



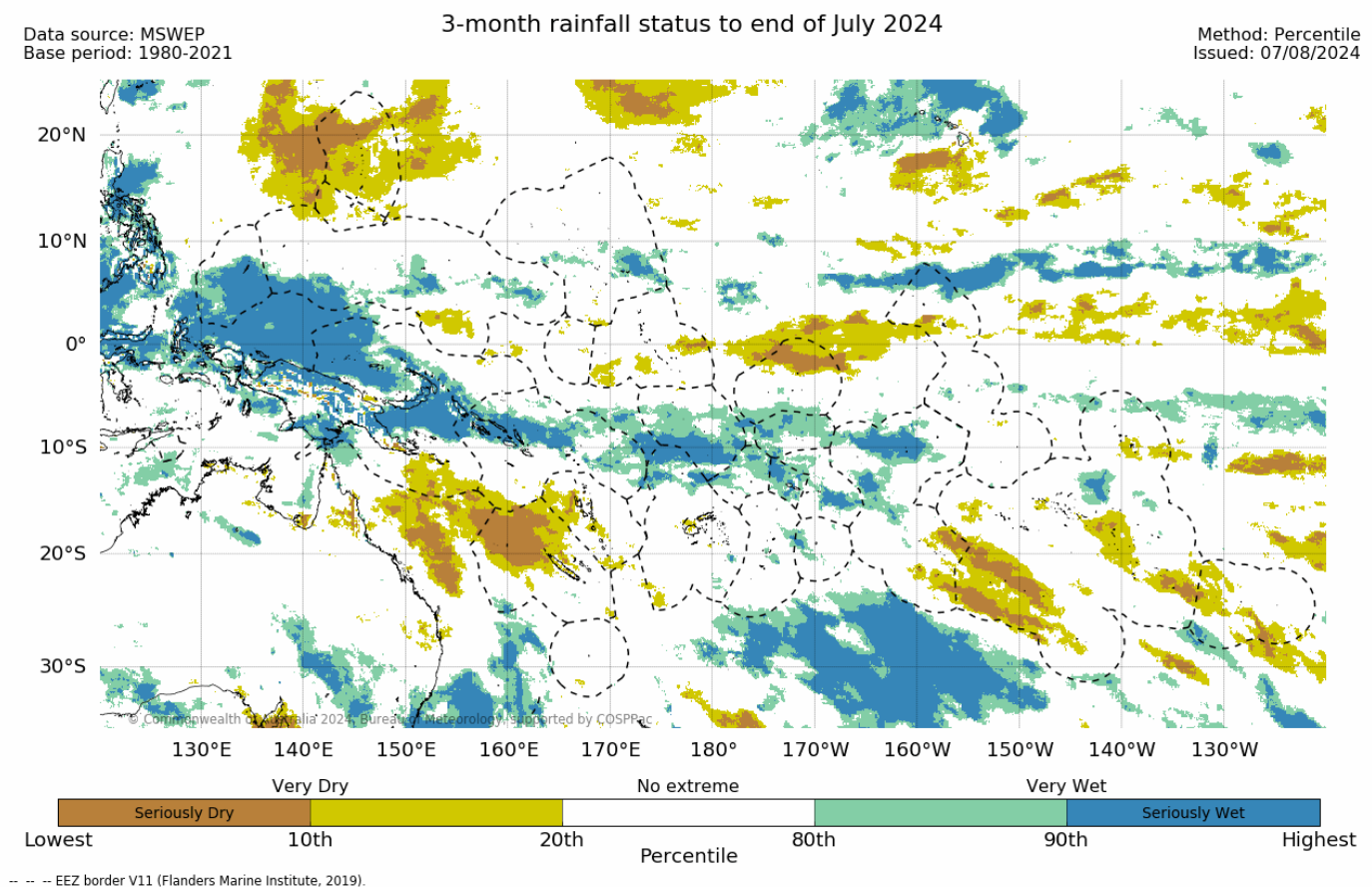
Climate and Ocean Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac)

Regional Early Action Rainfall Watch August 2024

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

The El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is currently neutral. ENSO is likely to remain neutral until at least early in the southern spring. Three of seven climate models suggest the possibility of SSTs reaching the La Niña threshold (below -0.8°C) by October. The remaining four models suggest a continuation of ENSO-neutral throughout the forecast period. The Australia Bureau's ENSO Outlook remains at La Niña Watch. La Niña Watch does not guarantee La Niña development, only that there is about an equal chance of ENSO remaining neutral or La Niña developing during the remainder of 2024.

