Pacific Islands - Ocean and Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 198

Country: Fiji

Part 1: Recent climate

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	Dec-2023	Jan-2024	Feb-2024				
			Total (mm)	33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	Rainfall (mm)				
Western Division							
Penang Mill (1910-2024)	91.3	483.6	591.3	293.8	408.1	357.0	102/115
Lautoka Mill (1900-2024)	71.0	424.8	396.0	224.2	402.5	288.5	87/124
Nadi Airport (1942-2024)	57.7	389.9	350.9	227.7	382.3	287.0	54/82
Central Division							
Laucala Bay (Suva) (1942-2024)	144.4	621.0	506.5	241.4	326.8	284.3	**80/83**
Nausori Airport (1957-2024)	181.0	308.2	407.0	223.8	314.8	280.1	59/68
Tokotoko (Navua) (1945-2024)	304.5	530.5	534.5	250.6	340.9	286.9	**73/79**
Eastern Division							
Lakeba (1950-2024)	130.2	663.2	371.1	168.1	280.3	209.9	63/75
Vunisea (Kadavu) (1931-2024)	77.8	480.0	446.4	165.7	276.6	230.4	**85/88**
Ono-i-Lau (1943-2024)	37.8	253.2	119.7	129.2	227.8	178.2	25/78
Northern Division							
Labasa Airport (1946-2024)	273.9	252.5	621.4	249.8	462.5	348.3	59/68
Savusavu Airfield (1956-2024)	234.1	265.7	578.5	155.7	299.6	253.2	**64/64**
Udu Point (1946-2024)	208.3	346.3	319.0	221.2	355.0	282.0	45/77
Rotuma (1912-2024)	88.1	289.6	508.3	281.1	365.1	313.4	96/112

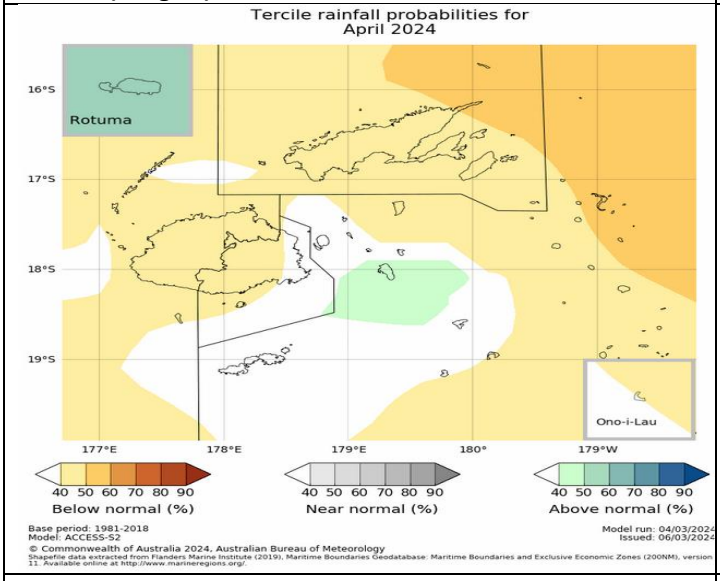
TABLE 2: Three-month Total Rainfall for December 2023 to February 2024

Station	Three-month Total		33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank
	Rainfall (mm)					
Western Division						
Penang Mill (1910-2024)	1166.2	Above normal	832.9	1097.5	968.9	83/111
Lautoka Mill (1900-2024)	891.8	Normal	679.3	1016.2	857.5	75/124
Nadi Airport (1942-2024)	798.5	Normal	676.3	972.9	855.8	38/81
Central Division						
Laucala Bay (Suva) (1942-2024)	1271.9	Above normal	783.5	1024.7	880.2	**76/82**
Nausori Airport (1957-2024)	896.2	Normal	787.1	1033.7	872.3	36/68
Tokotoko (Navua) (1945-2024)	1369.5	Above normal	865.4	1113.2	986.4	68/76
Eastern Division						
Lakeba (1950-2024)	1164.5	Above normal	583.7	764.5	666.2	**68/74**
Vunisea (Kadavu) (1931-2024)	1004.2	Above normal	564.4	780.1	653.8	**79/85**
Ono-i-Lau (1943-2024)	410.7	Below normal	439.1	630.9	541.1	19/73
Northern Division						
Labasa Airport (1947-2024)	1147.8	Above normal	785.9	1127.0	897.5	44/64
Savusavu Airfield (1957-2024)	1078.3	Above normal	591.7	850.1	698.7	56/62
Udu Point (1946-2024)	873.6	Normal	754.4	1057.8	929.8	34/74
Rotuma (1912-2024)	886.0	Normal	859.4	1066.2	964.2	35/108

