



Vanuatu Monthly Climate Summary

JUNE 2026



Photo: Joseph Laan Worwor

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1. Highlights

Rainfall	Above Normal: Bauerfield, Port Vila Normal: White grass, Aneityum Below Normal: Sola, Pekoa
Temperature	Daytime temperatures ranged from 31.0°C up north to 25.0°C down south, and night time temperatures ranged from 25.0°C up north to 14.0°C down south.
Significant Weather	MJO was active over the country in June Associated cloudiness and rainfall from a trough associated with a low-pressure system contributed to severe weather conditions across the country.
ENSO	El Niño

2. Weather Patterns

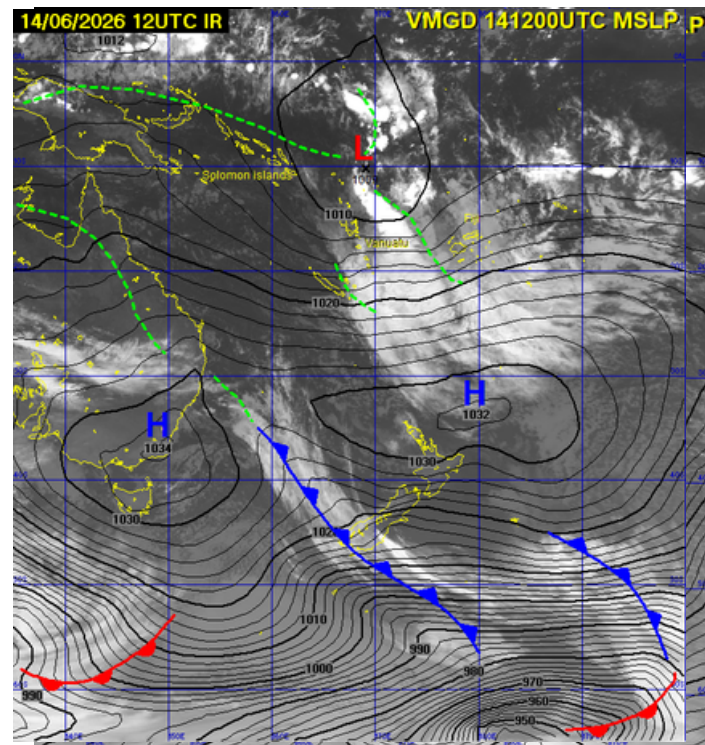
June 2026 began with unfavourable weather conditions across Vanuatu as a trough moved from east to west across the country. A high-pressure system and a low-pressure system developed over the Tasman Sea from 1–13 June, with the high-pressure system remaining southeast of Vanuatu while the low-pressure system influenced the region northwest of New Zealand during the first two weeks of the month. These systems generated southeasterly trade winds, ranging from gentle breezes (5–11 knots) to moderate breezes (11–16 knots) across the central and southern islands. From 13–16 June, a trough extending from a low-pressure system northeast of Vanuatu brought increased cloudiness and periods of rainfall across the country. Peak rainfall associated with this system occurred between 13–14 June, affecting most rainfall stations across Vanuatu. The low-pressure system located northwest of Vanuatu (east of the Solomon Islands), together with the associated trough, produced showers to heavy showers at times, which were experienced across the northern, central, and southern islands. On 30 June, the Madden–Julian Oscillation (MJO) became active over the western Pacific, contributing to enhanced atmospheric instability and increased potential for rainfall activity over the region.

A ridge of high pressure developed over Tasmania from 15–19 June, pushing the low-pressure system further southeast towards Fiji. During the remainder of the month, a series of high- and low-pressure systems developed over the Tasman Sea, contributing to periods of fine and shower conditions, particularly across the southern islands.

Towards the end of June, drier and more settled weather conditions dominated the northern and central parts of Vanuatu, while the southern islands continued to experience occasional showers associated with passing weather systems.

Overall, June 2026 rainfall variability across Vanuatu was mainly influenced by the passage of troughs, low-pressure systems, high-pressure ridges, and enhanced tropical atmospheric activity associated with the MJO.

Figure 1: Mean Sea Level Pressure at 12:00pm 14th/Jun/2026; An active MJO Phase



3. Rainfall

Below-normal rainfall was observed across most of the northern islands of Vanuatu during June 2026. The rainfall stations at Sola and Pekoa recorded below-normal rainfall totals for the month, indicating drier-than-average conditions in these areas.

