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KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

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REF.NO: MET/27/8/ (8)

Date: 3RD September 2026

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR SEPTEMBER 2026



Highlights

September 2026 is expected to be generally sunny and dry over most parts of Kenya, with below-average rainfall likely over several counties in Western Kenya, Nyanza and the Rift Valley, while near-average rainfall is expected over parts of the Coast and northeastern Kenya. Occasional rainfall is expected over the Central Highlands, Eastern Kenya and parts of the southeastern lowlands. Mean temperatures are expected to be warmer than average across the country, particularly over the ASALs, increasing evapotranspiration, crop water requirements and livestock water demand. The dry conditions are likely to favor harvesting and post-harvest activities in areas where crops are mature, but may also lead to declining soil moisture, pasture and water availability. Farmers are advised to harvest mature crops during dry intervals, conserve soil moisture and fodder, provide adequate livestock water and feed, and prepare farms for the anticipated improvement in rainfall from October.

Expected Weather conditions for September 2026.

September is expected to be predominantly sunny and dry across much of the country. Below-average rainfall is likely over Trans Nzoia, Bungoma, Busia, Kakamega, Siaya, Vihiga, Nandi, Uasin-Gishu, Elgeyo-Marakwet, West Pokot, Kisumu, Kericho, Nyamira, Kisii, Bomet, Migori, Homa Bay, Baringo and parts of Narok, Nakuru and Turkana.

Near-average rainfall is expected over Lamu, Kilifi, Mombasa, Kwale and parts of Tana River, Mandera, Wajir and Garissa. Generally sunny and dry conditions with occasional rainfall are expected over Nairobi, Kiambu, Murang'a, Nyeri, Embu, Meru, Tharaka-Nithi, Kirinyaga, Nyandarua, Laikipia, Makueni, Kitui, Machakos, Taita-Taveta, Kajiado, Marsabit and most parts of Wajir, Mandera, Garissa, Narok, Nakuru and Tana River. Mainly sunny and dry conditions are expected over Isiolo, Turkana and Samburu.

Mean air temperatures are expected to be warmer than average throughout the country, with the highest temperatures particularly expected over Garissa, Wajir, Mandera, Isiolo, Turkana and Samburu. Maximum temperatures may reach 39°C over parts of the northeastern region and 38°C over Turkana and Samburu **figure 1**.

Strong southerly to south-easterly/easterly winds exceeding 25 knots are expected intermittently during the first half of September over parts of Northern, Eastern and Coastal Kenya

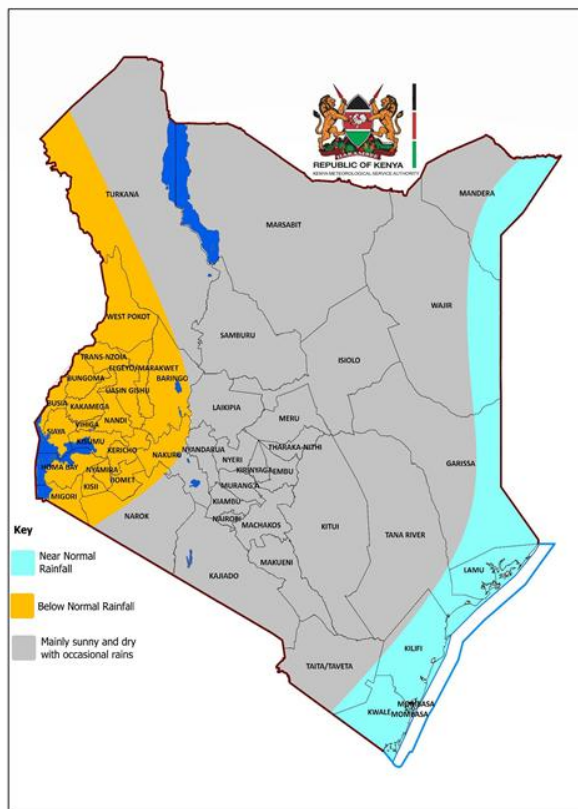


Figure 1: Rainfall forecast for september 2026

1.0 General Advisory for Farmers

Farmers should take advantage of dry weather to harvest mature crops and undertake timely drying and safe storage to minimize post-harvest losses. In areas where crops remain in the field, farmers should conserve soil moisture through mulching and other appropriate practices and irrigate where possible. Farmers should monitor crops for pests and diseases, particularly in areas receiving occasional rainfall. Livestock keepers should conserve pasture and fodder, provide adequate water and supplementary feed where necessary, and avoid overstocking. Farmers are also encouraged to prepare land, acquire suitable farm inputs and maintain drainage infrastructure in readiness for the anticipated improvement in rainfall from October