Part 1i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for April and April to June 2024

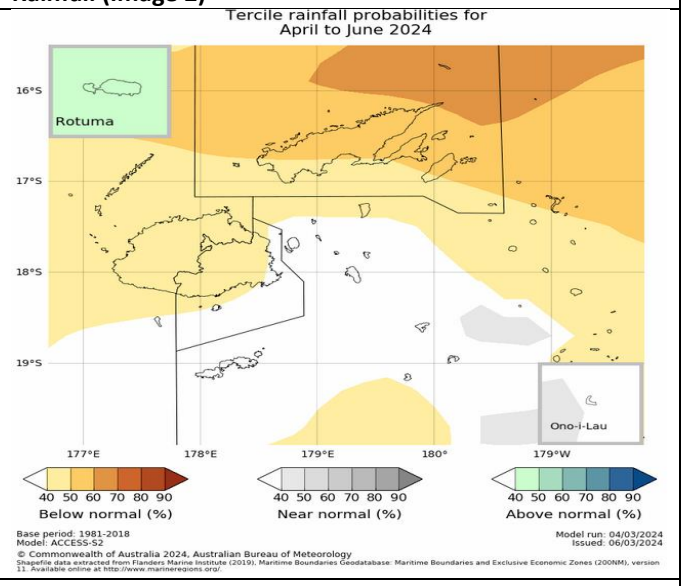
Monthly: April

Rainfall (Image 1)