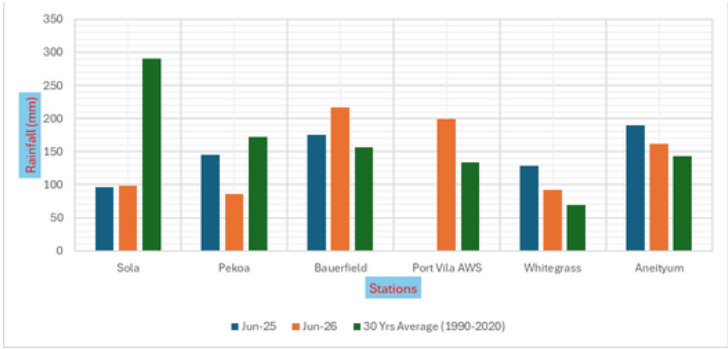
In contrast, Bauerfield and Port Vila recorded above-normal rainfall during June. The highest rainfall totals at both stations were observed during the passage of a low-pressure system and its associated trough, which affected the country during the middle of the month. This weather system produced enhanced cloud development and periods of showers, contributing significantly to the monthly rainfall accumulation at these locations.

Table 1: June 2026 Rainfall Summary for Vanuatu

Stations	Total Monthly Rainfall (mm)	Highest Daily Rainfall (mm)	Date of Daily Highest Rainfall Recorded	30Year Monthly Average (mm) (19 91 - 2020)	SCOPIC Rainfall Status
Sola	98.5	42.5	14 th Sunday	381.5	Below Normal
Pekoa	85.8	75.5	14 th Sunday	289.6	Below Normal
Lamap (AWS)	-	-	-	-	-
Bauerfield	216.7	154.2	14 th Sunday	269.7	Above Normal
Port Vila (AWS)	199.5	105.5	14 th Sunda	242.1	Above Normal
Whitegrass	91.7	32.0	5 th Friday	171.6	Normal
Anelghaohat	161.6	45.7	14 th Sunday	233.9	Normal

*Note: AWS – Automatic Weather Station

Figure 2: January 2019 vs. January 2020 Rainfall compared to 30 Year Monthly Average



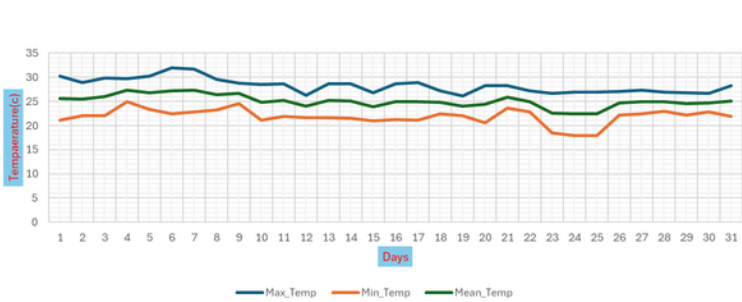
The June 2026 rainfall recorded at Bauerfield and Port Vila was higher compared to the rainfall observed in June of the previous year. This increase was mainly associated with rainfall events linked to the passage of a low-pressure system and its associated trough, which enhanced rainfall activity across parts of Vanuatu during June. In contrast, an opposite trend was observed at Pekoa, Whitegrass, and Aneityum, where June 2026 rainfall totals were lower compared to June of the previous year. This reflects the spatial variability of rainfall across the country, influenced by the distribution and intensity of weather systems affecting different islands. Overall, rainfall conditions during June 2026 varied considerably across Vanuatu, with some stations experiencing wetter conditions compared to the previous June, while others recorded drier conditions.

