

### 1. IN BRIEF

Variable rainfall patterns were observed during May, with rainfall ranging from *well below* average to *well above average* across the country. The majority of stations in the Western Division, Seaqaqa, Vunisea, and Matuku experienced drier than usual conditions. Rarawai Mill (Ba), Yaqara, Viwa, Yasawa-i-Rara, Seaqaqa, Vunisea, and Matuku recorded less than half of their *normal* monthly rainfall, while Udu Point, Savusavu Airfield, and Ono-i-Lau recorded more than twice their *normal* monthly rainfall.

Overall, out of the 27 rainfall monitoring stations that reported in, in time for the compilation of bulletin, 5 recorded *well below average* rainfall, 5 *below average*, 3 *average* rainfall, 11 *above average*, and 3 stations with *well above average* (Table 2, Figures 1-5).

RKS Lodoni recorded the highest monthly rainfall of 553.0mm, followed by Savusavu Airfield with 535.8mm, Monasavu with 533.9mm, Rotuma with 425.0mm, Udu Point with 423.5mm, Navua with 417.5mm, Lomaivuna with 412.5mm, Nausori Airport with 402.7mm, Ko-

ronivia with 372.7mm, and Korolevu with 360.5mm. (Table 2).

On temperatures, the month's warmest day-time temperature of 35.7°C was observed at RKS Lodoni on the 20<sup>th</sup>, followed by Navua with 35.6°C on the 20<sup>th</sup>, Seaqaqa with 35.0°C on the 1<sup>st</sup>, Rarawai Mill (Ba) with 34.5°C on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Matuku with 34.2°C on the 21<sup>st</sup>. The month's coolest night-time temperature of 11.0°C was recorded at Rarawai Mill (Ba) on the 12<sup>th</sup>, followed by Monsavu with 12.6°C on the 11<sup>th</sup>, Lomaivuna with 14.5°C on the 10<sup>th</sup>, Labasa Airport with 14.7°C on the 11<sup>th</sup>, and Seaqaqa with 15.3°C on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

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

Warmer than normal sea surface temperature anomalies were observed at most parts of the country (Figure 8).

### 2. WEATHER PATTERNS

The weather in May was dominated by series of trough of low-pressure systems with the moist easterly and the cool, dry southerly winds prevailing over the Fiji group.

An east to southeast wind flow prevailed over the Fiji group at the beginning of May until the 4<sup>th</sup> when a trough of low pressure affected the country with the associated rain and thunderstorms till the 7<sup>th</sup>. The significant 24 hour rainfalls recorded at Waimanu was 108mm on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 173mm at Savusavu on the 6<sup>th</sup>.

A cool and dry southerly windflow prevailed thereafter till the 10<sup>th</sup> before turning southeast till the 15<sup>th</sup>. Monasavu recorded a minimum temperature of 12 degrees celcius on the 10<sup>th</sup>. A trough of low pressure with the associated clouds and rain affected the group from the north on the 15<sup>th</sup> and gradually spread to the rest of the country the 17th. Lakeba and Ono-i-Lau recorded significant 24 hour rainfall on the 16<sup>th</sup> with 105.5mm and 129.7mm respectively. Keiyasi also recorded 100.5mm for the 17<sup>th</sup>.

A prevailing northeast wind flow persisted after the passing trough on the 17<sup>th</sup> till the 22<sup>nd</sup> with prevailing wind flow changing to east then to southeast. A slow moving trough of low pressure with the associated clouds and rain coupled with the moist southeast wind flow affected the country from the southwest on the 24<sup>th</sup> and gradually spread to the rest of the group till the end of the month. Occasional rain occurred over

the interior and eastern parts of the larger islands with isolated heavy falls. RKS AWS recorded significant 24 hour rainfall of 113.0mm on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Cloudy periods prevailed over the rest of the country with isolated afternoon or evening showers.

A high pressure system to the far southwest of Fiji affected the country from the 29<sup>th</sup> generating strong southeast winds over all Fiji waters. On the 30<sup>th</sup>, strong southeast winds were also felt over land, especially over the windward coastal areas of Viti Levu, Vanua Levu, Kadavu and nearby smaller islands, Yasawa, Lau and Lomaiviti groups till the 31<sup>st</sup>.

A Coastal Inundation Warning was also in force for all the low lying Coastal areas of Southern Viti Levu, Yasawa and Mamanuca group, Kadavu and nearby smaller islands, Beqa, Vatulele, Lomaiviti, Central and Southern Lau groups. A Damaging Heavy Swell was also in force for the Yasawa and Mamanuca waters, Southwest Viti Levu waters, Kadavu passage, Koro Sea, Central and Southern Lau waters. Unfortunately there were no reported events from the above warnings.

Rotuma's weather was mainly affected by a series of troughs of low pressures that brought occasional rain over the island with the moist easterly and southeast winds.

### 3. RAINFALL

Variable rainfall patterns were observed during May, with rainfall ranging from *well below average* to *well above average* across the country. The majority of stations in the Western Division, Seaqaqa, Vunisea, and Matuku experienced drier than usual conditions. Rarawai Mill (Ba), Yaqara, Viwa, Yasawa-i-Rara and Seaqaqa recorded less than half of their *normal* monthly rainfall, while Udu Point, Savusavu Airfield, and Ono-i-Lau recorded more than twice their *normal* monthly rainfall.

