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Fiji Climate Summary May 2026

ISO 9001:2015 certified Climate Services

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1. IN BRIEF

Cool temperatures were briefly experienced during the month of May, as we transitioned into Fiji's Dry Season. The month was also influenced by frequent troughs of low pressure, leading to rainfall, with stations recording *above average* to *well above average* rainfall. Vanuabalavu recorded nearly four times its *normal* monthly rainfall, while Koronivia, Nausori Airport, Laucala Bay (Suva), Matei Airfield and Matuku recorded more than twice their *normal* monthly rainfall.

Out of the 25 stations that reported in, during the compilation of this bulletin, 6 stations reported *well above average*, 8 *above average*, 7 *average,* and 4 *below average* rainfall. (Table 2, Figures 1-5).

The highest monthly rainfall of 590.1mm was recorded at Koronivia, followed by Nasinu with 536.5mm, Laucala Bay with 506.0mm, Vanuabalavu with 499.0mm, and Nausori Airport with 448.7 mm.

On temperatures, the month's warmest day-time temperature of 34.2°C was observed at Momi on the 14th, followed by Rotuma and Nabouwalu, both with 34.0° C on the 26th and 1st, respectively, Viwa with 33.5°C on the 15th, and Lautoka Mill with 33.3°C on the 7th.

The month's lowest night-time temperature of 9.9°C was recorded at Nadarivatu on the 11th, followed by Monasavu with 13.5°C on the 28th , Rarawai Mill (Ba) with 15.9°C on the 13th , Penang Mill with 16.0°C on the 27th, Nacocolevu with 16.5°C on the 12th, and Sigatoka with 16.6°C on the 11th.

Southeasterly winds prevailed at Nadi Airport and Matei Airfield, Savusavu recorded predominantly southerly winds, while Nausori Airport experienced mostly easterly winds (Figure 8).

Sea surface temperature anomaly observations were generally *above normal* across the Fiji Waters, during the month (Figure 9).

A*bove normal* sea level anomalies persist across the Fiji Group in May (Figure 11).

2. WEATHER PATTERNS

May 2026 marked the end of the 2025/26 Tropical Cyclone season, with Fiji's weather largely influenced by alternating troughs and ridges. Southeasterly winds were the prevailing feature from the beginning of the month, strengthened by a high-pressure system situated far to the south. Between the 2nd and 5th, a trough of low pressure passed over the islands, bringing cloudy condition and showers before moving eastward. During this period, the eastern and southern parts of the group experienced moderate to strong southeast winds, with gusts reaching up to 55 km/hr.

From the 6th to the 12th, a ridge of high pressure established fine weather, accompanied by cool southeasterly winds. Night-time temperatures dropped sharply, with Monasavu recording a low of 13.5°C. Conditions changed again on the 12th when a weak trough moved over the southern areas, producing cloudy periods and showers over the eastern parts of the country until the 15th. A high-pressure system to the far south reinforced strong southeasterly winds over southern Fiji waters between the 13th and 15th, creating rough seas.

Later in the month, a trough developed to the north on the 16th, affecting the northern and eastern parts of the group until the 18th. This system brought heavy rainfall, with Koronivia recording the highest total of the month of 211mm on the 18th. Following this, easterly winds dominated until the 21st, before shifting northerly on the 22nd as another trough approached from the west, influencing the country until the 26th. Winds then gradually turned west to southerly, settling into an east to southeasterly flow by the end of May.

Rotuma experienced varied conditions throughout the month, with east to southeast winds and passing low-pressure systems bringing alternating spells of showers and settled weather. Overall, May reflected the seasonal transition, with troughs interrupting otherwise steady southeasterly wind patterns, marking the shift from cyclone season into the cooler trade wind regime.

3. RAINFALL

May marks the beginning of Fiji's Dry Season; however, variable rainfall was observed across the country, with rainfall ranging from *below average* to *well above average* during the month. Several locations recorded substantially *above normal* rainfall totals. Vanuabalavu recorded nearly four times its *normal* monthly rainfall, while Koronivia, Nausori Airport, Laucala Bay (Suva), Matei Airfield and Matuku recorded more than twice their *normal* monthly rainfall.

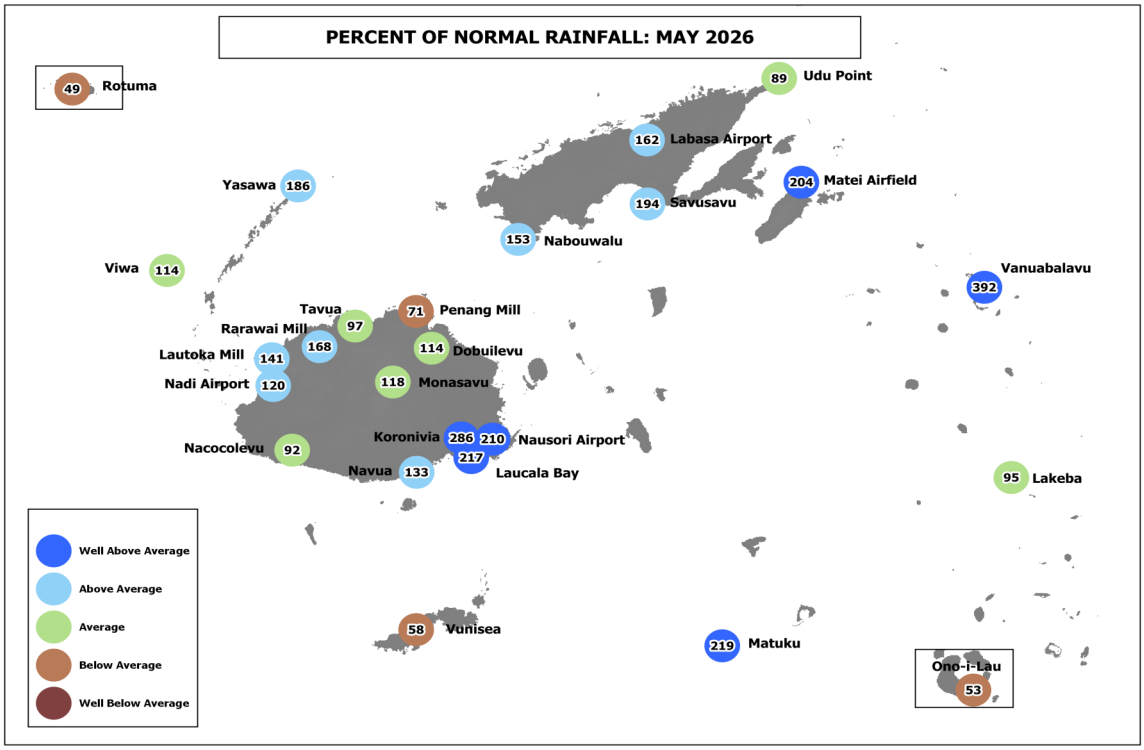
Near normal rainfall was observed at Lakeba, Tavua, Nacocolevu and Udu Point. In contrast, *below normal* rainfall was recorded at Penang, Vunisea, Ono-i-Lau and Rotuma. Out of the 25 stations available during the compilation of this bulletin, 6 stations reported *well above average*, 8 *above average*, 7 *average,* and 4 *below average* rainfall. (Table 2, Figures 1-5).

