



MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Department of Climate Change and
Meteorological Services

2026/2027 DOWNSCALED SEASONAL FORECAST

SALIMA DISTRICT



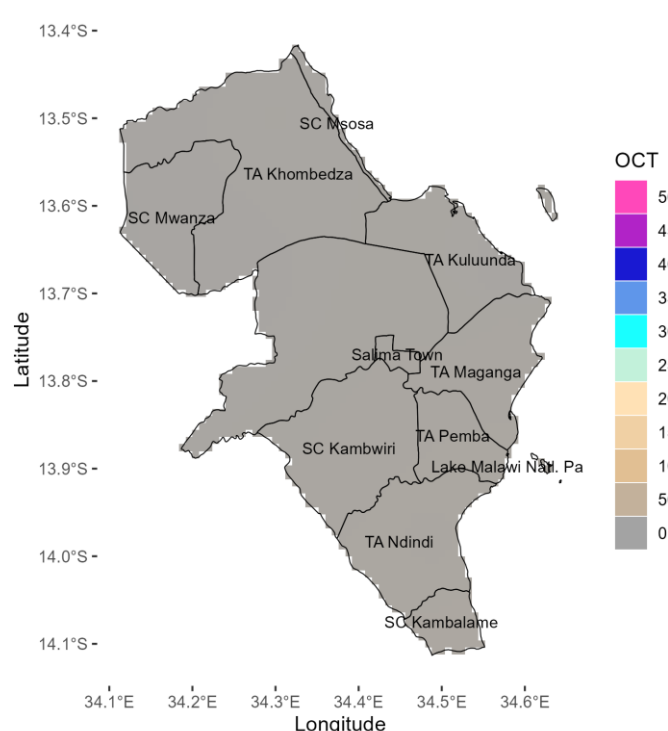
Overview

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.

Salima District is expected to receive normal to above normal rainfall during October to December with higher chances of normal to below normal rainfall during January and February.

October 2026

OCTOBER 2026 RAINFALL FORECAST

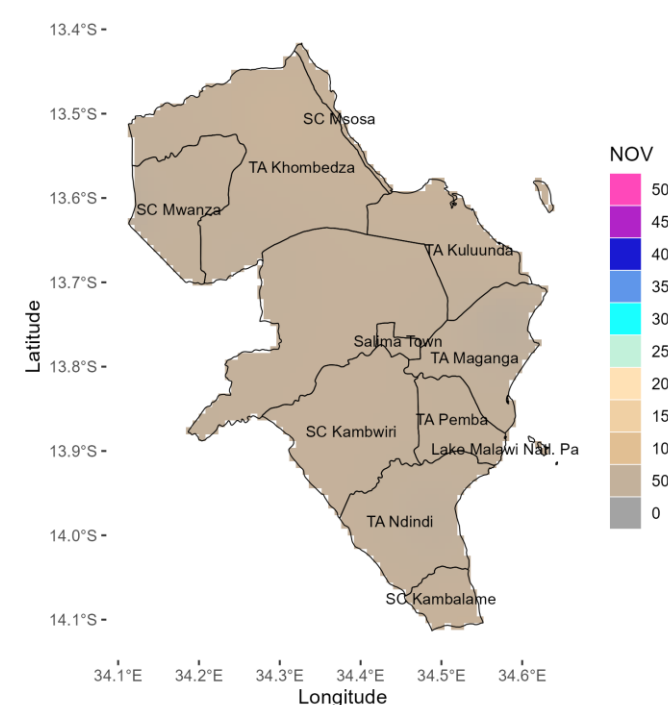


In the month of October, Salima is expected to remain predominantly dry across most areas. However, *Chizimalupsya* rains are likely to occur in few areas.

These rains may be accompanied by strong winds and thunderstorms across the district due to excessive heating.

November 2026

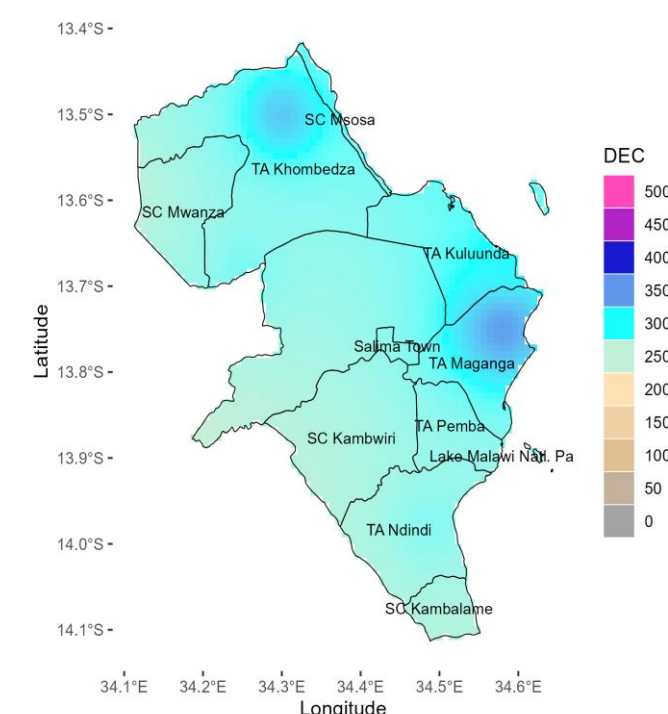
NOVEMBER 2026 RAINFALL FORECAST



Salima district is expected to receive normal rainfall across most areas, with amounts generally around 50 mm.

