



Tuvalu Meteorological Service Early Action Rainfall Watch



Purpose: The Early Action Rainfall Watch provides a summary of recent rainfall patterns, particularly the status of drought and the rainfall outlook for the coming months. The status and outlook will be revised on a monthly basis. Contact the Tuvalu Meteorological Service (TMS) for further information.

SUMMARY

- The El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is currently at Alert status, with approximately 70% of the climate models indicating that E Niño conditions are likely to develop over the coming months.
- The tropical Pacific Sea Surface Temperature (SST's) continues to warm to a brink of reaching El Niño thresholds
- For El Niño to be considered established, a corresponding atmospheric response would need to be observed.

Issued: 08/07/2026



RAINFALL STATUS:

- Past 1- month (May 2026) was *No extreme* existed in Nanumea, Nanumaga, and Funafuti. Very dry over Niutao, Nui, Vaitupu, and Nukulaelae. Seriously dry condition at Nukufetau and Niulakita
- Past 3- months rainfall (March to May 2026), was No Extreme over Nanumea, Nanumaga, Niutao, Nui, Nukufetau, Vaitupu and Funafuti. Very dry in Nukulaelae, but Seriously dry most existed in Niulakita.
- Last 6- months (December 2025 to May 2026), was No extreme over Nanumea, Nanumaga, Niutao, Nui, Funafuti. Very dry in Vaitupu, Nukufetau and Nukulaelae, while Niulakita was Seriously dry conditions.
- 12- months (June 2025 to May 2026) was No extreme over Tuvalu.

Rainfall OUTLOOK:

- Low chance of extreme rainfall conditions was predicted for July 2026 over Nanumea and Nanumanga. Medium chance of very dry conditions over Niutao, Nui Vaitupu, Nukufetau, Funafuti, Nukulaelae and Niulakita.
- Rainfall during the July to September 2026 period is expected to be a high chance of very wet conditions at Nanumea, Nanumaga and Niutao. Medium chance of very wet at Nui, Low chance of extreme over Vaitupu, Nukufetau and Funafuti. Medium chance of very dry at Nukulaelae with High chance of very dry conditions for Niulakita.

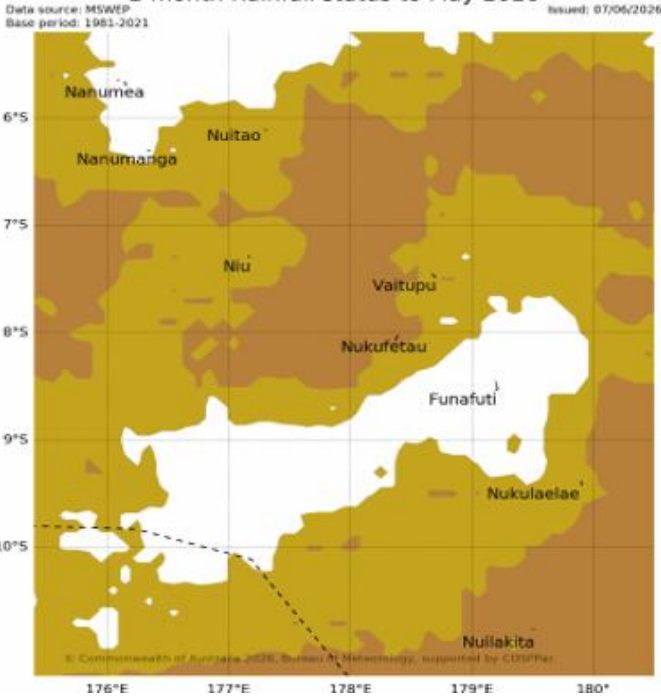
Rainfall observed for the last month, 3-months, 6-months and 12-months

The table below provides information on rainfall received over specific periods in the last 12 months, whether a station is in drought or a very wet period (opposite of drought). If a station is in drought warning, this indicates an increased chances of drought in the coming months, especially when approaching the dry season. The time periods are associated with different drought impacts presented below the tables.