COUNTY WEATHER OUTLOOK AND ADVISORIES

COUNTY	Forecast weather	Expected Crop and Livestock condition	Advisories
Mombasa, Kwale, Kilifi, Tana River and Lamu	Near-average rainfall with occasional rainfall, particularly along the coastal strip. Warm conditions expected.	Rainfall will support crop growth and maintain pasture in some areas, although high temperatures may increase water demand.	Harvest mature crops during dry intervals, conserve soil moisture, maintain drainage and provide adequate livestock water.
Taita Taveta	Generally sunny and dry with occasional rainfall.	Soil moisture is likely to decline, affecting crop growth and pasture regeneration.	Conserve soil moisture, irrigate where possible, conserve fodder and provide adequate livestock water..
Garissa Wajir Mandera	Mainly sunny and dry, with near-average rainfall in some areas. Warmer-than-average temperatures expected.	Increasing crop moisture stress and declining pasture and water resources are expected.	Conserve pasture and water, provide supplementary feed, avoid overstocking and harvest rainwater where possible.
Marsabit Isiolo	Mostly sunny and dry with occasional rainfall in some areas..	Poor pasture regeneration and declining water availability are likely.	Practice rotational grazing, conserve pasture, provide supplementary feed and adequate drinking water.

Meru Tharaka- Nithi Embu	Sunny and dry conditions with occasional rainfall..	Soil moisture may support crops where rainfall occurs, although moisture decline is possible during prolonged dry spells..	Continue routine crop husbandry, conserve soil moisture and monitor crops for moisture stress and pests.
Kitui Machakos Makueni Kajiado	Generally sunny and dry with occasional rainfall.	Declining soil moisture and reduced pasture availability are expected.	Conserve soil moisture, irrigate high-value crops where possible, harvest water and provide supplementary livestock feed and water.
Nyandarua Nyeri Murang'a	Cool, cloudy conditions with intermittent light rainfall and drizzle are expected during the month.	Adequate soil moisture will support crop growth, although cool conditions may delay drying of harvested produce.	Continue weeding and fertilizer application, monitor fungal diseases, maintain proper drainage and dry harvested produce properly before storage.
Kirinyaga, Kiambu and Nairobi	Sunny and dry conditions with occasional rainfall.	Crop moisture conditions may gradually decline, particularly during prolonged dry periods.	Conserve soil moisture, undertake timely farm operations and prepare farms for the October rains.
Turkana, West Pokot, Samburu, Elgeyo Marakwet, Baringo and Laikipia	Generally sunny and dry, with below-average rainfall in several areas.	Reduced pasture and browse availability are expected, together with increased livestock water demand and heat stress.	Practice rotational grazing, conserve pasture, provide supplementary feed and adequate drinking water.
Trans Nzoia, Uasin Gishu, Nandi, Nakuru Narok, Kericho and Bomet	Near-average to below-average rainfall with occasional rainfall in some areas.	Dry conditions may favor harvesting, while declining soil moisture may affect late-season crops.	Harvest mature crops promptly, conserve soil moisture and monitor crops for pests and diseases.

Kakamega, Vihiga, Bungoma, Busia, Siaya, Kisumu, Homa Bay, Migori, Kisii and Nyamira	Below-average rainfall with occasional rainfall.	Soil moisture may gradually decline, affecting late- season crops, while mature crops will be suitable for harvesting during dry intervals.	Harvest mature crops promptly, conserve soil moisture, monitor pests and diseases and prepare for the October rains.
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2.0 AGRICULTURAL IMPLICATIONS AND ADVISORIES

2.1 Crop Production and Harvesting

The expected dry conditions will generally provide favorable opportunities for harvesting and post-harvest handling of mature crops, particularly in Western Kenya, Nyanza and parts of the Rift Valley where below-average rainfall is anticipated. Farmers should harvest mature crops promptly during dry periods, thoroughly dry produce before storage and protect harvested produce from occasional rainfall.

