

Pacific Islands - Ocean and Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 220

Country: Tonga

Part 1: Recent climate

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	Oct-2025	Nov-2025	Dec-2025				Rank
			Total (mm)	33%tile	67%tile	Median	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	Rainfall (mm)				
<i>Northern Division</i>							
Niuafu'ou (1971-2026)	47.0	395.5	155.5	220.9	360.3	281.0	11/52
Niutoputapu (1947-2026)	56.5	466.2	189.0	163.0	278.0	241.5	28/74
<i>Central Division</i>							
Vava'u (1947-2026)	81.1	342.3	451.5	131.0	265.7	166.0	68/79
Ha'apai (1947-2026)	166.5	181.8	57.8	66.0	156.9	123.0	23/79
<i>Southern Division</i>							
Fua'amotu (1979-2026)	79.7	370.4	127.8	130.7	191.5	157.0	15/46
Nuku'alofa (1944-2026)	151.0	334.0	115.0	75.3	165.7	122.7	39/82

TABLE 2: Three-month Total Rainfall for October to December 2025

Station	Three-month Total	33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank	
	Rainfall (mm)					
<i>Northern Division</i>						
Niuafu'ou (1971-2026)	598.0	Normal	558.0	854.1	708.9	18/50
Niutoputapu (1947-2026)	711.7	Normal	500.0	736.0	597.0	46/74
<i>Central Division</i>						
Vava'u (1947-2026)	874.9	Above normal	381.3	614.8	516.0	72/79
Ha'apai (1947-2026)	406.1	Normal	251.0	423.0	338.4	50/79
<i>Southern Division</i>						
Fua'amotu (1979-2026)	577.9	Above normal	298.5	444.8	374.0	39/46
Nuku'alofa (1944-2026)	600.0	Above normal	275.3	422.0	346.6	70/82

Part 1i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for February and February to April 2026

Monthly: February 2026	Seasonal: February to April 2026
<p>Rainfall (Image 1)</p> <p>Tercile rainfall probabilities for February 2026</p> <p>Base period: 1981-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 Model run: 12/01/2026 Issued: 14/01/2026</p> <p>© Commonwealth of Australia 2026, Bureau of Meteorology, supported by COSPPac</p> <p>177°W 176°W 175°W 174°W 173°W</p> <p>40 50 60 70 80 90 Below normal (%) Near normal (%) Above normal (%)</p> <p>-- -- EEZ border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).</p>	<p>Rainfall (Image 2)</p> <p>Tercile rainfall probabilities for February to April 2026</p> <p>Base period: 1981-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 Model run: 12/01/2026 Issued: 14/01/2026</p> <p>© Commonwealth of Australia 2026, Bureau of Meteorology, supported by COSPPac</p> <p>177°W 176°W 175°W 174°W 173°W</p> <p>40 50 60 70 80 90 Below normal (%) Near normal (%) Above normal (%)</p> <p>-- -- EEZ border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).</p>
<p>Monthly Maximum temperature (Image 3):</p>	<p>Seasonal maximum temperature (Image 4):</p>
<p>Tercile maximum temperature probabilities for February 2026</p> <p>Base period: 1981-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 Model run: 12/01/2026 Issued: 14/01/2026</p> <p>© Commonwealth of Australia 2026, Bureau of Meteorology, supported by COSPPac</p> <p>177°W 176°W 175°W 174°W 173°W</p> <p>40 50 60 70 80 90 Below normal (%) Near normal (%) Above normal (%)</p> <p>-- -- EEZ border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).</p>	<p>Tercile maximum temperature probabilities for February to April 2026</p> <p>Base period: 1981-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 Model run: 12/01/2026 Issued: 14/01/2026</p> <p>© Commonwealth of Australia 2026, Bureau of Meteorology, supported by COSPPac</p> <p>177°W 176°W 175°W 174°W 173°W</p> <p>40 50 60 70 80 90 Below normal (%) Near normal (%) Above normal (%)</p> <p>-- -- EEZ border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).</p>
<p>Monthly minimum temperature (Image 5):</p>	<p>Seasonal minimum temperature (Image 6):</p>
<p>Tercile minimum temperature probabilities for February 2026</p> <p>Base period: 1981-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 Model run: 12/01/2026 Issued: 14/01/2026</p> <p>© Commonwealth of Australia 2026, Bureau of Meteorology, supported by COSPPac</p> <p>177°W 176°W 175°W 174°W 173°W</p> <p>40 50 60 70 80 90 Below normal (%) Near normal (%) Above normal (%)</p> <p>-- -- EEZ border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).</p>	<p>Tercile minimum temperature probabilities for February to April 2026</p> <p>Base period: 1981-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 Model run: 12/01/2026 Issued: 14/01/2026</p> <p>© Commonwealth of Australia 2026, Bureau of Meteorology, supported by COSPPac</p> <p>177°W 176°W 175°W 174°W 173°W</p> <p>40 50 60 70 80 90 Below normal (%) Near normal (%) Above normal (%)</p> <p>-- -- EEZ border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).</p>