The highest monthly rainfall of 590.1mm was recorded at Koronivia, followed by Nasinu with 536.5mm, Laucala Bay with 506.0mm, Vanuabalavu with 499.0mm, Nausori Airport with 448.7 mm, Monasavu with 367.2, Navua with 357.0mm, Matei Airfield with 354.4mm, Levuka with 318.0mm, Matuku with 312.0mm and Savusavu Airfield with 308.8 mm. On the other hand, Ono-i-Lau recorded the month's lowest total monthly rainfall of 66.0 mm, followed by Nacocolevu with 80.1mm, Korolevu with 88.0mm, Tavua with 95mm, Sigatoka with 101.0mm, Vunisea with 103.7mm, Lakeba with 110.0mm, Nadi Airport with 110.9mm and Penang Mill with 115.3mm.

The highest 24-hour rainfall of 211.0mm was recorded at Koronivia on the 18th, followed by Nausori Airport with 204.0mm on the 18th, Vanuabalavu with 140.0mm on the 4th, Nabouwalu with 137.0 mm on the 3rd, Matei Airfield with 119.0 mm on the 3rd, Nasinu with 106.0 mm on the 18th, Laucala Bay (Suva) with 105.0 mm on the 18th, Levuka with with 92.0 mm on the 24th, Matuku with 90.0 mm on the 24th, and Savusavu Airfield with 88.0 mm on the 12th.

Koronivia recorded the highest number of rain days with 25 days, followed by Savusavu Airfield and Navua both with 24 days, Nasinu, Laucala Bay (Suva) and Monasavu all with 23 days, Matei Airfield with 20 days, and Naurori Airport, Matuku and Korolevu all with 19 days. Consequently, Lautoka Mill recorded the least number of rain days with 7 days, followed by Viwa, Tavua and Rarawai Mill (Ba) all with 8 days, Nacocolevu and Nadi Airport both with 9 days, Sigatoka and Lakeba both with 10 days, and Ono-i-Lau with 11 days.

Koronivia recorded its highest monthly rainfall of 590.1mm since observations began in 1950 (Table 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

Normal to *above normal* day-time temperatures were generally observed across the country during the month. From the 22 climate stations with available anomalies, 11 recorded anomalies ≥+0.5°C, while 10 recorded anomalies within ±0.5°C, while 1 recorded an anomaly ≤-0.5°C.

The warmest days on average were recorded at Momi with 32.2°C, followed by Rarawai Mill (Ba) with 31.6°C, Rotuma with 31.5°C, Viwa with 31.0°C, Nadi Airport with 30.7°C, Labasa Airfield with 30.3°C, Lautoka Mill with 30.2°C, and Nacocolevu with 30.0° C. Consequently, Monasavu recorded the coolest days on average with 23.6°C, followed by Nadarivatu with 24.3°C, Matuku with 27.9°C, Ono-i-Lau with 28.0°C, Nausori Airport with 28.5°C, Navua with 28.9°C, and both Savusavu Airfield and Vanuabalavu with 29.0°C.

The highest day-time temperature of 34.2°C was observed at Momi on the 14th, followed by Rotuma and Nabouwalu, both with 34.0°C on the 26th and 1st, respectively, Viwa with 33.5°C on the 15th, Lautoka Mill with 33.3°C on the 7th, and Rarawai Mill (Ba) recorded 33.2°C on the 3rd.

The coolest day-time temperature was observed at Monasavu with 20.6°C on the 31st, followed by Nadarivatu with 22.1°C on the 25th, Nacocolevu with 25.0° C on the 8th, Navua with 25.3°C on the 19th, Levuka with 25.9°C on the 20th, Koronivia with 26.0°C on the 24th, and Nausori Airport with 26.2°C on the 19th.

Monasavu recorded its highest daily maximum temperature of 29.6°C since observations began in 1980 (Table 1).

B. Minimum Night-time Air Temperatures

Night-time temperatures ranged from *above* to *below normal* during the month. Out of the 21 climate stations with available anomalies, 6 recorded anomalies ≥+0.5°C, 11 recorded anomalies within ±0.5°C and 4 recorded anomalies ≤-0.5°C.

The coolest nights on average were recorded at Nadarivatu with 16.5°C, followed by Monasavu with 17.9°C, Sigatoka with 20.5°C, Matei Airfield and Rarawai Mill (Ba), both with 20.6°C, Labasa Airfield with 20.7°C, Nacocolevu with 21.0°C, Nadi Airport with 21.1°C, and Navua with 21.3°C. Consequently, on average, the warmest nights were observed at Rotuma with 25.8°C, followed by Udu Point with 24.1°C, Momi with 24.0°C, Viwa with 23.9°C, Levuka with 23.3°C, Savusavu Airfield with 23.2°C, Laucala Bay (Suva) with 23.0°C, and Ono-i-Lau with 22.9°C.

The month's coolest night-time temperature was observed at Nadarivatu with 9.9°C on the 11th , followed by Monasavu with 13.5°C on the 28th , Rarawai Mill (Ba) with 15.9°C on the 13th , Penang Mill with 16.0°C on the 27th , Nacocolevu with 16.5°C on the 12th, and Sigatoka with 16.6°C on the 11th.

The warmest night-time temperature was recorded at Nacocolevu with 27.7°C on the 1st, followed by Rotuma with 27.4°C on the 26th, Udu Point with 26.7°C on the 3rd, Momi with 26.4°C on the 26th, Viwa with 26.1°C on the 2nd, Matuku with 26.0°C on 29th, Savusavu Airfield with 25.6°C on the 17th, and Levuka with 25.5°C on the 18th.

