



MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Department of Climate Change and
Meteorological Services

2026/2027 DOWNSCALED SEASONAL FORECAST

NKHOTAKOTA

DISTRICT

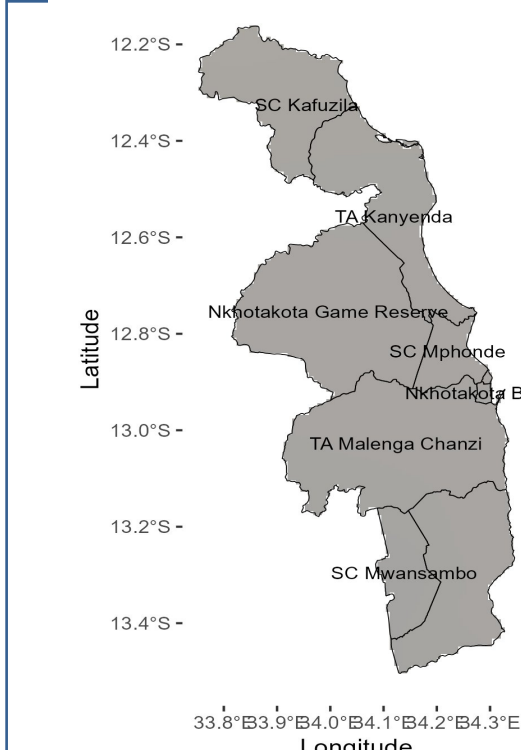


Overview

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.

Nkhhotakota district is expected to receive generally **normal to above normal** rainfall amounts during 2026-2027 rainfall season.

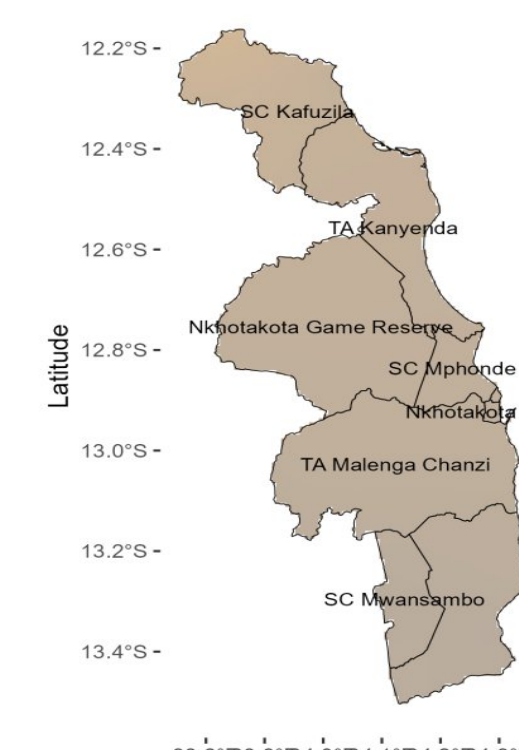
October 2026



During this month, most areas in this district are likely to receive 50mm of rainfall which is normal to above normal.

These *Chizimalupsa* rains will likely be associated with strong gusty winds and thunderstorms.

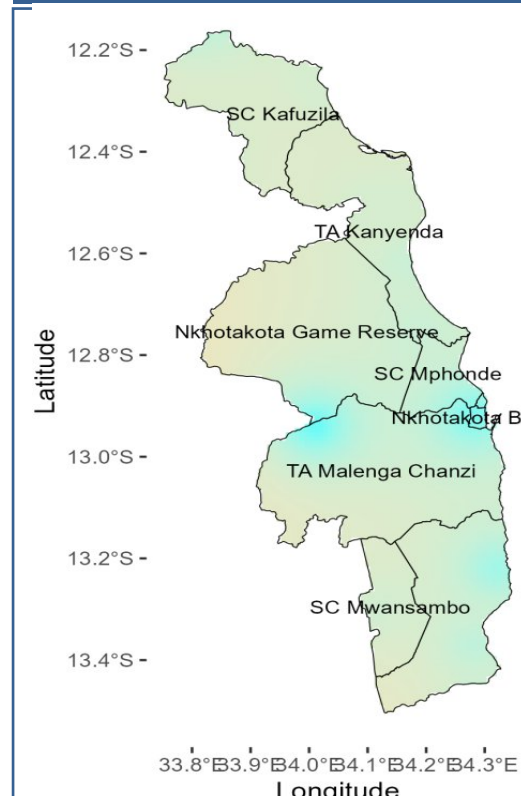
November 2026



Most areas are likely to receive normal to above normal rainfall in the month amounting to around 100mm.

