REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND FORESTRY

State Department for Environment & Climate Change

KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

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MONTHLY FORECAST FOR MAY, OUTLOOK THE NEXT THREE MONTHS (MAY- JUNE-JULY) AND REVIEW OF APRIL 2026

1.0 SUMMARY

1.1 Monthly Forecast for May 2026

The outlook indicates that near-average rainfall is likely to occur over the county.

Mean temperatures are predicted to be warmer than average throughout the county.

1.2 Outlook for the Next Three Months (May-June-July 2026)

May marks the cessation of the long rains season in most parts of the country. Rainfall is expected to continue into June in the county. June is expected to be the beginning of the cold and dry season which will continue into July and August.

Mean temperatures are likely to be warmer than average over most parts of the country.

1.3 April 2026 Review

Rainfall was received in several parts of the country.

Mean temperatures were warmer than average in the county

2.0 RAINFALL FORECAST FOR MAY 2026

2.1 May Rainfall Climatology

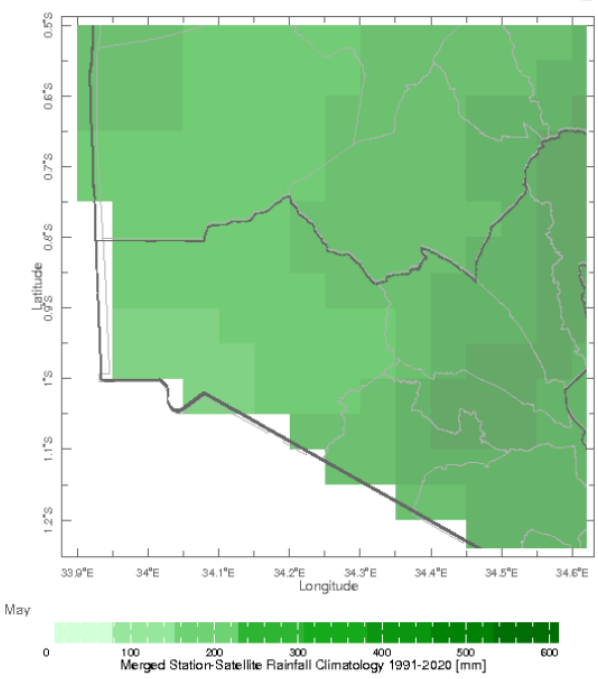


Figure 1: May Rainfall Climatology (1991-2020)

Climatologically, May marks the cessation of the March-April-May ("Long Rains") rainfall season over most parts of the country. However, in some parts of the Highlands West of the Rift Valley, the Lake Victoria Basin, the Coast and Northwestern Kenya, the rains continue into June.

The "Long Rains" end in May because the main rain-producing zone near the equator (the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone) shifts northwards as the sun moves into the Northern Hemisphere. This shift reduces moisture convergence over Kenya, weakening rainfall systems and allowing drier conditions to set in. (Figure 1).

2.2 Rainfall Forecast for May 2026

The outlook indicates that near-average rainfall is likely to occur over the county (Figure 2).

Rainfall is likely to be enhanced over much of the county during the first week of May. The enhanced rainfall may extend into the second week of May. Depressed rainfall is expected during the second half of the month.

