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Fiji Climate Summary May 2025

ISO 9001:2015 certified Climate Services

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1. IN BRIEF

Variable weather conditions were experienced in the country during the month, with dominating southeast wind flows and several troughs of low pressure. As a result, wide range of rainfall was observed across the country, ranging from *well below* to *well above average*. Most stations recorded wetter than usual conditions; however, drier conditions were evident in parts of the Western Division, as well as Matuku (Lau Group).

Overall, out of the 22 rainfall monitoring stations that reported in, in time for the compilation of this bulletin, 3 recorded *well above average*, 9 above *average*, 5 average, 4 *below average*, and 1 station with *below average* rainfall (Table 2, Figures 1-5).

The month's highest monthly rainfall was recorded at Monasavu with 524.5mm, followed by 364.0mm at Rotuma, 353.8mm at Matei Airfield, 340.0mm at Nausori Airport, 336.5mm at Navua, 325.2mm at Laucala Bay (Suva), 319.7mm at Labasa Airfield, 319.5mm at Lomaivuna, and 293.5mm at Nasinu.

On temperatures, the month's highest day-time temperature of 34.3°C was observed at Rarawai Mill (Ba) on the 1st, followed by Labasa Airfield with 34.1°C on the 3rd, Lomaivuna with 33.8°C on the 1st, Nacocolevu with 33.5°C on the 18th, and Nadarivatu with 33.3°C on the 17th .

Last month's coolest night-time temperature of 14.5° C was recorded at Nadarivatu on the 27th, followed by Nacocolevu with 17.5°C on the 18th, Rarawai Mill (Ba) with 18.0°C on the 19th, and Sigatoka with 18.2° C on the 18th.

Southeasterly winds were dominant at Nadi Airport, Matei Airfield, and Savusavu Airfield, while easterly winds were dominant at Nausori Airport (Figure 7).

Warmer than normal sea surface temperature anomalies were observed across the Fiji Waters, during the month. (Figure 8). Generally *above normal* sea level anomalies persisted across the Fiji Group during the month (Figure 10).

2. WEATHER PATTERNS

A southeast wind flow dominated the country from the 1st of May to the 7th with cloudy periods with some showers over the interior and eastern parts of the larger islands. Fine apart from isolated afternoon or evening showers occured elsewhere. Strong southeast winds with average wind speeds of up to 42km/hr was also warned over land especially over the windward coastal areas of Yasawa, Ra-Rakiraki and Tailevu areas, Southern Bua, Taveuni and nearby smaller islands, Cikobia, Lau and Lomaiviti groups, Kadavu and nearby smaller islands.

A trough of low pressure with the associated clouds and rain affected the country from the west on the 8th and gradually spread to the rest of the group and departed the country to the east on the 13th. Occasional rain and few thunderstorms occurred over the interior and eastern parts of the larger islands with few isolated heavy falls. Afternoon and evening showers occurred elsewhere. The significant 24 hours rainfall was recorded on the 8th at Nausori with 114mm, Labasa with 109mm and Suva with 108mm.

A southeast wind flow dominated the country thereafter till the 22nd with cloudy periods with brief showers over the interior and eastern parts of the larger islands with cool nights. Fine weather prevailed elsewhere, also with cool nights.

A trough of low pressure affected the country from the north on the 23rd till 26th with occasional rain over the interior, eastern and northern parts of the larger islands. Fine weather apart from afternoon showers prevailed elsewhere.

Meanwhile, a high pressure system to the far southeast of Fiji directed an east to southeast wind flow over the country from the 27th to the 29th bringing fine weather apart from brief showers over the interior and eastern parts of the larger islands with fine weather elsewhere. On 30th and 31st, some showers prevailed over the interior and eastern parts of the larger islands. Fine weather with afternoon showers prevailed elsewhere.

3. RAINFALL

In May, rainfall across the country ranged from *well below* average to *well above average*. Majority of the stations experienced wetter than usual conditions, with Labasa Airport recording more than three times it *normal* monthly rainfall, while Dobuilevu and Matei Airfield recorded more than twice their *normal* monthly rainfall.

Dry conditions were starting to be observed in the Western Division, with *below normal* rainfall observed at Nadi Airport, Yasawa-i-Rara, Lautoka Mill, Tavua, and Matuku. Lautoka Mill received less than half of its normal monthly rainfall. Overall, out of the 22 rainfall monitoring stations that reported in, in time for the compilation of this bulletin, 3 recorded *well above average*, 9 above *average*, 5 average, 4 *below average*, with Lautoka Mill as the lone station with *well below average* rainfall (Table 2, Figures 1-5).

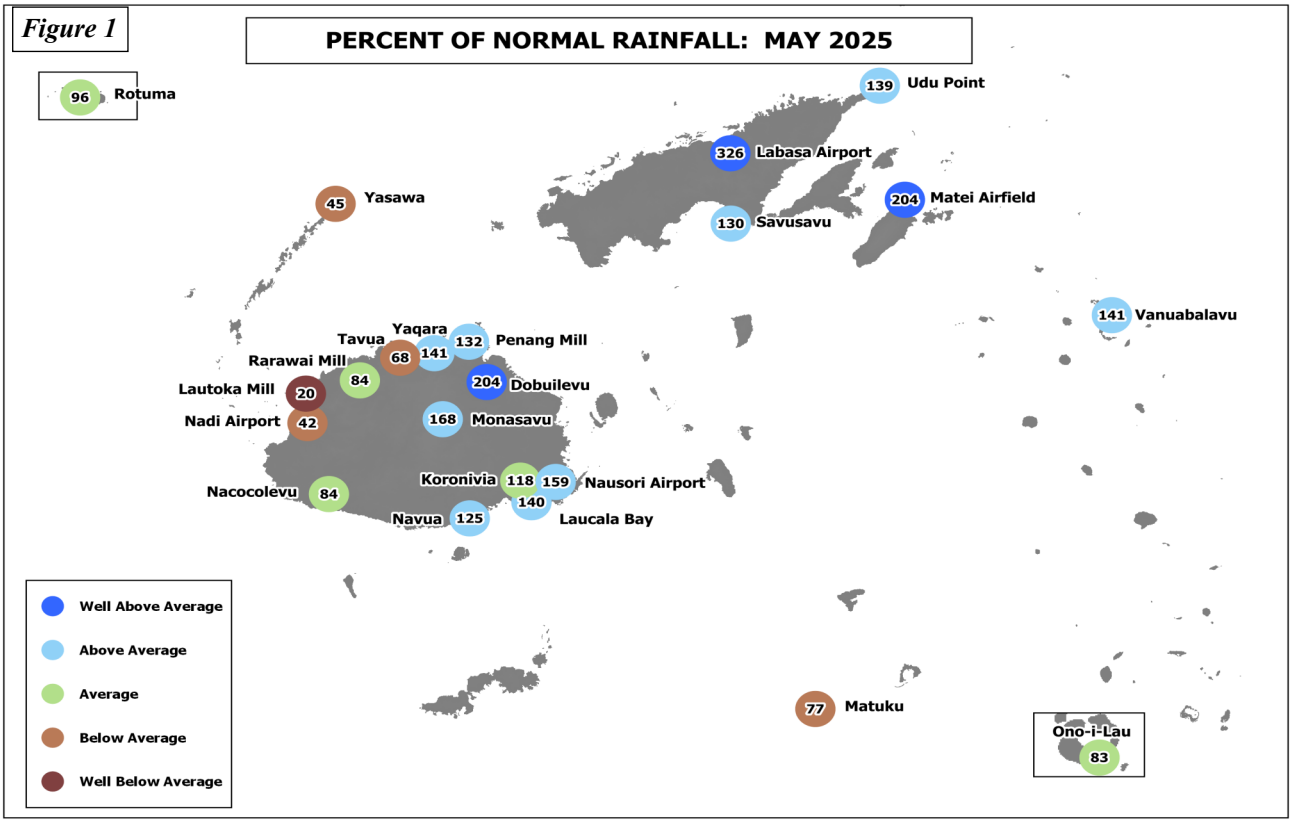
May 2025's highest monthly rainfall of 524.5mm was recorded at Monasavu, followed by 364.0mm at Rotuma, 353.8mm at Matei Airfield, 340.0mm at Nausori Airport, 336.5mm at Navua, 325.2mm at Laucala Bay (Suva), 319.7mm at Labasa Airfield, 319.5mm at Lomaivuna, and 293.5mm at Nasinu. On the other hand, Lautoka Mill recorded the month's lowest total monthly rainfall of 19.1mm, followed by keyasi with 35.0mm, Nadi Airport with 38.3mm, Yasawa-i-Rara with 41.2 mm. Momi with 49.5mm. Tavua with 66.5mm and Nacocolevu with 73.3mm (Table 2).

