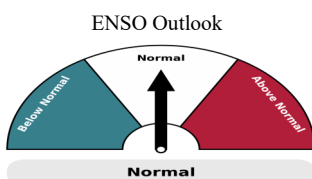


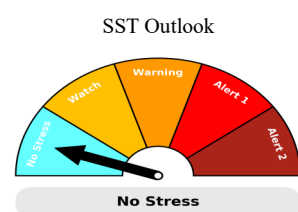
In Brief



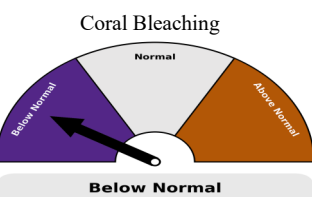
⇒ El Niño is firmly established in the tropical Pacific Ocean with most global climate models indicating that it is likely to become a very strong event. El Niño conditions are favored to continue into early 2027.



⇒ SSTs during October to December 2026 are likely to be *near normal* across the Fiji Waters.



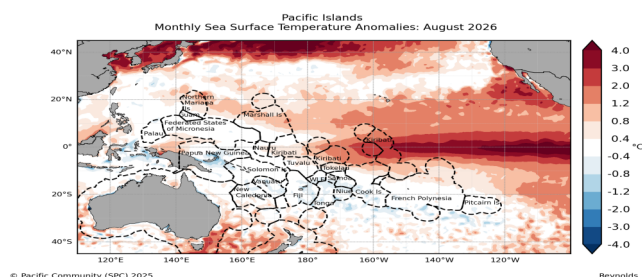
⇒ The average position of the 29°C convergence zone will likely be displaced slightly south of its normal location, within northernmost parts of Fiji's EEZ, during October to December 2026.



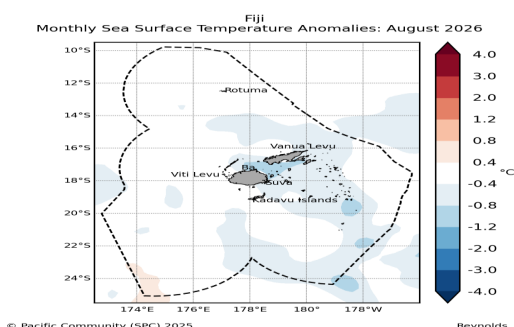
⇒ The 4, 8 and 12 week coral bleaching outlooks are at '*No Stress*' across the Fiji Waters, including Rotuma.

⇒ During the October to December 2026 period, sea level within the Fiji Group is expected to be *below normal*, while *near normal* sea level is likely for Rotuma.

Pacific Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs): Recent Observations



During August, *above normal* sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies continued to persist in waters of the Central and Eastern equatorial Pacific, however variable SST anomalies, ranging from *below* to *near normal*, prevailed in the Western Pacific.

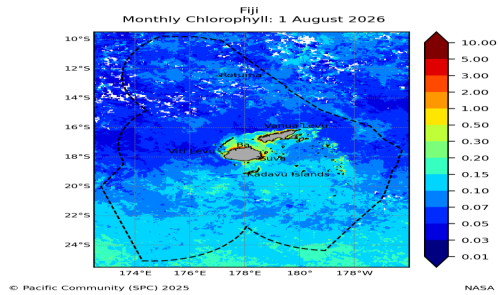


SST anomalies in August were *below normal* in waters around the Northern Division, most parts of the Lau Group, Lomaiviti Group and northern coast of Viti Levu, ranging from 0.4°C to 1.2°C. *Near normal* SST anomalies were observed west of Viti Levu and in Rotuma.

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

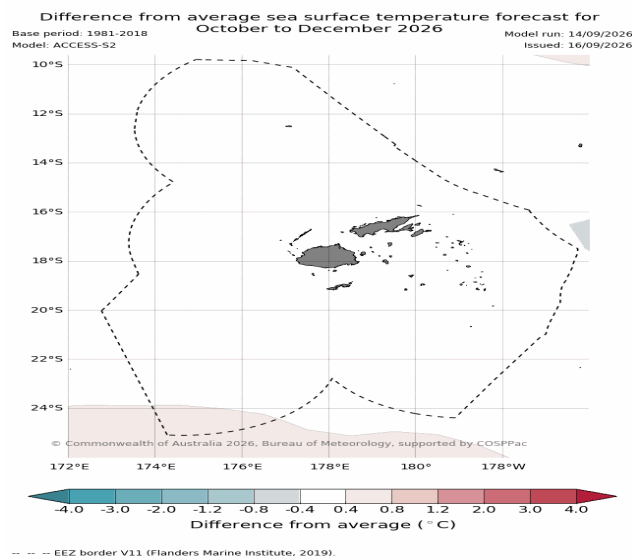


During August, high chlorophyll concentrations were recorded along the central and western coasts of Viti Levu, around the northern and southern coasts of Vanua Levu, southern parts of Kadavu, coastal parts of Yasawa-i-Rara and most parts of the Lau Group.