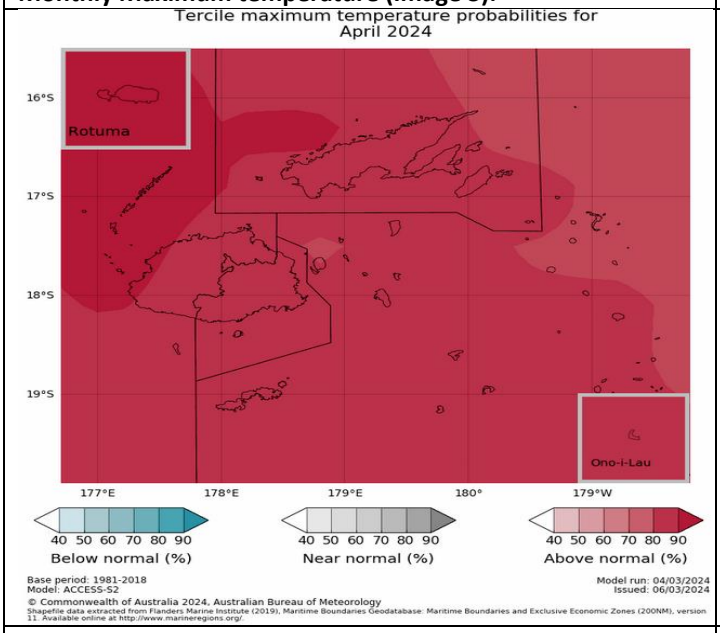


Seasonal: April to June

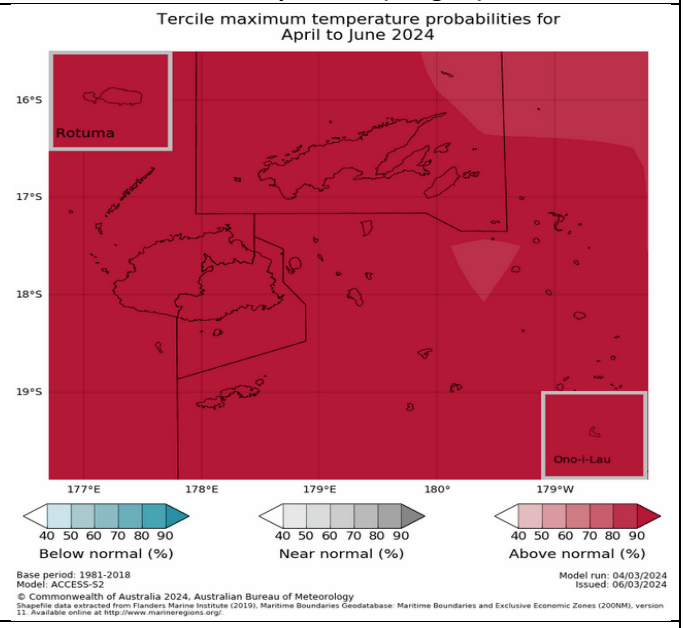
Rainfall (Image 2)



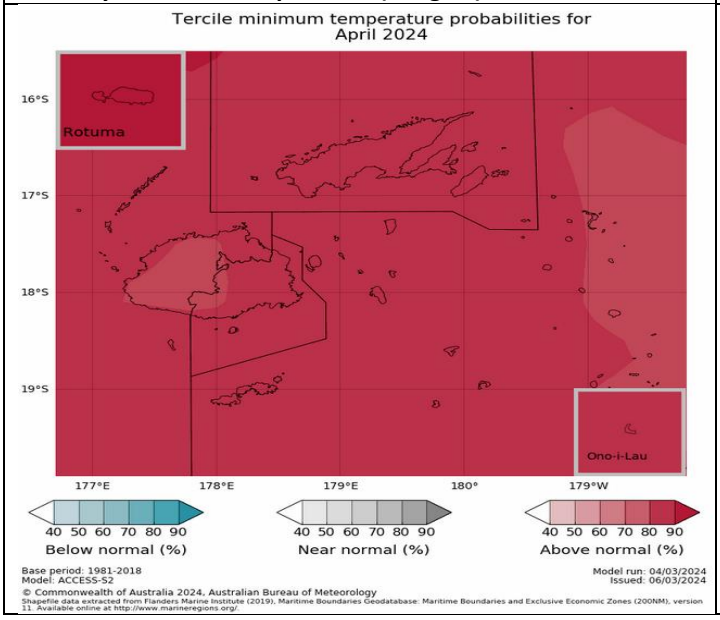
Monthly Maximum temperature (Image 3):



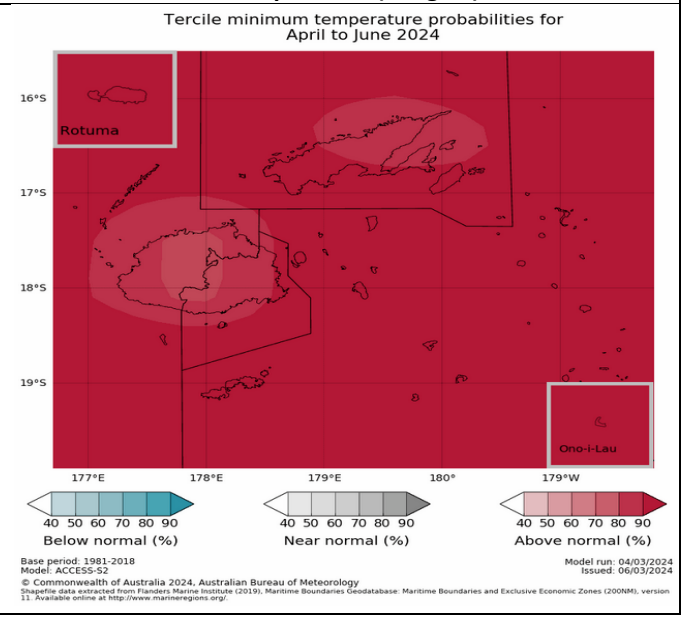
Seasonal maximum temperature (Image 4):



