

New Zealand weather and climate news

Courtesy of MetService Library.

(MetService focus)

More rain on the way in Hawke's Bay

New Zealand Herald

MetService forecasts were predicting showers and rain for much of this week, starting from late Monday afternoon, across much of Hawke's Bay.

Chill wintry blast sweeps over country, chance of snow on Desert Road

Stuff.co.nz

MetService is warning of a chance of snow on the Desert Road and several South Island high passes on Tuesday, with cold south to southwesterly ...

Metservice issues snow warnings for Taihape and Desert Road

New Zealand Herald

Metservice meteorologist Lewis Ferris said there was already snow on the Desert Road on Tuesday morning, but predicted that little to no snow would ...

Rug up - it's set to snow in South

Otago Daily Times

MetService has forecast snow down to 500m overnight in Otago and Southland, including flurries in coastal areas such as Dunedin and Oamaru.

Frosty morning on the way for parts of New Zealand

New Zealand Herald

MetService issued a heavy rain watch alert in the area shortly before 8am and is not due to lift until about 9pm. "A period of heavy rain and ...

Christchurch's week-long sun drought over

Stuff.co.nz

MetService meteorologist Andy Best said sun was recorded in Christchurch for about six minutes between 9am and 10am on Tuesday and again for ...

Christchurch goes a full week without sun

Stuff.co.nz

Christchurch had just 12 minutes of sunshine on Monday last week, and hadn't seen the sun since, **MetService** meteorologist Dan Corrigan said.

Moderate risk of thunderstorms for region

New Zealand Herald

MetService said there was a moderate risk thunderstorms could develop in the region this afternoon and evening, accompanied by localised heavy ...

Fog, ice warning for southern motorists

Road users in parts of the South Island are warned to watch out for fog on their travels today.

A Central Otago District Council spokeswoman said there is a combination of wet and dry roads across the district with patches of thick fog.

Wild weekend weather clears up, but cold week on the way for all

Stuff.co.nz

MetService meteorologist Thapi Makgabutlane said the rugged conditions were all attributed to a low pressure system that was sitting just west of the ...

NZ's tornado activity: A look at what's causing our significant thunderstorms

Stuff.co.nz

MetService meteorologist Lewis Ferris said the instability in the atmosphere is the key ingredient in severe thunderstorms forming. A warm, humid ...

Overnight deluge in Auckland was first significant rainfall for nine months

The heavy downpour which hit overnight was the first significant rainfall in the Auckland region for nine months, according to weather experts.

Weather: More rain forecast for the North Island, as temperatures drop in the south

New Zealand Herald

A tornado ripped through parts of South Auckland on Saturday - so strong that it lifted roofs off, tore through business buildings and sent trampolines ...

'We saw some birds get sucked into it': Tornado touches down in Mangawhai

Jun 26, 2020 06:47 pm

Mangawhai residents have witnessed birds and roofs being pulled into the vortex as a tornado touched down at the coastal town north of Auckland.

Tornado seen in East Tamaki, south Auckland, after night of wild **weather**

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Roof tiles, trampoline flying through the air in Bay of Plenty

Stuff.co.nz

The **weather** caused damage right through the region, with Papamoa the first affected, just after 9am on Saturday. ...

Tornado hits northern Auckland: 'Devastation was left behind'

RNZ

MetService has confirmed the damage was likely to have been caused by tornadoes and has warned there may be more in coastal Auckland, Bay of ...

Thunderstorm slams through Tauranga

SunLive

At the height of the rain deluge, the rainfall was reported by the **MetService** to be 16.8mm per hour. PowerCo reported a power cut in Matapihi about ...

'We've had a bit of a hiding': Tornado in Papamoa, severe thunderstorm watch, heavy rain as Bay

...

New Zealand Herald

Metservice meteorologist Mmathapelo Makgabutlane said there had been at least two tornadoes in the Western Bay of Plenty and Tauranga that ...

Bay of Plenty weather warnings: Severe thunderstorm watch, heavy rain, risk of small tornadoes

New Zealand Herald

The **MetService** watch also covers the Kaimai Range, Coromandel Peninsula and the far north of Gisborne. Forecasters are warning of "a moderate ...

Wild weather in Auckland brings down trees and power lines, causes flooding

Stuff.co.nz

MetService meteorologist Mmathapelo Makgabutlane said the upper North Island saw some strong winds overnight due to thunder and lightning. What a ...

