



SOLOMON ISLANDS SEASONAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK

August—October 2018



This Seasonal outlook is based upon one month average value of May and June 2018 of the Central Eastern and South Western Pacific Ocean sea-surface temperature anomalies. The outlook is presented as the 'probability' or chance of the coming rainfall being in one of the three Tercile Classes – **Below normal, Normal and Above normal**. The lead time is one month.

Summary:

- Normal rainfall in the central and western parts of the country and above normal rainfall in the eastern part of the country.
- Climate Outlook shows no rainfall guidance for all stations in the country.
- El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is still at neutral condition but the outlook is raised to El Nino WATCH.

Monthly Rainfall Updates

Station (include data period)	April 2018 Total	May 2018 Total	June 2018				
			Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Auki (1962 – 2018)	348.1	248.3	176.2	142.5	208.2	175.0	29/56
Henderson (1975 – 2018)	178.1	93.3	71.7	46.6	89.4	66.4	24/44
Honiara (1954 – 2018)	183.6	104.4	80.5	52.6	101.6	78.0	34/64
Kirakira (1965 – 2018)	237.4	483.6	423.0	185.8	291.0	242.7	47/52
Lata (1975 – 2018)	583.9	680.3	595.6	246.0	344.4	291.2	43/44
Munda (1962 – 2018)	205.0	180.1	200.6	193.1	280.8	230.3	21/57
Taro (1975 – 2018)	196.2	154.2	283.4	225.0	304.6	248.6	27/43

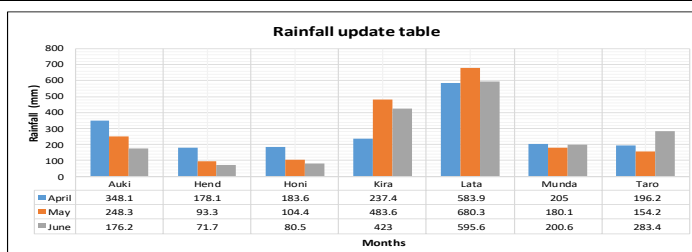
June rainfall was normal to above normal across Solomon Islands. Above normal rainfall was recorded for Kirakira in the central region and Lata in the eastern region. Auki, Henderson and Honiara in the central region and Munda and Taro in the western recorded normal rainfall.

Lata in the eastern region recorded the highest monthly total rainfall of 595.6 mm for the month, a slight decrease of the rainfall recorded in May. Henderson in the central region recorded the lowest rainfall of 71.7 mm and the least for the last three months' total records.

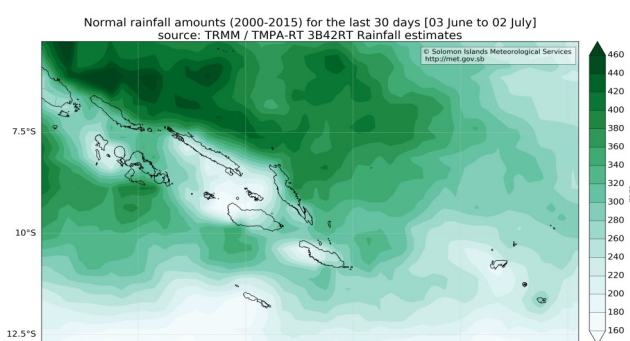
In the month of June, all stations across the country recorded rainfall total lower than the previous month - May except for Munda and Taro in the western region who have recorded slightly higher rainfall.

The south Pacific Convergence Zone (SPCZ) was enhanced around Solomon Islands during the month contributing to the normal to above rainfall in most parts of the country.

The decrease in monthly rainfall over the past three months have shown the transition into the dry season (June - September).

