



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 El Niño status, with approximately 100% of the climate models indicating El Niño conditions will continue through the rest of 2026.
- The tropical Pacific Sea Surface Temperatures (SST's) reached El Niño threshold and continue to warm.
- For El Niño to be considered established, a corresponding atmospheric response would need to be observed.

Issued: 20/07/2026



RAINFALL STATUS:

- Past 1- month (June 2026) was seriously very wet in Nanumea, very wet in Nanumaga and Niutao, and very dry in Nui and Nukulaelae. *No extreme* existed in Vaitupu, Nukufetau, Funafuti and Niulakita.
- Past 3- months rainfall (April to June 2026), was No Extreme over Nanumea, Nanumaga, Niutao, Nui, and Funafuti. Very dry in Vaitupu and Nukufetau, but seriously very dry most existed in Nukulaelae and Niulakita.
- Last 6 months (January 2026 to June 2026), were no extreme over Nanumea, Nanumaga, Niutao, Nui, Vaitupu, Nukufetau and Funafuti. Very dry in Nukulaelae and seriously very dry in Niulakita.
- 12- months (July 2025 to June 2026) was no extreme over Nanumea, Nanumaga, Niutao, Nui, and Funafuti. Very dry in Vaitupu, Nukufetau and Nukulaelae, with seriously very dry conditions in Niulakita.

RAINFALL OUTLOOK:

- Low chance of extreme rainfall is predicted for August 2026 in Nui and Vaitupu. Medium to high chance of very wet is predicted over Nanumea, while medium chance of very wet is forecast for Nanumaga and Niutao. Medium chance of very dry conditions over Nukufetau and Funafuti, high chance of very dry conditions over Nukulaelae, and very high chance of very dry conditions over Niulakita.
- Rainfall conditions for the August to October 2026 period are expected to be a high chance of very wet conditions at Nanumea and Niutao, High chance of very wet conditions at Nanumaga and Vaitupu. Medium chance of very wet at Nui and Nukufetau, while Funafuti predicts to be a low chance of extreme rainfall. Medium chance of very dry conditions at Nukulaelae with a very high chance of very dry rainfall at Niulakita.

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

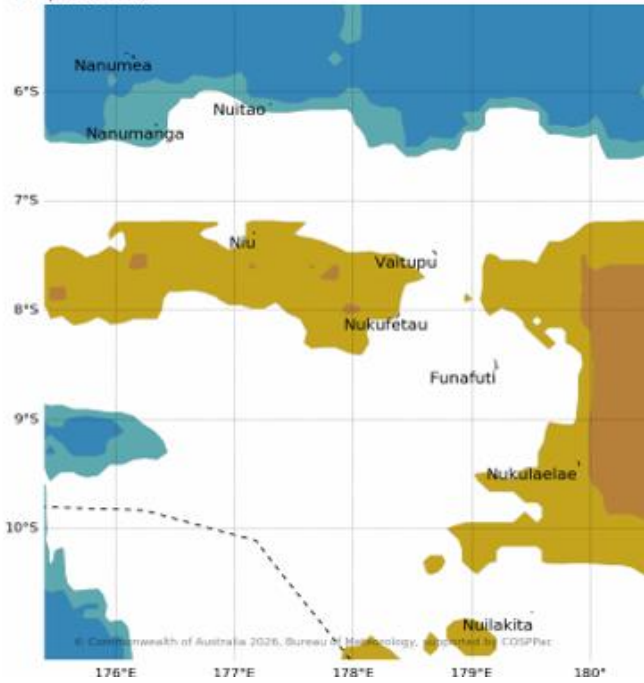
The table below provides information on rainfall received over specific periods in the last 12 months, whether a station is in drought or a very wet period (opposite of drought). If a station is in drought warning, this indicates an increased chances of drought in the coming months, especially when approaching 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 June 2026	3-months April to June 2026	6-months January to June 2026	12-months July 2025 to June 2026		Tuvalu Islands	August 2026 Chance of extreme	August to October 2026 Chance of extreme
Seriously Very Wet	No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme		Nanumea	High to Medium chance of very wet	Very high chance of very wet
Very wet	No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme		Nanumaga	Medium chance of very wet	High chance of very wet
Very wet	No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme		Niutao	Medium chance of extreme	Very high chance of very wet
Very dry	No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme		Nui	Low chance of extreme	Medium chance of very wet
No extreme	Very dry	No extreme	Very dry		Vaitupu	Low chance of very dry	High chance of very wet
No extreme	Very dry	No extreme	Very dry		Nukufetau	Medium Chance of very dry	Medium chance of very wet
No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme		Funafuti	Medium chance of very dry	Low chance of extreme
Very Dry	Seriously dry	Very Dry	Very dry		Nukulaelae	High chance of very dry	Medium chance of very dry
No extreme	Seriously Dry	Seriously Dry	Seriously dry		Niulakita	Very high chance of very dry	Very High chance of very dry

