



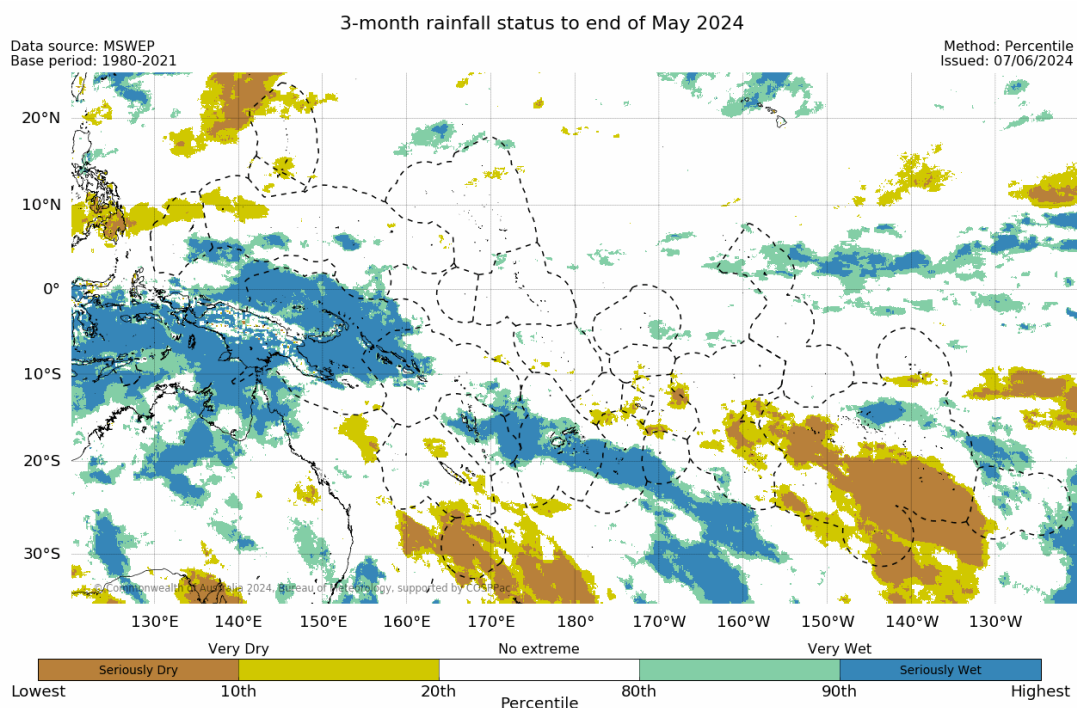
Climate and Ocean Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac)

Regional Early Action Rainfall Watch June 2024

El Niño-Southern Oscillation Status: as of 31 May 2024

The El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is currently neutral. However, the Bureau's ENSO Outlook is at La Niña Watch, due to some early signs that an event might form in the Pacific Ocean later in 2024. A La Niña Watch does not guarantee that a La Niña will develop. There is about an equal chance of neutral ENSO conditions in the same outlook period. Sea surface temperatures (SSTs) in the central Pacific have been steadily cooling since December 2023. This surface cooling is supported by a significant amount of sub-surface cooling in the central and eastern Pacific. Recent cloud and surface pressure patterns are ENSO-neutral.

Rainfall Status: as of 31 May 2024



The 3-month rainfall status for March to May 2024 was Very Wet or Seriously Wet over eastern Palau, southern FSM, most of PNG, most of Solomon Islands, most of Vanuatu, mainland Fiji, central Tonga, southern Niue, far northern Line Islands, central French Polynesia, and the Pitcairn Islands.

The rainfall status was Very Dry or Seriously Dry for March to May over northern Palau, western FSM (Yap), northern and southern CNMI, parts of New Caledonia, eastern Cook Islands, and southern French Polynesia. Small patches of Very Dry or Seriously Dry were observed in far southern Wallis and Futuna, northern Tonga, Tuvalu, Samoa, Tokelau, and American Samoa.

