

New Zealand weather and climate news (MetService focus)

Weather alert: Heavy rain to continue in Bay of Plenty

New Zealand Herald

MetService says there is a heavy rain watch in Bay of Plenty west of Kawerau and on the Coromandel Peninsula from 6am to 9pm today. [Read More](#).

Sodden Northland could get more heavy rain, strong winds tonight

New Zealand Herald

MetService said from about 6pm to 3am tomorrow northeast winds may approach severe gale at times across the region, with the eastern side of the ...

Covid 19 coronavirus: Is Auckland's weather better in lockdown?

New Zealand Herald

Metservice meteorologist Tom Adams said those days were the tail end of a fine summer. "There was some really nice weather across the country ..

Weather: Auckland wakes to cold, frost, fog - and sub-zero temperature

New Zealand Herald

According to **MetService**, the freezing temperatures were the first negative value for Auckland since July 2018. Frost was spotted in various parts of the ...

Frosty start ends in highs of 20C for Hawke's Bay

New Zealand Herald

MetService meteorologist Tom Adams said temperatures will drop to zero degrees early this week, before a steady climb before the weekend.

Coronavirus: Auckland will be in lockdown during the wettest weeks of August

The third week of August is predicted to be the wettest of the month for most, especially the west in both the south and north islands.

Starting August 19, rain will fall for at least five days in Auckland, MetService said.

Coldest temperatures of the year for central, lower North Island

Stuff.co.nz

The coldest temperature recorded by **MetService** overnight was -8.7C at a weather station on the Desert Road, while Pukaki airfield near Twizel ...

More tech needed to prevent precious water loss, experts say

Stuff.co.nz

Watercare already uses sophisticated technology to find and repair leaks. “An acoustic leak detection device locates leaks by characterising and ...

Late winter storm: Gales and rain set to lash the country

Otago Daily Times

The **MetService** says gale-strength winds will rise throughout the day, howling across the north and west of the North Island and the western coastline ...

Weather: Heavy rain on the way for the Bay of Plenty

New Zealand Herald

MetService said periods of heavy rain were expected in the region west of Kawerau and Coromandel Peninsula from about 3am through to 9am .

Late winter storm: 24 hours of gales and rain set to lash the country

New Zealand Herald

MetService says gale-strength winds will rise throughout the day, howling across the north and west of the North Island and the western coastline of ...

Sky harvest – turning the tide on rainwater tanks

As Auckland looks for a way out of its water crisis, towns and cities elsewhere are also wondering how to cope with a future involving more extreme weather.

NIWA

Detecting cow burps from space — NZ's role in global satellite mission

New Zealand will be the testing ground for an international space mission to detect, by satellite, methane emissions from animals' stomachs anywhere in the world.

Tsunami Evacuation Zones Home To 1 In 10 New Zealanders

NIWA scientists have completed the first national assessment of people and buildings at risk in New Zealand's tsunami evacuation zones.

WMO

CMA global objective weather forecast product covers 11621 cities

Posted:

Recently, the global objective weather forecast product independently developed by China Meteorological Administration (CMA) has been put into operation, which can provide real-time global 10-km grid...

WMO will verify temperature of 54.4°C in California, USA

Posted:

The World Meteorological Organization will verify a temperature reading of 54.4°C (130°F), recorded at Death Valley, California, on 16 August amid an intense and extensive heatwave on the west coast...

WMO pays tribute to Konrad Steffen

Posted:

The World Meteorological Organization is greatly saddened by the tragic and untimely loss of Konrad "Koni" Steffen. He was one of the world's leading authorities on climate change and the Greenland...

GRAPES regional NWP system updated to 3 km rapid circulation assimilation - China Meteorological Administration

Posted:

On June 25, GRAPES regional Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) system independently developed by China Meteorological Administration (CMA) was updated to version 5.0, which has realized the 3 km...

