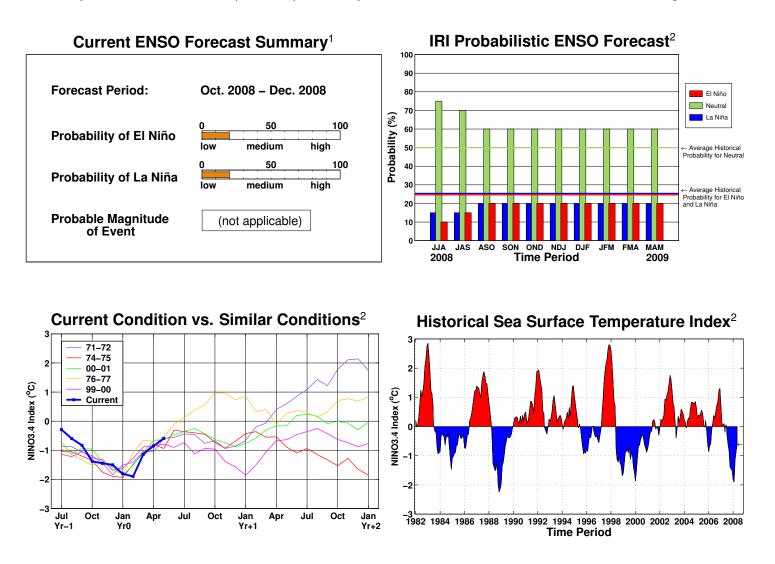
ENSO *QUICK LOOK* **Jun 18, 2008** A monthly summary of the status of El Niño, La Niña and the Southern Oscillation, or "ENSO"

La Niña conditions continue to weaken in the equatorial Pacific. Below-average sea surface temperatures (SSTs) still exist in the central equatorial Pacific, but they have been trending toward neutral since February 2008. There is a 75 percent probability of ENSO-neutral conditions over the coming season.



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).