



SOLOMON ISLANDS

MalaClim RAINFALL WATCH

July 2015



This Rainfall WATCH bulletin is based on the monthly Rainfall Tracking for October to December annually as an Early Warning System for Malaria Risk Alert for the period—January to June in North Guadalcanal using the MalaClim model.

Coming Up:

- Rainfall update.
- El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Update.
- Rainfall Outlook for period—September to November 2015.

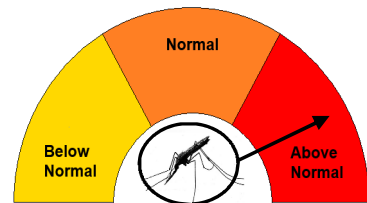
Rainfall Update—October to December 2014

Malaria Early Warning System OCTOBER—DECEMBER 2014 Rainfall Thresholds (mm) for Honiara	LOWER 370	UPPER 540
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Rainfall for Honiara during the period—October to December 2014 was well below the threshold of 370mm. Total rainfall for December was the highest of 134.5mm for the period while November recorded the lowest rainfall total of 21mm. Rainfall recorded during the period was normal for the month of October and December and below normal rainfall for November.

HONIARA RAINFALL				
Year	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2013	190.0	34.0	99.0	323.0
2014	84.0	21.0	134.5	239.5

“Therefore; the Malaria risk in the Northern Guadalcanal during the period: January—June 2015 is likely to be ABOVE NORMAL. We’ll update the information with rainfall observations in the next outlook bulletin.”



MALARIA RISK INDEX

El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Update

EL NINO—associated with Below normal rainfall.

NEUTRAL—associated with Normal rainfall.

LA NINA—associated with Above normal rainfall.

Current status:

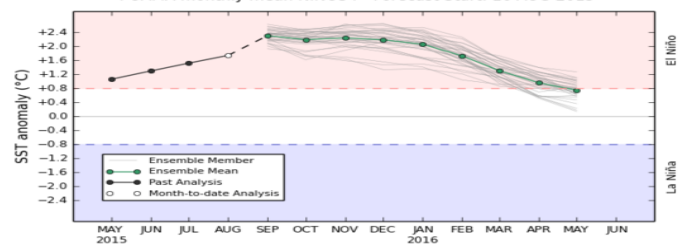
The El Nino condition is now in its mature stage in the region. Atmosphere and Ocean indicators are coupling and strengthen with tropical Pacific Ocean temperatures well above El Nino thresholds. The trade winds continues to weaken and strong negative Southern Oscillation Index maintained. Therefore; strong coupling of the Ocean and atmosphere is typical of a mature El Nino which suggests small chance of the event to finish before end 2015.

Outlook:

All international climate models indicate further warming in the coming months in the tropical Pacific and as such, El Nino is like to peak later in the year. Thus, it is likely that the tropical Pacific Ocean temperature will remain above El Nino thresholds until beginning of 2016.



Source—Bureau of Meteorology (BOM), Australia, July 2015
POAMA monthly mean NINO3.4 - Forecast Start: 16 AUG 2015



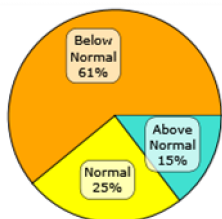
Copyright 2015 Australian Bureau of Meteorology Base period 1981-2010

Source—BOM, POAMA ENSO Outlook - August 2015 to May 2016

Rainfall Outlook—September to November 2015

Honiara Rainfall—Northern Guadalcanal

Above normal	<i>Rainfall Greater than</i>	>412.0mm
Normal	<i>Rainfall Between</i>	310.0 & 412.0mm
Below normal	<i>Rainfall Less than</i>	<310.0mm



“Below normal rainfall” is most likely for Honiara for the period—September to November 2015. The forecast skill for Honiara is low.

Below normal rainfall is most likely for Solomon Islands for the period—September to November 2015.

Below normal rainfall is most likely conditions for all regions in Solomon Islands for the period.

We are now in the dry season and it very important to note the mature stage of El Nino in the region which may have greater impact to the rainfall across Solomon Islands.

STATIONS	Below Normal (%)	33% Rainfall (mm)	Normal (%)	66% Rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (%)
Auki	68	592	16	694	16
Henderson	69	290	27	387	4
Honiara	61	310	25	412	15
Kirakira	80	637	8	853	12
Lata	62	996	27	1240	11
Munda	51	951	27	784	21
Taro	58	746	20	843	22

As such, North Guadalcanal is most likely to experience below normal rainfall during the period.

Should you require further queries regarding any information relating to weather or El Nino, please don't hesitate to contact us by phone or email.

Rainfall Verification—April to June 2015

STATIONS	TOTAL Rainfall (mm)	Forecasted Rainfall (mm)	Forecast Verification	33% Rainfall (mm)	66% Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)
Honiara	668	Below normal	Inconsistent	267	336	294

The prediction for the period—May to July 2015 for Honiara was below normal rainfall.

As a result of the observed data for Honiara for the period, rainfall recorded was inconsistent to its forecast as rainfall recorded was above normal.

Disclaimer:

The Rainfall WATCH Bulletin provided in this document is presented for the Health sector—Malaria (vector borne) operations. The information should be used as a guide only. Solomon Islands Meteorological Service takes all measures in providing accurate information however, it does not guarantee 100% accuracy of the forecast provided in this summary. The Vector borne operations should be consulted for expert advice, clarification and further information when necessary. The user take all risks resulting indirectly or directly from the use of the rainfall prediction information.

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