December 2026

DECEMBER 2026 RAINFALL FORECAST

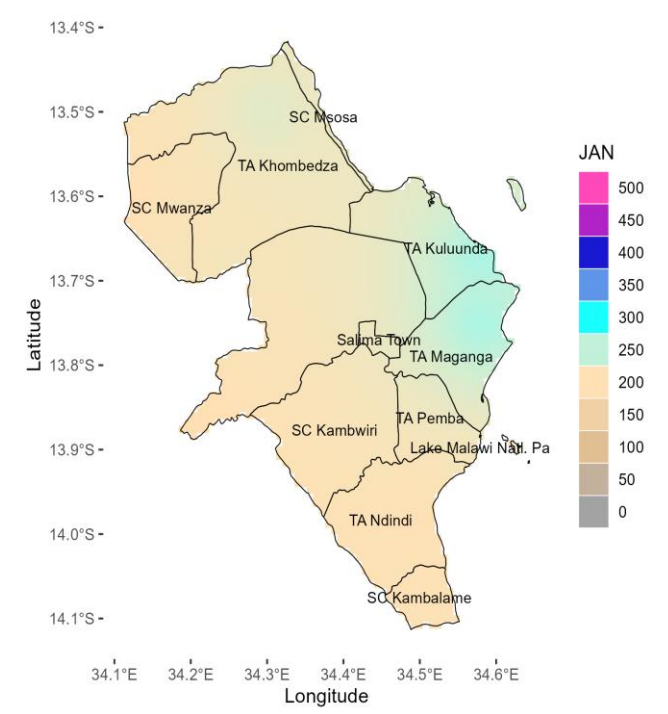


Normal to above normal rainfall amounts ranging from 250–300 mm are expected across most areas of the district. However, higher rainfall amounts of 300–350 mm are likely in some areas of TA Khombeza and TA Maganga.

The rainfall onset is expected from mid December.

January 2027

JANUARY 2027 RAINFALL FORECAST

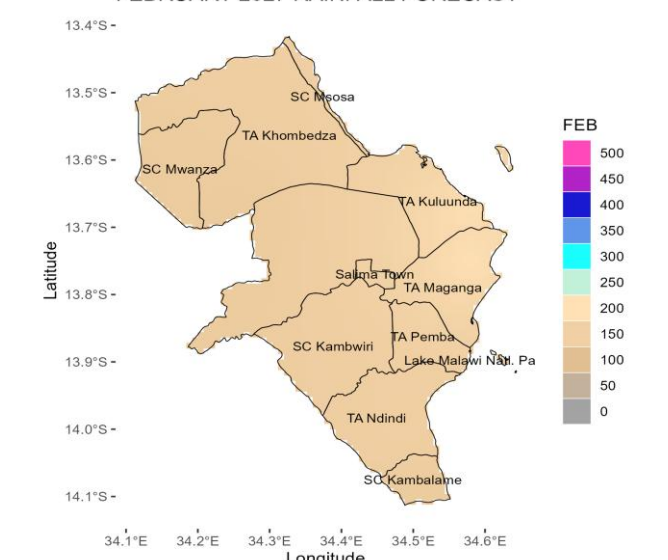


Expect normal to below normal rainfall amounts over most Areas ranging from 150-200mm. However, areas around TA Maganga, Kuluunda, TA Khombeza and the lakeshore are likely to receive rainfall amounts exceeding 250 mm.

There is a threat of a dry spell of about 1 week in January 2027

February 2027

FEBRUARY 2027 RAINFALL FORECAST

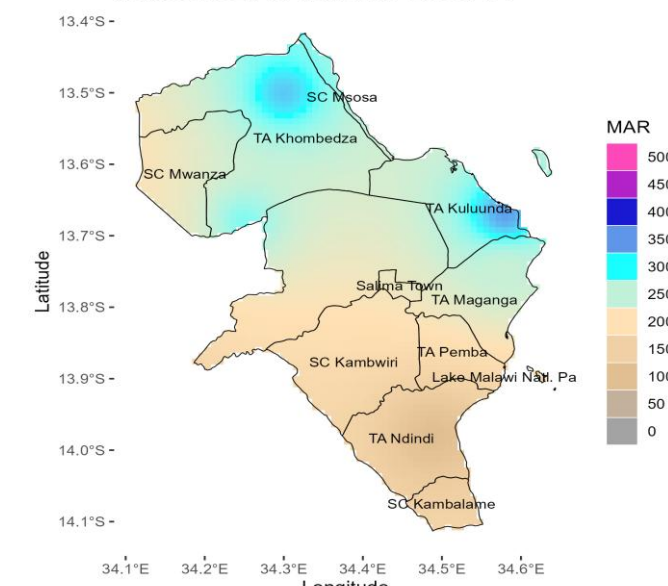


Most areas in the district are likely to receive normal to below normal rainfall amounts ranging from 150-200 mm.

