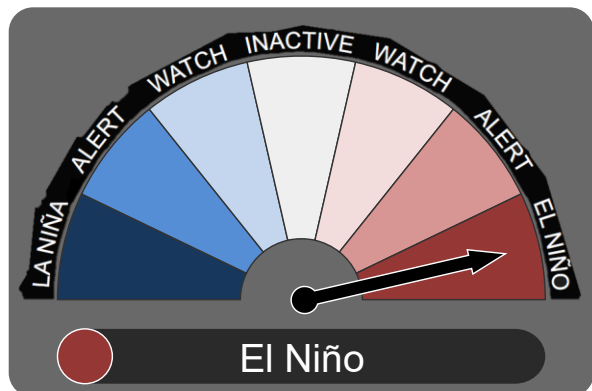


# April Climate Bulletin for Fisheries

A monthly bulletin issued by the Vanuatu Meteorology & Geo-hazards Department that provides concise one-month outlook on climatic conditions over Vanuatu that the fisheries sector can use for better decision-making.

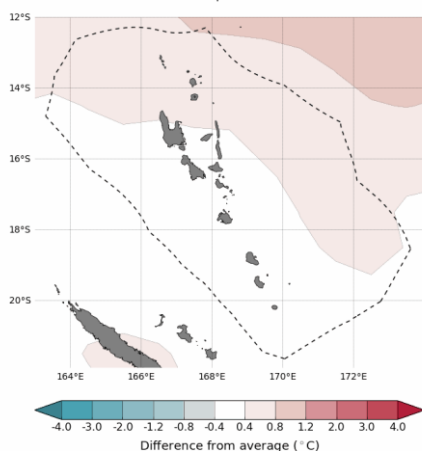
## El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO)



ENSO status continues to be in El Niño. El Niño events typically increase the chance of below average rainfall in Vanuatu, resulting in drier conditions and warmer daytime temperatures.

*Stetas blong ENSO hemi stap yet long El Niño. Long taem blong wan El Niño, Vanuatu I save kasem bilou nomol renfol we I save mekem ples oli drae plante mo hot tumas lo dei taem.*

Difference from average sea surface temperature forecast for April 2024



Base period: 1981-2018  
Model: ACCESS-S2  
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Shapefile data extracted from Flinders Marine Institute (2019), Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (200NM), version 11. Available online at <http://www.marinegovern.org/>

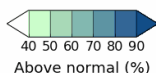
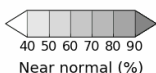
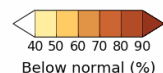
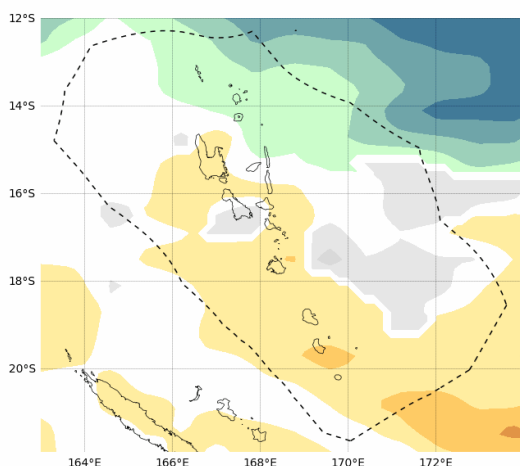
Model run: 30/03/2024  
Issued: 01/04/2024

## Sea Surface Temperature Forecast

Sea surface temperature is expected to be near normal across most of the country, and 0.4-0.8°C warmer in Torba province.

*Tempreja blong solwota hemi save kasem 0.4-0.8°C klosap long nomol ova long plante area's blong Vanuatu. Tempreja blong solwota bae hemi wom plante nao long Torba Province.*

Tercile rainfall probabilities for April 2024



Base period: 1981-2018  
Model: ACCESS-S2  
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Shapefile data extracted from Flinders Marine Institute (2019), Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (200NM), version 11. Available online at <http://www.marinegovern.org/>

Model run: 25/03/2024  
Issued: 27/03/2024

## Rainfall Outlook

Rainfall is predicted to be below normal for most of the country, except for Torba province which is expected to have above normal rainfall.

