



MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Department of Climate Change and
Meteorological Services

2026/2027 DOWNSCALED SEASONAL FORECAST

NKHATA BAY

DISTRICT



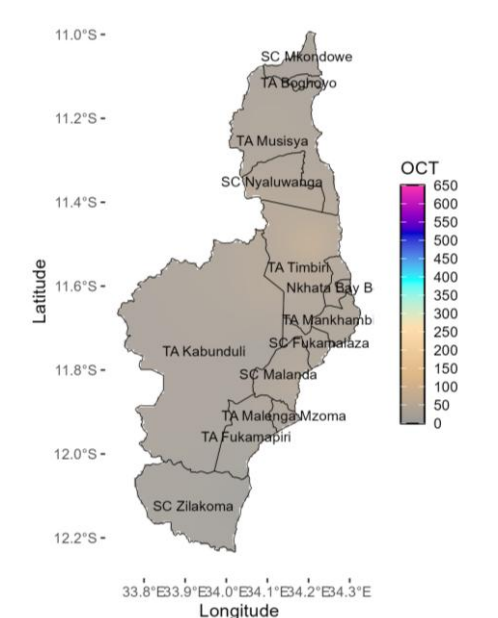
Overview

The 2026-2027 rainfall season is expected to be influenced by a strong El Niño. El Niño is the unusual warming of waters over the central-eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean which affects global rainfall patterns.

Nkhata Bay district is expected to receive generally **normal to above normal rainfall amounts** during the season in many areas.

October 2026

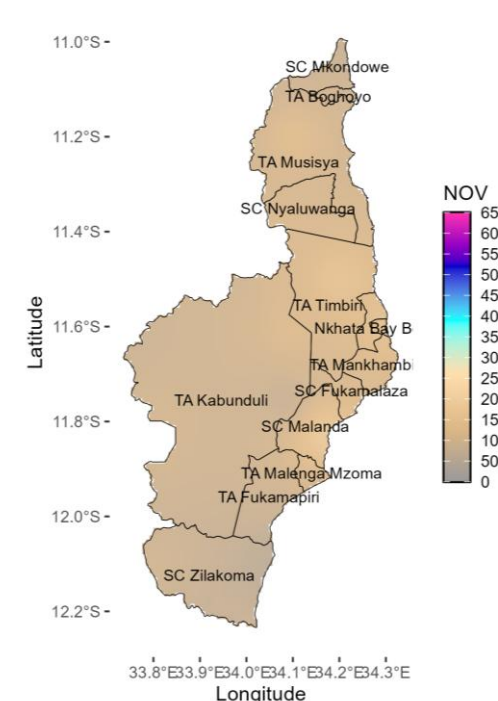
OCTOBER 2026 RAINFALL FORECAST



During October, most parts of Nkhata Bay District are likely to experience predominantly dry conditions. However, isolated areas may receive Chizimalupsa rains, accompanied by strong gusty winds and thunderstorms. Most areas are expected to receive less than 50mm of rainfall.

November 2026

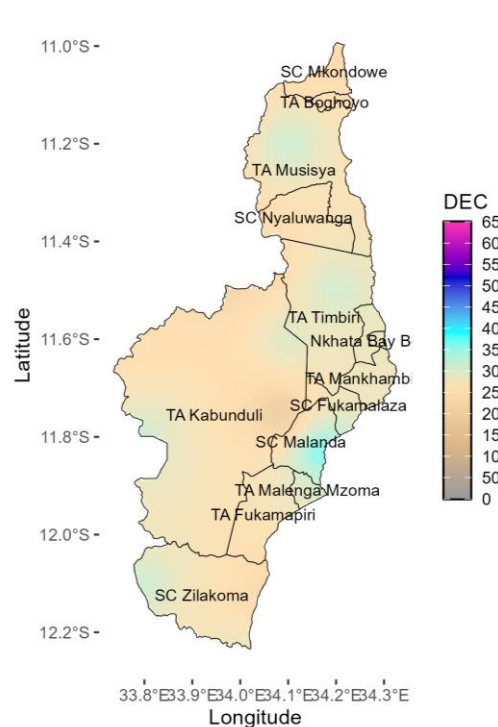
NOVEMBER 2026 RAINFALL FORECAST



In Nkhata Bay, most areas are likely to receive rainfall amounts between 100–150 mm during November. These rains are expected to be associated with thunderstorms and strong gusty winds. The onset of the main rainfall season is expected between the third and fourth week of November 2026.

