

# Meteorological Service

Volume: 21 Issue: 11 Issued: October 31, 2025 Climate Outlook for Hydro-electricity Generation from November 2025 to January 2026

#### **Current Conditions**

### Fiji's Climate

Fine weather conditions prevailed over most places in Fiji, with occasional afternoon showers experienced in some areas, providing brief relief from the prevailing dry conditions. Daytime conditions were generally humid, while the interior areas experienced cooler nights and the coastal regions encountered windy conditions.

During the compilation of the bulletin, out of the 20 stations that reported in, 8 stations reported well below average rainfall, 8 below average and 4 stations recorded average rainfall.

Monasavu's total monthly rainfall (until 29th October), was 353mm, which is in the below average category (85% of *normal*) when compared against the WMO standard 30-year normal.

The total 3 monthly rainfall recorded during August -29<sup>th</sup> October 2025 period, was 778.0mm, which was in the *normal* category (82% of normal), while

1822.6mm (107% of the *normal*) of rainfall was recorded during the past 6 months (May to 29<sup>th</sup> October), at the station (Figure 1).

## El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Status

ENSO neutral phase continuous to persist, with a lean towards La Niña. Hence, a 'La Niña Watch' is in place.

Equatorial sea surface temperatures (SSTs) are currently below average in the central and far eastern Pacific, and above average in the Western Pacific.

The Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) for September 2025 was +0.2, with the 5-month running mean of 2.6.

Above average trade winds have been present in the central Pacific, while below average trade winds were present in the western Pacific Ocean. Cloudiness have been below average.

#### El Niño-Southern Oscillation and Monasayu Climate Predictions

#### **El-Niño Southern Oscillation Prediction**

Recently surveyed global climate models show a leaning towards La Niña in the coming months, however, there is a strong chance of neutral conditions dominating from January onwards.

#### Maximum Air **Temperature** Predictions - November & November 2025 to <u>January 2026:</u>

Day and night time temperatures are both likely to be above normal across Viti Levu and Vanua Levu during November, as well as the November 2025 to January 2026 period (Figure 4 and 5).

**Rainfall Predictions:**Fortnightly:  $2^{nd} - 15^{th}$  November &  $9^{th} - 22^{nd}$ November

Rainfall in Viti Levu is likely to be above median during the above period.

#### November 2025

There is 75% chance of receiving at least 225mm of rainfall at Nadarivatu station, 75% chance of at least

240mm of rainfall at the Nadarivatu and Monasavu Dams and 75% chance of receiving at least 253mm of rainfall at Wailoa. The confidence in this forecast is moderate (Table 1).

#### November 2025 to January 2026

For the November 2025 to January 2026 period, there is 75% chance of receiving around 1148mm of rainfall at Nadarivatu station, 75% chance of receiving around 1207mm of rainfall at Nadarivatu and Monasavu Dams and 75% chance of receiving around 1173mm at Wailoa. There is *very high* confidence in the generated outlook (Table 1).

#### **Summary**

There are very high chances of rainfall to be experienced during November, as well as the November 2025 to January 2026 period. Skill confidence is *moderate* for November, while there is very high confidence for the November 2025 to January 2026 outlook.