4. Atmospheric Temperatures

Table 2: January 2020 Temperature Summary for Vanuatu

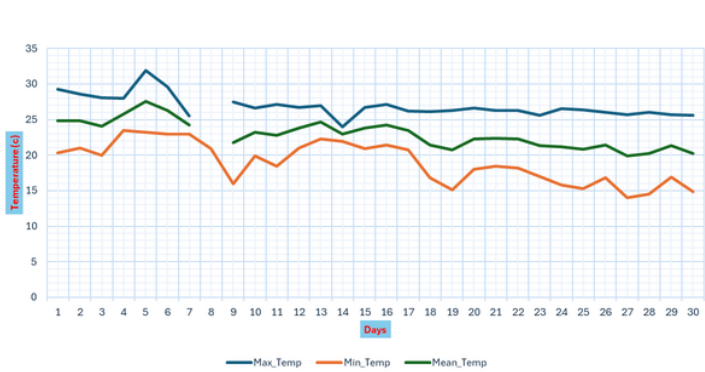
Region	Stations	Source	Mean Max Temp (°C)	Mean Min Temp (°C)	Daily Mean Temp (°C)
			Mean Temp (°C)		
Northern	Sola	Manual	-	-	-
	Pekoa	Manual	28.3	21.9	25.1
	Lamap	AWS	-	-	-
Southern	Bauerfield	Manual	26.9	19.0	22.9
	Port Vila	AWS	27.5	21.3	24.4
	Whitegrass	Manual	27.0	18.2	22.6
	Anelgaohat	AWS	-	-	-

Figure 3a: June Temperature Summary for Pekoa



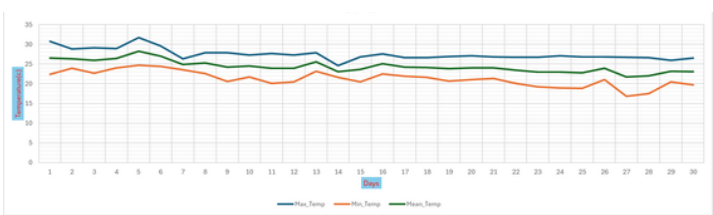
Pekoa recorded a total of four days with maximum temperatures exceeding 30.0°C during June 2026. The highest temperature of the month was 31.9°C, recorded on 6 June. The lowest temperature recorded during the month was 18.0°C, observed on the night of Friday, 19 June. Despite occasional warm conditions, temperatures at Pekoa remained generally consistent with the seasonal climate expected during the austral winter period. Overall, June 2026 was characterized by relatively warm daytime temperatures interspersed with cooler nights, influenced by prevailing southeasterly winds and the passage of weather systems across northern Vanuatu.

Figure 3b: June Temperature Summary for Bauerfield



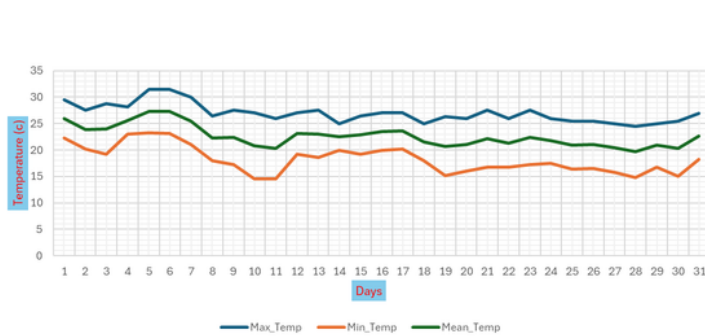
Bauerfield recorded one day with maximum temperatures exceeding 30.0°C during June 2026. The highest temperature of the month was 31.9°C, recorded on Friday, 5 June. The lowest temperature recorded at Bauerfield was 14.0°C, observed during the night of Saturday, 27 June. Overall, temperatures during June 2026 remained within the typical seasonal range, with warm conditions occurring during periods of reduced cloud cover and cooler overnight temperatures associated with clear skies and southeasterly airflow.

Figure 3c: June Temperature Summary for Port Vila



Port Vila recorded a total of two days with maximum temperatures exceeding 30.0°C during June 2026. The highest temperature of the month was 31.7°C, recorded on Friday, 5 June. The lowest temperature recorded was 16.8°C, observed on the night of Saturday, 27 June. The relatively cool nighttime temperatures were associated with clear skies and the influence of southeasterly airflow during the latter part of the month. Overall, temperature conditions in Port Vila during June 2026 were typical for the austral winter season, with occasional warm days interspersed with cooler nights as weather systems moved across the region.

Figure 3d: June Temperature Summary for Whitegrass



Whitegrass recorded a total of three days with maximum temperatures exceeding 30.0°C during June 2026. The highest temperature of the month was 31.5°C, recorded on Friday, 5 June, and Saturday, 6 June. The lowest temperature recorded during the month was 14.6°C, observed on the nights of Wednesday, 10 June, and Thursday, 11 June. These cooler overnight temperatures were likely influenced by clear skies and the prevailing southeasterly airflow affecting the southern islands during this period. Overall, temperature conditions at Whitegrass during June 2026 reflected the seasonal variability typical of the austral winter, with a combination of warm daytime temperatures and notably cool nights experienced throughout the month.