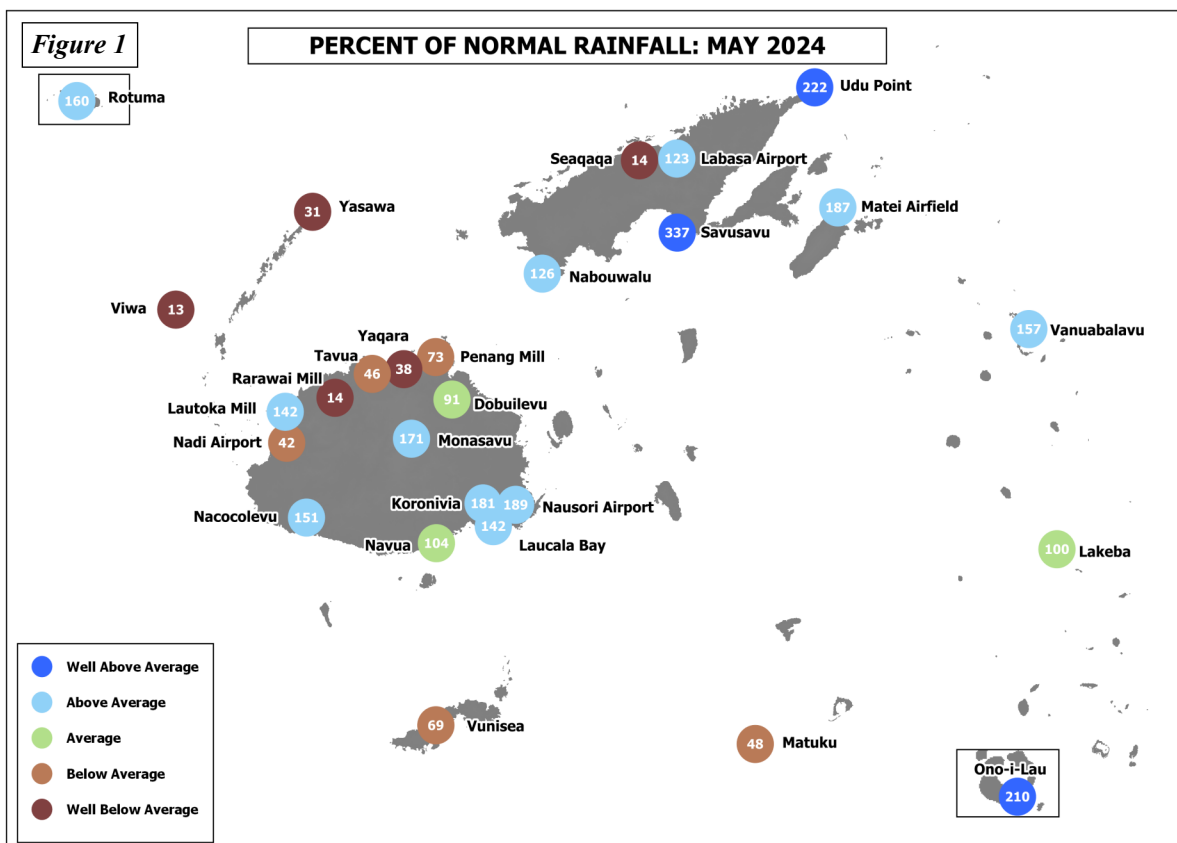
Overall, out of the 27 rainfall monitoring stations that reported in, in time for the compilation of bulletin, 5 recorded *well below average* rainfall, 5 *below average*, 3 *average* rainfall, 11 *above average*, and 3 stations with *well above average* (Table 2, Figures 1-5).

The highest monthly rainfall of 553.0mm was observed at RKS Lodoni, followed by Savusavu Airfield with 535.8mm, Monasavu with 533.9mm, Rotuma with 425.0mm, Udu Point with 423.5mm, Navua with 417.5mm, Lomaivuna with 412.5mm, Nausori Airport with 402.7mm, Koronivia with 372.7mm, and Korolevu with 360.5mm. On the other hand, Viwa recorded the month's lowest total monthly rainfall of 12.8mm, followed by Rarawai Mill (Ba) with 13.6mm, Momi with 19.0mm, Seaqaqa with 33.0mm, and Nadi Airport with 38.9mm (Table 2).

The highest 24-hour rainfall of 243mm was recorded at Udu Point on the 29<sup>th</sup>, followed by Savusavu Airfield with 173mm on 6<sup>th</sup>, Ono-i-Lau with 130mm on the 16<sup>th</sup>, RKS Lodoni with 113mm on the 24<sup>th</sup>, Lakeba with 106mm on the 16<sup>th</sup>, Keiyasi with 101mm on the 17<sup>th</sup>, Lomaivuna with 92mm on the 15<sup>th</sup>, Rotuma with 89mm on the 30<sup>th</sup>, Monasavu with 86mm on the 14<sup>th</sup> and Matei Airfield with 83mm on the 6<sup>th</sup>.

Rotuma recorded the highest number of rain days (rainfall  $\geq 0.1$ mm) with 27 days, followed by Monasavu and Koronivia both with 26 days, Korolevu with 25 days, Laucala Bay (Suva) and Vunisea both with 24 days, and Nasinu, Nausori Airport and Navua all with 23 days. Consequently, Rarawai Mill (Ba) and Viwa both with 4 days, followed by Momi with 5 days, and Nadi Airport, Lautoka Mill, Tavua and Penang Mill all with 9 days.

There were no new rainfall records observed during the month.



*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  $\geq 0.1$ mm

*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

Generally *normal to above normal* day-time air temperatures were observed across the country during the month. Out of the 23 climate stations that reported in time for the analysis of data, 16 recorded anomalies  $\geq +0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 2 within  $\pm 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ , and 5 with anomalies  $\leq -0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

The warmest days on average were recorded at Rarawai Mill (Ba) with  $33.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ , followed by RKS Lodonu with  $31.9^{\circ}\text{C}$  and Lautoka Mill with  $31.8^{\circ}\text{C}$ , Viwa and Labasa Airport both with  $31.7^{\circ}\text{C}$ , and Seaqaqa with  $31.6^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Consequently, Monasavu recorded the coolest days on average with  $24.4^{\circ}\text{C}$ , followed by Ono-i-Lau with  $28.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ , Korolevu with  $28.6^{\circ}\text{C}$ , Lomaivuna and Vunisea both with  $28.7^{\circ}\text{C}$ , and Sigatoka, Navua, and Nausori Airport all with  $28.8^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

The warmest daily day-time temperatures were recorded during the third week of the month. The month’s highest day-time temperature of  $35.7^{\circ}\text{C}$  was observed at RKS Lodonu on the 20<sup>th</sup>, followed by Navua with  $35.6^{\circ}\text{C}$  on the 20<sup>th</sup>, Seaqaqa with  $35.0^{\circ}\text{C}$  on the 1<sup>st</sup>, Rarawai Mill (Ba) with  $34.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Matuku with  $34.2^{\circ}\text{C}$  on the 21<sup>st</sup>. On the other hand, the coolest day-time temperature of  $20.3^{\circ}\text{C}$  was at Monasavu on the 30<sup>th</sup>, followed by Lomaivuna with  $21.9^{\circ}\text{C}$  on the 31<sup>st</sup>, Korolevu with  $23.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  on the 29<sup>th</sup>, Navua with  $23.7^{\circ}\text{C}$  on the 31<sup>st</sup> and Vaturekuka (Labasa) with  $23.8^{\circ}\text{C}$  on the 31<sup>st</sup>.