The highest 24-hour rainfall of 114mm was recorded at Nausori Airport, followed by Labasa Airfield with 109mm, Laucala Bay (Suva) with 108 mm, Nasinu with 97mm, Udu Point with 85mm, Lomaivuna with 82, all recorded on the 8th, Matei Airfield with 78mm on the 25th, Savusavu Airfield and Monasavu both with 74 on the 8th and 9th, respectively, Navua with 69mm on the13th, and Vanuabalavu with 67mm on the 10th.

Monasavu recorded the highest number of rain days (rainfall≥0.1mm) with 30 days, followed by Laucala Bay (Suva) and Navua both with with 24 days, Nasinu and Rotuma both with 23 days, Lomaivuna, Savusavu Airfield, Koronivia and Levuka all with 22 days, and Ono-i-Lau with 20 days. Consequently, Lautoka Mill and Keysai both recorded the least number of rainfall days with 5 days, followed by Momi, Nadi Airport and Yaqara all with 6 days, Tavua with 7 days, Nacocolevu and Rarawai Mill (Ba) both with 10 days, Yasawa-i-Rara with 11 days, and Penang Mill with 13 days.

There were no new rainfall records observed during the month.

Figure 1



Normal: *Long term average from 1991 to 2020*
Well Below Average: *Rainfall less than 40% of normal*
Below Average: *Rainfall between 40 to 79%*
Rain Day: *Rainfall ≥ 0.1mm*

Average: *Rainfall between 80 to 119%*
Above Average: *Rainfall between 120 to 199%*
Well Above Average: *Rainfall greater than or equal to 200% of normal*

4. AIR TEMPERATURES

A. Maximum Day-time Air Temperatures

Near normal to *above normal* day-time temperatures were observed across the country during the month. Out of the 17 climate stations that reported in time for the analysis of data, 10 recorded anomalies ≥+0.5°C, and 7 recorded anomalies within ± 0.5°C.

On average, the warmest days were recorded at Rarawai Mill (Ba) with 32.2°C, followed by Yasawa-i-Rara with 31.3°C, Labasa Airfield with 31.2°C, Rotuma with 31.1°C and Lautoka Mill with 31.0°C. Consequently, Nadarivatu recorded the coolest days on average with 25.3°C, followed by Ono-i-Lau with 27.6°C, Vanuabalavu with 28.8°C, and Laucala Bay (Suva) and Savusavu Airfiled both with 29.0°C.

The month's highest day-time temperature of 34.3°C was observed at Rarawai Mill (Ba) on the 1st, followed by Labasa Airfield with 34.1°C on the 3rd, Lomaivuna with 33.8°C on the 1st, Nacocolevu with 33.5°C on the 18th, Nadarivatu with 33.3°C on the 17th , Yasawa-i-Rara with 33.2°C on the 30th, Yaqara with 33.1°C on the 2nd and Penang Mill with 33.0°C on the 12th .

The coolest daytime temperatures were observed at Nadarivatu with 22.1°C on the 10th, followed by Nacocolevu with 24.0 on the 11th, Lomaivuna with 24.8° C on the 13th, Ono-i-Lau with 25.0°C on the 12th, Laucala Bay (Suva) with 25.4°C on the 8th, Korolevu with 25.4°C on the 13th and Navua with 25.8°C on the 13th.

There were no new day-time temperature records established during the month.

B. Minimum Night-time Air Temperatures

Generally, *above normal* night-time temperatures were recorded at majority of the climate stations during the month. For the 18 stations that reported in, 17 recorded anomalies ≥ +0.5°C, and 1 recorded an anomaly ≤ -0.5°C.

The coolest nights on average were at Nadarivatu with 17.8°C, followed by Labasa Airfield with 20.7°C, Lomaivuna with 21.0°C, Matei Airfield 21.1°C, and Rarawai Mill (Ba) and Sigatoka both with 21.2°C. Consequently, on average, the warmest nights were observed at Rotuma with 25.9°C, Levuka with 24.7°C, Udu Point with 24.6°C, Vanuabalavu and Savusavu Airfield both with 24.1°C, and Yasawa-i-Rara with 23.9°C.

The month's coolest night-time temperature of 14.5°C was recorded at Nadarivatu on the 27th,followed by Nacocolevu with 17.5°C on the 18th, Rarawai Mill (Ba) with 18.0°C on the 19th, Sigatoka with 18.2°C on the 18th, Matei Airfield with 18.5°C on the 14th , and Lomaivuna with 18.6°C on the 17th .

The warmest night-time temperature was recorded at Nacocolevu with 29.0°C on the 31th, followed by Rotuma with 27.7°C on the 31st, Savusavu Airfield with 27.0°C on the 3rd , Udu Point with 26.9°C on the 3rd, Levuka with 26.7°C on the 4th, and Yaqara with 26.2° C on the 7th.

There were no new night-time temperature records established during the month.

TABLE 1. CLIMATE RECORDS ESTABLISHED IN MAY 2025

There were no new climate records established during May 2025.

