FIJI METEOROLOGICAL AND HYDROLOGICAL SERVICES

# Early Action Rainfall Watch (EAR Watch)

*The Early Action Rainfall Watch provides the Fiji National Disaster Risk Management Office and the Disaster Management Actors with a brief summary of recent rainfall patterns and the rainfall outlook for the coming months*.

**Issued: 12/11/2026**

## Rainfall Status until October 2026:

- On a 3-month timescale, **Seriously Dry** conditions exist in Vatulele,Yanuca, Kadavu, Ono, Lakeba and parts of southern Lau group. **Very Dry** conditions exist in Nacocolevu, Coral Coast, Navua, Suva, Nausori, Koronivia, Beqa, Batiki, Nairai, Matuku and parts of northern Lau Group, while there is **No Extreme** alert in place for the rest of the country.

- For the 6-month timescale, **Very Wet** conditions exist in northern parts of Kadavu, Matuku and Ono-i-Lau, while there is **No Extreme** alert in place for the rest of the country.

- On 12-month timescale, **Very Wet** conditions exist in Cikobia and Rabi, **Very Dry** conditions exist in Mamanuca Group, Lautoka, Nadi, Nacocolevu, Coral Coast, interior parts of Viti Levu, Monasavu, Dobuilevu, RKS Lodoni, Nausori, Koronivia, Suva, Navua, Ovalau, Batiki, Nairai, Wakaya, Gau and Moala, while there is **No Extreme** alert in place for the rest of the Fiji Group.

## Rainfall Outlook:

- For **15th to 28th November**, there is a **very high chance** of **Very Dry** conditions across the Fiji Group, except in parts of Kadavu and Moala, where there is a **high chance** of **Very Dry** conditions.

- During **November**, there is a **very high chance** of **Very Dry conditions** across the Fiji Group.

- For **November 2026 to January 2027**, there is a **very high chance** of **Very Dry conditions** across the Fiji Group.

**El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Status:** El Niño is currently underway.




## Time periods and Impacts on the ground

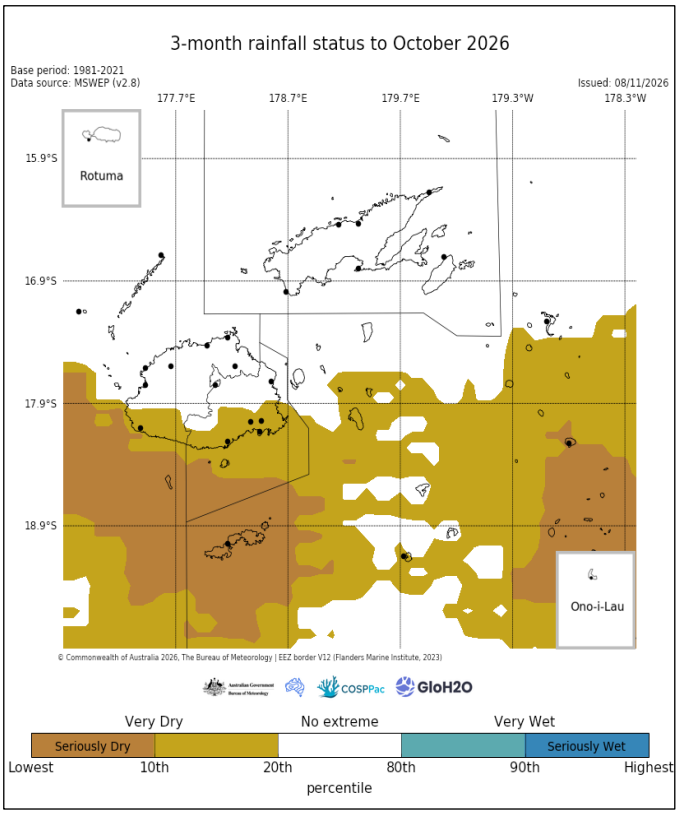
**3-months:** rainwater tanks, small streams, hand-dug wells, shallow bores, young sugarcane, traditional vegetables (e.g., bele), cabbage, beans, eggplant, okra, tomatoes, watermelon, rice, crops (yam, taro, cassava, pasture)