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

### B. Minimum Night-time Air Temperatures

Generally *normal to above normal* night-time temperatures were recorded over most parts of the country during the month. Of the 23 stations, 15 recorded anomalies  $\geq +0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 5 within  $\pm 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ , and 3 with anomalies  $\leq -0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

The coolest days on average was at Monasavu with  $18.8^{\circ}\text{C}$ , followed by Rarawai Mill (Ba) and Lomaivuna both with  $20.9^{\circ}\text{C}$ , Ono-i-Lau with  $21.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ , Korolevu with  $21.7^{\circ}\text{C}$ , Labasa Airport and Sigatoka both with  $22.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ , Vanuabalavu with  $22.2^{\circ}\text{C}$ , and Nacocolevu and Vaturekuka both with  $22.3^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Consequently, on average, the warmest night-time temperatures were observed at Rotuma with  $26.3^{\circ}\text{C}$ , Viwa with  $25.2^{\circ}\text{C}$ , Lakeba and RKS Lodonu both with  $24.9^{\circ}\text{C}$ , and Saqani with  $24.8^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

The coolest daily night-time temperatures were recorded during the second week of the month. The lowest night-time temperature of  $11.0^{\circ}\text{C}$  was recorded at Rarawai Mill (Ba) on the 12<sup>th</sup>, followed by Monasavu with  $12.6^{\circ}\text{C}$  on the 11<sup>th</sup>, Lomaivuna with  $14.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  on the 10<sup>th</sup>, Labasa Airport with  $14.7^{\circ}\text{C}$  on the 11<sup>th</sup>, and Seaqaqa with  $15.3^{\circ}\text{C}$  on the 11<sup>th</sup>. On the other hand, the warmest night-time temperature of  $29.0^{\circ}\text{C}$  was recorded at Saqani on the 6<sup>th</sup>, followed by Seaqaqa with  $27.8^{\circ}\text{C}$  on the 6<sup>th</sup>, Rotuma with  $27.6^{\circ}\text{C}$  on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, and Lakeba with  $27.3^{\circ}\text{C}$  on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

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

## TABLE 1. CLIMATE RECORDS ESTABLISHED IN MAY 2024

There were no new climate records established during May 2024.

*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 2024**

	RAINFALL				AIR TEMPERATURES								SUNSHINE	
	TOTAL	RAIN		MAX.	AVERAGE DAILY				EXTREME				TOTAL	*
	MM	%	+ DAYS	MM ON	MAX. #	MIN. #	MIN. #	MAX. #	MIN. #	MIN. #	HRS	%		
NADI AIRPORT	38.9	42	9	16 2	31.1	1.4	22.5	1.4	34.0	20	16.5	10	195	93
LAUCALA BAY	331.0	142	24	39 31	29.3	0.5	24.2	1.3	33.5	21	20.6	13	106	72
NACOCOLEVU RESEARC	130.7	151	18	76 17	28.9	-0.7	22.3	2.4	32.6	21	16.0	13	107	82
ROTUMA ISLAND (AWS)	425.0	160	27	89 30	31.4	0.3	26.3	1.2	33.1	7	24.2	15		
VIWA ISLAND	12.8	13	4	8 2	31.7	1.5	25.2	1.3	33.4	6	22.0	12		
YASAWA-I-RARA (AWS)	51.0	31	10	20 24	30.2	-0.8	23.9	-0.2	33.8	3	17.2	10		
UDU POINT WEATHER	423.5	222	17	243 29	30.7	1.2	23.1	-0.7	33.1	23	20.2	12		
NABOUWALU	224.1	126	22	31 5	29.3	0.8	23.5	-0.1	32.4	21	17.0	17		
LABASA AIRFIELD	121.1	123	18	38 6	31.7	0.9	22.0	1.7	33.9	3	14.7	11		
SAVUSAVU AIRFIELD	535.8	337	22	173 6	29.5	0.8	24.6	1.7	33.0	19	22.5	31		
KORONIVIA RESEARCH	372.7	181	26	47 31	29.1	0.4	23.0	1.4	33.0	21	17.3	10		
NAUSORI AIRPORT	402.7	189	23	41 30	28.8	0.5	22.8	1.4	32.4	21	17.0	10		
NAVUA (AWS)	417.5	104	23	46 15	28.8	-0.7	22.5	0.0	35.6	20	17.3	10		
MONASAVU HYDRO DAM	533.9	171	26	86 14	24.4	1.4	18.8	1.4	28.1	21	12.6	11		
FSC LAUTOKA MILL	136.0	142	9	80 23	31.8	1.8	22.7	1.1	33.7	1	18.1	10		
FSC RARAWAI MILL	13.6	14	4	7 2	33.5	2.7	20.9	1.1	34.5	2	11.0	12		
FSC PENANG MILL	119.0	73	9	26 30	30.3	1.0	23.9	1.9	32.5	2	17.4	10		
MATEI AIRFIELD	325.4	187	20	83 6	29.5	0.5	22.4	-0.9	31.9	2	19.4	10		
VANUABALAVU	199.8	157	22	46 16	29.4	0.7	22.2	-1.2	32.0	3	19.5	31		
LAKEBA (AWS)	231.0	100	21	106 16	29.3	-0.5	24.9	0.8	32.5	3	20.6	31		
VUNISEA (AWS)	212.0	69	24	40 1	28.7	-0.7	23.2	-0.3	33.8	20	19.4	10		
MATUKU (AWS)	89.0	48	20	19 14	31.4	1.8	24.5	0.5	34.2	21	21.8	12		
ONO-I-LAU	261.3	210	16	130 16	28.0	0.6	21.5	-0.4	31.7	21	18.4	11		
YAQARA AWS	66.5	38	10	30 30	31.1		23.9		33.8	3	17.2	10		
LEVUKA AWS	41.5		17	11 24	U/S		U/S		U/S		U/S			
KEIYASI AWS	206.5		12	101 17	U/S		U/S		U/S		U/S			
LOMAIVUNA AWS	412.5		21	92 15	28.7		20.9		33.5	20	14.5	10		
NADARIVATU AWS	240.0		17	65 30	U/S		U/S		U/S		U/S			
RKS LODONI AWS	553.0		21	113 24	31.9		24.9		35.7	20	18.7	10		
MOMI AWS	19.0		5	8 2	30.0		22.9		33.7	2	18.7	11		
SIGATOKA AWS	131.0		19	47 3	28.8		22.0		33.9	20	15.7	10		
VATUREKUKA AWS	87.5		14	32 2	29.7		22.3		32.9	3	15.6	11		
KOROLEVU AWS	360.5		25	72 17	28.6		21.7		32.6	21	16.2	10		
WAINIKORO AWS	62.0		15	19 2	30.5		22.8		33.9	3	15.7	11		
SAQANI AWS	159.5		20	51 16	30.1		24.8		32.7	4	21.9	11		
SEAQAQA AWS	33.0	14	10	17 2	31.6		22.8		35.0	1	15.3	11		
DOBUILEVU TB3	249.0	91	20	70 30										
NASINU TB3	296.0		23	32 27										
TAVUA TB3	88.5	46	9	36 3										

