



ENSO ADVISORY

El Niño Advisory No. 7

Strong El Niño is ongoing and is expected to continue through January-February 2024. Majority of global climate models suggest that El Niño will likely persist until the March-April-May 2024 season with a transition to ENSO-neutral in the April-May-June 2024 season.

El Niño increases the likelihood of below-normal rainfall conditions, which could bring negative impacts (such as dry spells and droughts) in some areas of the country which will likely be manifested in the first quarter of the year. This may adversely affect the different climate-sensitive sectors such as water resources, agriculture, energy, health, public safety, and other key sectors of the country.

Assessment in December 2023

The weather systems that affected the country during the month were the Northeast (NE) Monsoon, localized thunderstorm, shear line, easterlies, low-pressure areas (LPAs) and the passage of Tropical Storm (TS) "KABAYAN" with international name "JELAWAT". TS "Kabayan" entered the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) and made landfall in Manay, Davao Oriental on 18 December before dissipating into an LPA. Moreover, "KABAYAN" brought occasional rains over the eastern portions of Visayas and Mindanao but no significant damages to agriculture and infrastructures were monitored.

Rainfall assessment for the month showed that way below to below normal rainfall conditions were experienced in most parts of the country except Bulacan, Quezon, Bohol, Siquijor, Southern Leyte, Zamboanga Peninsula, Northern Mindanao, Davao Region, Caraga, and were near normal rainfall were observed. Consequently, above normal rainfall conditions were observed over Batanes and Agusan del Norte.

Over the past five (5) months of rainfall deficits, Cavite has experienced meteorological drought; twenty-four (24) provinces mostly in Luzon area have experienced dry spell; while three (3) provinces have experienced dry conditions. For a complete list of these provinces, please refer to the [Drought/Dry Spell Assessment Maps and Tables](#).

Generally, mean surface air temperatures observed across the country were slightly warmer to warmer than average. The recorded temperature ranges were as follows: 22.9°C to 34.6°C in Metro Manila; 15.2°C to 26.7°C in the mountainous areas of Luzon; 15.0°C to 36.6°C for the rest of Luzon; 22.0°C to 35.0°C in Visayas; 16.8°C to 33.5°C in the mountainous areas of Mindanao; and 21.3°C to 36.4°C over the rest of Mindanao.

In addition, four PAGASA stations recorded new maximum temperature extremes for the month of December, namely: Clark, Pampanga station on 06 December 2023 (34.2°C), NAIA, Pasay City station on 10 December 2023 (34.6°C), San Jose, Occidental Mindoro station on 28 December 2023 (36.6°C) and Zamboanga City station on 29 December 2023 (36.4°C).

Outlook for January 2024

The weather systems that will likely affect the country in January 2024 are the NE Monsoon, localized thunderstorm, shear line, frontal system, ITCZ, easterlies, LPAs, and zero (0) or one (1) TC inside the PAR, along with the possible influence of intra-seasonal and inter-annual climate modes like the Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO), El Niño, and among others.



Rainfall forecast for the month shows that way below to below normal rainfall conditions are likely over most parts of Luzon and Visayas, Northern Mindanao, Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) and Zamboanga Peninsula while near normal rainfall conditions are likely over the rest of the country. In addition, forecast shows a 45% probability of having below normal rainfall conditions in most parts of the country.

Moreover, by end of January, fifteen (15) provinces in Luzon are potential for meteorological drought condition; twelve (12) provinces are potential for dry spell, while, twenty-four (24) provinces are potential for dry condition. For a complete list of these provinces, please refer to the [Drought/Dry Spell Outlook](#).

Generally, near average to warmer than average air temperatures are forecasted over the country, except in Romblon and Coron, Palawan, where cooler than average is expected. Moreover, surges of cold temperatures may also be expected to occur during the month. The forecast temperature ranges are as follows: 19.0°C to 35.0°C over Metro Manila; 10.0°C to 28.0°C in the mountainous areas of Luzon; 13.0°C to 35.5°C for the rest of Luzon; 20.0°C to 35.0°C in the Visayas; 14.0°C to 34.0°C over the mountainous areas of Mindanao and 19.0°C to 37.0°C over the rest of Mindanao.

PAGASA will continue to closely monitor the monsoon activity and the ongoing El Niño phenomenon. Areas potential for meteorological dry spells and drought will be updated and will be disseminated accordingly. Meanwhile, all government agencies and the general public are encouraged to take precautionary measures to mitigate the adverse impacts of the said climate phenomenon. For more information, please call the Climatology and Agrometeorology Division (CAD) at 8284-0800, extension 4920 or 4921.

Original Signed:

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Administrator

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