

Republic of the Philippines **DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA)**

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LA NIÑA ADVISORY NO. 7

La Niña is now weakening across the tropical Pacific Ocean. Majority of the climate models predict a transition from La Niña to El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO)-neutral condition during April-May-June 2021 season.

La Niña may still affect some parts of the country, which may significantly result in above normal rainfall conditions for the month of April 2021.

Assessment in March 2021

The weather systems that affected the country during the month were the Northeast (NE) Monsoon (NE), localized thunderstorms, tail-end of frontal system (TEFS), Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), low pressure areas (LPAs) and easterlies.

Rainfall assessment for the month showed that large portion of the country experienced near to above normal rainfall conditions. However, below normal rainfall conditions were observed in the provinces of Abra, Apayao, Batanes and Nueva Ecija, while Ilocos Norte received way below normal rainfall during the period.

Generally, slightly warmer to warmer than average surface temperatures were observed in most parts of the country. Moreover, surges of cold temperature were experienced during the month due to enhanced NE monsoon especially in Northern and central Luzon while warmer temperatures became prevalent in most parts of the country due to easterlies. Mean temperature ranges were as follows: mountainous areas of Luzon, $13.0^{\circ}C - 26.6^{\circ}C$; rest of Luzon, $15.4^{\circ}C - 37.2^{\circ}C$; Visayas, $20.4^{\circ}C - 34.9^{\circ}C$; mountainous areas of Mindanao, $14.8^{\circ}C - 33.6^{\circ}C$; rest of Mindanao, $20.0^{\circ}C - 37.0^{\circ}C$ and Metro Manila: $22.0^{\circ}C - 35.4^{\circ}C$.

Outlook for April 2021

The weather systems that may affect the country are the easterlies, LPAs, localized thunderstorms, ridge of High-Pressure Areas (HPAs) and zero (0) or one (1) tropical cyclone may enter/develop inside the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR).

Rainfall forecast for the month show that below normal conditions in most parts of Luzon will be likely except for Metro Manila, Batangas, Marinduque, Romblon, Palawan and Spratly Islands which will likely receive near normal rainfall conditions. Near to above normal rainfall conditions will be likely in most parts of Visayas and Mindanao.

Generally, near average to warmer than average air temperatures are predicted in most parts of the country, except in Ilocos Region, extreme Northern Luzon, San Jose, Cuyo, Masbate and Surigao del Sur, where slightly cooler to cooler than average air temperatures will be likely. The predicted ranges of temperature are as follows: 12.0°C to 28.0°C in the mountainous areas of Luzon, 20.0°C to 39.5°C for the rest of Luzon, 20.0°C to 37.0°C in Visayas, 15.0°C to 35.0°C in the mountainous areas of Mindanao; 18.0°C to 38.5°C for the rest of Mindanao and 21.5°C to 38.0°C in Metro Manila.

Warm and dry season has finally started. Consequently, prevalence of warmer and humid conditions in most parts of the country will be expected. The public and all concerned government agencies are advised to take precautionary measures to minimize heat stress, avoid heat stroke and prevent any accompanying health risks associated with this climate condition.

Despite the on-going community quarantine due to the COVID-19 pandemic, PAGASA will continue to closely monitor the weakening La Niña and any significant weather conditions. Regular updates/advisories shall be issued as appropriate. For further information, please contact the Climatology and Agrometeorology Division (CAD) at telephone number 8284-0800, local 906.

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