



# Tuvalu Meteorological Service Early Action Rainfall Watch

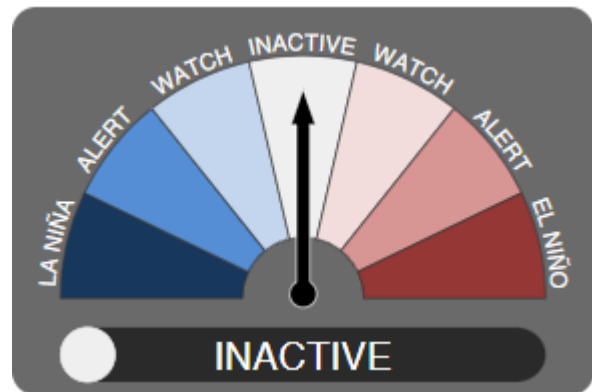


**Purpose:** The Early Action Rainfall Watch provides a summary of recent rainfall patterns, particularly the status of drought and the rainfall outlook for the coming months. The status and outlook will be revised on a monthly basis. Contact the Tuvalu Meteorological Service (TMS) for further information.

## SUMMARY

- The El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is currently neutral, although there are signs of possible El Nino development.
- The tropical Pacific continues to warm as models suggest a transitioning to EL Nino in a coming month.
- For El Nino to be considered established, a corresponding atmospheric response would need to be observed.

**Issued: 26/05/2026**



## RAINFALL STATUS:

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

## Rainfall OUTLOOK:

- Low chance of extreme for rainfall predicted for June 2026 over Nanumea and Nukulaelae. There's a Medium chance of extreme of very dry stretching over Nanumaga, Niutao, Nui, Vaitupu, Nukufetau, Funafuti and Niulakita.
- June to August 2026, of rainfall expected to be Low Chance of Extreme over Nanumea, Nanumaga, Niutao, Nui, Vaitupu, Nukufetau, Funafuti and Nukulaelae. Medium Chance of Very Dry 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 April 2026	3-months February to April 2026	6-months November 2025 to April 2026	12-months March 2025 to April 2026		Tuvalu Islands	June 2026 Chance of extreme	June to August 2026 Chance of extreme
No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme		<b>Nanumea</b>	Low chance of extreme	Low chance of extreme
No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme		<b>Nanumaga</b>	Medium Chance of Very Dry	Low chance of extreme
No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme		<b>Niutao</b>	Medium Chance of Very Dry	Low chance of extreme
No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme		<b>Nui</b>	Medium Chance of Very Dry	Low chance of extreme
No Extreme	Very Dry	No Extreme	No Extreme		<b>Vaitupu</b>	Medium Chance of very dry	Low chance of extreme
No Extreme	Very Dry	Very Dry	No Extreme		<b>Nukufetau</b>	Medium Chance of Very Dry	Low chance of extreme
No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme	No Extreme		<b>Funafuti</b>	Medium Chance of Very Dry	Low chance of extreme
Very Dry	Very Dry	Very Dry	No Extreme		<b>Nukulaelae</b>	Low chance of extreme	Low chance of extreme
Very Dry	Seriously Dry	Seriously Dry	No Extreme		<b>Niulakita</b>	Medium Chance of Very Dry	Medium chance of very dry