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

TABLE 1. CLIMATE RECORDS ESTABLISHED IN MAY 2026

Element	Station	Observed (record)	On	Rank	Previous (record)	Year	Records Began
Total Monthly Rainfall	Koronivia	590.1mm	—	New High	518.8mm	2021	1950
Daily Maximum Temperature	Monasavu	29.6°C	18th	New High	28.2°C	2022	1980

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 2026

	RAINFALL					AIR TEMPERATURES								SUNSHINE	
	TOTAL		RAIN * DAYS		MAX. FALL	AVERAGE DAILY MAX. #		MIN. #		EXTREME MAX.		EXTREME MIN.		TOTAL	
	MM	%	+	MM	ON	C	C	C	C	C	ON	C	ON	HRS	* %
NADI AIRPORT	110.9	120	9	58	24	30.7	1.0	21.1	0.1	32.5	2	17.5	11	216	103
LAUCALA BAY	506.0	217	23	105	18	29.4	0.6	23.0	0.1	31.9	12	19.7	15	151	103
NACOCOLEVU RESEARCH	80.1	92	9	47	24	30.0	0.4	21.0	1.0	32.7	4	16.5	12	186	143
ROTUMA AWS	134.0	49	16	38	16	31.5	0.8	25.8	0.7	34.0	26	23.0	17	193	115
VIWA AWS	117.0	114	8	58	24	31.0	0.8	23.9	0.0	33.5	15	21.9	12		
YASAWA-I-RARA	170.5	186	13	87	24	29.8	-0.1	22.5	-0.9	32.0	20	19.5	4		
UDU POINT AWS	170.5	89	18	53	3	29.2	-0.3	24.1	0.3	30.7	1	22.0	4		
NABOUWALU	273.7	153	18	137	3	29.2	0.6	U/S		34.0	1	U/S			
LABASA AIRFIELD	158.5	162	17	38	3	30.3	-0.5	20.7	0.5	32.7	2	17.0	28		
SAVUSAVU AIRFIELD	308.8	194	24	88	12	29.0	0.3	23.2	0.4	30.9	4	19.8	11		
KORONIVIA RESEARCH	590.1	286	25	211	18	29.1	0.5	21.9	0.3	31.2	1	17.8	11		
NAUSORI AIRPORT	448.7	210	19	204	18	28.5	0.2	21.8	0.4	29.8	4	18.0	11		
NAVUA AWS	357.0	133	24	72	3	28.9	0.8	21.3	0.2	31.9	23	16.8	11		
MONASAVU HYDRO DAM	367.2	118	23	60	24	23.6	0.6	17.9	0.4	29.6	18	13.5	28		
FSC LAUTOKA MILL	135.3	141	7	61	25	30.2	0.2	21.5	-0.1	33.3	7	17.9	12		
FSC RARAWAI MILL	167.3	168	8	85	24	31.6	0.7	20.6	0.9	33.2	3	15.9	13		
FSC PENANG MILL	115.3	71	16	36	24	29.3	-0.0	22.5	0.6	31.0	13	16.0	27		
MATEI AIRFIELD	354.4	204	20	119	3	29.1	0.1	20.6	-2.7	30.9	3	18.2	10		
VANUABALAVU	499.0	392	15	140	4	29.0	0.3	21.7	-1.8	31.0	2	18.2	19		
LAKEBA AWS	110.0	95	10	62	24	U/S		U/S		U/S		U/S			
VUNISEA	103.7	58	13	56	3	29.8	2.0	21.6	-0.5	31.0	1	18.5	9		
MATUKU	312.0	219	19	90	24	27.9	-0.3	22.4	-0.3	29.2	1	17.8	10		
ONO-I-LAU	66.0	53	11	28	24	28.0	0.6	22.9	1.0	32.3	14	20.9	9		
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	212.5		13	49	15	U/S		U/S		U/S		U/S			
KOROLEVU AWS	88.0		19	25	24	U/S		U/S		U/S		U/S			
NADARIVATU AWS	132.0		14	60	24	24.3		16.5		26.1	3	9.9	11		
SIGATOKA AWS	101.0		10	61	24	29.5		20.5		32.1	23	16.6	11		
KEYASI AWS	U/S					U/S		U/S		U/S		U/S			
MOMI AWS	U/S					32.2		24.0		34.2	14	21.1	12		
YAQARA AWS	U/S					U/S		U/S		U/S		U/S			
LEVUKA AWS	318.0		17	92	24	29.4		23.3		32.3	23	20.2	27		
DOBUILEVU TB3	151.5	114	18	41	24										
NASINU TB3	536.5		23	106	18										
TAVUA TB3	95.0	97	8	70	24										

	TEMPERATURE(C)			HUMIDITY	WIND
	MEAN	DRY (AVERAGE AT 9AM)	WET (AVERAGE AT 9AM)	RH% (AVERAGE AT 9AM)	VP (AVERAGE AT 9AM)	KT
NADI AIRPORT	25.9	26.0	22.6	74	25.1	5.3
LAUCALA BAY	26.2	26.6	24.1	80	26.0	
NACOCOLEV RESEARCH	25.5	25.6	23.3	83	24.5	
ROTUMA AWS	28.7					
VIWA AWS	27.5					
YASAWA-I-RARA	26.2	26.9	24.8	85	26.5	
UDU POINT AWS	29.7					
NABOUWALU	U/S	26.4	23.7	80	25.7	
LABASA AIRFIELD	25.5	27.3	24.3	77	27.1	7.7
SAVUSAVU AIRFIELD	26.1	26.8	24.2	79	26.4	5.8
KORONIVIA RESEARCH	25.5	26.0	24.0	85	25.1	
NAUSORI AIRPORT	25.2	25.4	23.7	85	24.3	5.2
MONASAVU HYDRO DAM	20.8	20.3	19.6	93	17.8	
FSC LAUTOKA MILL	25.8	25.4	23.5	86	24.3	
FSC RARAWAI MILL	26.1	26.5	25.7	94	25.9	
FSC PENANG MILL	25.9	26.4	23.7	80	25.7	
MATEI AIRFIELD	24.8	27.3	24.5	79	27.1	11.4
VANUABALAVU	25.4	26.9	23.7	77	26.5	5.0
LAKEBA AWS	U/S					
VUNISEA	25.7	26.1	23.3	79	25.3	
MATUKU	25.1	25.9	22.8	77	25.0	
ONO-I-LAU	25.5	26.0	22.4	73	25.1	

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.
BLUE FONT: MISSING RECORDS OF LESS THAN OR EQUAL(≤) TO 5 DAYS. U/S: UNSERVICEABLE GREEN FONT: AWS READING