ACCESS-S Rainfall Summary for June, 2026.

1-month Rainfall status to June 2026

Data source: MSWEP
Base period: 1981-2021
Issued: 07/07/2026



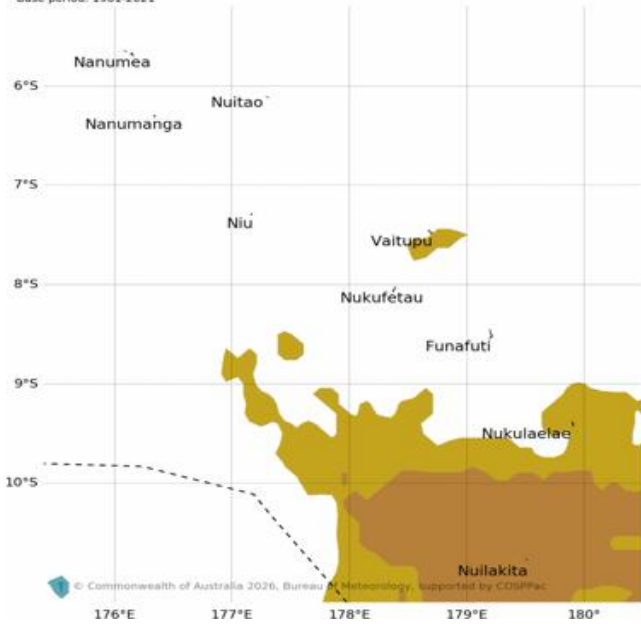
3-month Rainfall status to June 2026

Data source: MSWEP
Base period: 1981-2021
Issued: 07/07/2026



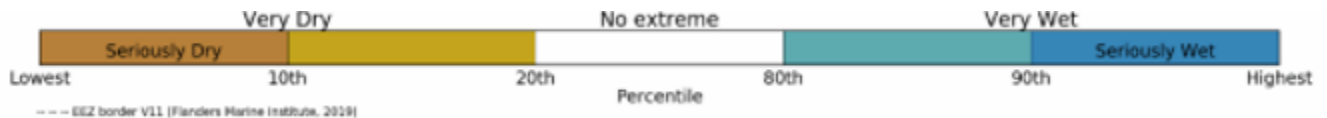
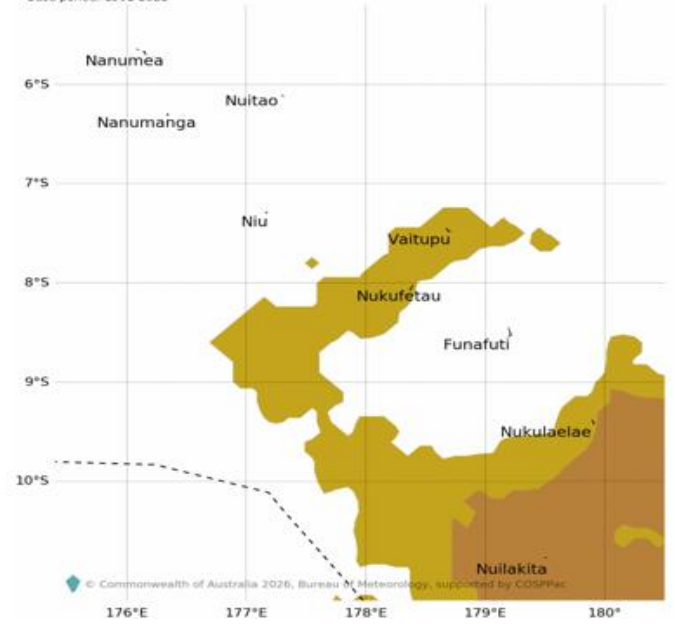
6-month Rainfall status to June 2026

