

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 86

Country Name:

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	October 2014						
	August 2014 Total	September 2014 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Beru (July1932-Oct2014)	22.1	27.7	8.4	19.0	64.8	37.0	11/60
Butaritari (July1931-Oct2014)	198.5	76.3	333.8	97.2	193.7	144.5	70/73
Kanton (Sept1937-Jun2014)	-	-	-	6.9	30.0	12.8	-
Kiritimati (Jan1921-Oct2014)	12.8	95.7	3.9	4.0	18.0	11.0	28/90
Tarawa (Jan1950-Oct2014)	146.5	83.2	128.9	41.2	123.8	71.6	45/65

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall August to October 2014

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #82]

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?)
Beru (July1932-Oct2014)	58.2	109	203	133.4	6/59	19.1/27.4/ 53.5 (21.8)	Inconsistent
Butaritari (July1931-Oct2014)	608.6	351.1	630.3	537.2	46/72	16.4/37.1/ 46.5 (19.3)	Near Consistent
Kanton (Sept1937-Jun2014)	-	81.5	173.2	127.1	-	27/28.4/ 44.6 (16.9)	-
Kiritimati (Jan1921-Oct2014)	112.4	26.5	57.8	41.4	75/87	27.7/32.7/ 39.5 (2.4)	Consistent
Tarawa (Jan1950-Oct2014)	358.6	184.9	437.5	279.4	41/65	11.4/39.3/ 49.4 (26.9)	Near Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for August to October 2014 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #82):
NINO3.4 SST Anomalies extended (3months) Jan 1950-June 2014

* 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
December 2014 to February 2015**

Predictors and Period used:

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Beru	25.1	346.5	74.9		48.4	86.0
Butaritari	39.2	875.5	60.8		19.8	73.0
Kanton	38.6	59.7	61.4		25.2	68.9
Kiritimati	36.5	116.0	63.5		41.8	82.3
Tarawa	38.0	659.5	62.0		28.2	75.0

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Beru	8	163.0	48	660.0	44	41.1	56.0
Butaritari	22	643.3	38	1056.6	40	19.6	54.0
Kanton	20	30.3	38	204.0	42	43.2	60.0
Kiritimati	27	59.9	38	155.0	35	37.6	51.6
Tarawa	10	386.9	47	859.5	43	43.9	65.6

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
December 2014 to February 2015**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Tarawa	5	397	5	820	90		
Kanton	42	6	9	213	49		
Tabuaeran	12	44	5	399	83		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for October 2014:

October rainfall was *below normal* for Beru and Kiritimati, *above normal* for Butaritari and Tarawa. Butaritari rainfall ranks 70 over 73.

Accumulated rainfall for August to October 2014, including outlook verification:

August to October rainfall was below normal for Beru and Inconsistent. Rainfall was normal for Butaritari and Tarawa and both were near consistent. Kiritimati was above normal and consistent. Level of skill was low for Kiritimati and high to very high for the remaining stations.

Outlooks for December 2014 to February 2015:

1. SCOPIC:

The most likely outcome for Beru, Kiritimati and Tarawa is normal except for Butaritari and Kanton which favours above normal rainfall. Confidence in the outlook is high to exceptional.

2. POAMA:

The most likely outcome for all stations is *above normal*.

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: $X \geq 35$