

New Zealand weather and climate news

These clips come Courtesy of MetService library

(MetService focus)

[Live: Wild weather - Auckland wakes to lightning, widespread Coromandel flooding](#)

A car with a driver inside has been pulled out of rising floodwaters after torrential rain lashed Auckland.

Police were contacted just after 8am on Sky High Road in Hunua and told that a vehicle was surrounded by water that's rising, with the driver inside.

[Lightning, downpours in upper North Island](#)

Heavy rain, thunderstorms and lightning hit parts of the upper North Island overnight, causing slips and road closures in Thames-Coromandel.

[Wild Wednesday weather: Severe warnings issued for upper North Island](#)

New Zealand Herald

MetService has a severe weather warning in place for eastern areas of Northland, which is to come under the gun at 4pm today. The Coromandel is in ...

[Canterbury's turn for no sun as cloud forecast for rest of week](#)

Stuff.co.nz

MetService Meteorologist Mmathapelo Makgabutlane said Cantabrians could expect to not see much sun for the next few days, with the weather ...

[More rain on the cards later this week](#)

SunLive

Image: MetService. Following on from the rain that fell about northern and eastern parts of the North Island during the past week, ...

[Weather: Cold snap forces Southerners to scrape ice off their cars - and cows](#)

New Zealand Herald

MetService meteorologist Lewis Serris said most of the South reached negative temperatures on Sunday night. [Read More](#). Central Otago manhunt: ...

### Wellington fog prompts warnings for drivers

A foggy start to the day in Wellington has prompted warnings for drivers to take extra care on the morning commute

### Early morning fog causes disruption in Wellington

Flights in and out of the capital may be disrupted due to fog cloaking the city.

A spokesperson for Wellington Airport confirmed the airport remained open, but said there may be disruptions to flights.

### Gloomy Wellington saw just six minutes of sunshine last week - MetService

TVNZ

But this week has started out brighter - MetService shared on social media a stunning image of Wellington and its harbour at dawn this morning ...

### Weather: North Island braces for heavy downpours, but warmer temperatures

The North Island's longer days are likely to be rained out towards the end of the week.

A low pressure system from the Tasman is set to move across the North Island late on Wednesday through to Friday.

### Weather: Severe thunderstorms could hit Northland, Auckland and Coromandel

Stuff.co.nz

MetService has issued a severe thunderstorm watch for Northland, Auckland, Great Barrier Island and Coromandel Peninsula for Wednesday and ...

### Udderly freezing: Cold strikes South again

Southerners had to scrape the ice off their cars — and cows — after the coldest morning of the year for some yesterday and it's another freezing start today.

### Southern police warn of black ice on roads

Police are warning southern motorists to take extra care in Otago and Southland this morning as black ice coats roads.

### Drought-breaking Hawke's Bay rainfall no miracle cure for farmers

Rain at the weekend in Hawke's Bay is being hailed as a drought breaker, but farmers say the pain's not yet over.

### Hawke's Bay not in the clear after drought despite 'brilliant' rain

Rainfall in drought-hit Hawke's Bay was good news for farmers across the region but the impact of the long dry spell will be with them for the season.

### Above average rainfall in Hawke's Bay ... at long last

New Zealand Herald

... zones to above average for the first time since last October, and MetService was forecasting at least occasional showers each day till next Saturday, ...

### Auckland Drought: 14,000 jobs at risk if restrictions tighten on businesses

An estimated 14,000 or more jobs would be hit, many of them lost, if Auckland's drought leads to much tighter restrictions on water use by businesses.

### Auckland's water woes turn 'critical'; dams at 45 per cent

Newstalk ZB

MetService meteorologist Georgina Griffiths said long-range weather models have no good news for drought-stricken Auckland. "The long-range ...

### Dry 2020 forecast: Auckland's water woes turn 'critical'

Auckland's water shortage has been pushed to "critical" levels on the back of a new long-range forecast picking a dry second half of the year.

### Heavy rain to batter drought-stricken Auckland

It comes as the city deals with a severe drought.

