

Report from CBS Lead Centres for GCOS – Region VII

1 Performances of GSN stations in region VII responsible area.

(Description of performance on table 1)

Table 1. Performance of GSN stations in 2013

Country	number of stations	CA	CC	CT	CR	Index
Antarctica	42	0.95				

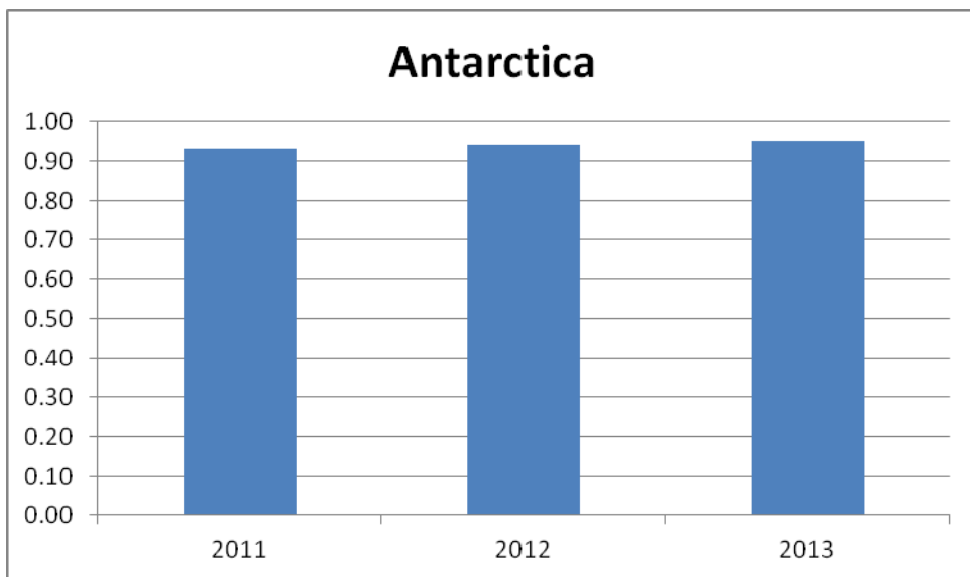


Figure 1 Performance of GSN stations for three years

2 Activities of CBSLC in region VII

2.1 Antarctica

Once again this year the percentage of CLIMAT messages from the Antarctic was in around 95%. This is due to the missing observations being created at the British Antarctic Survey if more than 90% of the main synoptic hours were available on the GTS.

If incorrectly coded CLIMAT Messages were identified then either the national operator is contacted and they were asked to re-send them or the formatting error is corrected and the CLIMAT message resent.

Differences are seen between the monitoring at BAS and at other centers as some of the CLIMAT messages come out after the 21st of the month. These are always the automatic weather stations (AWS) and it is due to there been a delay in the data arriving. The CLIMAT messages from the manned stations are usually sent by the 5th day of the month.

The synoptic observations are monitored on a daily basis and if a station has not transmitted data for more than 5 days then the national operator is contacted to see if the issue can be resolved.

Some stations that have upper air program experience problems getting data to 30hPa in the winter. This is due to the extreme cold conditions causing the balloons to burst early. One solution to this is to use larger balloons but this is not always logistically possible either because of limited supply of gas or the launch facility not being large enough for larger balloons.

Marambio on the Antarctic Peninsula only launch 3 radio-sondes per week on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. The flights are supplemented by launches from Rothera station on Mondays, Tuesday, Thursday and Fridays. The distance between the stations is approximately 600Km.