5. June 2026 Average and Extreme Temperatures

5.1 Maximum Temperatures (Tmax)

The graph below illustrates the average maximum temperature (Tmax) for June across all stations using the 1990–2020 climatological baseline. All extreme values shown represent the long-term average June extremes calculated over the 1990–2020 period.

Figure 3f: June Maximum Temperature vs Climatology

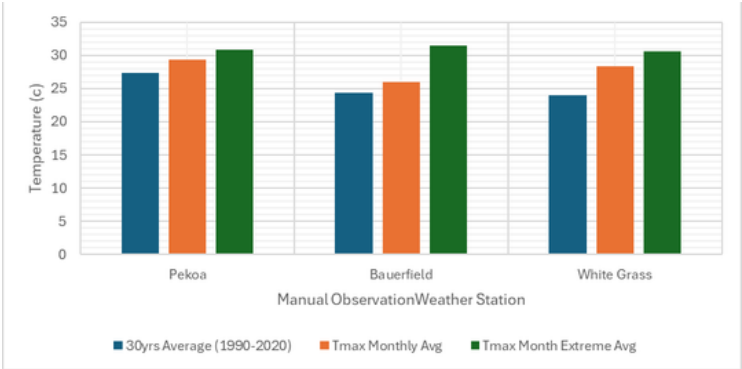
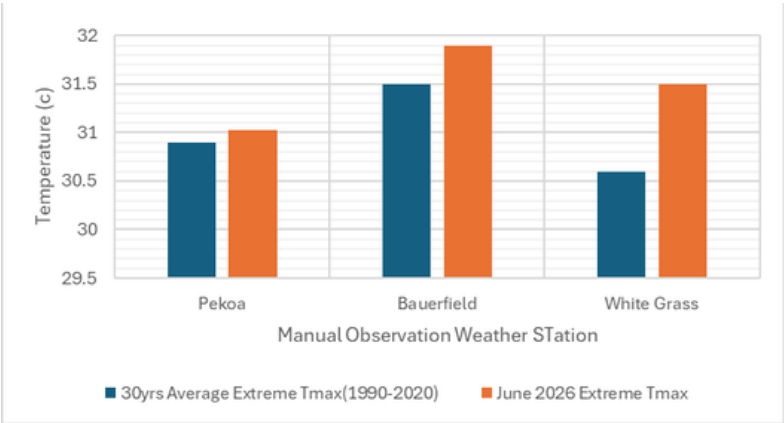


Figure 3g: June Extreme Tmax vs. Long-Term Average



Pekoa: The average maximum temperature (Tmax) for June 2026 was 28.3°C, compared to the long-term June average of 30.9°C. The highest Tmax recorded during the month was 31.9°C on 6 June, while the lowest Tmax was 26.1°C on 19 June. The average extreme Tmax for June, based on the 1990–2020 climatological period, is 33.5°C.

Bauerfield: The average Tmax for June 2026 was 26.9°C, while the long-term June average Tmax is 30.9°C. The highest Tmax recorded was 31.9°C on 5 June, and the lowest Tmax was 24.0°C on 14 June. The average extreme Tmax for June at Bauerfield, based on the most recent 30-year climatological record (1990–2020), is 36.0°C.

White Grass: The average Tmax for June 2026 was 27.0°C, compared to the long-term June average of 30.4°C. The highest Tmax recorded during the month was 31.5°C on 5–6 June, while the lowest Tmax was 24.5°C on 28 June. The average extreme Tmax for June at White Grass, based on the most recent 30-year climatological record (1990–2020), is 34.5°C.

5.2 Minimum Temperatures (Tmin)

The graph below shows June Average Minimum Temperature (Tmin) for all stations with the time period used from 1990–2020. All extreme figures are averages for June in the years 1990–2020.

