

Pacific Weekly ACCESS-S Update Wednesday 24 September 2025

Ocean Outlook, fortnight to 10 October:

- Sea surface temperature (SST) forecasts more than 0.8°C **above normal** are favoured in the following countries' Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs): 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, southern parts of FSM and southeast part of RMI. **Below-normal** sea levels (<100 mm) are indicated for eastern Fiji, Tonga, Niue, Cook Is, American Samoa, 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 10 October:

- Tropical cyclone occurrence for the period from 29 September to 5 October has a high risk 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, CNMI, far northern Marshall Islands, southern Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Wallis and Futuna, Fiji, Samoa, American Samoa, central French Polynesia and central Cook Islands. **Below-normal** rainfall is favoured for the following EEZs: northern PNG, Palau, FSM, central and southern RMI, far northern Solomon Is., Nauru, Kiribati (Gilbert, Phoenix, and most of the Line Islands), Tuvalu, Tokelau, and northern French Polynesia.
- **Near-normal maximum and minimum** air temperatures are favoured for Nauru, the Gilbert and Phoenix Islands, northern Tuvalu, northern Tokelau, northern and southern Cook Islands, central Fiji, Tonga, Niue and north-eastern French Polynesia. 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 slightly north of its average position near CNMI, and south of its normal position in far eastern FSM. The **South Pacific Convergence Zone** is mostly aligned with the normal climatology.
- The **Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO)** is very weak or indiscernible. Most models forecast that the MJO may become weakly active in the Western Pacific and strengthen as it moves into the western hemisphere over the coming weeks.
- 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/









