

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 67

Country Name:

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			March 2013				
	January 2013 Total	February 2013 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Nanumea				177.6	304.7	251.8	12/72
Nui	254.0	135.0	221.0	240.0	339.9	270.3	21/68
Funafuti	478.5	805.7	528.4	265.5	369.5	320.6	73/81
Niulakita	338.6	93.3	425.5	273.0	391.8	270.3	42/61

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall January to March 2013

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #63]

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?)
Nanumea		750.6	1078.1	948.9	n.a	37.4/39.8/22.8 [27.6%]	
Nui	610	862.0	1098.0	1004.3	13/68	36.1/35.8/28.1 [15.0%]	Consistent
Funafuti	1812.6	978.9	1167.5	1069.9	76/81	36.7/30.7/32.6 [6.9%]	Inconsistent
Niulakita	857.4	950.1	1154.2	1080.2	13/61	33.6/35.8/28.1 [-1.1%]	Near Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

* 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).

Predictors and Period used for January to March 2013 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #63):

SOI

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for May to July 2013

Predictors and Period used: SOI Values

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Nanumea	55.9%	608	44.1%		18.9%	70.8%
Nui	56.2%	578.3	43.8%		23.1%	73.1%
Funafui	56.7%	701.6	43.3%		25.2%	76.3%
Niulakita	50.4%	606	49.6%		-1.6%	55.0%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Nanumea	35.5%	484.6	37.0%	704.7	27.5%	15.9%	55.6%
Nui	36.1%	519.4	40.6%	675.9	23.3%	28.1%	66.7%
Funafuti	35.5%	604.3	39.2%	781.9	25.3%	21.0%	53.8%
Niulakita	33.8%	536.3	33.1%	694.4	33.1%	-2.0%	28.3%

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
May to July 2013**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for March 2013:

Accumulated rainfall for January–March 2013, including outlook verification:

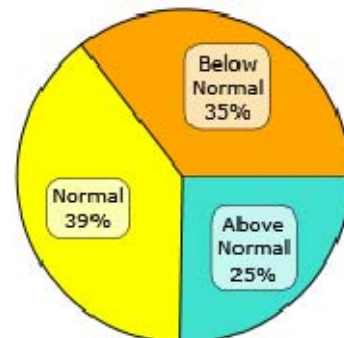
Outlooks for May–July 2013:

1:SCOPIC: May to Jul 2013 Seasonal Climate Outlooks for Tuvalu Outlook

These outlooks are based upon the Jan to Mar 2013 SOI Values (Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) values)

Funafuti 3mth (May to Jul 2013) rainfall outlook.

Based upon the 3mth Average value of the Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) values during Jan to Mar 2013 (SOI Values=2.13), **the forecast is biased towards "normal" to "below-normal" rainfall conditions for May through to the end of July for Funafuti.** The probability of "normal" conditions occurring is 39% and the probability of "below-normal" conditions occurring is 35%. The chance of "above-normal" rainfall occurring is lowest at 25%.

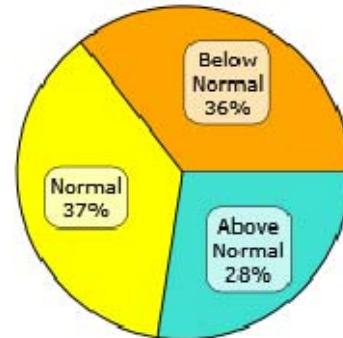


Another way of looking at this, is that given the current climate conditions, in about 4 out of every 10 years, the rainfall in the May-July period are expected to be "below-normal"; about 4 out of 10 years are expected to be "normal"; and about 3 out of 10 years are expected to be "above-normal" (Note: Rounding Errors Occurring).

Note: "Below-normal" rainfall for the May to July period at Funafuti includes rainfall less than 604.3mm. "Above-normal" rainfall is that which is greater than 781.9mm. "Normal" rainfall lies between 604.3 and 781.9mm.

Nanumea 3mth (May to Jul 2013) rainfall outlook.

Based upon the 3mth Average value of the Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) values during Jan to Mar 2013 (SOI Values=2.13), **the forecast is biased towards "normal" to "below-normal" rainfall conditions for May through to the end of July for Nanumea.** The probability of "normal" conditions occurring is 37% and the probability of "below-normal" conditions occurring is 36%. The chance of "above-normal" rainfall occurring is lowest at 28%.

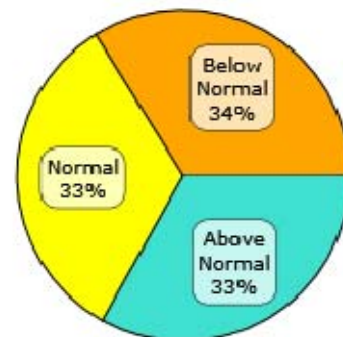


Another way of looking at this, is that given the current climate conditions, in about 4 out of every 10 years, the rainfall in the May-July period are expected to be "below-normal"; about 4 out of 10 years are expected to be "normal"; and about 3 out of 10 years are expected to be "above-normal" (Note: Rounding Errors Occurring).

Note: "Below-normal" rainfall for the May to July period at Nanumea includes rainfall less than 484.6mm. "Above-normal" rainfall is that which is greater than 704.7mm. "Normal" rainfall lies between 484.6 and 704.7mm.

Niulakita 3mth (May to Jul 2013) rainfall outlook.

Based upon the 3mth Average value of the Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) values during Jan to Mar 2013 (SOI Values=2.13), **there is little indication of bias towards either "above-normal", "normal" or "below-normal" rainfall conditions for January through to the end of July for Niulakita.** In this case, there is a 33% chance of getting "above-normal" ; a 33% chance of getting "normal" rainfall; and a 34% chance of getting "below-normal" rainfall. This situation is usually indicative of low predictability (forecast-skill) for this period of the year, and we refer to the forecast as being the same as "climatology".



Another way of looking at this, is that given the current climate conditions, in about 3 out of every 10 years, the rainfall in the May-July period are expected to be "below-normal"; about 3 out of 10 years are expected to be "normal"; and about 3 out of 10 years are expected to be "above-normal" (Note: Rounding Errors Occurring).

Note: "Below-normal" rainfall for the May to July period at Niulakita includes rainfall less than 536.3mm. "Above-normal" rainfall is that which is greater than 694.4mm. "Normal" rainfall lies between 536.3 and 694.4mm.

Nui 3mth (May to Jul 2013) rainfall outlook.

Based upon the 3mth Average value of the Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) values during Jan to Mar 2013 (SOI Values=2.13), **the forecast is biased towards "normal" to "below-normal" rainfall conditions for May through to the end of July for Nui.** The probability of "normal" conditions occurring is 41% and the probability of "below-normal" conditions

occurring is 36%. The chance of "*above-normal*" rainfall occurring is lowest at 23%.

Another way of looking at this, is that given the current climate conditions, in about 4 out of every 10 years, the rainfall in the May-July period are expected to be "*below-normal*"; about 4 out of 10 years are expected to be "*normal*"; and about 2 out of 10 years are expected to be "*above-normal*" .

2. POAMA:

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: $X \geq 35$