

Pacific Weekly ACCESS-S Update Wednesday 08 October 2025

Ocean Outlook, fortnight to 24 October:

- Sea surface temperature (SST) forecasts more than 0.8°C **above normal** are favoured in the following countries' Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs): most of Palau and CNMI, southwestern FSM, PNG, western half of the Solomon Is, most of Vanuatu, New Caledonia, far southern Tonga, southeastern Cook Is., and the southern half of French Polynesia. SST anomalies above 1.2°C are favoured in large parts of PNG, the northwestern Solomon Islands, and northwest New Caledonia. Elsewhere, SSTs are predicted to be **near-normal**.
- Notably, **above-normal** sea levels (>100 mm) are predicted for northern CNMI, southeastern Palau, eastern and far southwestern FSM, and southern RMI. **Below-normal** sea levels (<100 mm) are indicated for parts of central Tonga, southeastern Niue, southern Cook Is., and small parts of 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 24 October:

- Tropical cyclone occurrence for the period from 13 to 19 October has a significantly increased risk in a region stretching from FSM and Palau westwards to China according to the ACCESS-S and ECMWF models. The increased risk persists into the following week (20 to 26 October) although the probabilities are reduced.
- Above-normal** rainfall is favoured in the following EEZs: most of CNMI, southern Palau, patches of FSM and central RMI, most of PNG, parts of the western half of the Solomon Is., most of Vanuatu, large parts of New Caledonia, parts of Wallis and Futuna, most of Samoa and A. Samoa, northern Niue, central Cook Is., western French Polynesia and southern Line Is. (Kiribati). **Below-normal** rainfall is favoured for the following EEZs: central Palau, northeastern FSM, northern RMI, small patches of PNG, northern Solomon Is., southern Nauru, southern Gilbert and Phoenix Is., and parts of the Line Islands (Kiribati), Tuvalu, Tokelau, central Tonga, parts of Niue, far northern and southern Cook Islands, patches over French Polynesia, and Pitcairn Is.
- Near-normal maximum and minimum** air temperatures are favoured for Nauru, Kiribati, northern Tuvalu, far northern Tokelau, northern Cook Is., eastern Fiji, most of Tonga, southern Niue, north-eastern French Polynesia and Pitcairn Is. The northern 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 close to its normal position for this time of year. The **South Pacific Convergence Zone** is shifted slightly southwards of its average position over PNG and the northern Solomon Islands.
- The **Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO)** is currently weak or indiscernible. The MJO is forecast to remain weak and not influence weather patterns over the Pacific for the coming fortnight.
- Outlooks: <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/pacific/outlooks/>, <http://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/ocean.html>, [ECMWF Tropical Cyclone Outlook](http://www.ecmwf.int/en/forecasts/summary)
- Influences: <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso/>