	TEMPERATURE( C)		HUMIDITY		WIND
	MEAN	(AVERAGE AT 9AM)	DRY	WET	
NADI AIRPORT	26.8	26.6	23.6	77	26.0 6.3
LAUCALA BAY	26.8	26.6	24.6	84	26.0 5.0
NACOCOLEVU RESEARC	25.6	26.1	24.1	85	25.3
ROTUMA ISLAND(AWS)	28.9				
VIWA ISLAND	28.4	29.2	25.7	76	30.3
YASAWA-I-RARA(AWS)	27.1				
UDU POINT WEATHER	26.9	28.0	25.3	81	28.3
NABOUWALU	26.4	27.3	24.6	81	27.1
LABASA AIRFIELD	26.8	28.0	25.2	80	28.3 10.2
SAVUSAVU AIRFIELD	27.1	27.2	24.9	82	27.0 7.3
KORONIVIA RESEARCH	26.0	26.4	24.8	88	25.7
NAUSORI AIRPORT	25.8	26.4	24.6	86	25.7 5.4
NAVUA (AWS)	27.1				
MONASAVU HYDRO DAM	21.6	21.4	21.0	96	19.0
FSC LAUTOKA MILL	27.2	25.5	24.6	93	24.4
FSC RARAWAI MILL	27.2	27.0	24.4	81	26.7
FSC PENANG MILL	27.1	27.8	24.6	77	27.9
MATEI AIRFIELD	25.9	27.7	25.4	82	27.8 11.0
VANUABALAVU	25.8	27.3	25.3	85	27.1
LAKEBA (AWS)	26.0				
VUNISEA (AWS)	26.0				
MATUKU (AWS)	28.0				
ONO-I-LAU	24.8	26.2	23.3	79	25.4

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 (1981-2010). + :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

Figure 2

Nadi Airport (Western Division) - Temperature & Rainfall Records for the last 13 Months (May 2023 - May 2024)

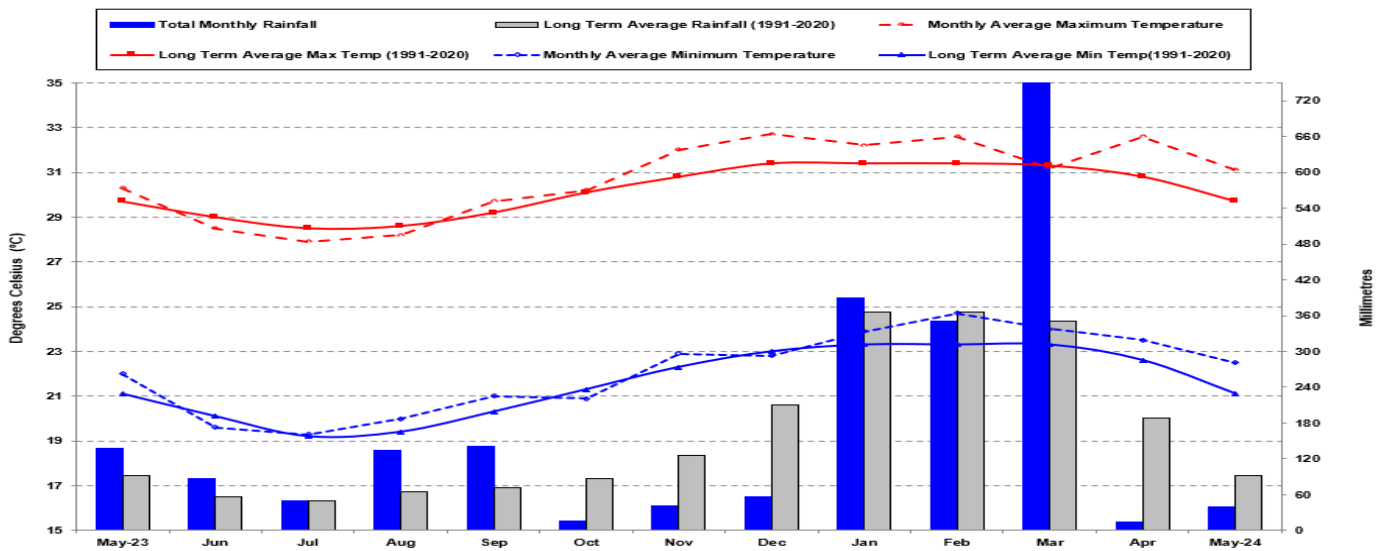


Figure 3

Laucala Bay - (Suva) (Central Division) - Temperature & Rainfall Records for the last 13 Months (May 2023 - May 2024)

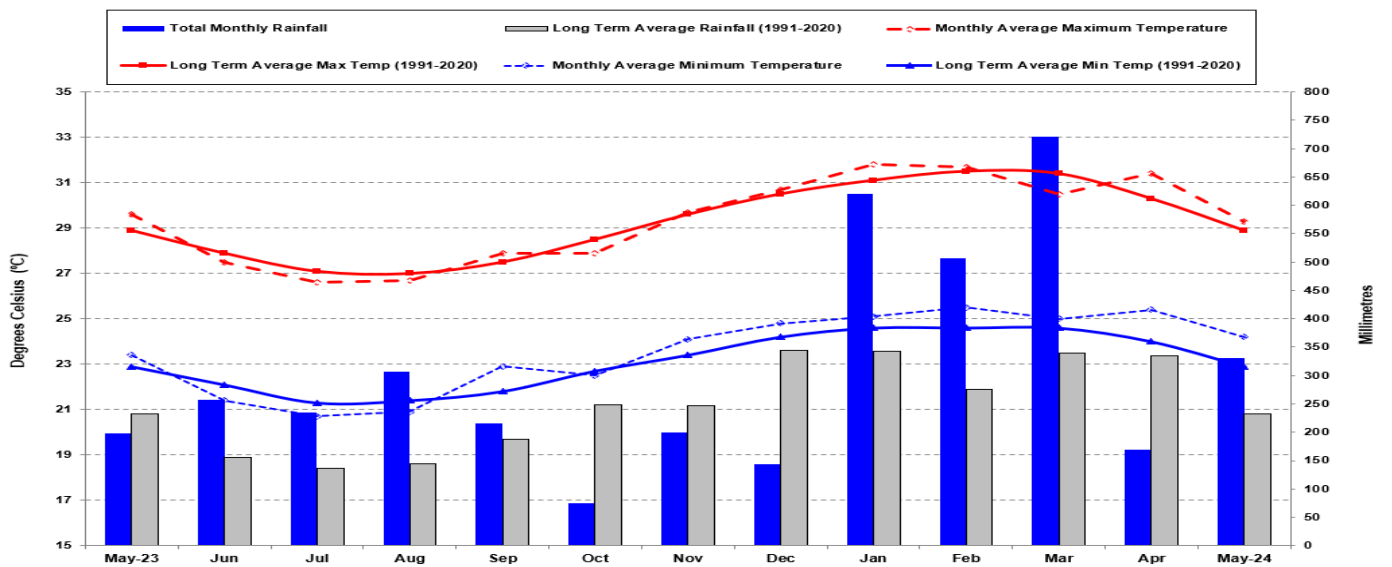


Figure 4

Udu Point (Eastern Division) - Temperature & Rainfall Records for the last 13 Months (May 2023 - May 2024)