Monthly minimum temperature (Image 5):

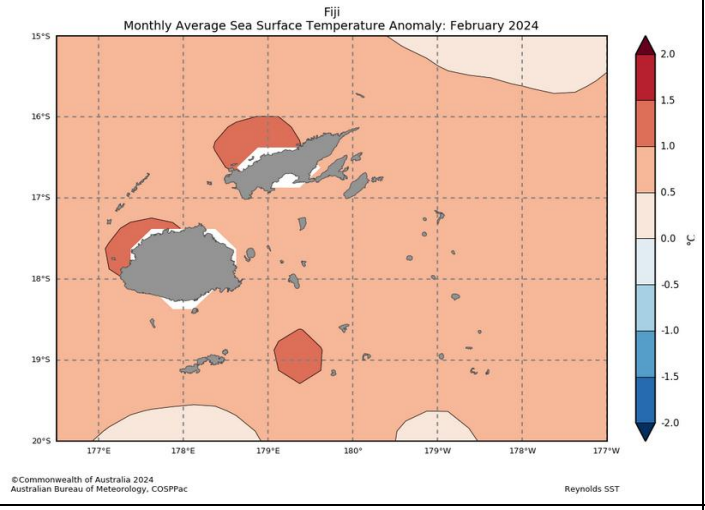
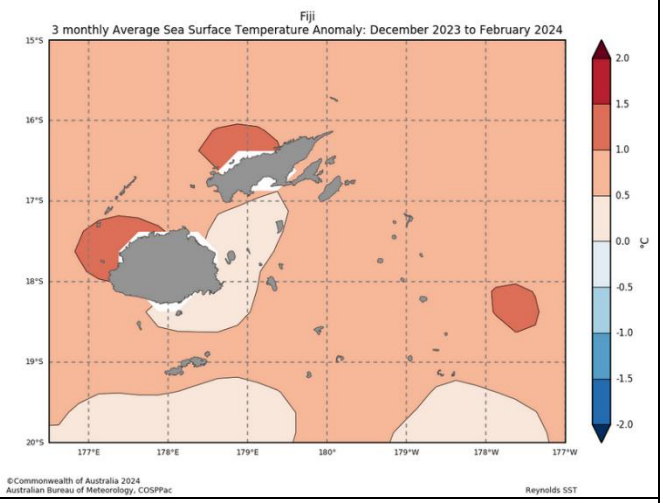
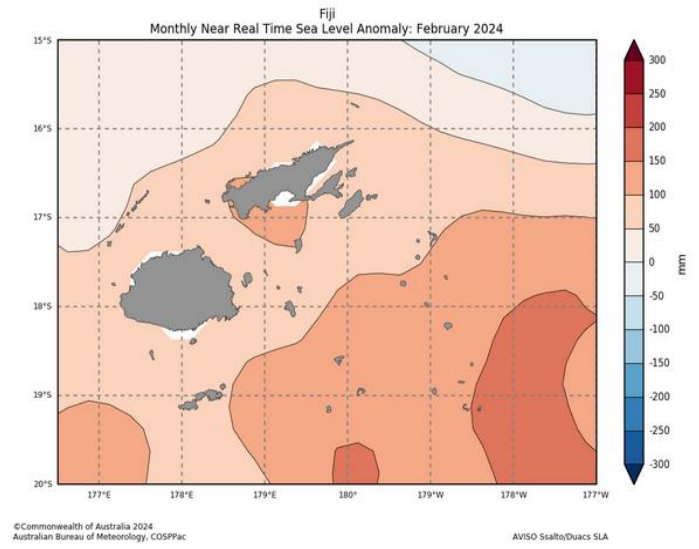
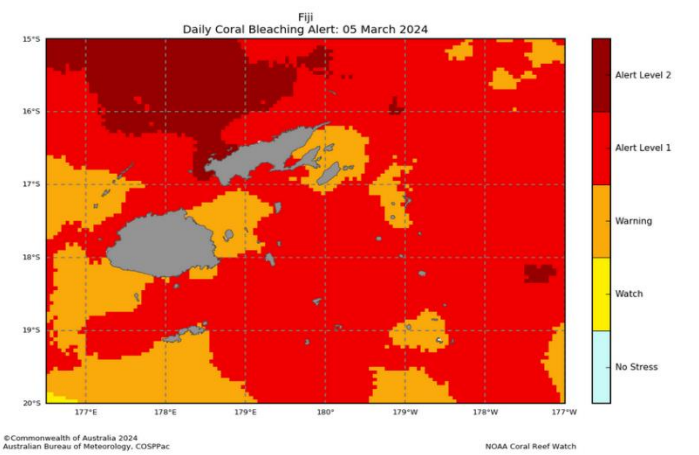
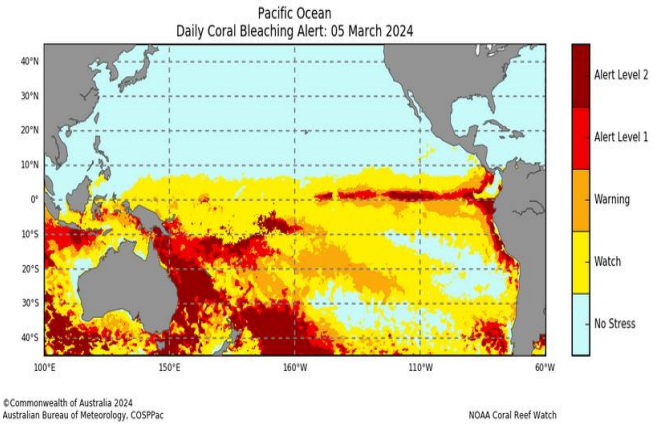


