

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 139

Country: Vanuatu

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	Jan-2019	Feb-2019	Mar-2019				Rank
			Total (mm)	33%tile	67%tile	Median	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	Rainfall (mm)				
Northern Region							
Sola (1971-2019)	453.3	506.6	488.0	284.4	448.1	370.7	36/47
Pekoa (1971-2019)	138.7	400.3	111.5	193.5	289.7	243.2	4/49
Lamap (1961-2019)	130.5	174.5	106.0	204.0	324.5	250.0	6/59
Southern Region							
Bauerfield (1972-2019)	247.3	365.6	104.3	248.9	337.7	292.5	1/47
Port Vila (1953-2019)	218.0	242.5	156.5	251.0	364.0	298.3	10/67
Whitegrass (1972-2019)	93.9	253.5	97.9	143.6	228.2	193.2	10/48
Aneityum (1952-2019)	102.7	535.0	182.3	241.0	386.1	311.3	16/68

TABLE 2: Three-month Rainfall for January to March 2019

Station	Three-month Total	33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank	SCOPIC forecast probabilities* based on NINO3.4 October-November 2018				Verification: Consistent, Near- consistent, Inconsistent?	
	Rainfall (mm)					B-N	N	A-N	LEPS		
<i>Northern Region</i>											
Sola (1971-2019)	1447.9	Above normal	997.4	1218.9	1112.9	43/46	45	32	23	4	Inconsistent
Pekoa (1971-2019)	650.5	Below normal	743.2	972.7	805.7	11/49	43	22	35	0	Consistent
Lamap (1961-2019)	411.0	Below normal	641.8	813.1	716.9	3/59	45	39	16	8	Consistent
<i>Southern Region</i>											
Bauerfield (1972-2019)	717.2	Below normal	794.9	1023.7	961.4	11/47	48	24	28	6	Consistent
Port Vila (1953-2019)	617.0	Below normal	753.8	996.1	869.8	13/67	51	32	17	11	Consistent
Whitegrass (1972-2019)	445.3	Below normal	496.3	673.4	541.9	15/48	43	33	24	3	Consistent
Aneityum (1952-2019)	820.0	Normal	724.6	975.2	846.8	31/68	44	37	19	6	Near- consistent

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for May to July 2019

Predictor and Period used: NINO3.4 for February to March 2019

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS (%) [whole numbers]	Hit-rate (%) [whole numbers]
<i>Northern Region</i>						
Sola (1971-2019)	70	932.7	30		12	61
Pekoa (1971-2019)	68	464.8	32		9	69
Lamap (1961-2019)	58	378.2	42		0	66
<i>Southern Region</i>						
Bauerfield (1972-2019)	64	427.5	36		4	57
Port Vila (1953-2019)	74	394.2	26		15	71
Whitegrass (1972-2019)	69	222.5	31		8	61
Aneityum (1952-2019)	70	438.8	30		10	68

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile Rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile Rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS (%) [whole numbers]	Hit-rate (%) [whole numbers]
<i>Northern Region</i>							
Sola (1971-2019)	42	748.7	34	1181.2	24	3	35
Pekoa (1971-2019)	54	323.0	22	566.6	24	9	44
Lamap (1961-2019)	43	305.4	34	457.1	23	2	43
<i>Southern Region</i>							
Bauerfield (1972-2019)	48	317.9	30	524.2	22	6	41
Port Vila (1953-2019)	63	312.8	22	481.4	15	16	46
Whitegrass (1972-2019)	45	181.4	43	264.8	12	7	30
Aneityum (1952-2019)	46	358.3	35	523.0	19	7	49

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for May to July 2019

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile Rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile Rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)
Northern Region					
Sola	91	648.0	5	920.0	4
Pekoa	91	278.0	5	511.0	4
Lamap	91	319.0	5	451.0	4
Southern Region					
Bauerfield	67	333.0	28	513.0	5
Port Vila	67	277.0	28	502.0	5
Whitegrass	73	156.0	22	234.0	5
Aneityum	58	336.0	33	488.0	9

Summary Statements

Rainfall for March 2019:

Rainfall recorded for the month of March was above normal for Sola, and below normal for all other stations in Vanuatu.

Bauerfield recorded its driest month on record, followed by Pekoa its fourth-driest, and Lamap its sixth-driest.

Accumulated rainfall for January to March 2019, including outlook verification:

Accumulated rainfall was above normal for Sola, normal for Aneityum, and below normal for the remaining stations (Pekoa, Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila, and Whitegrass).

The outlook issued in November 2018 for the months of January to March 2019 was Inconsistent at Sola, Consistent at Pekoa, Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila and Whitegrass, and Near-Consistent at Aneityum.

Outlooks for May to July 2019:

1. SCOPIC:

For Port Vila and Pekoa, the outlook favours below normal.

At Sola, Lamap, Bauerfield, and Aneityum, the outlook for May to July 2019 shows below normal as the most likely outcome, with normal the next most likely. Above normal is the least likely.

For Whitegrass, outlook shows a near-equal likelihood of below-normal and normal rainfall. Above-normal is the least likely.

2. POAMA:

Outlook favours below normal rainfall for all stations in Vanuatu.

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: $X \geq 35$

Table: 5 Stakeholder Engagement- Evaluations of how effective NMS engage with stakeholders

Climate Product	Date: March 2019	Stakeholder	Total Number of Participants	Number of male	Number of female
EAR Watch	26th	Communities around Efate and stakeholder email list	15 community notice boards + 142		
Monthly Climate Briefing		Radio talk back show			
Ocean Bulletin					
Vanuatu Climate Update	26th	VMGD Communities	15 Community boards + Stakeholder email list		
Vanuatu Monthly Climate Summary		Stakeholder email lists	142		
WMO Day	22nd – 29th	VMGD University of the South Pacific (USP) Agence Universitaire De La Francophonie (AUF) Vanuatu Institute of Technology (VIT) Vila North School Ecole Publique Centre-ville Onesua Presbyterian College Erakor Bilingual School Central School Pikinini Playtime Ecole Colardo Epauto SDA School Woman I Toktok Tugeta Network	245	121	124
Total					