Council asks why Watercare wasn't better prepared

Auckland Council has today been grilling its own water company, Watercare, over the management of the region's water shortage.

Watercare earmarks \$57.5m to recommission dam

Watercare is planning to spend \$57.5 million to recommission a mothballed dam in Hūnua to help in the fight against Auckland's water shortages.

Glass half full: Auckland water woes ease but 'couple more rainstorms' needed

The weekend storm may have brought tornadoes to Auckland but it also left the city's water storage lakes half full.

Northland water restrictions finally lifted due to heavy rainfall

Water restrictions have been lifted in Whangarei this morning but the council is continuing to urge locals to conserve water otherwise restrictions may return.

This Week In One Word - Southerlies

Last week saw the country divided in half with the lower South Island having settled conditions while places in the North Island were seeing heightened thunderstorm activity with a couple of tornadoes making an appearance. This week, MetService is forecasting a southerly change to unite the two islands under a cool showery weather regime.

Wairoa roads flood as 95mm of rain falls in 24 hours

New Zealand Herald

MetService's heavy rain watch, which included parts of the Kaweka Range, expired at 6pm as council staff pushed hard to reopen the swamped roads.

Weather: 'Big divide' brings heavy snow, rain to the east, fine conditions to the west

Stuff.co.nz

MetService details the forecast for the first week of July. Trustworthy, accurate and reliable news stories are more important now than ever. Support our ...

MetOcean

Ferries cancelled as 6m waves forecast in Cook Strait

Some Interislander ferry services are cancelled from this afternoon with 6m waves forecast in Cook Strait.

WMO

WMO certifies Megaflash lightning extremes

Posted:

A World Meteorological Organization (WMO) committee of experts has established two new world records for the longest reported distance and the longest reported duration for a single lightning flash...

Extreme weather (and other news) - Australia and Pacific

Frost and fog as Melbourne suburbs shiver through sub zero degrees

NEWS.com.au

A severe frost warning was issued for the entire state and there is a **road weather** alert for reduced visibility due to fog. Weather bureau duty forecaster ...

Quarter of **businesses** in Pacific fear they will not survive Covid-19 pandemic

The Guardian

Sixty-five per cent have been “negatively impacted” by **weather**, including extreme rainfall or temperatures, flooding, drought or rising sea levels over the ...

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

After coronavirus, flooding hits southern China with 14 million affected

Yahoo Singapore News

El Nino is a climate cycle that begins in the Pacific Ocean and can trigger weather patterns including rains, storms or droughts in other parts of the ...

Flooded hospital, flattened cars and power outages among Cape Town storm damage

Independent Online

Imagine if the **weather** persists and there are more floods, what then,” he asked. Western Cape Health spokesperson Maret Lesch said a section of the ...

Cyclone Amphan loss estimated at \$13 bln in India, may rise in Bangladesh

The storm affected over 13 million people in India's West Bengal state - some losing homes, crops and land - and more than 1.5 million houses were damaged

Extreme weather (and other news) – Americas and Europe

UK consultants parachuted in to support Peru storm recovery

Building

As El Nino is a recurring phenomenon, the programme also includes for the UK to support Peru to develop plans for flood mitigation infrastructure in ...

“Belize should brace for more flooding and landslides,” says regional climate change organization

Breaking Belize News (blog)

... El Nino and La Nina weather phenomena and that Belize's agriculture sector is in need of government support and support from the general public.

Thunderstorm tracker and map: Where are there storms in the UK today?

The Sun

Met Office Operational Meteorologist Martin Bowles told The Sun Online: "We have had hot weather and heatwaves but that will be behind us.

Chances of 40°C days in the UK increasing

Towards the end of the century parts of the UK could see 40°C days every 3-4 years on average under a high emissions scenario.

'Potentially historic' heat wave could hit much of US in July, meteorologists warn

New York Daily News

Meteorologists on Tuesday revealed that July could bring unusually hot temperatures for more than two-thirds of the continental U.S., possibly ...

New Zealand research

'Melting ice & rising seas' team wins PM Science Prize

New Zealand's most valuable science prize, worth half a million dollars, has gone to a large team of researchers finding links between melting ice sheets in Antarctica and rising sea levels in New Zealand.

International news and research

SAIC to Update Air Force **Weather** Reporting Tech Under \$630M Contract; Bob Genter, Andrew ...

ExecutiveBiz (blog)

“Air Force warfighters need the latest and most accurate **weather** data to effectively carry out their mission, and TADS will provide them with **innovative** ...