December 2026

DECEMBER 2026 RAINFALL FORECAST

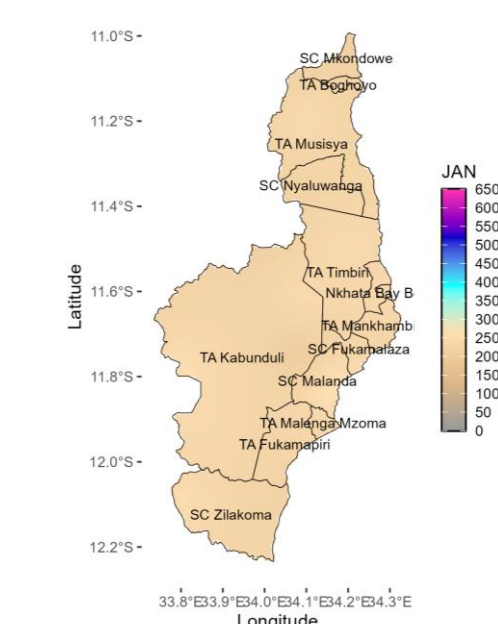


During the month, Nkhata Bay District is expected to experience normal to above-normal rainfall amounts of about 300mm–350 mm.

Some areas, such as SC Malanda, may receive rainfall amounts of up to 400mm.

January 2027

JANUARY 2027 RAINFALL FORECAST

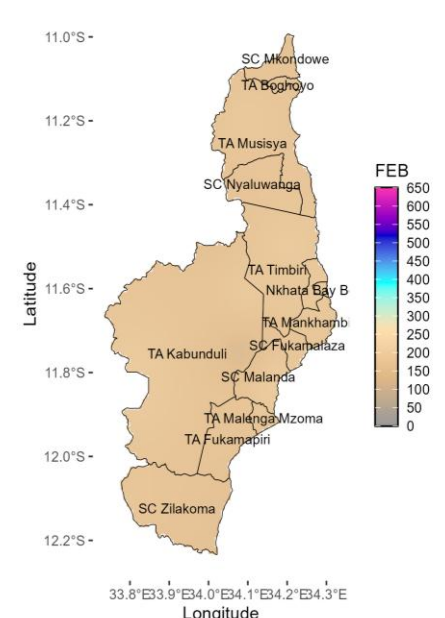


The district is expected to receive normal to below-normal rainfall, with most areas receiving a range of between 200mm–250 mm.

There is a high likelihood of dry spells lasting more than one week.

February 2027

FEBRUARY 2027 RAINFALL FORECAST

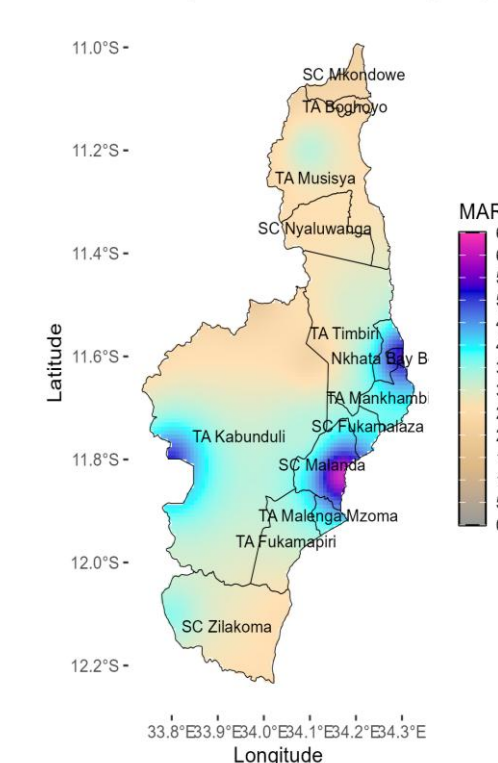


In February, the district is expected to receive normal to above-normal rainfall, with amounts of about 200 mm.

