





## **Monthly Climate Assessment and Outlook**

La Niña Alert

Cool El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO)-neutral conditions continue to prevail over the tropical Pacific Ocean. Most climate models combined with expert judgments suggest a 71% chance of La Niña forming in the September-October-November (SON) 2024 season and will likely persist until the first quarter (January-February-March) of 2025. With these model probabilities, borderline La Niña or La Niña-like conditions will be likely in the coming months.

La Niña increases the likelihood of having above-normal rainfall conditions, which could lead to potential adverse impacts such as heavy rainfall, floods, flash floods, and raininduced landslides over highly vulnerable areas.

## Assessment in September 2024

The weather systems that affected the country during the month were the Southwest (SW) monsoon (Habagat), easterlies, localized thunderstorms, low-pressure areas (LPAs), Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), and the passage of six (6) tropical cyclones (TCs) namely: Severe Tropical Storm (STS) Enteng {Yagi} on Sep 01-04; Tropical Storm (TS) Ferdie {Bebinca} on Sep 10-14; Tropical Depression (TD) Gener on Sep 15-18; TS Helen (Pulasan) on Sep 15-18; TD Igme on Sep 19-21; and Super Typhoon (STY) Julian (Krathon) on Sep 26-Oct 04, which traversed and greatly affected the extreme Northern Luzon, bringing an unprecedented 405.5 mm amount of rainfall in just an hour in Basco, Batanes on September 30. STS Enteng and TD Gener made landfall in the country, while the other three have not made any direct impacts. However, the SW monsoon, enhanced by the passages of these TCs, has brought heavy rains that caused flooding and rain-induced landslides in some parts of Luzon and the Visayas. According to the Situational Report No. 16 for STY, 2024 Julian (issued on October 08. 2024) of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), a total of 91,871 families were affected, with five reported casualties, eight injured, and one person still missing. Meanwhile, the agriculture sector recorded losses estimated up to PHP607.38 million based on Bulletin No. 05 for STY Julian of the Department of Agriculture issued on October 07, 2024.

Assessment of rainfall conditions for the month showed that near to above-normal rainfall conditions were observed in Luzon, western and central parts of Visayas, and western and southern parts of Mindanao, while the rest of the country experienced below-normal rainfall.

Surface air temperatures were generally near average to above average in most parts of the country. The actual temperature ranges were as follows:  $23.6^{\circ}\text{C} - 35.4^{\circ}\text{C}$  in Metro Manila;  $16.4^{\circ}\text{C} - 26.6^{\circ}\text{C}$  in the mountainous areas of Luzon;  $22.5^{\circ}\text{C} - 36.4^{\circ}\text{C}$  for the rest of Luzon;  $22.2^{\circ}\text{C} - 36.4^{\circ}\text{C}$  in Visayas;  $18.0^{\circ}\text{C} - 33.6^{\circ}\text{C}$  over the mountainous areas of Mindanao; and  $21.4^{\circ}\text{C} - 37.2^{\circ}\text{C}$  over the rest of Mindanao. Furthermore, the maximum temperature in Butuan City (37.2°C) on 07 September 2024 surpassed the historical maximum air temperature for September.

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## **Outlook for October 2024**

The weather systems that will likely affect the country's climate in October are the weakened SW Monsoon and its transition towards the Northeast (NE) Monsoon, easterlies, localized thunderstorms, ridge of high-pressure areas (HPAs), ITCZ, LPAs, and two (2) or three (3) tropical cyclones that may enter/develop inside the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR), along with the possible influence of intra-seasonal and interannual climate modes like the Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) and the developing La Niña, among others.

The rainfall forecast for the month suggests near- to above-normal conditions in most parts of the country. Likewise, the probabilistic forecast shows that most parts of the country have a high chance of above-normal rainfall conditions.

Generally, near-average to warmer-than-average surface air temperatures are expected in most parts of the country in October except for some stations in Southern Luzon and Visayas where slightly cooler-than-average temperatures are likely.

The predicted ranges of temperature are as follows: 21.5°C to 35.0°C in Metro Manila; 12.5°C to 26.5°C in the mountainous areas of Luzon; 16.5°C to 35.5°C for the rest of Luzon; 20.5°C to 36.0°C in Visayas; 16.5°C to 34.0°C in the mountainous areas of Mindanao; and 19.5°C to 36.5°C for the rest of Mindanao.

DOST-PAGASA will continue to closely monitor the looming La Niña and updates shall be issued accordingly. Meanwhile, the government-concerned agencies and the general public are encouraged to stay updated and use the information for your 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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