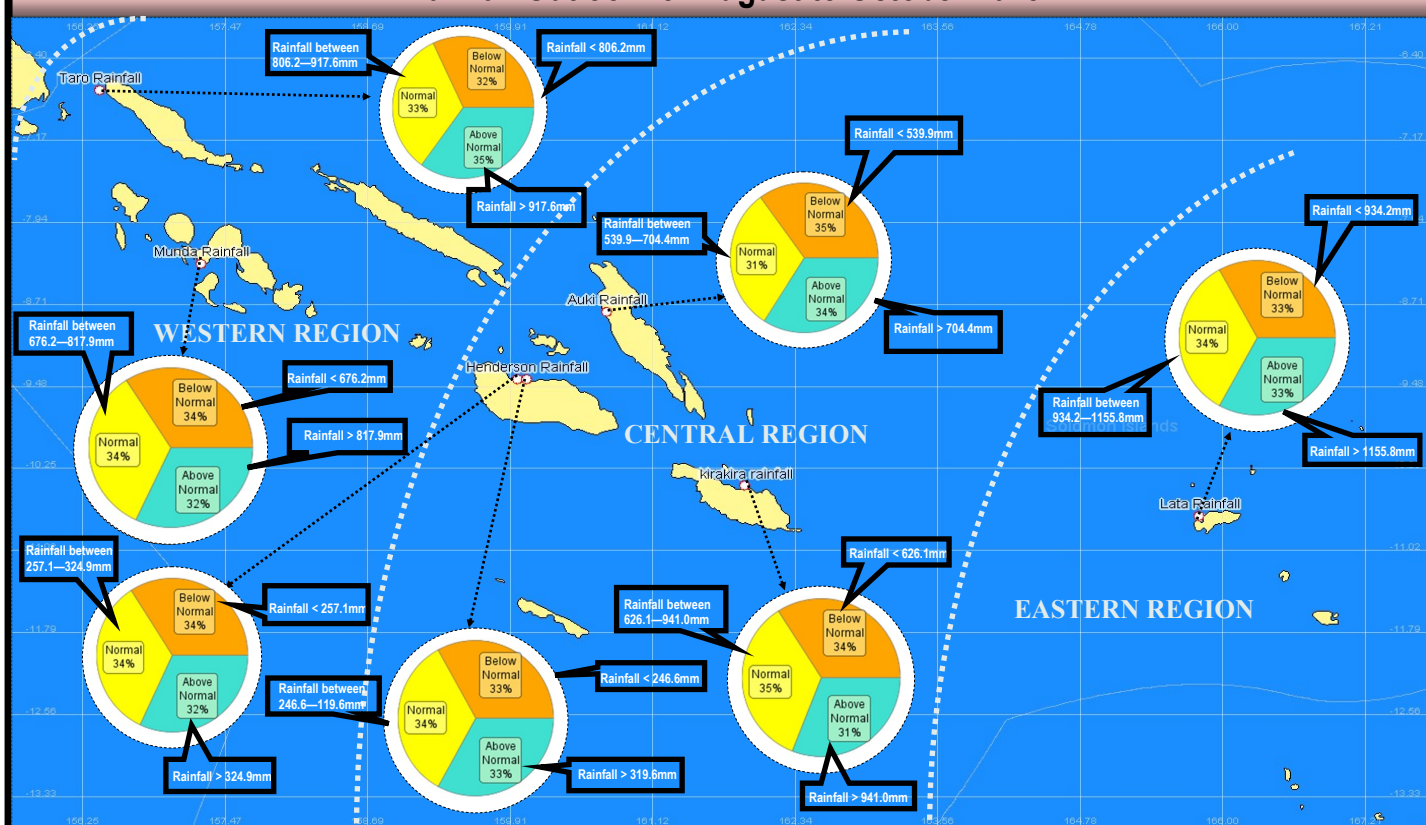


Source - SIMS Climate Services observed rainfall update: April—June 2018



Source - TRMM/TMPA-RT rainfall observed—June 2018

Rainfall Outlook for August to October 2018



Rainfall Prediction Summary

Climatology—No rainfall guidance for: Auki, Henderson, Honiara, Kirakira, Lata, Munda & Taro

Skill

Range: very low - moderate
Average: very low

According to the climate outlook for the season—August to October 2018 for Solomon Islands no rainfall guidance is obvious for all the stations in the country however; It is important to note that we are now in the dry season period (June to September) and as such, we may experience condition drier than normal in most parts of the country.

Forecast Verification for April to June 2018

Three months Rainfall Table—The three months total rainfall recorded across Solomon Islands with their forecasted rainfall over the period and its verification.

