

New Zealand weather and climate news

Courtesy of MetService librarian

MetService mentions

Eerie weather at the end of first week of lockdown in Wellington

A deep fog rolled into Wellington to mark an eerie end to a strange week.

Metservice meteorologist Andrew James said the Wednesday morning fog sat around the central city and airport but outer suburbs, such as Karori, were unaffected.

Golden weather expected to turn grey

Soft early morning light catches autumn colours in trees in Queens Gardens in Dunedin yesterday.

As the day opened up and temperatures in the South rose, weather forecasters cast a darker message.

Drought-breaking rains come in the nick of time for east coast

East coast hills were so cracked and dry the grass looked like it had been bleached, but in just a couple of days green shoots have begun poking through.

MetService hits pause on Otago weather radar

Otago Daily Times

MetService has halted construction of its \$2.8million weather radar in Otago as a result of Covid-19 and the country going into lockdown.

Cool March ending with welcome rain

Gisborne Herald

A rumbling of thunder, a heavy rain warning and the threat of flooding this morning heralded the start of Gisborne's second week of the coronavirus lockdown.

Wet weather welcome relief

Wairarapa Times Age

MetService issued a heavy rain warning for Wairarapa and Tararua from 8pm Friday night and 10am Saturday morning, with from 70mm to 90mm of ...

Auckland and Northland drought: Water reservoirs half full, more dry weather forecast

Water storage in Auckland and Northland is critically lower than the historical average and looks set to drop even further as more dry weather is forecast for the regions.

Hawke's Bay's drought broken? Not quite, but farmers have 'hope' now

New Zealand Herald

A MetService meteorologist said early Monday afternoon that about 45mm of rain had fallen at Mahia in the previous 24 hours, with 8-10mm in the ...

WMO

WMO is concerned about impact of COVID-19 on observing system

Posted:

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) is concerned about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the quantity and quality of weather observations and forecasts, as well as atmospheric and...

Extreme weather (and other news) – Antarctica and offshore

Anatomy of a heatwave: how Antarctica recorded a 20.75°C day last month

While the world rightfully focuses on the COVID-19 pandemic, the planet is still warming. This summer's Antarctic weather, as elsewhere in the world, was unprecedented in the observed record.

Extreme weather (and other news) – Americas and Europe

AccuWeather forecasts above-normal 2020 Atlantic hurricane season

EyeWitness News

AccuWeather's top expert, Dan Kottlowksi, led the team of meteorologists that released a 2020 Atlantic hurricane forecast last week. According to the ..

International news and research

A Climate Fluctuation That Could Improve Forecasts Remains a Mystery

The unknown influence of climate change has thrown a wrench into efforts to understand the Madden-Julian Oscillation

Inside Innovation: Weather integration with BIM on horizon

Daily Commercial News

Admiral Robert FitzRoy, the man regarded as the father of weather forecasting — a term he himself created — began issuing two-day weather ..

Weather companies

DTN Protects COVID-19 Responders With Free Weather Services to Healthcare Workers and First ...

Associated Press

BUSINESS WIRE)--Mar 31, 2020--. Weather is always a factor when considering the safety of lives and structures, but with the overwhelming response ...

Weather at Exascale: Load Balancing for Heterogeneous Systems

HPCwire

“This partnership between NCAR, IBM and the Weather Company,” Loft said, “has put into production a model with three-kilometer resolution over lots ...

Air quality / air pollution

Coronavirus Covid-19: Dramatic improvement in Auckland air quality

New Zealand's four-week lockdown has already brought sharp improvements in Auckland's air quality, scientists say.

Aviation

Covid-19: Air New Zealand to start cutting staff, slashes revenue

Air New Zealand will start laying off workers this week and says Covid-19 has slashed its revenue by more than \$5 billion.

Coronavirus: Air New Zealand forecasting 3750 redundancies minimum over the next year

Air New Zealand has changed its stance on expected job losses as a result of a "bleaker" coronavirus outlook, a union says.

