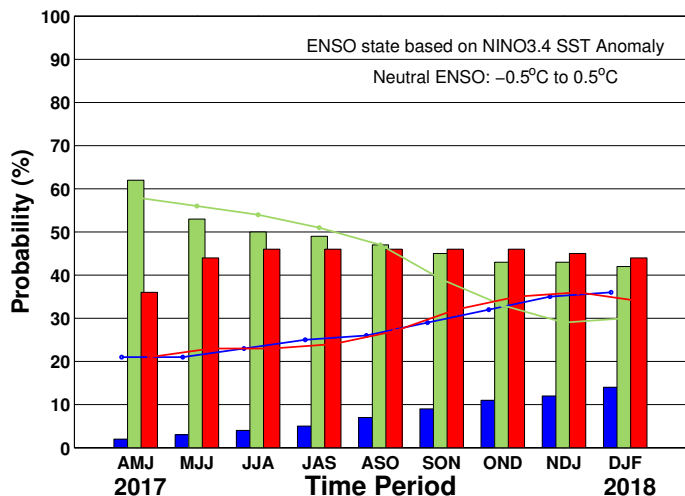


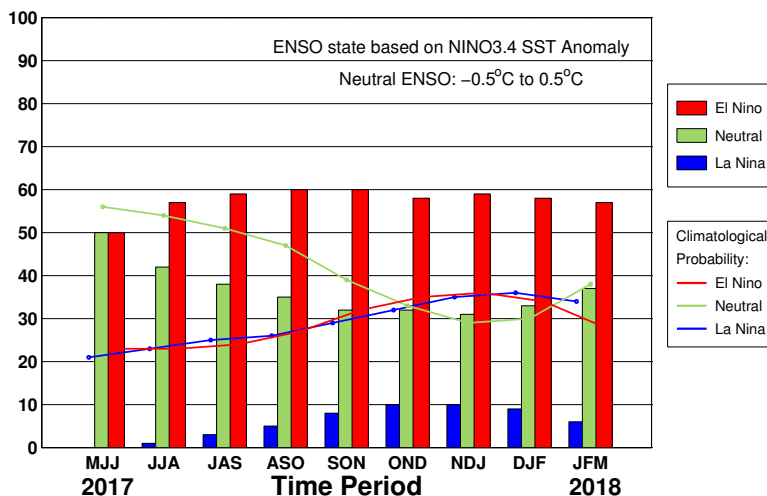
ENSO QUICK LOOK May 18, 2017 A monthly summary of the status of El Niño, La Niña and the Southern Oscillation, or “ENSO”, based on NINO3.4 index (120-170W, 5S-5N)

By mid-May 2017, the tropical Pacific remained in an ENSO-neutral state, but with slightly above-average SSTs present in the east-central and eastern tropical Pacific Ocean, and near-average SSTs in the central part of the basin. The collection of ENSO prediction models indicates increasing chances of El Niño into the summer and fall of 2017.

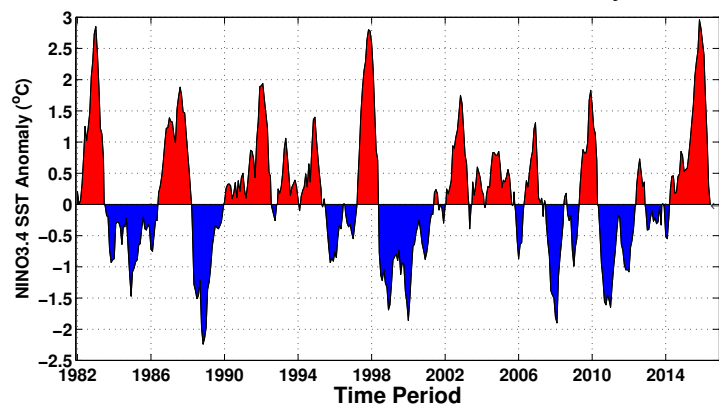
Early-May CPC/IRI Official Forecast¹



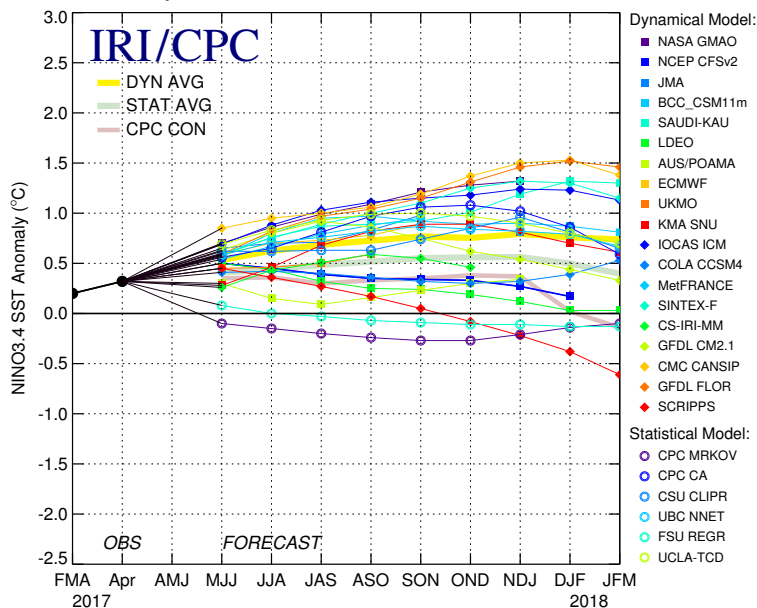
Mid-May IRI/CPC Model-Based Forecast²



Historical NINO3.4 SST Anomaly



Mid-May 2017 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.