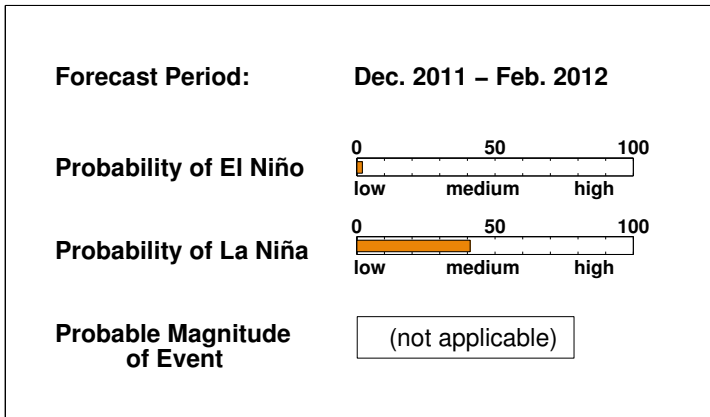


# ENSO QUICK LOOK August 18, 2011

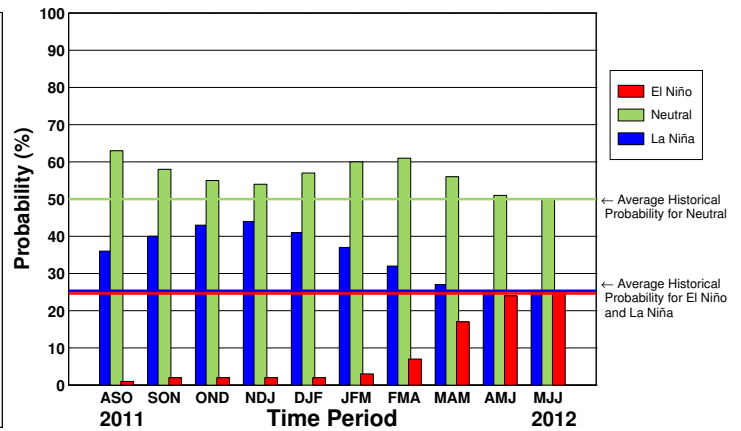
A monthly summary of the status of El Niño, La Niña and the Southern Oscillation, or "ENSO"

Since the ending of the moderate to strong La Niña episode in early May 2011, neutral ENSO conditions have prevailed. For the August-October season currently in progress, there is an approximately 36% probability for returning to La Niña conditions, a 63% probability for remaining in neutral conditions, and a 1% probability for the development of El Niño conditions. Although neutral conditions are still the most likely scenario throughout the remainder of 2011, the re-emergence of La Niña conditions is also more than a slight possibility.

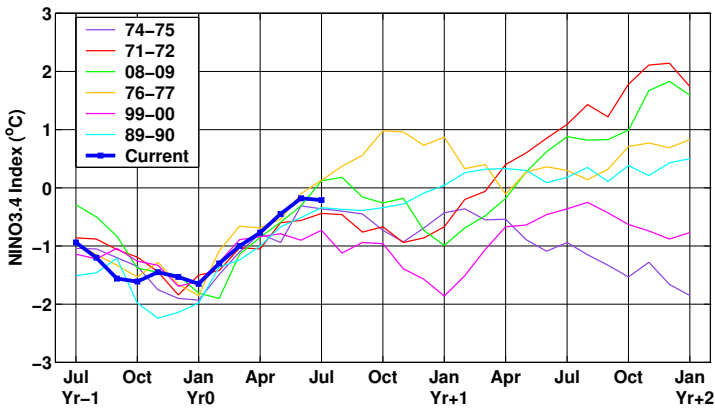
## Current ENSO Forecast Summary<sup>1</sup>



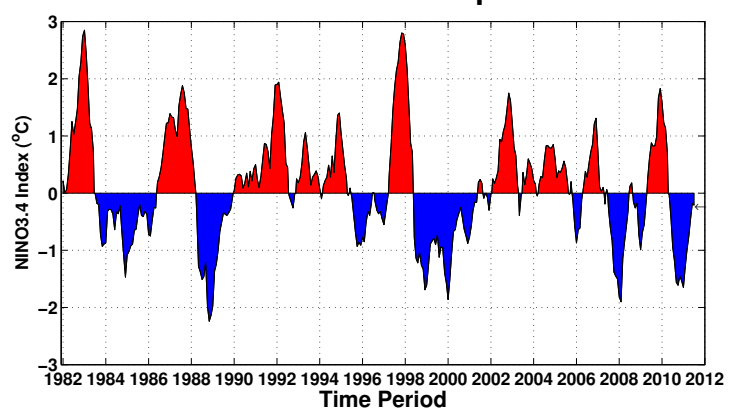
## IRI Probabilistic ENSO Forecast<sup>2</sup>



## 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).