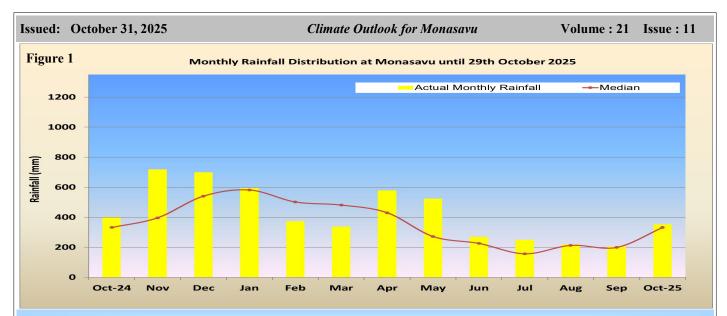


Table 1: Rainfall Outlook: November 2025 & November 2025 to January 2026

November Outlook				
	25% chance of at least (mm)	50% chance of at least (mm)	75% chance of at least (mm)	Forecast Confidence
Nadarivatu station	470	340	225	Moderate
Nadarivatu Dam	481	361	240	Moderate
Monasavu Dam	481	361	240	Moderate
Wailoa	480	372	253	Moderate
November to January 2026 Outlook				
	25% chance of at least (mm)	50% chance of at least (mm)	75% chance of at least (mm)	Forecast Confidence
Nadarivatu station	1727	1353	1148	Very High
Nadarivatu Dam	1782	1461	1207	Very High
Monasavu Dam	1782	1461	1207	Very High
Wailoa	1744	1405	1173	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: 2<sup>nd</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> November & 9<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> November

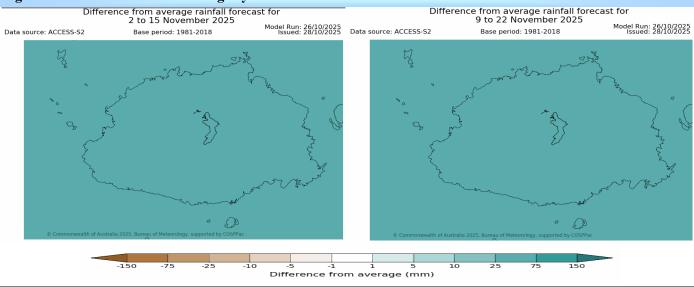


Figure 3: Rainfall Outlook: November & November 2025 to January 2026

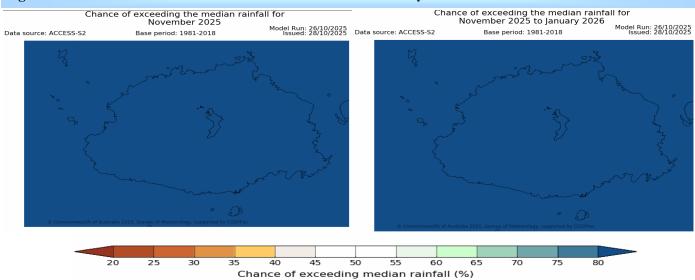
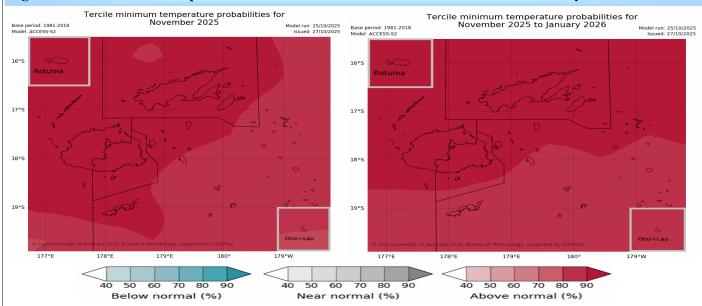
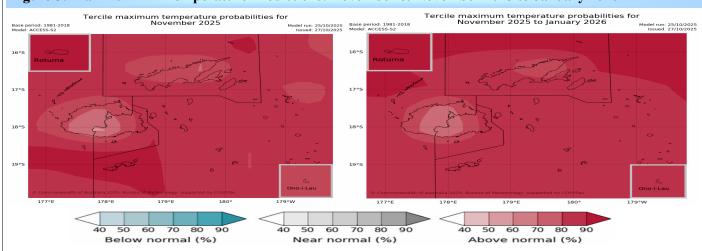


Figure 4: Minimum Air Temperature Predictions: November & November 2025 to January 2026



Minimum air temperatures are expected to be *above normal* across Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, during November and November 2025 to January 2026 period. *Source: ACCESS-S2 Model*.

Figure 5: Maximum Air Temperature Predictions: November & November 2025 to January 2026



Maximum air temperatures are likely to be *above normal* across Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, during November and November 2025 to January 2026 period. *Source: ACCESS-S2 Model*.

### **Explanatory Notes**

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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)

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