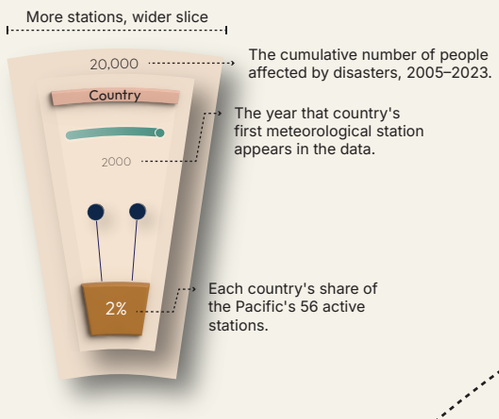
THE UNEVEN EYE

1889 – 2026
18 NATIONS & TERRITORIES

THE PACIFIC CLIMATE OBSERVATORY

Fifty-six meteorological stations are all that watch an ocean spanning eighteen nations and territories, and more than half of them belong to just five places. These instruments are the Pacific's only defense against a sea that is rising everywhere but is only being measured in some places. That gap is the difference between a warning delivered in time and a disaster met blind, and it falls hardest on those least equipped to recover from it.

Long before instruments, Pacific navigators read the ocean itself: a star compass with no physical form, its points radiating from wherever the navigator stood, guided only by stars, swells, and memory passed down for generations. This visualization borrows that same open center. Every wedge radiates outward from it, dense where the Pacific still watches closely, hollow where, for three territories and a hundred and thirty-eight years, it never has.



STATION ICON

= 1 observation station

SEA LEVEL ANOMALY (m)

-0.1 — 0.14

0.1 - 0.14 m
(2019 - 2023 average)

Uniform regional pressure

MONITORING UNEVENESS

Five places, more than half the sight.

The top five entities by station count hold 55% of everything the Pacific can see. The rest is split among thirteen.

- Top 5: 55%
- Others: 45%

STATION DENSITY

Sight, per person.

CLIMATE PRESSURE vs OBSERVATION

The mismatch.

Sea-level rise is nearly uniform across the region. The capacity to observe it is not.

- Polynesia
- Micronesia
- Melanesia

Data compiled from the Pacific Community (SPC) Pacific Data Hub, the region's official statistical repository, using four dataflows: Meteorological Monitoring Network (DF_METEO_MONITOR_NET), Population (DF_NMDI_POP), Sea-Level Anomaly (DF_CLIMATE_CHANGE), and Disaster Impact (DF_SDG_11). All figures reflect the most recent data available in the compiled datasets as of 2026.