



MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Department of Climate Change and
Meteorological Services

2026/2027 DOWNSCALED SEASONAL FORECAST

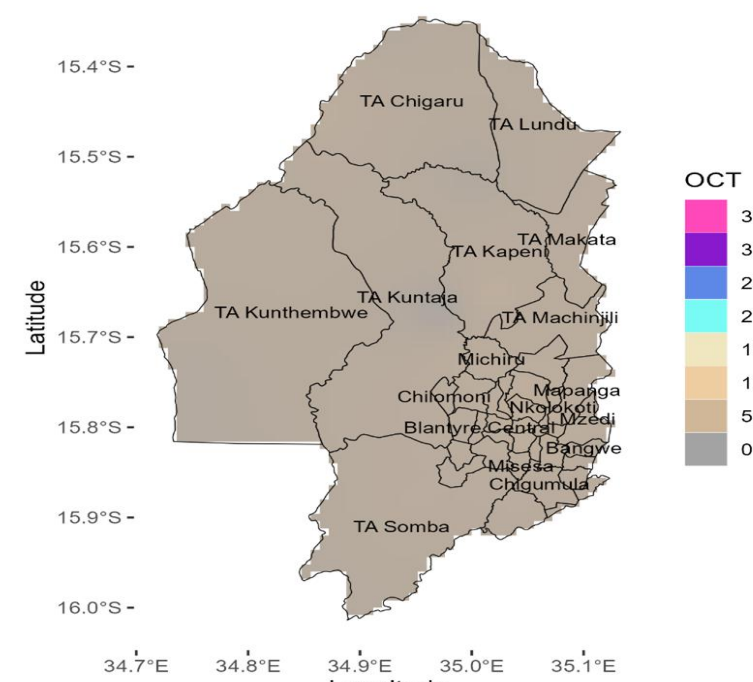
BLANTYRE DISTRICT

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.

Blantyre district is expected to receive **normal to below normal total rainfall amounts** from October 2026 to April 2027.

October 2026

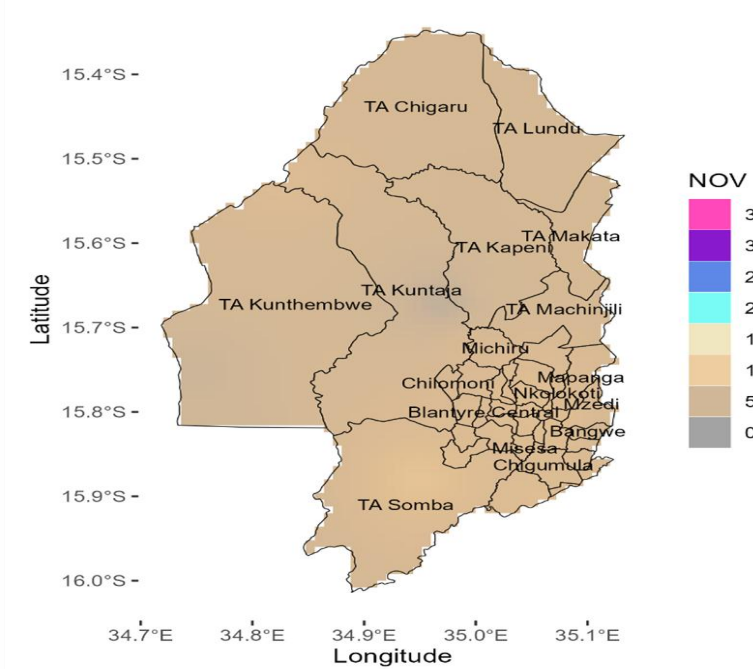


The month of October is expected to be hot and dry, with a chance of Chizimalupsa rains.

These rains may be accompanied by lightning and gusty winds.

