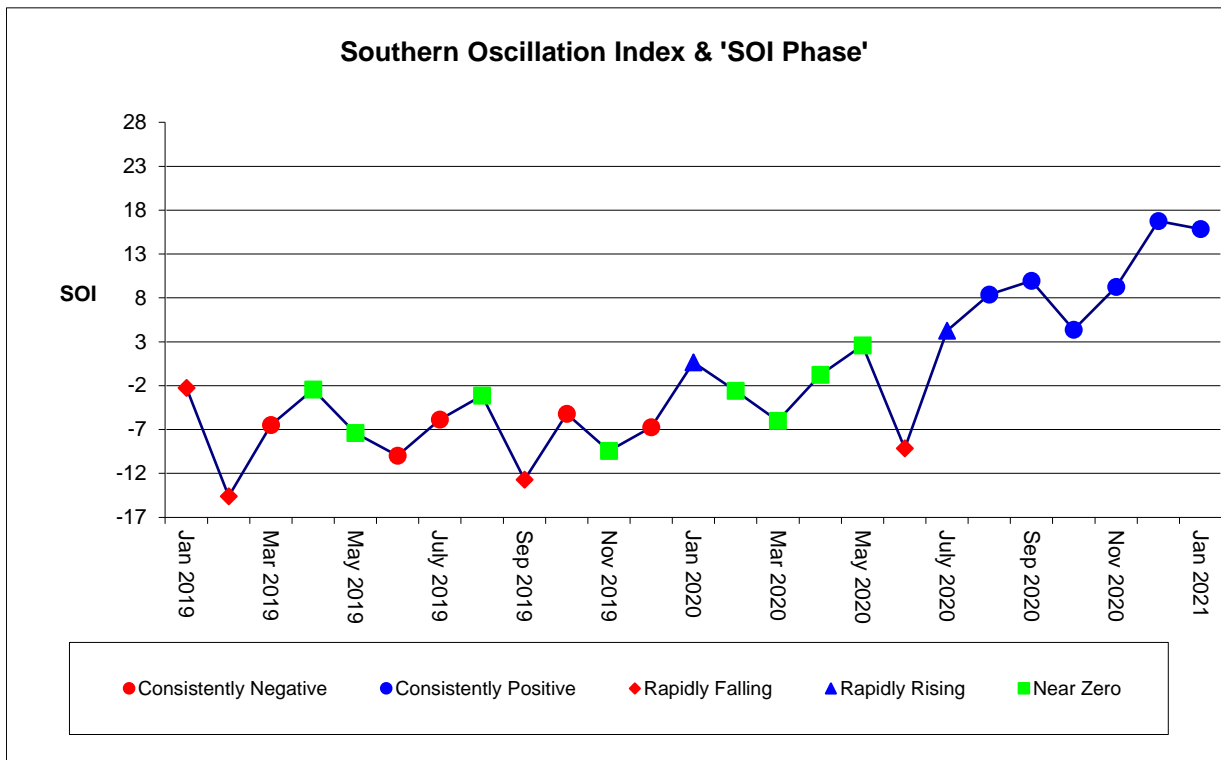


Climate Outlook February – March 2021

SOI TRACKER:

The monthly average SOI for January was positive 15.85 (+15.85) compared to positive 16.77 (+16.77) in December. Therefore the SOI phase for January came out as “Consistently Positive”.

	SOI VALUE	SOI PHASE
End of February 2020	-2.6	"Consistently Near Zero"
End of March 2020	-6.02	"Consistently Near Zero"
End of April 2020	-0.75	"Consistently Near Zero"
End of May 2020	2.57	"Consistently Near Zero"
End of June 2020	-9.13	"Rapidly Falling"
End of July 2020	4.25	"Rapidly Rising"
End of August 2020	8.39	"Consistently Positive"
End of September 2020	9.93	"Consistently Positive"
End of October 2020	4.37	"Consistently Positive"
End of November 2020	9.24	"Consistently Positive"
End of December 2020	16.77	"Consistently Positive"
End of January 2021	15.85	"Consistently Positive"



RAINFALL OUTLOOK

- Median rainfall for February-March at Macknade is equal to 863.6 mm.
- Based on the new SOI phase, we have calculated the chance of exceeding median rainfall for February-March for the Herbert region to be 59%. (A 50% chance is what would be considered the 'normal chance' of experiencing above median rainfall).
- The Upper Quartile (top quartile of rainfall) for February-March at Macknade is equal to 1198.8 mm.
- Based on past rainfall events over a period of more than 110 years, the chance of experiencing excessively high rainfall (i.e. rainfall greater than the upper quartile) is equal to 38%. (25% chance is what would be considered the 'normal chance' of experiencing excessively high rainfall.)

