



Malaria-Early Action Rainfall Watch

SEPTEMBER 2026

About this Bulletin:

This bulletin is generated by the MalaClim Model, a climate-informed malaria early warning system. By analyzing cumulative rainfall from October to December of the preceding year, the model assesses potential malaria transmission risks in North Guadalcanal for the upcoming January–June transmission season. These seasonal insights provide actionable early warnings to support timely preparedness, evidence-based planning, and targeted public health interventions that reduce malaria risk and strengthen community resilience.

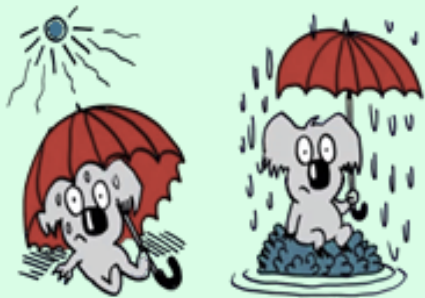
Issued: 18th September 2026

Coming Up:



- “Above-normal” malaria cases were reported during the 2026 transmission period.
- The rainfall outlook is very likely to be “Below-normal” in the coming season.
- El Nino is firmly established and strengthening

EL NINO & LA NINA

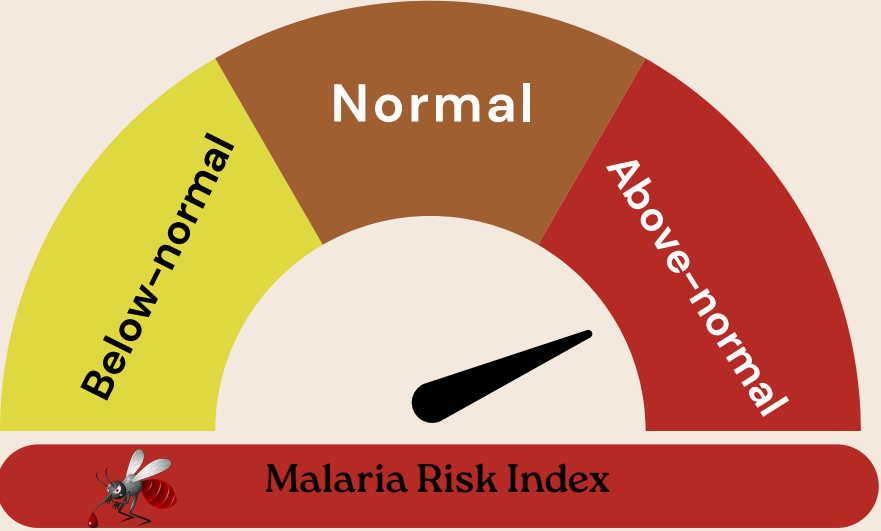


MALARIA RAINFALL WATCH UPDATE:

Northern Guadalcanal Malaria Early Warning System OCTOBER–DECEMBER 2025 Rainfall Thresholds (mm) for Honiara.