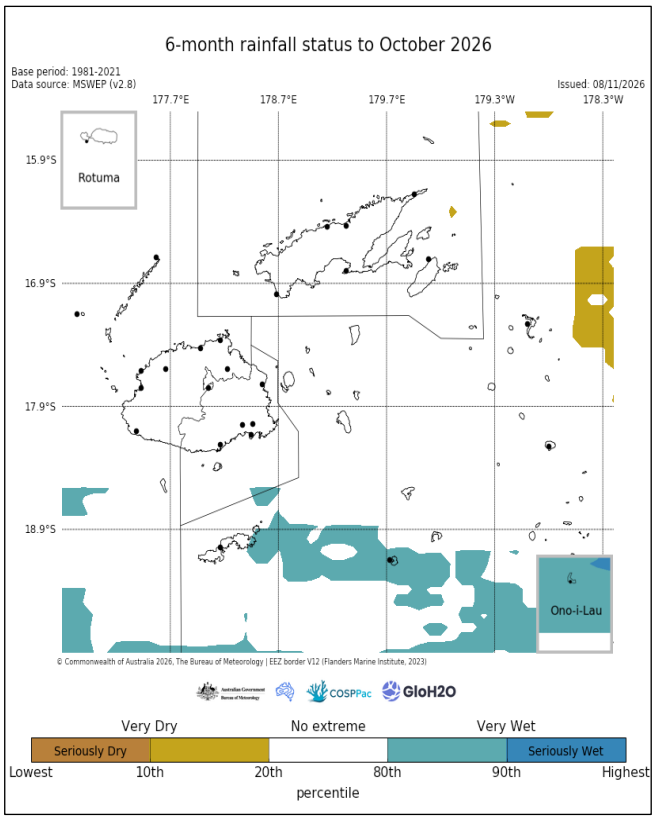
**6-months:** small rivers, bores, streams/rivers, mature sugarcane, kumala, uvi, hybrid dalo, corn, pineapple, pawpaw, dalo (vuci), tapi, kumala (carrot variety)

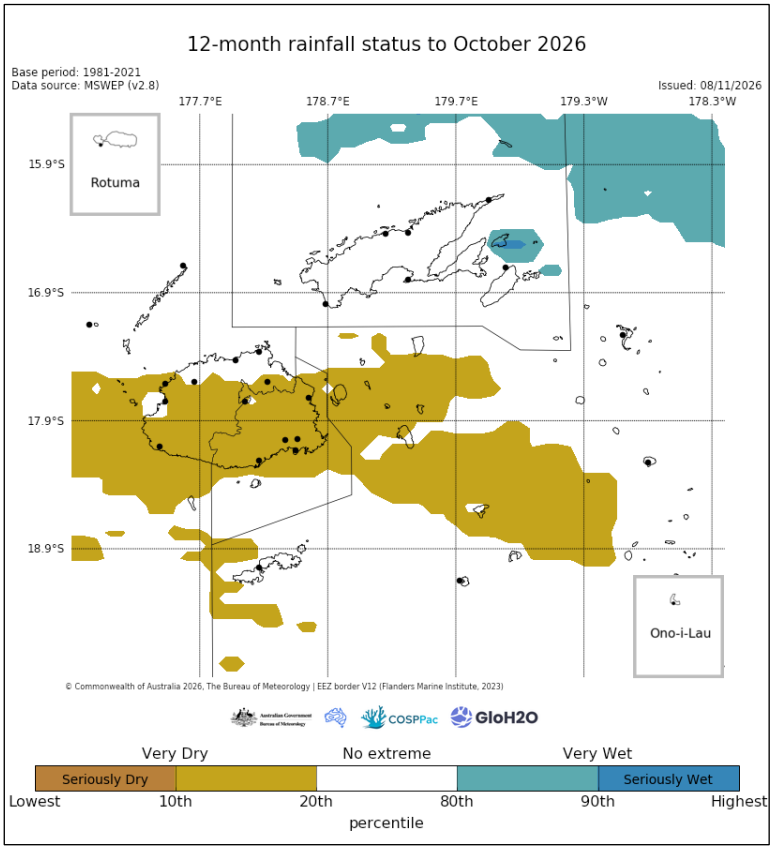
**12-months:** deep bores/large aquifer system, reservoirs, dams, rivers, tapi, coconuts, breadfruit, mango, kava, banana, vudi, fruit trees (e.g., noni, lemon, orange).