Figure 2

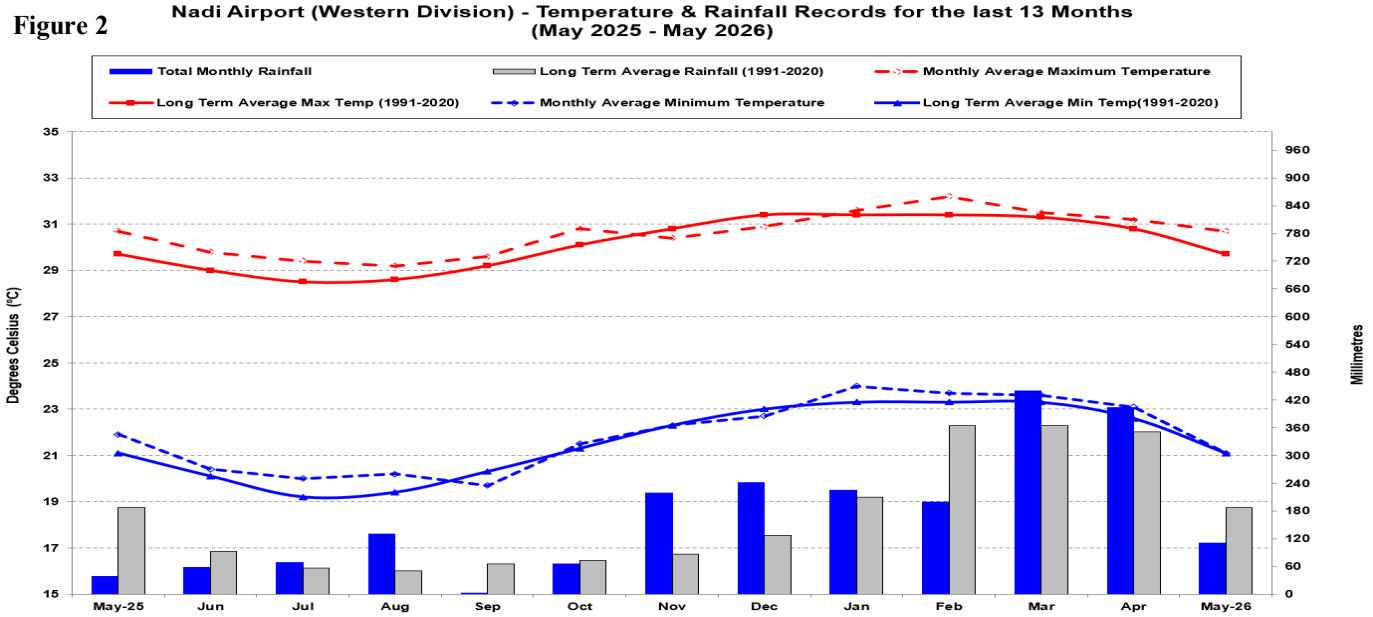


Figure 3

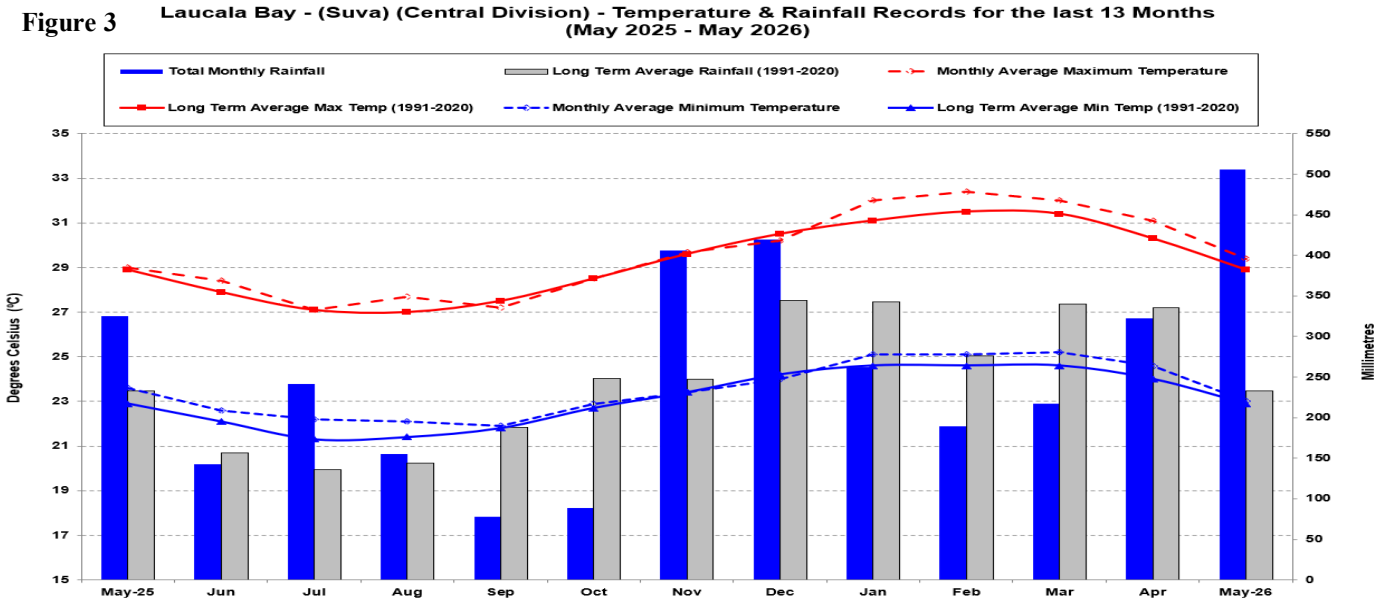