Note: All comparisons in this summary are with respect to "Climatic Normals". This is defined to be the average climate condition over a 30-year period. Fiji uses 1991-2020 period as its "climatic normal" period.

TABLE 2. DAILY CLIMATE REPORTING SITES: SUMMARY FOR MAY 2025

	RAINFALL					AIR TEMPERATURES								SUNSHINE	
	TOTAL		RAIN * DAYS +	MAX. FALL MM	ON	AVERAGE DAILY MAX. C	# C	MIN. C	# C	EXTREME MAX. C	ON	MIN. C	ON	TOTAL HRS	* %
	MM	%													
NADI AIRPORT	38.3	42	6	22	9	30.7	1.0	21.9	0.9	32.9	29	19.1	19	240	115
LAUCALA BAY	325.2	140	24	108	8	29.0	0.2	23.6	0.7	31.6	3	21.5	14	140	95
NACOCOLEVU RESEARCH	73.3	84	10	16	24	30.0	0.5	21.5	1.6	33.5	18	17.5	18	196	150
ROTUMA (AWS)	364.0	96	23	31	6	31.1	0.4	25.9	0.8	32.8	28	24.4	15		
VIWA ISLAND	OBSERVER ON LEAVE														
YASAWA-I-RARA	41.2	45	11	11	9	31.3	1.4	23.9	0.5	33.2	30	21.9	13		
UDU POINT (AWS)	266.5	139	17	85	8	29.3	-0.2	24.6	0.8	30.9	3	22.7	14		
NABOUWALU	OBSERVER ON LEAVE														
LABASA AIRFIELD	319.7	326	14	109	8	31.2	0.4	20.7	0.5	34.1	3	18.8	31		
SAVUSAVU AIRFIELD	206.6	130	22	74	8	29.0	0.3	24.1	1.3	32.3	12	22.2	14		
KORONIVIA RESEARCH	243.9	118	22	64	10	U/S		22.9	1.3	U/S		20.0	17		
NAUSORI AIRPORT	340.0	159	18	114	8	29.2	0.9	22.6	1.1	32.3	2	19.8	17		
NAVUA (AWS)	336.5	125	24	69	13	29.2	1.1	22.2	1.1	32.0	2	19.3	29		
MONASAVU HYDRO DAM	524.5	168	30	74	9	U/S		U/S		U/S		U/S			
FSC LAUTOKA MILL	19.1	20	5	7	9	31.0	1.0	22.2	0.7	32.6	1	20.0	18		
FSC RARAWAI MILL	83.4	84	10	26	11	32.2	1.3	21.2	1.4	34.3	1	18.0	19		
FSC PENANG MILL	215.6	132	13	55	9	30.0	0.7	23.5	1.5	33.0	12	20.9	30		
MATEI AIRFIELD	353.8	204	16	78	25	29.6	0.6	21.1	-2.2	31.4	3	18.5	14		
VANUABALAVU (AWS)	191.5	141	18	67	10	28.8	0.1	24.1	0.6	31.4	1	22.1	9		
LAKEBA	OBSERVER ON LEAVE														
VUNISEA	OBSERVER ON LEAVE														
MATUKU	110.1	77	14	44	11	29.2	1.0	23.7	0.9	30.9	2	21.7	13		
ONO-I-LAU	103.2	83	20	34	11	27.6	0.1	23.0	1.1	30.4	30	19.9	25		
WAINIKORO AWS	U/S					U/S		U/S		U/S		U/S			
SAQANI AWS	U/S					U/S		U/S		U/S		U/S			
SEAQAQA AWS	U/S					U/S		U/S		U/S		U/S			
KUBULAU AWS	U/S					U/S		U/S		U/S		U/S			
RKS LODONI AWS	U/S					U/S		U/S		U/S		U/S			
LOMAIVUNA AWS	319.5		22	82	8	30.4		21.0		33.8	1	18.6	17		
KOROLEVU AWS	U/S					30.0		21.7		32.9	1	19.4	29		
NADARIVATU AWS	200.5		15	56	11	25.3		17.8		33.3	17	14.5	27		
SIGATOKA AWS	U/S					29.7		21.2		31.6	7	18.2	18		
KEYASI AWS	35.0		5	14	8	U/S		U/S		U/S		U/S			
MOMI AWS	49.5		6	29	3	30.1		22.4		32.4	3	20.6	17		
YAQARA AWS	100.0	141	6	26	9	30.8		23.6		33.1	2	21.3	13		
LEVUKA AWS	216.0		22	34	10	29.7		24.7		32.5	1	21.7	14		
DOBUILEVU TB3	269.5	204	17	60	10										
NASINU TB3	293.5		23	97	8										
TAVUA TB3	66.5	68	7	22	9										

	TEMPERATURE(C) MEAN	DRY (AVERAGE AT 9AM)	WET (AVERAGE AT 9AM)	HUMIDITY RH% (AVERAGE AT 9AM)	VP (AVERAGE AT 9AM)	WIND KT
NADI AIRPORT	26.3	26.4	23.1	74	25.7	5.5
LAUCALA BAY	26.3	26.9	24.7	83	26.5	8.2
NACOCOLEVU RESEARC	25.8	26.2	24.2	86	25.4	
ROTUMA ISLAND	28.5					
VIWA ISLAND	OBSERVER ON LEAVE					
YASAWA-I-RARA	27.6	28.2	25.4	80	28.6	
UDU POINT (AWS)	27.0					
NABOUWALU	OBSERVER ON LEAVE					
LABASA AIRFIELD	26.0	27.6	24.7	79	27.6	9.0
SAVUSAVU AIRFIELD	26.6	27.0	24.5	81	26.7	7.2
KORONIVIA RESEARCH	U/S	25.9	23.9	85	25.0	
NAUSORI AIRPORT	25.9	26.4	24.3	84	25.7	5.4
NAVUA (AWS)	25.7					
MONASAVU HYDRO DAM	U/S	21.1	20.7	96	18.7	
FSC LAUTOKA MILL	26.6	25.1	23.3	86	23.8	
FSC RARAWAI MILL	26.7	27.4	23.8	75	27.3	
FSC PENANG MILL	26.7	26.9	24.3	81	26.5	
MATEI AIRFIELD	25.3	27.9	25.1	79	28.1	13.6
VANUABALAVU (AWS)	26.5					
LAKEBA	OBSERVER ON LEAVE					
VUNISEA	OBSERVER ON LEAVE					
MATUKU	26.4	26.6	24.0	81	26.0	
ONO-I-LAU	25.3	26.4	23.2	77	25.7	

MEAN TEMPERATURE IS (MAX+MIN)/2; WIND IS MEAN SPEED AT 06,12,18,24 HOURS.
$:SOLAR RADIATION CALCULATED FROM SUNSHINE DURATION. # :DEPARTURE FROM LONG-TERM AVERAGES (1991-2020). + :NUMBER OF DAYS WITH 0.1 MM OR MORE RAIN. * :PERCENT OF LONG-TERM AVERAGES.

