

FIJI METEOROLOGICAL AND HYDROLOGICAL SERVICES



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Climate Outlook for Hydro-electricity Generation from November 2026 to January 2027

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Current Conditions

Fiji's Climate

During October, easterly winds prevailed over the country, bringing brief showers in parts of the Central, Eastern and Northern Divisions, while much of the Western Division continued to experience fine conditions. Prolonged dry conditions were observed across most parts of Fiji, especially in the Western Division and the maritime islands.

Of the 22 stations that reported in on time for the preparation of this bulletin, 21 stations reported *well below average* rainfall and 1 *below average*.

Monasavu's total monthly rainfall from 1st to 28th October, was 183mm, which is in the *below average* category (44% of *normal*) when compared against the WMO standard 30-year normal.

The total 3 monthly rainfall recorded during August to October 2026 period was 641mm, which is in the *below normal* category (67% of normal), while rainfall recorded during the past 6 months (May to October) is classified as *near normal*, at 1499mm (88% of the *normal*) (Figure 1).

El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Status

El Niño continues to strengthen in the tropical Pacific Ocean. Global climate models favor the event to intensify further, with likely chances of the event to reach its peak at around November and December 2026. For Fiji, El Niño events are typically associated with drier than normal conditions.

Sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies across the equatorial Pacific have persistently remained *above average* in the eastern Pacific Ocean, while *near normal* to *below normal* SSTs dominate the western Pacific.

Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) latest 30-day average until 27th October, was –14.9, which is well below El Niño threshold.

Trade winds were *below average* across the western and central equatorial Pacific Ocean. Cloudiness was *above average* over Fiji as well as east of the date line along the equator.

Atmospheric and oceanic indicators continue to reflect the intensification of El Niño conditions.

El Niño-Southern Oscillation and Monasavu Climate Predictions

El-Niño Southern Oscillation Prediction

Global climate models indicate that the ongoing strong El Niño event is likely to intensify further in the coming months and persist into early 2027.

Minimum & Maximum Air Temperature Predictions - November & November 2026 to January 2027

Minimum air temperatures are expected to be *near normal* to *below normal* across Viti Levu and Vanua Levu during November, as well as November 2026 to January 2027 period. Maximum air temperatures are likely to be *above normal* in most parts of Viti Levu and *near normal* in Vanua Levu during November. During November 2026 to January 2027, *above normal* maximum temperatures are generally likely for Viti Levu and Vanua Levu (Figure 4 and 5).

Rainfall Predictions:
Fortnightly: 1st – 14th November & 8th – 21st November

Drier conditions are likely to continue throughout this period.

November 2026

There is 75% chance of receiving at least 56mm of rainfall at Nadarivatu station, 75% chance of at least 60mm of rainfall at Nadarivatu and Monasavu Dams and 75% chance of receiving at least 65mm of rainfall at Wailoa. There is *moderate* confidence in this forecast (Table 1).

November 2026 to January 2027

During the November 2026 to January 2027 period, there is 75% chance of receiving at least 401mm of rainfall at Nadarivatu station, 75% chance of receiving around 433mm of rainfall at Nadarivatu and Monasavu Dams and 75% chance of receiving at least 465mm of rainfall at Wailoa. There is *very high* confidence in the seasonal outlook (Table 1).

Summary

There is moderate to very high confidence in the outlook for dry conditions to persist during November, as well as the November 2026 to January 2027 period. Fiji tends to experience suppressed rainfall during an onset of El Niño events.