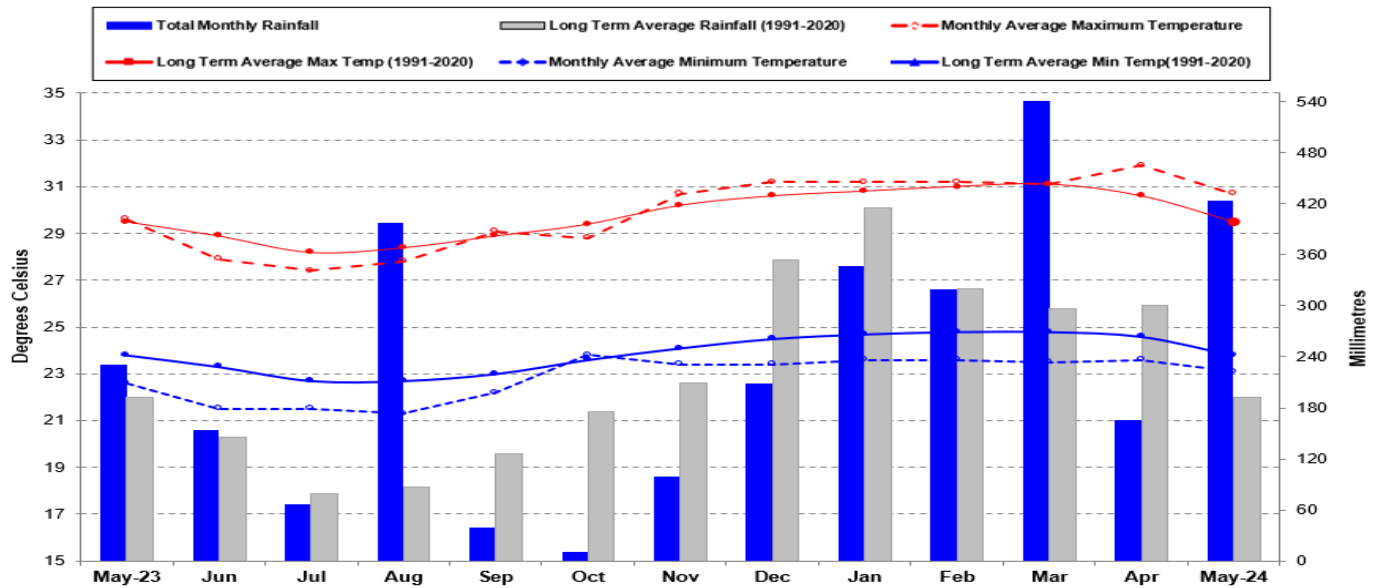
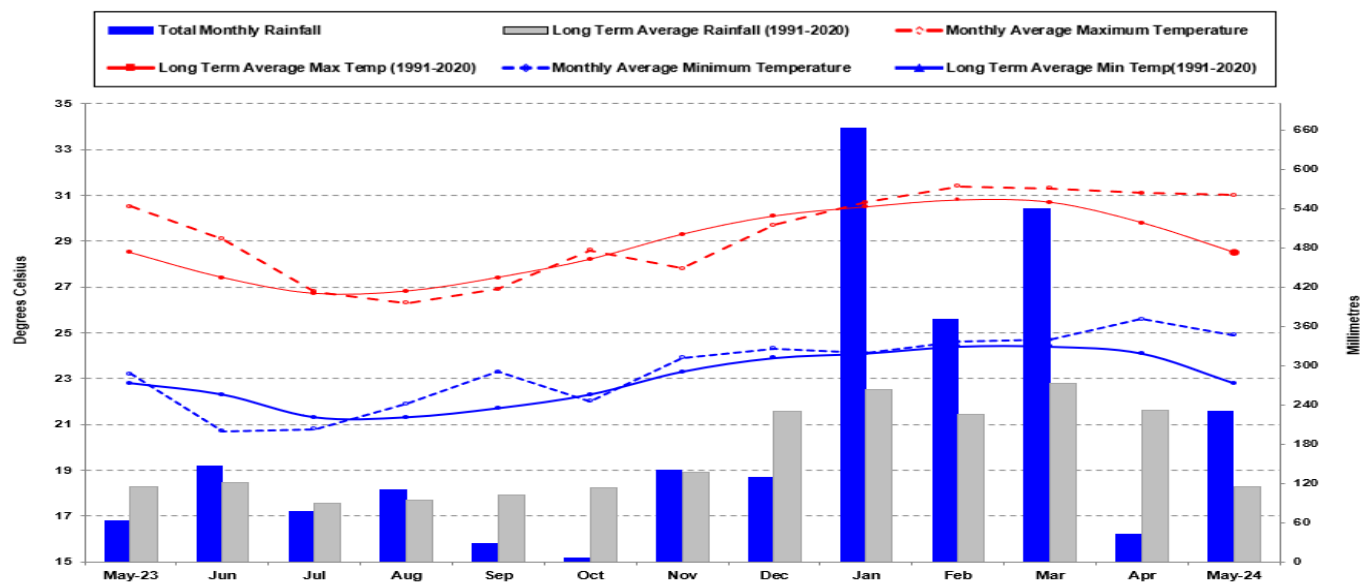


Figure 5

Lakeba (Eastern Division) - Temperature & Rainfall Records for the last 13 Months (May 2023 - May 2024)