*Note: Allow for uncertainty associated with island size, topography, geology and soil type*.

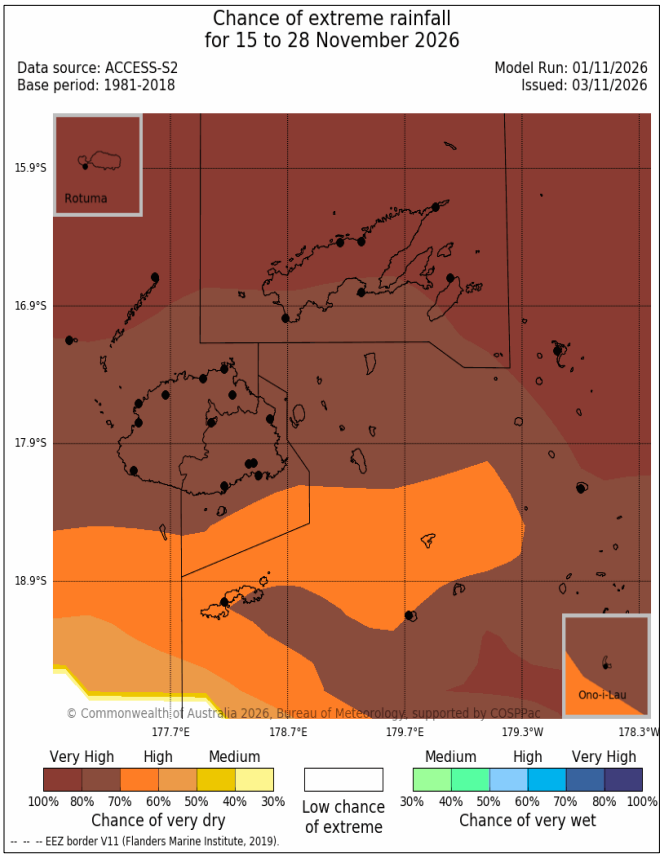
# Rainfall monitoring for the last 3-months, 6-months and 12-months