Figure 1

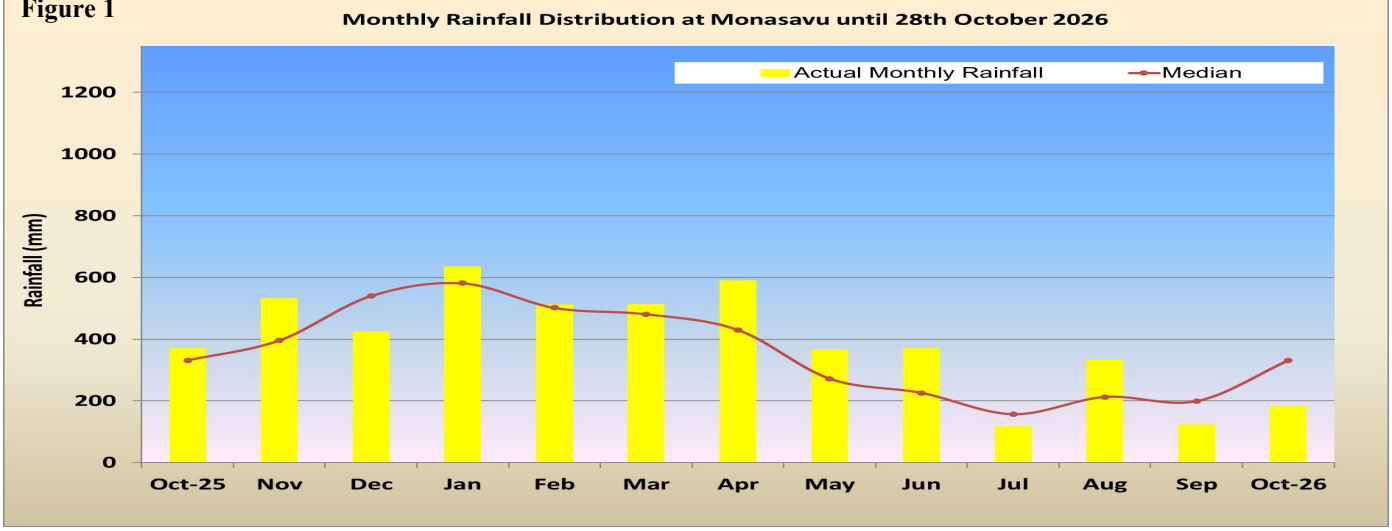


Table 1: Rainfall Outlook: November & November 2026 to January 2027

November Outlook				
	25% chance of at least (mm)	**50% chance of at least (mm)**	**75% chance of at least (mm)**	**Forecast Confidence**
Nadarivatu station	133	74	56	Moderate
Nadarivatu Dam	149	95	60	Moderate
Monasavu Dam	149	95	60	Moderate
Wailoa	148	102	65	Moderate
November 2026 to January 2027 Outlook				
	25% chance of at least (mm)	**50% chance of at least (mm)**	**75% chance of at least (mm)**	**Forecast Confidence**
Nadarivatu station	514	460	401	Very High
Nadarivatu Dam	544	498	433	Very High
Monasavu Dam	544	498	433	Very High
Wailoa	557	526	465	Very High

The table above provides 25%, 50% and 75% chances of each station receiving the amount of rainfall mentioned above.

Figure 2: Rainfall Outlook: Fortnightly: 1st – 14th November & 8th – 21st November