Coronavirus: Air New Zealand plane will leave tonight for Shanghai loaded with exports

Air New Zealand is flying a plane loaded with New Zealand exports to China on Monday night, after the Government stepped in to keep vital trade routes open during the coronavirus pandemic.

Inside Innovation: Weather integration with BIM on horizon

Daily Commercial News

In fact, NAV Canada's forecasts for aviation, an industry dependant on ... the man regarded as the father of weather forecasting — a term he himself ...

Business/Insurance

Business confidence sinks but ANZ warns the worst may be yet to come

An ANZ survey shows Kiwi businesses are more pessimistic about their prospects for the year ahead than at any time since its survey began in 1988.

Severe recession guaranteed in wake of coronavirus pandemic, economists say

TVNZ

Air New Zealand CEO Greg Foran said the company will lose 90 per cent of its ... The second nurse to test positive only had very mild symptoms, and ...

Coronavirus: Govt won't rule out a 'Ministry of Works' for post-virus NZ

Ministers are rushing to prevent the country's construction sector hollowing out under coronavirus lockdown.

Coronavirus: Government doubles borrowing forecast as economy worsens

The Government will now borrow \$25 billion in the 2019/2020 financial year, up from a forecast of \$13 billion released just a fortnight ago.

New OECD estimates suggest a 22% hit to Australia's economy

New Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development estimates paint a grim picture of the direct economic costs of public health measures to contain the spread of COVID-19, and the need for more government support to cushion the blow.

What will the world be like after coronavirus? Four possible futures

There are a number of possible futures, all dependent on how governments and society respond to coronavirus and its economic aftermath. Hopefully we will use this crisis to rebuild, produce something better and more humane. But we may slide into something worse

Covid-19 / Business

Coronavirus: Major projects up for huge cash boost to reverse lockdown downturn

Major infrastructure projects could get an \$800 million boost from the Government in an effort to boost the economy once the country moves into recovery mode after the coronavirus crisis.

The 'meat and potato' investments that will get the economy cracking again

OPINION: New Zealand's economy is taking a pounding.

From the Far North to Stewart Island, the decisions taken over the next few months will determine both the depth and the length of the recession and the subsequent impact on New Zealanders' way of life.

Covid-19: Government looks to fast-track infrastructure projects after lockdown

The government plans to release a list of infrastructure projects to begin as soon as the lockdown is over, to lessen the economic blow of Covid-19.

Clouds

Ships' emissions create measurable regional change in clouds

Years of cloud data over a shipping route between Europe and South Africa shows that pollution from ships has significantly increased the reflectivity of the clouds. More generally, the results suggest that industrial pollution's effect on clouds has masked about a third of the warming due to fossil fuel burning since the late 1800s.

Energy and Mining

Rio Tinto to close one of four potlines at Tiwai Point aluminium smelter

Rio Tinto says it will close one of the four potlines at its Tiwai Point aluminium smelter, potline four, to ensure it can cope with the restrictions at the plant that are needed because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Health

Extreme, high temperatures may double or triple heart-related deaths

Posted: 30 Mar 2020 06:34 AM PDT

In Kuwait, a country known for hot weather, death certificates reveal that on days when the temperatures reached extremes of an average daily temperature of 109 degrees Fahrenheit, the number of deaths from cardiovascular disease dramatically increased. With unprecedentedly high temperatures, people living in inherently hot regions of the world may be at particularly high risk of heat-related cardiovascular death.

Satellites and radar

The World According to Weather Satellites

NASA (press release)

On April 1, 1960, NASA's first operational weather satellite, TIROS-1, launched from Cape Canaveral. This multimedia storymap looks at the value and ...

Climate change / global warming / sea level rise

New 3D view of methane tracks sources

NASA's new 3-dimensional portrait of methane concentrations shows the world's second largest contributor to greenhouse warming.

Social inequalities could be strengthened by ongoing forces of climate change

The effects of climate change will be felt the most by the people with the least resources to cope. Deena Coster reports.