Figure 2

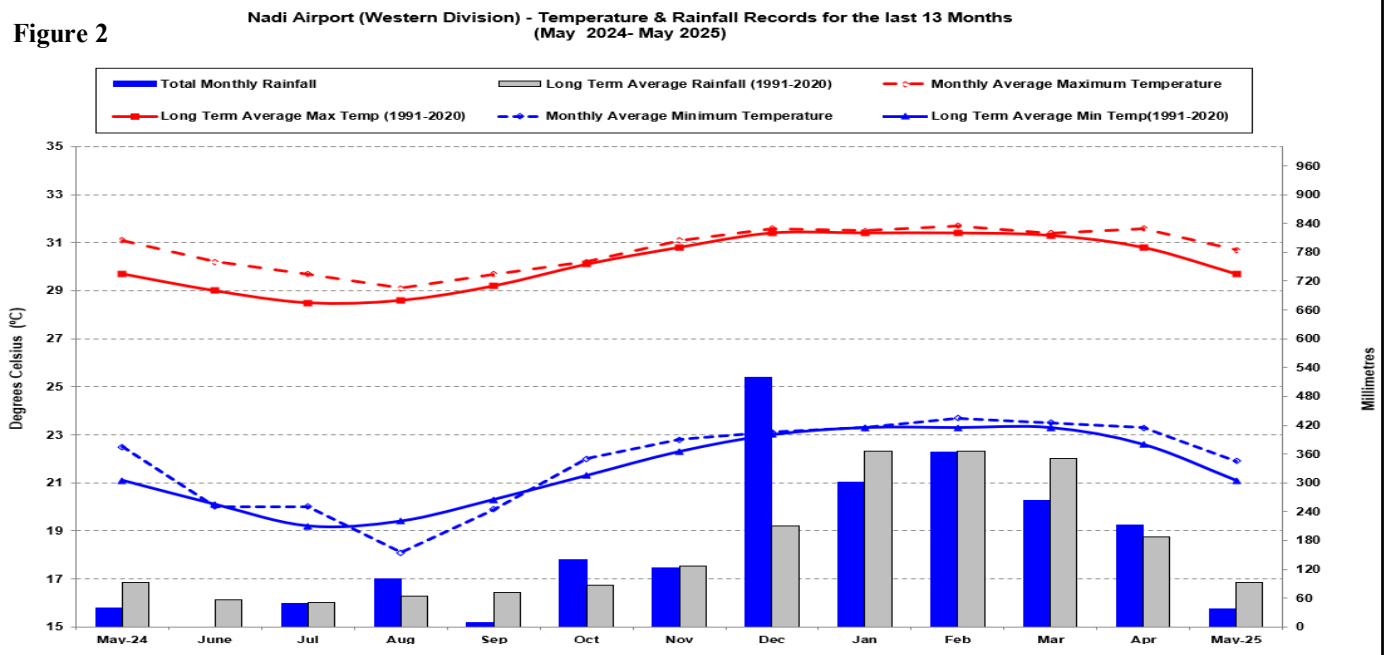


Figure 3

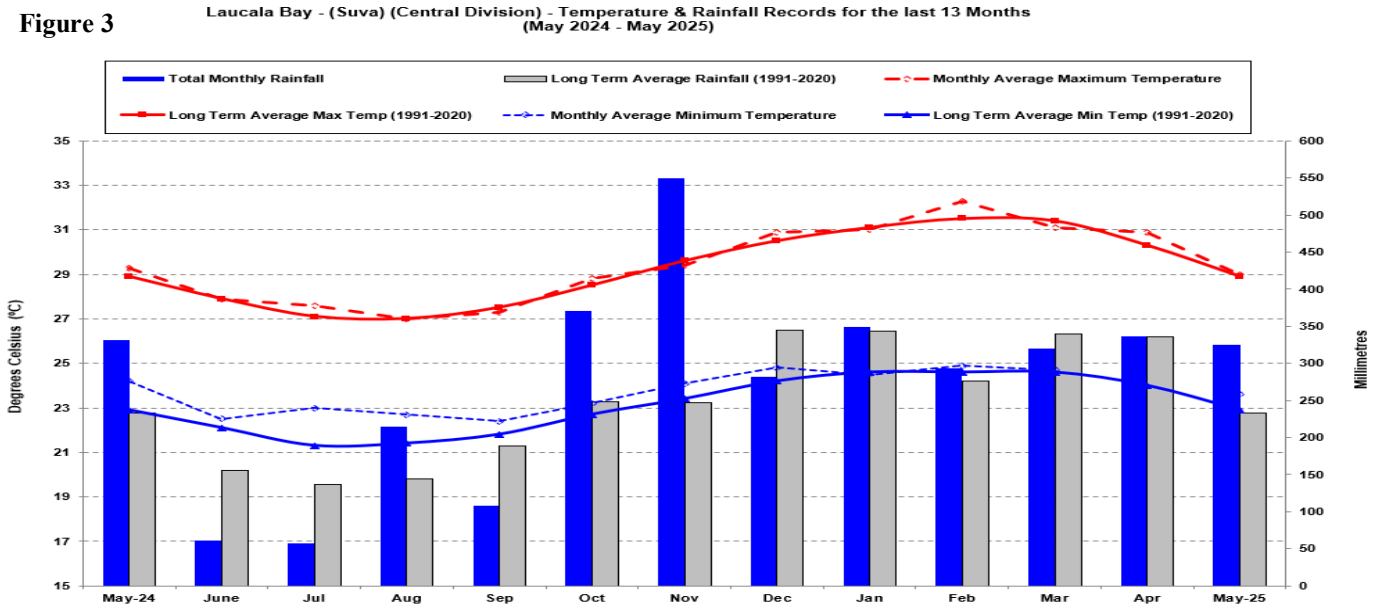


Figure 4

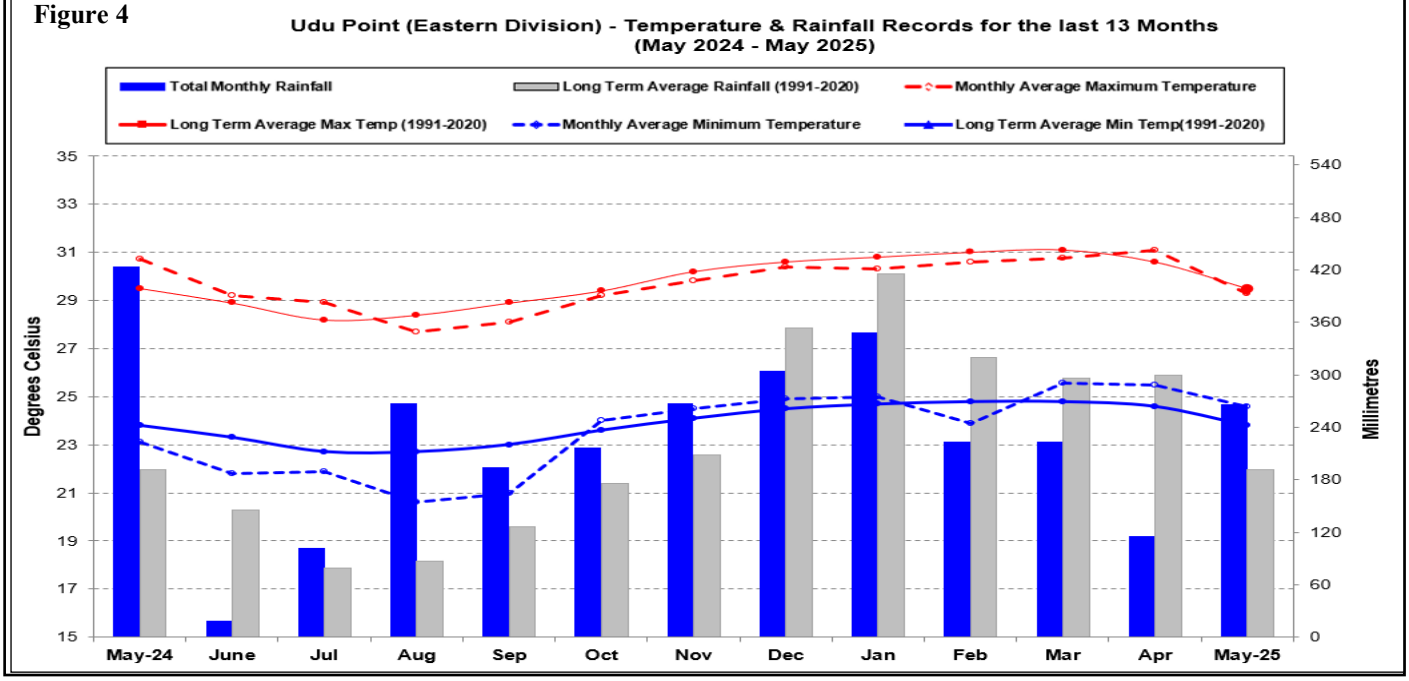


Figure 5

Lakeba station data could not be generated for this month due to more than 10days of missing observation readings.

5. DAILY RAISED PAN EVAPORATION

Figure 6

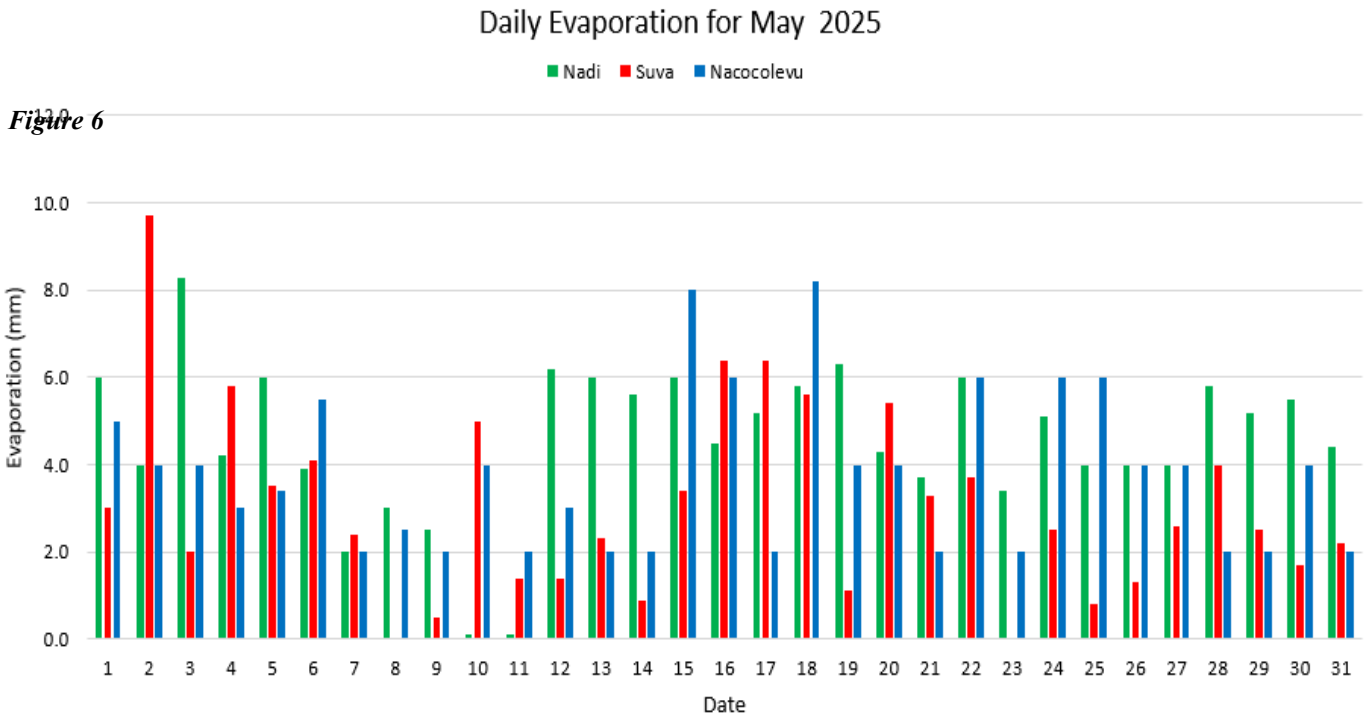


Figure 6: The total monthly raised pan evaporation at Nadi Airport, Laucala Bay (Suva) and Nacocolevu (Sigatoka) were 141.1mm, 94.9mm and 116.6mm, respectively. Nadi's highest daily evaporation was 8.3mm on the 3rd with Suva's highest daily evaporation of 9.7mm on the 2nd, and Nacocolevu (Sigatoka) recorded its highest of 8.2mm on the 18th.

6. SOLAR RADIATION

The Nadi solar radiation instrument was unserviceable during the month of May 2025.

