

# Negation in Languages of Island Melanesia

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The Austronesian languages of Oceania manifest a multiplicity of negation strategies, ranging from morphologically simple to complex, often exhibiting multipartite negative indication. Negation of statives and equational structures often involves a special category of negative verbs. This paper builds on an earlier survey of negation strategies in the languages of Vanuatu (COOLS-5, 2002) and moves towards a consideration of these forms and strategies within a broader framework, in particular the Oceanic subgroup of Austronesian, focusing on the languages of Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea.