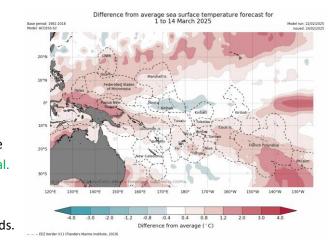
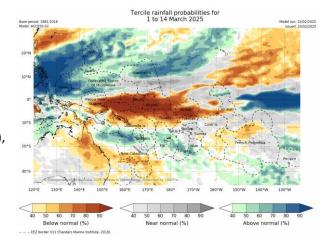


OFFICIAL Pacific Weekly ACCESS-S Update Wednesday 26 February 2025

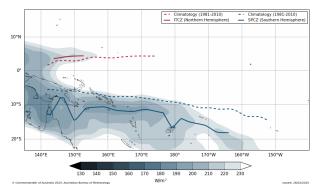
Ocean Outlook, fortnight to 14 March:

- Sea surface temperature (SST) forecasts more than 0.8°C above normal are favoured in the following country EEZs: Palau, Guam, most of CNMI, most of FSM, far
 northern RMI, most of PNG, northwestern Solomon Is., eastern Fiji, central Tonga, central Cook Is., most of French Polynesia, and Pitcairn Is. SST anomalies above
 1.2°C are favoured in southern Palau, northern PNG, southeastern French Polynesia and southwestern Pitcairn Is. Elsewhere SSTs are predicted to be near-normal.
- Notably above normal sea level (>100 mm) is predicted for southern Palau, northern FSM, parts of central PNG, parts of Solomon Is., southern Tuvalu, and far southern Tonga. Below normal sea level (<100 mm) is predicted for northern Tonga, northern & central Line Is. (Kiribati), and northeastern French Polynesia.
 Elsewhere sea levels are predicted to be near-normal. Note that sea level anomalies from ACCESS-S2 do not include global but can include regional sea level trends.









• Tide calendars available via oceanportal.spc.int/portal/library/. Sea level and SST skill information, can be found in the accompanying presentation.

Climate Outlook, fortnight to 14 March:

- According to the ACCESS-S model, there is a near normal or reduced risk of tropical cyclone (TC) occurrence in the Southwest Pacific for the week 3 9 March. For the same period the ECMWF shows an increased chance of TC occurrence south-east of Fiji and between Australia's eastern coast and New Caledonia.
- Above normal rainfall is favoured in the following EEZs: Palau, Guam, CNMI, western and central FSM, northern RMI, northern New Caledonia, central Vanuatu, most of Fiji, and southern Tonga. Below normal rainfall is favoured for the following country EEZs: far southern FSM, eastern PNG, Nauru, Gilberts & Phoenix Is. (Kiribati), Tuvalu, northern Tokelau, patches of Cook Is., and northern French Polynesia.
- Maximum and/or minimum air temperatures are favoured to be normal or below normal in the following country EEZs: Nauru, Kiribati (excluding southern Line Is.),
 New Caledonia, southern Vanuatu, southern Fiji, southern Tonga, northern Tuvalu, northern Tokelau, and northern Cook Is. Elsewhere, there is a strong likelihood of above normal temperatures.
- Remember to review rainfall and air temperature outlook skill information, which can be found in the accompanying presentation.

Climate Influences:

- El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) remains neutral. While many of the indicators have recently met the threshold for La Niña they have not been sustained for levels or duration sufficient to warrant La Niña status. Additional information is available via the Southern hemisphere monitoring update-<u>http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso</u>. The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is also neutral.
- Over the 30 days to 23 February, outgoing longwave radiation observations suggest the Intertropical Convergence Zone was close to its average position for this time of year (confined to the western Pacific), and the South Pacific Convergence Zone remained displaced southwards below the Solomon Is., over Vanuatu and Fiji.
- The Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO), as of 23 February is indiscernible. It is forecast to have limited influence on Pacific weather over the coming week.
- Outlooks: <u>http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/pacific/outlooks/</u>, <u>http://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/ocean.html</u>, <u>ECMWF Tropical Cyclone Outlook</u> Influences: <u>http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso/</u>