

MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CLIMATE CHANGE



DEPARTMENT OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES

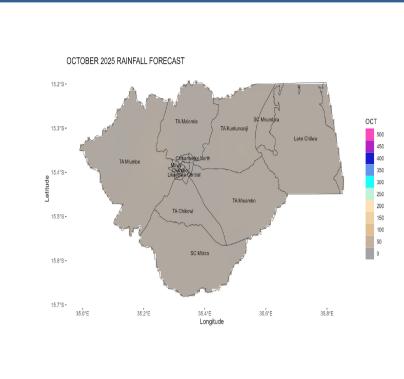
ZOMBA DISTRICT DOWNSCALED SEASONAL FORECAST, 2025-2026

Overview of 2025/2026 Rainfall Season

The 2025/2026 rainfall season is likely to be partly influenced by Neutral El Nino Southern Oscillation conditions in the tropical Pacific Ocean among other factors.

Zomba District is expected to receive generally normal to above normal rains cumulative rainfall during the 2025/2026 rainfall season.

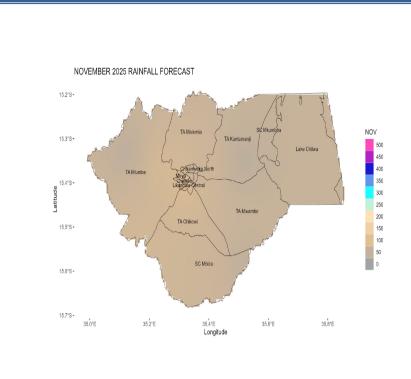
October 2025



Most areas are expected to receive total rainfall amount around 50mm. These amounts are in the normal to above normal category for this month.

Expect Chizimalupsya rains to be accompanied by strong, gusty winds and lightning.

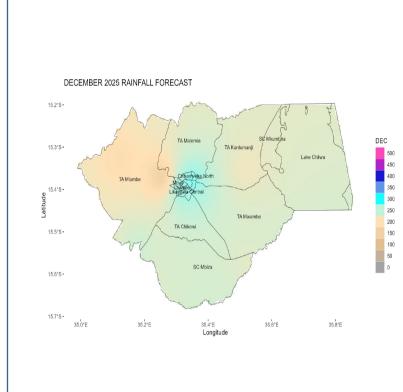
November 2025



Rainfall amounts between 50 and 100 mm are expected in the month of November.

Expect rains to be accompanied by strong winds and lightning. The onset is expected from last week of November.

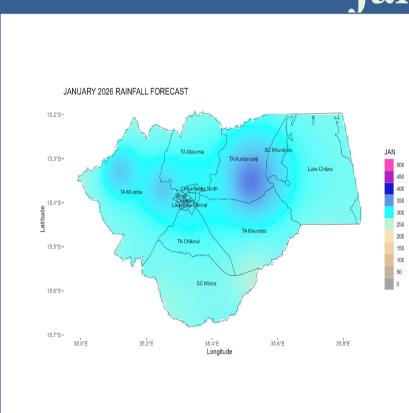
December 2025



During the month of December, most areas are expected to receive rainfall amounts at most 250mm which is in range of normal to above normal category.

The Zomba city is expected to receive about 300 mm of rainfall whereas most areas in TA Mlumbe are expected to receive about 200 mm of rainfall.

January 2026

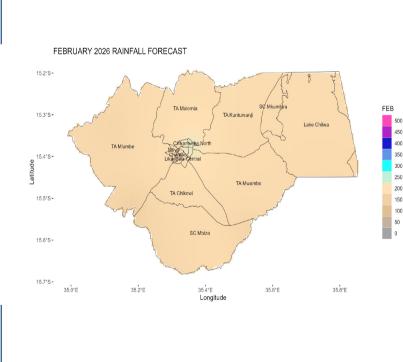


Zomba district is expected to receive rainfall amounts in the range of 300 to 350mm during the month of January 2026.

Highest rainfall amounts are expected in TA Kuntumanji and TA Mlumbe.

Some areas in TA Mwambo may experience dry spells of not more than one week.

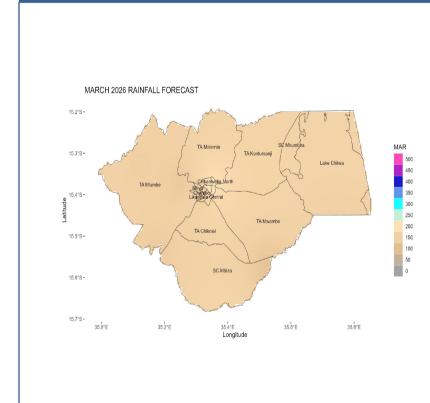
February 2026



In February, most areas are expected to receive low rainfall amounts of about 200mm, which is normal to below normal for this month.

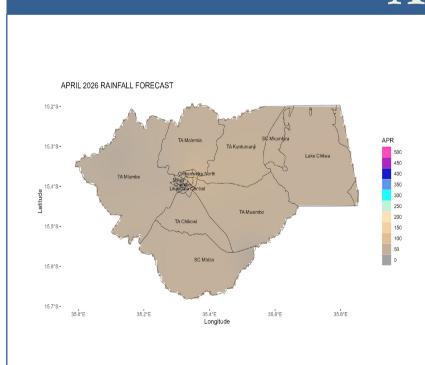
There is a likelihood for dry spells of not more than 2 weeks particularly over TA Mwambo and areas around Chikamveka.

March 2026



Rainfall amounts around 200mm are expected over most areas across the district during this month. These rainfall amounts are more than what is expected in this month.

April 2026



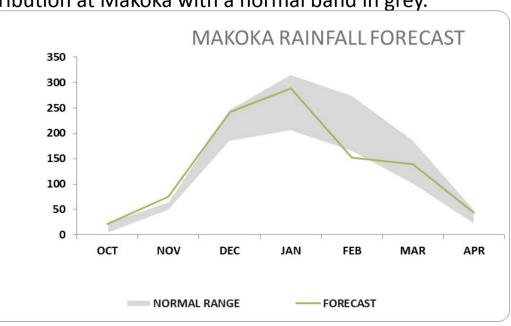
Most areas will receive rainfall amounts less than 100mm during the month.

Rainfall cessation is expected to occur from around early April.

- Rainfall onset is expected from last week of November.
- Cessation is likely in early April.
- The season length is expected to last 120-130 days.
- There is a low likelihood of dry spells of more than a week in January and high likelihood of over a week-long in February.

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

MAKOKA			
MONTH	NORMAL RANGE		FORECAST
ОСТ	2.898	24.901	21.5
NOV	48.627	65.044	74.7
DEC	183.553	247.281	241.4
JAN	205.121	315.248	288.2
FEB	164.061	275.423	152.5
MAR	100.452	187.772	138.9
APR	20.992	50.452	43.9



The forecast will be updated in December 2025

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