Figure 3h: June Minimum Temperature vs Climatology

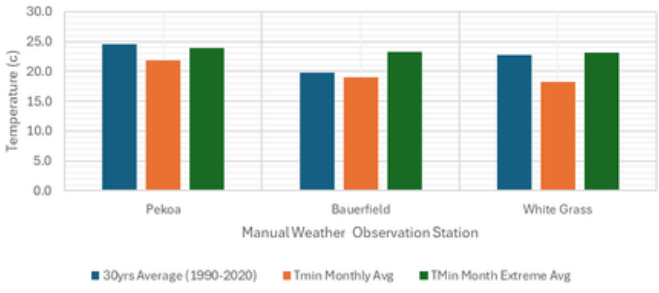
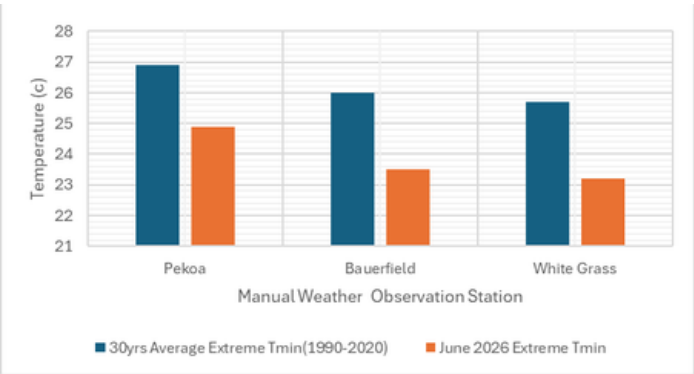


Figure 3i: June Extreme Tmin vs Longterm Average



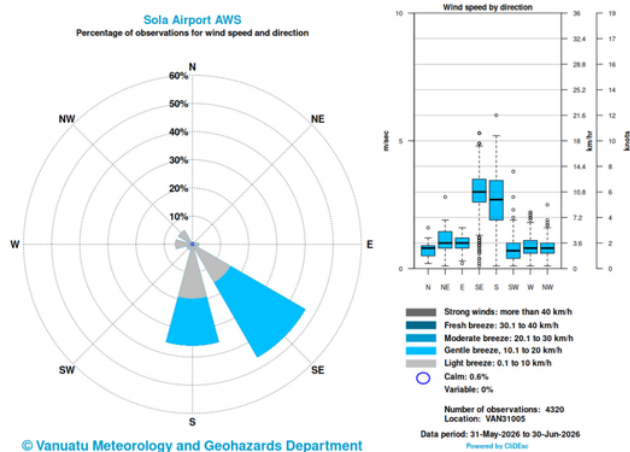
Pekoa: The average minimum temperature (Tmin) for June 2026 was 21.9°C, compared to the long-term June average of 22.8°C for the 1990–2020 climatological period. The lowest minimum temperature recorded during the month was 18.0°C on 24 and 25 June. The long-term average extreme minimum temperature for June is 26.9°C for the 1990–2020 period.

Bauerfield: The average minimum temperature (Tmin) for June 2026 was 19.0°C, compared to the long-term June average of 21.8°C for the 1990–2020 climatological period. The lowest minimum temperature recorded during the month was 14.0°C on 27 June. The long-term average extreme minimum temperature for June is 15.7°C for the 1990–2020 period.

Whitegrass: The average minimum temperature (Tmin) for June 2026 was 18.2°C, compared to the long-term June average of 22.8°C for the 1990–2020 climatological period. The lowest minimum temperature recorded during the month was 14.6°C on 10 and 11 June. The long-term average extreme minimum temperature for June is 16.2°C for the 1990–2020 period.

