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Climate Outlook for Hydro-electricity Generation from September to November 2026

ISO 9001:2015
certified Climate Services

Current Conditions

Fiji's Climate

From 1st to 27th August, a few troughs of low pressure affected the country, bringing periods of cloud, showers and rain. During mid-month, a trough brought wetter conditions to parts of Viti Levu and Yasawa. Otherwise, showers generally affected the eastern and windward parts of the country, while finer conditions were experienced elsewhere, with cool nights reported at times.

Of the 21 stations that reported in during the preparation of this bulletin, 8 stations reported *well below average* rainfall, 6 *below normal*, 6 *normal* and 1 *below average* rainfall.

Monasavu's total monthly rainfall, until 27th August, was 318mm, which is in the *above average* category (130% of *normal*) when compared against the WMO standard 30-year normal.

The total 3 monthly rainfall recorded during June to 27th August 2026 period was 809mm, which is in the *normal* category (120% of *normal*), while rainfall recorded during the past 6 months (March to 27th August) is also classified as *normal*, at 2282mm

(116% of the *normal*) (Figure 1).

El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Status

El Niño continues to persist within the tropical Pacific Ocean, with more global climate models favor the event to continue to strengthen in the coming months. For Fiji, El Niño events are typically associated with drier than normal conditions.

Above average sea surface temperatures (SSTs) persist across the central and eastern Pacific, while *near normal* to *below average* SSTs remain in the western Pacific.

Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) latest 30-day average until 25th August, was -17.8, which is within El Niño thresholds.

Below average trade winds were observed across the western and central Pacific Ocean. Cloudiness was *above average* along the equator near the Date Line to the eastern Pacific.

Atmospheric and oceanic conditions continue to indicate the presence of an ongoing El Niño event.

El Niño-Southern Oscillation and Monasavu Climate Predictions

El-Niño Southern Oscillation Prediction

Most recently surveyed global climate models favor El Niño to reach strong to very strong intensity and persist through into early 2027.

Minimum & Maximum Air Temperature Predictions - September & September to November 2026

During September, cool day-time temperatures are likely across Viti Levu and Vanua Levu. For September to November 2026 period, day-time temperatures are likely to be *near normal* in the western half of Viti Levu and *below normal* across Vanua Levu. Night-time temperatures are likely to be *below normal* across Viti Levu and Vanua Levu for September and September to November 2026 period (Figure 4 and 5).

Rainfall Predictions:

Fortnightly: 30th August – 12th September & 6th – 19th September

Drier conditions are likely over Viti Levu during 30th August to 12th September, as well as from 6th to 19th September.

September 2026

There is 75% chance of receiving at least 24mm of rainfall at Nadarivatu station, 75% chance of at least 27mm of rainfall at Nadarivatu and Monasavu Dams and 75% chance of receiving at least 32mm of rainfall at Wailoa. There is *low* confidence in this forecast (Table 1).

September to November 2026

During the September to November 2026 period, there is 75% chance of receiving at least 230mm of rainfall at Nadarivatu station and 75% chance of receiving around 241mm of rainfall at Nadarivatu and Monasavu Dams and 75% chance of receiving at least 247mm of rainfall at Wailoa. There is *moderate* confidence in the seasonal outlook (Table 1).

Summary

Overall, drier conditions are favored for September, as well as for the September to November 2026 period. Confidence is low for September and moderate for September to November 2026. Fiji often experiences suppressed rainfall during an onset of El Niño event.

