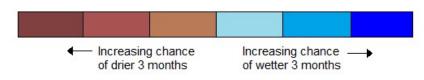


# Climate and Ocean Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac) Regional Early Action Rainfall Watch

Seasonal Rainfall Watch: July- September 2020

### **Alert Level**



Alert Level	Divisions with <u>Below</u> Normal Rainfall favoured in the coming 3 months	Divisions with <u>Above</u> Normal Rainfall favoured in the coming 3 months
	Vanuatu (N), Fiji (W)	Cook Is. (N)
	PNG (M, S), Vanuatu (S)	Kiribati (W), Tuvalu (All)

## **List of Divisions:**

FSM (Yap – Y)  FSM (Chuuk – C)  FSM (Chuuk – C)  FSM (Pohnpei – P)  PNG (Momase Region – M)  Vanuatu (Northern Region – N)  Vanuatu (Southern Region – S)		,		,		PNG (Highlands – H) Samoa Solomon Is. (Western Region – W Solomon Is. (Central Region – C) Solomon Is. (Eastern Region – E) Tuvalu (Northern – N) Tuvalu (Southern – S) Vanuatu (Northern Region – N) Vanuatu (Southern Region – S)
---	--	---	--	---	--	---

## **Rating Scale: Below Normal and Above Normal**

Outlook unavailable for this region

	Tercile Forecast Probabilities (%)					
Forecast Confidence	39-44	45-50	51-54	55-59	60+	
Low						
Low-Medium						
Medium						
Medium-High						
High						
Very High						

No alert for this region

	Tercile Forecast Probabilities (%)				
Forecast Confidence	39-44	45-50	51-54	55-59	60+
Low					
Low-Medium					
Medium					
Medium-High					
High					
Very High					

E.g. If a region has a forecast probability for **above normal** rainfall of **45%** [17/38/45 – below normal/normal/above normal] with a **Medium-High** Confidence, it would give a **Mid-Blue** Alert Rating. Similarly if a region has a forecast probability for **below normal** rainfall of **45%** [45/38/17 – below normal/normal/above normal] with a **Medium-High** Confidence, it would give a **Mid-Brown** Alert Rating.

# Rainfall Status: as of 31 May 2020

Alert Level	3-month period		
Seriously wet (90%)	PNG (S), Vanuatu (N), Fiji (W, C, E), Niue		
Near or wetter than normal	Palau, FSM (K, P), Marshall Is., PNG (M, H), Solomon Is. (W, C), Vanuatu (S), Kiribati (W, C), Tuvalu (N), Cook Is (S)		
Warning (25%)	FSM (Y), Solomon Is. (E), Fiji (N, R), Kiribati (E), Cook Is (N)		
Seriously dry (10%)	PNG (ls.), Tuvalu (S), Samoa		
Severely dry (5%)			
Status not available	FSM (C)		

## **List of Divisions:**

<u> </u>		
Cook Is. (Northern – N)	FSM (Kosrae – K)	PNG (Highlands – H)
Cook Is. (Southern – S)	Kiribati (Western Is. – W)	Samoa
Fiji (Western Division – W)	Kiribati (Central Is. – C)	Solomon Is. (Western Region – W)
Fiji (Central Division – C)	Kiribati (Eastern Is. – E)	Solomon Is. (Central Region – C)
Fiji (Eastern Division – E)	Marshall Is.	Solomon Is. (Eastern Region – E)
Fiji (Northern Division – N)	Niue	Tuvalu (Northern Region – N)
Fiji (Rotuma – R)	Palau	Tuvalu (Southern Region – S)
FSM (Yap – Y)	PNG (Momase Region – M)	Vanuatu (Northern Region – N)
FSM (Chuuk – C)	PNG (New Guinea Is Is.)	Vanuatu (Southern Region – S)
FSM (Pohnpei – P)	PNG (Southern Region – S)	

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. A division is listed once at the highest station alert within that division.

## **Seasonal Rainfall Watch**

- Information provided gives an indication of predicted total rainfall over the next three months, not how intense the rain may be in any one event, nor how it may vary from month to month.
- Information provided has been given on a divisional scale as Pacific Island Countries can experience a high range of rainfall variability within country. It is possible to have forecasts which simultaneously favour above and below normal rainfall in different parts of the one country.
- Starting at 39%, the alert levels indicate increasing chances of either below or above normal rainfall, as defined below. A measure of confidence, based on historical model performance, also plays a role in the rating level.
- The alerts are based on the highest station probabilities within a country or division.
- Definitions: "Below Normal Rainfall" = rainfall total below the 33<sup>rd</sup> percentile for that location and season; "Above Normal Rainfall" = rainfall total above the 67<sup>th</sup> percentile for that location and season.
- Local Met Services should be contacted for detailed information and outlooks. This product is not to be distributed to the public or other organisations.





#### © Commonwealth of Australia 2020

This work is copyright. Apart from any use as permitted under the Copyright Act 1968, no part may be reproduced without prior written permission from the Bureau of Meteorology. Requests and inquiries concerning reproduction and rights should be addressed to the Publishing Unit, Bureau of Meteorology, GPO Box 1289, Melbourne 3001. Requests for reproduction of material from the Bureau website should be addressed to AMDISS, Bureau of Meteorology, at the same address.

Published by COSPPac/BOM