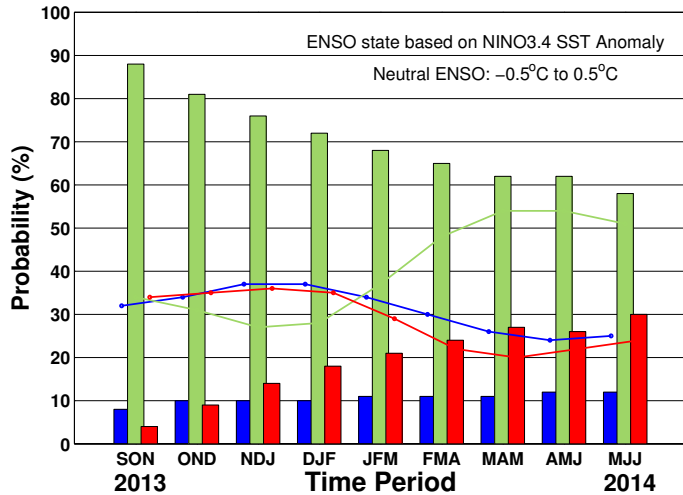


# ENSO QUICK LOOK October 17, 2013

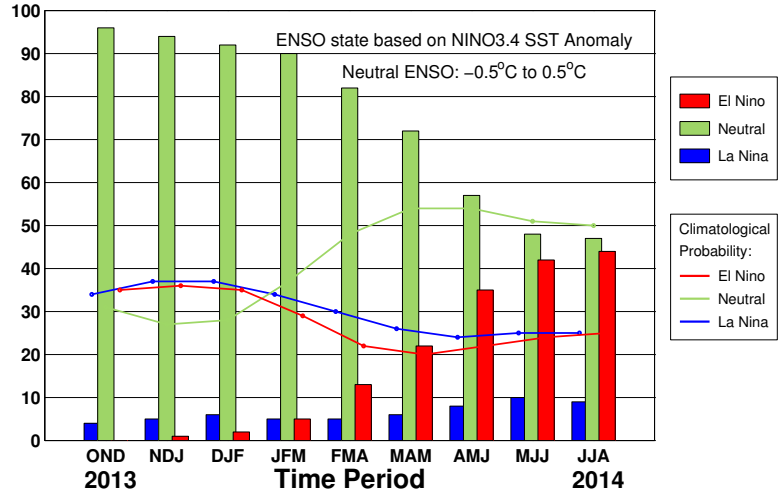
A monthly summary of the status of El Niño, La Niña and the Southern Oscillation, or “ENSO”, based on NINO3.4 index (120-170W, 5S-5N)

During September through October the observed ENSO conditions remained neutral. Most of the ENSO prediction models indicate a continuation of neutral ENSO through 2013 and the first quarter of 2014. A long-lasting mean disagreement between statistical and dynamical models (statistical leaning cooler, dynamical warmer) has diminished. The average forecast of all models indicates a gradual warming tendency during the first half of 2014.

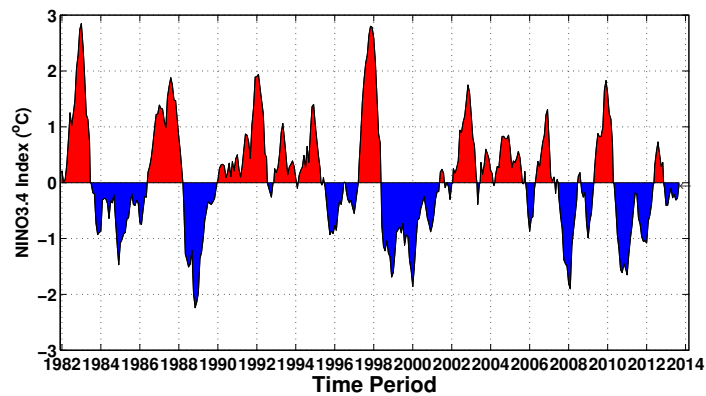
Early-Oct CPC/IRI Consensus Forecast<sup>1</sup>



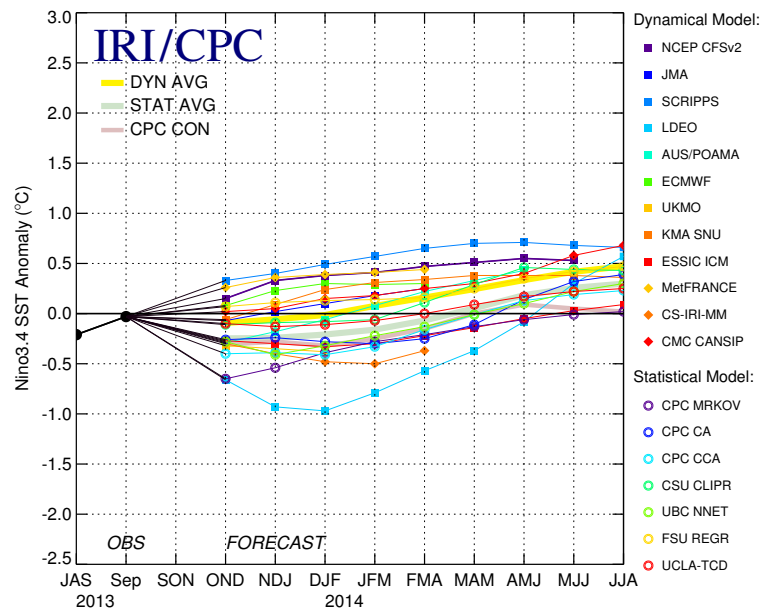
Mid-Oct IRI/CPC Plume-Based Forecast<sup>2</sup>



Historical Sea Surface Temperature Index



Mid-Oct 2013 Plume of Model ENSO Predictions



## 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>Based on a consensus of CPC and IRI forecasters, in association with the official CPC/IRI ENSO Diagnostic Discussion.

<sup>2</sup>Purely objective, based on regression, using equally weighted model predictions from the plume.