# ACCESS-S Rainfall Summary for April, 2026.

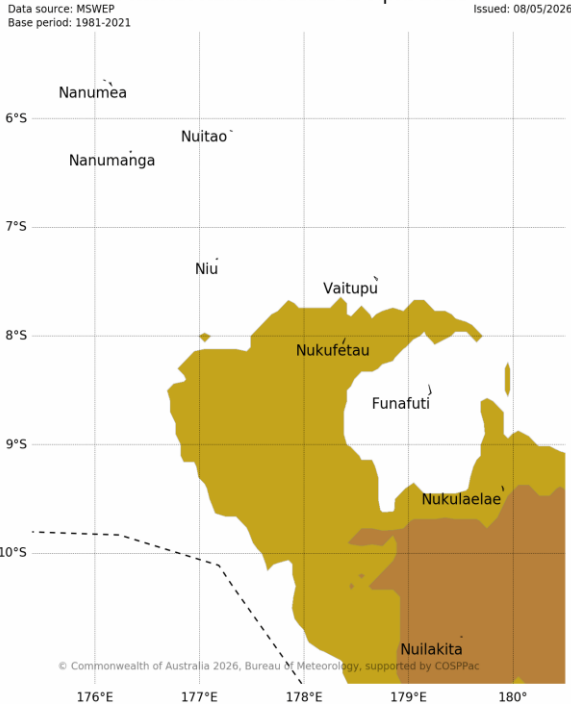
1-month Rainfall status to April 2026



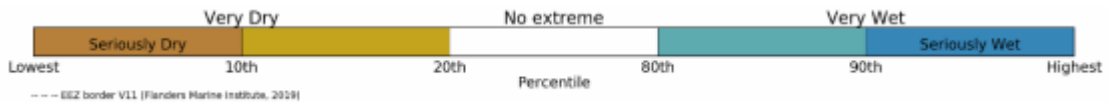
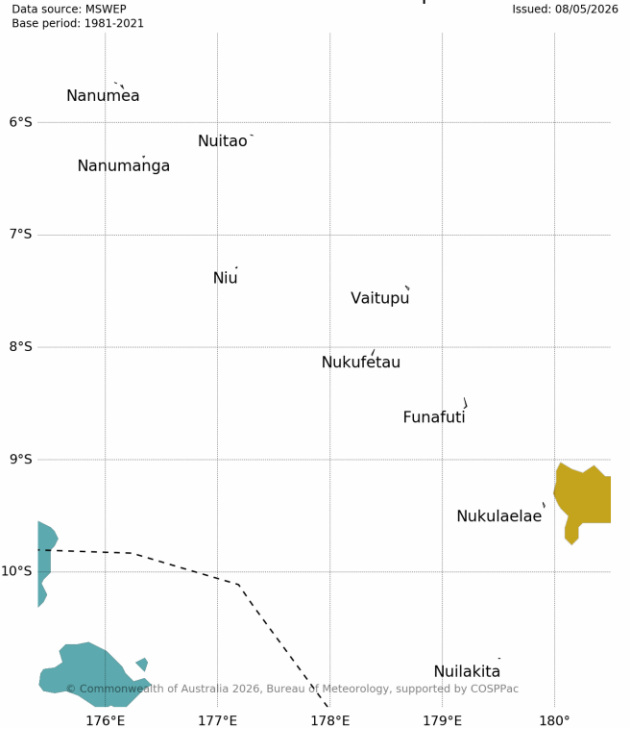
3-month Rainfall status to April 2026



6-month Rainfall status to April 2026



12-month Rainfall status to April 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.

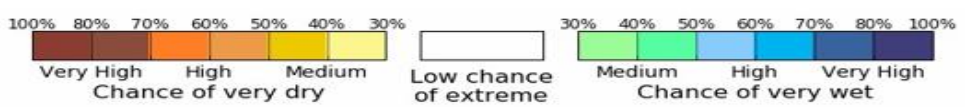
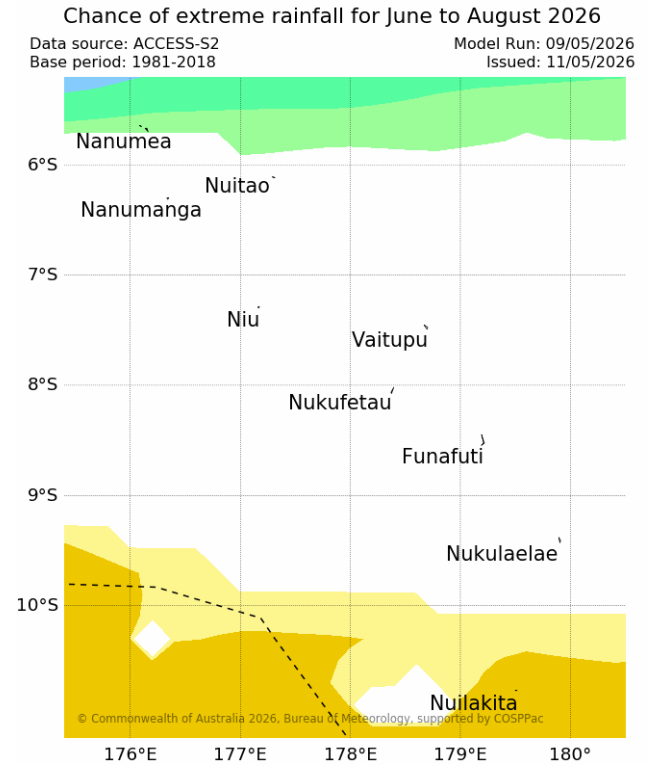
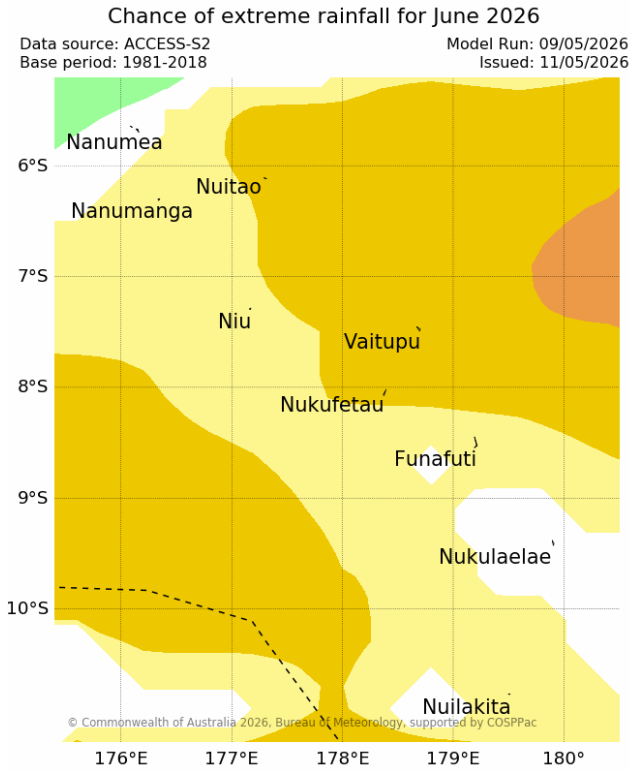
**2 – months** period is most relevant for bottle gourd,pawpaw, banana, chicken, pigs and community cisterns. The following secondary social-economic and health impacts have been associated with drought at the 2-months period. Community gatherings stop, increased in community disputes over water and 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 June, and June to August 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:  
 Chief Meteorological Officer, Ministry of Public Works, Infrastructure, Water, Meteorology and Disaster, Vaiaku, Funafuti, Tuvalu.  
 Email: [tauala.k@gmail.com](mailto:tauala.k@gmail.com) , [tuvalumet@gmail.com](mailto:tuvalumet@gmail.com), [tuvalumet@gov.tv](mailto:tuvalumet@gov.tv)  
 website: [tuvmet.tv](http://tuvmet.tv), Facebook:<Tuvalu Meteorological Service>