ISSUED: April 30, 2026
NEXT ISSUE: May 29, 2026
VOLUME 20: ISSUE 5

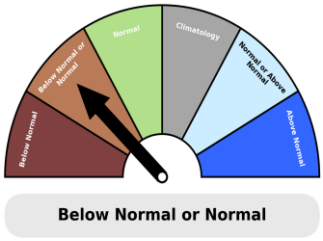
FIJI METEOROLOGICAL AND HYDROLOGICAL SERVICES

FIJI CLIMATE OUTLOOK

MAY 2026;
MAY TO JULY 2026;
AUGUST TO OCTOBER 2026

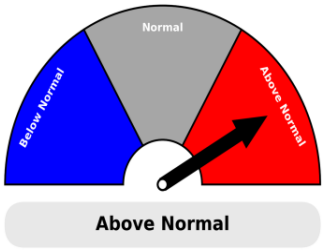
Fiji Meteorological Service

HIGHLIGHTS

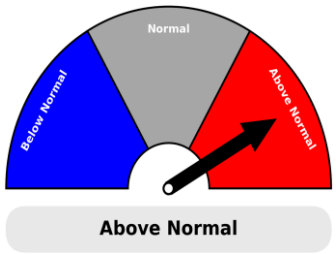


Rainfall Outlook

ENSO Outlook



Max Temperature Outlook

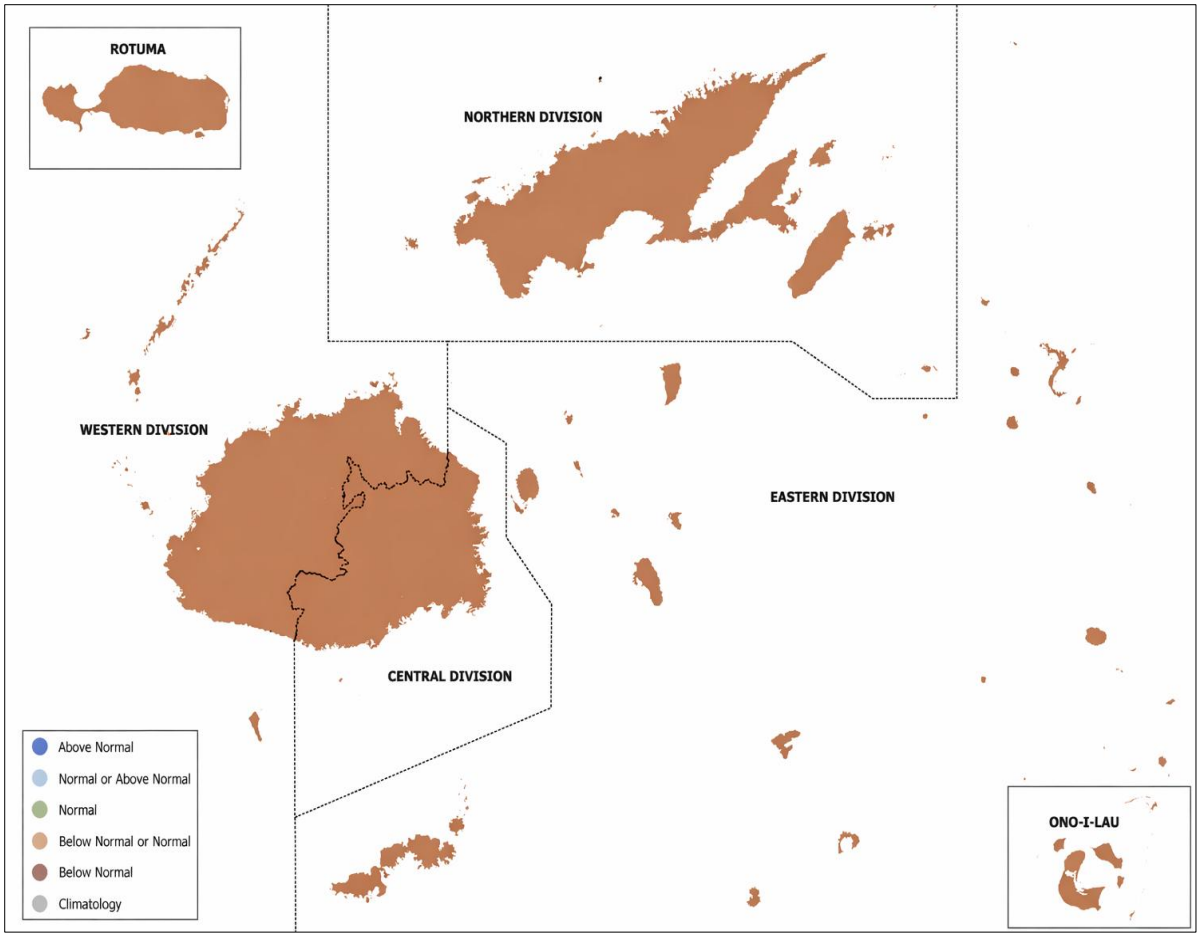


Min Temperature Outlook

- The tropical Pacific Ocean is currently under an El Niño Watch, meaning El Niño is likely to develop in the coming months.
- Most global climate models indicate that El Niño conditions are likely to develop during the May to July 2026 period.
- In May, rainfall across the Fiji Group is likely to be *normal* or *below normal*, across the Fiji Group.
- For temperatures, both maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be *above normal* across the Fiji Group during May.