7. WIND SUMMARY

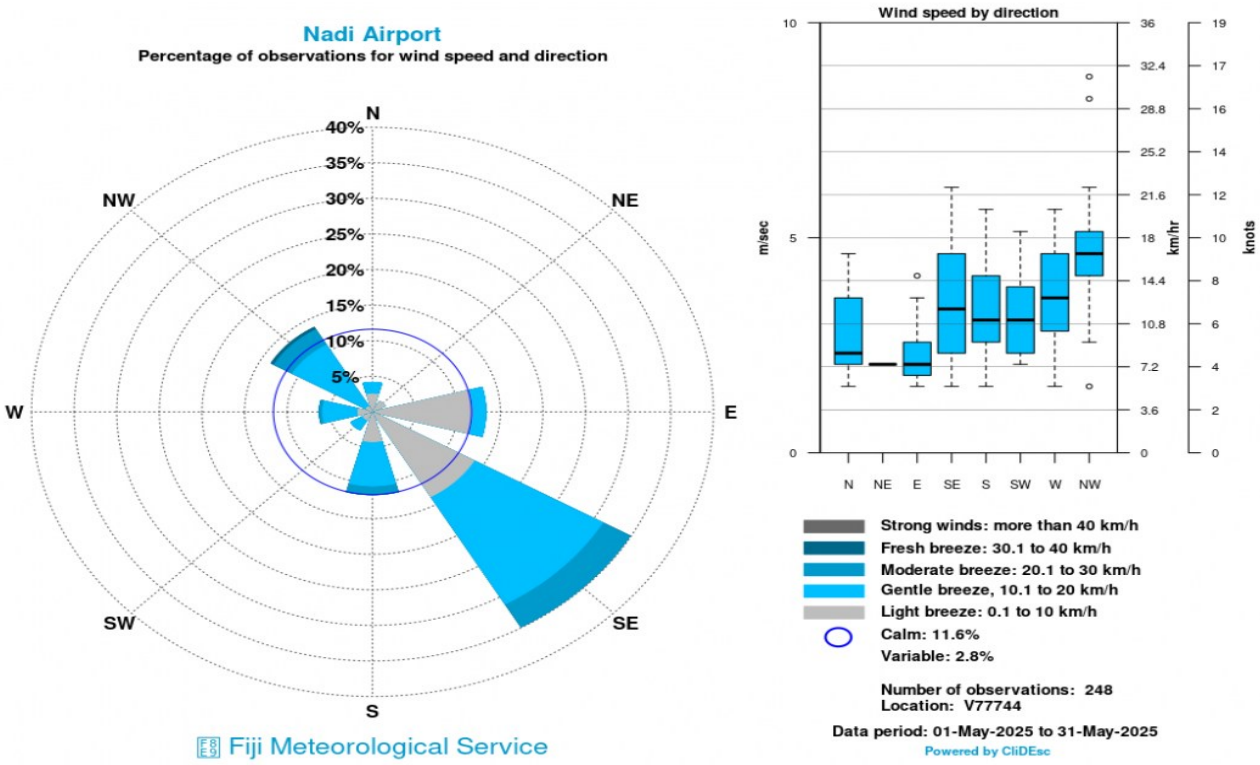


Figure 7a: Looking at Nadi's 3 hourly observations, southeasterly winds were most dominant during the month, followed by northwesterly and then easterly winds. Wind strength ranged from light to fresh breeze, while 11.6% observations accounted for calm winds.

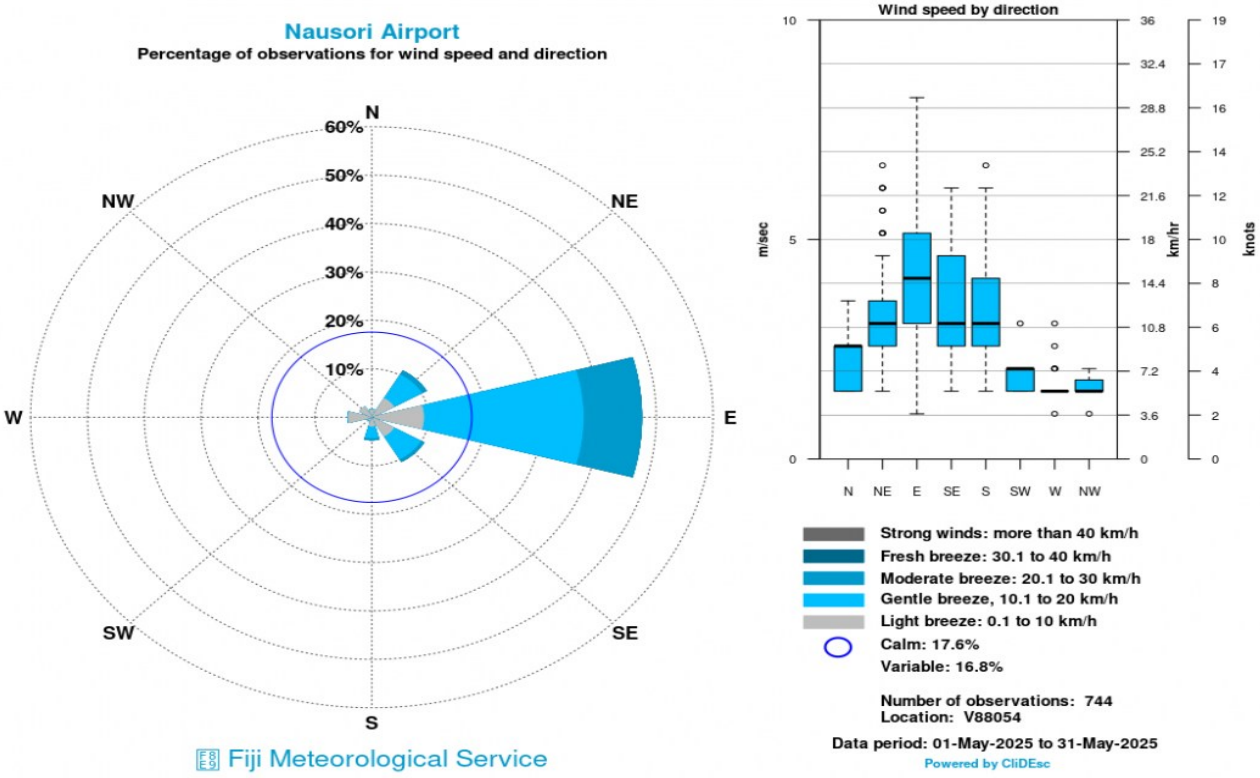


Figure 7b: For Nausori Airport's hourly wind observations, easterly winds were most dominant during the month, followed by northeasterly and then southeasterly winds. Wind strength ranged from light to moderate breeze, while 17.6% of observations accounted for calm winds.

