REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND FORESTRY

KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT – KISUMU COUNTY

Prosperity House (Former Provincial Headquarters) First Floor, Wing C,
P. O. Box 336-40100 Kisumu, Tel: 0773609702, E-mail: cdmkisumu@meteo.go.ke

Date: 1st September 2026

1. CLIMATE FORECAST OVERVIEW

1.1 September 2026 Forecast

Rainfall Expectations: Kisumu County is forecasted to experience below-average (depressed) rainfall throughout September. Conditions will be predominantly dry with occasional light to moderate localized showers, serving as a transition period toward the short rains.

Thermal Regime: Mean temperatures will be warmer than average. Daytime maximum temperatures will range from 26°C to 34°C, and night minimum temperatures will range from 15°C to 22°C.

Wind Conditions: Intermittent strong southerly to south-easterly winds exceeding 25 knots (13 m/s) are anticipated, particularly across open lake waters and elevated ridgelines.

1.2 October – November 2026 Seasonal Shift

Enhanced Rainfall: A sharp climatological shift is forecasted for October and November 2026, bringing above-average (enhanced) cumulative rainfall across the county.

Severe Weather Hazards: High probability of localized heavy downpours (>50 mm within 24 hours), frequent thunderstorms, and heightened surface runoff risks.

2. SECTOR-SPECIFIC ACTION PLANS

2.1 Agriculture, Food Security and Livestock

Crop Harvest and Storage: Utilize September's dry spell to rapidly harvest, dry, and thresh mature crops. Store grain in hermetic bags or elevated structures to prevent moisture decay ahead of October rains.

Land Preparation: Complete field clearing, soil testing, and contour bund construction in September, and procure certified seeds for early dry planting before October.

Livestock and Pasture: Prepare hay and silage during mid-September to cushion against pasture dips. Complete vaccination drives for Rift Valley Fever (RVF) and Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) before waterlogging occurs.

2.2 Water Resources and Environmental Management

Infrastructure Maintenance: De-silt farm water pans, dams, and county drainage systems during September while water levels remain manageable.

Water Harvesting: Install gutters and rainwater harvesting storage tanks across institutions, commercial buildings, and households to capture maximum October–November runoff.

2.3 Public Health, Sanitation and WASH

Disease Vector Suppression: Conduct indoor residual spraying and bed net distribution to counter accelerated mosquito breeding driven by warmer September temperatures.

Water Source Protection: Pre-position chlorine tablets, water treatment chemicals, and medical buffer stocks in sub-county health facilities to handle potential cholera, typhoid, or dysentery outbreaks.

2.4 Disaster Risk Management and Public Safety

Drainage Clearing: Unclog storm water channels, culverts, and ditches in urban centers (especially Kisumu Central and Muhoroni) to prevent flash flooding in October.

Lightning Protection: Install functional lightning arresters on schools, health facilities, and public structures in elevated zones like Nyakach and Seme.

Evacuation Logistics: Map out non-school evacuation sites and pre-position emergency relief supplies in flood-prone lowlands (Nyando Kano Plains, Kadibo) during September.

2.5 Marine Operations and Lake Victoria Safety

Navigational Warnings: Adhere strictly to Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA) advisories regarding strong September winds and severe October/November thunderstorms. Enforce mandatory life jacket usage and restrict night travel.

Shoreline Protection: Beach Management Units (BMUs) must reinforce landing piers and secure boats against rising lake levels and sudden squalls.

3. STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION CONCLUSION

September 2026 acts as a critical preparation window for Kisumu County. Stakeholders must leverage the dry weather to finalize harvesting, clear critical infrastructure, and set up rainwater harvesting systems. Proactive measures implemented in September are essential to mitigate risks associated with the heavy rainfall, localized flooding, and severe weather expected in October and November 2026. All technical teams, disaster management committees, and sector leads are urged to align their operational plans with these advisories immediately.

NB: *This advisory should be utilized in conjunction with daily 24-hour forecasts, 5-day weekly weather bulletins issued by the Kenya Meteorological Service and the Office of the Kisumu County Director of Meteorological Services.*

KEY

Rainfall Categories	Rainfall amounts
Light rain	<5 mm
Moderate rain	5-20 mm
Heavy rain	20-50 mm
Very heavy rain	>50 mm

Rainfall symbols	Rainfall Distribution	Aerial coverage
	Few places	Less than 33%
	Many places	33% -67%
	Most places	More than 67%

For further information, please contact:

OIC Kisumu International Airport/County Director of Meteorology
Francis M Wakachala.
Mobile: 0721 547074
Email: wakachala@gmail.com

More information about the climate and weather in Kenya is on the KMD website
http://www.meteo.go.ke/