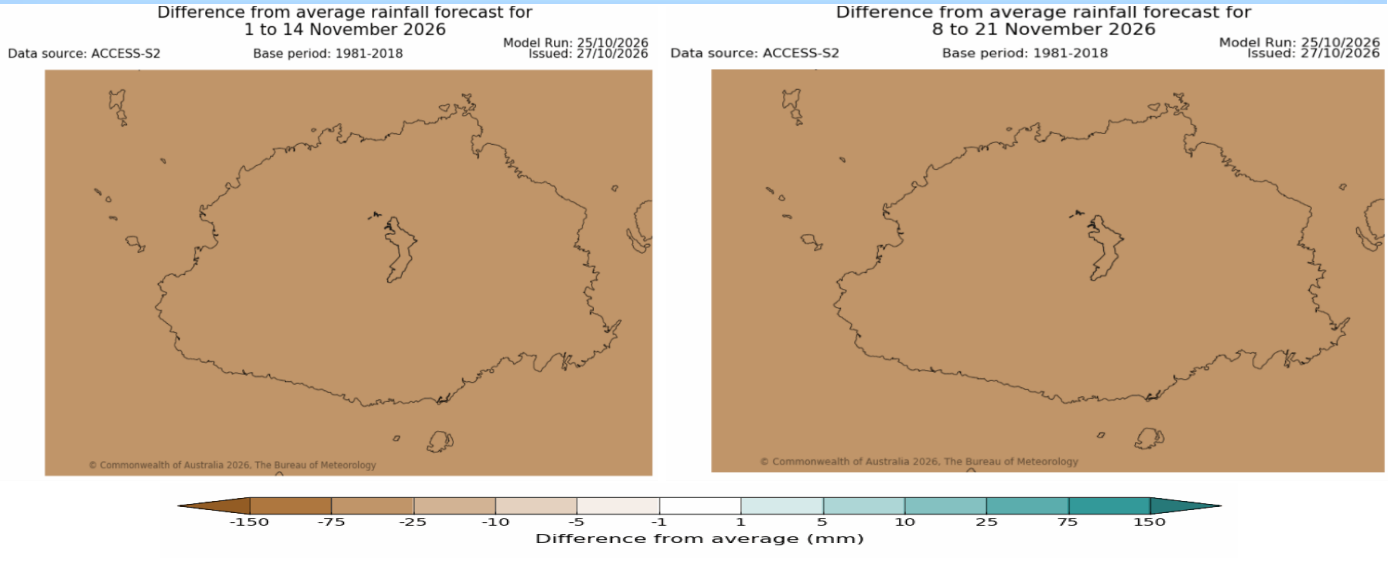


Figure 3: Rainfall Outlook: November & November 2026 to January 2027