Figure 4

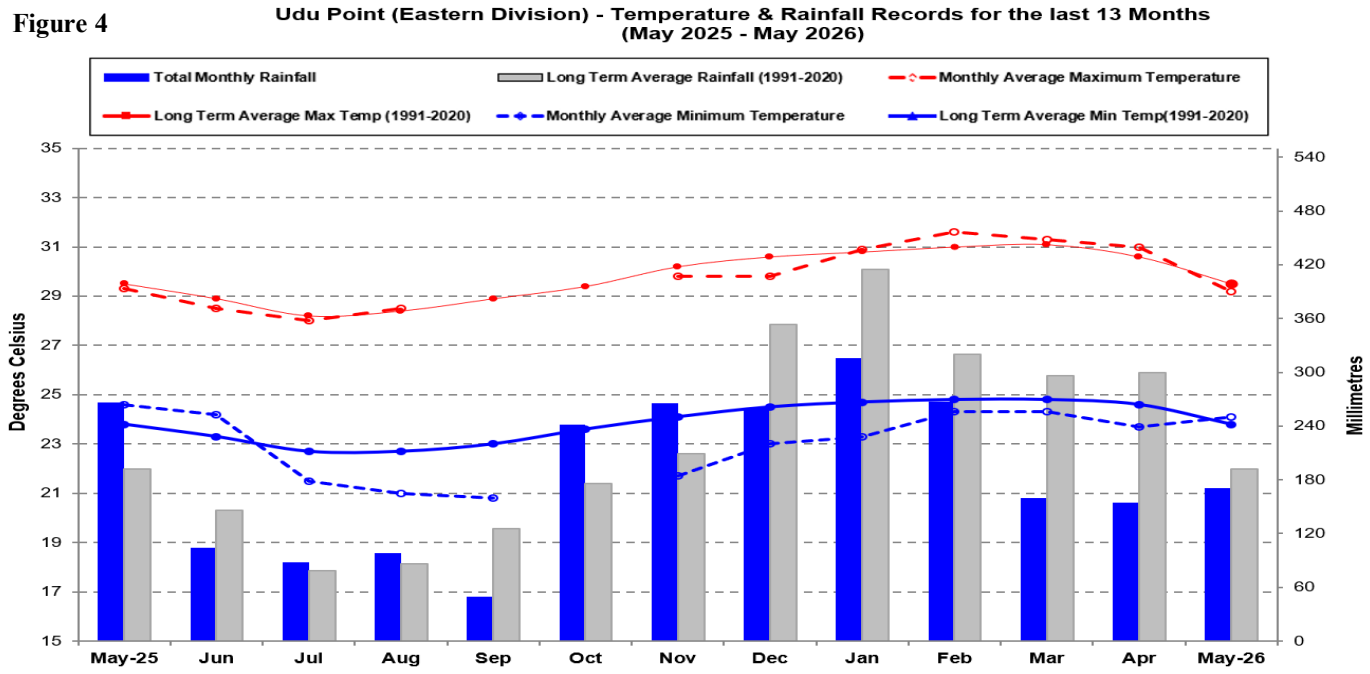
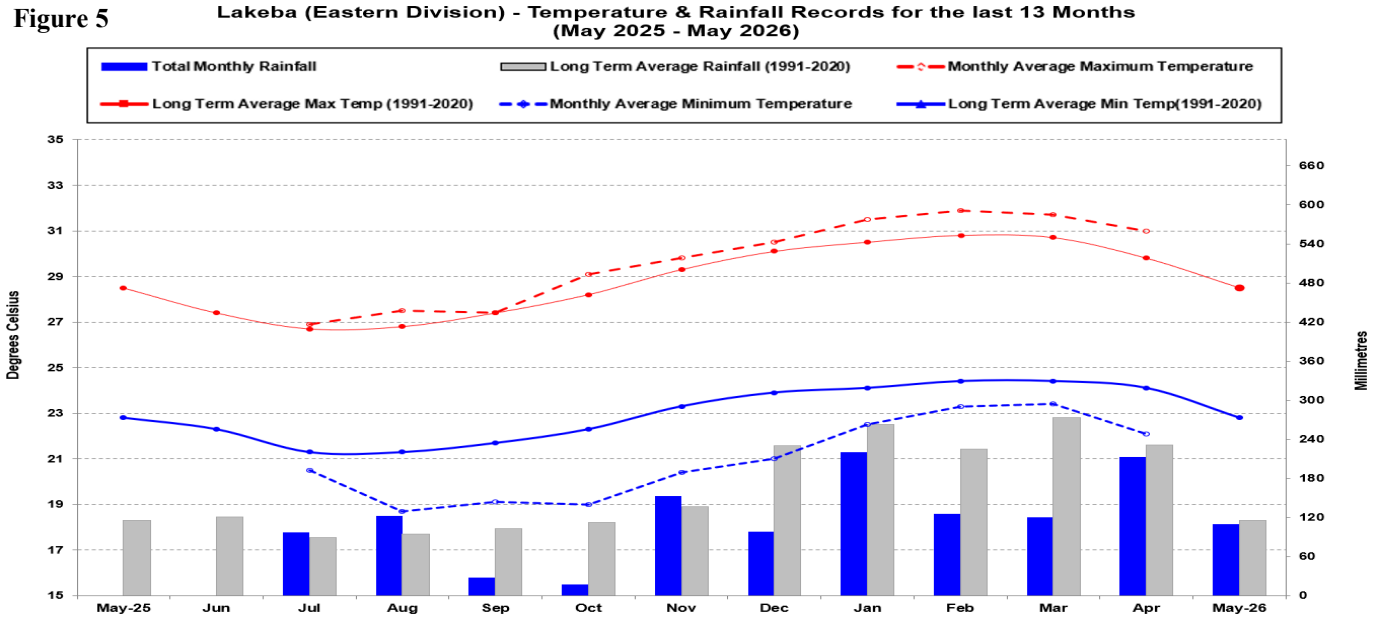


