

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 116

Country Name: Samoa

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			April 2017				
	February 2017 Total	March 2017 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Afiamalu	971.9	219.5	478.5	272.8	388.9	327.8	53/64
Nafanua	641.0	135.1	440.5	175.1	306.1	238.9	43/47
Apia	543.3	91.9	318.8	177.8	269.7	220.7	100/128
Faleolo	275.7	213.3	311.5	139.2	185.7	158.1	53/56

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall February to April 2017

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #112]

Station	Three-month Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking	Forecast probs.* (include LEPS)	Verification* (Consistent, Near-consistent, Inconsistent?)
Afiamalu	1669.9	1238.7	1547.1	1425.5	46/62	31/34/ 35 (-1.8)	Consistent
Nafanua	1216.6	913.0	1127.4	1052.2	34/45	24/ 41 /35 (2.0)	Near consistent
Apia	954.0	803.0	1017.0	925.0	72/128	27/ 38 /35 (0.9)	Consistent
Faleolo	800.5	590.9	691.5	628.5	53/56	36 /30/34 (-1.9)	Inconsistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

**Predictors and Period used for February 2017 to April 2017 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #112):
Nino 3.4 values from November to December 2016**

* Forecast is consistent when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) categories coincide (are in the same tercile).

Forecast is near-consistent when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) differ by only one category (i.e. terciles 1 and 2 or terciles 2 and 3).

Forecast is inconsistent when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) differ by two categories (i.e. terciles 1 and 3).

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for June to August 2017

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 indices from February to April 2017.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	60	574.8	40		5.9%	57.4%
Nafanua	55	403.6	45		0.8%	48.9%
Apia	52	344.0	48		-1.3%	47.8%
Faleolo	62	287.3	38		8.4%	60.4%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	46	507.4	28	669.1	26	9.1%	29.6%
Nafanua	37	295.8	29	494.6	34	-1.6%	35.6%
Apia	36	247.0	36	407.0	28	0.3%	22.4%
Faleolo	39	208.7	35	355.9	26	2.8%	43.4%

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for June to August 2017

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Apia	33	272	28	395	39		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for April 2017: “Above normal” rainfall was recorded across all stations.

Accumulated rainfall for February to April 2017, including outlook verification:

“Above normal” rainfall was recorded for Afiamalu, Nafanua and Faleolo whereas “normal” rainfall received for Apia station.

Afiamalu and Apia’s observed rainfall was ‘*consistent*’ with the outlook. ‘*Near consistent*’ outlook verification for Nafanua and ‘*inconsistent*’ for Faleolo station.

Outlooks for June to August 2017:

1. SCOPIC:

- The outlook for Afiamalu and Faleolo shows the most likely outcome is “below normal”, with “normal” the next most likely.
- Nafanua and Apia offers little guidance for the coming season as the chances of “above normal”, “normal” and “below normal” rainfall are similar.

The confidence of the model is “moderate” to “very low”.

2. POAMA:

- Little guidance for Apia for the coming season as the chances of “above normal”, “normal” and “below normal” rainfall are similar.

NB: The X LEPS % score has been categorised as follows:

Very Low: $X < 0.0$

Low: $0 \leq X < 5$

Moderate $5 \leq X < 10$

Good: $10 \leq X < 15$

High: $15 \leq X < 25$

Very High: $25 \leq X < 35$

Exceptional: $X \geq 35$