**MetOcean**

## New maps give most detailed look yet at mostly undersea continent of Zealandia

Stuff.co.nz

White Island/Whakaari: Health and Safety laws waived for eruption rescue to take place \*  
Sunken continent Zealandia used to be closer to the surface, ...

## Deadly 85m-high tsunami in Indonesia has lessons for New Zealand

New Zealand Herald

"The takeaways are that volcanic tsunami hazards can't be ignored," he said, adding that Whakaari/White Island was one potential threat. "I am not ...

## **NIWA**

### 30% loss of ice in 4 decades

Brewster Glacier, in the Mount Aspiring National Park, has lost about 13million cubic metres of ice over the past three years, Niwa scientists have found.

## **WMO**

### WMO launches E-learning platform for hazard alerts

Posted:

WMO has developed a set of E-learning resources and courses for the Common Alerting Protocol, which is an internationally-recognized standard for dissemination of warnings of extreme weather hazards...

### 60th issue of the TCC News - Japan Meteorological Agency

Posted:

The Tokyo Climate Center (TCC) of the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) has released the 60th issue of the TCC News on the TCC website. This issue covers: - Upgrade of the Global Ensemble Prediction...

## Reported new record temperature of 38°C north of Arctic Circle

Posted:

The World Meteorological Organization is seeking to verify a reported new record temperature north of the Arctic Circle of 38° Celsius. This was on 20 June in the Russian town of Verkhoyansk amid a...

## Volcano alert/watch

### Whakaari/White Island's Aviation Colour Code changes to green

New Zealand Herald

Monitoring data over the last few months shows Whakaari/White Island continues to gradually decrease to lower levels of volcanic unrest

### Indonesia's Mount Merapi spews ash in new eruption

Alert status has already been raised since Indonesia's 2,968-metre mountain last erupted in August 2019.

Extreme weather (and other news) – Australia and the Pacific

### Bureau of Meteorology funding better than 'flashy new trucks': ACT fire official

Glen Innes Examiner

Senior ACT officials say extra funding for the Bureau of Meteorology would help them more in future fire seasons than "shiny new" trucks or helicopters ...

### Australia's fires blew smoke 19 miles into the sky, similar to a predicted nuclear blast

Washington Post

Combined with atmospheric instability and ample moisture, these updrafts form towering thunderclouds can produce lightning, igniting new fires ...

### Queensland braces for record-breaking cold snap

9News

There's a road weather alert for decreased visibility this morning in Adelaide Hills – showers and low cloud or fog will make road conditions dangerous ...

Australian meteorologists upgrade chance of looming La Nina

Agrimoney.com

Official Australian meteorologists upped to 50% the chances of a La Nina ... “La Nina usually, but not always, means wetness in Asia and dryness in ...

**Extreme weather (and other news) – Asia and the Middle East, Africa**

Muddy rain in Kathmandu highlights wider climate disturbance

Eco-Business

New research linking a rain event in Nepal to dust storms in western India shows how warmer temperatures are disturbing South Asia's core weather ...

Unhappy with IMD, Kerala switches to private weather forecasters

The Hindu

... Earth Networks and IBM Weather Company — to use “ensemble predictions to improve extreme weather alert services in the State.” The devastating ...

ARENA to fund Solcast project to create detailed weather forecasts for wind and solar in SA

The Advertiser

... solar,” Solcast chief technology officer Nick Engerer said. “Through this project, we'll ensure it does the same with weather forecasting technology.”

Heavy 'plum rain' returns to already soaked central, southern China this week

AccuWeather.com

An AccuWeather Local StormMax™ of 300 mm (12 inches) will be possible in these areas, especially in the mountainous terrain. Hard-hit Chongqing is ...

## Extreme weather (and other news) – Americas and Europe

UK weather forecast: Met Office warning to hay fever sufferers ahead of 3-day heatwave

Mirror.co.uk

The Met Office pollen map shows levels are very high for most of England today, with just the north of England, Scotland and Northern Ireland hitting ...

How a historic drought led to higher power costs and emissions

Posted: 20 Jun 2020 11:19 AM PDT

Researchers studied the impact of a historic drought in California on economic and environmental impacts for electric power systems

How green does Ireland look from space?