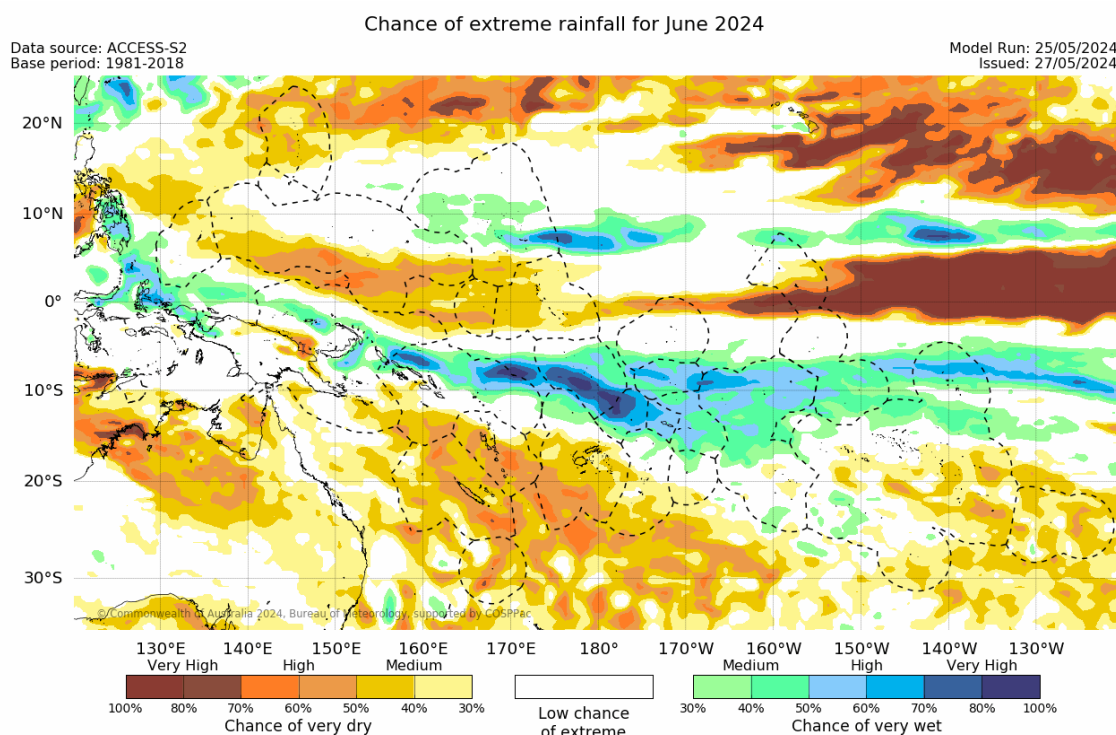
The regional maps are available via http://access-s.clide.cloud/files/project/EAR_watch/pacific/

Three-month total rainfall is typically used for monitoring grasslands, shallow rooted plants and small water body (e.g. small water tanks, streams) moisture deficits. Allow for uncertainty associated with island size, topography, geology and soil type.

Rainfall Status

- Estimates of moisture/water stress are 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.