Farmers with crops still in the field should prioritize soil-moisture conservation through mulching, minimum soil disturbance and appropriate weed management. Irrigation should be considered where water is available, especially for high-value crops and areas experiencing moisture stress.

2.2 Livestock

Dry and warmer-than-average conditions are likely to increase livestock water requirements, particularly in the ASAL counties. Reduced pasture and browse availability may also affect livestock productivity. Farmers should conserve available pasture and fodder, practice rotational grazing, provide supplementary feeds and ensure adequate drinking water.

2.3 Pests and Diseases

Farmers should regularly scout crops for pests and diseases. Occasional rainfall in some areas may create favorable conditions for fungal diseases, while warm and dry conditions may increase pest pressure in moisture-stressed crops. Timely control measures should be undertaken in consultation with agricultural extension officers.

2.4 Preparation for October Rains

September marks the transition towards the October-November-December rainfall season. Farmers should use the month to prepare land, repair water-harvesting structures, clear drainage channels,

acquire certified seed and other farm inputs, and plan planting activities. The September-October-November outlook indicates a likelihood of widespread rainfall from October, including above-average rainfall in several areas.

SUMMARY REVIEW FOR AUGUST 2026

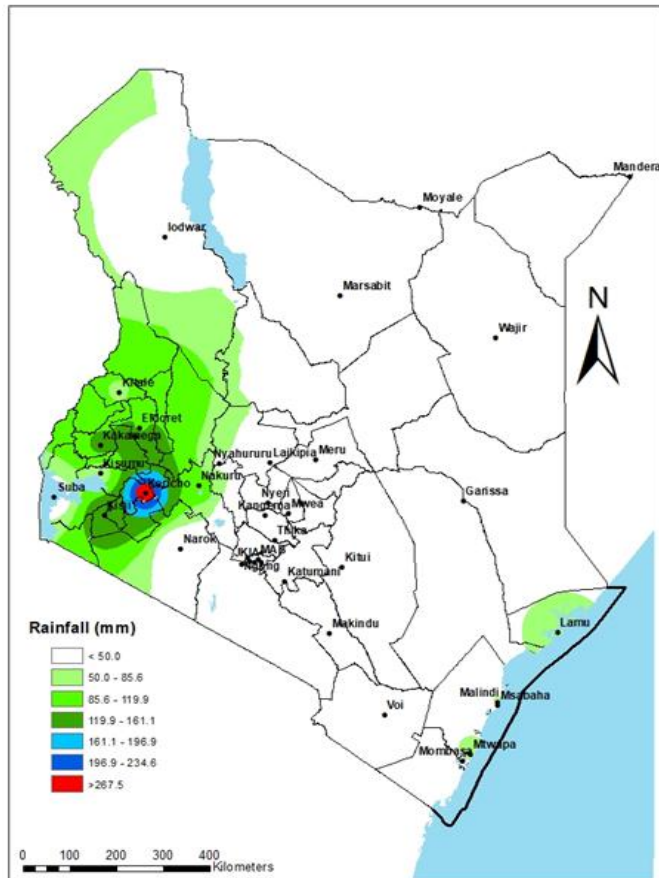
August 2026 was mainly characterized by sunny and dry weather conditions across much of Kenya. Kericho recorded the highest monthly rainfall total of 267.9 mm, while Lodwar, Marsabit, Garissa, Wajir, Mandera, Machakos, Makueni, Voi, Wilson and JKIA recorded no rainfall. Kericho, Nakuru and Lamu recorded rainfall amounts that surpassed their August long-term means, while several stations including Kakamega, Kitale, Kisii, Eldoret and Nyahururu recorded below-average rainfall.

2.0 WEATHER AND SOIL CONDITION ASSESMENT DURING THE MONTH AUGUST 2026

2.1.0 Rainfall

Rainfall during August 2026 was unevenly distributed across the country. The highest rainfall totals were recorded over parts of the Rift Valley, Western Kenya and the Lake Victoria Basin, with Kericho recording the highest monthly total of 268.1 mm, followed by Kisii (160.4 mm), Eldoret Airport (145.0 mm), Kakamega (128.1 mm) and Nakuru (119.1 mm). Other notable rainfall totals were recorded at Kitale (79.4 mm), Kisumu (62.8 mm), Lamu (63.2 mm), Malindi (59.8 mm) and Mtwapa (59.3 mm).

In contrast, rainfall remained very low over much of the Eastern, Northern and parts of the Central regions. Lodwar, Marsabit, Garissa and Wajir recorded virtually no rainfall, while Katumani received 1.0 mm, Makindu 1.1 mm, Meru 1.6 mm, Thika 3.4 mm, Kitui 3.9 mm and Mwea 4.5 mm. Compared to the August Long-Term Mean (LTM), rainfall was below normal at most stations, although above-normal rainfall was recorded at stations such as Kericho, Nakuru, Moyale, Lamu and Eldoret Airport **Figure 2**.



2.2.0 Mean air temperature

Mean air temperatures during August 2026 remained generally warm, with considerable spatial variation across the country. The highest monthly mean temperatures were recorded in Lodwar (30.9°C), Mandera (30.4°C), Garissa (28.4°C), Wajir (28.2°C), Lamu (27.4°C) and Malindi (26.4°C). The coolest conditions were observed at Nyahururu (15.0°C), Eldoret (17.7°C), Kangema (17.7°C), Kericho (18.2°C), Nyeri (18.0°C) and Narok (17.9°C).

Compared with July, temperatures generally showed modest changes, with warming observed at several stations including Kisumu, Kisii, Meru, Embu, Moyale, Mandera, Wajir and Garissa. The persistent warm conditions over the ASAL areas increased evapotranspiration and livestock water demand, while the relatively cool conditions over the highlands reduced moisture loss **Figure 3 and 4.**

