



Monthly Climate Assessment and Outlook

La Niña Alert

La Niña condition is present in the tropical Pacific. Most climate models suggest that the current La Niña condition is expected to persist through January-February-March (JFM) 2025 season.

Higher chances of above normal rainfall in JFM 2025 season is expected, which may cause floods, flashfloods and rain-induced landslides. Furthermore, increased chance of tropical cyclone activity within the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) during the period is likely.

Assessment in December 2024

Throughout December 2024, the Philippines was influenced by rain-bearing weather systems, such as the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), Northeast Monsoon (Amihan), easterlies, localized thunderstorms, low-pressure areas (LPAs), and the shearline.

Two (2) tropical cyclones (TCs) occurred during the period, namely: TD Querubin, which developed inside the PAR and TD Romina, which developed outside the PAR over the west Philippine sea. These TCs have hoisted issuance of wind signals in areas near the forecasted track but has no direct effect to the country.

Rainfall assessment for December 2024 showed that near to above-normal rainfall conditions were observed in most parts of the country except for patches of below normal rainfall condition in Abra, Benguet, Ilocos Region, Nueva Vizcaya, Central Luzon and Occidental Mindoro. Meanwhile, way-below-normal rainfall was recorded over Pangasinan.

Surface air temperatures in December were generally slightly warmer to warmer-than-average in most parts of the country. The actual temperature ranges were as follows: 22.8°C to 33.7°C in Metro Manila; 13.7°C to 25.4°C in the mountainous areas of Luzon; 18.7°C to 36.2°C for the rest of Luzon; 22.5°C to 35.4°C in the Visayas; 17.0°C to 33.5°C in the mountainous areas of Mindanao; and 22.0°C to 35.2°C for the rest of Mindanao.

Notably, two synoptic stations surpassed their highest maximum temperature historical records for the month. On 05 December, Infanta, Quezon recorded a maximum temperature of 33.1°C and Catbalogan City, Samar recorded a maximum temperature of 35.4°C on 13 December.

Outlook for January 2025

In January, the “Amihan” will continuously bring cooler than average air surface temperatures especially in the eastern sections of the country and surges of cold temperature are also expected. Other weather systems that may affect the country include easterlies, localized thunderstorms, the ridge of high-pressure areas (HPAs), low-

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pressure areas (LPAs), ITCZ, and the shearline. Additionally, zero or one tropical cyclone is projected to enter the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) during the month. The potential influence of intra-seasonal and inter-annual climate drivers, such as the Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) and the La Niña condition, will also affect the weather during the period.

Rainfall forecast for January shows that near- to above-normal rainfall conditions over most parts of the country will be highly likely. Potential for weather-related hazards such as flooding and rain-induced landslides area also possible, especially in highly vulnerable areas. However, below normal rainfall condition is also expected in the provinces of Abra, Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, Pangasinan, Tarlac and Zambales.

In terms of temperature, near-average to warmer-than-average surface air temperatures are generally expected in most parts of the country. The temperature forecast ranges for January are as follows: 19.0°C to 33.9°C in Metro Manila; 10.2°C to 27.8°C in the mountainous areas of Luzon; 13.1°C to 35.5°C for the rest of Luzon; 20.1°C to 35.0°C in Visayas; 13.7°C to 33.4°C in the mountainous areas of Mindanao; and 18.8°C to 37.1°C for the rest of Mindanao.

DOST-PAGASA will continue to closely monitor the La Niña conditions and updates will be issued accordingly. Meanwhile, the concerned government agencies and the general public are encouraged to stay updated and use the information for guidance and anticipatory action. For more information, please contact the DOST-PAGASA Climatology and Agrometeorology Division (CAD) at 8284-0800, extension 4921 or 4920.

Original Signed:

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