

OUTLOOK FOR TONGA FOR July - September 2010

Rainfall outlook for July-September is generally normal to above normal. Seasonal forecast skills are low during this time.

Rainfall for the last 3 months (April—June)

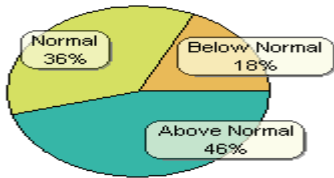
Rainfall was above normal in Tongatapu and below normal in most locations which may have been due to the high pressure system which have been dominating the weather in most of June. Normal rainfall observed in Ha'apai and Tongatapu may have been due to the presence of low pressure systems in the area. Rainfall totals for June was below normal throughout the country except for Niuafu'ou which recorded above normal rainfall.

Tropical Pacific Remains Neutral. Increased chance of La Niña in 2010

Tropical Pacific is in an ENSO-neutral state, but bordering on La Niña conditions. The Equatorial Pacific ocean circulation continues to trend towards La Niña, Most international computer models predict the tropical Pacific to be in a La Niña state over the coming 6 months.

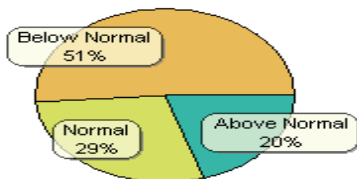
Niuafu'ou

Above Normal >420.7mm
Normal 264.3mm– 420.7mm
Below Normal <264.3mm
The model generated outlook shows a signal for rainfall to be **above normal**.



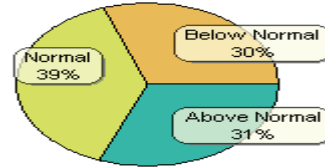
Niuaatoputapu

Above Normal >368.0mm
Normal 208.7mm - 368.0mm
Below Normal <208.7mm
The model generated outlook shows a signal for rainfall to be **below normal**.



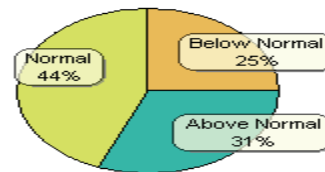
Vava'u

Above Normal >396.3mm
Normal 254.0mm—396.3mm
Below Normal <254.0mm
The model generated outlook shows a signal for **normal** conditions to occur.



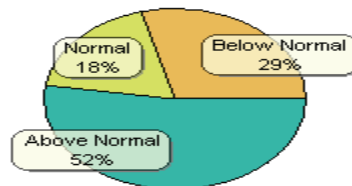
Ha'apai

Above Normal >362.3mm
Normal 232.0mm - 362.3mm
Below Normal <232.0mm
The model generated outlook shows a signal for rainfall to be **normal**.



Tongatapu

Above Normal >376.3mm
Normal 275.7mm-376.3mm
Below Normal <275.7mm
The model generated outlook shows a signal for **above normal** rainfall.



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 does not guarantee the accuracy and reliability of the analysis and rainfall predictions presented, and accepts no liability for any losses incurred through the use of this summary and its contents. This information should be used as a guidance only. All requests for data and for further information about this forecast should be directed to the Director of the Tonga Meteorological Service, at P.O. Box 845, Nuku'alofa. Or email at fnt_met@met.gov.to Tel: (676) 35 123/35 355 or our website; <http://www.met.gov.to> for more information.