5. DAILY RAISED PAN EVAPORATION

Daily Evaporation for May 2024

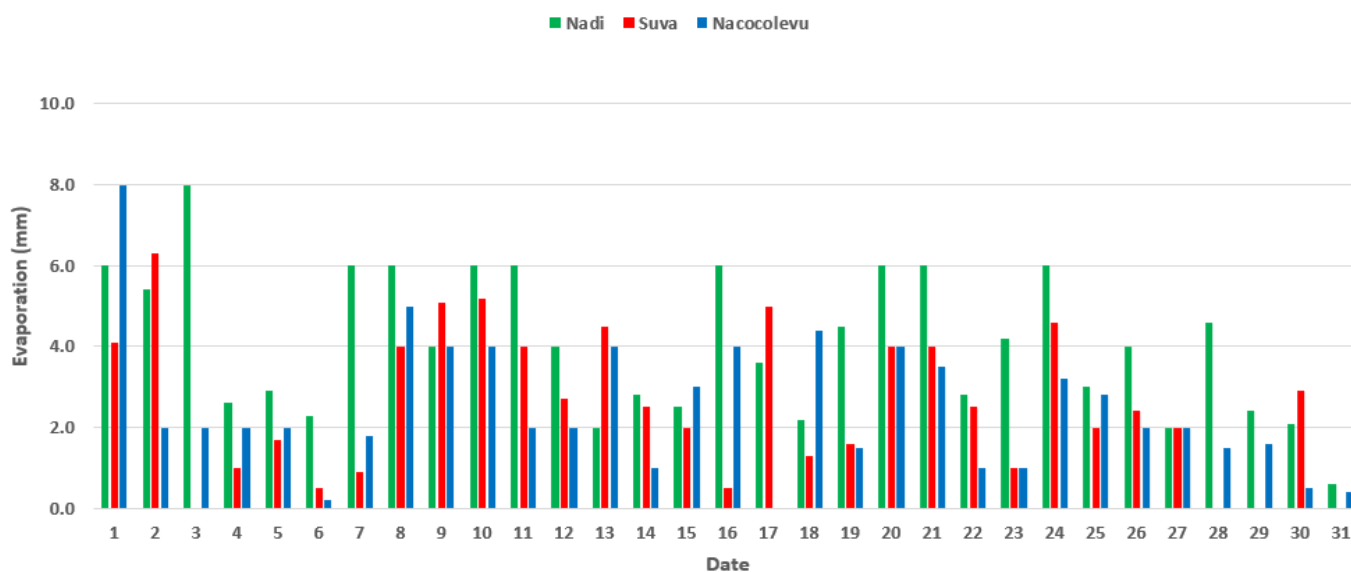


Figure 6: The total monthly raised pan evaporation at Nadi Airport, Laucala Bay (Suva) and Nacocolevu (Sigatoka) were 126.5mm, 78.3mm and 76.4mm, respectively. Nadi’s highest daily evaporation was 8.0mm on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, with Suva’s highest daily evaporation of 6.3mm on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Nacocolevu (Sigatoka) recorded its highest of 8.0mm on the 1<sup>st</sup>.

6. SOLAR RADIATION

The Nadi solar radiation instrument was unserviceable during the month of May 2024.



7. WIND SUMMARY

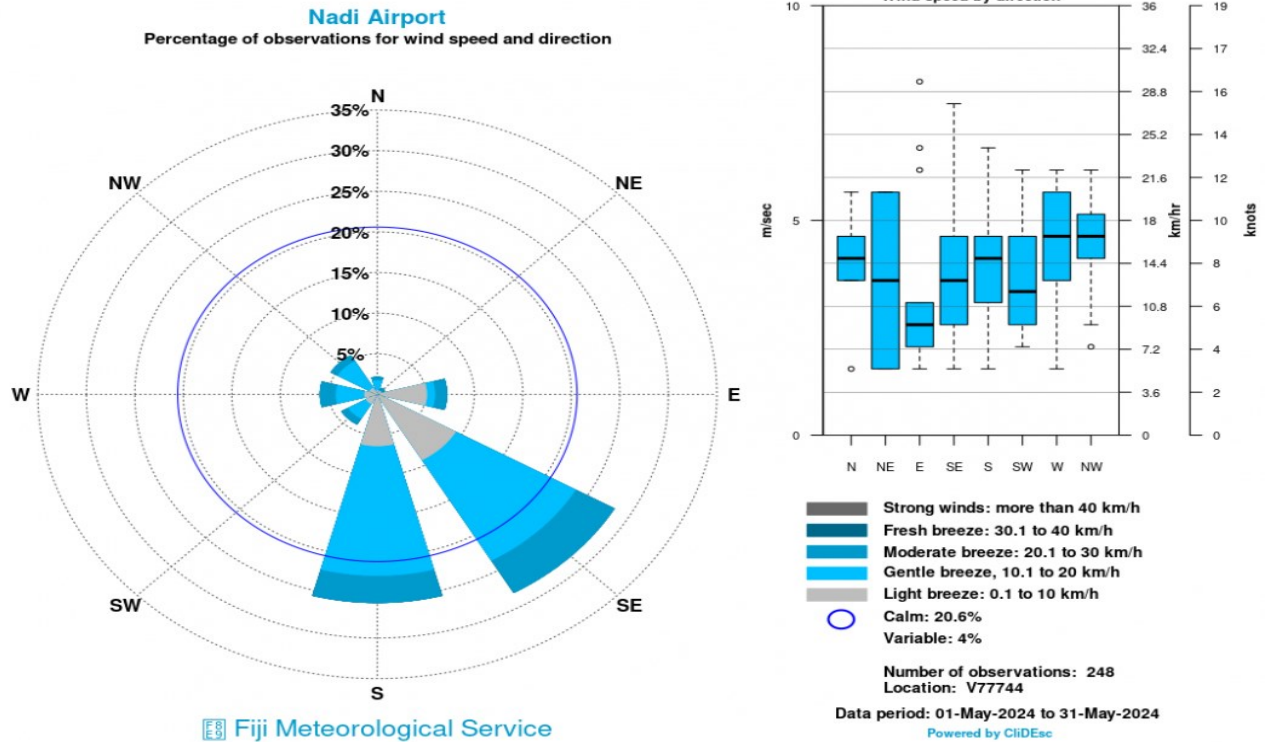


Figure 7a: Looking at Nadi’s 3 hourly observations, southeasterly winds were most dominant during the month, followed by southerly and then easterly winds. Wind strength ranged from light to moderate breeze, while 20.6% observations accounted for calm winds.