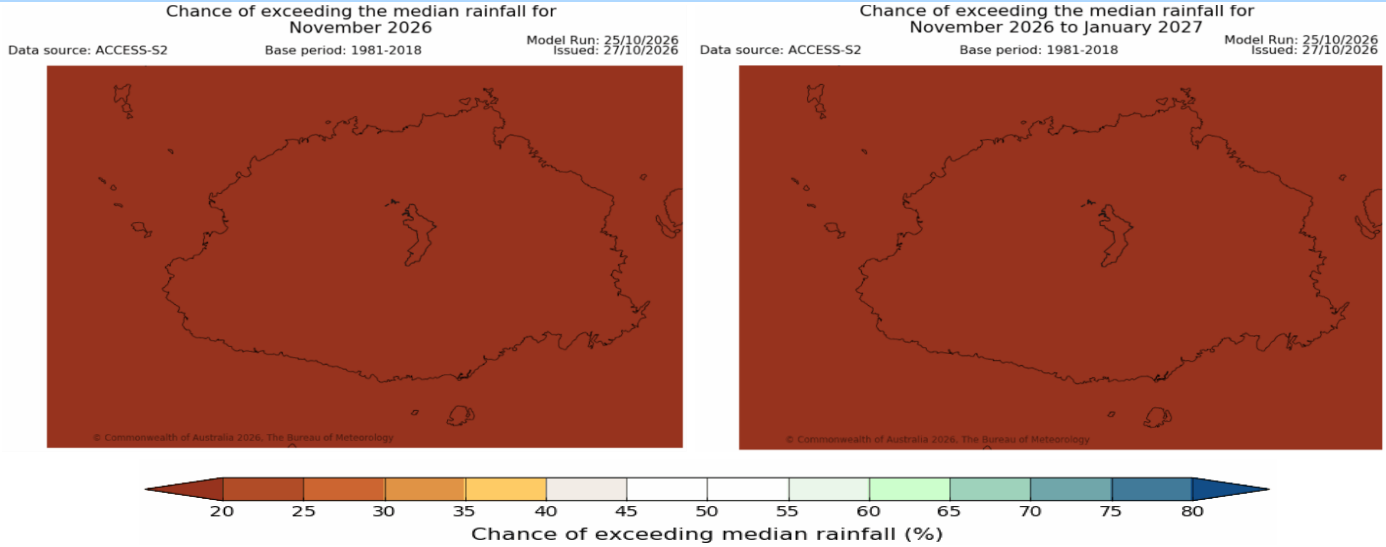
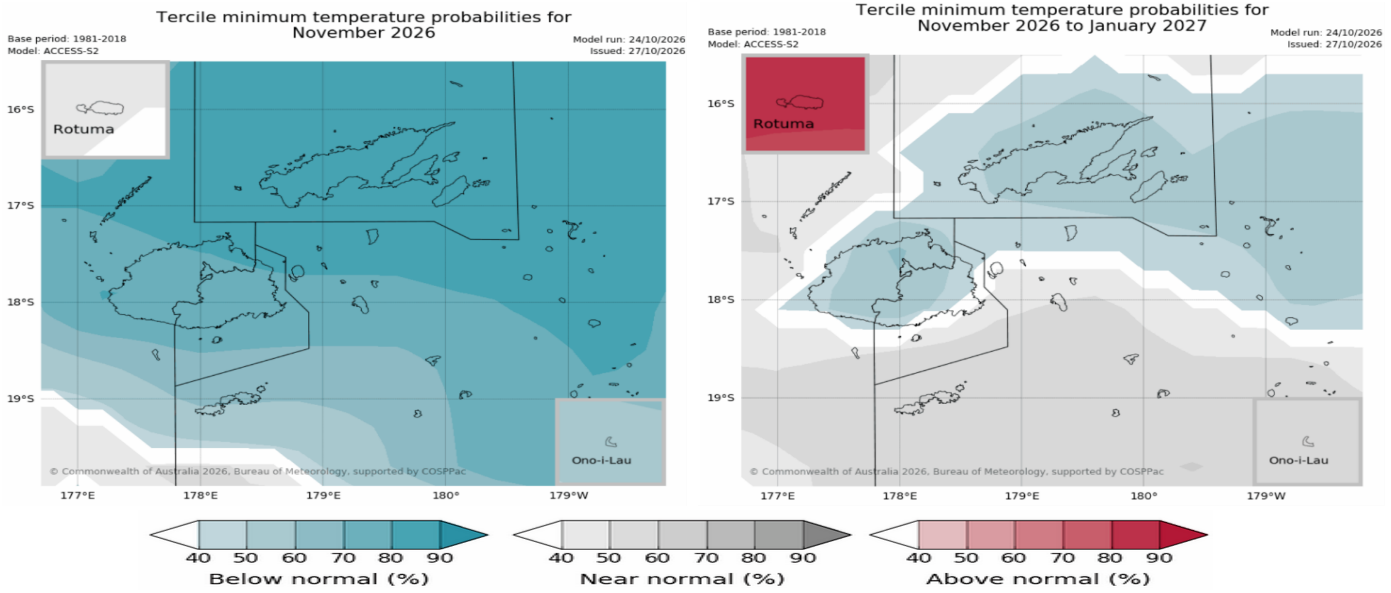
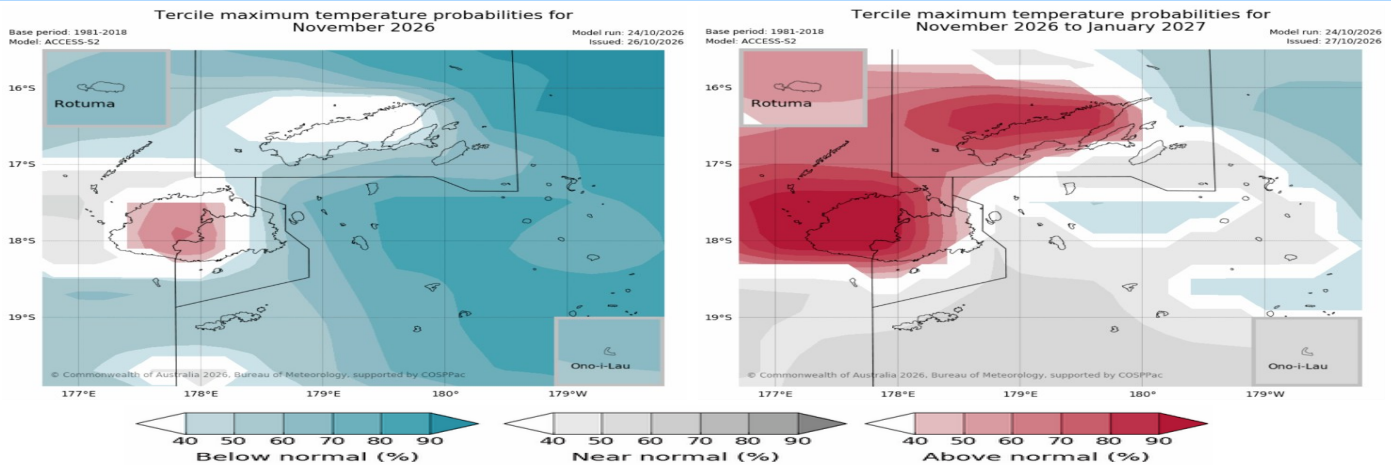


