



TONGA METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE

Monthly Climate Summary



January 2019 Climate Summary:

Issued: 14 February 2019

January 2019 Climate in brief.

Enhanced rainfall continue across the country in January especially to Ha'apai through to the Niuas. Extremely high rainfall recorded in Vava'u which was the second highest since its record started in 1947. (Refer to Graph below and table to the right). The mean temperature was 27.0°C which was 0.1°C higher than average. Highest maximum temperature was 32.5°C on the 18th in Nuku'alofa and the lowest minimum temperature was 19.0°C in Vava'u on the 30th.

Table 1. Near-record or record high or low annual average temperature departures for January 2019.

Station	Mean air Temperature °C	Departure from normal °C	Year records began
Mean temperature			
Niuafóú	27.1	-0.2	1971
Niutopotapu	28.6	+0.8	1958
Vava'u	26.1	-0.7	1949
Ha'apai	26.7	-0.2	1961
Fua'amotu	26.7	+0.7	1980
Nuku'alofa	26.8	+0.3	1949
Mean maximum temperature			
Niuafóú	30.1	-0.4	1971
Niutopotapu	30.6	-0.4	1949
Vava'u	29.0	-1.1	1956
Ha'apai	28.9	-0.7	1962
Fua'amotu	29.5	-0.3	1980
Nuku'alofa	29.8	+0.2	1949
Mean minimum temperature			
Niuafóú	24.1	+0.1	1971
Niutopotapu	26.5	+2.0	1950
Vava'u	23.1	-0.3	1953
Ha'apai	24.6	+0.4	1961
Fua'amotu	23.8	+1.1	1980
Nuku'alofa	23.8	+0.4	1945

Table 2. Near-record or record high or low annual temperature extremes for January 2019

Stations	Temperature °C	Date of occurrence	Year records began	Comments, ranks
Highest extreme maximum temperatures				
Niuafoóu	32.0	12 th	1971	22/45
Niuaatoputapu	32.2	22 nd	1958	17/55
Vava'u	31.2	19 th	1957	37/66
Ha'apai	31.4	18 th	1961	37/55
Fua'amotu	32.2	18 th	1980	10 th highest
Nuku'alofa	32.5	18 th	1949	6 th highest
Lowest extreme minimum temperatures				
Niuafoóu	22.9	11 th	1971	8 th highest
Niuaatoputapu	25.5	6 th	1958	Highest
Vava'u	19.0	30 th	1957	8 th lowest
Ha'apai	22.0	6 th	1961	32/56
Fua'amotu	21.5	27 th	1980	6 th highest
Nuku'alofa	21.6	31 st	1949	8 th highest

Table 3: Record of rainfall totals for January 2019

Stations	Rainfall total (mm)	Percentage of normal %	Year records began	Rank & Comments
High records or near-records				
Niuafoóu	578.0	199	1971	6 th highest
Niuaatoputapu	399.1	151	1947	58/72
Vava'u	800.2	327	1947	2 nd highest
Ha'apai	461.2	261	1947	5 th highest
Fua'amotu	228.4	106	1980	5 th Highest
Nuku'alofa	203.9	111	1945	32/75

Table 4: Record or near-record high extreme 1-day rainfall totals that occurred in January 2019.

Stations	1-day extreme rainfall (mm)	Date	Year records began	Ranks and Comments
High records or near-records				
Niuafoóu	106.2	25 th	1971	7 th highest
Niuaatoputapu	64.3	2 nd	1950	32/63
Vava'u	227.8	5 th	1995	2 nd highest
Ha'apai	99.8	1 st	1953	12 th highest
Fua'amotu	35.0	18 th	1981	23/36
Nuku'alofa	46.7	10 th	1982	18/37