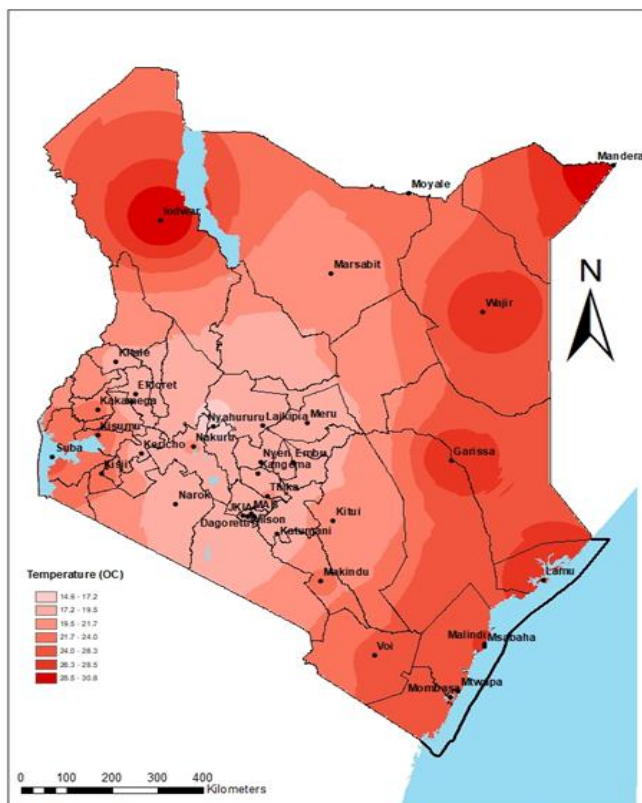


Figure : Observed mean air temperature for August 2026

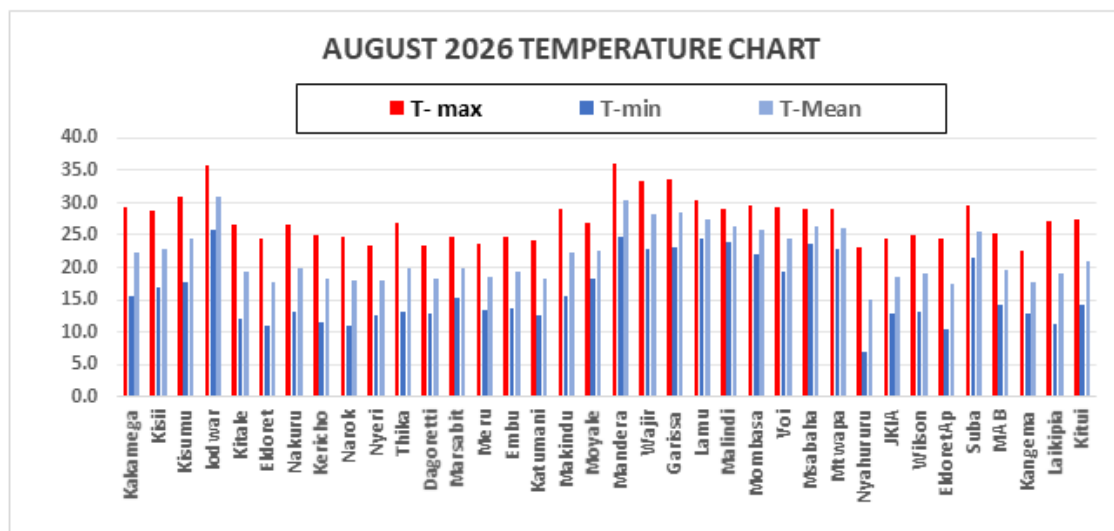


Figure 4: Observed temperatures for August 2026

2.1.1 Soil Moisture

The distribution of rainfall during August resulted in contrasting soil moisture conditions across the country. Adequate to improved soil moisture conditions were maintained in areas that received substantial rainfall, particularly Kericho, Kisii, Kakamega, Eldoret and Nakuru, supporting crop development, pasture regeneration and livestock production.

Conversely, persistent dry conditions over the Eastern, Northern and parts of the Central regions resulted in declining soil moisture reserves. The situation was particularly pronounced in Lodwar, Marsabit, Wajir, Garissa, Mandera, Katumani and Makindu, where limited rainfall combined with relatively high temperatures increased moisture stress and reduced pasture availability. The conditions also increased livestock water requirements in the ASAL areas.

3.0 REGIONAL WEATHER AND CROP REVIEW FOR AUGUST 2026

3.1 Western and Nyanza Region

The region generally received moderate to high rainfall, with Kisii (160.4 mm), Kakamega (128.1 mm) and Kisumu (62.8 mm) recording substantial rainfall. Soil moisture conditions remained favorable in most areas, supporting crop development and pasture regeneration. Maize was mainly at maturity and harvesting stages, although continued rainfall in some locations may have slowed harvesting and drying of produce.

3.2 Rift Valley Region

Rainfall varied considerably across the region. Kericho recorded 268.1 mm, Eldoret 114.8 mm, Eldoret Airport 145.0 mm, Nakuru 119.1 mm and Kitale 79.4 mm. The rainfall generally maintained favorable soil moisture conditions and supported crop development. However, excessive rainfall in some areas, particularly Kericho, may have increased the risk of waterlogging and fungal diseases. Maize and other crops were mainly at maturity and harvesting stages.

3.3 Central and Nairobi Region

Rainfall was generally low and unevenly distributed. Nyahururu recorded 44.4 mm, Kangema 32.2 mm, Dagoretti 10.8 mm, Kabete 12.3 mm, Nyeri 16.2 mm and Thika 3.4 mm. The limited rainfall resulted in declining soil moisture in several locations, although localized rainfall provided temporary improvement. Maize and other crops were mainly at maturity and harvesting stages, with dry conditions generally favoring harvesting and post-harvest activities.

3.4 Eastern Region

The Eastern region remained predominantly dry, with Meru recording 1.6 mm, Katumani 1.0 mm, Makindu 1.1 mm, Embu 17.1 mm, Kitui 3.9 mm and Mwea 4.5 mm. The dry conditions favored harvesting and drying of mature crops but resulted in declining soil moisture, particularly in late-planted rain-fed crops. Pasture availability also remained limited in the drier areas.

3.5 Coastal Region

Rainfall was variable across the Coastal region, with Lamu recording 63.2 mm, Malindi 59.8 mm, Mtwapa 59.3 mm, Msabaha 30.1 mm and Mombasa 42.3 mm. The rainfall provided localized improvement in soil moisture and supported crop and pasture conditions. However, warm and humid conditions increased evapotranspiration and may have favored fungal diseases in areas receiving persistent rainfall.

3.6 North Eastern Region

The North Eastern region remained predominantly dry. Wajir and Garissa recorded no rainfall, while Mandera received only 0.01 mm. High mean temperatures of about **28–30°C** resulted in continued high evapotranspiration, severe soil moisture deficits and increased livestock water demand. Pasture and browse availability remained poor, increasing pressure on livestock and water resources.



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