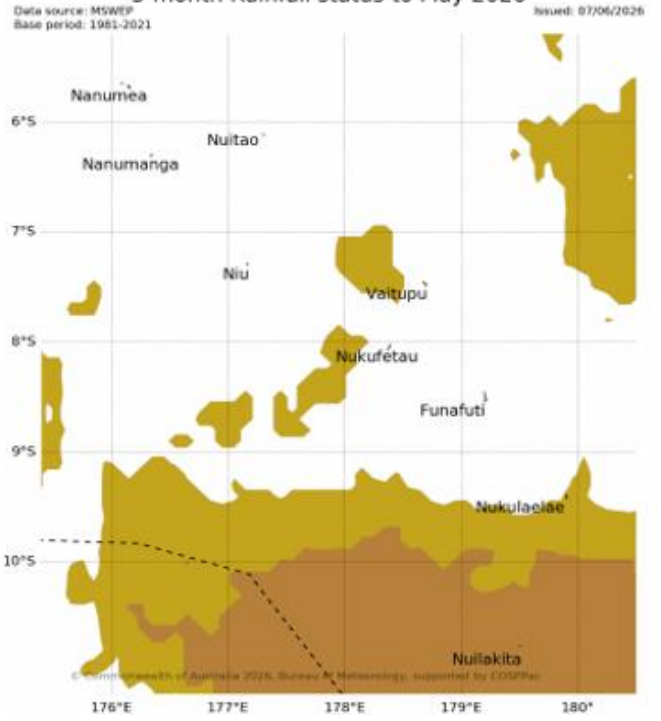
Past Rainfall Status					Very Dry/Wet Rainfall Outlook		
1-month May 2026	3-months March to May 2026	6-months December 2025 to May 2026	12-months June 2025 to May 2026		Tuvalu Islands	July 2026 Chance of extreme	July to September 2026 Chance of extreme
No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme		Nanumea	Low chance of extreme	High chance of Very wet
No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme		Nanumaga	Low chance of extreme	High chance of very wet
Very dry	No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme		Niutao	Medium chance of very dry	High chance of very wet
Very dry	No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme		Nui	Medium Chance of very dry	Medium chance of very wet
Very dry	No Extreme	Very dry	No Extreme		Vaitupu	Medium Chance of very dry	Low chance of extreme
Seriously dry	No Extreme	Very dry	No Extreme		Nukufetau	Medium Chance of Very Dry	Low chance of extreme
No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme		Funafuti	Medium chance of very dry	Low chance of extreme
Very Dry	Very Dry	Very Dry	No Extreme		Nukulaelae	Medium chance of very dry	Medium chance of very dry
Seriously Dry	Seriously Dry	Seriously Dry	No Extreme		Niulakita	Medium chance of very dry	High chance of very dry

ACCESS-S Rainfall Summary for May, 2026.

1-month Rainfall status to May 2026



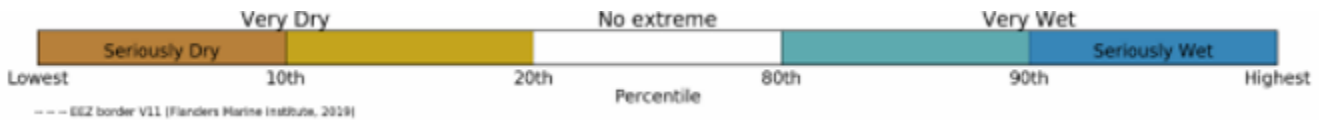
3-month Rainfall status to May 2026



6-month Rainfall status to May 2026



12-month Rainfall status to May 2026



Time periods and impacts:

1 – month period is most relevant for shallow rooted crops (e.g. eggplant, cabbage, tomatoes, spring onions, watermelons, cucumber), small water tanks (e.g. 1000gallons) and household water cisterns. The following secondary health and social-economic have been associated with drought at the 1-month period. Diarrhoea, skin rash, cough and fever, red eye, desalination plant (increased power demand and higher water costs for households), health of babies and elderly people declines, schools close and construction stops.