ADOT experiments with new dust storm warning system

Parker Pioneer

The sensors are complemented by a **weather radar** on a 20-foot tower at I-10 ... If drivers are caught in a dust storm, drivers should take the next exit if ...

Meteorologists Shocked as Heat and Fire Scorches Siberia

SciTechDaily

But in 2020, it has been the region's wildly high temperatures and wildfires that have wowed **meteorologists**. After several months of warm weather, the ...

How to Forecast Outbreaks and Pandemics

America Needs the Contagion Equivalent of the National Weather Service

NOAA to buy commercial radio occultation **data** for operations

SpaceNews

... needed to help support NOAA's operational **weather forecasting** needs,” according to Commercial Weather **Data** Pilot (CWDP) Round 2 Summary.

Air Force awards \$630M contract to move **weather forecasting** to the cloud

FedScoop

The Air Force wants to modernize its **weather forecasting** to better predict storms that could impact operations. Much of forecasting comes down to **data** ...

Weather companies

AccuWeather Debuts Rebranded Enterprise Offerings as **AccuWeather** For Business

EIN News

... AccuWeather today announced it is officially rebranding **AccuWeather Enterprise Solutions**, its B2B services division, as “AccuWeather for Business.

America’s Cup (and sailing)

America's Cup event delay expected until at least 2021

America's Cup events in Auckland are likely to be pushed out until January next year.

The Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment, Auckland Council and its economic development arm, Auckland Tourism, Events and Economic Development (ATEED), were pushing for the Christmas Cup event to begin in January 2021, instead of December 2020.

Aviation

Bengaluru Airport installs aviation weather monitoring system

Business Traveller

Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru (BLR Airport) has installed an aviation weather monitoring system (AWMS) at its new runway. Following ...

As the price of space flight falls, more runners enter the race

The Irish Times

Rocket Labs is where people go if they want to launch a small satellite into orbit on a limited budget. The company has launched 48 small satellites from ...

DTN WeatherSentry Airport Operations launches in Europe

International Airport Review

Accurate weather forecasts and access to real-time weather data and meteorological consultation are vital across the aviation industry, but airport .

SOFIA's deployment to New Zealand cancelled, new flights to resume

Aerotech News (blog)

SOFIA typically deploys to Christchurch, New Zealand, from approximately ... The aircraft is maintained and operated from NASA's Armstrong Flight ...

Strong demand for domestic flights as Jetstar starts flying again

There is a high demand for domestic air travel in the coming months, budget airline Jetstar says.

Business/Insurance

NZ economy predicted to emerge from Covid-19 better than most

The Covid-19 pandemic is expected to leave a lasting scar on the world's economies but New Zealand is likely to fare better than most, according to a credit ratings agency.

Business confidence creeps up, but dark cloud still looms

The June Business Outlook from the ANZ Bank showed unease has eased slightly, with a net 34 percent of respondents pessimistic about the broad economic outlook for the next 12 months, down from nearly 42 percent at the end of May.

Domestic economy coming back quicker than expected, finance minister says

Finance Minister Grant Robertson has told an online forum hosted by the Bloomberg finance wire that consumer spending and business activity have rebounded since restrictions were lifted.

Clouds

Increased warming in latest generation of climate models likely caused by clouds

As scientists work to determine why some of the latest climate models suggest the future could be warmer than previously thought, a new study indicates the reason is likely related to challenges simulating the formation and evolution of clouds.

Energy and Mining

Rising severe **weather** from climate change threatens grid operations, says Accenture report

Utilities Middle East

“Greater system flexibility, delivered through digital and emerging **technologies**, will be critical to optimizing grid resilience in a cost-effective and timely ...

International investor partners with New Zealand hydrogen company

Taranaki hydrogen company, Hiringa Energy, and global trading and investment enterprise, Mitsui & Co have signed a strategic alliance to jointly pursue commercial hydrogen-related projects in New Zealand.

New project to revolutionise **weather** forecasting for renewables

Energy Magazine

Solcast will track the real-time evolution of **weather** systems over SA and ... the project and working with Solcast on this highly **innovative** initiative.

Power prices high despite abundant water amidst **weather** event

Otago Daily Times

Two of New Zealand's largest electricity **companies** - one majority-owned by the government - may have spilled water unnecessarily, causing ...

The World Is Getting Windier – Benefit Or Bust For Offshore Wind Farms?

Forbes

This could affect shipping routes and suitable **weather** windows for work, which rely heavily on the confidence in **weather** data. Offshore **companies** ...