Figure 1

Monthly Rainfall Distribution at Monasavu until 27 August 2026

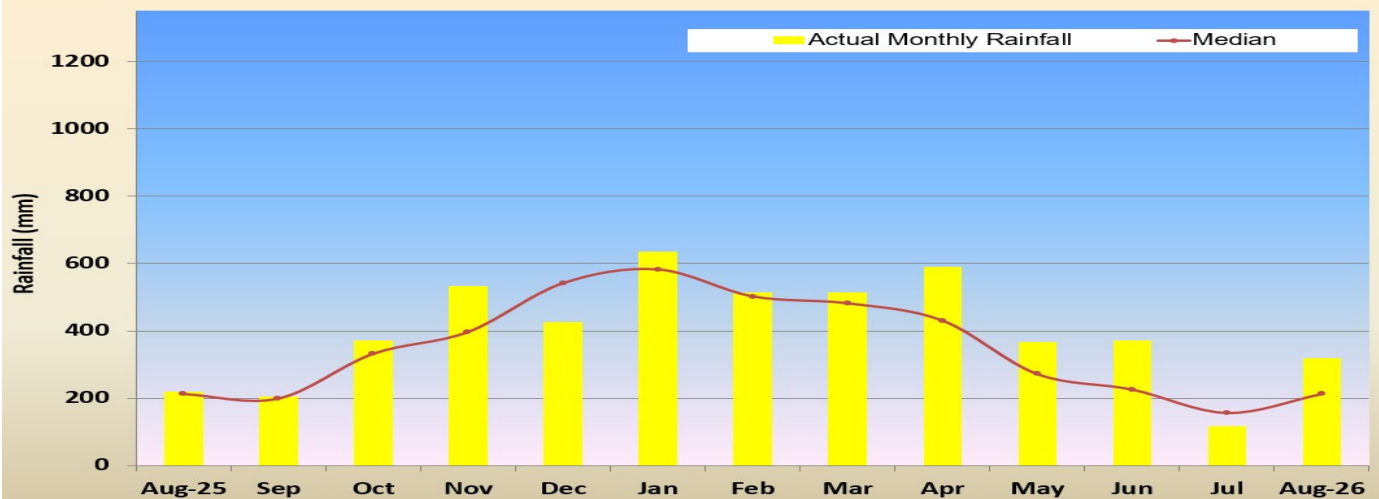


Table 1: Rainfall Outlook: September & September to November 2026

September Outlook				
	25% chance of at least (mm)	50% chance of at least (mm)	75% chance of at least (mm)	Forecast Confidence
Nadarivatu station	108	52	24	Low
Nadarivatu Dam	114	55	27	Low
Monasavu Dam	114	55	27	Low
Wailoa	121	61	32	Low
September to November 2026 Outlook				
	25% chance of at least (mm)	50% chance of at least (mm)	75% chance of at least (mm)	Forecast Confidence
Nadarivatu station	286	241	230	Moderate
Nadarivatu Dam	298	253	241	Moderate
Monasavu Dam	298	253	241	Moderate
Wailoa	326	263	247	Moderate

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

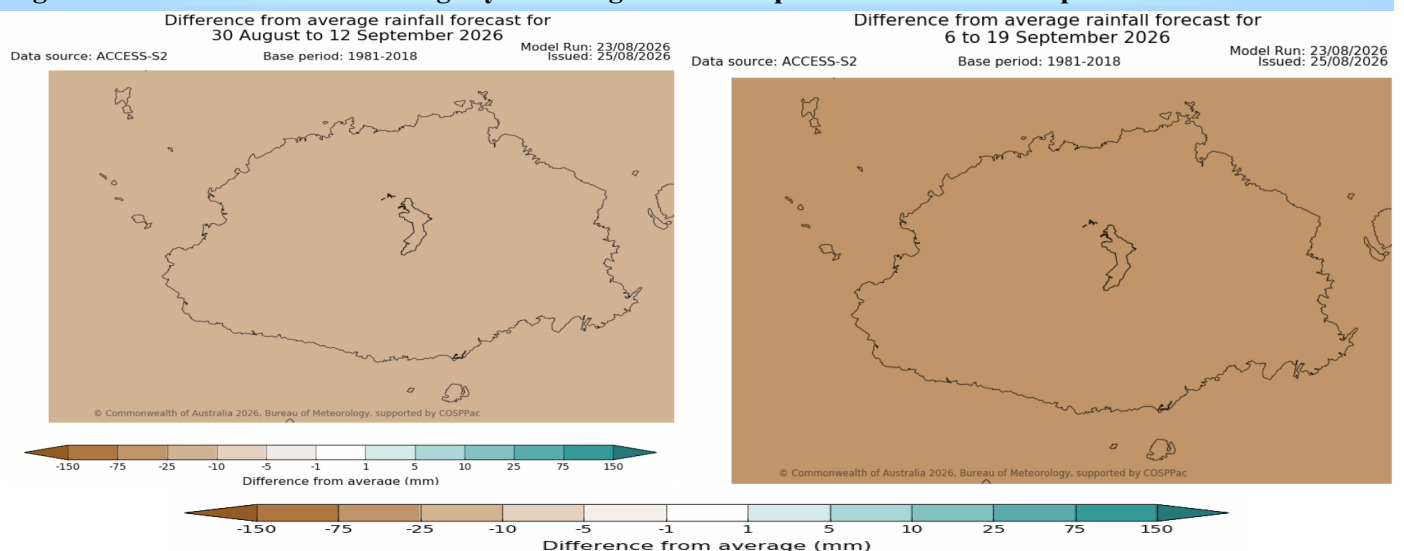
Figure 2: Rainfall Outlook: Fortnightly: 30th August – 12th September & 6th – 19th September