Seasonal minimum temperature (Image 6):

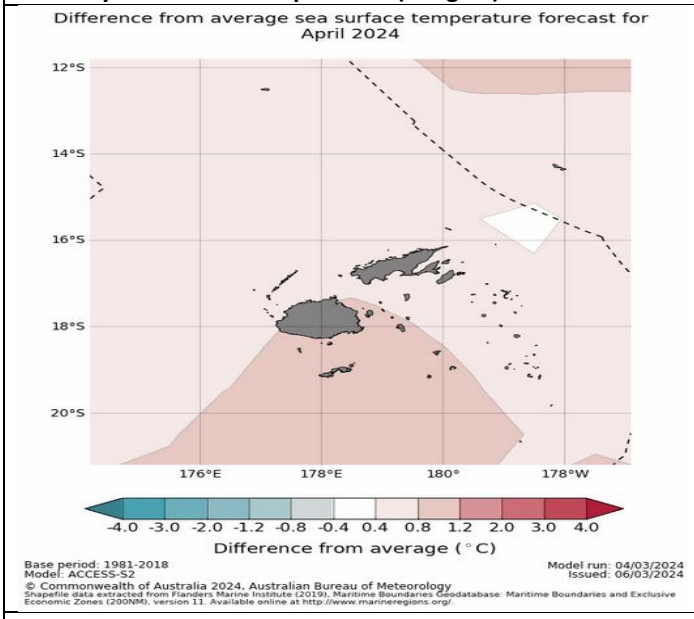
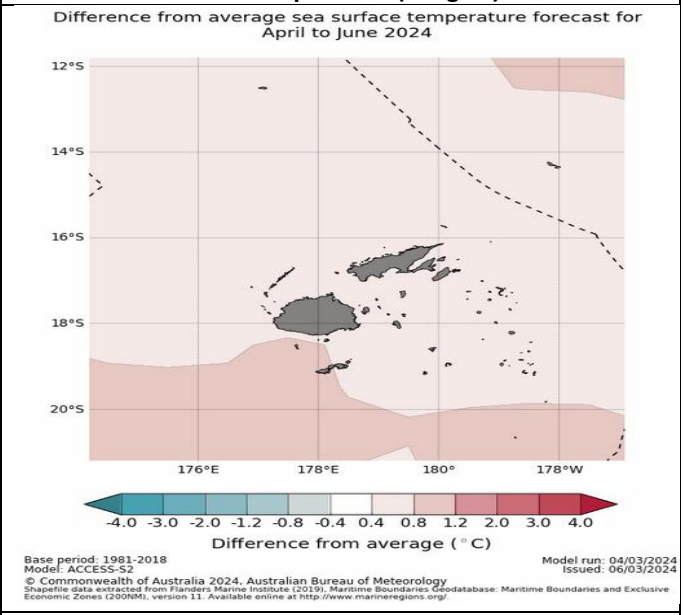
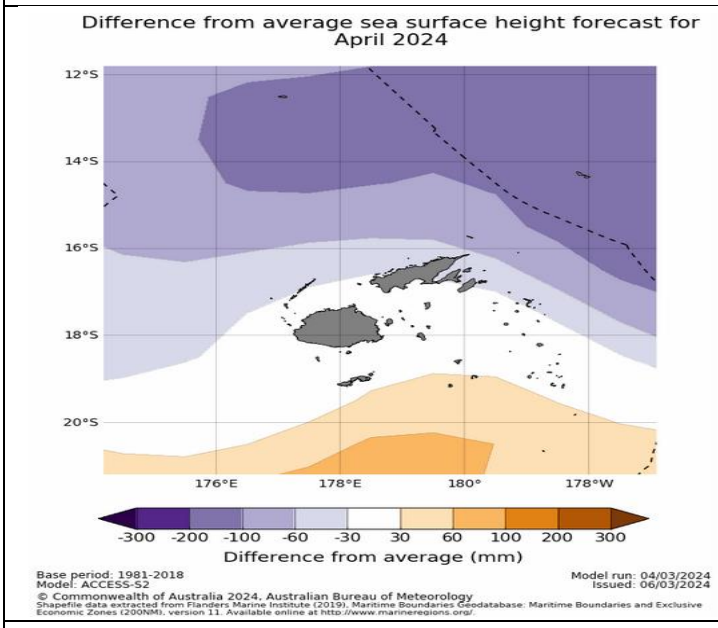
