



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND FORESTRY

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

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CLIMATE OUTLOOK FOR JULY 2026 AND A REVIEW OF THE CLIMATE IN JUNE 2026

1. HIGHLIGHTS

1.1. The Forecast for July 2026

The July 2026 outlook indicates that several parts of the country will be generally dry and sunny. However, intermittent cool and cloudy conditions accompanied by light rains are expected to prevail in counties in the Central highlands and Nairobi area and some counties in the Southeastern lowlands, western Kenya and central Rift Valley during the month. Counties in the Highlands west of the Rift Valley, Lake Victoria Basin, Central and Southern Rift Valley are likely to receive below average rainfall. The northwestern region is likely to remain generally dry though a few areas bordering Uganda and South Sudan may experience occasional rainfall that is expected to be below average. The Coastal strip is likely to receive near to above average rainfall. Temperatures are expected to be warmer than usual across the whole country.

1.2. The Climate Outlook for July August and September 2026

The forecast for the next three months indicates that several parts of the country are expected to experience dry weather conditions. However, the Highlands West of the Rift Valley, the Lake Victoria Basin, Central and parts of the South Rift Valley are expected to receive rainfall that is likely to be below the July to September (JAS) Long Term Mean (LTM). The Highlands East of the Rift Valley, including Nairobi County and parts of the Southeastern lowlands are expected to experience cool and cloudy conditions in July and August and the first half of September. The rest of the country is expected to remain generally sunny and dry. Temperatures are expected to be warmer than usual over the whole country.

1.3 Review for June 2026

In June 2026, several parts of the country remained relatively dry. However, rainfall was recorded in the Highlands West of the Rift Valley, the Lake Victoria Basin, the Central and

Southern Rift Valleys, the Coastal Strip as well as a few areas over the Highlands East of the Rift Valley.

2. CLIMATE OUTLOOK FOR JULY 2026

Climatologically, July marks the peak of June-July-August where temperatures are cooler in the Highlands East of the Rift Valley, Nairobi and Parts of Southeast Lowlands. However, in some parts of the Lake Victoria Basin, Highlands West of the Rift Valley, the Lake Victoria Basin, the Coast and Northwestern Kenya, occasional rainfall is expected.

While several parts of the country is expected to remain dry in July (Figure 1a) due to subsidence from the southeast monsoon, the Highlands West of the Rift Valley, the Lake Victoria Basin, the Rift Valley, the Coast and Northwestern Kenya continue to receive rainfall because of local moisture sources (Lake Victoria & Indian Ocean), topographic uplift, Congo air inflow, and jet-induced convergence that sustain convection. Figure 1 shows the rainfall climatology of July.