Figure 5



5. DAILY RAISED PAN EVAPORATION

Figure 6

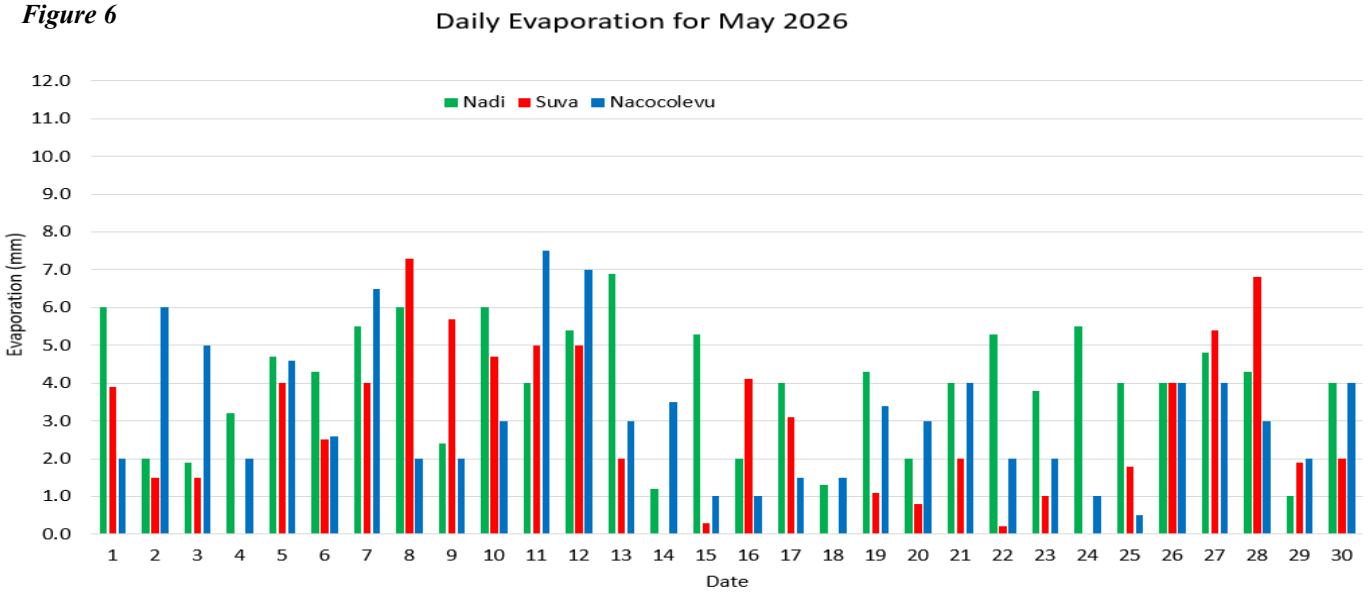


Figure 6: The total monthly raised pan evaporation at Nadi Airport, Laucala Bay (Suva) and Nacocolevu (Sigatoka) were 127.1mm, 86.4mm and 96.6mm, respectively. Nadi's highest daily evaporation was 8.0mm on the 31st with Suva's highest daily evaporation of 7.3mm on the 8th, and Nacocolevu (Sigatoka) recorded its highest of 7.5mm on the 11th.

6. SOLAR RADIATION

The Nadi solar radiation instrument was unserviceable during the month of May 2026.

7. WIND SUMMARY

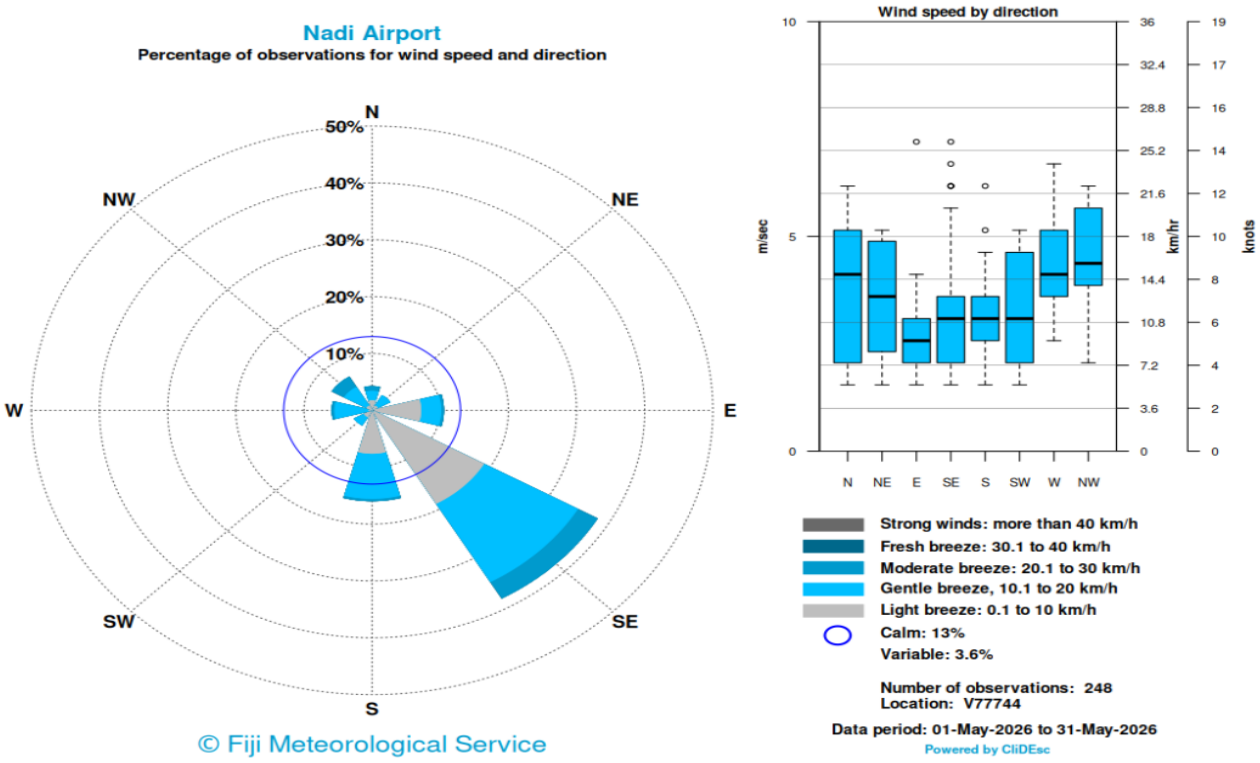


Figure 8a: Southeasterly winds were the dominant wind direction in Nadi's 3-hourly observations during May, followed by southerly then easterly winds. Wind strength ranged from light to moderate breeze, while calm winds accounted for 13.0% of observations.