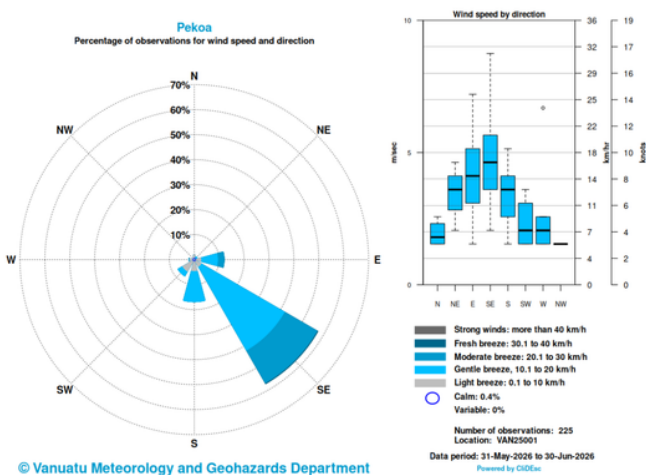
6. Wind

Figure 4a: Sola WindRose AWS



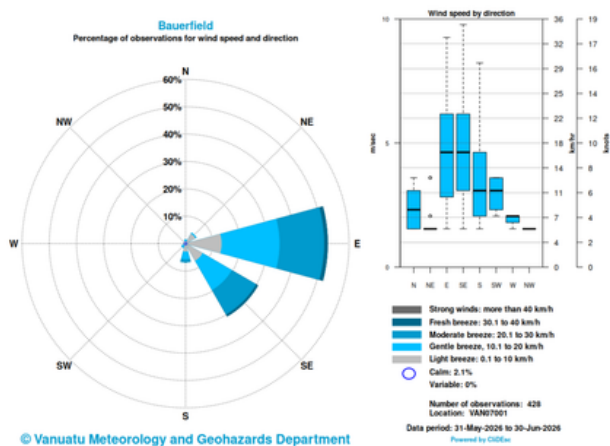
South-easterly winds of generally light strength dominated Sola during June. Wind speeds were mostly between 4 and 7 knots throughout the month. On 14 June, the station recorded south-easterly winds ranging from 5 to 11 knots. During this period, Torba Province experienced severe weather associated with a trough system, which contributed to the increased wind speeds.

Figure 4b: Pekoa WindRose



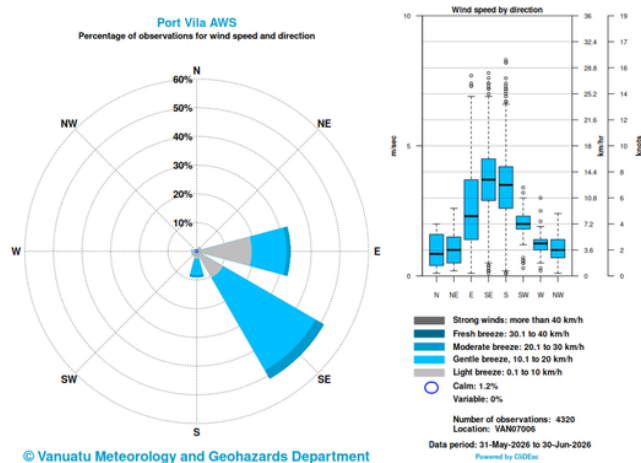
Wind speeds over Pekoa during June were generally gentle to moderate, predominantly ranging from 5 to 11 knots. The highest wind speeds observed at the station reached moderate breeze conditions, ranging from greater than 11 to 16 knots.

Figure 4d: Bauerfield WindRose



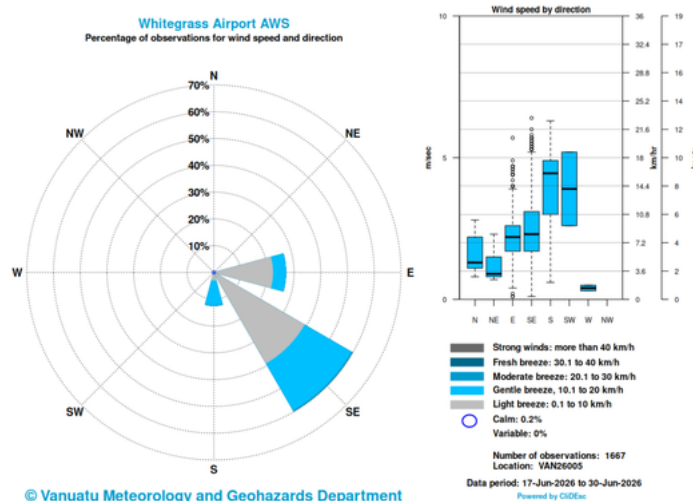
The highest wind speeds observed at Bauerfield during June were between gentle and fresh breeze conditions, ranging from greater than 16 to 22 knots. Easterly winds dominated throughout the month, with prevailing wind speeds generally in the gentle to moderate breeze range of greater than 5 to 16 knots.

Figure 4e: Port Vila WindRose AWS



Gentle to moderate breezes dominated Port Vila during June, with wind speeds mostly reaching up to 9 knots. The highest wind speeds observed at the station were within the moderate breeze category, ranging from greater than 5 to 9 knots. Southeasterly winds were the prevailing wind direction throughout the month.

