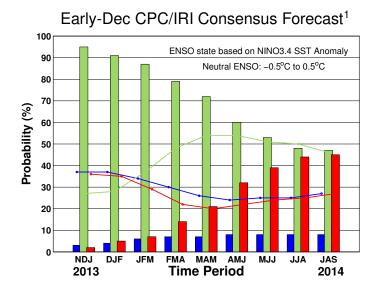
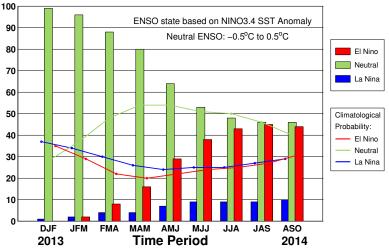
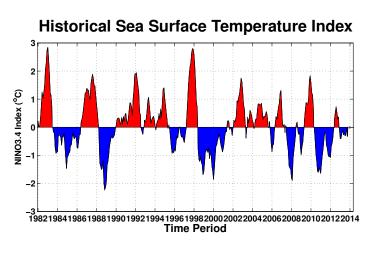
ENSO *QUICK LOOK* **December 19, 2013** A monthly summary of the status of El Niño, La Niña and the Southern Oscillation, or "ENSO", based on NINO3.4 index (120-170W, 5S-5N)

During November through early December the observed ENSO conditions remained neutral. Most of the ENSO prediction models indicate a continuation of neutral ENSO into early 2014. During northern spring and summer a warming tendency is seen in both dynamical and statistical models.

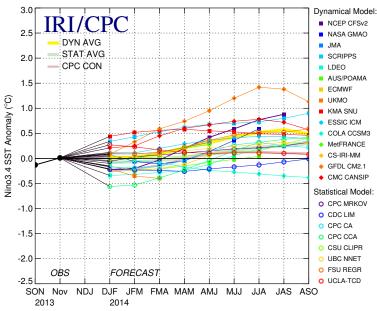


Mid-Dec IRI/CPC Plume-Based Forecast²





Mid-Dec 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

¹Based on a consensus of CPC and IRI forecasters, in association with the official CPC/IRI ENSO Diagnostic Discussion. ²Purely objective, based on regression, using equally weighted model predictions from the plume.