More than 150 Island Bay homes lose power

Wellington power cuts have affected more than 200 homes this evening.

Clyde power outage on coldest day since 1978 prompts calls for review

The mayor of Central Otago is calling for an Electrical Authority review after 1200 Clyde residents were left without power for hours on the coldest June day since 1978.

Meridian spilled water to hike electricity prices - Authority ruling

The Electricity Authority has found that generator Meridian Energy manipulated the power market, costing consumers about \$80 million.

Farming/horticulture/Aquaculture/forestry

Forestry Amendment Bill would hurt GDP, damage industry - NZIER

A new report has accused a forestry bill going through Parliament of increasing costs for the forestry business and reducing the value of the New Zealand economy.

Fire

Local Focus: Permanent fire ban this year says regional council

A permanent fire ban will be enacted this year, says Hawke's Bay Regional Council chairman Rex Graham.

"I have had enough of people burning fires irresponsibly without regard for their neighbour's health," he said.

Government (regional and national)

New Zealand cancels 2021 APEC summit; will lead it virtually

One News Page

... and an excursion company after they sustained severe burns during a visit to the **White Island** volcano in New Zealand, according to a lawsuit filed.

Health

More evidence of causal link between air pollution and early death

Strengthening U.S. air quality standards for fine particulate pollution to be in compliance with current World Health Association (WHO) guidelines could save more than 140,000 lives over the course of a decade, according to a new study.

Infrastructure

Covid-19: Government reveals how \$3b infrastructure fund will be spent

The government has announced a \$3 billion infrastructure fund that will help create more than 20,000 jobs post Covid-19.

Lightning

400-mile-long lightning bolt over Brazil is biggest in recorded history

Livescience.com

... scientists studied several large lightning strikes recorded by four **weather**-monitoring **satellites** operated by the U.S., the European Union and China.

Lightning takes more than 100 lives in India

The Thaiger

The **Australian** government is undoubtedly breathing a sigh of relief along with other airline officials as the US company has saved the airline from the ...

Outdoor recreation / sporting events

'Really good' first weekend for South Canterbury ski areas

It was a record weekend for South Canterbury ski fields.

Tekapo's Roundhill ski area and Ohau Snow Fields opened at the weekend, kick-starting the ski season in South Canterbury.

Fifa Women's World Cup 2023: New Zealand and Australia to make history as hosts

The New Zealand football community woke on Friday to news it would once have never dreamed possible – the Fifa Women's World Cup is coming here in 2023.

Space weather

Lancaster shares in £3.7m research to help **Met Office** predict space weather

Mirage News

The implementation of the models by the UK **Met Office** will have a huge impact in many industries including aviation, High Frequency radio ...

Tourism

Taupō cuts tourism funding, moves focus to domestic market

The Taupō District Council has slashed half-a-million dollars of funding for its regional tourism agency.

Now could be the time for that once-in-lifetime Antarctic trip

Christchurch-based Heritage Expeditions organises trips to the Ross Sea Region, visiting the vast penguin colonies and the historic huts – made famous by explorers Robert Scott and Ernest Shackleton.

Tourism levy investment plan further delayed

It's been a year since most international visitors started paying an additional fee before entering the country.

Package deals needed tempt domestic travellers to overseas tourist hotspots

The tourism sector is being urged to target Kiwis by offering package deals to help fill the void left by overseas visitors – who may not return to New Zealand for another two years.

Transport/roading/shipping/freight

Matakana Link Road Construction Kicks Off And Drives Jobs

Scoop.co.nz

Transport Minister **Phil Twyford** said construction of the Matakana Link Road will create up to 120 jobs and give people real **transport** choices.

Demand for **Road Weather** Information Systems Market to Increase from End-use Industries and ...

Owned

Road weather information systems include environmental sensor stations, communication system for data transfer, and central systems to collect field ...

StormGeo: 'We want to get everyone looking at the shipping universe from the same perspective'

Splash 247

Founded in 1997 as a **weather** forecasting service, StormGeo sees **innovation** as the way to help the shipping industry to reduce fuel and emissions ...

Water

Sobering' report on Hawke's Bay's water security and climate change

A "do nothing" approach to water security under climate change could see the primary sector in parts of Hawke's Bay significantly impacted and some land uses becoming non-profitable by the middle of the century, according to a recent report.