There is a high likelihood of dry spells lasting up to two weeks.

March 2027

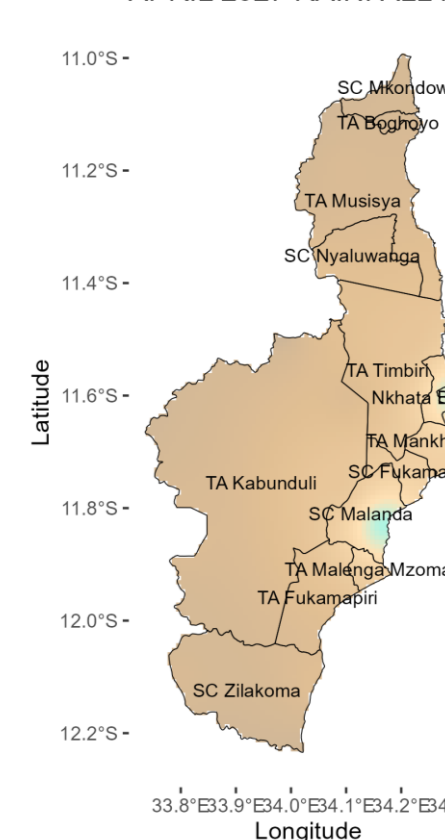
MARCH 2027 RAINFALL FORECAST



Most areas of the district are expected to receive 250–300 mm of rainfall, although these amounts are within the normal to below-normal rainfall category. However, areas around the Boma, SC Malanda and T/A Kabunduli are expected to receive higher rainfall amounts of about 450–500mm, increasing the risk of flooding, particularly in low-lying areas.

April 2027

APRIL 2027 RAINFALL FORECAST



Most areas in the district are expected to receive normal to above normal rainfall of about 200mm.

Some areas around the Boma and SC Malanda will likely receive around 300mm-350mm. Cessation is expected from third to fourth week of the month.

SEASON IN SUMMARY

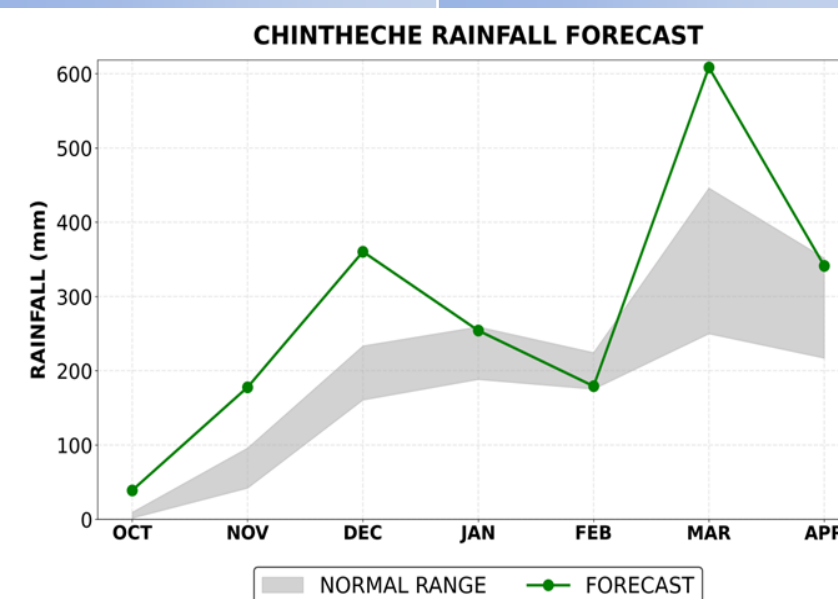
Rainfall Onset
Onset is expected between the third and fourth weeks of November

Dry Spells
About a week in January and about two weeks in February.

Seasonal Length
The length of the rainfall season is expected to be around 140 to 150 days.

Cessation
Cessation Rainfall cessation is expected between the third and fourth weeks of April 2027.

MONTH	NORMAL RANGE	FORECAST
OCT	1.5	9.5
NOV	41.9	96
DEC	160.6	233.5
JAN	188.2	259.1
FEB	175.2	224.5
MAR	249.8	446.1
APR	217	351.8



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