LOWER Threshold
540 mm

UPPER Threshold
570 mm



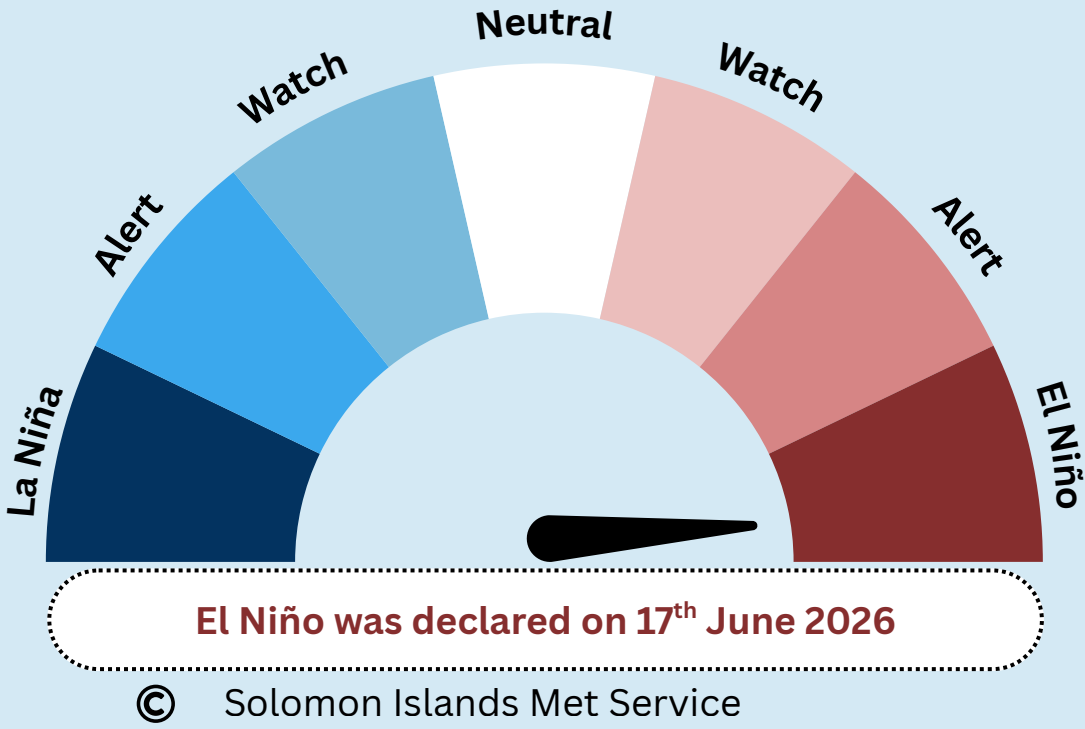
“Therefore, the Malaria transmission risk outlook for the Northern Guadalcanal region for the period January to June 2026 is almost **ABOVE-NORMAL RISK**”.

Honiara Rainfall Updates (mm)				
Year	October	November	December	Total
2025	125.8	261.8	150.7	538.3
2026	?	?	?	226.36

The total rainfall observed for the period October to December 2025 is 538.3 mm. The observed rainfall total is below, but close to, the lower threshold of 540 mm. The rainfall outlook for northern Guadalcanal for October to December 2025 was “below-normal”.

EL NIÑO SOUTHERN OSCILLATION (ENSO) UPDATE:

(Based on ENSO analysis presented on 15th September 2026)



