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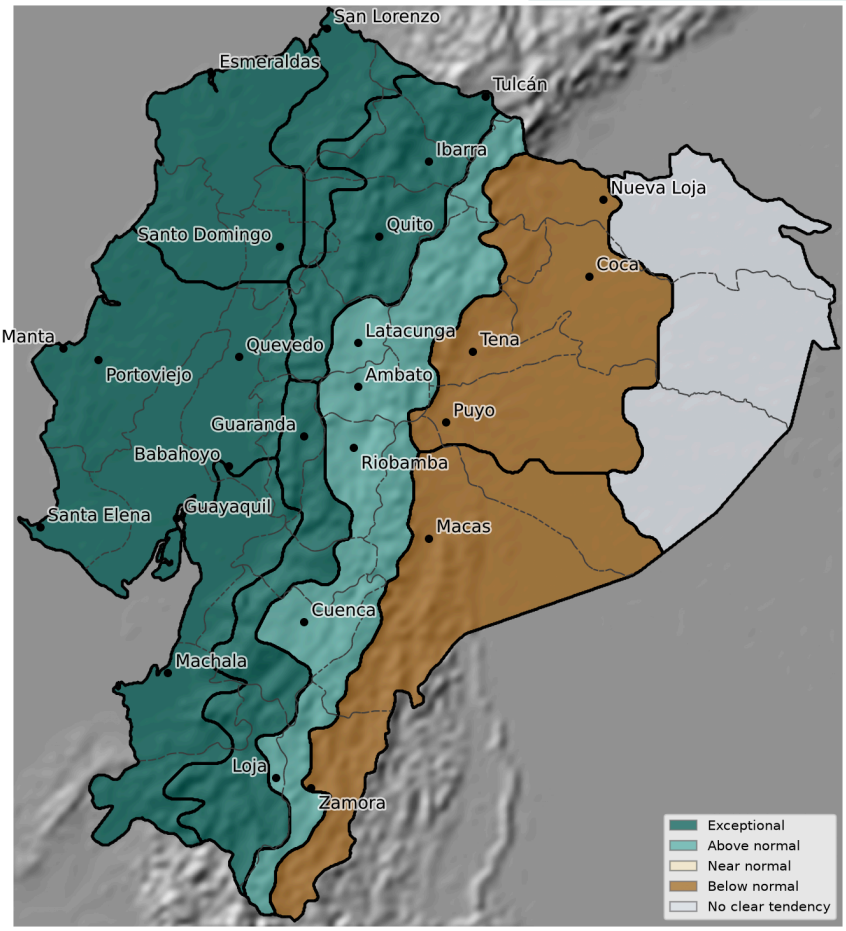
RAINFALL OUTLOOK

November and December 2026

Issued 10 November 2026

Extreme El Niño strengthens: an exceptionally wet November and December on the Coast and in the western Sierra, and a drier one in the upper Amazon basin

In October the sea off Ecuador and Peru was about 5 °C above normal, almost 2 °C warmer than in October 1997, and the warming keeps growing across the equatorial Pacific. On the Coast, October rain has already passed that of October 1997 at the stations with a record of that year. The intertropical convergence zone is already starting to show its southern branch near the equator (between 1°N and 2°S), far earlier than normal: that second branch usually appears in February or March. This keeps the Coast and the western slope of the Sierra in the sector of deep ascent. East of the cordillera, the air sinking to compensate that ascent keeps the upper Amazon basin below normal, as already observed in October, and in the eastern Sierra rain should range from near normal to above normal.



Region borders are approximate; near a border, rain may resemble that of the neighbouring region.

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By region

Exceptional: far above normal

Northwest
San Lorenzo, Lita, Los Bancos

over **90 %**
Chance of passing the 1997 total

Exceptional: far above normal

Northern coast
Esmeraldas, Quinindé, Santo Domingo

75 %
Chance of passing the 1997 total

Exceptional: far above normal

Central coast
Manta, Portoviejo, Quevedo, Babahoyo, Guayaquil, Santa Elena

over **90 %**
Chance of passing the 1997 total

Exceptional: far above normal

Southern coast
Milagro, Machala, Pasaje

87 %
Chance of passing the 1997 total

Exceptional: far above normal

Northern western Sierra
Tulcán, Ibarra, Quito, Machachi

89 %
Chance of passing the 1997 total

Exceptional: far above normal

Southern western Sierra
Guaranda, Alausí, Cañar, Catamayo, Celica

58 %
Chance of passing the 1997 total

Above normal

Eastern Sierra
Latacunga, Ambato, Riobamba, Cuenca, Loja



Below normal	Near normal	Above normal
11 %	**41 %**	**48 %**

Above normal is only slightly more likely than near normal.

Below normal

Northern Amazon and foothills
Nueva Loja, Coca, Tena, Puyo



Below normal	Near normal	Above normal
76 %	**19 %**	**5 %**

No clear tendency: the three categories are about equally likely

Eastern Amazon lowlands
Shushufindi, Nuevo Rocafuerte



Below normal	Near normal	Above normal
31 %	**32 %**	**37 %**

Below normal

Southern Amazon
Macas, Zamora



Below normal	Near normal	Above normal
96 %	**4 %**	**under 1 %**

Our models seek a balance: telling normal years apart from above- and below-normal years while capturing the extreme behaviour of years like 2026, such as 1982 and 1997. Because 2026 goes beyond anything observed since 1982, these probabilities are an extrapolation.

The January–February outlook will be published at forecast.ec/en/seasonal-outlook in two or three days.

Next update: around 10 December.