

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum No: 78

Country Name: SOLOMON ISLANDS

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	FEBRUARY 2014						
	December 2013 Total	January 2014 Total	Total (mm)	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Auki (1962 – 2014)	107	568	555	322	428	393	50 of 53
Henderson (1975 – 2014)	126	663	210	207	323	242	15 of 40
Honiara (1954 – 2014)	99	646	254	213	315	275	29 of 60
Kirakira (1965 – 2014)	127	504	271	273	367	327	15 of 47
Lata (1975 – 2014)	279	359	203	342	476	396	3 of 40
Munda (1962 – 2014)	313	575	617	279	478	329	45 of 53
Taro (1975 – 2014)	300	502	366	218	315	256	28 of 38

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall December 2013 to February 2014

Stations	Three-month Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking	Forecasted probs. * (Include LEPS)	Verification (Consistent, Near-consistent, Inconsistent?)
Auki (1962 – 2014)	1230	888	1169	1023	38 of 50	28/23/49 (10.5)	Consistent
Henderson (1975 – 201)	999	568	835	677	33 of 39	25/16/59 (25.6)	Consistent
Honiara (1954 – 2014)	999	609	862	703	44 of 57	27/25/48 (17.8)	Consistent
Kirakira (1965 – 2014)	902	799	1108	968	19 of 44	26/22/52 (21.8)	Near consistent
Lata (1975 – 2014)	841	1080	1252	1144	4 of 39	9/46/45 (16.8)	Near consistent
Munda (1962 – 2014)	1505	924	1223	1094	49 of 52	40/25/35 (-2.5)	Inconsistent
Taro (1975 – 2014)	1168	622	751	666	34 of 35	48/41/11 (8.9)	Inconsistent

* 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).

Predictor: SST 1&9

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks for April to June 2014

Predictors and Period used: January SST 1 & 9 – one month

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	55	629	45		0.3	52.9
Henderson	48	327	52		-0.5	55.3
Honiara	52	368	48		-0.3	50.8
Kirakira	56	809	44		6.1	63.8
Lata	56	974	44		1.2	57.9
Munda	55	768	45		-2.2	50.0
Taro	49	840	51		-5.8	25.0

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile Rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile Rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	35	589	38	699	27	-2.2	37.3
Henderson	35	298	35	366	30	5.1	47.4
Honiara	37	319	33	447	30	-1.1	22.0
Kirakira	32	685	44	944	24	9.9	48.9
Lata	38	863	35	1061	27	8.4	52.6
Munda	43	701	24	853	33	2.2	50.0
Taro	44	758	14	891	42	-2.6	33.0

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for April – June 2014

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)
Honiara	52	460	27	625	21
Munda	52	852	21	965	27
Taro	15	706	30	931	55

Summary Statement:

February 2014 rainfall:

Rainfall received during the month of February was above normal for parts of central and western region, normal rainfall in northern parts of central. Below normal rainfall was recorded for the eastern region.

Lata recorded rainfall drier than normal while Munda recorded the highest monthly total rainfall of 617mm while the remaining sites in the central and eastern region recorded rainfall below 300mm during the month. Auki recorded the second highest rainfall of 555mm.

The rainfall received during the month was resulted from enhanced South Pacific Convergence Zone which located southwest of its normal position.

December 2013 to February 2014 rainfall: (Include a summary statement on verification)

The Climate Outlook for the period – December 2013 to February 2014 was mostly above normal in the central and parts of eastern region while western region was likely to be below normal.

As a result of the forecast verification, all stations in the central region were consistent to their forecast while eastern region was near consistent and western region inconsistent. Munda recorded the highest seasonal total rainfall of 1505mm while Lata recorded the least seasonal total rainfall of 841mm. All stations across the country recorded above median except for eastern regions' stations.

Climate Outlooks for April - June 2014:

1. SCOPIC:

The seasonal rainfall outlook for April to June 2014 shows:

- the most likely outcome for Auki in the central region and Kirakira in the eastern region is normal, with below-normal the next most likely;
- equal likelihood of below-normal and normal for Henderson;
- the most likely outcome for Honiara in the central region and Lata in the eastern region is below-normal, with normal the next most likely.
- the outlook for the western region is mixed, with similar chances of below-normal and above-normal totals; near-normal is the least likely outcome.

The outlook is consistent with the trend of the ENSO condition in the region.

2. POAMA:

Below normal rainfall is predicted for Honiara in the central and Munda in the western regions while above normal is likely for Taro.

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: $X \geq 35$