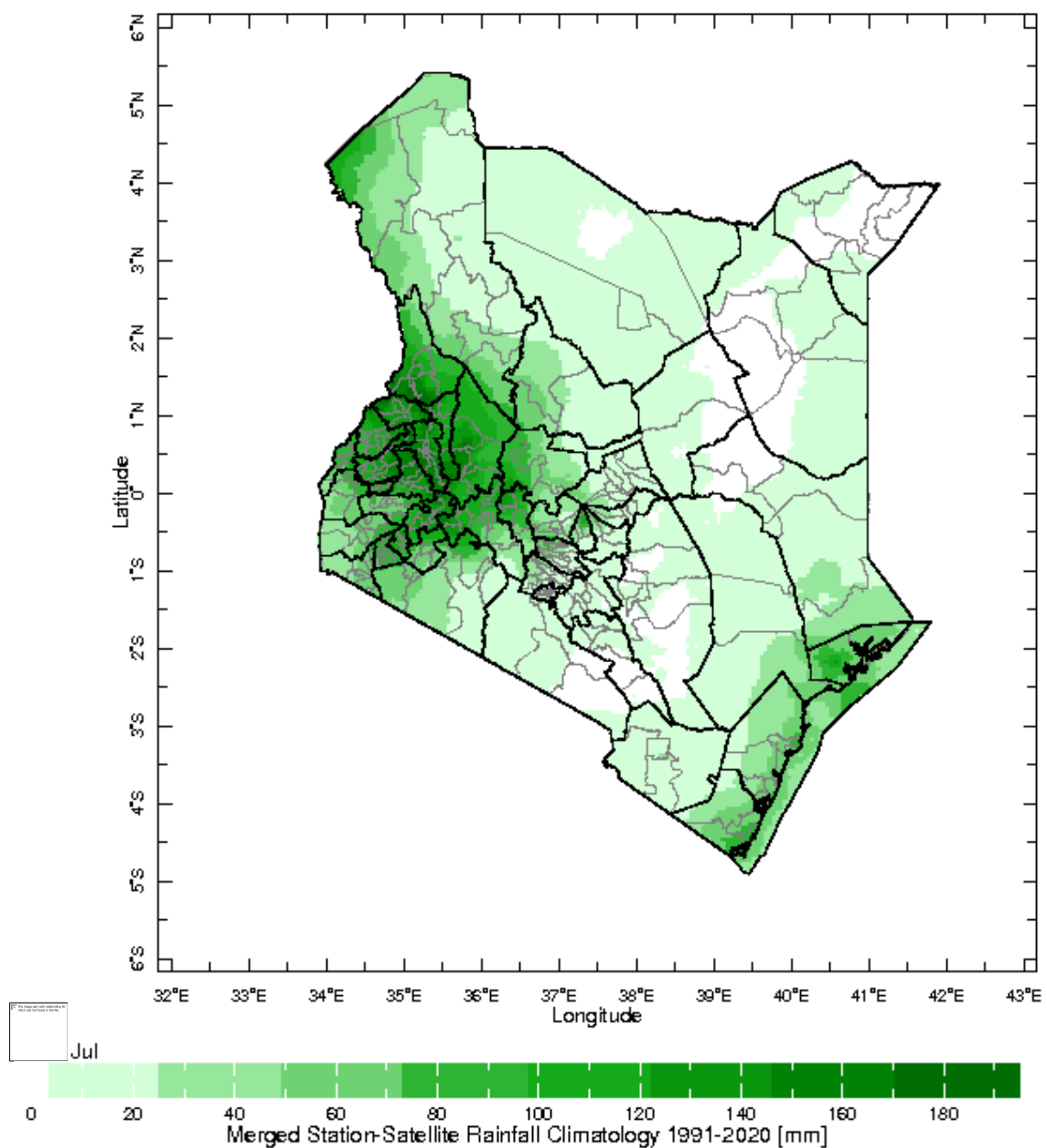


Figure 1a: July Rainfall Climatology

2.1. Rainfall Forecast for July 2026

The forecast indicates that several parts of the country will be generally dry and sunny during the month of July 2026. However, below-average rainfall is expected over counties in the Highlands West of the Rift Valley, Central Rift Valley, Lake Victoria Basin, South Rift Valley, as well as the Northwest. The Coastal strip is likely to receive near to above average rainfall.

Intermittent cool and cloudy conditions with light morning rains/drizzles are likely to be observed in the Highlands East of the Rift Valley (including Nairobi County) and some parts of the Southeastern lowlands, Highlands West of the Rift Valley, Central and South Rift Valley. **Figure 1b** illustrates the July 2026 rainfall forecast.

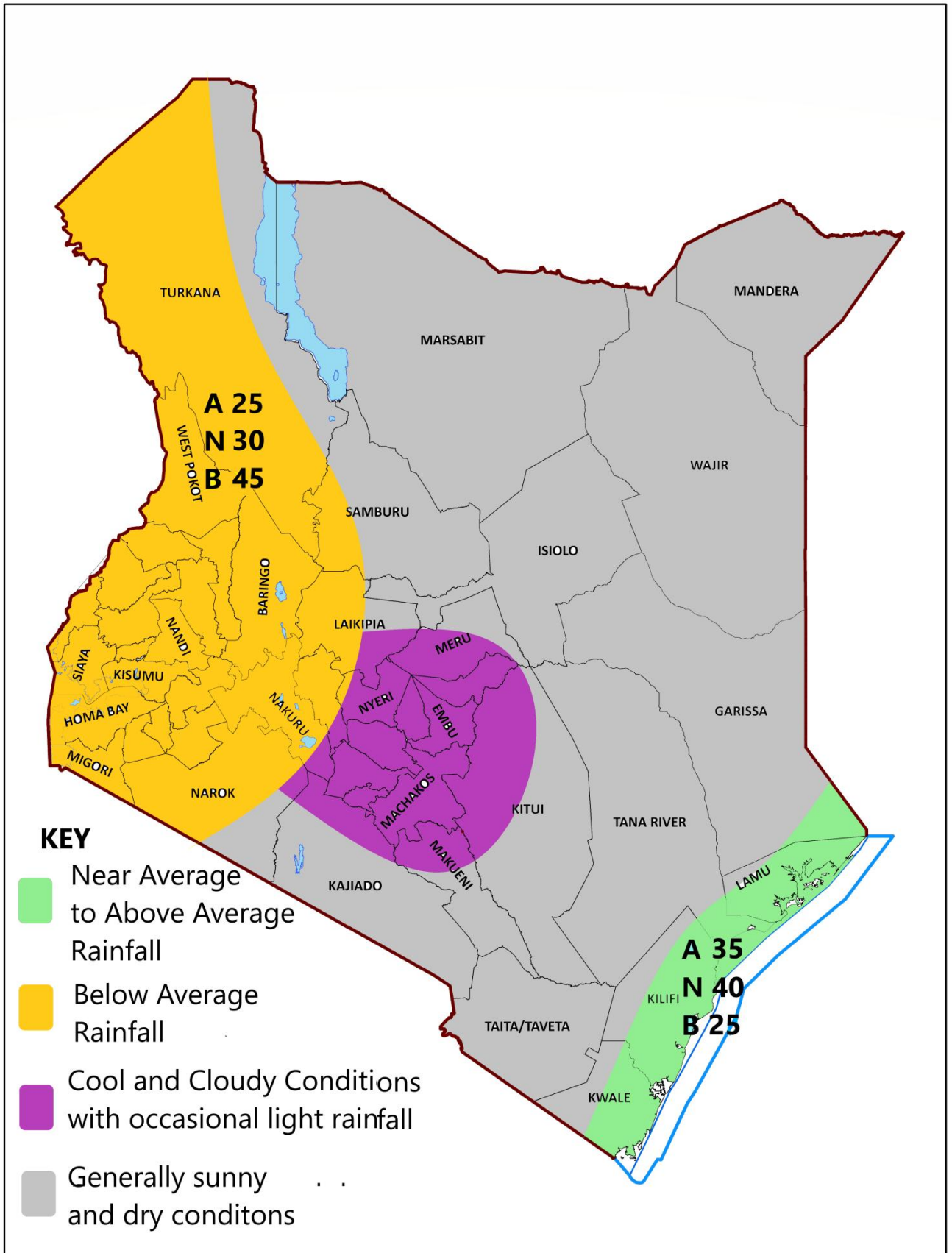


Fig. 1b: July 2026 Rainfall Forecast

2.2. Specific Rainfall Outlook for Individual Areas

2.2.1. The Lake Victoria Basin, Highlands West of the Rift Valley, Central and South Rift Valley (Siaya, Kisumu, Homa Bay, Migori, Kisii, Nyamira, Trans Nzoia, Baringo, West Pokot, Uasin Gishu, Elgeyo Marakwet, Nandi, Laikipia, Nakuru, Narok, Kericho, Bomet, Kakamega, Vihiga, Bungoma and Busia):

Rainfall is expected during the month of July. The expected total rainfall is likely to be below the long-term average amounts for July.

2.2.2. Northwestern (Turkana and Samburu):

Mainly sunny and dry weather conditions are expected to prevail over most areas during the month. However, occasional rainfall is expected over a few areas especially those bordering Uganda and South Sudan. The expected total rainfall is likely to be below the long-term average amounts for July.

2.2.3. The Coastal Strip (Mombasa, Tana River, Kilifi, Lamu, Kwale)

These counties are expected to receive occasional rainfall during the month. The expected total rainfall is likely to be near to above the long-term average for July.

2.2.4. The Highlands East of the Rift Valley (including Nairobi County): (Nyandarua, Nyeri, Kirinyaga, Murang'a, Kiambu, Meru, Embu, Tharaka Nithi, Nairobi)

These counties are expected to experience cool and cloudy conditions (overcast skies) with occasional morning light rains/drizzle. Occasional afternoon showers are likely to occur over a few areas during the month.

2.2.5. Southeastern Lowlands (Machakos, Makueni, Kitui, Taita Taveta and Kajiado) and Northeastern Kenya (Mandera, Marsabit, Wajir, Garissa and Isiolo)

These counties are likely to remain generally sunny and dry. Occasional cool and cloudy conditions are however likely to occur over some counties in the Southeastern lowlands especially those bordering the Highlands East of the Rift Valley and Nairobi County as well as the high-altitude areas of Marsabit county.

2.3. TEMPERATURE FORECAST FOR JULY 2026

The month of July marks the peak of the cold season especially over the Highlands East of the Rift Valley including Nairobi County. Mean temperatures are expected to be warmer than average throughout the country.

The temperature forecast for July 2026 indicates that the Highlands East of the Rift Valley including Nairobi County and parts of the Southeastern lowlands (parts of Machakos and Kajiado) are expected to experience cold/cool temperatures which are likely to be slightly warmer than the July average. However, a few days may experience maximum temperatures below 18°C and minimum temperatures below 10°C. These cooler temperatures result from the dominance of the southeast monsoon, which brings relatively

cool air from the Indian Ocean; widespread cloud cover that reduces solar heating; and the influence of Southern Hemisphere winter air masses.

In addition, mountainous terrain in the Highlands East and West of the Rift Valley causes further cooling in these regions. Figure 2 shows the mean temperature climatology for July.