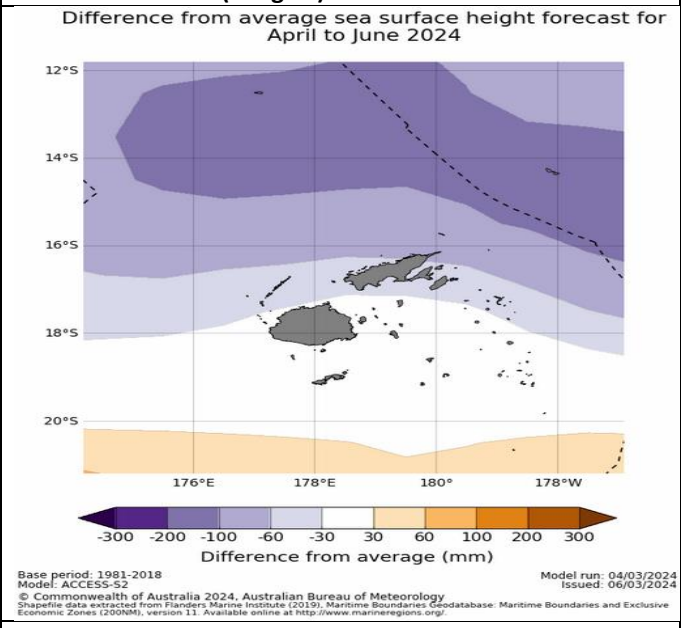
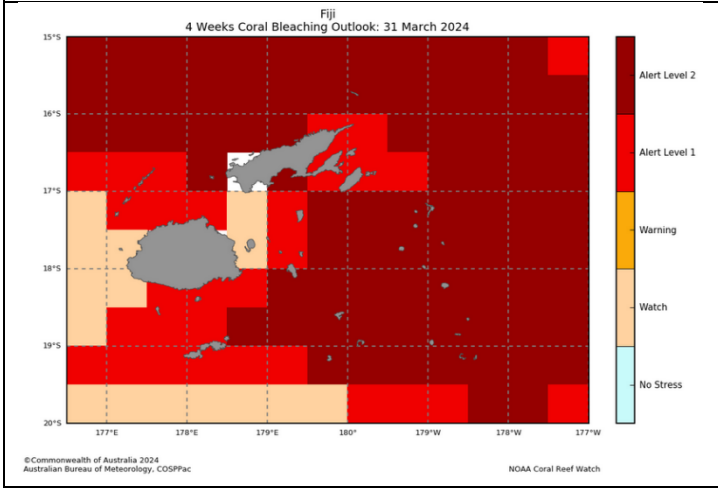
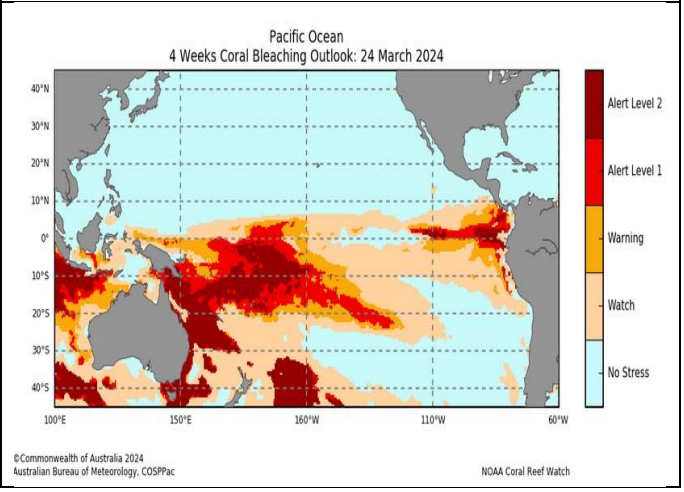


