

## OUTLOOK FOR TONGA FOR December 2011 – February 2012

La Niña continues to develop with atmospheric and oceanic indicators intensifying over the last two weeks. The majority of climate models surveyed by the Bureau of Meteorology predict the continuation of La Niña through the southern hemisphere summer. Based on current observations, it is likely that this La Niña will be considerably weaker than last year's strong event.

The total rainfall for last few months was Normal to Above normal. The outlook for the next three months is for Above normal throughout Tonga.

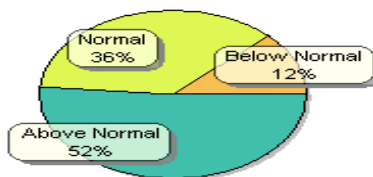
### Niuafu'ou

Above Normal >925.0mm

Normal 722.0mm– 925.0mm

Below Normal <722.0mm

The model generated outlook shows a strong signal for rainfall to be **Above normal**.



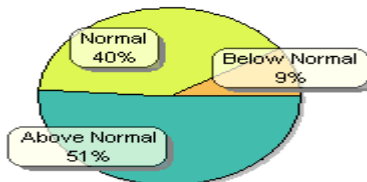
### Nuatoputapu

Above Normal >867.0mm

Normal 640.0mm–867.0mm

Below Normal <640.0mm

The model generated outlook shows a strong signal for rainfall to be **Above normal**.



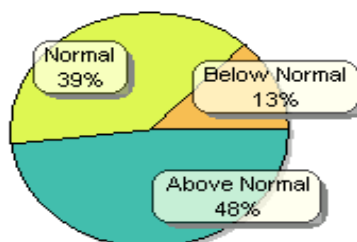
### Vava'u

Above Normal >891.0mm

Normal 605.3mm - 891.0mm

Below Normal <605.3mm

The model generated outlook shows a strong signal for rainfall to be **Above normal**.



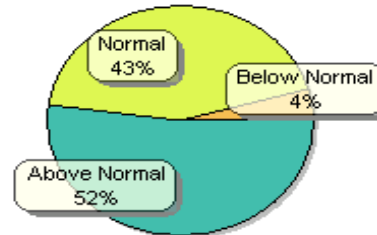
### Ha'apai

Above Normal >678.0mm

Normal 429.0mm–678.0mm

Below Normal <429.0mm

The model generated outlook shows a strong signal for rainfall to be **Above normal**.



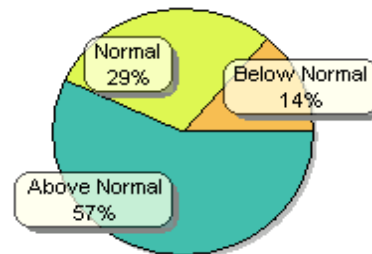
### Tongatapu

Above Normal >718.0mm

Normal 436.0mm–718.0mm

Below Normal <436.0mm

The model generated outlook shows a strong signal for rainfall to be **Above normal**.



### 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 [fmt\\_met@met.gov.to](mailto:fmt_met@met.gov.to) Tel: (676) 35 123/35 355 or our website; <http://www.met.gov.to> for more information.*