Current Status of ENSO

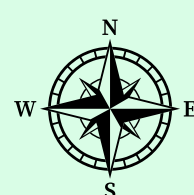
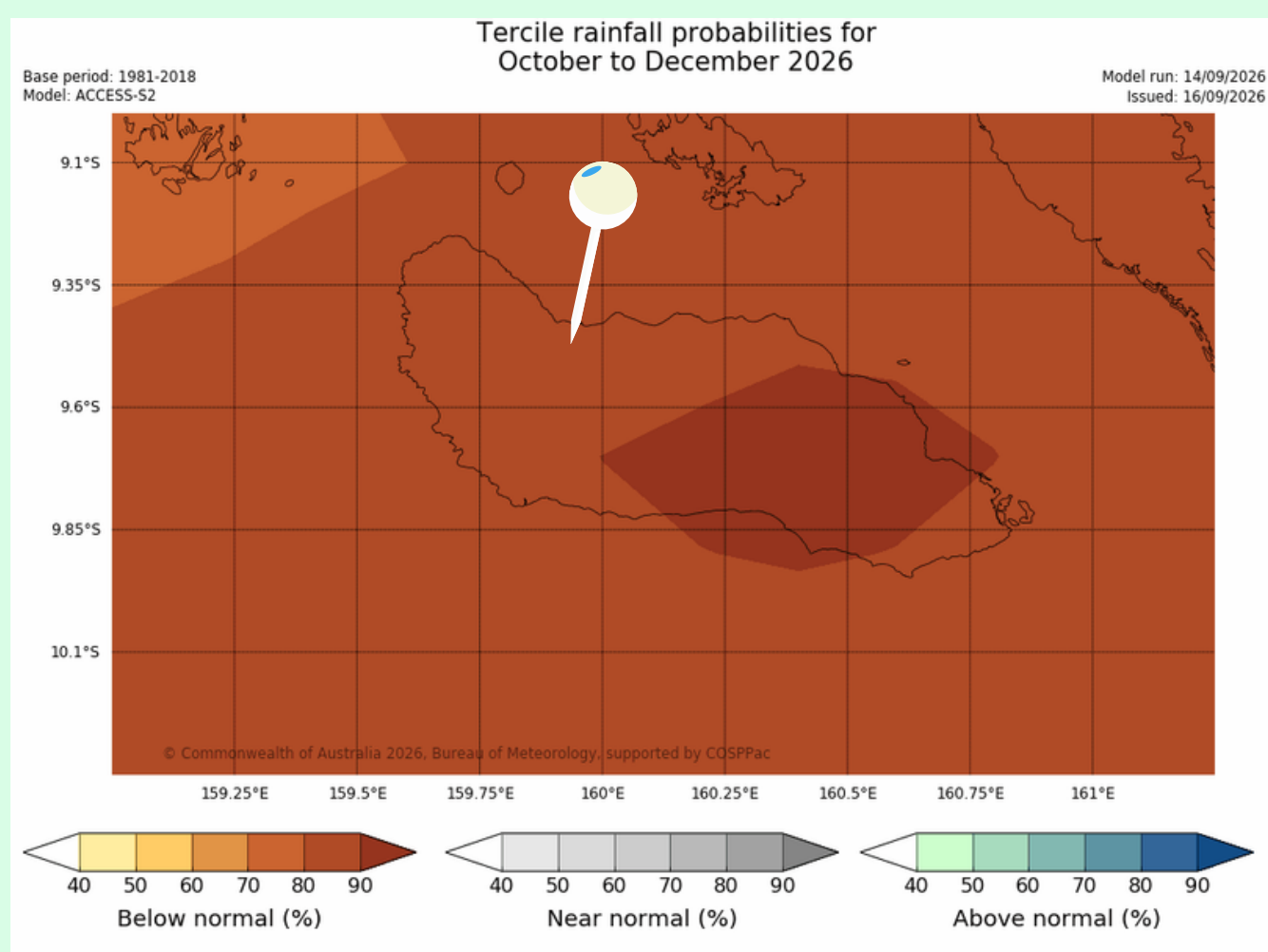
- El Niño is firmly established in the tropical Pacific, including the Solomon Islands.
- Oceanic and atmospheric indicators reflect values consistent with a strong El Niño Event.
- Sea surface temperature (SST) anomaly in the central Pacific for the week ending 13th September 2026 is +2.51 °C above the +0.80 °C El Nino threshold.

ENSO Outlook:

- The El Niño conditions are expected to strengthen further into the remaining months of the year 2026.
- Forecasts indicate continued warming, with the likelihood of reaching peak intensity at the end of 2026 and into the new year, 2027. Reaching levels above the warmest observed since reliable records began in 1950.
- PROLONGED BELOW-NORMAL RAINFALL LEADS TO LOWER RIVER AND STREAM FLOWS, CREATING STAGNANT POOLS THAT WILL ACCELERATE MOSQUITO BREEDING AND CONSEQUENTLY HEIGHTEN MALARIA TRANSMISSION RISKS IN DENSELY POPULATED AREAS.**

