

A Bureau spokesperson:

The Bureau of Meteorology does not contest the dates in question. They coincide with the dates the bureau has already highlighted as having been found to be duplicate, and which have been amended in the latest ACORN-SAT data release on October 19.

To clarify:

1. June 1943 and June 1944. All thirty days of June 1943 are replicated exactly in June 1944.

The bureau has confirmed this duplication. This is included in the figure of 200. The duplicate entries are currently showing as “no data”.

1. December 1935 and December 1936, fourteen days are identical, then two days appear only in 1936, then a value of 20 appears in both columns with the 1935 record carrying no days-of-accumulation flag, then fourteen more days are identical.

The bureau has confirmed these duplications and anomalies. These are included in the figure of “fewer than 200”. Duplicate entries are showing as “no data” in ACORN-SAT.

2. November 1903 and November 1905, where all thirty days are replicated.

The bureau has confirmed these duplications and anomalies. These are included in the figure of “fewer than 200”. Duplicate entries are showing as “no data”. Due to them being pre-1910, these figures do not contribute to ACORN-SAT.

3. A seven-day replication across the January/February 1910 boundary, in the first year of the Bureau's standardised record.

The bureau is investigating this data but is yet to confirm duplication. They will be removed if confirmed as duplicates. These are included in the figure of “fewer than 200”.

To reiterate: extensive bureau analysis as a result of the report has found fewer than 200 duplicate entries. Where duplications were identified, the duplicate data currently shows as “no data” and will do so until the bureau consults the National Archives to source records from original logbooks. This will be amended in next year’s ACORN-SAT release.

It remains that following this extensive analysis, the bureau has found no cause to believe there are any other issues of concern raised by the report. The bureau reiterates the statistical insignificance of 200 duplicate entries in a dataset of 7 million.