Innovation and technologies and AI

A Great Idea **For** Tesla: **Radar** & Severe **Weather** Warnings

CleanTechnica

Her tweet asked them if there was any chance that Tesla's premium connectivity users could get a **radar** overlay and severe **weather** warnings along ...

Journal and articles online

Blue Sky Blues or the Three Degrees of Aircraft Pollution / Le “blues” du ciel bleu ou les trois degrés dus à la pollution issue d’avions

Phil Chadwick, Meteorologist and EcoArtist

All air traffic was grounded over North America for three or four days after the terror attacks of 9/11 on September 11th, 2001. A couple of curious meteorologists investigated the impact of grounding those aircraft. They discovered that the skies were much clearer and that temperatures responded correspondingly. The direct effect was that night time temperatures under cloud on average three (maybe four) degrees Fahrenheit below the averages established prior to 9/11...CONTINUE READING

Visibility Forecast in Wildfire Smoke: An August 2018 Case Study / Prévission de la visibilité dans la fumée d’incendies de forêt : étude de cas d’août 2018

Yimei Li, Canadian Meteorological Aviation Centre, Environment and Climate Change Canada

In recent years, wildfire smoke has become an increasingly alarming natural disaster in Western Canada. In 2017 and 2018, the British Columbia provincial government declared a state of emergency for two consecutive summers in response to the wildfire situation (1). These were the third and fourth declarations in history and the previous ones were in 1996 and 2003. The duration of the declarations were from July 7, 2017 to September 15, 2017 and from August 15, 2018 to September 7, 2018...CONTINUE READING

Air Pollution in the Time of COVID-19 / La pollution de l’air au temps de la COVID-19

D.G. Steyn, Department of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C., and Kyle Howe, Air Quality and Climate Change, Metro Vancouver Regional District, Burnaby, B.C

The COVID-19 pandemic is disrupting many aspects of society globally, nationally and locally. The most direct effect is the human health tragedy of increased morbidity and mortality caused by the disease. Beyond that, the legislated curtailment of human movement to slow the spread of the virus has resulted in economies being placed in what has been called a “medically induced coma”. Closely associated with the sharp slowdown in economic activity has been the reduction in fossil fuel consumption from most source sectors. A particular consequence of this reduction has been an improvement in local air quality, and an associated reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in all jurisdictions. ...CONTINUE READING

Identifying the key challenges for fog and low stratus forecasting in complex terrain

Stephanie Westerhuis, Oliver Fuhrer, Jan Cermak, Werner Eugster

First Published: 16 June 2020

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Welcome to AMS News You Can Use. from AMS

How to be the friend who always knows the weather

The Washington Post - June 27, 2020

For some people, the weather is more than a conversation starter.

Can A Single Lightning Flash Travel Over 400 Miles? - Yes

Forbes - June 25, 2020

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) announced two “shocking” (pun intended) new records this week.

Another Round of Saharan Dust Spreading Into the U.S. Gulf Coast This Week

The Weather Channel - June 30, 2020

Another surge of dust from Africa's Sahara Desert is spreading into the U.S. Gulf Coast this week, where it could bring more hazy skies, reduced air quality and colorful sunrises and sunsets.

NASA-NOAA's Suomi NPP Satellite Analyzes Saharan Dust Aerosol Blanket

NASA - June 26, 2020

Dust storms from Africa's Saharan Desert traveling across the Atlantic Ocean are nothing new, but the current dust storm has been quite expansive and NASA satellites have provided a look at the massive June plume.

NOAA Ramps up Use of Drones to Collect Seafloor and Weather Data

WeatherNation - June 25, 2020

Three shiny, orange-red autonomous surface vessels set out on the water from Alameda, California, in May bound for the Bering Sea where they will survey the nation's largest fish stock and monitor changing weather and ocean conditions in the Arctic.

African Dust Storms Are The Latest 'New' Old Weather Phenomena

Forbes - June 26, 2020

This event clearly exceeds other dust events of the past two decades.

Decoding the Skies: The Impact of Water Vapor on Afternoon Rainfall

SciTechDaily - June 26, 2020

The role of incoming water vapor on rainfall has been a complex area of study, but new research shows water vapor is a vital piece of the puzzle.

Weather company using tiny satellites inks deals with NASA, top European agencies to improve forecasts

The Washington Post - June 26, 2020

Private-sector satellite companies are increasingly seen as players in weather forecasting.

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Weather Eye with John Maunder

see <https://www.sunlive.co.nz/blogs/14844-the-southern-oscillation-index1880-2020.html>

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Thanks to our regular contributors, Cheers.