Figure 4f: Whitegrass WindRose AWS



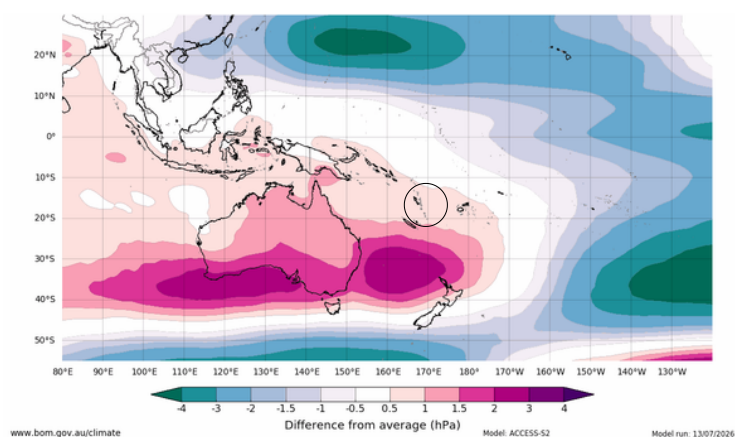
Light to fresh breezes dominated Whitegrass during June, with wind speeds reaching up to 11 knots. The highest wind speeds observed at the station were within the moderate breeze category, ranging from greater than 8 to 11 knots. Southerly winds were the prevailing wind direction throughout the month.

7. Mean Sea Level Pressure (MSLP)

The June mean sea level pressure (MSLP) anomaly map (Figure 5) indicates that atmospheric pressure over Vanuatu was near normal, with anomalies ranging from +0.5 to +1.0 hPa. Positive pressure anomalies extended across the southwest Pacific, particularly towards the interior of Australia (shown by brown shading), indicating regions of higher-than-normal pressure. In contrast, negative pressure anomalies were observed across the northeast Pacific (shown by blue shading), representing areas of lower-than-normal pressure.

Areas of positive MSLP anomalies are generally associated with descending air, reduced cloud development, and suppressed rainfall, while regions of negative pressure anomalies support rising motion, enhanced convection, and increased rainfall activity. The near-normal pressure pattern over Vanuatu suggests that large-scale atmospheric conditions were not strongly influenced by either anomalously high or low pressure systems during June.

Figure 5: Mean Sea Level Pressure Anomaly



8. El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO)

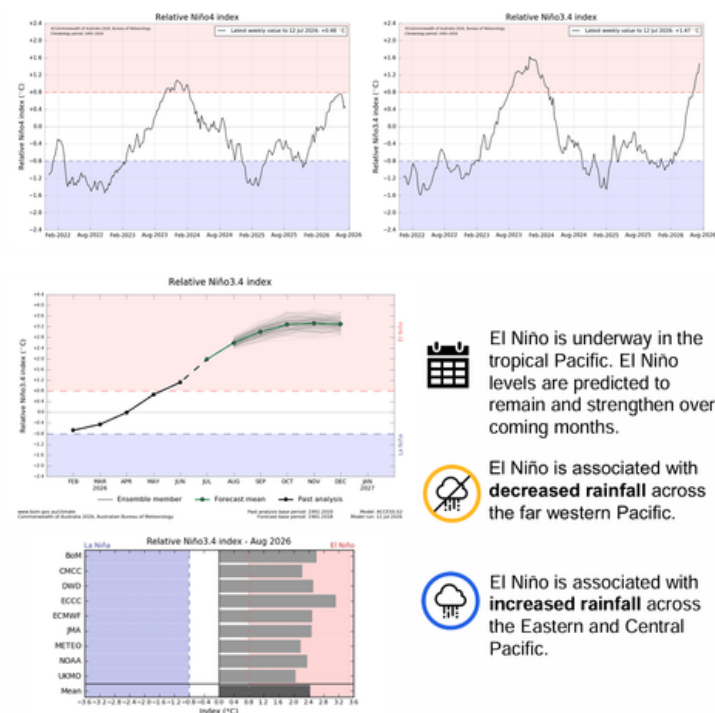
El Niño is currently established and underway. Sea surface temperatures (SSTs) across the central tropical Pacific remain above the El Niño threshold, while atmospheric indicators continue to show a pattern consistent with El Niño conditions. Strong ocean–atmosphere coupling is evident, with both components reinforcing the persistence of the event.

The latest relative Niño3.4 index value for the week ending 12 July 2026 was +1.47°C, which is well above the El Niño threshold of +0.80°C. The Niño3.4 index has increased by approximately 0.2°C over the past two weeks, indicating continued warming of the central tropical Pacific. Climate models, including the Bureau of Meteorology’s model suite, indicate that the tropical Pacific is likely to continue warming through the Southern Hemisphere spring. Current forecasts suggest that El Niño is expected to persist until at least the 2026–27 summer period.