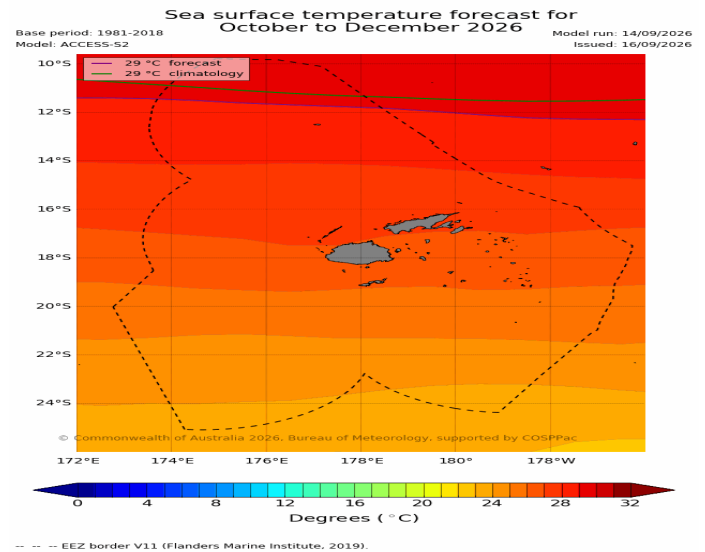
Possible Applications:

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 during October to December 2026 are likely to be *near normal* across the Fiji Waters.

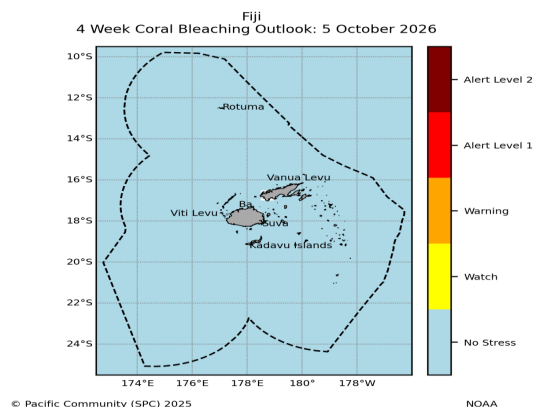


The average position of the 29°C convergence zone will likely be displaced slightly south of its normal location, within northernmost parts of Fiji's EEZ, during October to December 2026 (purple line).

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



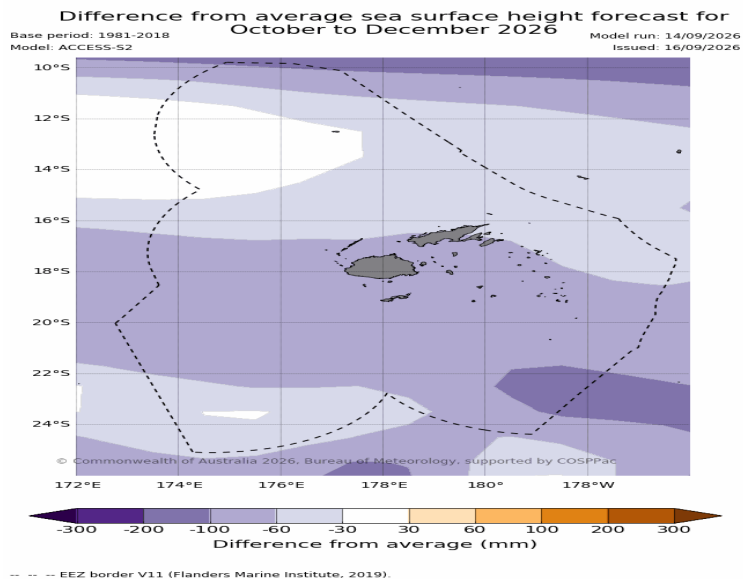
The 4-, 8- and 12-week coral bleaching outlooks are at 'No Stress' across the Fiji Waters, including Rotuma.

The image on the left shows the 4-week 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



During the October to December 2026 period, sea level within the Fiji Group is expected to be *below normal*, while *near normal* sea level is likely for Rotuma.

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 (October to December 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
27 Oct	18:58	2.05m	29 Oct	02:21	0.41m	27 Oct	18:36	2.30m	28 Oct	01:08	0.36m
25 Nov	18:35	2.10m	27 Nov	02:07	0.35m	25 Nov	18:18	2.34m	26 Nov	00:56	0.29m
25 Dec	19:14	2.14m	26 Dec	01:52	0.32m	25 Dec	19:00	2.38m	26 Dec	01:36	0.23m

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
27 Oct	18:44	2.17m	28 Oct	01:13	0.21m	27 Oct	18:24	2.12m	28 Oct	00:58	0.26m
25 Nov	18:25	2.21m	27 Nov	01:50	0.13m	25 Nov	18:08	2.18m	26 Nov	00:47	0.17m
25 Dec	19:05	2.24m	26 Dec	01:38	0.08m	24 Dec	17:59	2.21m	26 Dec	01:29	0.11m

All date and time are in Fiji Standard Time.

Moon Phases (October to December 2026)

New Moon 	First Quarter 	Full Moon 	Last Quarter 
			4 th October
11 th October	19 th October	26 th October	2 nd November
9 th November	17 th November	25 th November	1 st December
9 th December	17 th December	24 th December	31 st December

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 +0.4°C.

Near Normal – indicates that SST anomalies lie 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 -0.4°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 +30mm.

Near Normal – indicates that sea level anomalies lie in the middle 3rd of observations in a 37 year period, typically between –30mm and +30mm.

Below Normal – indicates that sea level anomalies fall within the lowest 3rd of observations in a 37 year period, typically equal to or below –30mm.

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.

Disclaimer: While Fiji Meteorological Service takes all measures to provide accurate information and data, it does not guarantee 100% accuracy of the information presented in this outlook. The Department should be sought for expert advice, clarifications and additional information as and when necessary. The user assumes all risk resulting directly or indirectly from the use of this outlook.