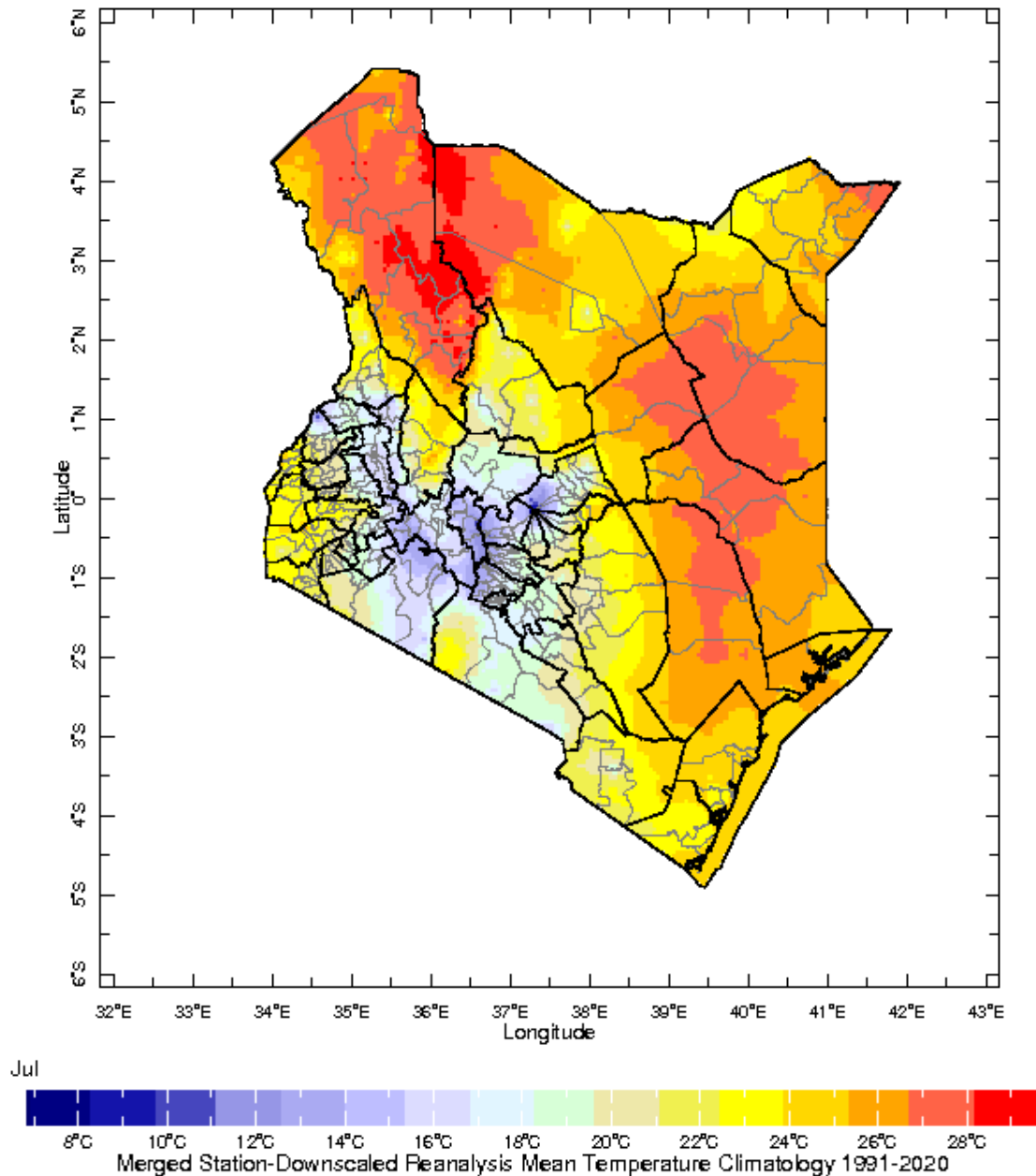


Figure 2: July Mean Temperature Climatology (1991-2020) .

2.4. POTENTIAL IMPACTS

The following are the likely impacts during the month of July:

2.4.1. Agriculture and Food Security Sector

The below average rainfall expected over the Highlands West of the Rift Valley, Lake Victoria Basin, Central and South Rift Valley is likely to negatively affect the production of crops that have not yet matured, especially in areas that received below average rainfall in June and are expected to continue receiving depressed rainfall. There may be incidences of crop damage by frost in parts of the Highlands East of the Rift Valley as the cold season reaches its peak during the month.

2.4.2. Disaster Management Sector

Cases of lightning strikes are still likely over the Lake Victoria Basin and Highlands West of the Rift Valley especially in Kisii, Kisumu, Nandi, Bungoma (Mt. Elgon areas), and Kakamega Counties. The public is advised not to shelter near metallic structures or under trees to pre-empt loss of life

2.4.3. Transport and Public Safety

The strong winds that are expected in the Coast, the South-eastern Lowlands, North-eastern and North-western Kenya may disrupt marine transport and damage infrastructure such as roofs and power lines. Fog is likely to reduce visibility at the airports and on roads that traverse highland areas, increasing the risk of accidents, diversions and delays.

2.4.4. Health Sector

Due to the expected cool and chilly conditions, cases of respiratory diseases such as asthma, pneumonia, flu, and the common cold are likely to increase in areas such as Nairobi, the Highlands East of the Rift Valley, parts of the Central and South Rift Valley, and parts of the Highlands West of the Rift Valley. To avoid contracting diseases, the public is advised to dress warmly and to follow the advice of the Health Authorities. They are also advised not to use charcoal jikos in poorly ventilated homes because they emit carbon monoxide gas, which can kill if inhaled.