Figure 3: Rainfall Outlook: September & September to November 2026

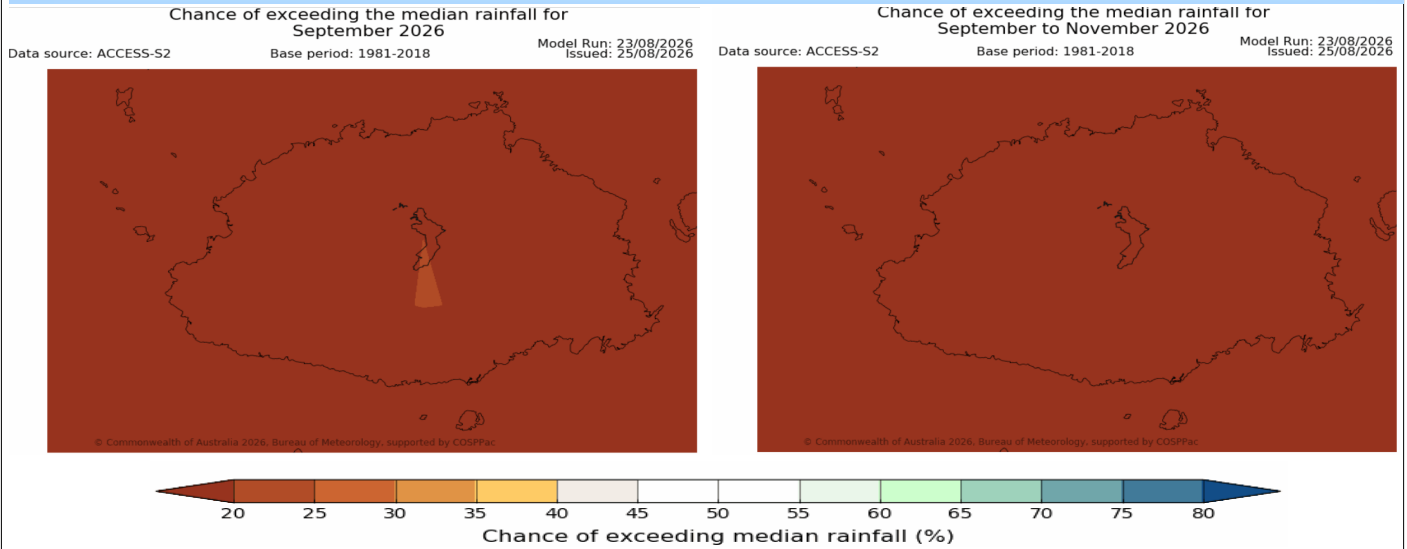
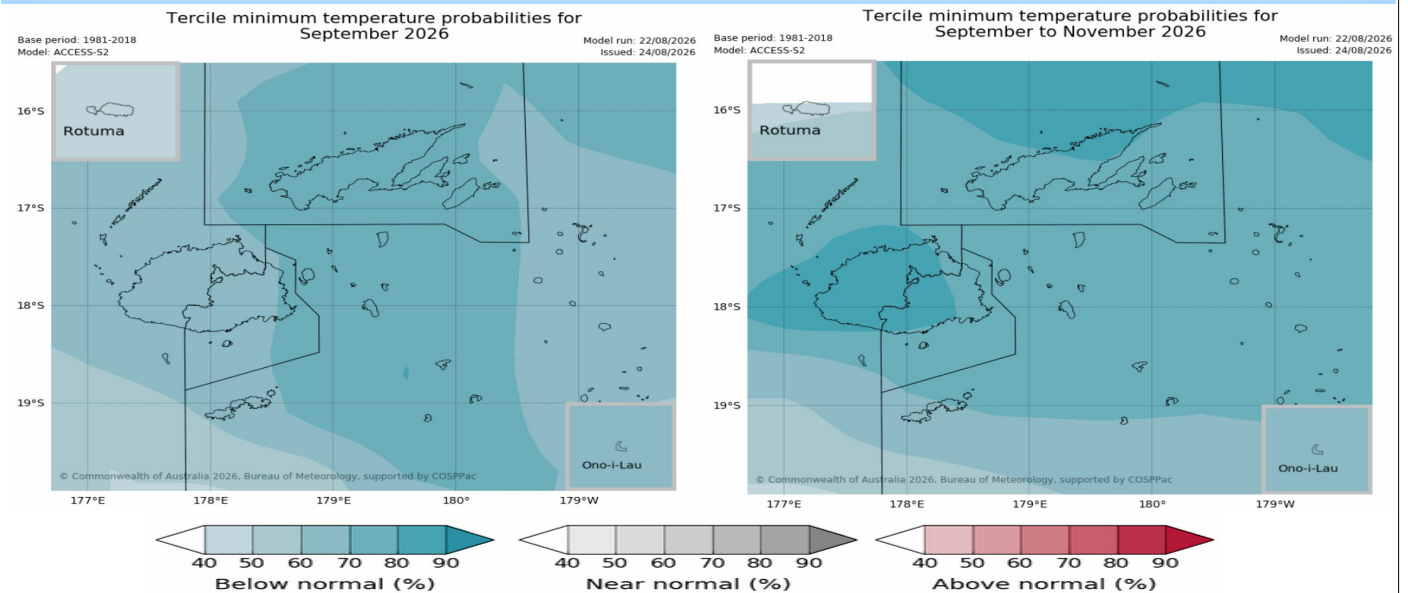
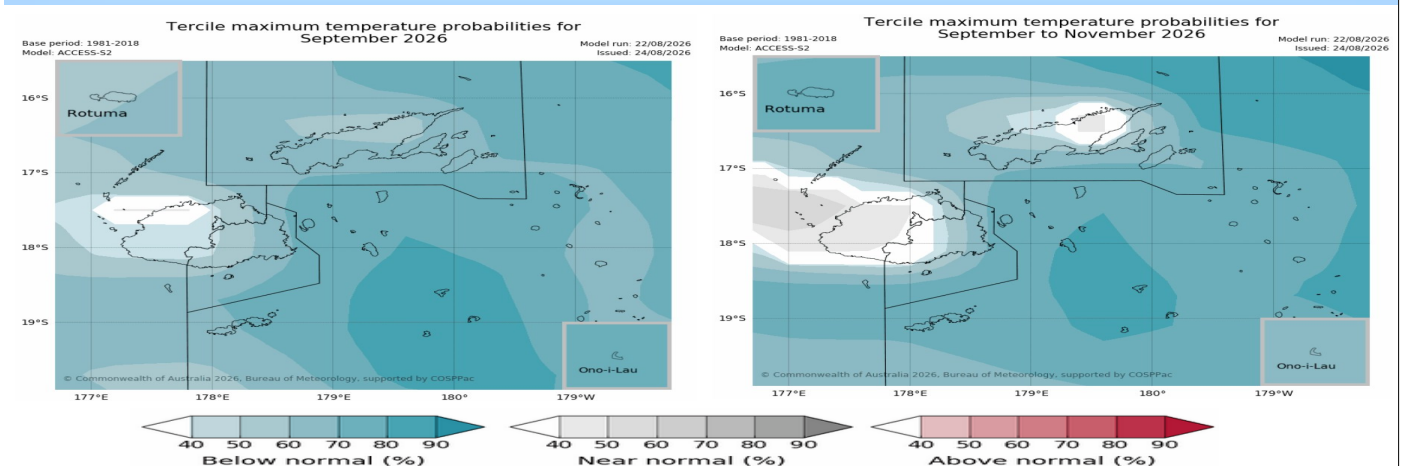


Figure 4: Minimum Air Temperature Predictions: September & September to November 2026



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

Figure 5: Maximum Air Temperature Predictions: September & September to November 2026



Maximum air temperatures are likely to be *below normal* across Viti Levu and Vanua Levu during September, while *near normal* temperatures are likely for western half of Viti Levu from September to November 2026 period. *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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