Rainfall onset is expected from fourth week of the month

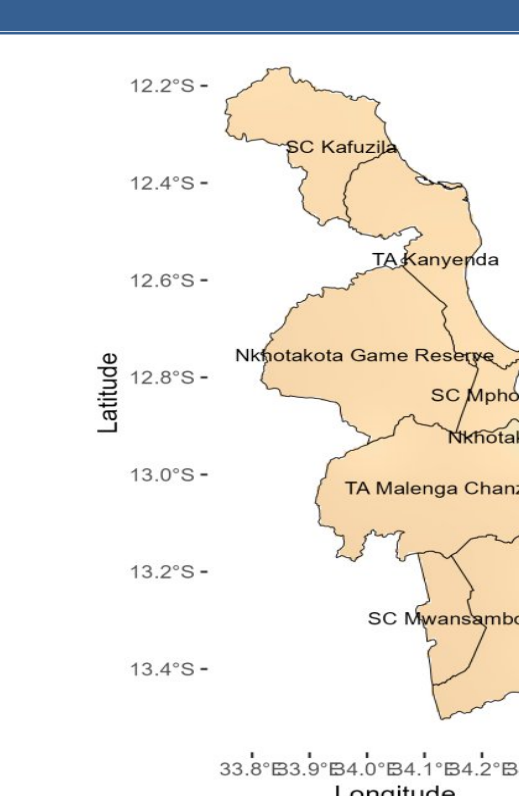
December 2026



Most areas in this district are likely to receive above normal to normal rainfall between 300 and 350mm with only a few areas reaching to about 400 mm.

There is high likelihood of dry spells persisting over two weeks.

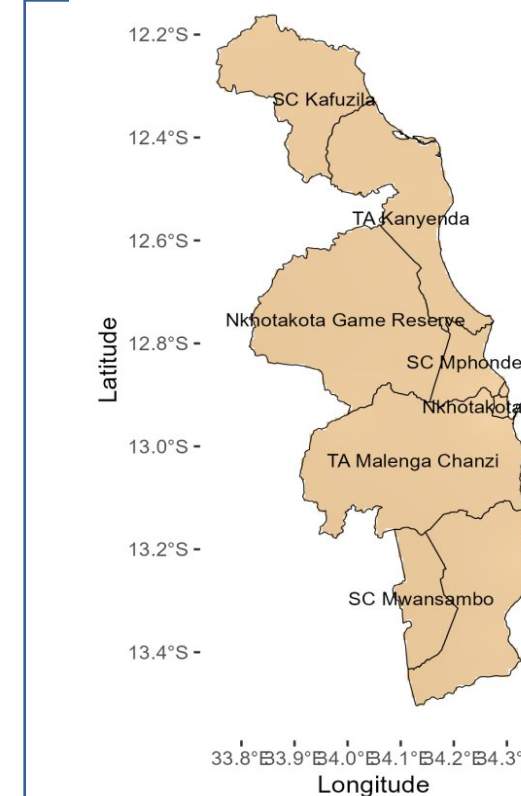
January 2027



Most areas of the district are expected to receive below normal to normal rainfall ranging from 200 to 250mm.