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

Bureau of Meteorology volunteer honoured for five decades of recording Tasmanian rain

ABC News

Mr Dickenson was bestowed the role of volunteer rainfall observer, tasked with checking the gauge every day at the Bureau of **Meteorology's** (BOM) ...

Australia facing three-times the normal threat level of deadly rain, cyclones to end 2020

9News

... experiencing dangerous weather events linked to colder conditions as part of an atmospheric phenomenon not seen since 2017, **meteorologists** say .

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

Southeast Asia faces more severe effects of climate change than the rest of the world, McKinsey says

CNBC

Southeast Asia could potentially face more severe consequences of **climate** ... Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, **Thailand** and Vietnam.

Extreme weather (and other news) – Americas and Europe

Death Valley, California, may have recorded the hottest temperature in world history

A weather station at the Furnace Creek Visitor's Center measured a temperature of 129.9 degrees Fahrenheit on Sunday, August 16, 2020

One Storm System Damaged Over 40% of Iowa's Corn and Soy Crops In a Matter of Hours

TheStranger.com

The magnitude of the battered vegetation was even visible on the same **weather satellites** used to track Monday's violent thunderstorms. What is ...

International news and research

How hail – of all shapes and sizes – forms, falls from sky

The Weather Network

If you haven't been in a major hailstorm you don't know how dangerous it can really be. The deadliest of these storms dates back to April 26, 1888, ...

Trio of prototyping contracts brings new approach for collecting military weather data

C4ISRNet

Smaller LEO satellites can deliver the same capabilities at a fraction of the cost per satellite, while the sheer number of targets in the constellation means ...

New research will improve early warning of devastating megastorms

Posted: 17 Aug 2020 04:17 PM PDT

Scientific research will make it easier to predict the path of some of the world's most powerful storms, enabling communities to better protect themselves from severe flooding. A new study has found that land surface conditions frequently affect the direction and intensity of mesoscale convective systems after they have formed.

Equatorial winds ripple down to Antarctica

Posted: 17 Aug 2020 11:41 AM PDT

A team has uncovered a critical connection between winds at Earth's equator and atmospheric waves 6,000 miles away at the South Pole. The team has found, for the first time, evidence of a Quasi-Biennial Oscillation (QBO) -- an atmospheric circulation pattern that originates at the equator -- at McMurdo, Antarctica.

No typhoon in China in July for the first time since 1949 as long, hot summer continues

The Straits Times

The unusual weather, which has been blamed on factors including the El Nino phenomenon and global warming, has raised concerns about climate ...

The tropics are expanding, and climate change is the primary culprit

Earth's tropics are expanding poleward and that expansion is driven by human-caused changes to the ocean, according to new research.

Aviation

To land or to divert? How pilots decide the safest option

The Points Guy

So, when approaching an airport where the **weather** is less than ideal, pilots never ... There are a few things in **aviation** which are of no use to pilots.

'Time is running out': Kapiti mayor, local hapū ask Crown to step in and protect ancestral airport land

Kapiti Airport was built on borrowed land. Now, its original owners are asking for it back.

The land was taken from Ngāti Puketapu hapū by the Government in 1939 under the Public Works Act for defence purposes during the war. Instead of returning it, the land was privately sold.

Business/Insurance

Cloudy with a Chance of Podcast: **Weather Forecasts** in Business

WHIO

For many companies, the **weather** can have a huge impact on production or distribution. This week Chief Meteorologist McCall Vrydaghs and ...

CelsiusPro doubles-down on big-data for parametrics & **weather** risk transfer

Artemis.bm

CelsiusPro AG, the Swiss headquartered **weather** index **insurance** and parametric risk transfer specialist, is doubling down on the use of big-data and ...

Dutch Bolster Investment buys minority stake of **weather** forecast **business**

Private Equity News

Amsterdam-headquartered Bolster Investment Partners has acquired a 42.5% interest in **weather** forecasting **company** Infoplaza for an undisclosed .

