



## ENSO ADVISORY

### *El Niño Advisory No. 8*

A strong and mature El Niño is expected to continue through February 2024. The 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 conditions expected in the April-May-June 2024 season.

While stronger El Niño events increase the likelihood of El Niño-related climate anomalies, it does not necessarily equate to strong impacts, and these effects may not occur everywhere. However, the likelihood of below-normal rainfall conditions remains high, which could bring negative impacts such as dry spells and droughts in some areas of the country. These effects are likely to manifest in the first quarter of the year.

This situation may adversely affect different climate-sensitive sectors, including water resources, agriculture, energy, health, public safety, and other key sectors of the country.

### **Assessment in January 2024**

The weather systems that affected the country during the month were the Northeast (NE) Monsoon, localized thunderstorms, shear line, easterlies, and trough of a low-pressure area (LPA).

Rainfall assessment for the month showed that way below to below normal rainfall conditions were experienced in most parts of Luzon, Visayas and Northern Mindanao while near to above normal rainfall were observed in the provinces of Pampanga, Tarlac, Bicol Region and the rest of Mindanao.

Based on consecutive five-month observed rainfall data, fourteen (14) provinces from Luzon had experienced meteorological drought; ten (10) provinces had experienced dry spells, and seventeen (17) provinces had experienced dry conditions. For a complete list of these provinces, please refer to the [Drought/Dry Spell Assessment Maps and Tables](#).

Mean surface air temperatures observed across the country were near average to warmer than average surface air temperatures. The recorded temperature ranges for the month were as follows: 19.9°C to 33.5°C in Metro Manila; 9.7°C to 26.4°C in the mountainous areas of Luzon; 14.8°C to 36.0°C for the rest of Luzon; 21.2°C to 34.2°C in Visayas; 16.0°C to 34.0°C in the mountainous areas of Mindanao; and 20.8°C to 35.5°C over the rest of Mindanao.

Furthermore, San Jose, Occidental Mindoro Synoptic Station surpassed its historical maximum temperature record of 35.5 °C on January 11, 1990 with a new extreme record of 36.0°C on January 7, 2024.

### **Outlook for February 2024**

The weather systems that will likely affect the country in February 2024 are the NE Monsoon, localized thunderstorm, shear line, easterlies, LPAs, and zero (0) or one (1) tropical cyclone (TC) which may enter or develop in the Philippine Area of Responsibility (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.

Predicted rainfall conditions for the month show that way below to below normal rainfall conditions are likely over most parts of the country with some exceptions of near normal rainfall conditions over the provinces of Bukidnon, Davao Region, and Caraga.



In addition, the forecast shows a 45-50% probability of having below normal rainfall conditions in most parts of the country.

Likewise, by the end of February, twenty-four (24) provinces in Luzon and one (1) province in Visayas are potential for meteorological drought conditions; seventeen (17) provinces for dry spell, while, ten (10) provinces will be potential for dry conditions. For the 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 Batanes, Camarines Norte, Romblon, Masbate, Bohol, Southern Leyte, and South Cotabato, where slightly cooler to cooler than average is expected. Moreover, surges of cold temperatures may still occur during the month due to the surge NE Monsoon.

The forecast temperature ranges are as follows: 18.5°C to 35.0°C over Metro Manila; 9.5°C to 27.0°C in the mountainous areas of Luzon; 13.0°C to 36.5°C for the rest of Luzon; 19.0°C to 36.0°C in the Visayas; 12.0°C to 35.0°C over the mountainous areas of Mindanao and 18.0°C to 37.0°C over the rest of Mindanao.

PAGASA will continue to closely monitor the ongoing El Niño phenomenon and monsoon activity. 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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