

Table 1 – Meteorological terminology

Altimeter settings	Regional or local air pressure at mean sea level. It is also known as QNH (atmospheric pressure at nautical height), defined as the pressure value at which an aircraft altimeter is set so that it will indicate the official elevation of the aerodrome when the aircraft is on the ground at that location (WMO, 2008).
Characteristic of pressure tendency	Pressure tendency is the character and amount of atmospheric pressure change for a three-hour or other specified period ending at the time of observation. Pressure tendency is composed of two parts, the pressure change and the pressure characteristic. The characteristic of pressure tendency is an indication of how the pressure has changed during a specified interval time (WMO, 2008).
Cloud Cover	It is the fraction of the celestial dome covered by all clouds visible. It is estimated in eighths (okta) of sky covered by clouds (WMO, 2008). Clear sky is indicated with 0 okta, overcast with 8.
Cloud type	Code reporting the type of cloud (classified in terms of levels high, middle and low) and the state of sky (WMO, 2008).
Dew Point temperature	Temperature below which the water vapor in air at constant pressure condenses into liquid water at the same rate at which it evaporates. It is related to the relative humidity: a high relative humidity indicates that the dew point is closer to the current air temperature. (WMO, 1988) defines it as the temperature at which moist air saturated with respect to water at a given pressure has a saturation mixing ratio equal to the given mixing ratio (ratio between the mass of water vapour and the mass of dry air).
Extreme clockwise wind direction of a variable wind	Clockwise direction of a variable wind.
Extreme counterclockwise wind direction of a variable wind	Counterclockwise direction of a variable wind.
General weather indicator	Code reporting general information of the weather. Code 2 represents good ceiling and visibility conditions.
Height of base of cloud	Height of the base of the cloud above ground level. If it is small it can indicate the presence of fog.
Maximum wind speed	Gusts wind speed.
Metar	Messages reporting weather information.
Nowcasting	Short range forecasting (between 0 to 6 hours).
Past Weather	Description of significant weather events occurring during the previous timestep, but not occurring at the time of the observation (WMO, 2008).
Present Weather	Description of the weather phenomena present at the time of the observation (WMO, 2008). It is expressed through codes. Codes between 40-49 indicate the presence of fog.
Pressure	Force per unit area exerted against a surface by the weight of the air above that surface (WMO, 2008).
Relative humidity	The ratio in per cent of the observed vapour pressure to the saturation vapour pressure with respect to water at the same temperature and pressure (WMO, 1988).
RVR	Runway visual range (RVR) is the range over which the pilot of an aircraft on the centre line of a runway can see the runway surface markings or the lights delineating the runway or identifying its centre line (WMO, 2008).

Synop	Surface synoptic observations reporting numerous meteorological parameters.
Three hour pressure change	Net difference between pressure readings at the beginning and end of a specified interval (three hours) (WMO, 2008). Positive changes mean improving weather, negative ones worsening weather.
Visibility	The greatest distance at which a black object of suitable dimensions (located on the ground) can be seen and recognized when observed against the horizon sky during daylight or could be seen and recognized during the night if the general illumination were raised to the normal daylight level (WMO, 1992 and 2003). Visibilities values below 1 km denote the presence of fog.
Wind direction and speed	Direction and speed of winds present at the airport.