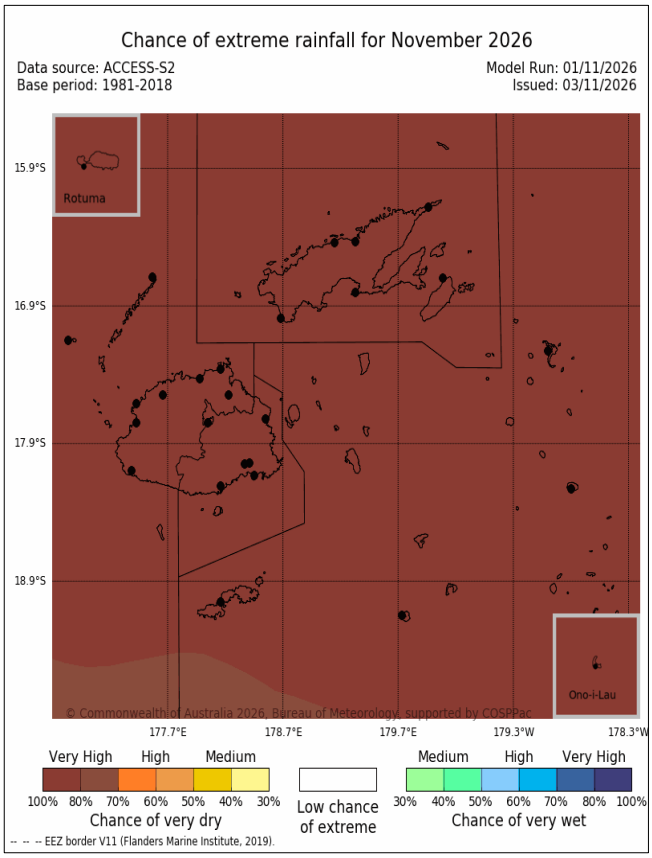


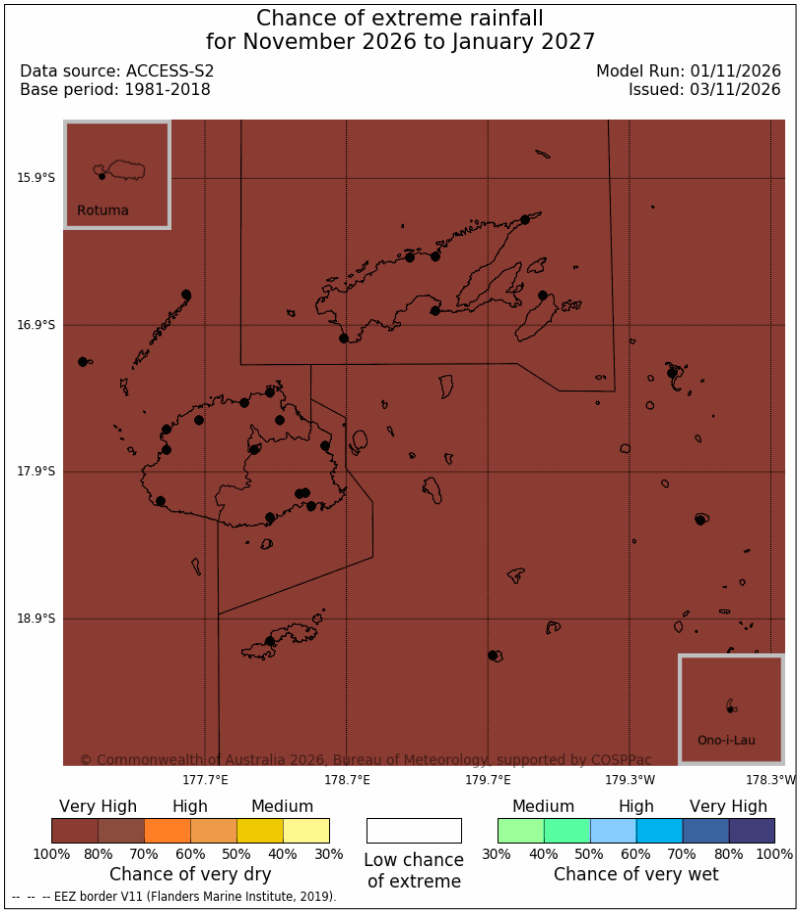



# Rainfall Outlooks for 15 – 28 November, November and November 2025 to January 2027



## Information on the Maps

## Rainfall Monitoring maps

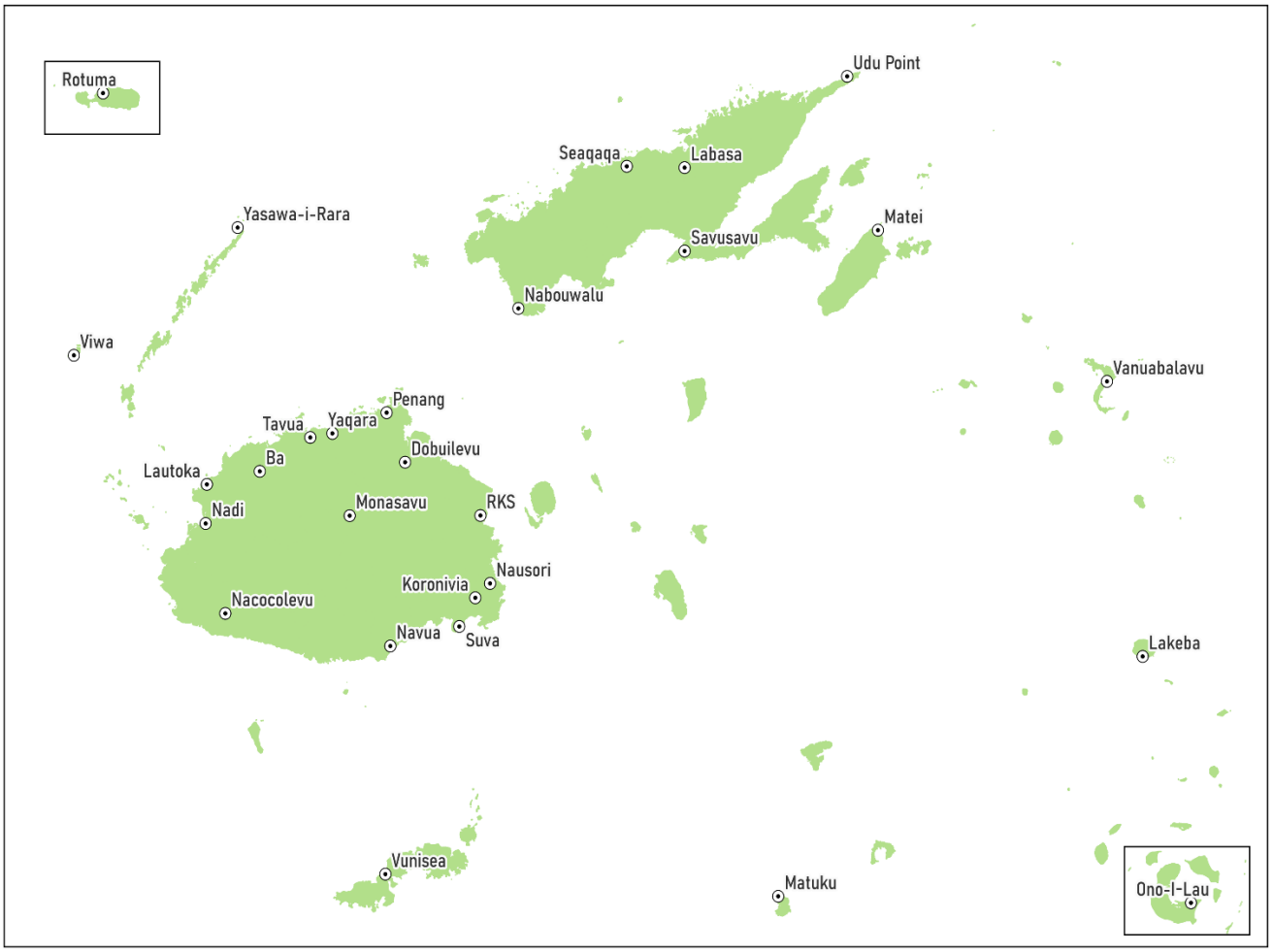
Fiji's rainfall status is assessed using the MSWEP dataset available via http://www.gloh2o.org/mswep/. MSWEP is a global precipitation dataset at 0.1° resolution, available from 1979 that combines data from rain gauges, satellite observations and reanalysis. The data is processed and presented in Percentile Index form by the Australian and New Zealand DFAT Climate and Ocean Support Program in the Pacific. 'No Alert' is assigned where rainfall was between the 20$^{th}$ and 80$^{th}$ percentile for the period in question.

## Forecast for Extreme Rainfall maps

The chance of extremes outlook maps present the likelihood of very wet or very dry conditions. They are displayed by the chance that the outlook will result in rainfall or temperature in the top or bottom 20% of historical observations for the selected outlook period. Where there is white shading it is less likely there will be either very wet or very dry conditions, rainfall is likely to be close to normal in this case. An alert 3 for very dry (very wet) conditions is associated with a very high probability of rainfall being in the lowest (highest) 20% on record. An alert 1 for very dry (very wet) conditions is associated with a moderate/medium chance of rainfall being in the lowest (highest) 20% on record. Confidence in the forecast is greatest for alert 3.

The outlooks have been produced using the Australian Bureau of Meteorology ACCESS-S2 model http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/ahead/about/model/access.shtml.

## Fiji Reference Map




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