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Fiji Ocean Outlook

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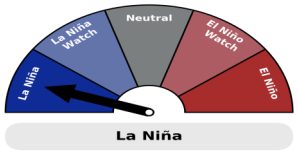
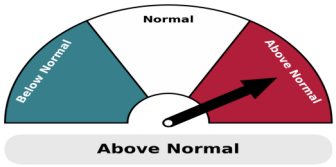
In Brief



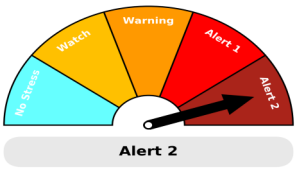
⇒ A weak La Niña event persists in the tropical Pacific Ocean and is close to its end, with a shift to ENSO-neutral conditions likely during the April to June 2026 period.

ENSO Outlook



⇒ *Above normal* sea surface temperatures (SSTs) are likely during the April to June 2026 period across Fiji Waters.

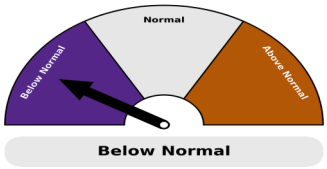
SST Outlook



⇒ The 29°C South Pacific Convergence Zone (SPCZ) average position is likely to be displaced south of its normal location, within Fiji's EEZ, during the April to June 2026 period.

⇒ The 4-week coral bleaching outlook is at *'Alert Level 2'* for most Fiji Waters, with '*Warning'* placed for Rotuma.

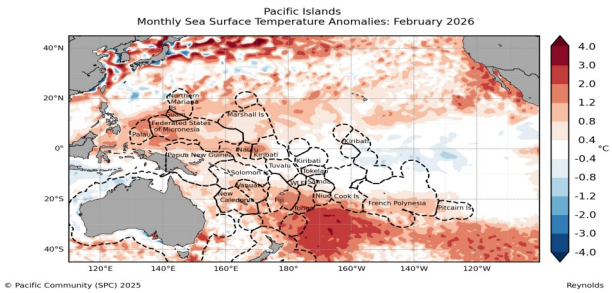
Coral Bleaching



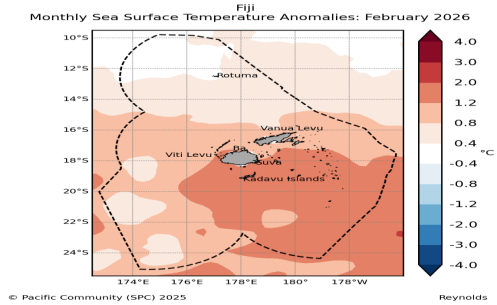
⇒ *Below normal* sea level is likely along the south-eastern coast of Viti Levu, parts of the Lomaiviti Group and southern Lau Group, while *above normal* sea level is expected around Rotuma and *near normal* sea level is likely for rest of the Fiji Group during April to June 2026.

Sea Level Outlook

Pacific Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs): Recent Observations



SST anomalies in the central and eastern Pacific Ocean were *near* to *below normal*, while most parts of the western Pacific Ocean observed *above normal* SSTs.



Sea surface temperatures (SSTs) anomalies around the country were mostly *above normal* during February, ranging from 0.4–2.0°C, with higher values of 1.2–2.0°C observed in small areas west of Viti Levu and toward the southern and eastern parts of the EEZ, including areas near Kadavu, Matuku and Ono-i-Lau.

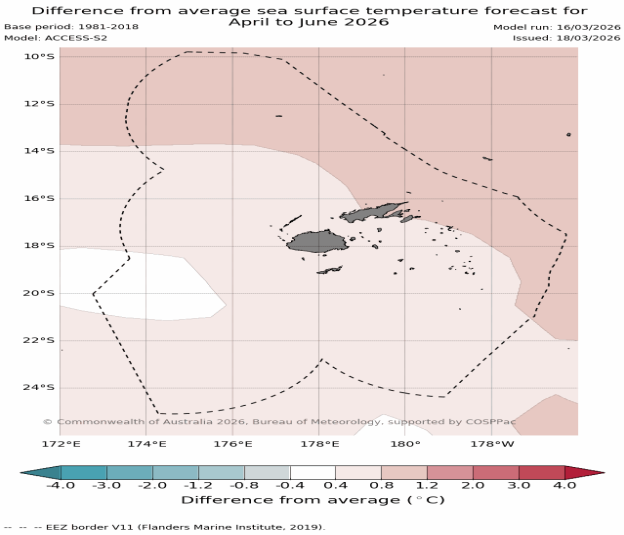
Possible Applications:
Presence of warmer than usual waters in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific indicate persistence of an El Niño event and cool waters indicate La Niña. Monitoring warm patches of ocean gives insight into the potential for cyclone formation, and possible start or finish of the cyclone season.
For further information on ocean temperature refer to https://legacy-oceanportal.spc.int/portal/help/about_OceanTemperature.pdf