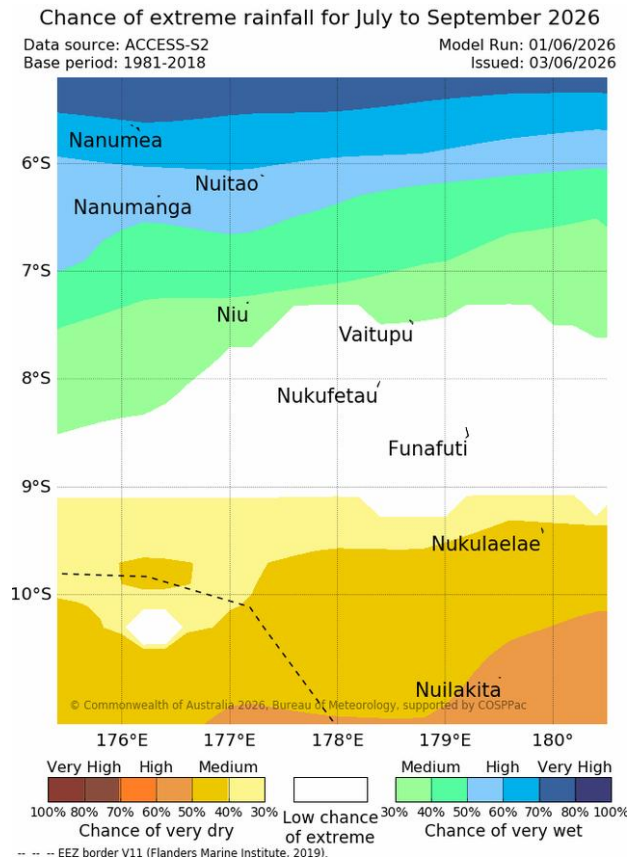
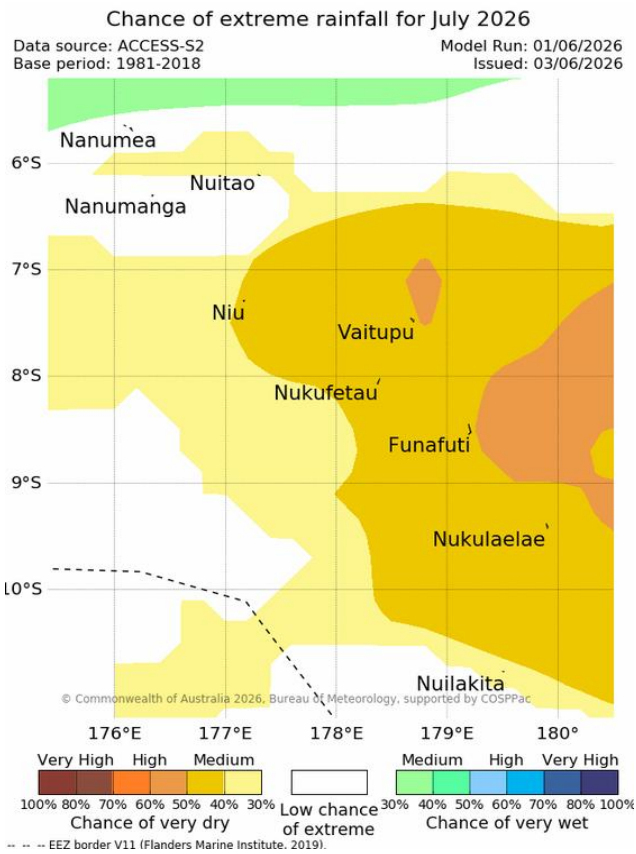
2 – months period is most relevant for bottle gourd,pawpaw, banana, chicken, pigs and community cisterns. The following secondary social-economic and health impacts have been associated with drought at the 2-months period. Community gatherings stop, increased in community disputes over water and limited or no employment.

3 – months period is most relevant for pumpkin, groundwater and ponds. The following secondary social-economic and health impacts have been associated with drought at the 3-months period. Crimes increase e.g. water stealing, government offices close and national events postponed.

6 – months period is most relevant for large trees (e.g. breadfruits, pulaka, taro). The following secondary social-economic and health impacts have been associated with drought at the 6-months periods.Meteorological balloon flights stop, interislands shipping delays, entry of visitors to Tuvalu restricted.

12- months period is most relevant for felo, dragon fruits, pandanus, coconuts and ofega.

Very Dry/Wet Rainfall Outlooks for July, and July to September 2026



Outlook Status

The outlook provides the likelihood of receiving above normal to normal rainfall over the next three months and the following three months. The outlook does not indicate the amount of rainfall that may be received, how intense the rain may be in any one event, nor how it may vary from month to month.

Rainfall Status

- Estimates of moisture/water stress is based on recent rainfall compared with historical observations using the Percentile (Decile) Index.

- *Definitions:* "Very Dry" = rainfall in the lowest 20% of the historical record for that location and season, "Very Wet" = rainfall in the highest 20% for that location and season, "Seriously Dry" = rainfall in the lowest 10% of the historical record for that location and season, "Seriously Wet" = rainfall in the highest 10% for that location and season.

Contact Tuvalu Meteorological Service for further information:

Director Meteorological Officer, Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure, Development & Water, Vaiaku, Funafuti, Tuvalu. Email:

tauala.k@gmail.com, tuvalumet@gmail.com, tuvalumet@gov.tv

website: tuvmet.tv, Facebook:<Tuvalu Meteorological Service>