- During May to July period, *normal* or *below normal rainfall is likely across the Fiji Group,.*
- On temperatures for the May to July 2026 period, both maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be *above normal* across the Fiji Group.
- For the August to October 2026 period, *normal* or *below normal* rainfall is likely across the Fiji Group, including Rotuma.
- The 2025-26 tropical cyclone season ends at the end of April. However, out of season tropical cyclones cannot be ruled out.
- In Fiji, during El Niño conditions, rainfall is usually below normal, especially in the dry season, although local weather systems can still cause some variation.

RAINFALL OUTLOOK

MAY 2026



Western Division: *Normal or below normal rainfall*

Central Division: *Normal or below normal rainfall*

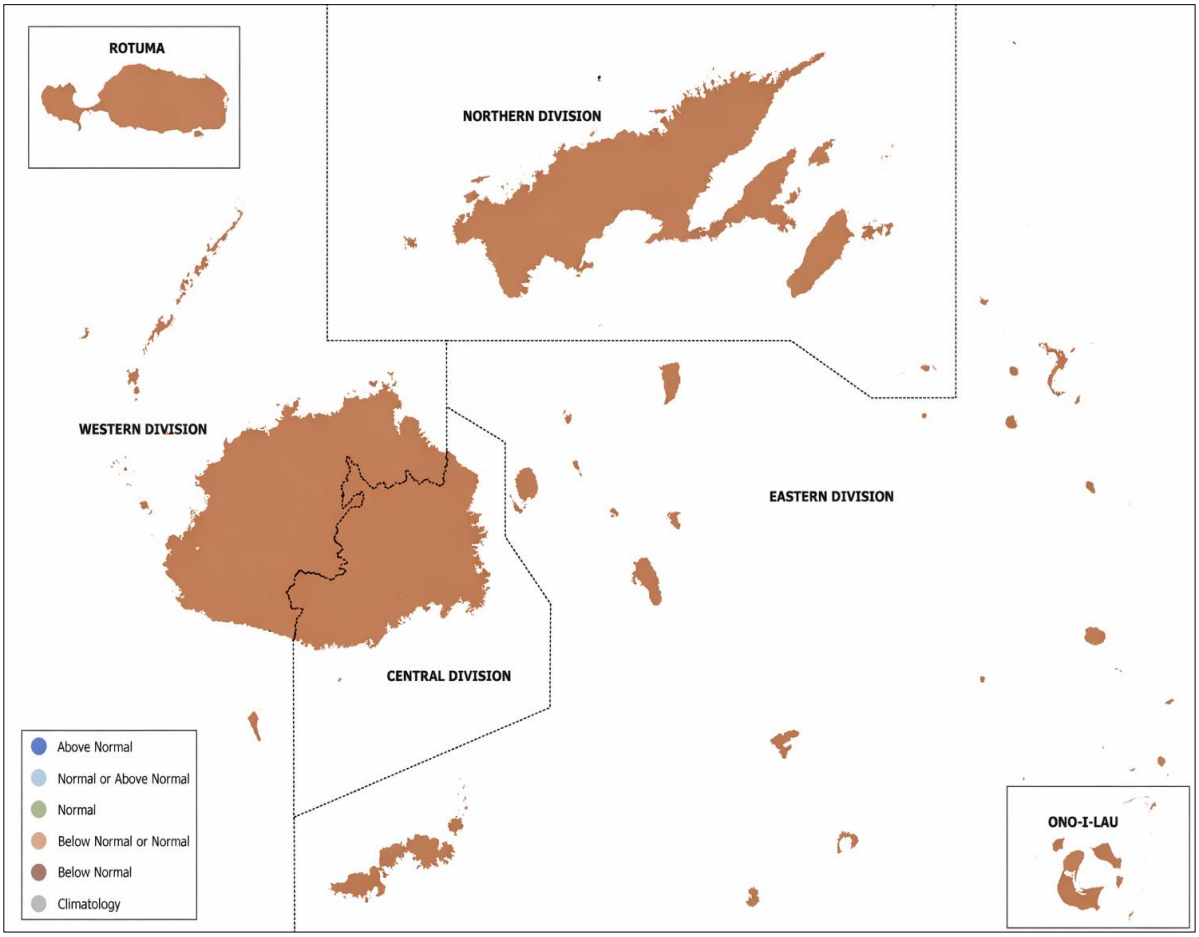
Northern Division: *Normal or below normal rainfall*