Chlorophyll Concentration

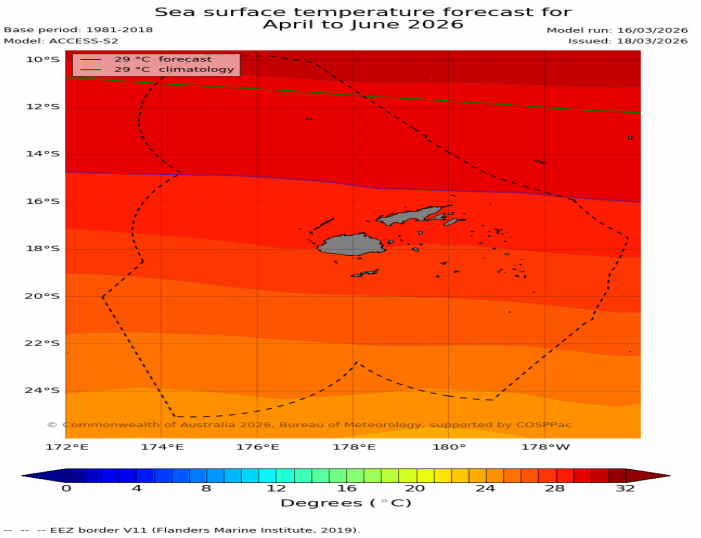
Chlorophyll concentration map could not be generated due to technical difficulties.

Possible Applications:
Chlorophyll concentration can be of great interest to fishermen targeting smaller pelagic (open sea) fish. High concentration of chlorophyll can also provide indication of potential hazardous conditions near the coast from reef fish diseases, such as ciguatera, harmful algal blooms, and outbreak of Crown of Thorns starfish, which is a coral eating pest. For further information on chlorophyll concentration refer to https://legacy-oceanportal.spc.int/portal/help/about_chlorophyll.pdf

Sea Surface Temperature (SST) Outlook



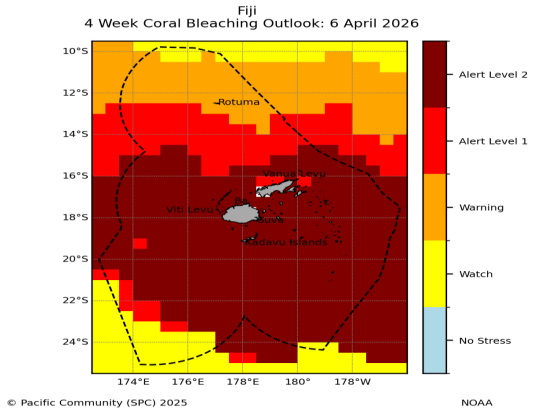
SSTs are likely to be *above normal* across Fiji Waters during the April to June 2026 period.



Average position of the 29°C convergence zone is likely to be displaced south of its normal position, within Fiji's EEZ, during the April to June 2026 period (purple line).

Possible Applications:
The movement of the convergence zone has an influence on relative abundance of tuna in the Pacific Ocean. The 29°C isotherm around the western Pacific warm pool forms a good proxy for the convergence zone, and can therefore be used to track the gravity center of Skipjack tuna fishing activity. For further information on seasonal sea surface temperature forecast refer to https://legacy-oceanportal.spc.int/portal/help/about_POAMA_SST.pdf

Coral Bleaching Outlook



The 4-week coral bleaching outlook is at *'Alert Level 2'* for most Fiji Waters, with '*Warning'* placed for Rotuma.

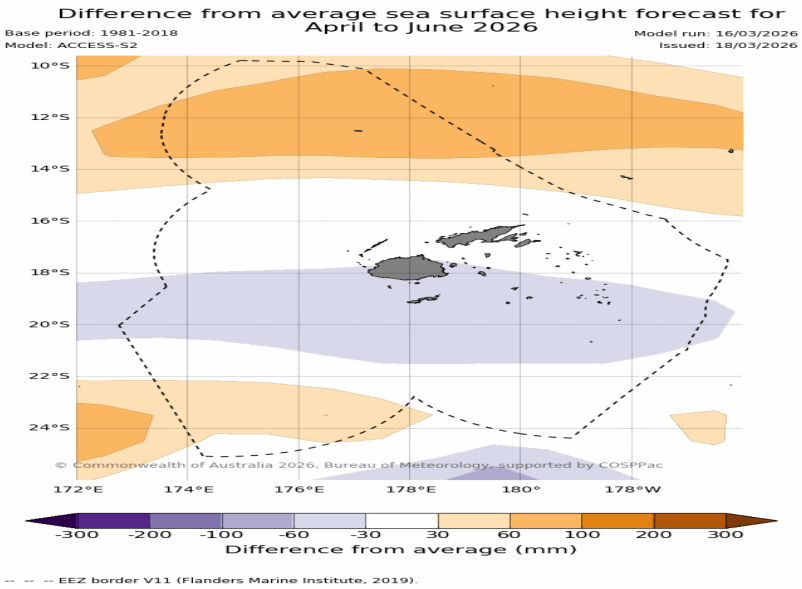
The 8-week coral bleaching outlook is at *'Alert Level 1'* for waters south of Rotuma, with *'Warning'* for Rotuma and *'Watch'* for waters north of Vanua Levu, Rabi, and north of Taveuni. *No Stress'* for the rest of Fiji Waters.