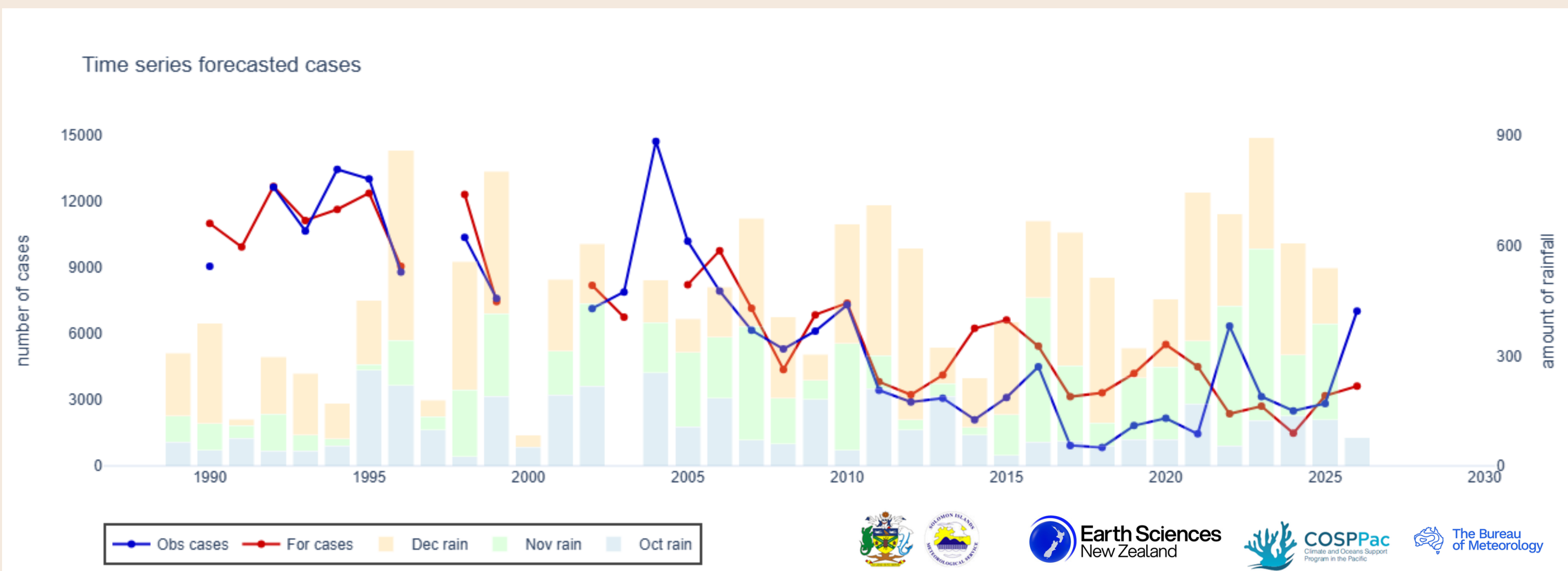


NORTHERN GUADALCANAL RAINFALL PREDICTION— OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2026



The rainfall outlook for the North Guadalcanal region is very likely to be “below normal” in the coming three months (October to December 2026).

MALARIA CASE VERIFICATION—JANUARY TO JUNE 2026



The malaria transmission season for the period January to June 2026 was forecast to fall within the “Above-normal” risk category, with an expected total of 3,618 malaria cases. This Prediction was based on the observed cumulative rainfall of 538.3 mm recorded during the October to December 2025 period, which was below the established “Lower rainfall threshold”.

A total of 7028 malaria cases were reported during the January to June 2026 malaria transmission season for Northern Guadalcanal. Seeing that the total number of observed cases was higher than the predicted total of 3,185 cases, the overall outcome remained relatively consistent with the forecasted “Above-normal” malaria transmission risk category for the 2026 period.

DISCLAIMER:

The Rainfall WATCH Bulletin provided in this document is presented for the Health sector—Malaria (vector-borne) operations. The information should be used as a guide only. Solomon Islands Meteorological Service takes all measures to provide accurate information; however, it does not guarantee 100% accuracy of the forecast provided in this summary. The vector-borne operations should be consulted for expert advice, clarification, and further information when necessary. The user takes all risks resulting indirectly or directly from the use of the rainfall prediction information.

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