Based on the magnitude and extent of warming in the Niño3.4 region, forecasts indicate that this event has the potential to become a strong to very strong El Niño event. Most climate models suggest the event could reach peak intensity among the strongest El Niño events observed since 1950.

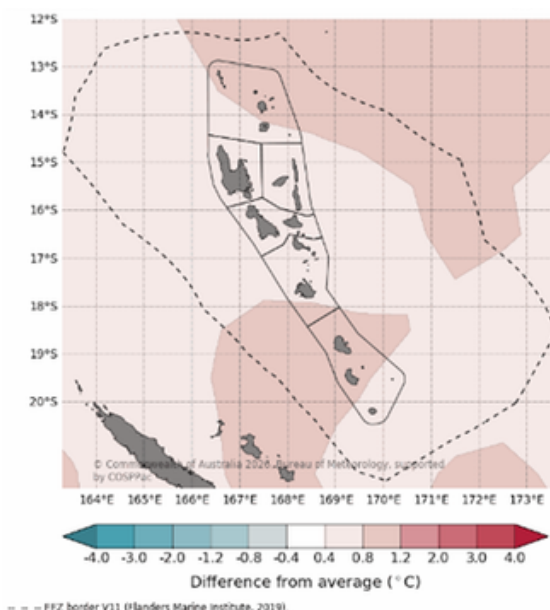
However, a strong El Niño signal in the Niño3.4 region does not always translate directly into strong climate impacts across the Pacific. ENSO is only one of several factors influencing seasonal climate variability, and local impacts can also be affected by other climate drivers, including the Madden–Julian Oscillation (MJO), Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD), regional sea surface temperature patterns, and atmospheric circulation changes.

Figure 6: Relative ENSO



9. Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs)

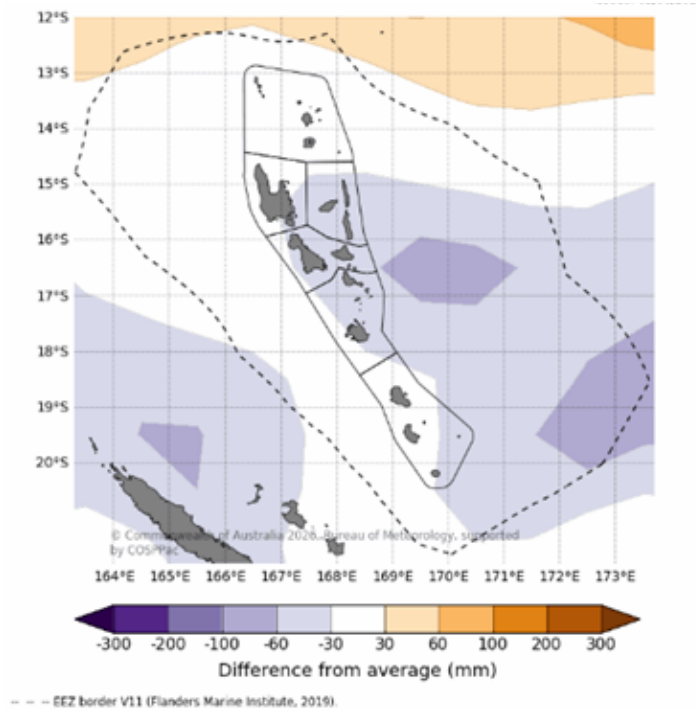
Figure 7: Vanuatu Average Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly for June 2026



ea surface temperatures (SSTs) around Vanuatu during June were generally above average, with anomalies ranging from +0.4°C to +0.8°C across most islands. Warmer-than-average SST anomalies of +0.8°C to +1.2°C were observed around Tanna, Erromango, and parts of Torba Province. These above-average ocean temperatures indicate warmer marine conditions surrounding Vanuatu during the month, which can influence atmospheric moisture availability, convection, and rainfall patterns.

10. Sea Level (SL)

Figure 8: Vanuatu Average Sea Level Anomaly for June 2026



Slightly below-average sea levels were observed across most parts of Vanuatu during June. However, sea levels remained near normal around Tanna, Erromango, Torba Province, and the northern parts of Santo. The largest negative sea level anomalies, reaching approximately -60 mm below the normal height, were observed across Penama, Malampa, and Shefa Provinces.

The below-average sea level conditions indicate a reduction in ocean height compared to the climatological average, which can be associated with regional ocean circulation patterns and large-scale climate variability, including ENSO-related influences.

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Information presented in this summary is based in data available at the time of publication