More likely, the district will experience a dry spell of one week during this month.

March 2027

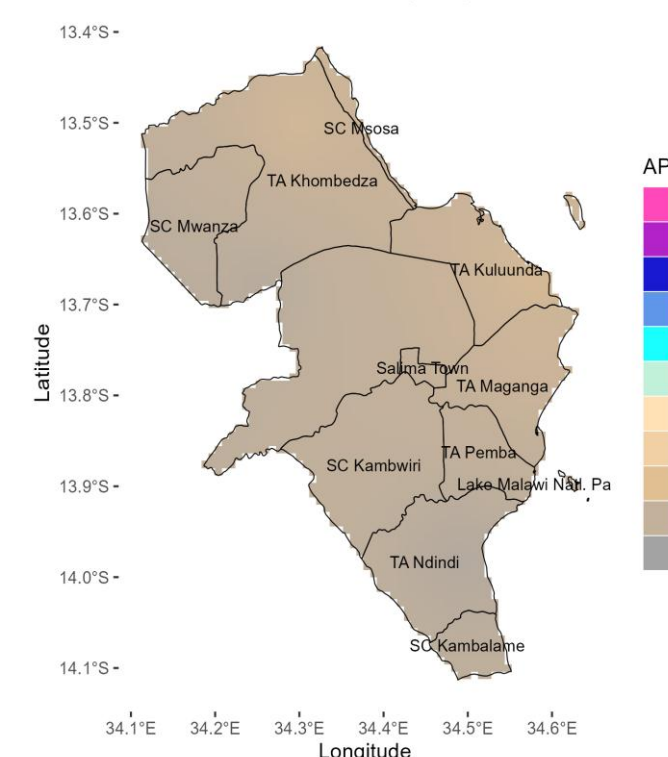
MARCH 2027 RAINFALL FORECAST



Normal to above normal rainfall is expected in some areas, with higher rainfall amounts of 250–300 mm likely over TA Maganga, TA Kaluunda and SC Msosa, while most areas are expected to receive comparatively lower amounts of around 200 mm.

April 2027

APRIL 2027 RAINFALL FORECAST



Below normal rainfall is expected across Salima district. Most areas are likely to receive less than 150 mm of rainfall.

The expected cessation for Salima is to be mid April.

SEASON IN SUMMARY

Rainfall Onset

The rainfall onset is expected from mid December 2026

Dry Spells

Dry spells of about 1 week are most likely in January and February 2027

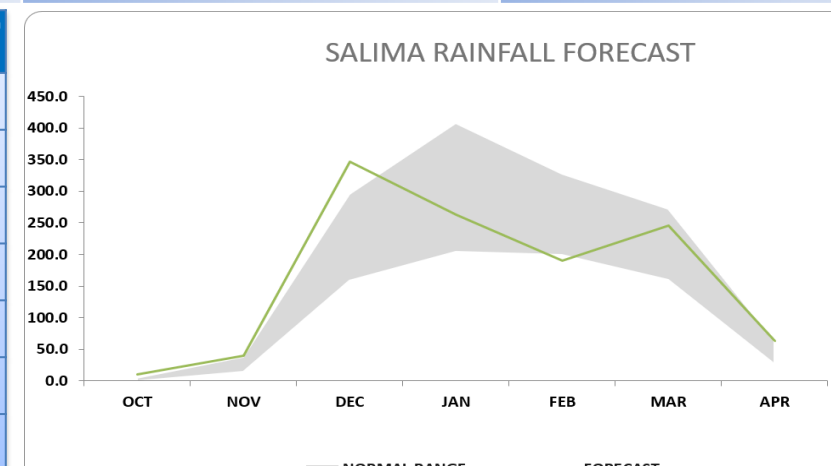
Seasonal Length

The seasonal length is expected to range from 120 to 128 days.

Cessation

Rainfall cessation is expected to be from mid April.

MONTH	NORMAL RANGE	FORECAST
OCT	0.1 – 4.9	10.7
NOV	14.3 – 38.5	39.9
DEC	159.3 – 295.6	345.9
JAN	204.6 – 407.1	262.8
FEB	199.4 – 327.9	190.2
MAR	159.8 – 271.6	245.8
APR	27.3 – 62.6	63.7



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

Produced and published with assistance from:



Follow weather forecasts and advisories from DCCMS throughout the season



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