

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 161

Country: Samoa

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	Nov-2020	Dec-2020	Jan-2021				
			Total (mm)	33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	Rainfall (mm)				
Apia (1890-2021)	202.1	778.8	635.1	341.4	485.6	385.5	114/132
Afiamalu (1903-2021)	460.7	1316.1	993.2	569.2	821.1	693.9	53/68
Nafanua (1965-2021)	254.0	870.0	850.9	352.5	703.8	442.5	37/47
Faleolo (1956-2021)	239.3	607.7	344.6	214.2	360.0	284.4	39/61

TABLE 2: Three-month Rainfall for November 2020 to January 2021

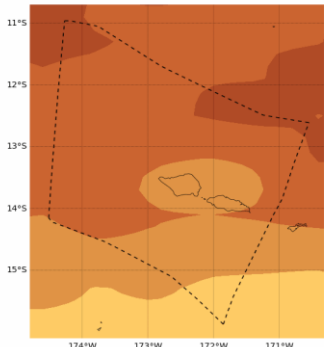
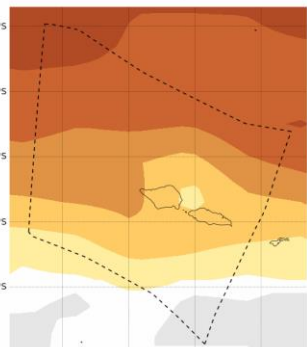
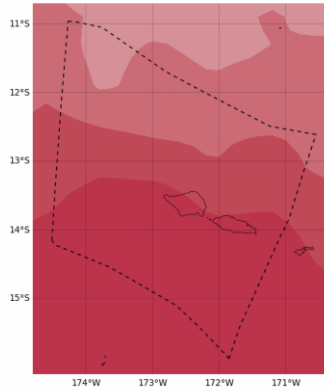
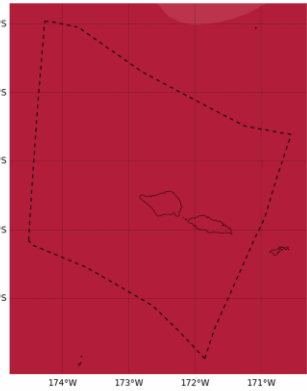
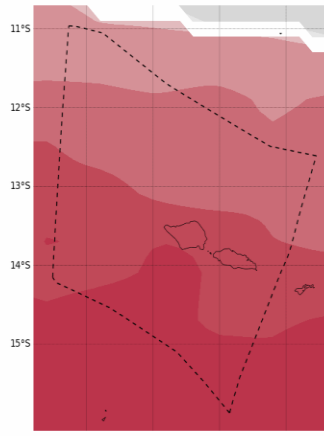

Station	Three-month Total		33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank	SCOPIC forecast probabilities based on NINO3.4 August-September 2020				Verification: Consistent, Near- consistent, Inconsistent?
	Rainfall (mm)						B-N	N	A-N	LEPS	
Apia (1890-2020)	1616.0	Above normal	950.5	1211.6	1085.4	121/130	26	35	39	4	Consistent
Afiamalu (1903-2020)	2770.0	Above normal	1525.3	2039.8	1814.3	64/66	24	31	45	13	Consistent
Nafanua (1965-2020)	1974.9	Above normal	1085.3	1481.1	1337.2	40/44	13	42	45	17	Consistent
Faleolo (1956-2020)	1191.6	Above normal	697.1	893.2	797.0	58/59	26	37	37	1	Near-consistent

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for March to May 2021**Predictor and Period used: NINO3.4 for December 2020 to January 2021**

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS (%) [whole numbers]	Hit-rate (%) [whole numbers]
Apia (1890-2020)	52	767.8	48		-1	43
Afiamalu (1903-2020)	57	1208.0	43		1	56
Nafanua (1965-2020)	50	872.1	50		-2	47
Faleolo (1956-2020)	50	541.6	50		-2	48

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile Rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile Rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS (%) [whole numbers]	Hit-rate (%) [whole numbers]
Apia (1890-2020)	27	666.3	41	883.9	32	0	40
Afiamalu (1903-2020)	35	1060.1	34	1299.7	31	-2	17
Nafanua (1965-2020)	26	787.9	47	1018.4	27	-1	25
Faleolo (1956-2020)	35	479.6	32	622.7	33	-2	12

TABLE 4: Monthly and Seasonal Climate Outlooks using ACCESS-S for March to May 2021

Monthly rainfall	Seasonal rainfall
<p>Tercile rainfall probabilities for March 2021</p>  <p>Model: ACCESS-S1 Base period: 1990-2012 Model run: 01/02/2021 Issued: 04/02/2021</p>	<p>Tercile rainfall probabilities for March to May 2021</p>  <p>Model: ACCESS-S1 Base period: 1990-2012 Model run: 01/02/2021 Issued: 04/02/2021</p>
Monthly Tmax	Seasonal Tmax
<p>Tercile maximum temperature probabilities for March 2021</p>  <p>Model: ACCESS-S1 Base period: 1990-2012 Model run: 01/02/2021 Issued: 04/02/2021</p>	<p>Tercile maximum temperature probabilities for March to May 2021</p>  <p>Model: ACCESS-S1 Base period: 1990-2012 Model run: 01/02/2021 Issued: 04/02/2021</p>
Monthly Tmin	Seasonal Tmin
<p>Tercile minimum temperature probabilities for March 2021</p>  <p>Model: ACCESS-S1 Base period: 1990-2012 Model run: 01/02/2021 Issued: 04/02/2021</p>	<p>Tercile minimum temperature probabilities for March to May 2021</p>  <p>Model: ACCESS-S1 Base period: 1990-2012 Model run: 01/02/2021 Issued: 04/02/2021</p>

Summary Statements

Rainfall for January 2021: Apia, Afiamalu and Nafanua recorded *Above Normal* rainfall, while Faleolo recorded *Normal* rainfall.

Accumulated rainfall for November 2020 to January 2021, including outlook verification: Rainfall was significantly *Above Normal* across the country. The outlook issued in October was verified to be Consistent at most locations, apart from Faleolo where it was verified as Near-Consistent.

Faleolo had its second highest November to January rainfall on record, while Afiamalu recorded its third highest and Nafanua its fifth highest November to January rainfall.

Outlooks for March to May 2021:

1. SCOPIC:

The outlook for Apia and Nafanua shows *Normal* rainfall as the most likely outcome, with *Above Normal* rainfall the next most likely. *Below Normal* rainfall is the least likely.

For Afiamalu and Faleolo, the outlook offers little guidance as the chances of *above normal*, *normal* and *below normal* rainfall are similar.

2. ACCESS-S:

Monthly rainfall: *Below normal* rainfall is favoured for Samoa in March.

Monthly maximum and minimum temperatures: March is favoured to have *above normal* temperatures across Samoa.

Seasonal rainfall: The outlook shows *below normal* is favoured across Samoa for the March to May period.

Seasonal maximum and minimum temperatures: *Above normal* maximum and minimum temperatures are favoured across Samoa for the March to May period.