With the low likelihood of dry spells

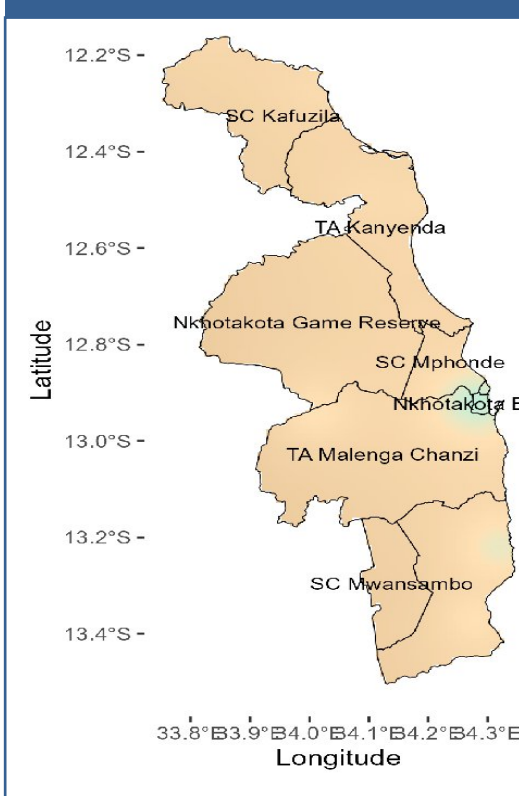
February 2027



Normal to below normal rainfall is expected over most areas in the month of February, with rainfall amounts around 200 mm.

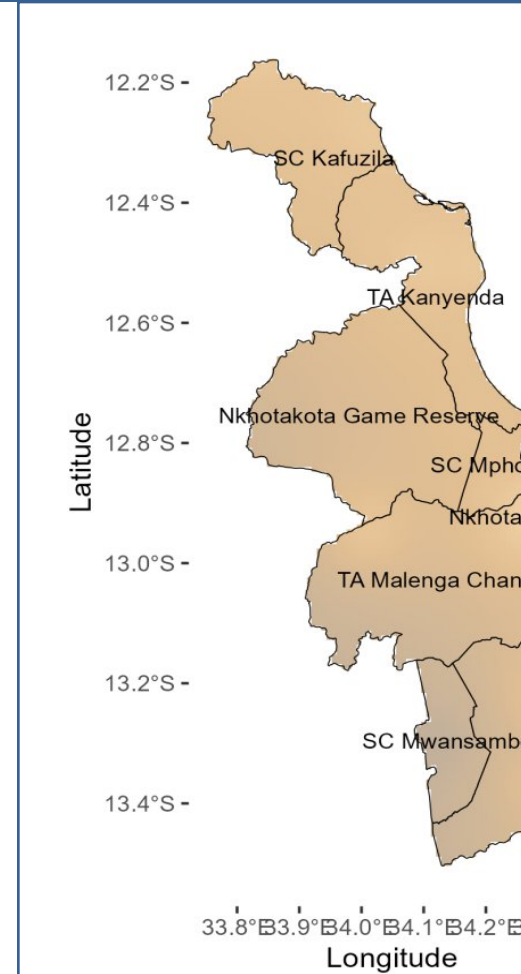
However, there is likelihood of dry spells for about one week during this month.

March 2027



Expect most areas to receive normal to above normal rainfall between 250 and 300mm. Central lakeshore areas are expected to receive more than 400mm.

April 2027



Most areas of Nkhhotakota are expected to receive rainfall amounts of less than 200mm, which is normal to below normal rainfall category for the month.

Cessation is expected during first week of the month.

SEASON IN SUMMARY

Rainfall Onset	Dry Spells	Seasonal Length	Cessation
Expected during the fourth week of November 2026 to first week of December.	Possibility of dry spells lasting up to two weeks in about one week in January and February.	The length of the rainfall season is expected to be around 120–130 days.	Rainfall cessation is expected during the first week of April 2027.

MONTH	NORMAL RANGE	FORECAST
OCT	0.1	4.4
NOV	15.9	62
DEC	181.8	244.9
JAN	232.5	349.1
FEB	190.5	295.2
MAR	271.4	401.4
APR	84.4	125.9

NKHOTAKOTA RAINFALL FORECAST

The table and figure above show monthly rainfall distribution at Nkhhotakota with a normal band in grey.

Produced and published with assistance from:



Follow weather forecasts and advisories from DCCMS throughout the season



For further information contact:

The Director of Climate Change and Meteorological Services,
P.O. Box 1808, Blantyre.



+265 991 69 00 61



metdept@metmalawi.gov.mw



www.metmalawi.gov.mw