*Plante lo olgeta aelans blong Vanuatu bambae oli save kasem ol bilou nomol renfol eksep Torba province we bae oli expectem abav nomol renfol lo manis Eprel.*

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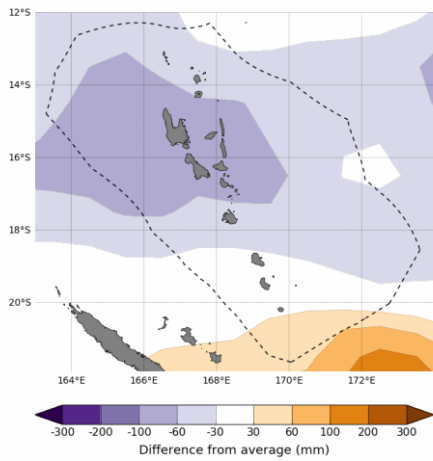


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Difference from average sea surface height forecast for April 2024



Base period: 1981-2018  
 Model: ACCESS-S2  
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 (Shapefile data extracted from Flinders Marine Institute (2019), Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (200NM), version 11. Available online at <http://www.marine.gov.au>)  
 Model run: 30/03/2024  
 Issued: 01/04/2024

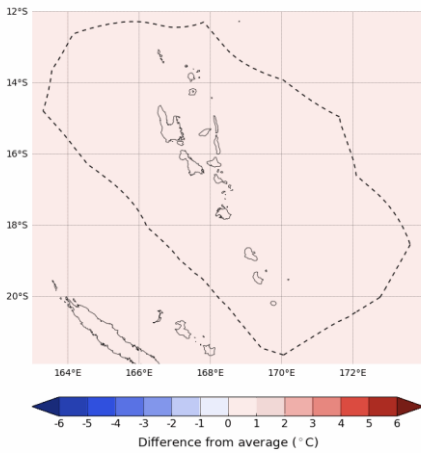
## Sea Level Forecast

Most of the country is expected to have lower than normal sea surface heights of up to 100mm. Tafea province is expected to have normal sea level heights.

*level blong solwota bae hemi go down bitim nomol wetem 100mm lo plante aelans blong Vanuatu. Level blong solwota long Tafea province bae hemi kasem klosap long ogeta nomol level.*

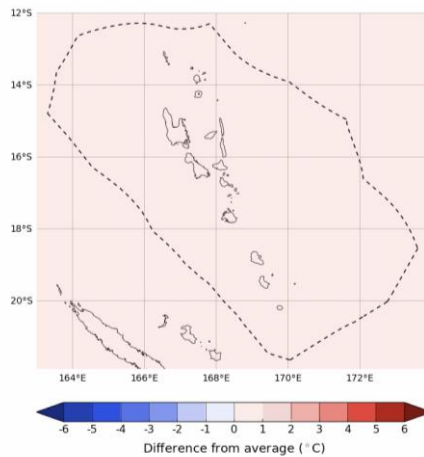
## Maximum and Minimum Temperature Outlook

Difference from average mean maximum temperature forecast for April 2024



Base period: 1981-2018  
 Model: ACCESS-S2  
 © Commonwealth of Australia 2024, Australian Bureau of Meteorology  
 (Shapefile data extracted from Flinders Marine Institute (2019), Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (200NM), version 11. Available online at <http://www.marine.gov.au>)  
 Model run: 25/03/2024  
 Issued: 27/03/2024

Difference from average mean minimum temperature forecast for April 2024



Base period: 1981-2018  
 Model: ACCESS-S2  
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 (Shapefile data extracted from Flinders Marine Institute (2019), Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (200NM), version 11. Available online at <http://www.marine.gov.au>)  
 Model run: 25/03/2024  
 Issued: 27/03/2024

Slightly above average (0-1°C) day-time temperatures are expected across the country this month.  
 - *Tempreja blong dei bae wom lelebet bitim nomol wetem long kaontri wan diffrens blong 0-1°C.*

Slightly above average (0-1°C) night-time temperatures are expected across the country this month.  
 - *Tempreja blong naet bae wom lelebet bitim nomol long kaontri wetem wan diffrens blong 0-1°C.*

## Tide Outlook for April

### Port Vila Harbour

| Lowest Tide | Date   | Time (VUT) | Highest Tide | Date  | Time (VUT) |
|-------------|--------|------------|--------------|-------|------------|
| 0.23m       | 11 Apr | 1:45pm     | 1.56m        | 9 Apr | 5:48am     |

### Luganville Harbour

| Lowest Tide | Date  | Time (VUT) | Highest Tide | Date  | Time (VUT) |
|-------------|-------|------------|--------------|-------|------------|
| 0.18m       | 7 Apr | 10:06pm    | 1.78m        | 9 Apr | 4:52am     |

## Moon Phases for April

| Fes Kwata | Ful Moon | Las Kwata | Niu Moon |
|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|
| 16 April  | 24 April | 2 April   | 9 April  |