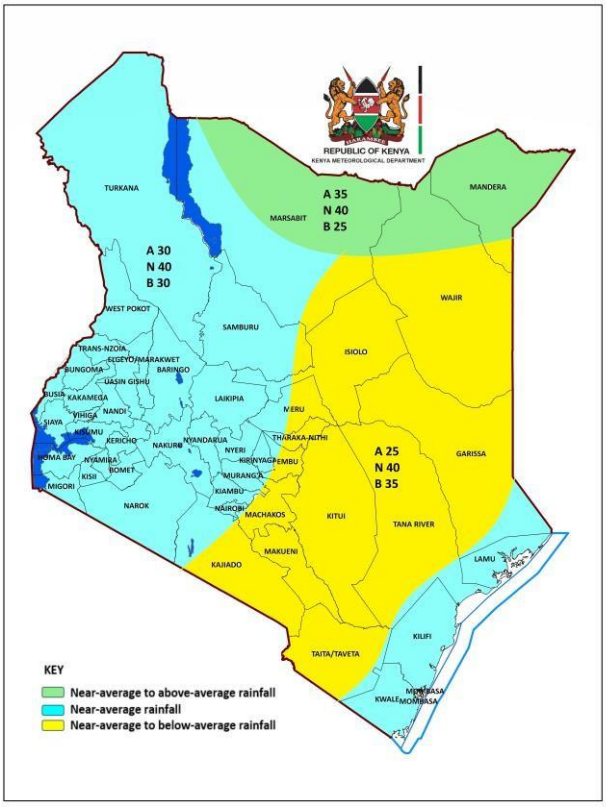


Figure 2: May 2026 Rainfall Outlook

2.3 Detailed Regional Rainfall Forecast for May 2026

Rainfall is likely to be near-average. Heavy rainfall events are likely to occur in several parts of the region during the first half of the month

3.0 TEMPERATURE FORECAST FOR MAY 2026

3.1 May Temperature Climatology

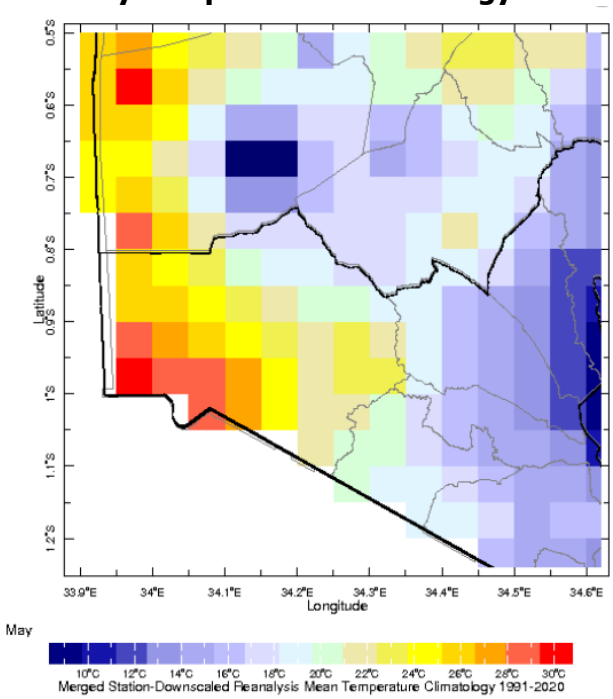


Figure 3: May Mean Temperature Climatology (1991-2020)

In May, Kenya's mean temperatures reflect the combined effects of altitude, cloud cover from the long rains, and regional aridity.

In the lake basin, where Migori falls in, are cooler with mean temperatures generally remaining below 23°C (Figure 3) due persistent cloud cover and rainfall that limits daytime heating.

3.2 Detailed Regional Temperature Fore Forecast for May 2026

Mean temperatures are expected to be warmer than average throughout the county more. Predicted maximum and minimum temperature ranges for individual climatic zones are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Maximum and Minimum Temperature Ranges

Climatic Zone	**Maximum Temperature Range**	**Minimum Temperature Range**
Zone 1: Western sector: Nyatike sub county, lower parts of Uriri sub county, western parts of Suna west sub county	22°C to 32°C	15°C to 22°C

Zone 2: Central and Eastern sector: Rongo, Awendo, parts of Uriri, Suna East, parts of Suna west, Kuria west and Kuria east sub counties	23°C to 32°C	14°C to 18°C

4.0 POTENTIAL SECTORAL IMPACTS OF THE MAY 2026 RAINS

4.1 Agriculture

Continued heavy rainfall over the county is likely to worsen waterlogging, flooding of croplands, and physical damage to crops, while also increasing soil erosion and nutrient leaching.

4.2 Water Resources and Flood Management

Water resources and flood-prone catchments may experience heightened pressure as rivers, dams and drainage systems in high-rainfall areas continue to receive significant inflows following wet conditions in April. Expected heavy rainfall in the first week of May increases the likelihood of river overflows, flash floods and prolonged inundation in low-lying and downstream areas.

4.3 Transport and Infrastructure

Transport and infrastructure are likely to face persistent disruptions, in the county, where heavy early-May rainfall may further damage roads and bridges already weakened by prolonged wet conditions. Water-logged roads could increase travel delays and isolate communities.