2.4.5. Water Resources Management and the Energy Sectors

Water availability in the ASAL areas may decline due to the dry weather conditions expected in these areas. Residents are advised to use the available water sparingly and embrace water conservation practices to ensure their water needs are met during the month. Rainwater harvesting is encouraged in areas expected to receive rainfall.

The water catchment areas over the Highlands West of the Rift Valley are expected to receive below average rainfall during the month while those over the Highlands East of the Rift Valley are expected to experience mainly dry weather conditions. The water levels of the hydro power generating dams in both catchment areas should therefore be monitored

closely to ensure power production is not disrupted by the depressed and/or dry conditions expected during the month.

2.4.6. Environment

The rainfall expected over the Highlands West of the Rift Valley, Lake Victoria Basin, Central and South Rift Valley may still sustain tree growth. Residents in these areas are advised to continue planting trees to contribute to the national tree cover campaign while putting in place measures to conserve the environment.

3. RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE REVIEW FOR JUNE 2026

3.1. Rainfall Review in June 2026

Several parts of the country remained relatively dry during June 2026. However, the Coastal region and parts of the Lake Victoria Basin and Highlands West of the Rift Valley received occasional rainfall especially at the beginning and end of the month, while isolated areas in the Central Rift Valley and Highlands East of the Rift Valley recorded light rainfall with mainly cool and cloudy conditions predominant. Analysis of the monthly rainfall indicates that the highest totals were concentrated along the Coast. The highest monthly rainfall total of 166.0 mm was recorded at Lamu, followed by Malindi (153.5 mm), Msabaha (119.8 mm), Bomani–Magarini Ward (112.0 mm), Mukakula Farm (110.6 mm) and Kanyangwa–Malindi Ward (106.3 mm). Other stations that recorded over 80 mm included Cardinal Otunga High School–Mosocho (94.5 mm), Mombasa (92.9 mm), ADC Olngatongo (90.7 mm), Mkunumbi Secondary School (89.4 mm), Mtwapa (85.9 mm), Kibisi Secondary School (85.8 mm), Kisii (82.3 mm), Mikomani–Ruruma Ward Chief's Office (82.8 mm), Mtepeni (80.8 mm) and Matungu (80.6 mm).

Most stations across the Lake Victoria Basin and Western Kenya recorded between 20 and 80 mm, including Kericho (64.6 mm), Kakamega (54.8 mm), Kisumu (47.8 mm) and Suba (47.4 mm). In contrast, the Central Highlands, Nairobi, Eastern, Southeastern lowlands and much of the Rift Valley recorded generally less than 20 mm of rainfall. Stations such as Nyeri (10.6 mm), Laikipia (10.1 mm), Meru (3.7 mm), Kabete (4.8 mm), Kitui (2.6 mm), Makindu (0.5 mm), Thika (0.2 mm) and Ngong (0.3 mm) received little rainfall during the month.

The Northern and Northeastern regions remained predominantly dry. Lodwar, Maralal, Garissa, Wajir, Mandera, JKIA and Machakos recorded no rainfall, while Marsabit (5.9 mm) and Moyale (5.5 mm) received only isolated light showers. Overall, the June rainfall distribution was consistent with the seasonal climatology, with rainfall concentrated over the Coastal region and Lake Victoria Basin, while much of the country experienced the typical dry conditions associated with the June–September season.

Figure 3a displays the rainfall measurements recorded between June 1st and June 28th, 2026, represented by blue bars, in comparison to the long-term averages for the month of June, represented by red bars. Figure 3b presents the actual rainfall totals for June 2026.

