

# Monthly Climate

# Summary



February 2018 Climate Summary:

Issued: 16 March 2018

Above average rainfall was recorded in Fua'amotu and Nuku'alofa, much of this rainfall was brought by TC Gita which devastated Tongatapu and 'Eua on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Vava'u and Ha'apai rainfall was below average. The average temperature was 27.3°C which was 0.1°C warmer than average. Highest maximum and minimum temperatures were recorded in Niuafo'ou with maximum of 32.9°C on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and minimum of 21.4°C on 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Table 1. Near-record or record high or low annual average temperature departures for February.**

Station	Mean air Temperature °C	Departure from normal °C	Year records began	Comments
<b>Mean temperature</b>				
Niuafo'ou	26.3	-1.2	1971	lowest
Niuatoputapu	27.5	-0.4	1958	Below normal
Vava'u	27.0	0	1949	normal
Ha'apai	27.8	+0.8	1961	Above normal
Nuku'alofa	27.9	+0.7	1949	4 <sup>th</sup> highest
<b>Mean maximum temperature</b>				
Niuafo'ou	30.5	-0.3	1971	Below normal
Niuatoputapu	30.5	-0.8	1949	Below normal
Vava'u	30.0	+0.1	1957	Above normal
Ha'apai	30.2	+0.1	1962	Above normal
Nuku'alofa	31.3	+1.1	1949	2nd highest
<b>Mean minimum temperature</b>				
Niuafo'ou	22.2	-1.9	1971	lowest
Niuatoputapu	24.5	-0.2	1950	Below normal
Vava'u	24.0	+0.5	1959	Above normal
Ha'apai	25.5	+0.9	1961	4 <sup>th</sup> highest
Nuku'alofa	24.6	+0.5	1949	Above normal

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

Stations	Temperature °C	Date of occurrence	Year records began	Comments
<b>Highest extreme maximum temperatures</b>				
Niuafoóu	32.9	22 <sup>nd</sup>	1971	7 <sup>th</sup> highest
Niuaotoputapu	31.5	19 <sup>th</sup>	1958	7 <sup>th</sup> lowest
Vava'u	31.0	14 <sup>th</sup>	1957	15 <sup>th</sup> lowest
Ha'apai	31.6	5 <sup>th</sup>	1961	20 <sup>th</sup> highest
Nuku'alofa	32.4	11 <sup>st</sup>	1949	9 <sup>th</sup> highest
<b>Lowest extreme minimum temperatures</b>				
Niuafoóu	21.4	12 <sup>th</sup>	1971	4 <sup>th</sup> lowest
Niuaotoputapu	21.7	19 <sup>th</sup>	1958	8 <sup>th</sup> lowest
Vava'u	22.0	22 <sup>nd</sup>	1957	14 <sup>th</sup> highest
Ha'apai	23.5	27 <sup>th</sup>	1961	7 <sup>th</sup> highest
Nuku'alofa	22.1	13 <sup>th</sup>	1949	10 <sup>th</sup> highest

**Table 3: Record or near-record annual rainfall totals for February 2018**

Stations	Rainfall total (mm)	Percentage of normal	Year records began	Comments
<b>High records or near-records</b>				
Niuafoóu	273.8	105	1971	Normal
Niuaotoputapu	268.0	114	1947	Below normal
Vava'u	147.7	63	1947	Below normal
Ha'apai	124.4	68	1947	Below normal
Fua'amotu	322.5	155	1980	12 <sup>th</sup> highest
Nuku'alofa	389.6	190	1945	11 <sup>th</sup> highest

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

Stations	1-day extreme rainfall (mm)	Date	Year records began	Comments
<b>High records or near-records</b>				
Niuafoóu	45.0	3 <sup>rd</sup>	1971	15 <sup>th</sup> lowest
Niuaotoputapu	44.3	25 <sup>th</sup>	1950	low
Vava'u	32.5	7 <sup>th</sup>	1995	5 <sup>th</sup> lowest
Ha'apai	28.2	26 <sup>th</sup>	1953	low
Fua'amotu	146.0	12 <sup>th</sup> Tc Gita	1981	4 <sup>rd</sup> highest
Nuku'alofa	200.0	12 <sup>th</sup> TC Gita	1982	3 <sup>rd</sup> highest