Eastern Division: *Normal or below normal rainfall*

Rotuma: *Normal or below normal rainfall*

RAINFALL OUTLOOK

MAY TO JULY 2026



Western Division: *Normal or below normal rainfall*

Central Division: *Normal or below normal rainfall*

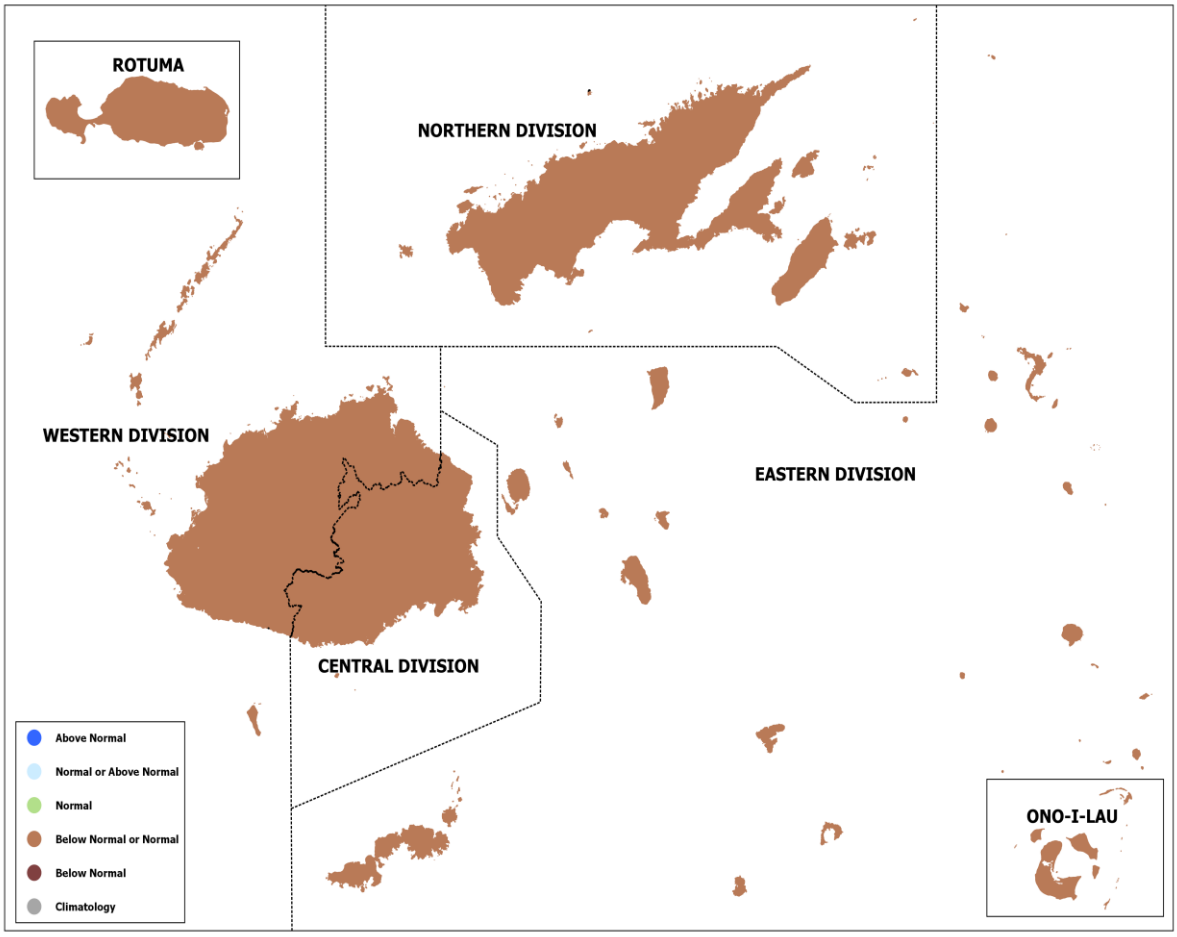
Northern Division: *Normal or below normal rainfall*