Part 2: Recent Ocean Observation

Monthly/Three months: December and October to December 2025

Monthly: December 2025	Last three months: October to December 2025
<p>Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly (Image 1):</p>	<p>Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly (Image 4):</p>
<p>Sea level anomaly (Image 2):</p>	
<p>National daily coral bleaching alert (Image 3):</p>	<p>Pacific daily coral bleaching alert (Image 5):</p>

Part 2i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for February and February to April 2026

<p>Monthly: February 2026</p>	<p>Seasonal: February to April 2026</p>
<p>Monthly sea surface temperature anomaly (Image 5):</p>	<p>Seasonal sea surface temperature anomaly (Image 6):</p>
<p>Monthly sea level anomaly (Image 7):</p>	<p>Seasonal sea level anomaly (Image 8):</p>
<p>National 4-week Coral Bleaching Outlook (Image 9):</p>	<p>Pacific 4-week Coral Bleaching Outlook (Image 10):</p>

Summary Statement

Monthly and last three months: December 2025/October to December 2025 statement

The rainfall for December was above normal over Vava'u and Niuatoputapu, near normal over Nuku'alofa and below normal over Niuafo'ou, Ha'apai and Fua'amotu.

For the past three months, rainfall was above normal over Vava'u, Fua'amotu and Nuku'alofa, normal over Niuafo'ou, Niuatoputapu and Ha'apai.

Part 1i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for February and February to April 2026

Monthly /Seasonal rainfall and temperature Outlook statements

The rainfall for February is very likely to be above normal over Vava'u, Niuatoputapu and Niuafo'ou. In Ha'apai and Tongatapu, the outlook shows February's rainfall is likely to be near-normal.

The rainfall for February to April very likely to be below normal over most of the country.

Maximum and minimum temperatures during February and averaged over February to April are very likely to be above normal over most of the country.

Part 2: Recent Ocean summary statement

Monthly and last three months: December 2025/October to December 2025

December sea surface temperatures (SSTs) around Tonga were -0.4 to 2.2°C above normal.

Averaged over October to December, sea surface temperatures around Tonga were -0.4 to 1.2°C above normal.

December sea levels around Tonga were -30 to 100mm above normal.

A coral bleaching Warning status is currently effect for Niuatoputapu and Watch status for the rest of Tonga as of January 5.

Part 2i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for February and February to April 2026

Ocean Variable statement

February 2026 sea surface temperatures around Tonga are predicted to be 0.4 to 1.2°C above normal.

Averaged over February to April 2026, sea surface temperatures around Tonga are predicted to be 0.4 to 1.2°C above normal.

February 2026 sea levels around Tonga are predicted to be 30 to -100mm below normal.

Averaged over February to April 2026, sea levels around Tonga are predicted to be 30 to -100mm below normal.

Coral Bleaching outlook indicates Watch for the Niuas and Warning for Tongatapu, Ha'apai and Vava'u status for the next 4 weeks.

In brief for Teleconference

- Rainfall was above normal to below normal for December and above normal to normal for the period from October to December.
- The rainfall outlook generally indicates above normal most likely in February 2026 but below average for total rainfall over February to April 2026.
- SSTs were above normal for December and October to December. The outlook shows above normal SSTs for the next one and three months.
- Sea levels were above normal for December. Above normal sea levels are predicted for February and February to April 2026.
- As of 5 January, for Niuaupoutapu are under a Coral Bleaching Warning and the for the rest of Tonga were under Watch. The four-week outlook places most of Tonga under Warning status.

TABLE 3: Stakeholder Engagement- Evaluations of how effective NMS engage with stakeholders (November 2025)

Product	Stakeholder	Total Number of Participants	Number of Male	Number of Female	Disability	Comments (If there are comments from you Stakeholders)
Climate Bulletin	Government Ministries, NGO's, Media, Private Sector		32	42	3	
EAR Watch						
Monthly Climate Briefing						
Ocean Outlook	Government Ministries, NGO's, Media, Private Sector		32	42	3	
Climate data request						
Total			64	84	6	

Stakeholder category	Do your products reach this group? (Y/N)	Tailored product? (Y/N)
Agriculture sector		
Disaster Risk Reduction sector		
Energy sector		
Health sector		
Water sector		
Fisheries and Aquaculture sector		
Tourism sector		
Maritime sector		
Research & education sector		
Women's [] organisations		
National disability organisations		

Community based organisations (e.g. councils)		
Products offered in local dialects/ languages		