Analysis: images taken by satellites can inform us about plant growth and how this varies with climate events

By Hannah White and Jon Yearsley, UCD

In Spring 2013, Ireland's farmers were in crisis. Headlines were stark: "Helpline number for fodder crisis issued" and "20 per cent increase in dead animals as fodder crisis deepens". Across the country, farmers were struggling to find feed for their cattle because spring was unseasonably cold and the green grass of Ireland wasn't growing. The signs of this crisis were clear far beyond the fields. They could be seen from space, and this perspective on Ireland could hold the answer to understanding how the plants in our fields and beyond respond to extreme weather events.

Dolly becomes 2nd earliest D-named storm in Atlantic

AccuWeather.com

According to AccuWeather Senior Weather Editor and Meteorologist Jesse Ferrell, there have been 69 D-named storms in the Atlantic since storms ...

International news and research

Arctic Circle sees scorching 38C day, may be region's all-time high

Temperatures in the Arctic Circle are likely to have hit an all-time record on Saturday, reaching a scorching 38C in Verkhoyansk, a Siberian town.

### 'Godzilla dust cloud' from the Sahara spreads across the world

A vast cloud of Sahara dust is blanketing the Caribbean as it heads to the US with a size and concentration that experts say hasn't been seen in half a century.

### What is a derecho? An atmospheric scientist explains these rare but dangerous storm systems

EarthSky

Europe, Asia and South America also have derechos. Here's what ... Derechos are an important and active research area in meteorology. I expect that ...

## **Aviation**

### Space telescope is staying at home

Antelope Valley Press

NASA's flying telescope SOFIA, shown here at Christchurch International Airport in 2017, will not make its annual summer deployment to New Zealand ...

### Are Rocket Lab's enterprises in our national interest?

It's one of our most lauded companies: a true New Zealand success story - but how much do we know about what Rocket Lab is carrying into outer space, and who it's carrying that load for?

### Wanaka-Chch air service possible

A scheduled air service between Wanaka and Christchurch could be operating within six weeks, if there is enough support.

### Sounds Air to receive New Zealand govt funding

CAPA - Centre for Aviation

Transport Minister Phil Twyford said: "This is for services which provide essential transport connectivity and would not continue without Government ...

### Tararua's aviation history revealed

New Zealand Herald

Manawatū pilot John Bolton-Riley said the weather for flying was marginal and the flight was rough. He has taken part in the dawn raid around 20

### Covid 19 coronavirus: Singapore Airlines can now bring Kiwis home, Emirates prepares for NZ flights

As concerns rise about pressure on New Zealand quarantine facilities, Singapore Airlines has announced it will open up scheduled flights for returning Kiwis from some countries through Changi Airport.

### Airways reconsiders plan to pull air traffic control services from seven airports

Airways New Zealand is reconsidering its plan to withdraw air traffic control services from seven airports.

### Study to inform nature of future air control

Possibilities for the future of Invercargill Airport air control will be found after an aeronautical study is completed.

### BIAL boost to Atmanirbhar Bharat: Installs aviation weather monitoring system

Deccan Chronicle

... Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) has installed an indigenously-developed Aviation Weather Monitoring ...

### The Kobe Bryant Helicopter Crash: Aviation Wrestles With Decades-Old Problem

NPR

The pilot in that crash flew into worsening weather conditions and lost control. ... Aviation is not inherently dangerous — but it is unforgiving in terms of ...

### Technology gaining traction, says 2020 Weather Survey

## AOPA Pilot

More pilots are relying on apps rather than a call to flight service when gathering their initial preflight weather information—but nothing beats a human ...

## Business/Insurance

### New Zealanders see ties with Asia as increasingly important, survey shows

New Zealand's recovery from COVID-19 will be closely tied to Asia's, and new research from the Asia New Zealand Foundation Te Whītau Tūhono shows that more New Zealanders recognise Asia's importance to this country.

### Union: Proposed AMI store closures a blow to communities

First Union says insurance giant IAG is being "irresponsible and short-sighted" with plans to close all 53 of its AMI stores.

### Official Cash Rate kept at 0.25 percent

The Reserve Bank (RBNZ) has left its benchmark interest rate unchanged at a record low, but promised more action if needed to cushion the impact of the Covid-19 virus.