Monthly Rainfall Watch: June 2024

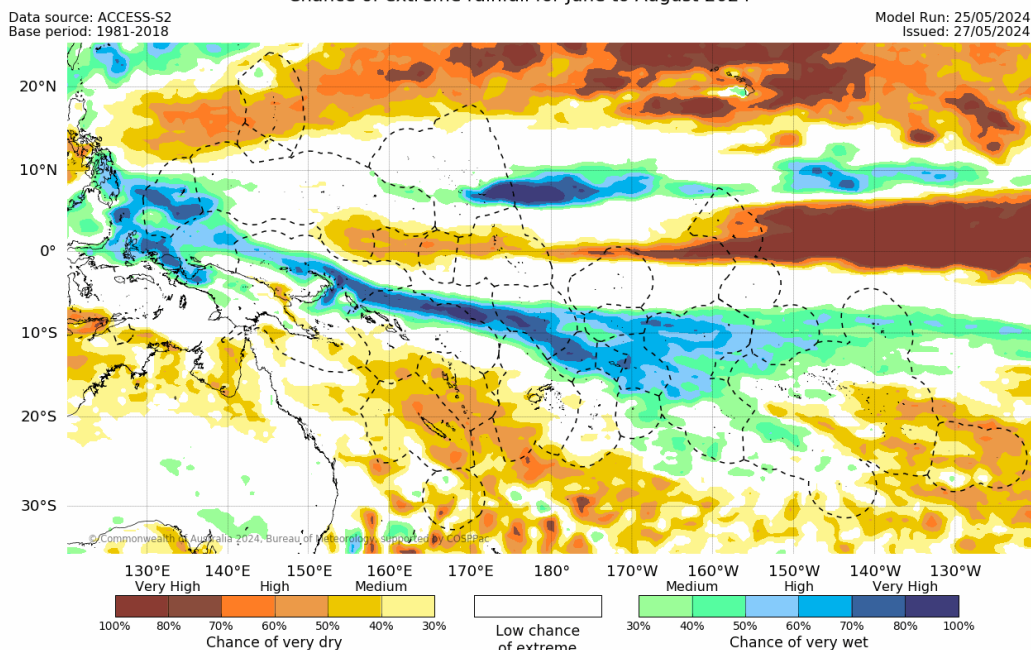


For June 2024, there is a medium to very high chance of rainfall in the Very Wet category (highest quintile, which includes the Seriously Wet category) in a band stretching in a southeasterly direction from southern Palau to northern PNG Islands, across the Solomon Islands to Kiribati (southern Line Is.) and northern French Polynesia in the east. Patches of rainfall in the Very Wet category are also predicted in central RMI, and Kiribati (southern Phoenix, and northern Line Is.).

There is a medium to very high chance that rainfall will be in the Very Dry category (lowest quintile, which includes the Seriously Dry category) from northern Palau across northwest Guam, CNMI, and towards Hawaii. There is another band from western FSM across to Nauru, and Kiribati (Glibert, far northern Phoenix, and northern Line Is.). The forecast is similar over the northern PNG mainland, across to southern Solomon Islands, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, most of Fiji, central and southern Tonga, southern Niue, eastern and southern French Polynesia, and over the Pitcairn Islands.

Seasonal Rainfall Watch: June – August 2024

Chance of extreme rainfall for June to August 2024



For June to August 2024, there is a medium to very high chance of rainfall in the Very Wet category (highest quintile, which includes the Seriously Wet category) in a narrow band stretching southeast from Palau and western FSM across PNG's Islands, northern Solomon Is, Tuvalu, northern Fiji, Wallis and Futuna, Samoa, American Samoa, Tokelau, Kiribati (far southern Phoenix Islands, and southern Line Is.), most of Cook Islands, and northern and western French Polynesia. Rainfall in the Very Wet category is also predicted for far northeastern FSM across to central RMI. Small patches are also predicted for northern CNMI, and Niue.

In contrast, there is a medium to very high chance of rainfall in the Very Dry category (lowest quintile, which includes the Seriously Dry category) in a broad band north of about 12°N affecting the northern fringe of Guam, most of CNMI, and the far north of RMI. Another band of Very Dry category stretches from Australia and the PNG mainland to New Caledonia, Vanuatu and most of Fiji. A separate Very Dry band is predicted over southeastern FSM, Nauru, Kiribati (central Gilbert, far northern Phoenix Is. and northern Line Is.), while a broad region is forecast for southern and eastern French Polynesia, and Pitcairn Islands.

Monthly and Seasonal Rainfall Watch

- Information provided has been interpreted on a divisional scale where possible as Pacific Island Countries can experience a high range of rainfall variability within a country. It is possible to have forecasts which simultaneously favour above and below normal rainfall in different parts of the one country.
- Definitions: "Chance of Very Dry" = percent chance of rainfall in the lowest 20% of the historical record for that location and season, "Chance of Very Wet" = percent chance of rainfall in the highest 20% for that location and season. Medium, High and Very High refer to the percent probability level where Very High has the highest confidence and represents the range 70% and above.
- Local Met Services should be contacted for detailed information and outlooks. This product is not to be distributed to the public or other organisations.