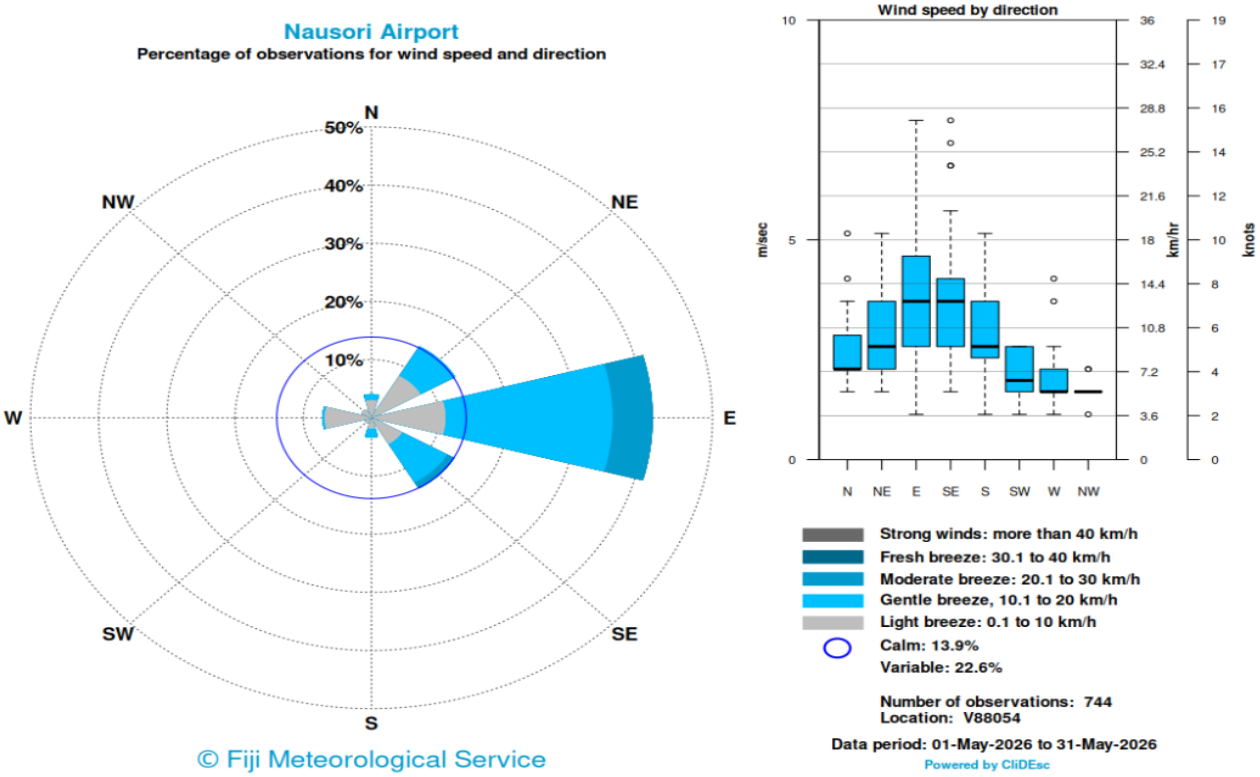


Figure 8b: Nausori Airport's hourly wind observations for May were dominated by easterly winds, followed by northeasterly and southeasterly winds. Wind strength ranged from light to moderate breeze, while calm winds accounted for 13.9% of observations. .

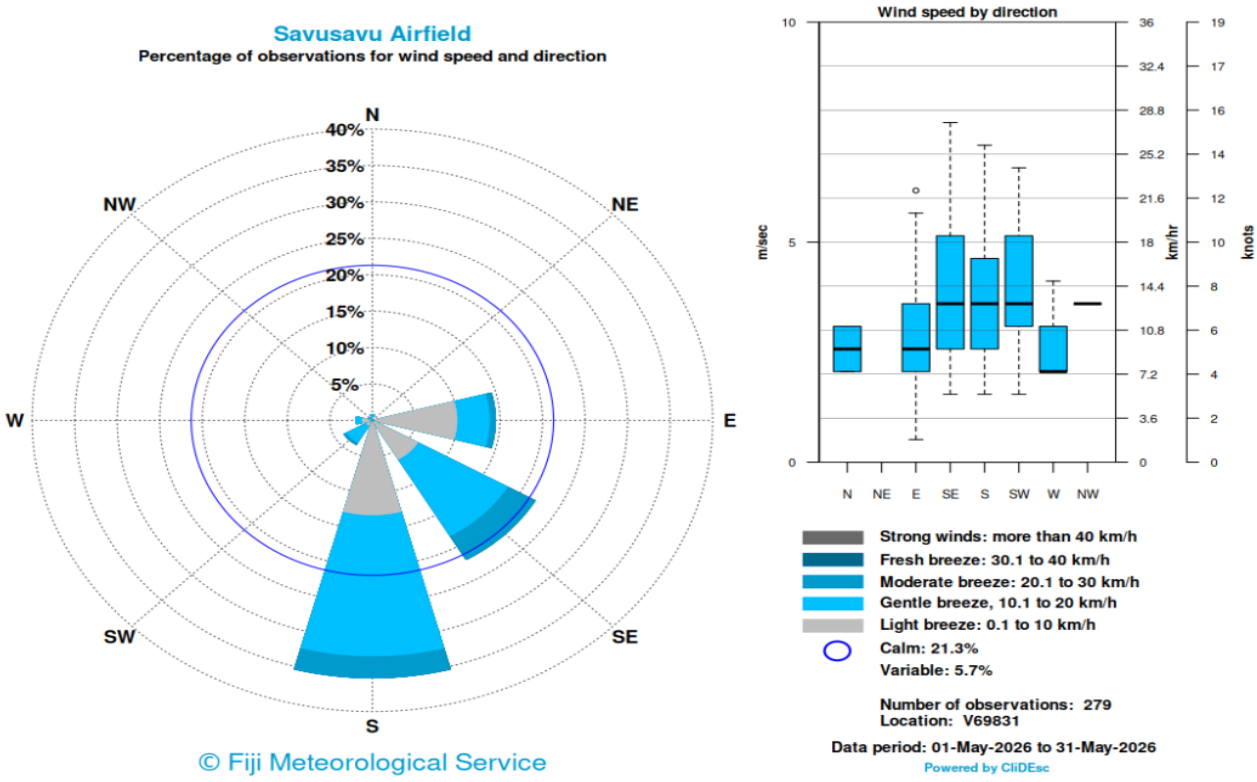


Figure 8c: Savusavu Airfield's hourly wind observations from 0800hrs to 1600hrs were predominantly southerly during May, followed by southeasterly then easterly winds. Wind strength ranged from light to moderate breeze, while calm conditions were recorded in 21.3% of observations .