### Employment confidence at lowest in 16 years, but unemployment might not get as bad as predicted

Employment confidence is at its lowest level since 2004 due mainly to the Covid-19 pandemic and resulting lockdown

## **Climate change / global warming**

### Westpac NZ And CoGo Announce Partnership To Empower Kiwis To Take Action On Climate Change

CoGo app users in New Zealand will soon be able to track their personal carbon footprint in real-time, thanks to a new partnership between CoGo and Westpac NZ.

A new Carbon Footprint Tracker feature will be added to the existing free CoGo app, which helps Kiwis align their spending and environmental/social values.

### Restricting forest planting 'at odds with NZ's climate change goals'

New Zealand runs a serious risk of failing to meet legally mandated goals on climate change, according to the Forest Owners Association

## **Covid-19 / Business**

### Coronavirus: Primary sector exports tipped to grow by \$1.7b despite pandemic

Exports of rock lobster and logs took a multimillion-dollar hit during lockdown but the outlook for New Zealand's primary sector isn't all doom and gloom

## **Energy and Mining**

### Renewable energy project waiting on Tiwai decision

Contact Energy has begun early work on a new geothermal field near Taupō, but it won't be full steam ahead until the Tiwai Point smelter makes its intentions clear.

### More electric vehicle charge points for Auckland-Waikato drivers

New Zealand Herald

Counties Power and WEL Networks now both offer OpenLoop, an open EV charging platform and app that enables a seamless recharging experience ...

### Optimising renewable energy output through weather forecasting

Mirage News

An innovative live demonstration of gridded, automatic renewable generation forecasts in South Australia (SA) is set to lead the way for a national ...

### Contact Energy picks Sumitomo, Naylor Love for \$600m Tauhara project

New Zealand Herald

Nova Energy earlier this year commissioned a 100 MW gas-fired peaker near New Plymouth. Last month, Meridian Energy said it was close to ...

Real-time power market will be ideal in dealing with variability and sudden demand surge: Rohit ...

ETEnergyworld.com

"We had intraday market available but that is about two-and-a-half hour in advance, during which many things are not clear - demand, weather pattern, ...

### **Farming/horticulture/Aquaculture**

Government may review farm-to-forestry conversions if they reach 40,000 hectares a year

The much criticised conversion of farm land into forestry could be checked by the government if it goes too far, politicians have been told.

Three days of rain breaks drought, but feed shortage still critical for Hawke's Bay farmers

The meteorological drought across parts of the Hawke's Bay has broken after several days of welcome rainfall, says regional council air quality scientist Kathleen Kozyniak.

Health

How weather affects COVID-19 in India

With India now having endured six months of the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) pandemic, there are now over 410,000 official cases in and more than 13,000 deaths recorded. Almost all these deaths have occurred in the last three months, April to June, with 100 deaths on April 4, 2020, increasing almost 16-fold by May 4, and 63-fold by June 4, 2020.

Environmental conditions found to affect stability of virus that causes COVID-19

Posted: 19 Jun 2020 11:34 AM PDT

A new study found that environmental conditions affect the stability of the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) in human nasal mucus and sputum.

Heat may kill more people in the U.S. than previously estimated, study finds

Death records point to hundreds of U.S. deaths from heat each year, but even moderately hot weather may actually be killing thousands. This summer, COVID-19 may make it harder to stay cool.

### Walking the allergy tightrope

Addressing the rise of allergies and anaphylaxis in Australia

15 JUN 2020

House of Representatives Standing Committee on Health, Aged Care and Sport

PUBLISHER

Parliament of Australia

Australia has been called the world's 'allergy capital' because of the increases in rates of allergies and anaphylaxis over the last twenty years. As there is essentially no cure for allergies, it has become a significant public health issue - highlighted by the long waiting lists for patients to see allergy specialists throughout Australia.

### **Infrastructure**

City Rail Link: Work begins on biggest railway station in New Zealand

New Zealand Herald

"Whenever I come into the city there is a great big hole," said Transport Minister Phil Twyford, who enjoyed flicking the switch on a huge ground cutting ...