4.4 Health

Public health risks are likely to remain elevated as continued wet conditions favor the spread of water-borne diseases, contamination of water sources and expansion of mosquito breeding habitats, especially in areas expecting heavy rainfall early in May. Flood-affected settlements may face increased exposure to diarrheal diseases, cholera and malaria due to standing water and poor sanitation.

4.5 Disaster Management and Humanitarian Response

Expected heavy rainfall during the first week of May sustains the threat of flash floods, mudslides and displacement in already vulnerable areas. Emergency response systems may experience prolonged strain due to repeated incidents rather than isolated events, particularly in high-rainfall zones. In areas where near-average rainfall is expected, localized heavy storms may still trigger sudden emergencies despite otherwise moderate monthly totals.

5.0 OUTLOOK FOR MAY-JUNE-JULY

Rainfall is expected to continue into June in the county. However, this rainfall may be near-average to below-average.

June is the climatological start of the cold and dry season in Kenya. During this month, several parts of the country especially the Highlands East and West of the Rift Valley, the Rift Valley and the Southeastern Lowlands are likely to start experiencing cool and cloudy days. Both

minimum and maximum temperatures are expected to start dropping over much of the country during this month.

July is expected to be the peak of the cold and dry season. Cold and cloudy days are likely to persist over several parts of the country. The cloudiness may be accompanied by light rains and fog. Minimum and maximum temperatures are expected to be lowest during this month.

Mean temperatures in May-June-July 2026 are likely to be warmer than average throughout the country.

5.0 APRIL 2026 REVIEW (AS AT 30TH APRIL 2026)

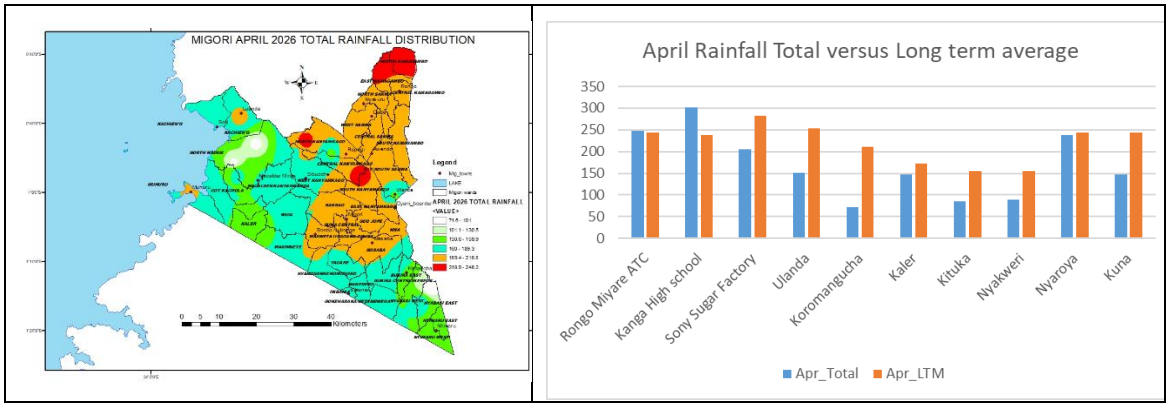


Figure 4: Spatial April Rainfall Distribution (left) and April 2026 Rainfall Totals (Right)

Rainfall was received in several parts of the country (Figure 4).Review of April 2026 Rainfall Performance Figure 4 compares the total rainfall amounts recorded in April (Blue bars) to April LTMs (Red bars). From this figure it can be seen that some rainfall stations recorded near their April LTMs. Conversely, some stations such as Koromangucha, Kituka, and Nyakweri recorded rainfall that was below their April Long Term Averages. The highest monthly rainfall total (301.0mm) in the county was recorded at Kanga Automatic Weather Station. Lela Automatic Weather Station recorded the highest amount of rainfall within 24-hours: 47.3mm on 5th April 2026.

N.B: This outlook should be used together with the 24-hour, 5-day, 7-day and special forecasts as well as regular updates/advisories issued by this Department. Please visit Website: **https://www.meteo.go.ke. for more information**

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