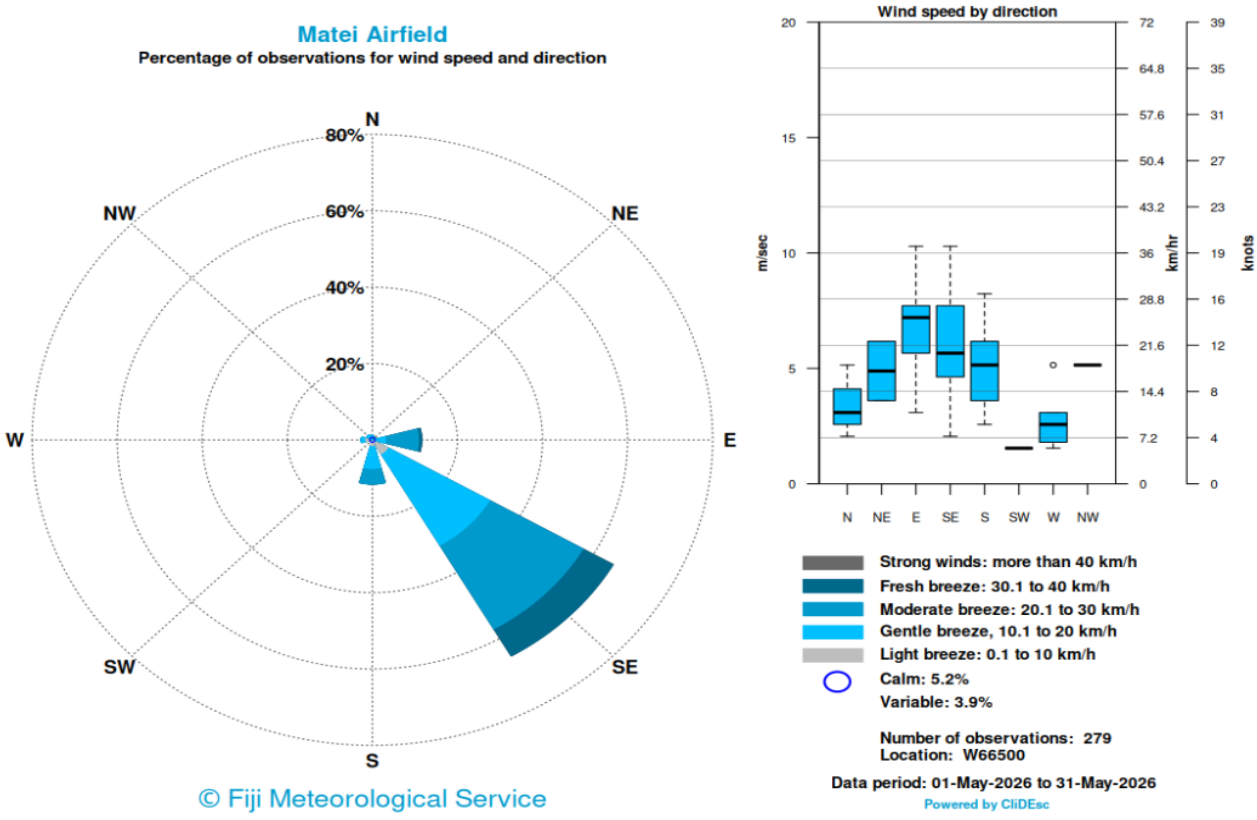


Figure 8d: Matei Airfield's hourly wind observations from 0800hrs to 1600hrs were predominantly southeasterly during May, followed by easterly then southerly winds. Wind strength ranged from light to fresh breeze, while calm conditions were recorded in 5.2% of observations.

8. SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE (SST)

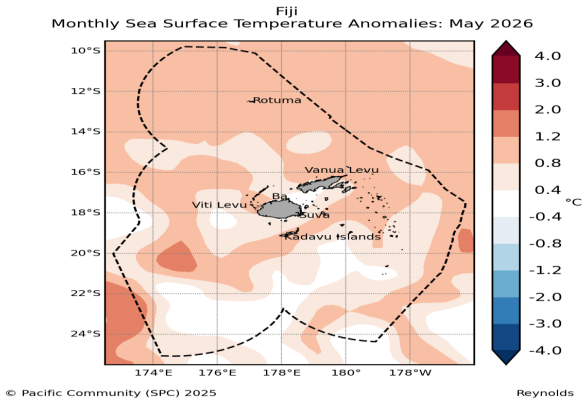


Figure 9:

Sea surface temperature anomalies across Fiji waters were generally between 0.4°C and 1.2°C *above normal.*

Source: https://oceanportal.spc.int/explorer

9. CLOUD COVER

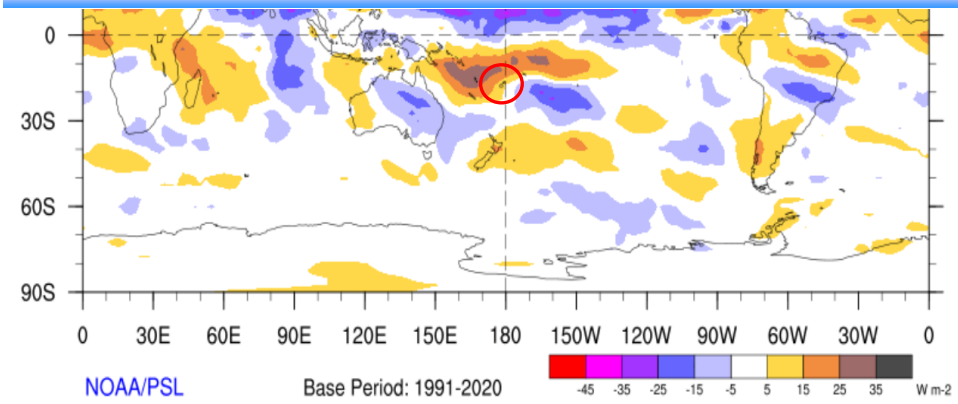


Figure 10:

30-Day Average OLR Anomaly: Below normal cloud cover was observed over the Fiji Group in the month of May (01/05/26– 31/05/26) (*Fiji in red circle).*

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

10. SEA LEVEL

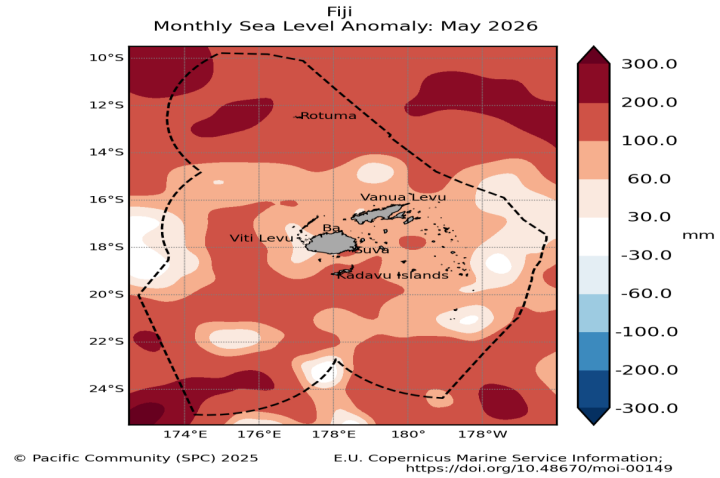


Figure 11:

During May, *above normal* sea level anomalies were present across the Fiji Group.

Source: https://oceanportal.spc.int/explorer

11. WIND ANOMALIES

Wind anomalies map for the month of May could not be generated due to Technical difficulties.

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.