

Pacific Weekly ACCESS-S Update Wednesday 17 September 2025

Ocean Outlook, fortnight to 3 October:

- Sea surface temperature (SST) forecasts more than 0.8°C **above normal** are favoured in the following countries' Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs): FSM, far northern CNMI, south-eastern Palau, PNG, Solomon Is, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, central Cook Is., parts of French Polynesia, and Pitcairn Is. SST anomalies above 1.2°C are favoured in PNG, the western Solomon Islands and eastern French Polynesia. Elsewhere, SSTs are predicted to be **near-normal**.
- Notably, **above-normal** sea levels (>100 mm) are predicted for CNMI and north-west Guam, southern parts of FSM and southeast part of RMI. **Below-normal** sea levels (<100 mm) are indicated for eastern Tonga, Niue, Cook Is, northern Line Islands (Kiribati), as well as southern French Polynesia. Elsewhere, sea levels are expected 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 are available via <https://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/library/>. Sea level and SST skill information can be found in the accompanying presentation.

Climate Outlook, fortnight to 3 October:

- Tropical cyclone occurrence for the period from 22 to 28 September has increased from previous weeks, with regions near the Philippines, Palau, and southern Taiwan at potential risk according to the ACCESS-S and ECMWF models.
- Above-normal** rainfall is favoured in the following EEZs: southern PNG, Guam, northern Fiji, FSM, Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna, Samoa, American Samoa, northeast Niue, northern Palau, southern Polynesia and southern Cook Islands. **Below-normal** rainfall is favoured for the following EEZs: Western PNG, southern FSM, south New Caledonia, Nauru, Kiribati (Gilbert, Phoenix, and most of the Line Islands), northern Tuvalu, Tokelau, and northern French Polynesia.
- Near-normal maximum and minimum** air temperatures are favoured for Nauru, the Gilbert Islands, northern Tuvalu, northern Tokelau, northern Cook Islands, central Tonga, southern Niue and north-eastern French Polynesia. Kiribati and Line Islands (Kiribati) and the northernmost part of French Polynesia are expected to experience **below-normal** temperatures. Elsewhere, **above-normal** temperatures are likely. Please review the rainfall and air temperature outlook skill information, which can be found in the accompanying presentation.

Climate Influences:

- El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO)** remains neutral. The **Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)** is negative. Additional information is available via the Southern Hemisphere Monitoring Update - <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso>.
- For the past 30 days, outgoing longwave radiation observations have shown that the **Intertropical Convergence Zone** is mostly aligned with the normal climatology for this week. The **South Pacific Convergence Zone** is mostly aligned with the normal climatology for this week.
- The **Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO)** is very weak or indiscernible. Most models forecast that the MJO remain weaken and indiscernible in the coming fortnight. Outlooks: <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/pacific/outlooks/>, <http://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/ocean.html>, [ECMWF Tropical Cyclone Outlook](#)
- Influences: <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso/>

