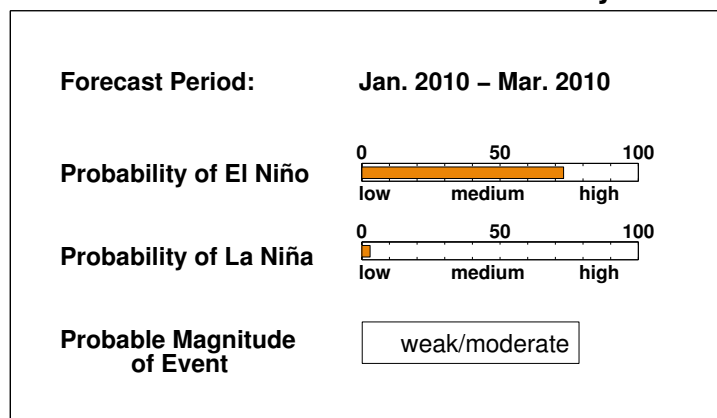


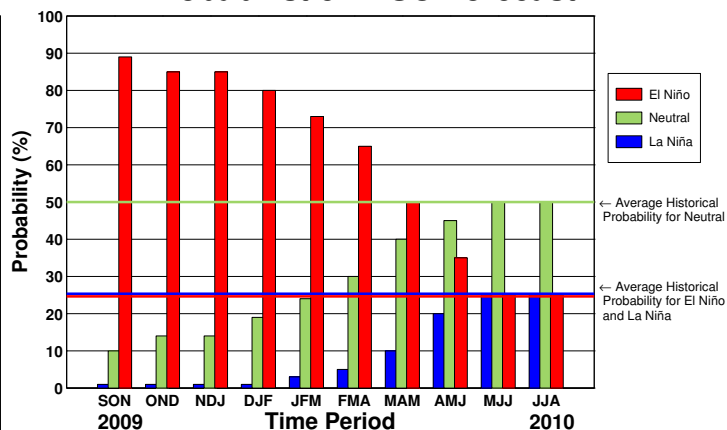
# ENSO QUICK LOOK Sep 17, 2009 A monthly summary of the status of El Niño, La Niña and the Southern Oscillation, or "ENSO"

Conditions in the equatorial Pacific remain indicative of a weak-to-moderate El Niño. During the Sep-Nov season there is just under a 90 percent probability of maintaining at least weak El Niño conditions, and a 10 percent probability of returning to ENSO-neutral conditions. Probabilities for El Niño remain near 85 percent for most of the remainder of 2009, decreasing thereafter to a climatological 25 percent by mid-2010.

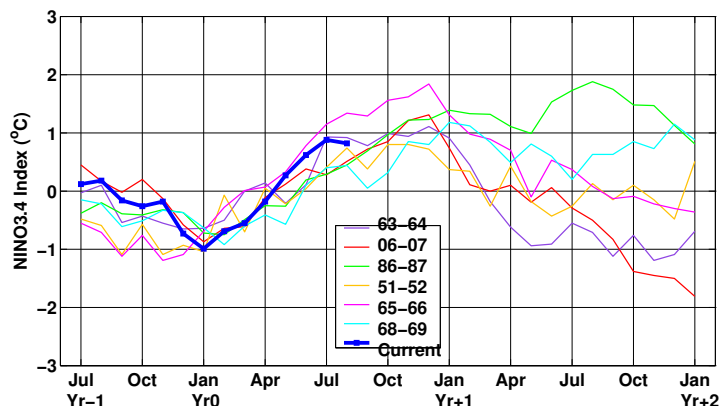
## Current ENSO Forecast Summary<sup>1</sup>



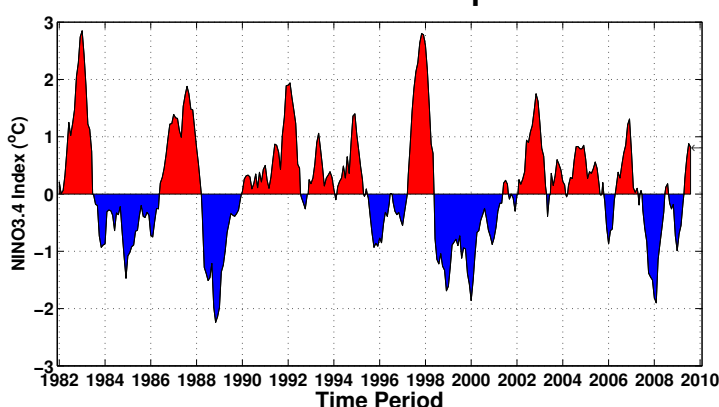
## IRI Probabilistic ENSO Forecast<sup>2</sup>



## 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).