November 2026

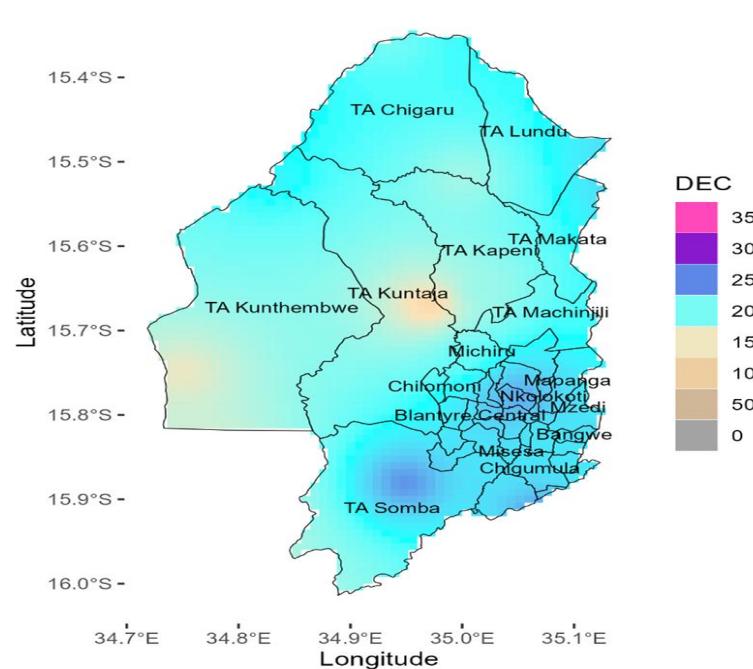
November 2026 Rainfall Forecast



Normal to below-normal rainfall ranging 50-100 mm is expected over most parts of the district. The rains are likely to be accompanied by gusty winds and lightning.

December 2026

December 2026 Rainfall Forecast

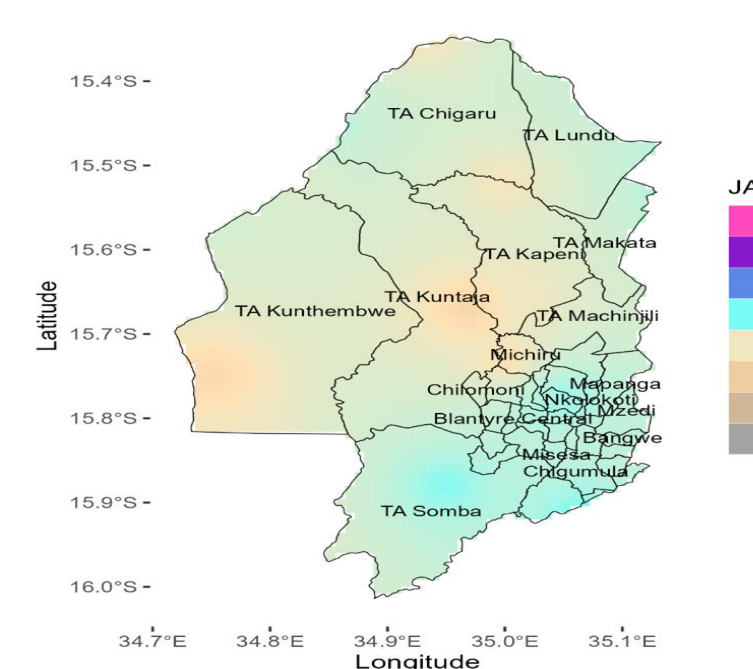


In December expect rainfall amounts ranging from 200-250mm over most parts of Blantyre. Few areas of TA Kuntaja and TA Kunthembwe may receive 100 to 150 mm.

Onset is expected from mid December with high likelihood of late onset in some few areas.