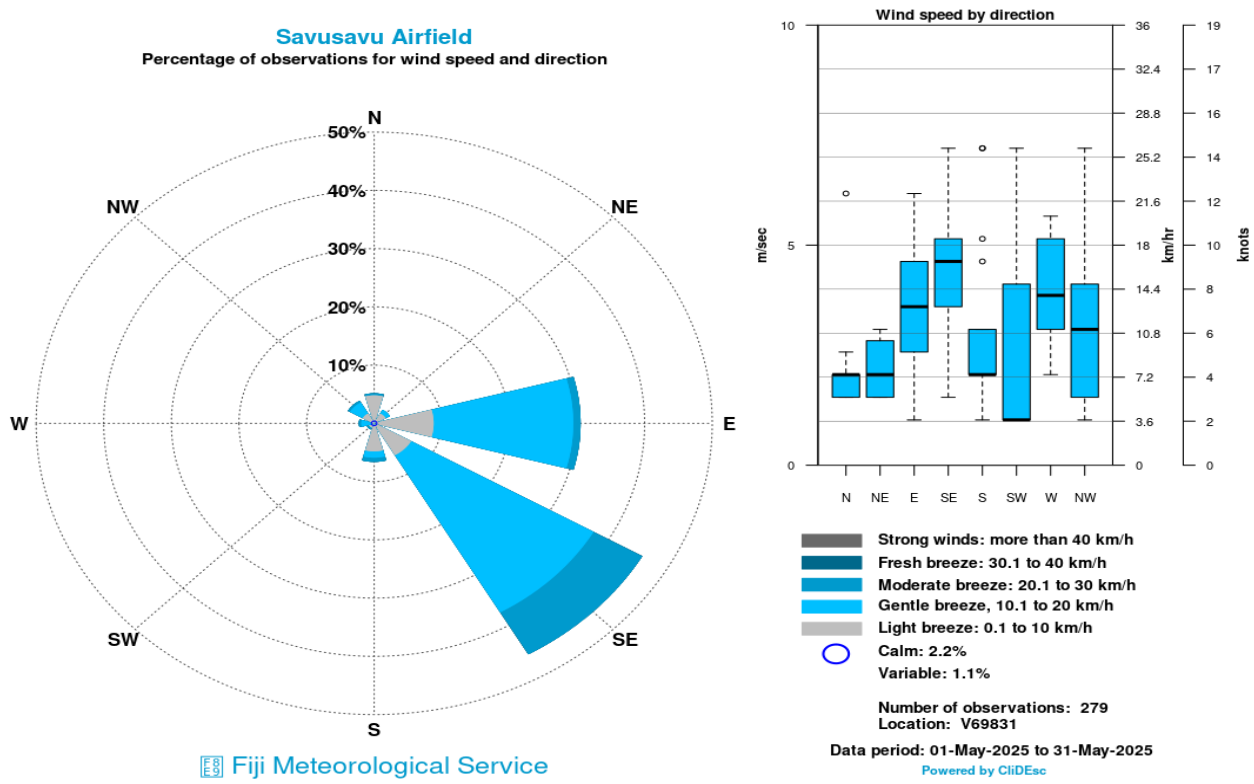


Figure 7c: For Savusavu Airfield's hourly observations (0800hrs to 1600hrs), southeasterly winds were most dominant during the month, followed by easterly and then southerly winds. Wind strength ranged from light breeze to moderate winds, with calm winds observed 2.2% of the time.

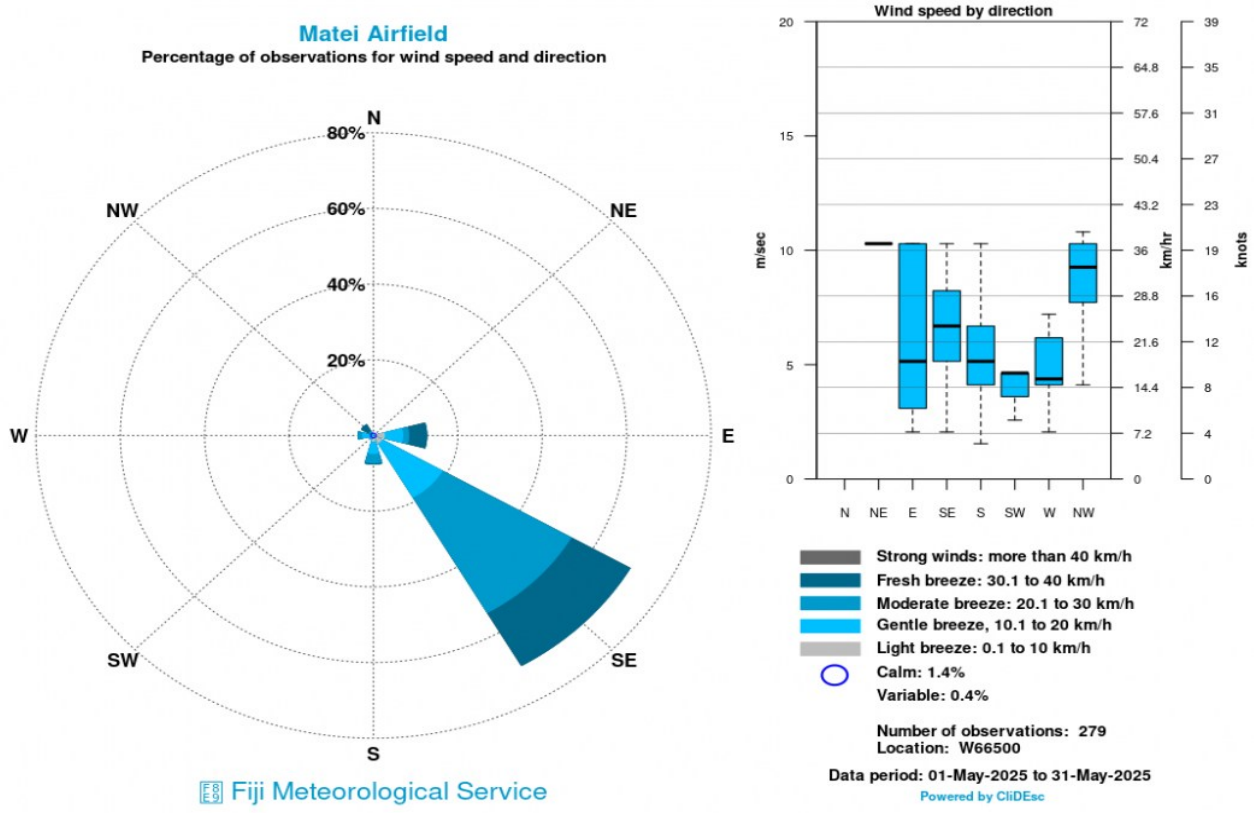


Figure 7d: For Matei Airfield's hourly wind observations (0800hrs to 1600hrs), southeasterly winds were dominant followed by easterly and then southerly winds. Wind strength ranged from light breeze to fresh breeze, with calm winds observed 1.4% of the time.

8. SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE (SST)

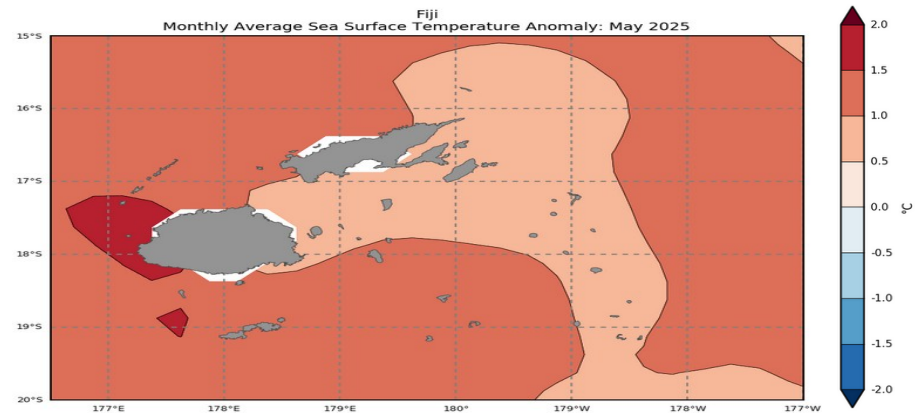


Figure 8:
Warmer than normal sea surface temperature anomalies were observed across Fiji Waters, with anomalies 1.5 - 2.0°C observed west of Viti Levu.