Eastern Division: *Normal or below normal rainfall*

Rotuma: *Normal or below normal rainfall*

RAINFALL OUTLOOK

AUGUST TO OCTOBER 2026



Western Division: *Normal or below normal rainfall*

Central Division: *Normal or below normal rainfall*

Northern Division: *Normal or below normal rainfall*

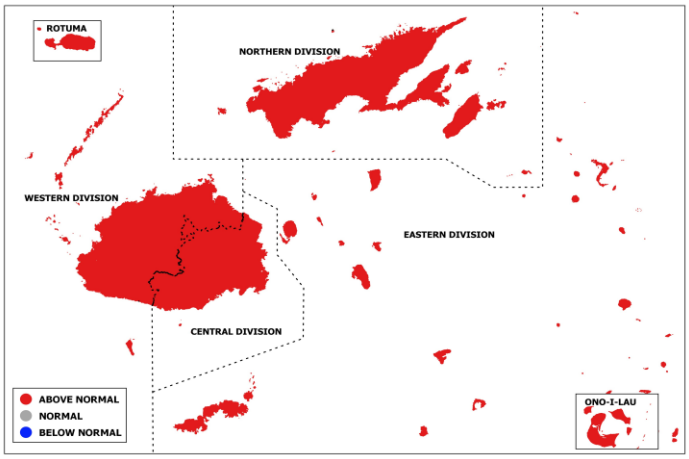
Eastern Division: *Normal or below normal rainfall*

Rotuma: *Normal or below normal rainfall*

AIR TEMPERATURE

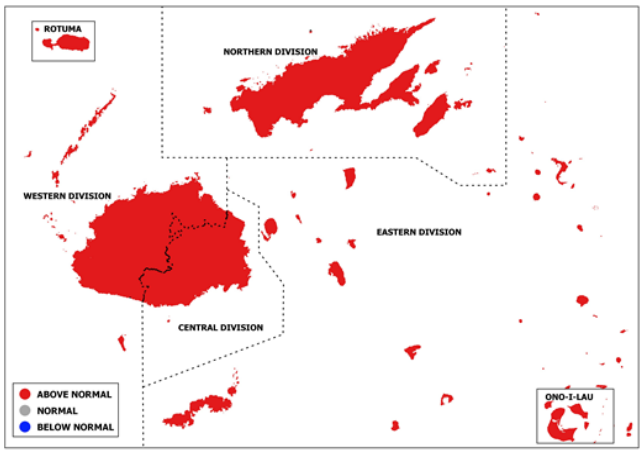
MAY 2026

Maximum Temperature



Maximum temperature is likely to be *above normal* across the Fiji Group.

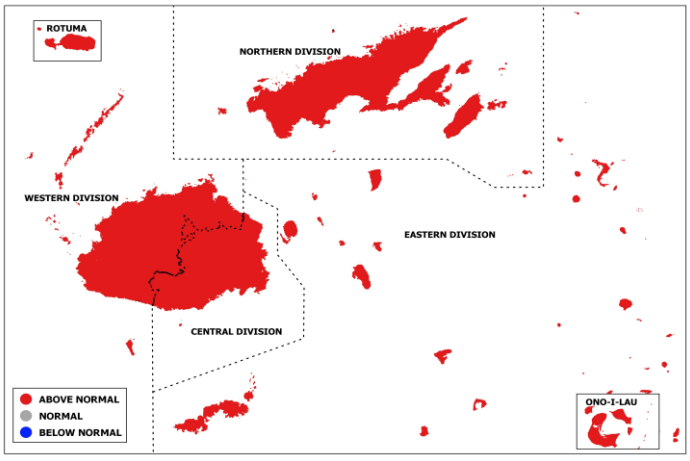
Minimum Temperature



Minimum temperature is likely to be *above normal* across the Fiji Group.