Climate Outlook February – March 2021

FEBRUARY-MARCH RAIN OUTLOOK FOR INGHAM IN DETAIL:

Since 1892 when rainfall records commenced at Macknade, there have been 32 occasions when the SOI phase at the end of January was “Consistently Positive”. These years were:

1893 1894 1898 1904 1911 1916 1917 1918 1921 1922 1923 1929
 1934 1938 1939 1943 1950 1951 1956 1957 1962 1974 1976 1989
 1997 1999 2000 2001 2008 2009 2011 2012

During those 32 years, total rainfall for February-March exceeded the median 19 times. Therefore the chance of exceeding median rainfall for February-March is $19/32 = 59\%$.

A high amount of rainfall (i.e. rain greater than 1198.8 mm) resulted 12 times. So the chance of high rainfall is equal to $12/32 = 38\%$.

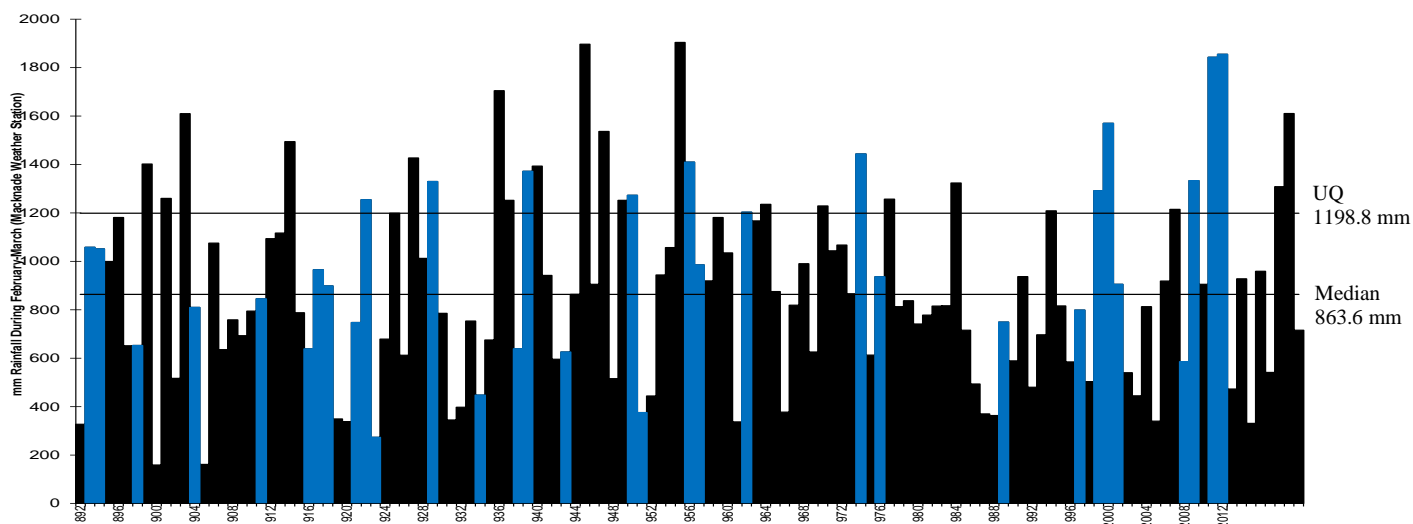
There have been 32 years when the SOI phase at the end of Jan was in a Consistently Positive phase (coloured Bars)

In 19 of those years the rainfall during Feb-Mar exceeded the median.

The chance that the Rainfall during Feb-Mar will exceed the median = $19/32 = 59\%$

In 12 of those years the Rainfall during Feb-Mar exceeded the Upper Quartile.

The chance that the Rainfall during Feb-Mar will exceed the Upper Quartile = $12/32 = 38\%$



Comparison to Last Year

	Feb – Mar 2021	Feb – Mar 2020
SOI Phase	Consistently Positive	Rapidly Rising
Chance of above median rainfall	59%	43%
Chance of excessively high rainfall	38%	21%

For information on sea surface temperatures and general climate information, please see <http://www.longpaddock.qld.gov.au> and <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/ahead>.

Disclaimer:

The seasonal climate forecasting information provided in this document is presented for the purposes of raising awareness of the potential value of seasonal climate forecasting information and should be considered as a guideline only. The user assumes all risk for any liabilities, expenses, losses, damages and costs resulting directly or indirectly from the use of the climatic forecast information.