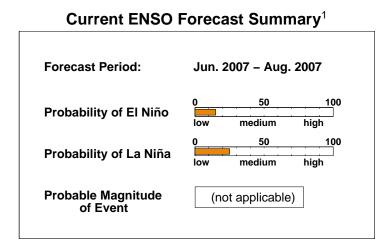
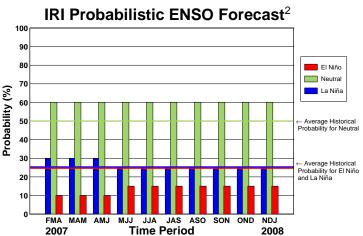
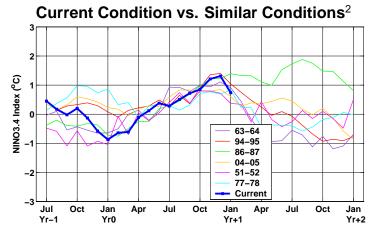
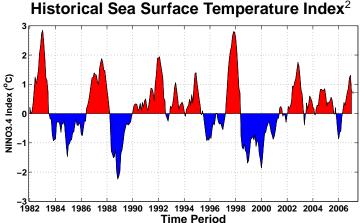
ENSO QUICK LOOK **February 15, 2007** A monthly summary of the status of El Niño, La Niña and the Southern Oscillation, or "ENSO"

As of mid-February the El Niño conditions are rapidly diminishing. Sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies remain approximately 0.5C above average in the central equatorial Pacific, but warm SST anomalies in the eastern Pacific have declined and in parts have been replaced recently by below-average temperatures. Based on the latest observations and forecasts, there is a 60 percent probability of ENSO-neutral conditions for February-March-April 2007.









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

¹Probability 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.

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