

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 125

Country Name: Samoa

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	January 2018						
	November 2017 Total	December 2017 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Apia	367.7	592.2	412.7	349.7	488.7	398.3	67/129
Afiamalu	554.2	730.1	877.6	556.1	904.5	643.1	47/65
Nafanua	406.7	593.0	690.5	369.7	714.2	437.5	25/44
Faleolo	289.9	437.9	277.8	214.2	360.0	288.3	28/58

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
November 2017 to January 2018**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #121]

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)?
Apia	1372.6	956.9	1200.8	1055.7	105/127	36/34/30 (4.2)	Near-consistent
Afiamalu	2161.9	1458.6	1969.2	1761.9	46/63	39/38/23 (12.6)	Inconsistent
Nafanua	1690.2	1085.3	1472.0	1294.9	32/41	34/36/30 (18.1)	Near-consistent
Faleolo	1005.6	696.8	893.0	791.8	46/56	36/32/32 (2.8)	Near-consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for November 2017 to January 2018 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #121): Nino 3.4 values of August to September 2017

* 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
March to May 2018**

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 values of December 2017 to January 2018.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Apia	52	763.9	48		-1.4	47.8
Afiamalu	58	1189.4	42		2.1	58.9
Nafanua	52	875.1	48		-1.9	51.1
Faleolo	53	546.9	47		-1.8	34.5

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Apia	27	664.8	42	841.6	31	-0.2	40.3
Afiamalu	35	1035.7	35	1352.4	30	-1.3	32.1
Nafanua	32	801.9	42	1018.4	26	-1.6	40.0
Faleolo	36	491.7	32	622.7	32	-1.7	16.4

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
March to May 2018**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Apia	64	620	18	899	18		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for January 2018:

“Normal” rainfall was recorded at all sites across Samoa.

Accumulated rainfall for November 2017 to January 2018, including outlook verification:

All stations observed “above normal” rainfall.

The outlook verification for Apia, Nafanua and Faleolo was “near-consistent”, while it was “inconsistent” at Afiamlu.

Outlooks for March to May 2018:

SCOPIC:

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

The confidence of the model is “**very low**”

- **POAMA:** “Below normal” rainfall is favoured for Apia in the coming season.

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: $X \geq 35$