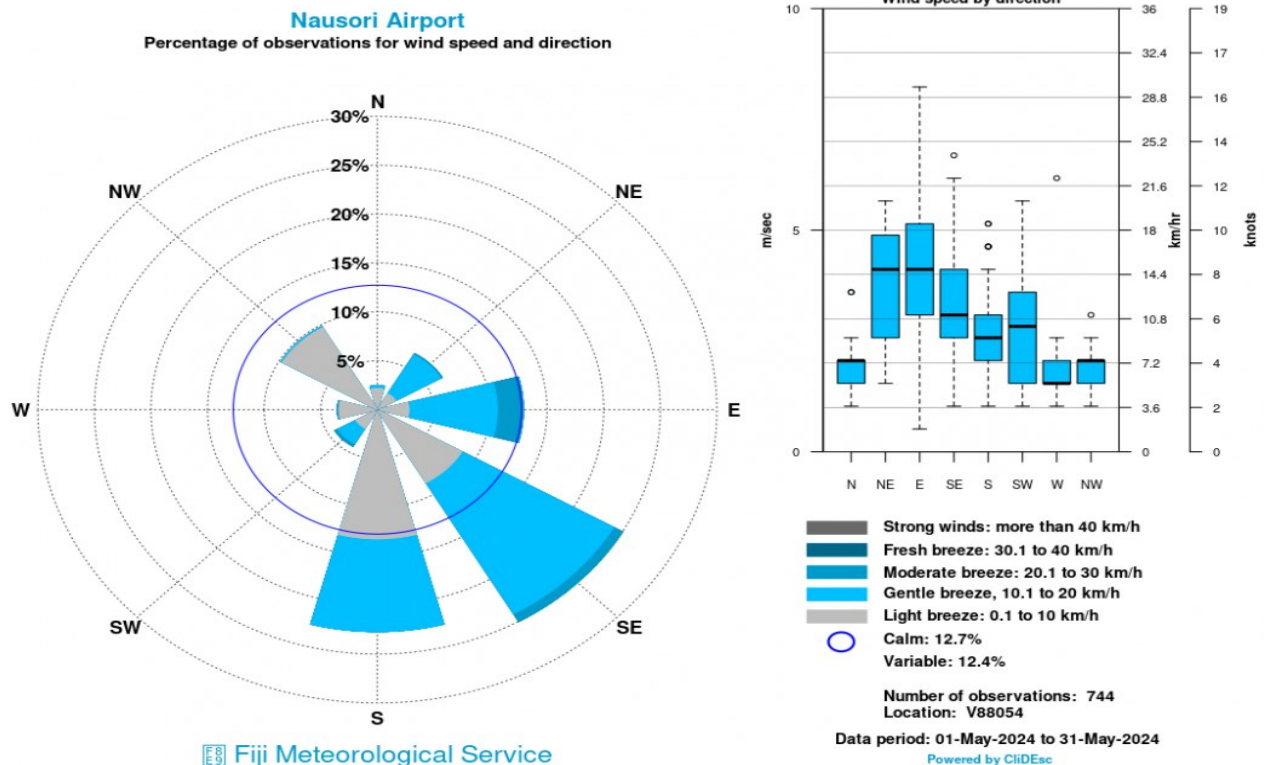


Figure 7b: For Nausori Airport’s hourly wind observations, southeasterly winds were dominant followed by southerly and then easterly winds. Wind strength ranged from light to moderate breeze, while 12.7% of observations accounted for calm winds.

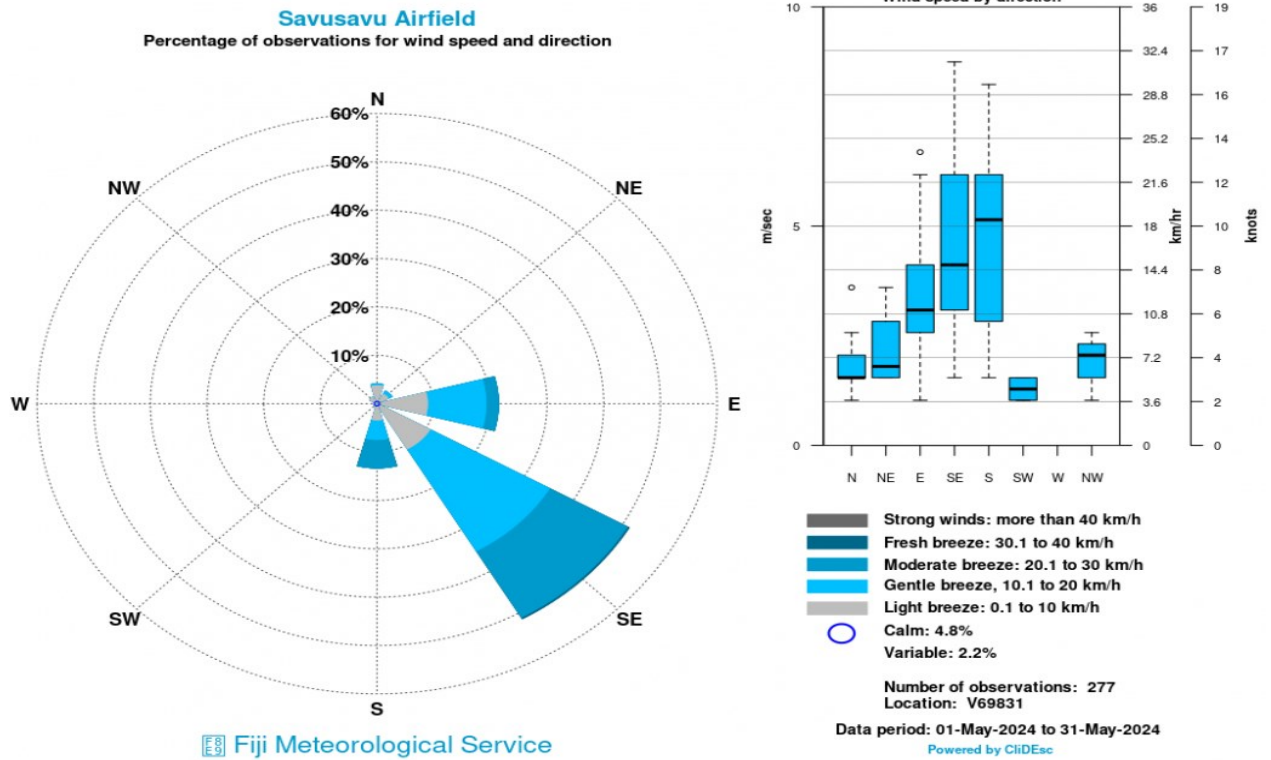


Figure 7c: For Savusavu Airfield’s hourly observations (0800hrs to 1600hrs), southeasterly winds were most dominant during the month, followed by easterly and then southerly winds. Wind strength ranged from light to fresh breeze, with calm winds observed 4.8% of the time.

