

# Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 160

Country: Vanuatu

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	Oct-2020	Nov-2020	Dec-2020				
			Total (mm)	33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	Rainfall (mm)				
Northern Region							
Sola (1971-2020)	430.6	550.5	393.1	231.5	446.6	353.2	26/47
Pekoa (1971-2020)	183.8	465.4	242.1	149.5	216.9	179.2	35/50
Lamap (1961-2020)		141.0	194.5	102.4	160.3	122.4	47/60
Southern Region							
Bauerfield (1972-2020)	115.0	211.0	396.7	129.3	199.9	164.5	48/48
Port Vila (1953-2020)	74.2	212.0	450.0	108.5	211.1	171.6	67/68
Whitegrass (1972-2020)	113.0	160.7	42.5	50.0	99.8	78.0	12/50
Aneityum (1952-2020)	187.4	271.8	262.4	110.4	231.4	158.0	52/69

**TABLE 2: Three-month Rainfall for October to December 2020**

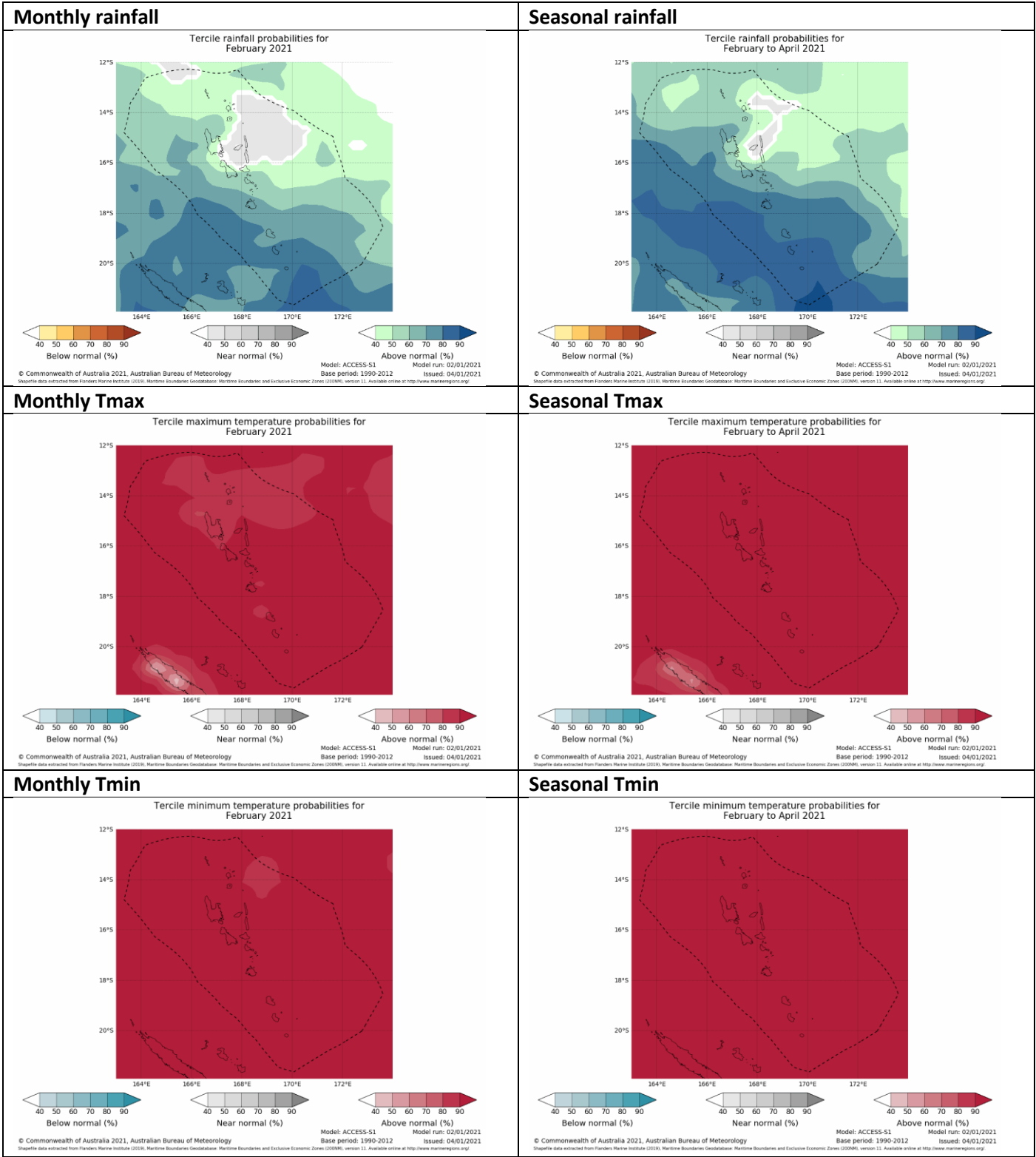
Station	Three-month Total		33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank	SCOPIC forecast probabilities based on NINO3.4 July-August 2020				Verification: Consistent, Near-consistent, Inconsistent?
	Rainfall (mm)						B-N	N	A-N	LEPS	
Northern Region											
Sola (1971-2020)	1374.2	Above normal	922.3	1350.0	1173.3	32/46	24	38	38	8	Near-consistent
Pekoa (1971-2020)	891.3	Above normal	422.9	606.6	524.1	44/50	22	37	41	27	Consistent
Lamap (1961-2020)			325.9	450.4	367.6		29	31	40	11	
Southern Region											
Bauerfield (1972-2020)	722.7	Above normal	314.4	553.5	440.5	43/48	24	35	41	21	Consistent
Port Vila (1953-2020)	736.2	Above normal	309.3	493.6	428.2		24	37	39	20	Consistent
Whitegrass (1972-2020)	316.2	Above normal	138.5	208.7	184.3	39/49	20	37	43	34	Consistent
Aneityum (1952-2020)	721.6	Above normal	313.9	503.1	401.2	62/69	23	38	39	24	Consistent

**TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for February to April 2021****Predictor and Period used: NINO3.4 for November to December 2020**

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS (%) [whole numbers]	Hit-rate (%) [whole numbers]
<b>Northern Region</b>						
Sola (1971-2020)	45	1205.5	55		-1	50
Pekoa (1971-2020)	49	844.5	51		-2	42
Lamap (1961-2020)	38	700.9	62		5	61
<b>Southern Region</b>						
Bauerfield (1972-2020)	39	905.1	61		2	58
Port Vila (1953-2020)	38	850.2	62		4	65
Whitegrass (1972-2020)	38	490.4	62		4	57
Aneityum (1952-2020)	48	834.4	52		-1	51

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile Rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile Rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS (%) [whole numbers]	Hit-rate (%) [whole numbers]
<b>Northern Region</b>							
Sola (1971-2020)	27	1065.1	33	1329.8	40	0	38
Pekoa (1971-2020)	37	730.4	30	956.2	33	-2	24
Lamap (1961-2020)	28	628.1	26	755.1	46	2	27
<b>Southern Region</b>							
Bauerfield (1972-2020)	24	778.6	37	999.5	39	2	38
Port Vila (1953-2020)	23	769.9	30	919.9	47	6	47
Whitegrass (1972-2020)	22	432.3	32	576.2	46	5	43
Aneityum (1952-2020)	29	689.1	31	927.5	40	-1	33

TABLE 4: Monthly and Seasonal Climate Outlooks using ACCESS-S for February to April 2021



## **Summary Statements**

### **Rainfall for December 2020:**

Rainfall was above normal at Pekoa, Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila and Aneityum. Rainfall was below normal at Whitegrass, and normal at Sola.

Bauerfield recorded its wettest December in 48 years, while Port Vila had its second wettest in 68 years.

### **Accumulated rainfall for October to December 2020, including outlook verification:**

Rainfall was above normal at all stations. The verification of the outlook issued in September was consistent at most sites, except for Sola which had near-consistent, and Lamap where there was no three-month total available.

### **Outlooks for February to April 2021:**

#### **1. SCOPIC:**

The outlook for Sola, Lamap, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum, shows above normal as the most likely outcome, with normal the next most likely. Below normal is the least likely.

The outlook for Bauerfield shows a near-equal likelihood of above normal and normal rainfall. Below normal is the least likely.

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

#### **2. ACCESS-S:**

##### **Monthly rainfall:**

The outlook favours above normal rainfall in **February** for much of the country, except for Ambae, Maewo, Pentecost, and southeast Santo, where near-normal is the most likely outcome.

##### **Monthly maximum and minimum temperatures:**

The outlook favours above normal temperatures for Vanuatu for February 2021.

##### **Seasonal rainfall:**

The outlook favours a wetter than average February to April period for much of the country, except Ambae, Maewo and north Pentecost, where near-normal is the most likely outcome.

##### **Seasonal maximum and minimum temperature:**

The outlook favours above normal temperatures across the country for the February to April period.

**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**

Product	Date: December 2020	Stakeholder	Total Number of Participants	Number of male	Number of female