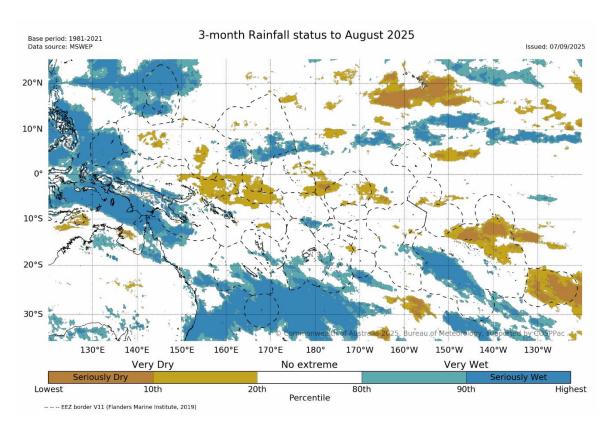


Pacific Islands Early Action Rainfall Watch September 2025

El Niño-Southern Oscillation Status: as of 30 August 2025

The El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) remains neutral. The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) index has now met the negative IOD threshold (less than or equal to −0.4 °C) for 7 consecutive weeks. The Bureau's model predicts some further cooling of the tropical Pacific is likely, potentially reaching La Niña levels briefly during spring (September to December), and returning to neutral in the austral summer (December to February). This is consistent with most international models assessed, with around half indicating ENSO will remain neutral, and the other half indicating La Niña may develop.

Rainfall Status: as of 30 August 2025



The 3-month rainfall status for June to August 2025 was Very Wet or Seriously Wet over CNMI, Guam, Palau, parts of western and eastern FSM, and southern RMI in the northern Pacific. Very Wet or Seriously Wet areas were also observed over most of PNG mainland, southern New Caledonia EEZ, central Vanuatu, southern and eastern Fiji, southern Tuvalu, northern Wallis and Futuna, central and southern Tonga, southern Niue EEZ, parts of central Cook Islands, and southern French Polynesia.

The rainfall status was Very Dry or Seriously Dry for June to August 2025 over parts FSM (eastern Yap, and western and southern Pohnpei), parts of central RMI, Nauru, and Kiribati (eastern Phoenix and central Line Is.) in the northern Pacific. Very Dry or Seriously Dry areas were also observed over parts of PNG Islands, parts of northern and eastern Solomon Islands, northeastern French Polynesia, and Pitcairn Islands in the southern Pacific.

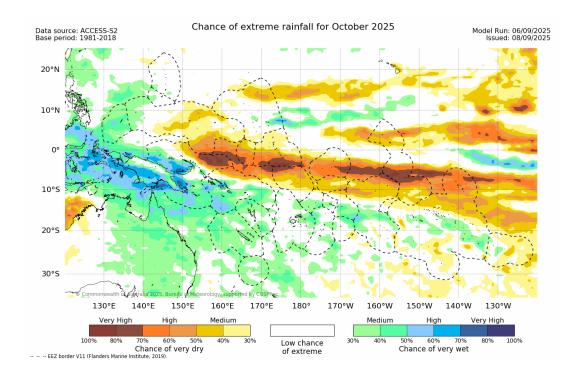
The regional maps are available via http://access-s.clide.cloud/files/project/EAR_watch/pacificx/

Three-month total rainfall is typically used for monitoring grasslands, shallow rooted plants and small water body (e.g. small water tanks, streams) mositure 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.

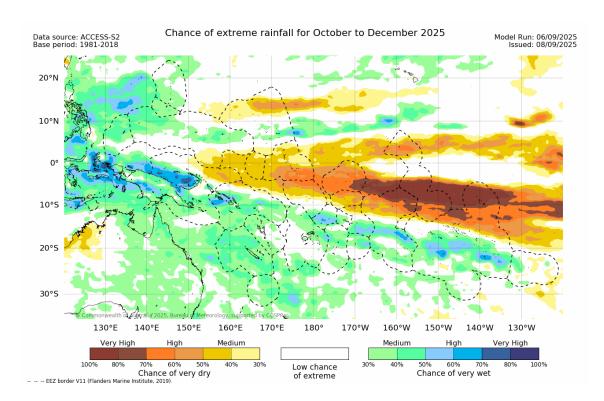
Monthly Rainfall Watch: October 2025



For October 2025, there is a medium to very high chance of rainfall in the Very Wet category (highest quintile, which includes the Seriously Wet category) over Palau, western FSM, and parts of eastern RMI in the northern Pacific. There is also medium to very high chance of rainfall in the Very Wet category over most of PNG mainland, PNG Is., Solomon Is., New Caledonia, most of Vanuatu, most of Fiji, parts of western and eastern Tonga, Wallis and Futuna, Samoa (Savaii), American Samoa, northern Niue EEZ, central Cook Islands, and parts of central French Polynesia in the southern Pacific.

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) in a band stretching southeastwards over eastern FSM, northeastern PNG EEZ, Nauru, Kiribati (Gilbert Is, Phoenix and northern and southern Line Is.), most of Tuvalu, Tokelau, northern Cook Is., northern French Polynesia, and eastern Pitcairn Is. Patches of medium to very high chance that rainfall (lowest quintile, which includes the Seriously Dry category) over northern RMI, and southern French Polynesia.

Seasonal Rainfall Watch: October - December 2025



For October to December 2025, 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 eastwards over Palau, Guam, CNMI, central FSM, and southern RMI. Another band of rainfall in the medium to very high chance of rainfall in the Very Wet category (highest quintile, which includes the Seriously Wet category) stretching southeastwards over PNG, Solomon Is., most of Vanuatu, New Caledonia, most of Fiji, Tonga, Wallis and Futuna, Samoa, southern American Samoa, Niue, southern Cook Islands, and southern French Polynesia.

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 stretching southeastwards from southeast FSM southern RMI, Nauru, Kiribati (Gilbert Is., Phoenix, and most of Line Is.), most of Tuvalu, Tokelau, northern American Samoa, northern Cook Islands, and northern French Polynesia. Patches of medium to very high chance of rainfall in the Very Dry category over northern RMI, and Pitcairn Is.

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.

Climate and Oceans Support