Lockdown entertainment

National Theatre to broadcast shows online on Thursdays

Productions to be streamed on YouTube include James Corden in One Man, Two Guvnors

Eight exhibitions you can visit online while we're in lockdown

Just two days into lockdown, Warren Feeney has been pleased to discover artists' and galleries' attention turning to an online experience of contemporary New Zealand art.

Best family-friendly podcasts for your bubble

OPINION: You know, you are not alone. There are now five humans in our 118-metre square house, plus one dog.

I'm all set up to work from home, but not quite prepared for having the TV or devices on all the time. So family-friendly podcasts it is. Here are some of the best ones around for you and the people in your lockdown bubble to listen to.

Today's Radio NZ kids book reading

The Little Cloud - by Beverly Burch and Elspeth Nicol For Little Kids

One day there's a big storm in Wellington and a little cloud is born. He goes off on exciting adventures of his own and then realizes that to be a real cloud he needs to learn how to rain.

Library Check out what's available online via your local public library – there are magazines and e-books to download, along with movies.

Catch a film at home Love film? Why not watch those movies you've always wanted to using our free streaming services Beamafilm or Kanopy. Just log in using your City Libraries library card. Check out what's on offer [here](#)

Journal and articles online

[A well-observed polar low analysed with a regional and a global weather-prediction model](#)

Patrick J. Stoll, Teresa M. Valkonen, Rune G. Graversen, Gunnar Noer

Version of Record online: 16 March 2020

The capability of the weather-prediction model AROME-Arctic for simulating a well-observed polar low is investigated. The development of this polar low is thoroughly studied by sensitivity experiments. It is found that the system has two phases, an initial baroclinic and a mature convective phase, and that the development is very sensitive to the sea-surface temperature.

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Welcome to AMS News You Can Use.

Each week, we send out a sampling of recent news and items of interest in meteorology and related fields, as covered by various media outlets.

[Coronavirus is wreaking havoc on scientific field work](#)

The Washington Post - March 27, 2020

As the novel coronavirus pandemic continues to upend life around the world, scientific research is beginning to suffer. Over the past several weeks, major Earth science field campaigns, some years in the making, have been called off or postponed indefinitely.

[New satellite views show impact of coronavirus on emissions, China's night lights](#)

[Space.com](#) - March 27, 2020

As countries have shut down to slow the spread of the coronavirus pandemic, satellites in orbit around Earth are noticing changes to our home world.

U.S. government aims for better coordination in space weather campaign

SpaceNews - March 25, 2020

After decades of fighting to be taken seriously, meteorologists say space weather is beginning to get the attention it deserves.

Could Less Air Travel Due To COVID-19 Coronavirus Degrade Weather Forecasts?

Forbes - March 24, 2020

People are flying less because of COVID-19 Coronavirus. How that could actually degrade weather forecasts.

Sea Ice Below Normal Despite a Seasonal Bump

NASA - March 25, 2020

Slight recoveries in the extent of sea ice at both poles were not enough to return to long-term normal levels.

How the layouts, or textures, of cities influence extreme weather events

Phys.org - March 31, 2020

To understand the potential impact of city texture, CSHub researchers first investigated the current construction practices. One of the practices they examined were building codes.

Antarctica: what it means when the coldest place on Earth records an unprecedented heatwave

The Guardian - March 30, 2020

Antarctica's weather has worldwide impacts and can be a 'canary in the mine' for patterns of change elsewhere.

U.S. Spring Outlook forecasts another year of widespread river flooding

NOAA - March 19, 2020

NOAA forecasters predict widespread flooding this spring, but do not expect it to be as severe or prolonged overall as the historic floods in 2019.

Scientific societies differ in how they set dues

Physics Today - March 25, 2020

The American Meteorological Society has begun charging its members on the basis of their income.

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John Maunder 's Weather Eye

<https://www.sunlive.co.nz/blogs/14532-global-annual-temperatures-1880-2019.html>

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Thanks to our regular contributors

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