Part 2: Recent Ocean Observation

Monthly/Three months: February 2024 and December 2023 to February 2024

Monthly: February 2024	Last three months: December 2023 to February 2024:
Sea Surface Temperature (Image 1):	**Sea Surface Temperature (Image 4):**
	
Sea level (Image 2):	
	
Daily coral bleaching alert (Image 3):	
	

Part 2i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for April and April to June 2024

Monthly: April	Seasonal: April to June
Monthly sea surface temperature (Image 5):	**Seasonal sea surface temperature (Image 6):**
	
Monthly sea level (Image 7):	**Seasonal sea level (Image 8):**
	
4-week Coral Bleaching (Image 9):	
	

Summary Statement

Monthly and last three months: February 2024/December 2023 to February 2024 statement

For February 2024, rainfall was *above normal* across the Central Division, Penang, Lakeba, Vunisea, Labasa, Savusavu and Rotuma. Lautoka, Nadi and Udu Point registered *near-normal* rainfall, while Ono-i-Lau recorded *below normal* rainfall. Savusavu recorded its wettest February in 64 years of record. Suva, Nausori, Navua, Vunisea and Labasa recorded their fourth, tenth, seventh, fourth and tenth wettest February in 83, 68, 79, 88 and 68 years of record, respectively.

For December 2023 to February 2024, *above normal* rainfall was recorded at Penang, Suva, Navua, Lakeba, Vunisea, Labasa and Savusavu, while *near-normal* was recorded at Lautoka, Nadi, Nausori, Udu Point and Rotuma. *Below normal* rainfall was registered at Ono-i-Lau. Suva, Lakeba, Vunisea and Savusavu, all recorded their seventh wettest December to February in 82, 74, 85 and 62 years of record, respectively. Navua recorded its ninth wettest December to February in 76 years of record.

Part 1i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for April and April to June 2024

Monthly /Seasonal rainfall and temperature Outlook statements

The rainfall for April 2024 is likely to be *below normal* for most parts of the Fiji Group, apart from some parts in Central Division, Lomaiviti Group and Kadavu, where little guidance is likely. *Above normal* rainfall is likely for Rotuma. For April to June 2024, rainfall is likely to be *below normal* for the Western and Northern Divisions and some parts of Central Division, northern Lau Group, while *above normal* is likely at Rotuma. There is little guidance for remaining parts of Fiji.