The 12-week coral bleaching outlook is at *'No Stress'* across the Fiji Waters.

The image on the left is for 4 weeks outlook.

Possible Applications:
Once a potential bleaching event is detected, a management plan should be implemented to reduce the impacts of bleaching. For further information on coral bleaching refer to https://legacy-oceanportal.spc.int/portal/help/about_coralbleaching.pdf

Sea Level Outlook



Below normal sea level is likely along the south-eastern coast of Viti Levu, parts of the Lomaiviti Group and southern Lau Group, while *above normal* sea level is expected around Rotuma and *near normal* sea level is likely for rest of the Fiji Group during April to June 2026.

Possible Applications:
Stakeholders can use forecasts of extreme sea level to make decisions about the protection of communities and infrastructure against coastal inundation. For further information on sea level refer to https://legacy-oceanportal.spc.int/portal/help/about_POAMA_Sea_Level.pdf

Tide Predictions (April to June 2026)

Suva						Lautoka					
Monthly Highest Tide			Monthly Lowest Tide			Monthly Highest Tide			Monthly Lowest Tide		
Date	Time	Height	Date	Time	Height	Date	Time	Height	Date	Time	Height
19 Apr	07:28	2.09m	20 Apr	14:50	0.40m	18 Apr	06:19	2.31m	19 Apr	13:33	0.33m
18 May	07:06	2.09m	18 May	13:42	0.30m	17 May	05:55	2.31m	18 May	13:21	0.24m
16 Jun	06:50	2.08m	17 Jun	14:21	0.26m	16 Jun	06:34	2.30m	16 Jun	13:11	0.19m

Port Denarau						Vatia					
Monthly Highest Tide			Monthly Lowest Tide			Monthly Highest Tide			Monthly Lowest Tide		
Date	Time	Height	Date	Time	Height	Date	Time	Height	Date	Time	Height
19 Apr	07:12	2.17m	19 Apr	13:38	0.18m	18 Apr	06:07	2.08m	19 Apr	13:23	0.18m
17 May	06:02	2.16m	18 May	13:25	0.08m	17 May	05:45	2.09m	18 May	13:13	0.08m
16 Jun	06:39	2.15m	16 Jun	13:14	0.03m	16 Jun	06:26	2.09m	16 Jun	13:03	0.03m

All date and time are in Fiji Standard Time.

Moon Phases (April to June 2026)

New Moon ●	First Quarter ◑	Full Moon ○	Last Quarter ◐
		2nd April	10th April
17th April	24th April	2nd May	10th May
17th May	23rd May	31st May	8th June
15th June	22nd June	30th June	

Explanatory Notes

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

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

Sea Surface Temperature (SST) Outlook

Above Normal – indicates that SST anomalies fall within the highest 3rd of observations in a 37 year period, typically equal to or above +0.8°C.

Near Normal – indicates that SST anomalies lies in the middle 3rd of observations in a 37 year period, typically between –0.4°C and +0.4°C.

Below Normal – indicates that SST anomalies fall within the lowest 3rd of observations in a 37 year period, typically equal to or below -0.8°C.

Coral Bleaching Outlook

No Stress – Thermal stress is unlikely.

Watch – Low-level of thermal stress.

Warning – Coral bleaching possible.

Alert 1 – Coral bleaching is likely.

Alert 2 – Coral mortality is Likely.

Sea Level Outlook

Above Normal – indicates that sea level anomalies fall within the highest 3rd of observations in a 37 year period, typically equal to or above +60mm.

Near Normal – indicates that sea level anomalies lies in the middle 3rd of observations in a 37 year period, typically between –60mm and +60mm.

Below Normal – indicates that sea level anomalies fall within the lowest 3rd of observations in a 37 year period, typically equal to or below –60mm.

El Niño events are associated with warming of the central and eastern tropical Pacific. El Niño events usually result in reduction of Fiji's rainfall. Often the whole of Fiji is affected in varying degrees and it is quite unusual for one part of the country to experience a prolonged dry spell, while the other is in a wet spell.

La Niña events are associated with cooling of the central and eastern tropical Pacific. Usually La Niña results in wetter than normal conditions for Fiji, occasionally leading to flooding during the Warm/Wet Season. (November to April).

When ENSO is **Neutral**, that is, neither El Niño nor La Niña, it has little effect on global climate, meaning other climate influences are more likely to dominate.