Source: https://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/app.html#climate

9. CLOUD COVER

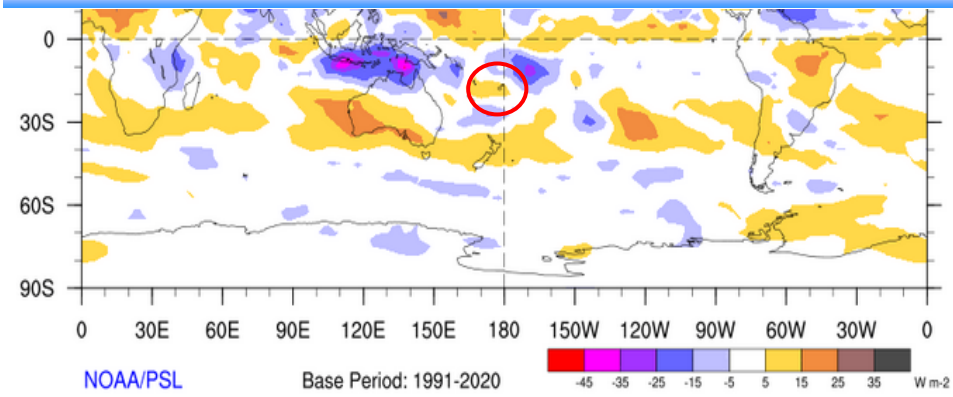


Figure 9:
Below normal cloud cover were present over the Fiji Group during May (*Fiji in red circle).*

Source: http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/map/clim/olr.shtml

10. SEA LEVEL

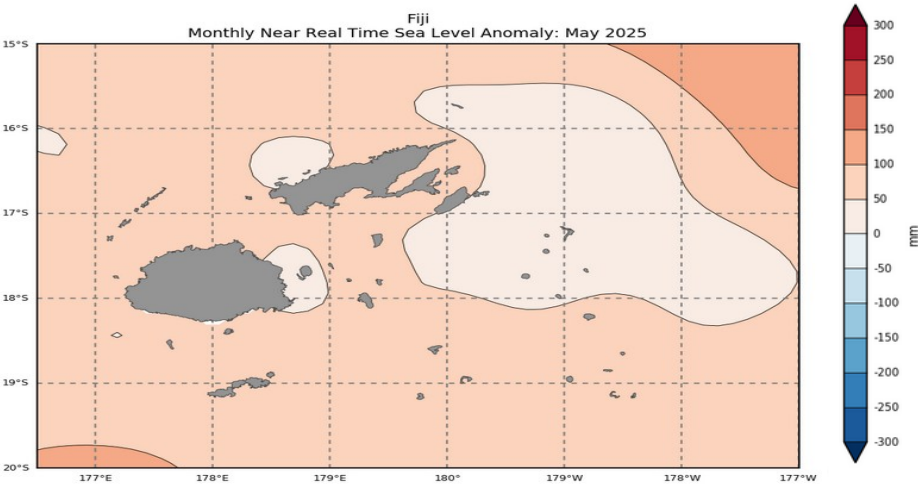


Figure 10:
Above normal sea level anomalies persisted across most of the Fiji Waters during May.

Source: https://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/app.html#sealevel

11. WIND ANOMALIES

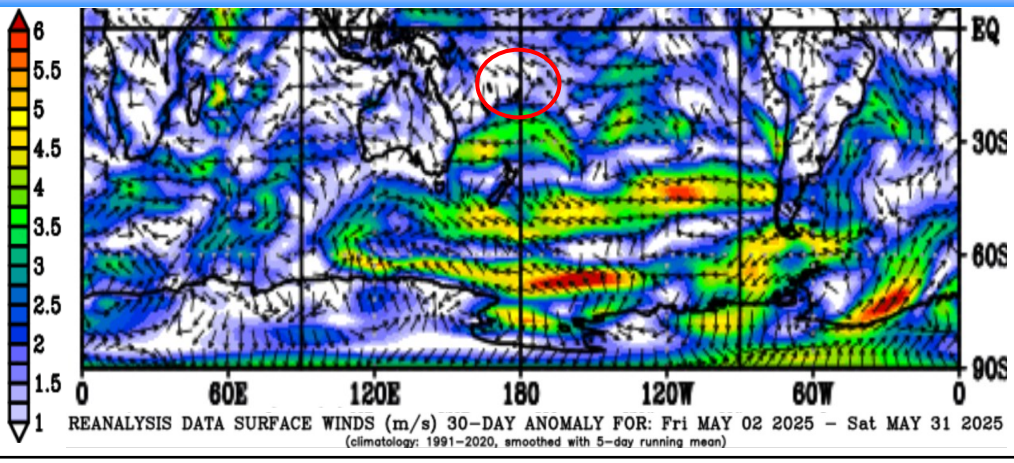


Figure 11:

Generally north westerly winds were observed over the Fiji Group during the month (base period: 1991-2020) (*Fiji in red circle*).

Source: https://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/map/images/rnl/sfcwnd_30b.rnl.html

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Anomalies - denote the departure of an element (rainfall, temperature, sea surface temperature, cloud cover, sea level and wind) from its long-period average value for a particular location.

Trough - an elongated area of low atmospheric pressure that is associated with a cyclone, or low. Sometimes referred to as a 'trough of low pressure'.

Rain - Liquid precipitation in the form of water droplets. Rain falls from dense, continuous clouds, called 'stratiform' clouds.

Shower - precipitation from individual clouds, often characterised by the sudden beginning or ending. Showers fall from 'lumpy looking', 'cauliflower' clouds, called 'cumuloform' clouds.

Trade Winds - the trade winds are the east to southeasterly winds (in the Southern Hemisphere) which affect tropical and subtropical regions.

High pressure systems or anticyclones are atmospheric circulations that rotate anti-clockwise in the Southern Hemisphere. Anticyclones are areas of higher pressure and are generally associated with lighter winds and fine and settled conditions.

Low pressure systems or mid-latitude cyclones are atmospheric circulations that rotate clockwise in the Southern Hemisphere (anti-clockwise in the Northern Hemisphere). Cyclones are areas of lower pressure and generally associated with stronger winds, unsettled conditions, cloudiness and rainfall.

Sea Surface Temperature (SST) - the temperature of the water's surface. It is usually measured using buoys, ship data, and satellites.