Rainfall Status: as of 31 July 2024



The 3-month rainfall status for May to July 2024 was Very Wet or Seriously Wet over Palau, southwest FSM, much of PNG, most of Solomon Islands, far northern Fiji, central and southern Tuvalu, Tokelau, northeast Wallis and Futuna, and Samoa. Patches of Very Wet or Seriously Wet were also observed in American Samoa, Kiribati (far northern Line Is.), northern and central Cook Islands, and central RMI.

The rainfall status was Very Dry or Seriously Dry for May to July over CNMI, southeastern PNG, northern New Caledonia, northwest Vanuatu, Kiribati (northern Phoenix Is. plus patches in Gilbert

and northern Line Is.), southwest French Polynesia, southern Cook Islands, southwest and central French Polynesia, and western Pitcairn Islands.

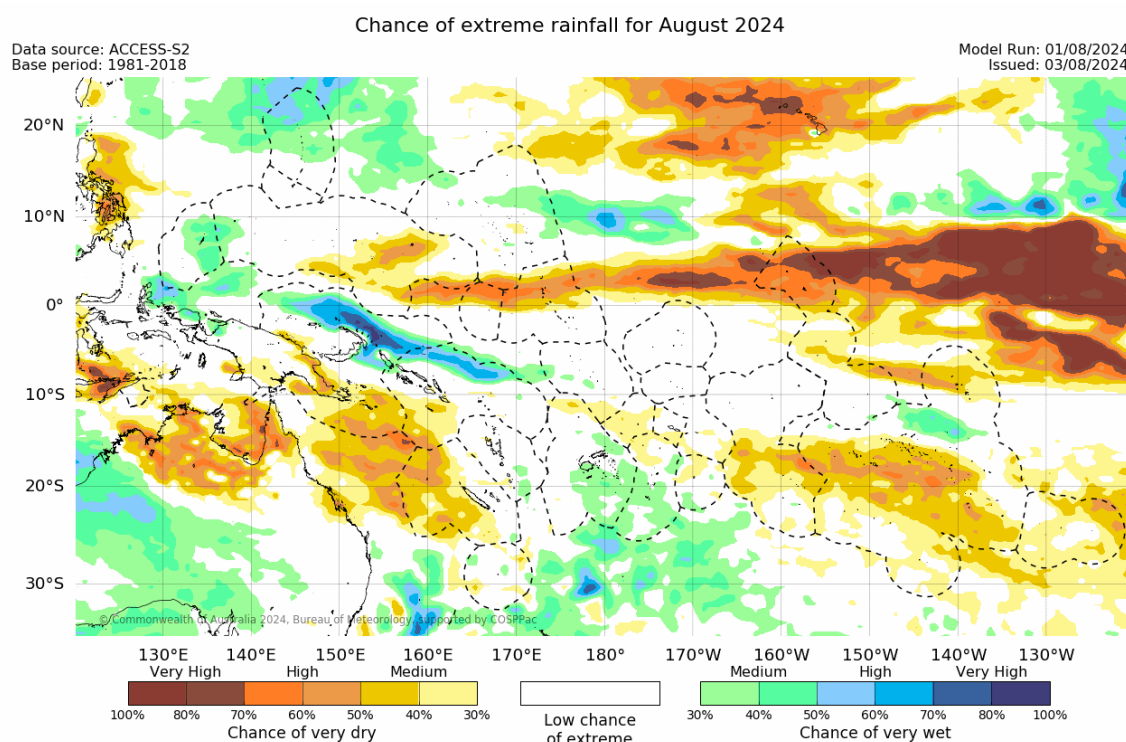
The regional maps are available via http://access-s.clide.cloud/files/project/EAR_watch/pacificx/

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.

