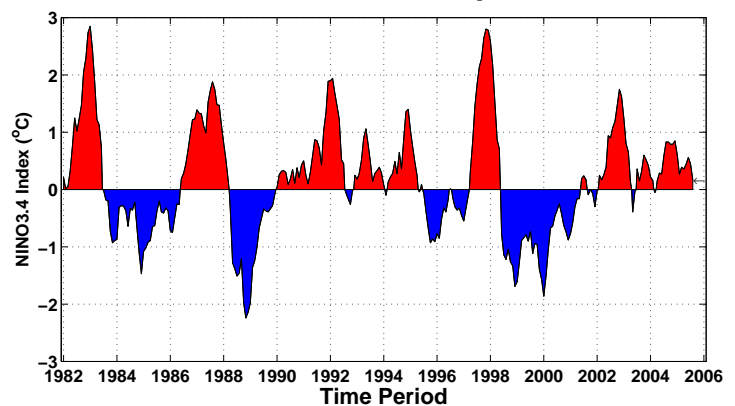
## IRI Probabilistic ENSO Forecast<sup>2</sup>



## Current Condition vs. Similar Conditions<sup>2</sup>



## Historical Sea Surface Temperature Index<sup>2</sup>



## 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>Probability of an El Niño refers to the likelihood of a sustained (that is, over several seasons) warming across a broad region of the eastern and central tropical Pacific, not just along coastal South America.

<sup>2</sup>Based on sea surface temperature departures from the long-term average over the "NINO3.4" region (120-170W, 5S-5N).