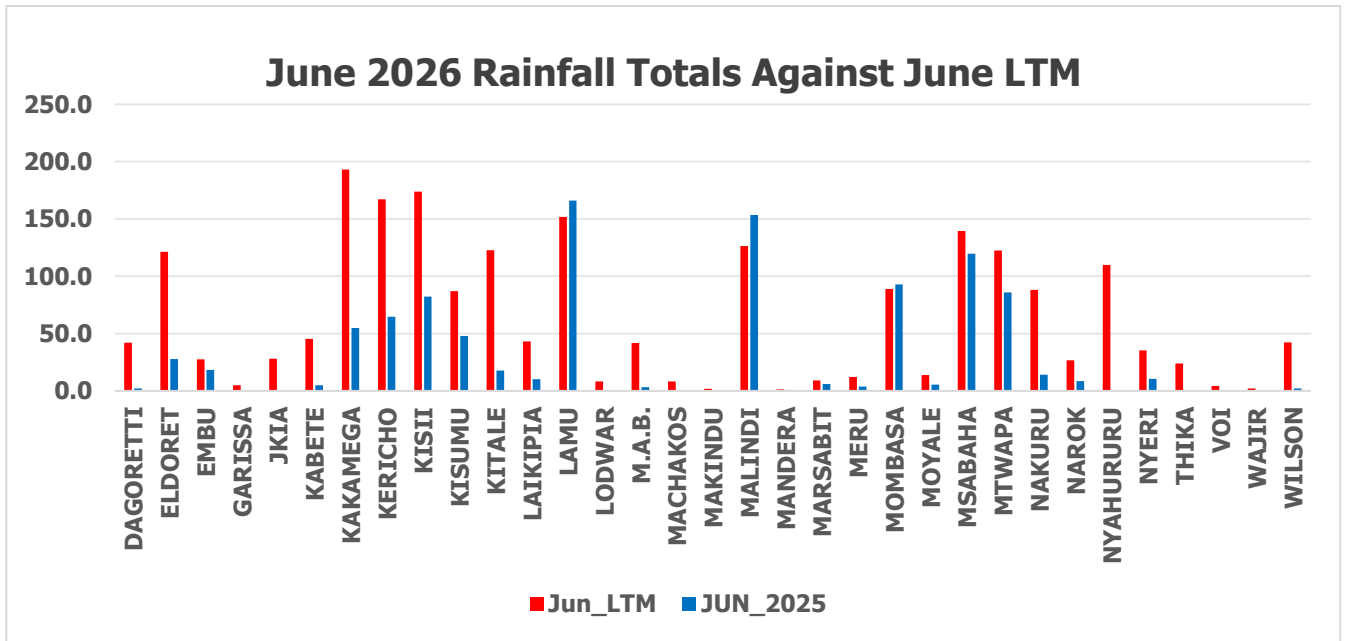


Fig. 3a: June 2026 Rainfall Totals in comparison to June LTM

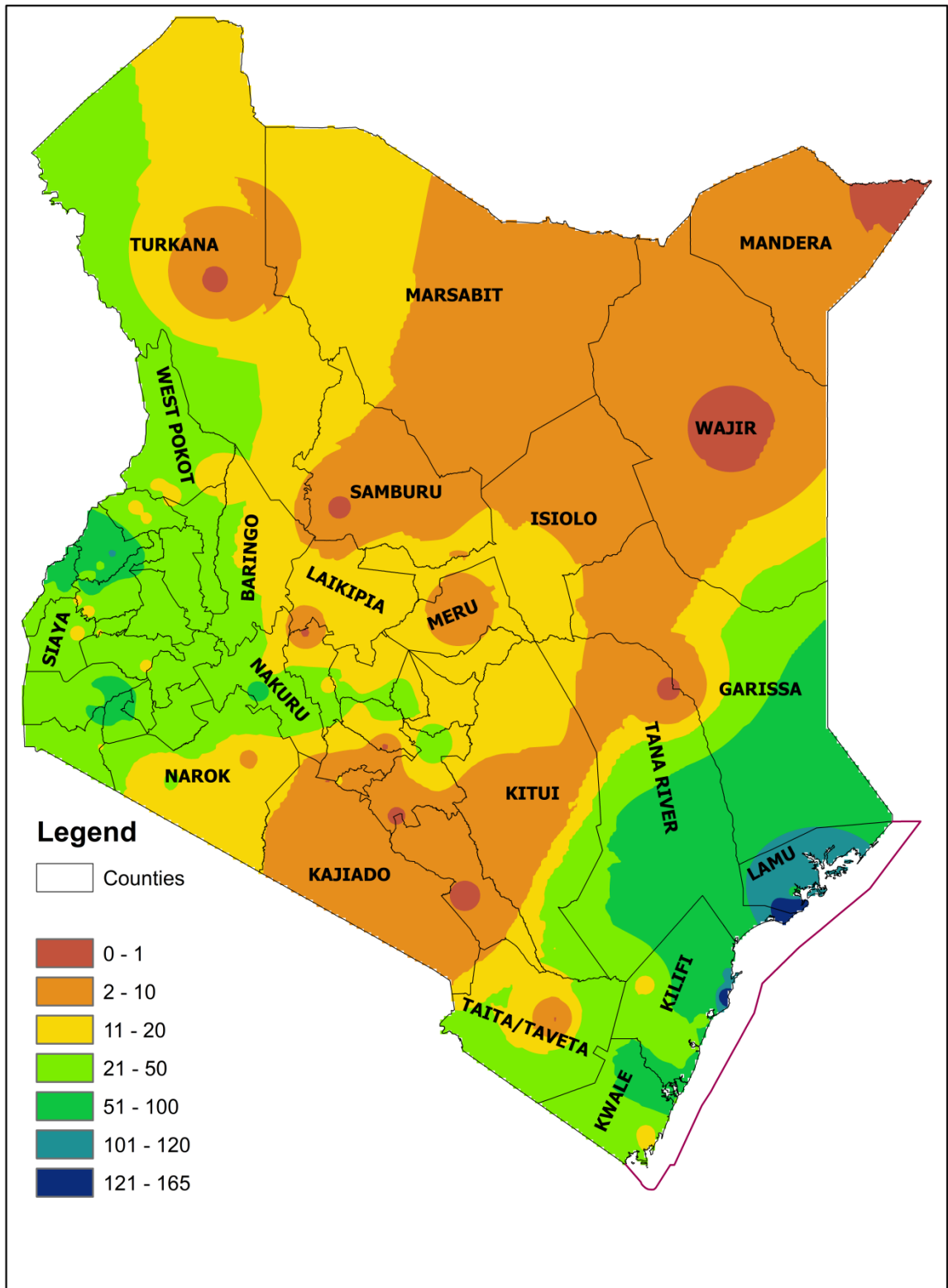


Fig. 3b: June 2026 Rainfall Totals

3.2 Temperature Review for June 2026

Maximum Temperature Review

Several parts of the country recorded warmer-than-average maximum (daytime) temperatures during June 2026 (Figure 4a). Positive temperature anomalies were observed at most stations, with the highest positive anomaly of 3.2°C recorded at Kakamega Meteorological Station, followed by Kitale (2.4°C), Kisii (2.3°C), Nyahururu (1.9°C), Thika (1.9°C) and Nakuru (1.8°C). Only Marsabit Meteorological Station recorded a below-average maximum temperature, with an anomaly of -0.3°C, while JKIA and Wajir recorded temperatures close to their long-term averages. The highest maximum temperature recorded was at Mander Met station on 6th June: 39.1°C.