Climate change / global warming

Climate risk and response in Asia: Research preview

COVID-19 is highlighting the importance of risk and resilience, and as the world focuses on recovery, it is important to not lose sight of climate risk. The Earth's climate is changing after more than 10,000 years of relative stability, and Asia is on the front line. Climate science tells us that, absent adaptation and mitigation, the climate hazards the region faces in the future, from heat waves to flooding, are likely to be more severe, more intense, or both. The impacts in Asia in some cases could be more severe than in many other parts of the world. As Asia seeks to grow its economy—and remain a key source of growth for the world—climate is thus a critical challenge that the region will need to manage.

Covid-19 / Business

Covid-19: Epidemiologists call for new pandemic plan

Epidemiologists say New Zealand needs a new, more generic pandemic plan which caters to worst-case scenarios.

Coronavirus: Just 21 essential health workers granted entry into NZ during first months of border ...

Almost 1700 foreigners expressed interest in entering New Zealand as essential health workers in the three months after the borders closed, but only 21 were granted approval, new figures show.

Rod Jackson: Learning to live with Covid 19 coronavirus is not a viable option

Contrary to Mathew Hooton's comment (NZ Herald, August 14), whether Jacinda Ardern or Judith Collins is prime minister next year, neither would allow Covid-19 to gain a hold in New Zealand. They will not be so ill-informed.

Yes, face mask protection helps slow the spread of COVID-19

Can face masks help slow the spread of the coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) that causes COVID-19? Yes, face masks combined with other preventive measures, such as frequent hand-washing and social distancing, help slow the spread of the virus.

Covid-19 / Wellbeing

Coronavirus: Hay fever and Covid-19 symptoms 'difficult to untangle' as pollen season looms

A sore throat, runny nose, a cough. They are all symptoms of Covid-19, but for many, they are also the symptoms of hay fever.

As we enter peak pollen season, people who experience asthma and hay fever are being urged to ensure their conditions are under control and to be aware of the differences between their usual reactions and any other viral symptoms. Read more

Top 7 sneeziest plants of New Zealand

"Some of the reasons we have high rates of hay fever are our environment," says Allergy New Zealand allergy advisor Penny Jorgensen. "Grass is widespread across the country and we've got a windy climate that blows pollen around. Grass pollen is a major trigger." Read more

Energy and Mining

SeaRoc, JBA to support Choshi wind farm project offshore Japan

Offshore Oil and Gas Magazine

JBA will use its logistics and **metocean** risk management software – ForeCoast Marine – to help optimize and plan the project's construction and ...

A solar superpower? Australia's \$24b plan to beam Outback sun onto Asia's power grids

Could Australia, one of the world's biggest exporters of coal and natural gas, become a solar superpower?

Farming/horticulture/Aquaculture

Technology to change the way horticulture is managed

Future Farming

Technology will make horticulture more efficient and sustainable, says founder and ... The global **weather forecasting** system uses a 25 by 25 km grid.

Health

New study finds thunderstorms can trigger severe asthma attacks

The Weather Network

File photo submitted to The **Weather Network** by Jeff Adams. WHAT'S THE CAUSE OF 'THUNDERSTORM ASTHMA?' The concept of "thunderstorm ...

Cold-weather accounts for almost all temperature-related deaths

Posted: 18 Aug 2020 11:21 AM PDT

With the number of extreme weather days rising around the globe in recent years due to global warming, it is no surprise that there has been an upward trend in hospital visits and admissions for injuries caused by high heat over the last several years. But cold temperatures are responsible for almost all temperature-related deaths, according to a new study.

Innovation and technologies and AI

Weather models improve with COSMIC-2 and Spire Global data

SpaceNews

Meteorologists are obtaining radio occultation soundings, which reveal temperature, pressure and water vapor, from the second six-**satellite** U.S.-Taiwan ...