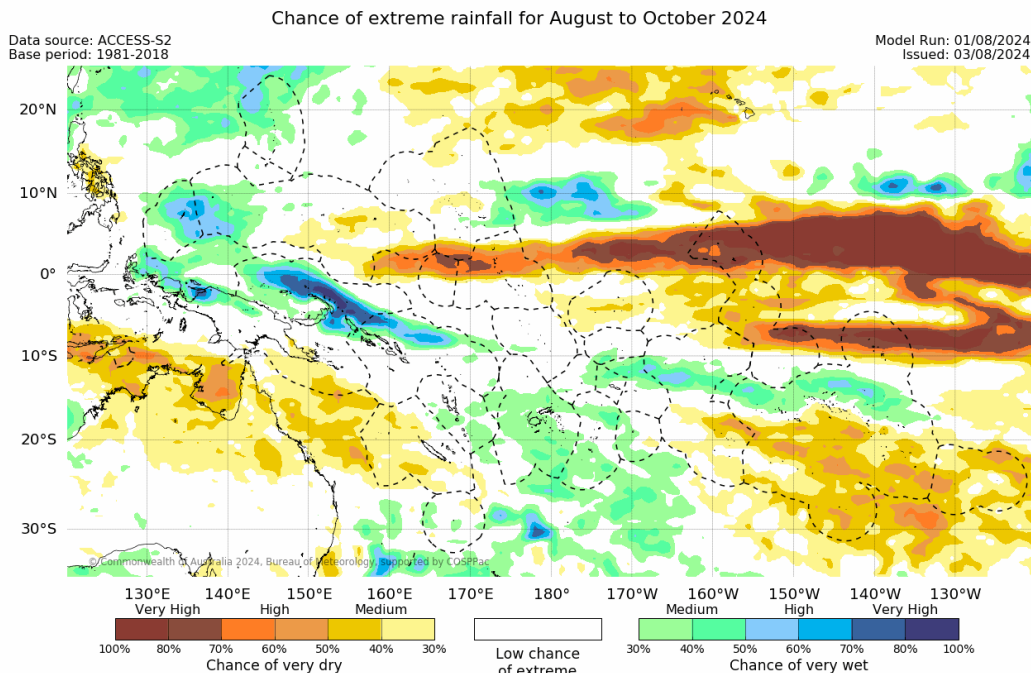
Monthly Rainfall Watch: August 2024



For 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 band stretching in a southeasterly direction from northern Palau and western FSM to the PNG Islands, and the northern Solomon Islands. Another band stretches from CNMI to northern RMI. Patches of rainfall in the Very Wet category are also predicted in eastern Fiji, southern Tonga, and northern French Polynesia.

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 eastern FSM across Nauru, Kiribati (northern Gilbert Is., and northern and central Line Is.), and far northern French Polynesia. There is another band from PNG mainland to the Coral Sea region across to western New Caledonia. The forecast is similar over southern Tuvalu, Wallis and Futuna, northern Tonga, southern Cook Islands, the southern half of French Polynesia, and Pitcairn Islands.

Seasonal Rainfall Watch: August – October 2024



For August to October 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 southeast from Palau and western FSM across northern PNG, to northern Solomon Islands. Another band stretches from northeast Wallis and Futuna to northern French Polynesia. Rainfall in the Very Wet category has a medium to high chance of occurring in CNMI, eastern RMI, Fiji, Tonga, patches in central and southern Vanuatu, 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 band extending eastwards from eastern FSM across northern Nauru, Kiribati (excluding southern Gilbert Is.), and northern French Polynesia. Another band of Very Dry category stretches from the southeast of PNG's EEZ and northern Australia to western New Caledonia. A separate Very Dry band is predicted over southern Cook Islands, central 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.