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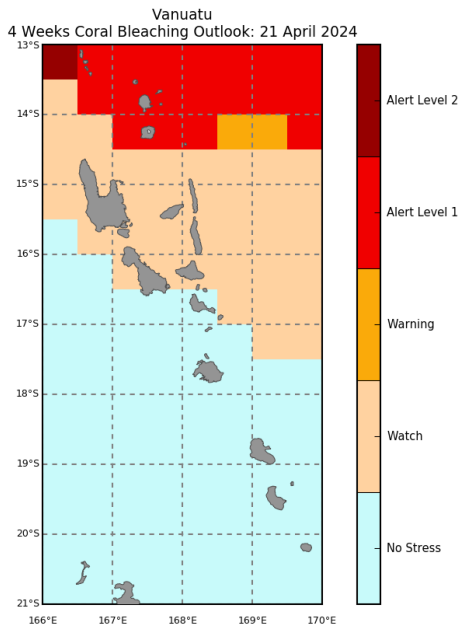
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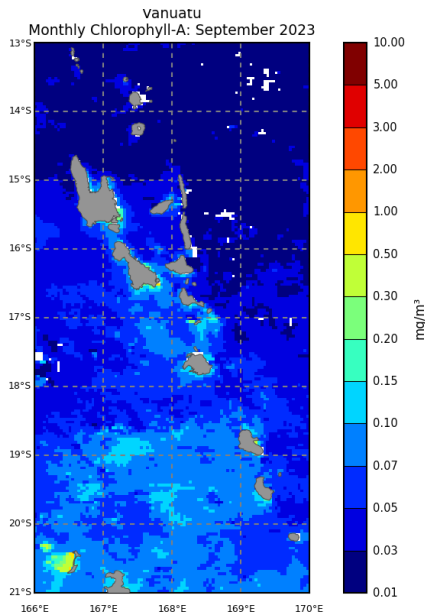
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NOAA Coral Reef Watch

## Coral Bleaching Outlook

Alert 1 is in place for Torba province. A Watch is in place for Sanma, Penama and Malampa provinces while Shefa and Tafea provinces are at No Stress.

*Alet 1 istap long Torba. Watch alet hemi stap long Sanma, Penama mo Malampa provins. No stress hemi istap long Shefa mo Tafea.*



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Chlorophyll-A

## Chlorophyll A status from Sep 2023

Chlorophyll concentrations from September were low especially in the northern islands. Pockets of higher concentrations were found at the southern coasts of Espiritu Santo and Malakula, reaching 0.30mg/m3.

*Level blong Klorofil since Septemba hemi low long noten aelans. Klorofil I hae lelebet (0.30mg/m3) long soaten pat blong Santo aelan mo Malekula.*

### Bulletin Highlights for April 2024

|            |         |                  |   |
|------------|---------|------------------|---|
| ENSO:      | El Niño | Max Temp:        | ↑ |
| SST:       | ↑       | Min Temp:        | ↑ |
| Rainfall:  | ↓       | Coral Bleaching: | ↑ |
| Sea Level: | ↓       | Chlorophyll:     | – |

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## Climate Smart Recommendations for Fisheries Sector

|  |  | Offshore fisheries  | Lagoon fisheries  |
|--|--|---|---|
| <b>EL Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO)</b> | El Nino<br>La Nina   |   |   |
| <b>Sea Surface Temperatures</b>            | Further South  | - Higher likelihood of warmer water tuna species skipjack and yellow fin.<br>- Fish on warm side of SST fronts for natural biological hotspots. |   |
| <b>Sea Level</b>                           | > 200 mm<br><br>< - 200 mm   |   |   |
| <b>Rainfall</b>                            | Above normal<br><br>Below normal                                   |   |   |
| <b>Maximum and Minimum Temperature</b>     | Above average<br><br>Below average                                 |   |   |
| <b>Coral Bleaching Level</b>               | Warning<br><br>Alert 1<br><br>Alert 2                              |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reduce storm water and fertilizer runoff</li> <li>- Avoid using herbicides and pesticides</li> <li>- When anchoring boats, avoid anchoring near places with coral reefs</li> <li>- Encourage offshore fishing to alleviate stressors in the lagoon.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Chlorophyll</b>                         | Above normal   | Likely higher stocks for smaller pelagic fish   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Higher risks of lagoon fish disease, encourage offshore fishing</li> <li>- Limit nutrient runoff &amp; monitor for algal blooms</li> <li>- Target high chlorophyll regions for crown of thorns starfish management activities</li> </ul>                       |
| <b>High and Low Tides</b>                  | High Tide<br><br>Low Tide  |   |   |
| <b>Moon Phases</b>                         | First Quarter<br><br>Full moon<br><br>Last Quarter<br><br>New Moon |   |   |

### For more info, contact us:

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