



TONGA METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE

Monthly Climate Summary



August 2018 Climate Summary:

Issued: 10 September 2018

Climate in brief.

Rainfall was above average in Niuatoputapu and Niufo'ou and below average elsewhere in the country. Very dry conditions in Tongatapu and Vava'u. (Refer to tables 3 & 4 below). The average temperature was 23.5°C which was 0.1°C warmer than average. Highest maximum temperature was 32.6°C on the 23rd in Niufo'ou and the lowest minimum temperature was 12.8°C in Vava'u on the 9th.

Table 1. Near-record or record high or low annual average temperature departures for August 2018

Station	Mean air Temperature °C	Departure from normal °C	Year records began	Rank & Comments
Mean temperature				
Niufo'ou	25.6	0.0	1971	26/46
Niuatoputapu	25.6	-0.3	1958	29/60
Vava'u	22.0	-1.2	1949	6 th lowest
Ha'apai	23.3	+0.7	1961	19/58
Fua'amotu	22.0	+0.7	1980	7 th highest
Nuku'alofa	22.4	+0.6	1949	8 th highest
Mean maximum temperature				
Niufo'ou	29.5	+0.9	1971	9 th Highest
Niuatoputapu	28.0	-0.9	1949	7 th Lowest
Vava'u	26.2	-0.2	1956	38/69
Ha'apai	26.0	+0.4	1962	26/58
Fua'amotu	25.7	+1.0	1980	9 th lowest
Nuku'alofa	26.1	+1.0	1949	7 th highest
Mean minimum temperature				
Niufo'ou	21.7	-0.7	1971	8 th lowest
Niuatoputapu	23.1	+0.3	1950	12 th highest
Vava'u	17.8	-2.0	1953	3 rd lowest
Ha'apai	20.6	+1.3	1961	12 th highest
Fua'amotu	18.4	+0.3	1980	10 th highest
Nuku'alofa	18.6	+0.2	1945	14 th highest

Table 2. Near-record or record high or low annual temperature extremes for August 2018

Stations	Temperature °C	Date of occurrence	Year records began	Comments
Highest extreme maximum temperatures				
Niuafoóu	32.6	23 rd	1971	2 nd highest
Niuaotoputapu	29.8	31 th	1958	5 th lowest
Vava'u	28.4	24 th	1957	9 th lowest
Ha'apai	28.3	23 rd	1961	21/58
Fua'amotu	27.5	22 nd	1980	12 th highest
Nuku'alofa	28.5	22 nd	1949	8 th highest
Lowest extreme minimum temperatures				
Niuafoóu	18.0	7 th	1971	4 th lowest
Niuaotoputapu	17.5	20 th	1958	5 th lowest
Vava'u	12.8	9 th	1957	8 nd lowest
Ha'apai	17.5	6 th	1961	9 th Highest
Fua'amotu	13.2	26 th	1980	13 th highest
Nuku'alofa	14.0	4 th	1949	14 th highest

Table 3: Record of rainfall totals for August 2018

Stations	Rainfall total (mm)	Percentage of normal %	Year records began	Rank & Comments
High records or near-records				
Niuafoóu	127.5	103	1971	16/47
Niuaotoputapu	220.9	236	1947	5 th highest
Vava'u	30.1	38	1947	10 th lowest
Ha'apai	66.7	82	1947	44/73
Fua'amotu	60.4	48	1980	11 th Lowest
Nuku'alofa	28.8	26	1945	7 th Lowest

Table 4: Record or near-record high extreme 1-day rainfall totals that occurred in August 2018.

Stations	1-day extreme rainfall (mm)	Date	Year records began	Comments
High records or near-records				
Niuafoóu	39	19 th	1971	15 highest
Niuaotoputapu	77.8	16 th	1950	4 th highest
Vava'u	8.3	12 th	1995	2 nd lowest
Ha'apai	28.2	12 th	1953	37/68
Fua'amotu	17.5	23 rd	1981	10 th lowest
Nuku'alofa	13.8	23 rd	1982	7 th lowest