Lightning

'One in a million' moment bolt of lightning strikes curvature of rainbow

This is the 'one in a million' moment a bolt of lightning struck the curve of a rainbow. Steven Miller, 33, had been teaching a personal training class in his garden when the storm struck near his home. Seconds after getting his smartphone out, a large bolt of lightning crossed the sky, following the path of the bend of the rainbow.

Deadly **lightning** kills over 30 sheep, a cow and a ram in rural Spain

Olive Press

The incident took place in New South Wales, **Australia**, on October 31, 2005. A further three jersey cows were paralyzed for a few hours, but later ...

Why Hundreds Die Of Lightning Strikes Despite New **Technology**, Programmes

IndiaSpend

... thunderstorms and issue lightning warnings,” explained Soma Sen Roy, a senior scientist at the National **Weather Forecasting** Centre (NWFC), IMD.

Satellites and radar

New **satellite** expected to improve hurricane forecasting, **climate** science

KXAN.com

A new **satellite** expected to launch into orbit November 10th of this year is expected to collect data to further our study of Earth's **climate** and enhance ...

Weather models improve with COSMIC-2 and Spire Global data

SpaceNews

Meteorologists are obtaining radio occultation soundings, which reveal temperature, pressure and water vapor, from the second six-**satellite** U.S.-Taiwan ...

Space weather

New method aims to see extreme space weather before it reaches Earth

Siliconrepublic.com

A newly developed way to see fast coronal mass ejections on the sun could help us predict when extreme space **weather** is heading for Earth.

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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.

5 Reasons Why the Atlantic Hurricane Season Is About to Shift Into High Gear

The Weather Channel - August 18, 2020

The 2020 Atlantic hurricane season, already off to a busy start, is about to shift into a higher gear that could generate multiple storms and hurricanes into early September.

Death Valley Just Recorded the Hottest Temperature on Earth

The New York Times - August 17, 2020

Scientists still have to validate the reading of 130 degrees Fahrenheit on Sunday, the equivalent of 54 degrees Celsius.

Last decade was Earth's hottest on record, exposing grim reality of climate change

CNN - August 14, 2020

Among the key findings of the State of the Climate in 2019, published by the American Meteorological Society, was that 2019 was among the warmest years on record, that greenhouse gases in the Earth's atmosphere are at their highest recorded levels and this decade is the hottest since records began in the mid-1800s.

A method to study extreme space weather events

Phys.org - August 17, 2020

Scientists at Skolkovo Institute of Science and Technology (Skoltech), together with international colleagues, have developed a method to study fast coronal mass ejections, powerful bursts of magnetized matter from the outer atmosphere of the sun.

In a New Record, 11 Named Storms Have Already Formed in the Atlantic

Smithsonian Magazine - August 17, 2020

Forecasters now estimate that 2020's Atlantic hurricane season could see up to 25 named storms.

Will 2020 Be the Hottest Year on Record?

Scientific American - August 14, 2020

It will certainly place in the top five—a marker of how much the world has warmed.

The Science Behind The 'Fire-Induced Tornado' Warning In California

Forbes - August 16, 2020

Did the Loyalton Wildfire cause a fire tornado, and are they really tornadoes anyhow?

New research will improve early warning of devastating megastorms

ScienceDaily - August 17, 2020

Scientific research will make it easier to predict the path of some of the world's most powerful storms, enabling communities to better protect themselves from severe flooding. A new study has found that land surface conditions frequently affect the direction and intensity of mesoscale convective systems after they have formed.

Tropical Storm Josephine forms in Atlantic as possible uptick in storm activity looms

The Washington Post - August 13, 2020

It's the earliest J storm in the Atlantic Ocean on record.

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Weather Eye with John Maunder

<https://www.sunlive.co.nz/blogs/14959-tropospheric-temperatures-january-1979-to-july-2020.html>

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Thanks to all our regular contributors

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