January 2027

January 2027 Rainfall Forecast

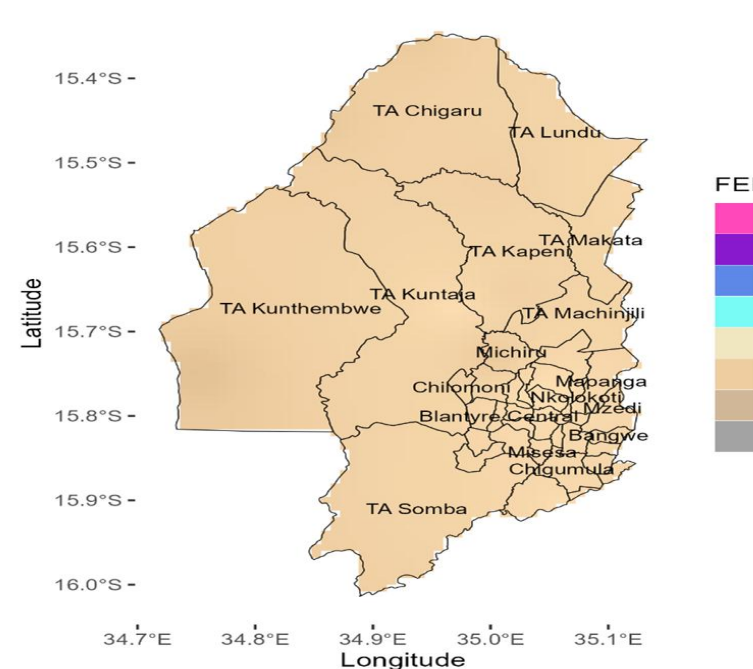


Normal to below normal rainfall amounts ranging 150 mm to 200mm is expected in January. Some areas in TA Kuntaja, TA Kunthembwe and TA Kapeni may receive 100-150 mm of rainfall.

There is a high likelihood of dry spell of about one week.

February 2027

February 2027 Rainfall Forecast

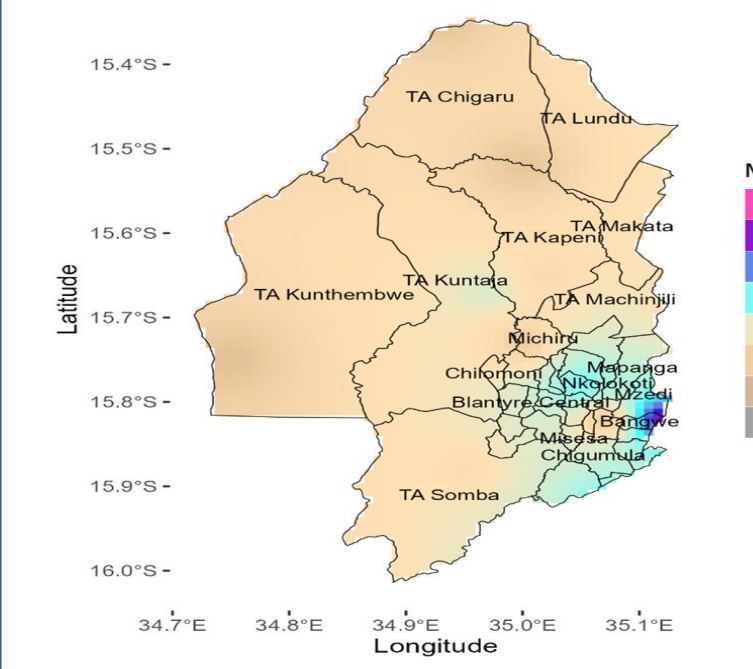


February is expected to receive normal to below normal rainfall in the range of 100 mm to 150mm over most areas of the district .

There is a high likelihood of a dry spell lasting about two weeks.