### **Marketing**

Brands Must Tap Into Their 'New Zealandness' To Stay Relevant

How should marketers connect with Kiwis in a post-COVID world? Kantar New Zealand has been studying the evolving values and behaviours of Kiwis in relation to the pandemic, conducting weekly surveys since March and has identified the trends to help brand strategists and customer experience managers answer this question.

## **Outdoor recreation**

### Multi-format snow event a knockout

The cream of New Zealand's skiing and snowboarding talent have landed a knock-out competition. They will be split into three teams to compete in testing events including winner-take-all eliminations.

### Action now for a flurry later

Prospects for the ski season are looking good. Longer term, the future is still in our hands.

The shortest day of the year is upon us and there are lots of people who are waiting in anticipation to see what gifts the winter will bring, especially those who like playing in our snow-capped mountains.

## **Satellites and radar**

### Satellites Have Drastically Changed How We Forecast Hurricanes

NASA (press release)

This video looks at advances in hurricane forecasting in the 120 years since, with a focus on the contributions from weather satellites. This satellite ...

Transport/roading/shipping/freight

### Government looking behind schedule on road safety targets

The government is being accused by the Opposition of failing to deliver on its road safety targets.

### Transport projects could be on the block if Government doesn't plug Covid-19 funding hole

Stuff.co.nz

Minister Chris Hipkins, standing in for Transport Minister Phil Twyford, told Parliament today that the Government was "still working through the ...

Navy's brand new ship on way to New Zealand

**Innovation and technologies and AI**

New research centre to investigate safer automated decision-making

A major new research centre will investigate how rapidly emerging autonomous decision-making technologies can be used safely and ethically for all Australians.

Polygon Labs Develops Ipsum Weather Centralized Web-Based Solution

Sports Video Group

For gallery and studio weather graphics, the real-time weather data solution is fully integrated with Viz Trio and Viz Director for Viz Engine playout ...

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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.

Record plume of Sahara Desert dust reduces visibility in Puerto Rico, aims at Southeast U.S.

The Washington Post - June 22, 2020

The dust could even reach the Mid-Atlantic, including Washington.

See the moon's shadow on Earth from the 'ring of fire' solar eclipse in amazing space views

Space.com - June 22, 2020

Astronauts and satellites captured the stunning images.

Satellites Have Drastically Changed How We Forecast Hurricanes

NASA - June 22, 2020

This video looks at advances in hurricane forecasting in the 120 years since, with a focus on the contributions from weather satellites.

### How to Improve Space Weather Forecasting

Eos - June 19, 2020

The field of space weather forecasting could take cues from its Earthly counterpart to increase the reliability of models as well as warning times ahead of inbound solar storms.

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### We caught bacteria from the most pristine air on earth to help solve a climate modeling mystery

The Conversation - June 19, 2020

To discover what is actually happening in clouds over the Southern Ocean, a small army of atmospheric scientists, including us, went to find out how and when clouds form in this remote part of the world.

### Can scientists really make it rain?

AccuWeather - June 22, 2020

Is cloud seeding the penicillin of meteorology, a cure-all for weather conditions affecting an area?

### How the Arctic Circle just eclipsed 100 degrees

Mashable - June 22, 2020

Temperatures hit triple digits at a Russian town in the Arctic Circle on Saturday, either breaking or nearly breaking the hottest temperature on record in this polar realm.

The deadly hail that can flatten a farm

BBC - June 22, 2020

In central Kenya, hail the size of boulders can devastate a farm in a matter of minutes. How do you rebuild a life after such a destructive hailstorm?

How a historic drought led to higher power costs and emissions

ScienceDaily - June 20, 2020

Researchers studied the impact of a historic drought in California on economic and environmental impacts for electric power systems.

Are Meteorologists Scientists Or Not?

Forbes - June 18, 2020

The premise of the argument, albeit an isolated one, was that someone is only a “scientist” if they are studying the natural environment, publishing in the peer review literature, or has a doctorate.

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Weather Eye with John Maunder

See

<https://www.sunlive.co.nz/blogs/14820-global-temperatures-1996-may-2020.html>

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Thanks to our regular contributors

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