Maximum and minimum temperatures for Fiji for April 2024 and averaged over April to June 2024 are very likely to be *above normal* across the Fiji Group.

Part 2: Recent Ocean summary statement

Monthly and last three months: February 2024/December 2023 to February 2024

February ocean temperatures around Fiji were 0.5°C to 1.5°C above normal.

Averaged over December to February, ocean temperatures around Fiji were 0.5°C to 1.5°C above normal.

February sea levels around Fiji were 50 to 200mm above normal.

There is a coral bleaching *'Alert Level 2'* for a small region northwest of Vanua Levu.

Part 2i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for April and April to June 2024

Ocean Variable statement

April ocean temperature are predicted to be 0.4 to 1.2°C *above normal*.

Averaged over April to June 2024, ocean temperatures are predicted to be 0.4 to 1.2°C *above normal*.

Monthly sea surface heights (SSHs) for April are likely to be 60 to 200mm *below normal* for northern half of Fiji's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), while SSHs for remaining parts of the Fiji group are likely to be *near normal*.

Seasonal SSHs are likely to be 60 to 200mm *below normal* for northern half of Fiji's EEZ and *near normal* for remaining parts of the Fiji group.

Coral bleaching outlook is predicted to be at '*Alert Level 2*' for Fiji waters.

IN BRIEF for Teleconference

- For February 2024, rainfall was *normal* to *above normal* across Fiji. For December 2023 to February 2024, rainfall was generally *near-normal* to *above normal*.
- The rainfall outlook generally indicates below average is most likely in April and for the total rainfall over April to June.
- Sea surface temperatures (SSTs) were above normal for February and December to February. The outlook predicts above normal SSTs for the next one and three months.
- Sea-surface heights (SSHs) were *above normal* for February. SSHs for northern half of Fiji's exclusive economic zone are predicted to be *below normal* for April and April to June.
- There is a coral bleaching '*Alert Level 2'* for a small region northwest of Vanua Levu. Coral bleaching outlook predicts '*Alert Level 2'* for most Fiji Waters.

TABLE 3: Stakeholder Engagement- Evaluations of how effective NMS engage with stakeholders

Product	Date: January 2023	Stakeholder	Total Number of Participants	Number of Male	Number of Female	Comments (If there are comments from you Stakeholders)
Fiji Climate Summary	07/02/2024	General Public	140	106	34	
EAR Watch	09/02/2024	Humanitarian partners	122	96	26	
Fiji Climate Outlook	29/02/2024	General public	124	93	31	
Climate Outlook for Monasavu	29/02/2024	Energy Fiji Limited	13	13	-	
Fiji Ocean Outlook	20/02/2024	A number of key ocean related stakeholders	36	29	7	
Fiji Sugarcane Rainfall Outlook	05/03/2024	Sugar Industry stakeholders	77	60	17	
Meteorological Data Request	1/02/2024-31/02/2024	A range of stakeholders	46	6	52	
Total			**558**	**403**	**167**	

Flash Flooding

Heavy rainfall led to flooding in the Northern Division on the 12th. The significant 24-hour rainfall recorded at Labasa was 182.1mm, Seaqaqa with 114.5mm and Wainikoro with 130.5mm on the 11th. Flash flooding of low-lying areas occurred across the Central and Western Division on the 17th, 20th, 22nd and 24th, respectively.

Figure A: Bulileka Road at Urata/Boca Junction on the 12th. Source: Fiji Roads Authority.

Figure B: Wainikoro Rd, Labasa on the 12th. Source: Fiji Roads Authority.

Figure C: Flooded Waidina River, Naitasiri on the 17th. Source: National Disaster Management Office

Figure D: Flooded waters in Nausori on the 17th. Source: National Disaster Management Office.

Figure E: Toge Road, Ba on the 20th. Source: Fiji Roads Authority.

Figure F: Balata Flat in Tavua underwater on the 22nd. Source: Fiji Roads Authority