March 2027

March 2027 Rainfall Forecast

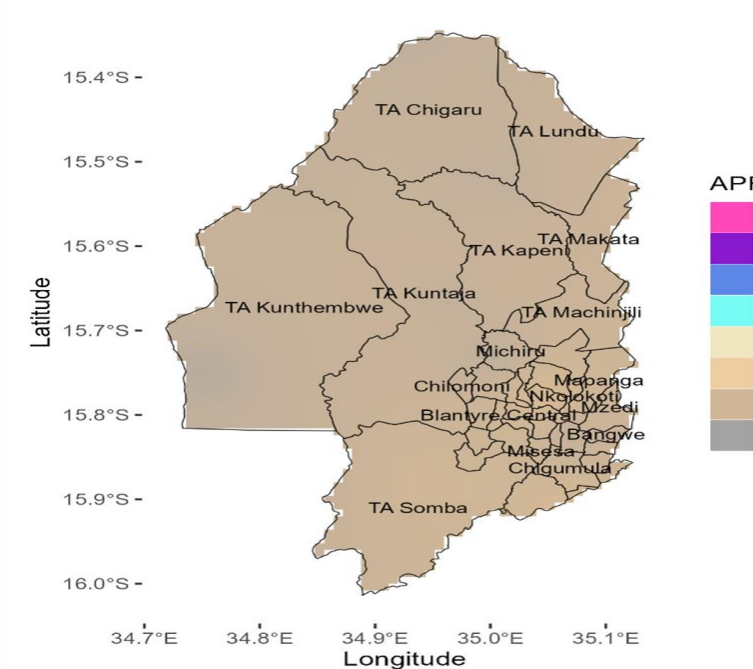


Expect normal to above normal rainfall amounts ranging from 100-150mm in most areas of the district in March.

However south eastern parts of the district are anticipated to receive more than 200mm of rainfall.

April 2027

April 2027 Rainfall Forecast



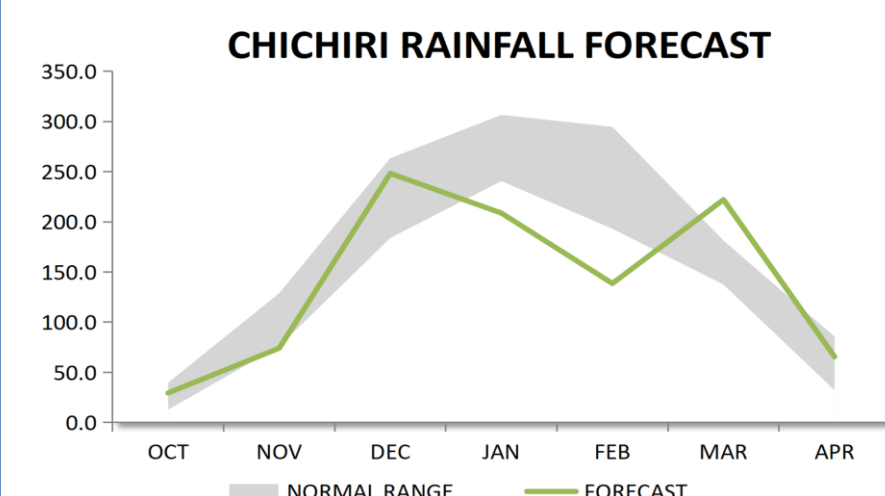
The month of April, the district is expected to receive between 50 mm and 100 mm of rainfall, which falls within the normal to below normal range.

Rainfall cessation is anticipated from second week of April.

SEASON IN SUMMARY

Rainfall Onset	Dry Spells	Seasonal Length	Cessation
Excepted mid December 2026	High likelihood of about one week in January and 2 weeks in February	Expected to last between 115 to 125 days	Expected from second week of April
MONTH	NORMAL RANGE	FORECAST	
OCT	12.9 - 39.7	29.5	
NOV	76.0 - 128.8	74.1	
DEC	184.0 - 263.4	248.2	
JAN	240.6 - 306.6	208.7	
FEB	193.1 - 294.6	138.6	
MAR	137.5 - 181.3	222.1	
APR	32.3 - 85.6	65.6	

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



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