



Climate Outlook 2023



October to December

Issued: 15 September 2023

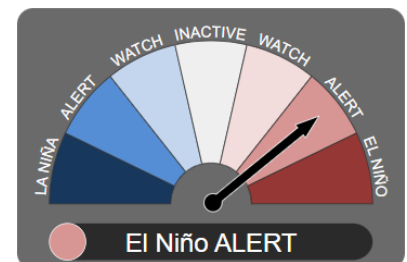
Recent Observations

August 2023

- Above average rainfall received over the Niuafo'u, Vava'u and Ha'apai. (see table below)
- Below average rainfall over Tongatapu during August.
- The mean air temperature was 22.6°C which was 0.9°C cooler than average.
- Lowest minimum temperature was 12.5°C recorded on the 30th at Hango, 'Eua.

Rainfall totals from last 6 months, March – August 2023 (mm)						
	March	April	May	June	July	August
Niuafo'u	328.0	259.6	362.0	153.8	232.2	153.2
Niuaotuputu	369.5	102.5	644.4	167.5	106.0	169.0
Vava'u	295.7	101.0	357.6	103	130.0	307.6
Ha'apai	221.6	110.6	338.8	113.5	99.5	109.8
Fua'amotu	295.5	296.7	75.5	86.8	60.9	77.4
Nuku'alofa	304.0	198.5	119.5	89.5	56.5	72.5
'Eua	380.5	281.5	142.8	66.2	49.6	110.0

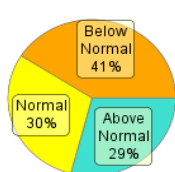
ENSO Update



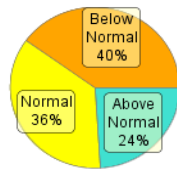
El Niño Alert continues, with El Niño development likely during September to December period. When El Niño Alert criteria have been met in the past, an El Niño event has developed around 70% of the time.

Sea surface temperatures (SSTs) in the tropical Pacific are exceeding El Niño thresholds, with climate models indicating this is likely to continue at least through to early 2024.

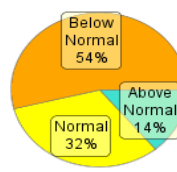
Rainfall Outlook for October to December 2023



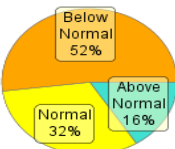
Niuafo'u:
603mm to 855mm



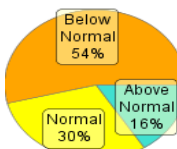
Niuaotuputu:
535 mm to 746 mm



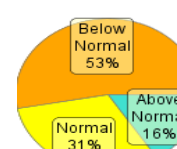
Vava'u:
383 mm to 618 mm



Ha'apai:
257mm to 441mm



Fua'amotu:
309mm to 445mm



Nuku'alofa:
294mm to 419mm

Rainfall Outlook: October—December 2023

	Rainfall Outlook	Probability % Below normal mm	Probability % Normal mm	Probability % Above normal mm
Niuafo'u	Below normal	41% (< 603)	30% (603 - 855)	29% (>855)
Niuaotuputu	Below normal	40% (<535)	36% (535 - 746)	24% (> 746)
Vava'u	Below normal	54% (<383)	32% (383 - 618)	14% (>618)
Ha'apai	Below normal	52% (<257)	32% (257 - 441)	16% (>441)
'Eua	Below normal	54% (<309)	30% (309 - 445)	16% (>445)
Tongatapu	Below normal	53% (<294)	31% (294 - 419)	16% (>419)
		Below average	Average (usual)	Above average

The next Climate update will be issued second week of October 2023 or earlier

Disclaimer:

This summary is prepared as soon as possible following the end of the month, once climate data is received from recording stations around Tonga. Delays in data collection, communication and processing occasionally arise. While every effort is made to verify observational data, the Tonga Meteorological Service makes no statements, representations, or warranties about the accuracy or completeness of, and you should not rely on, any information contained in this report. Despite our best efforts, TMS makes no warranties that the information in this publication is free of numerical errors. TMS disclaims all responsibility and all liability (including without limitation, liability in negligence) for all expenses, losses, damages and costs you might incur as a result of the information being inaccurate or incomplete in any way, and for any reason. This information should be used as a guidance only. For further information about this forecast should be directed to the Director of the Tonga Meteorological Service, at P.O. Box 1380, Nuku'alofa. Or email at metstaff@mef.gov.to Tel: (676) 0800638/ 7400062 or our website: <http://www.mef.gov.to> for more information.