NAIROBI COUNTY OCTOBER–NOVEMBER–DECEMBER (OND) 2026 RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK

FORECAST ISSUED ON: 14 SEPTEMBER 2026

1. Summary of the rainfall Outlook

Nairobi County is projected to experience higher rainfall compared to its 30-year historical baseline during the upcoming October-November-December (OND) "short rains" season. Moderate to heavy rainfall events, that may lead to flash floods, are possible throughout the season especially during the 3rd week of October and 2nd week of December 2026.

Every sub-county across Nairobi is projected to receive above-normal rainfall during this period, with some areas facing particularly high volumes. Specifically, regions within Westlands, Dagoretti South, Dagoretti North, and Kibra are expected to see cumulative rainfall totals exceeding 550mm.

Onset of the rains; The rains are expected to start between the 2nd week to the 3rd week of October 2026 (8th – 21st October 2026).

Distribution; The spatial and temporal distribution of the rainfall is expected to be fair to good. The peak of rainfall is expected during the month of November. Increased likelihood of widespread rainfall which may lead to loss of lives, damage to infrastructure and property.

Cessation of rains; The seasonal rains are expected to continue to January 2027.

Figure 1 below shows the amount of rainfall in millimetres (mm) that is likely to fall in different parts of Nairobi County during the coming rainy season.

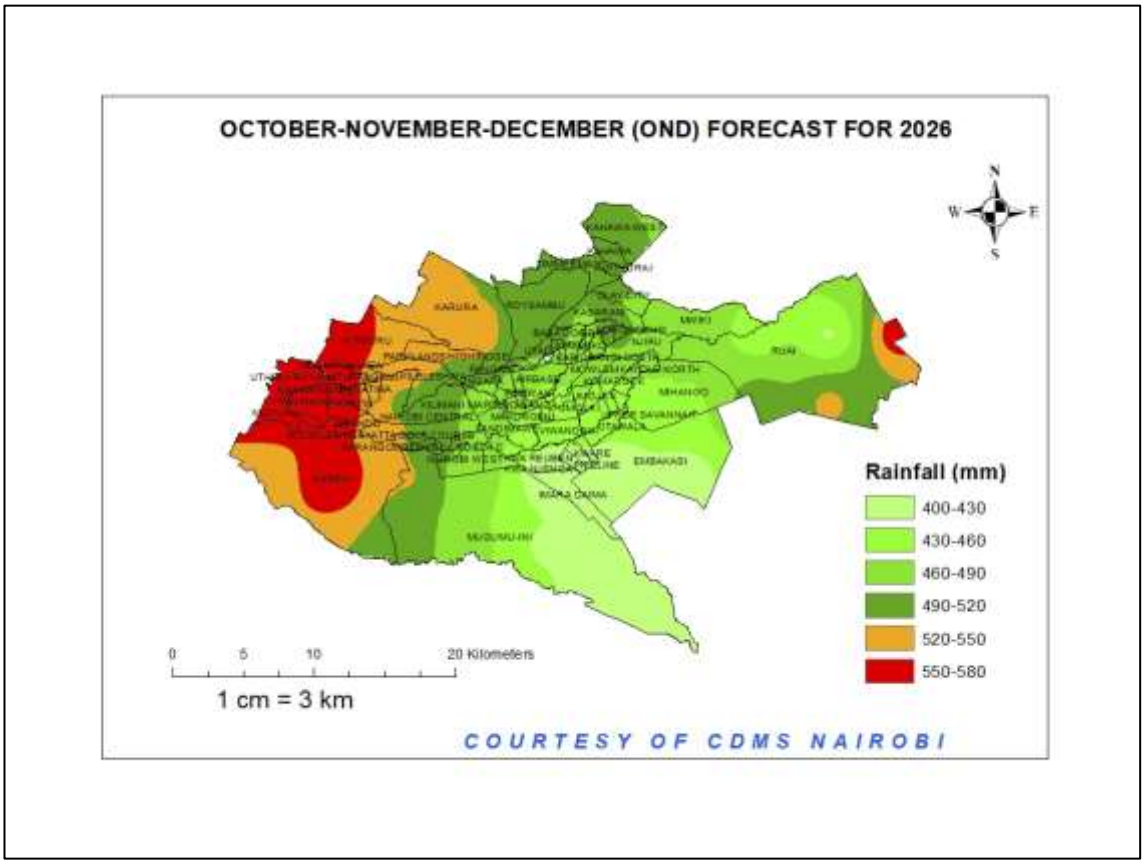


Figure 1: Expected rainfall during OND 2026 in Nairobi County

Figure 2 below shows the climatological zones (Zone 1 & 2) of the county while **figure 3** shows the normal rainfall during OND season for the county. (Normal rainfall means the average amount received in October, November and December over the last 30 years.)

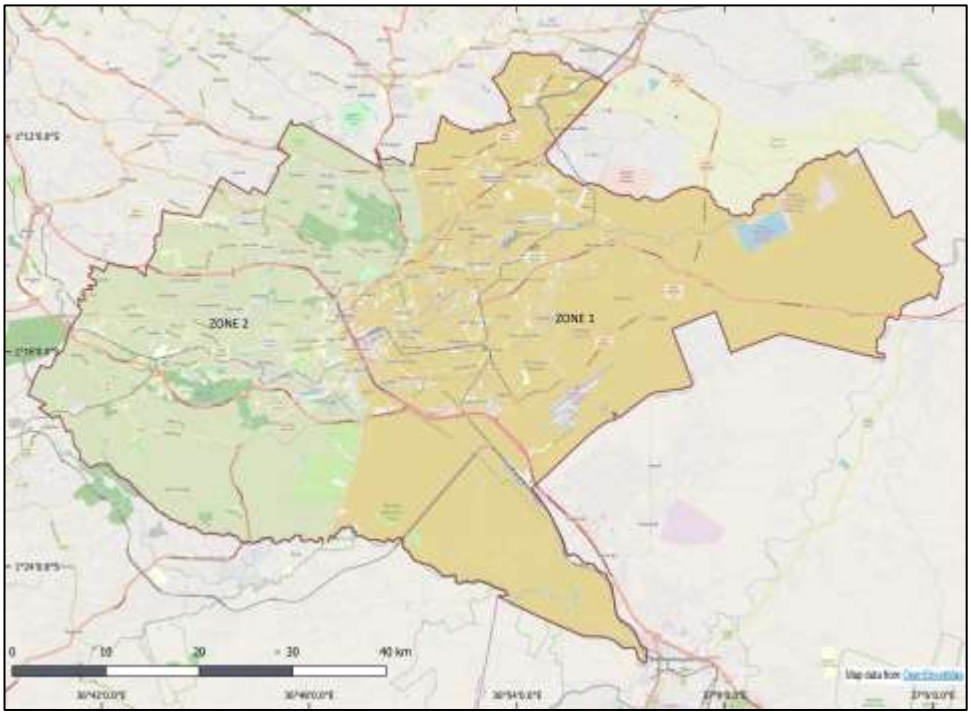


Figure 2: Nairobi County climatological Zones

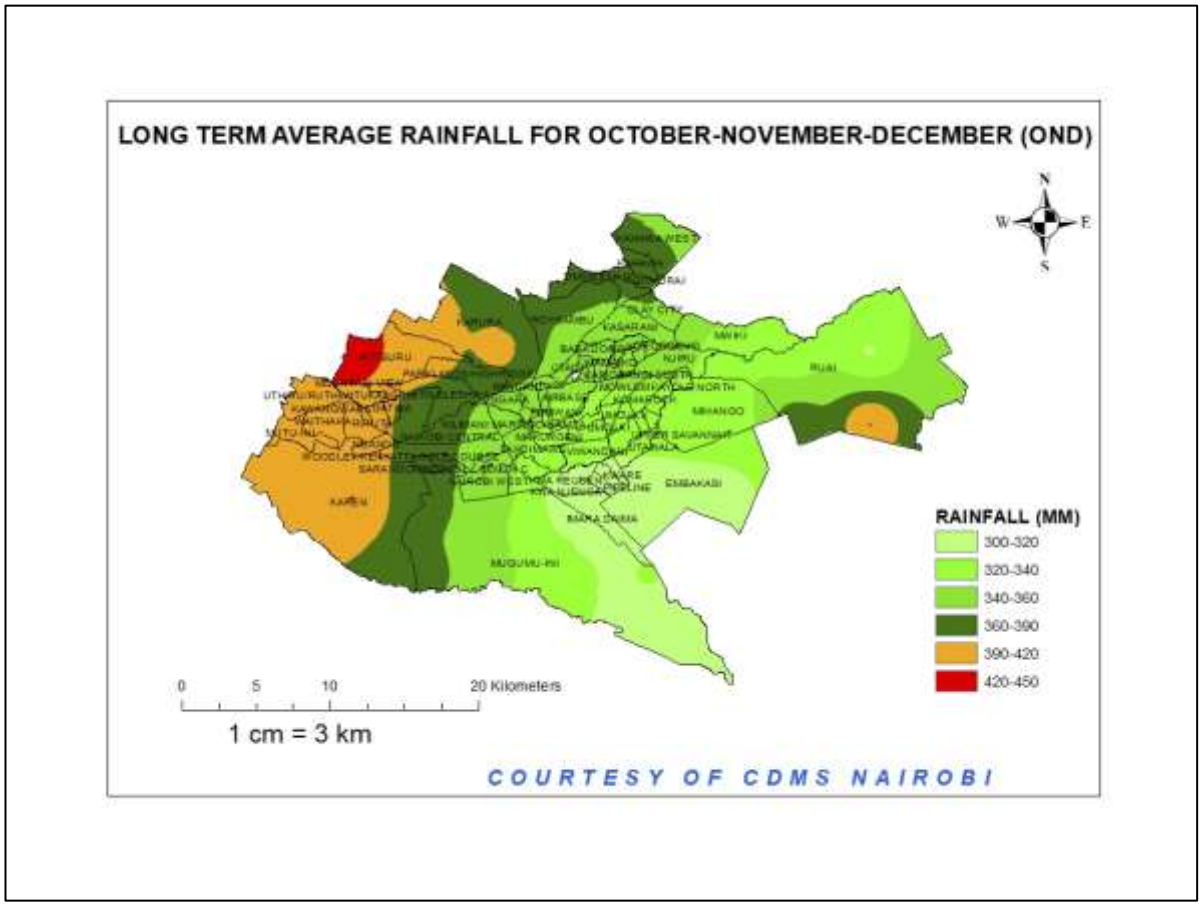


Figure 3: Nairobi County Normal MAM Rainfall

What the Weather Outlook Means to the Community

Rainfall and Associated Hazards

Most parts of Nairobi County are likely to experience **above-normal rainfall**.

Positive Impact

- The rainfall is beneficial in replenishing water reserves such as Ndakaini Dam thus improving water availability.

Negative Impacts

- Moderate to heavy rainfall may be recorded in some days; this may result to flash floods and river overflows due to overwhelmed and blocked drainage systems.
- Informal settlements such as Kibera, Mathare, Mukuru, Baba Dogo and Korogocho are vulnerable with increased risk of displacement because of river overflows.
- Transport disruptions due to flooded roads, poor visibility and traffic snarl-ups.
- Poor visibility and delays/diversions at airports.
- Infrastructure damage (destruction of roads, collapse of buildings, destruction of sewage system and water pipes, disconnection of power supply and communication services)
- Public health risks from waterborne and vector-borne diseases

- Interruptions to education and business operations thus impacting the economy
- Flash floods may lead to loss of lives, destruction of property, crop losses and consequent disruption of economic activities.
- Disruptions to transport and trade (impassable roads) could disrupt food supply chains leading to inflationary pressure and drastic fare hikes.

Influence of Tropical Cyclones

Tropical cyclones may form over the Indian Ocean during this rainy season. Depending on their location and movement, these cyclones may either enhance rainfall over Nairobi County or cause dry spells by diverting rainfall away.

The path of cyclones and their probable impact upon the weather in Kenya can only be predicted a few days in advance. Follow up regular daily and weekly forecasts issued by the Department.

Temperature Outlook

Temperatures are expected to be warmer than usual during the OND 2026 season in Nairobi County. Warmer temperatures may cause discomfort to people and animals.

Advice from the County Director of Meteorology

- Avoid flooded areas and evacuate when instructed
- Never drive through flooded areas. Just 0.3 metres of fast-moving water can carry away most cars, while 0.6 metres of rushing water can sweep away trucks. Turn around and find a safer route.
- Maintain proper drainage around homes
- Ensure safe drinking water
- Follow up regular updates issued by the Kenya Meteorological Service Authority (KMSA)

Advisories

County departments and sectors are encouraged to develop sector-specific advisories based on this outlook to enhance resilience and climate-informed decision-making.

All Climate information stakeholders are encouraged to share practical, timely advice to protect lives and livelihoods.

N.B: This forecast should be used in conjunction with the regular updates (daily, 5-day, weekly and monthly forecasts and advisories) issued by this Department.

Further Information and Contacts
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