



## Monthly Climate Assessment and Outlook

### *El Niño Watch*

ENSO-neutral conditions are present in the tropical Pacific and could persist in June-July-August 2026 season. However, most models reflect, El Niño is likely to emerge (62% chance) and can continue through at least the first quarter of 2027.

### Assessment for March 2026

The Northeast (NE) monsoon, easterlies, localized thunderstorms, ridge of high-pressure area (HPA), low-pressure areas (LPAs), and shear lines were the weather systems that prevailed in the country during March. Moreover, on March 23 the agency declared the termination of the NE monsoon, indicating the start of the warm and dry season. There is no tropical cyclone (TC) developed during the month, although some LPAs formed inside the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR), but had a low to moderate likelihood of TC formation.

Based on actual rainfall for the month, most parts of the country received way below to below normal rainfall (44 provinces with way below normal and 31 provinces with below normal rainfall). Moreover, Batanes, Camiguin, and most provinces in Central Visayas and CARAGA Region experienced near to above normal rainfall conditions.

Generally, slightly cooler to cooler than average surface mean surface temperatures were observed in most parts of Luzon and Visayas. Furthermore, near to slightly warmer mean surface temperatures were observed over Mindanao. No extreme temperature records were surpassed in March 2026. The actual temperature ranges were as follows: mountainous areas of Luzon: 7.5°C – 26.4°C; rest of Luzon: 15.3°C – 37.2°C; Visayas: 18.0°C – 35.0°C; mountainous areas of Mindanao: 14.4°C – 35.1°C; rest of Mindanao: 19.6°C – 35.4°C and 17.1°C – 34.6°C in Metro Manila.

### Outlook for April 2026

The warm and dry climate conditions will continue in April. Weather systems likely to affect the country are the following: Easterlies, Ridge of HPA, LPAs, Localized thunderstorms, Intertropical convergence zone (ITCZ), Shear Lines, and zero (0) or one (1) TC occurrence for April.

The rainfall forecast for April shows that most parts of Luzon, Panay Island, Western Visayas, Southern Leyte will likely experience below-normal conditions while some areas in Luzon, the rest of Visayas, and most parts of Mindanao might receive near-normal rainfall. However, Bataan and Cavite will likely have way below normal rainfall.

Meanwhile, Near-normal to above-normal mean temperatures are expected across most parts of the country, with isolated areas likely to experience slightly cooler to cooler-than-average conditions in April.

The ranges of forecast temperature are as follows: 12.9°C to 30.2°C in the mountainous areas of Luzon, 17.5°C to 40.5°C over the rest of Luzon, 21.2°C to 37.2°C in Visayas, 14.6°C to 34.8°C in the mountainous areas of Mindanao, 19.9°C to 38.2°C over rest of Mindanao and 20.8°C to 39.0°C for Metro Manila.

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Republic of the Philippines  
**DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**  
**Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical**  
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Climatology and Agrometeorology Division (CAD)  
Climate Monitoring and Prediction Section (CLIMPS)



DOST-PAGASA will continue to monitor to monitor closely the development of El Niño and its influence on the country's climate conditions. The public and concerned agencies are advised to remain vigilant and take appropriate precautionary measures to minimize the impacts of weather- and climate-related hazards. For more information, you may contact CAD-CLIMPS at (02) 8284-0800 local 4921 or 4920.

**Original Signed:**

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