



Republic of the Philippines

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services
Administration (PAGASA)

EL NIÑO ADVISORY NO. 4

El Niño conditions still persist in the tropical Pacific Ocean. Warmer than average sea surface temperature anomaly (SSTA) in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific of at least 0.5°C was observed, since the last quarter of 2018. Recent analyses from global climate models suggest that the on-going El Niño condition will likely continue until the June-July-August 2019 season.

Assessment in April 2019

In April, the weather systems that affected the country were the tail-end of the cold front (TECF), ridge of high pressure areas (HPAs), easterlies and low pressure areas (LPAs). No tropical cyclone entered/occurred in the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR).

Rainfall assessment for the month showed that most areas of the country experienced way below to below normal rainfall conditions, except for most parts of northern Luzon, Southern Leyte and Lanao Del Sur, which received near normal to above normal rainfall. Furthermore, rainfall observed during the past five months showed that several areas of the country were affected by meteorological dry condition, dry spell or drought. Drought is defined as three (3) consecutive months of way below normal (>60% reduction from average) rainfall condition. The drought-affected provinces were as follows: LUZON (22), VISAYAS (11) and MINDANAO (8).

Meanwhile, dry spell is characterized by three (3) consecutive months of below normal (21%-60% reduction from average) rainfall condition. Provinces affected by meteorological dry spell include the following: LUZON (3), VISAYAS (4), and MINDANAO (15). For a complete list of these provinces, please refer to the [Drought/Dry Spell Assessment map](#).

Near to slightly warmer than average air temperatures were observed in most parts of the country. The highest daytime temperature for the whole country was observed in Echague, Isabela at 39.7°C on April 10. The highest daytime and nighttime temperatures in Metro Manila were recorded in NAIA, Pasay City at 37.2°C (April 18) and 28.9°C (April 21), respectively.

Outlook in May 2019

The month of May marks the weakening of the easterlies and the gradual start of southwest monsoon wind. Normal onset of the rainy season for areas classified under Climate Type I is expected to commence by the second half of May to the first half of June. Other weather systems that are likely to affect the country are the intertropical convergence zone (ITCZ), easterlies, LPAs, ridge of HPAs, and one (1) or two (2) tropical cyclones to enter the PAR. Afternoon or early evening thunderstorm activities are also expected to increase during the period.

Rainfall forecast for the month will likely be near normal in most parts of the country, except for Bicol Region, eastern Visayas and some parts of western and southern Luzon, where below normal rainfall is expected. Sixty two (62) provinces will likely receive enough rainfall that may ease the existing dry conditions, while two (2) provinces may still experience dry spell and seventeen (17) provinces may continue to experience drought conditions. For a complete list of these provinces, please refer to [Drought/Dry Spell Outlook map](#).

Generally near average to slightly warmer than average temperature is likely during the period, especially night time temperatures. Predicted ranges of temperature will be as follows: 21°C to 40°C over the lowlands of Luzon, 15°C to 28°C in the mountainous areas of Luzon, 22°C to 38°C for Visayas, 19°C to 39°C in the lowlands of Mindanao, 17°C to 36°C over the mountainous areas of Mindanao and 23°C to 38°C in Metro Manila.

PAGASA will continue to closely monitor the on-going El Nino and areas potential for dry spell and drought will be made available at PAGASA website. Updates shall be issued as appropriate. For further information, please contact the Climatology and Agrometeorology Division (CAD) at telephone numbers 434-0955 or 435-1675.

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