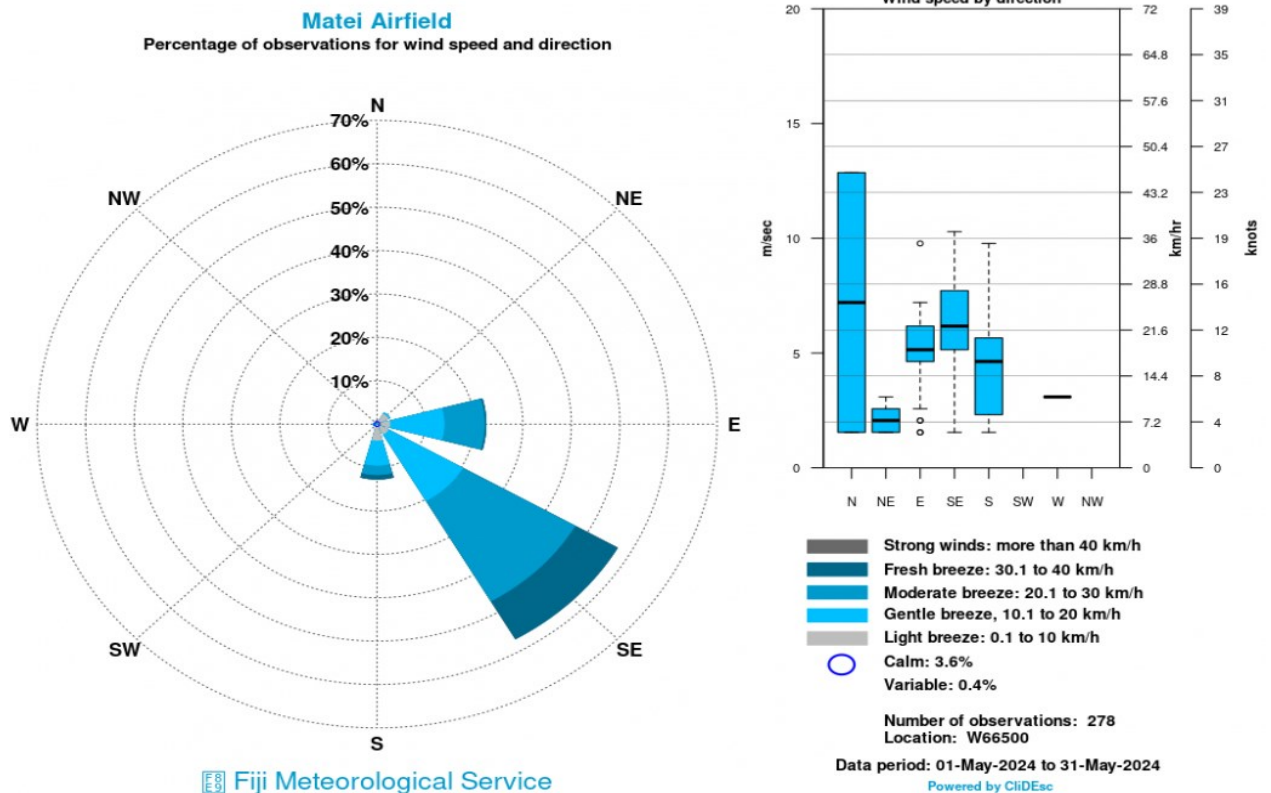
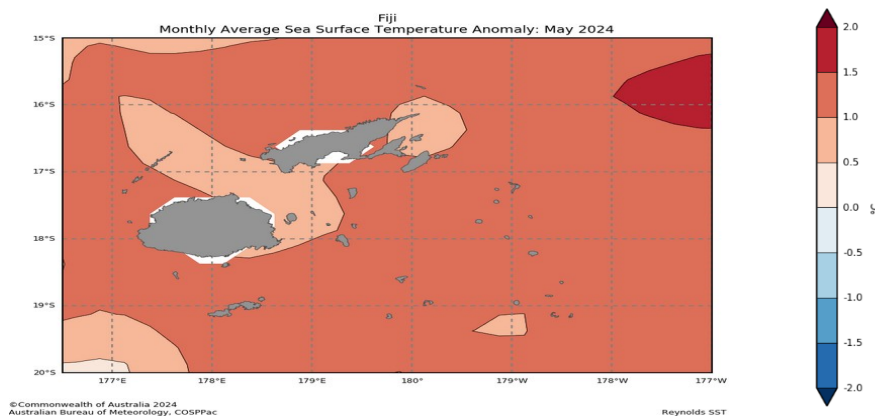


Figure 7d: For Matei Airfield’s hourly wind observations (0800hrs to 1600hrs), southeasterly winds were dominant followed by easterly and then southerly winds. Wind strength ranged from light to strong winds, with calm winds observed 3.6% of the time.



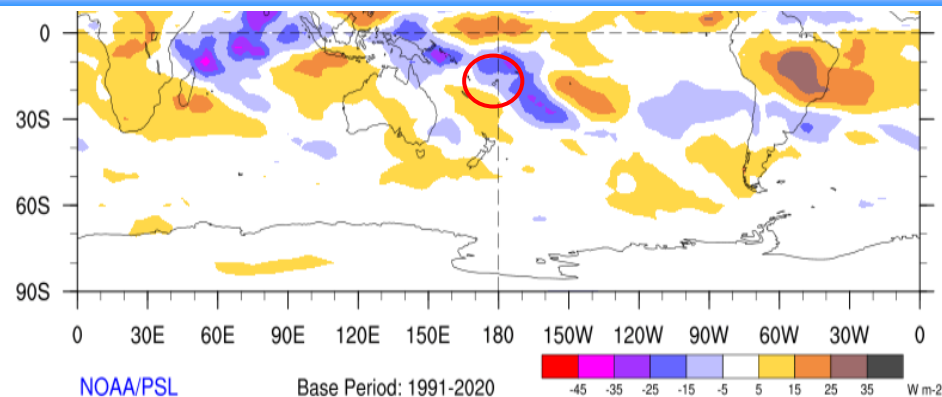
### 8. SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE (SST)



**Figure 8:** Warmer than normal sea surface temperature anomalies were observed across most of the Fiji Waters, with anomalies 0.5-2.0°C.

Source: <http://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/app.html#climate>

### 9. CLOUD COVER



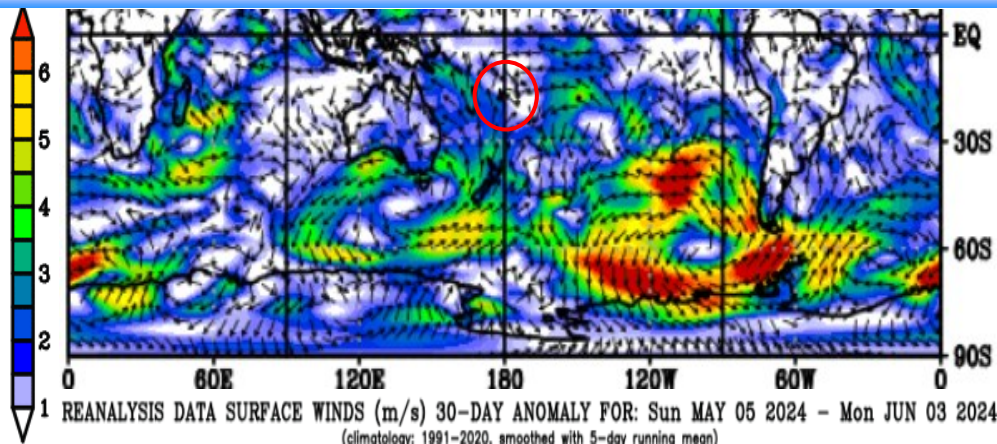
**Figure 9:** Above normal cloud cover was present over the Fiji Group during May (Fiji in red circle).

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

### 10. SEA LEVEL

Monthly sea level anomalies map for the month of May was unavailable at the time of this issue, due to technical difficulties.

### 11. WIND ANOMALIES



**Figure 11:** Variable 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](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.