Figure 4: Minimum Air Temperature Predictions: November & November 2026 to January 2027



Minimum air temperatures are expected to be *near normal* to *below normal* across Viti Levu and Vanua Levu during November and November 2026 to January 2027 period. *Source: ACCESS-S2 Model.*

Figure 5: Maximum Air Temperature Predictions: November & November 2026 to January 2027



Maximum air temperatures are likely to be *above normal* in most parts of Viti Levu and *near normal* in Vanua Levu during November. During November 2026 to January 2027, *above normal* maximum temperatures are generally likely for Viti Levu and Vanua Levu. *Source: ACCESS-S2 Model.*

Explanatory Notes

Climate Outlook for Hydro-electricity Generation is produced to provide advisories to Energy Fiji Limited (EFL). It aims to provide advanced warning on climate abnormalities for planning on economic generation mix and hydro-storage optimization.

Climate (Rainfall/Air Temperature) Outlook

Above normal – indicates that the rainfall/temperature value lies in the highest third of observation recorded in the standard 30 year normal period.

Near normal – indicates that the rainfall/temperature value lies in the middle third of observation recorded in the standard 30 year normal period.

Below normal – indicates that the rainfall/temperature value lies in the lowest third of observation recorded in the standard 30 year normal period.
Climatology – means that there are equal chances of receiving below normal, normal and above normal rainfall.

Median – rainfall value which marks the level dividing the ranked data set in half, that is, the midpoint of the ordered (lowest to highest) monthly or yearly rainfall totals.

Above Median – rainfall value that lies above the median value.

Below Median – rainfall value that lies below the median value.

El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO)

ENSO is the principal driver of the year-to-year variability of Fiji's climate. There are three phases of this phenomenon, ***El Niño, La Niña*** and ***Neutral*** conditions. El Niño or La Niña events are a natural part of the global climate system and usually recur after every 2 to 7 years. It normally develops around April to June, attains peak intensity between December to February and usually starts to decay around April to June period the following year. While most events last for a year, some have persisted for up to 2 years. It should be also noted that no two El Niño or La Niña events are the same. Different events have different impacts, but most exhibit some common climate characteristics.

Usually there is a lag effect on Fiji's climate with ENSO events, that is, once an El Niño or La Niña event is established in the tropical Pacific, it may take 2-6 months before its impact is seen on Fiji. Similarly, once an event finishes, it can take 2 -6 months for climate to normalise.

El Niño events are associated with warming of the central and eastern tropical Pacific. El Niño events usually result in reduction of Fiji's rainfall. Often the whole of Fiji is affected in varying degrees and it is quite unusual for one part of the country to experience a prolonged dry spell, while the other is in a wet spell. The relationship and level of rainfall suppression is greater in the Dry Zone than in the Wet Zone. It is the suppression of rainfall during the Cool/Dry Season (May to October) that is normally of most concern. A reduction in Cool/Dry Season rainfall in the Dry Zone results in little or no rainfall until the next Wet Season. While usually the strength of an ENSO event is proportional to its impact on Fiji, at times weak event can also have a significant impact.

La Niña events are associated with cooling of the central and eastern tropical Pacific. Usually La Niña results in wetter than normal conditions for Fiji, occasionally leading to flooding during the Warm/Wet Season (November to April).

During **Neutral** condition, neither El Niño nor La Niña is present, it has little effect on global climate, meaning other climate influences are more likely to dominate.

Lag effects – means that there is a delay in a change of some aspect of climate due to influence of other factors that is acting slowly.

Climate bulletins that can be viewed together with this bulletin include:

1) *Fiji Climate Summary at https://www.met.gov.fj/index.php?page=FijiClimateSummary (issued monthly)*
2) *Fiji Climate Outlook at https://www.met.gov.fj/index.php?page=ClimateOutlook* **(***issued monthly)*

This information is prepared as soon as ENSO, climate and oceanographic data is received from recording stations around Fiji and Meteorological Agencies around the world. While every effort is made to verify observational data, Fiji Meteorological Service does not guarantee the accuracy and reliability of the analyses presented, and accepts no liability for any losses incurred through the use of this information and its contents. The information may be freely disseminated provided the source is acknowledged. For further clarification and expert advice, please contact the Fiji Meteorological Service HQ, Namaka, Nadi.

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