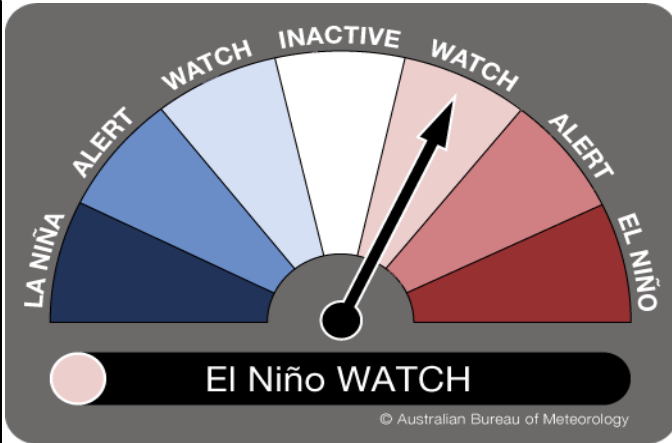
Amount of Rainfall below the 33% percentile is **Below Normal** and the amount of rainfall above 66% percentile is **Above Normal**. Rainfall amount between 33% and 66% percentile is **Normal**.

STATIONS	TOTAL Rainfall (mm)	Forecasted Rainfall	Forecast Verification (Consistent, inconsistent, near consistent)	33% Rainfall (mm)	66% Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)
Auki	772.6	Above Normal	Consistent	596.3	711.5	661.2
Henderson	343.1	Normal	Near Consistent	303.3	375.3	339.8
Honiara	368.5	Normal	Near Consistent	339.2	472.5	380.0
Kirakira	1144.0	Above normal	Consistent	723.2	958.9	819.8
Lata	1859.8	Above normal	Consistent	863.3	1070.5	981.0
Munda	1257.0	Above normal	Consistent	717.2	868.9	795.5
Taro	633.8	Below normal	Consistent	779.5	891.5	849.8

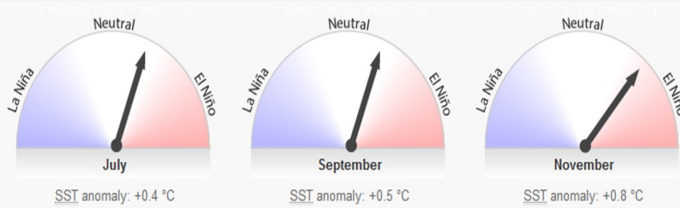
Above normal rainfall was predicted for most parts of the country for the period—April to June 2018.

According to data collected for the period, central region stations—Auki and Kirakira, eastern region—Lata, western region—Munda and Taro were consistent to their forecast, meaning the rainfall received were according to their forecast. Only Honiara and Henderson in the central region were near consistent (almost hit) to their forecast.

El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Update



Source—Bureau of Meteorology (BOM), Australia, June 2018



Source— BOM, ENSO model Outlook - July to November 2018

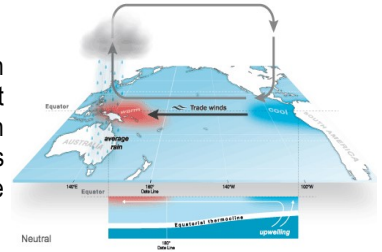
El NINO—Associated with Below normal rainfall.

NEUTRAL—Associated with Normal rainfall.

LA NINA—Associated with Above normal rainfall.

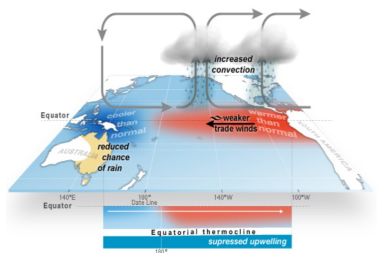
Current status:

The El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) remains NEUTRAL but the chances of El Nino forming in the coming months is approximately 50 %, double the normal chance.



Outlook:

The ENSO is now at El Nino WATCH but still at normal condition however; steady warming of the tropical Pacific with most international models suggest warming may continue and reaching thresholds in the coming months.



El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO): El Niño

Disclaimer:

Whilst Solomon Islands Meteorological Service takes all measures in providing accurate information, it does not guarantee 100% accuracy of the forecast provided in this summary. The division should be consulted for expert advice, clarification and further information when necessary. The users take all risk resulting indirectly or directly from the use of the information provided.

For more Information Contact:

The Director

Solomon Islands Meteorological Service Division

Phone: 20332, 24218 Fax: 23029