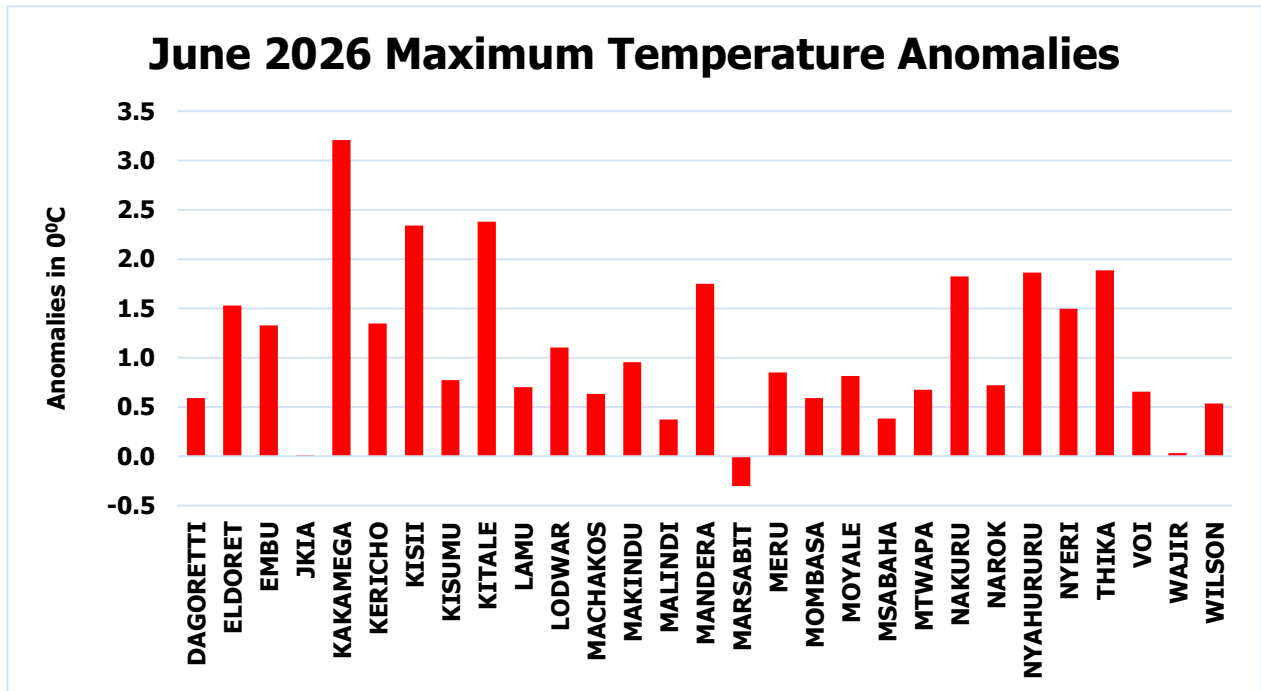


Figure 4a: June Maximum Temperature Anomalies

Minimum Temperature Review

Minimum (nighttime) temperatures were warmer than average across most parts of the country during June 2026 (Figure 4b). The highest positive anomaly of 1.4°C was recorded at Thika Meteorological Station, followed by Kakamega (1.3°C), Machakos (1.2°C), Mombasa (1.2°C) and Lodwar (1.1°C). However, a few stations experienced cooler-than-average nighttime temperatures, with the largest negative anomaly of -1.4°C recorded at Nyahururu Meteorological Station, followed by Kericho (-0.9°C), Kitale (-0.7°C) and Eldoret (-0.3°C). The minimum lowest temperature recorded was at Nyahururu Met station on 16th June: 3.6°C.