Data source: MSWEP
Base period: 1981-2021
Issued: 07/07/2026



12-month Rainfall status to June 2026

Data source: MSWEP
Base period: 1981-2021
Issued: 07/07/2026



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. 1000galloons) 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.

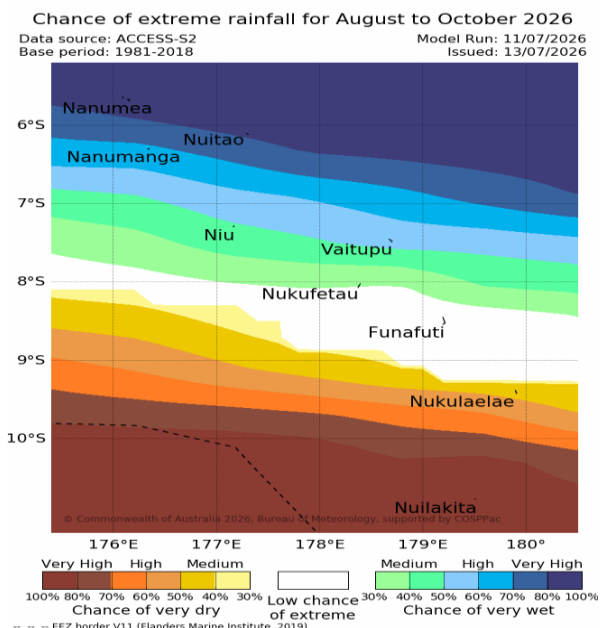
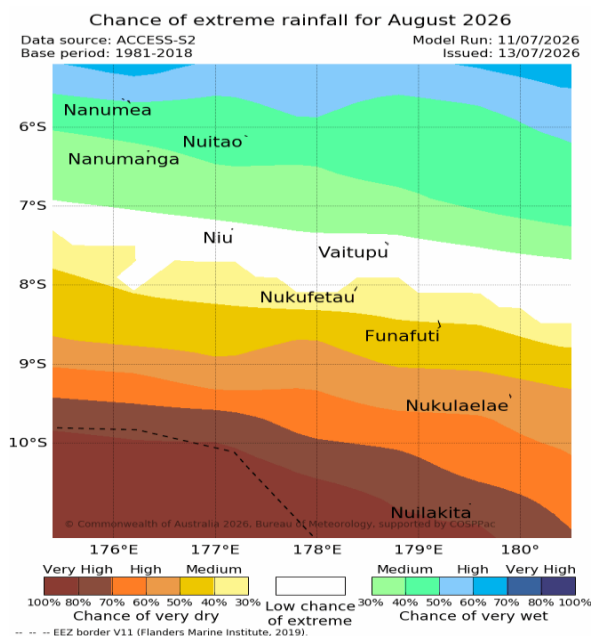
2 – months period is most relevant for bottle gourd, pawpaw, banana, chicken, pigs and community cisterns. The following secondary social-economic and health impacts have been associated with drought at the 2-months period. Community gatherings stop, increased in community disputes over water and limited 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 August, and August to October 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:

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