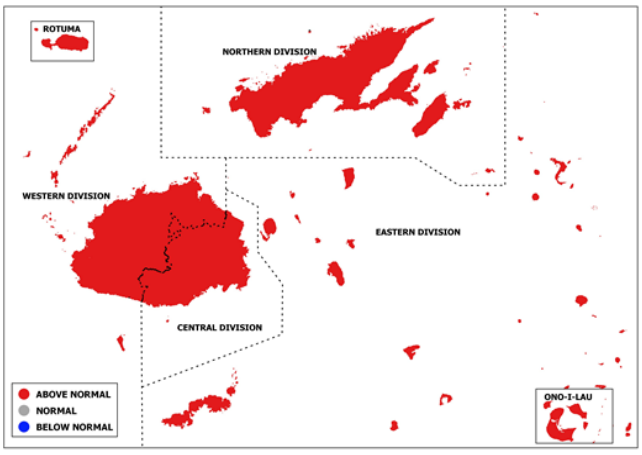
MAY TO JULY 2026

Maximum Temperature



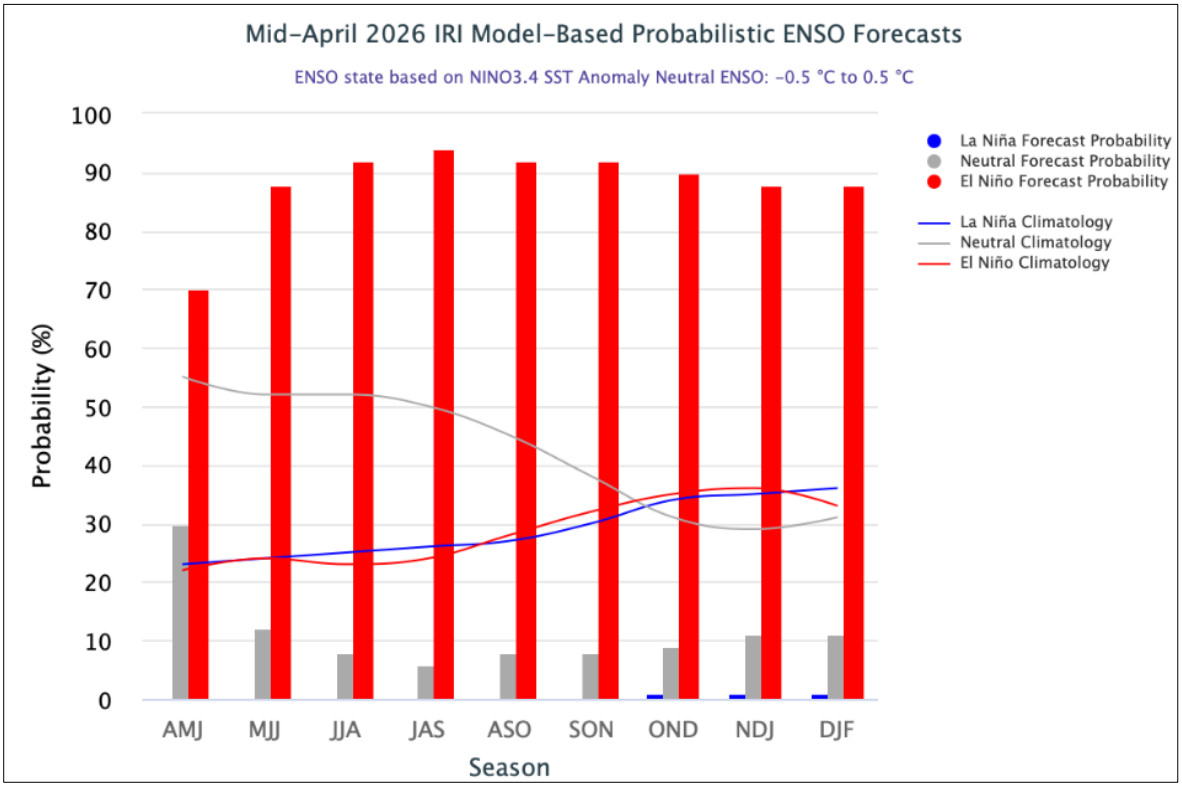
Maximum temperature is likely to be *above normal* across the Fiji Group.

Minimum Temperature



Minimum temperature is likely to be *above normal* across the Fiji Group.

EL-NIÑO SOUTHERN OSCILLATION (ENSO)



Source: International Research Institute for Climate and Society

The tropical Pacific Ocean is currently under an El Niño Watch, meaning El Niño is likely to develop in the coming months.

While oceanic indicators of the El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) are warming, atmospheric indicators, such as trade winds, pressure and cloud patterns in the tropical Pacific remain consistent with ENSO–neutral conditions.

Most global climate models models indicate that El Niño conditions are likely to develop during the May to July 2026 period.

There is an elevated possibility of an El Niño emerging from May to July 2026 period and persisting through at least the end of 2026.

In Fiji, El Niño conditions are generally associated with below normal rainfall.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

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 almost equal chances of receiving below normal, normal and above normal rainfall. Outlook does not favour one extreme; neither below normal nor above normal.

El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO)

ENSO is the principal driver of the year-to-year variability of Fiji's climate. There are two extreme phases of this phenomenon, ***El Niño*** and ***La Niña***.

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 during the period April to June, attains peak intensity between December to February and decays between 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).

When ENSO is neutral, that is, neither El Niño nor La Niña, 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

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