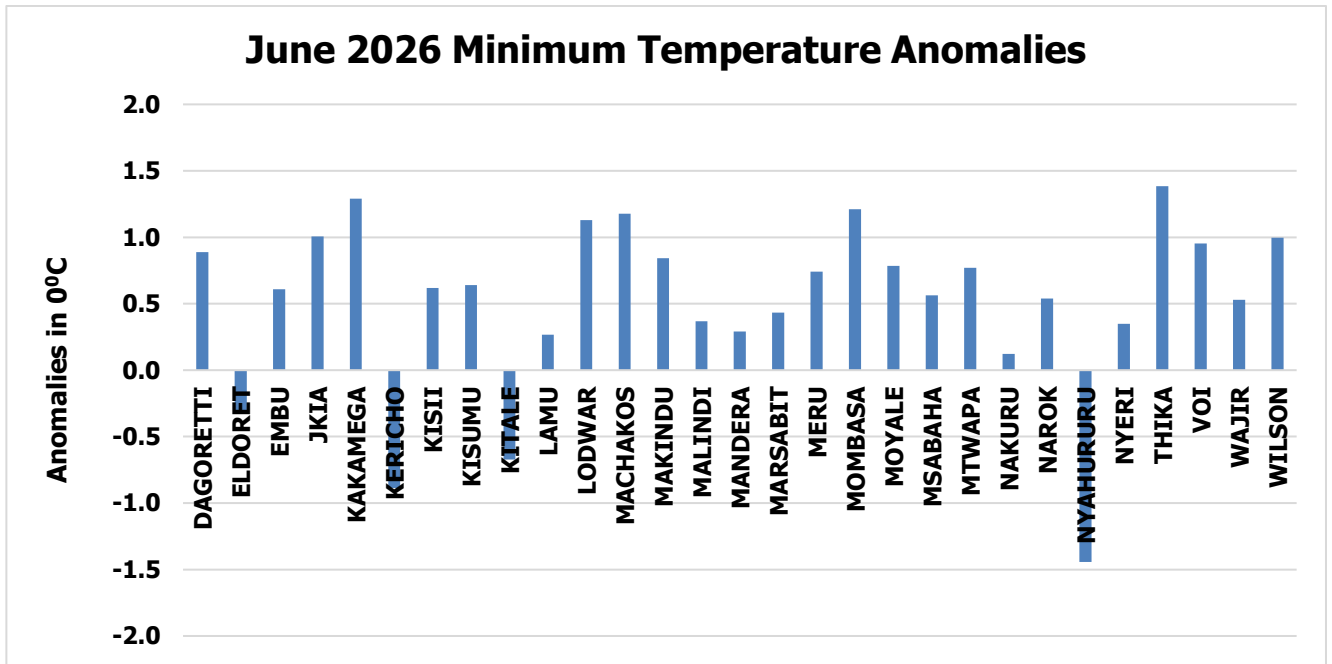


Figure 4b: June 2026 Minimum Temperature Anomalies

NB: This outlook should be used together with the 24-hour, 5-day, 7-day, special forecasts and regular updates/advisories issued by this Department as well as Weekly County forecasts developed and availed by County Meteorological Offices.

Kennedy Thiong'o

For Ag. DIRECTOR GENERAL, KENYA METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE AUTHORITY

APPENDIX I: INTERPRETATION OF TERMS USED

Term	Rainfall Amount (24 hrs.)	Description
Light	< 5 mm	Gentle rain, drizzle.
Moderate	5–20 mm	Steady, noticeable rain.
Heavy	21–50 mm	Intense rain, possible thunder.
Very Heavy	> 50 mm	Prolonged rain, high intensity.

Term	Area Affected	Description
Few places	< 33%	Rain in a small portion of the region.
Several places	33% to 66%	Rain in multiple but not most parts of the region.
Most places	> 66%	Rain in nearly all parts of the region.

Term	Area Affected	Description
Isolated	Less than 25%	Very few areas affected.
Scattered	25–50%	Several, but not most, areas affected.
Numerous	51–70%	Many areas affected.
Widespread	Over 70%	Almost all areas affected.

Term	Time Coverage (%)	Meaning
Occasional	Less than 25%	Happens rarely or a few times.
Intermittent	25% – 50%	Starts and stops, comes and goes.
Frequent	51% – 75%	Occurs regularly.
Very Frequent / Common	More than 75%	Happens almost all the time.

Term	Probability of Occurrence	Description
Possible	10–30%	There is low confidence.
Chance of/ May	31–50%	There is moderate confidence.
Likely	51–75%	The event is more probable than not.
Expected	76–90%	There is high confidence.
Very Likely	91–99%	There is very high confidence. Almost certain.

Certain	100%	The event is guaranteed to occur.
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