# Meteorological Services Department

*Minimizing Risks through Science*

## WEEKLY RAINFALL BULLETIN

**RELEASED:** 28 JANUARY 2026

**SEASON:** 2025-2026

**VALID:** 29 JANUARY TO 04 FEBRUARY 2026

## WEEKLY RAINFALL BULLETIN

**BULLETIN N°14 of rainfall Season 2025/2026**

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## SUMMARY OF PAST WEEK: 21 JANUARY 2026 – 27 JANUARY 2026

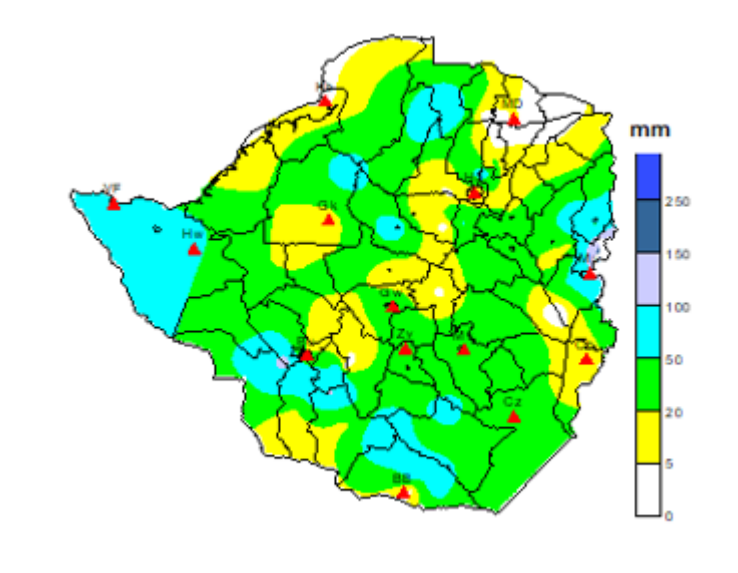


**FIGURE 1: WEEKLY RAINFALL TOTALS: 21 JANUARY 2025 TO 27 JANUARY 2026**

Most parts of Zimbabwe received widespread rainfall during the week. Many areas recorded 20 to 50mm, while higher totals of 50 to 100mm were observed in parts of the north-west, west, east and south-east. Lighter rainfall was recorded in isolated areas as shown by the yellow patches in Figure 1. Overall, rainfall activity was relatively lower than in the previous week

## SEASONAL ACCUMULATED RAINFALL: 01 OCTOBER 2025 – 27 JANUARY 2026

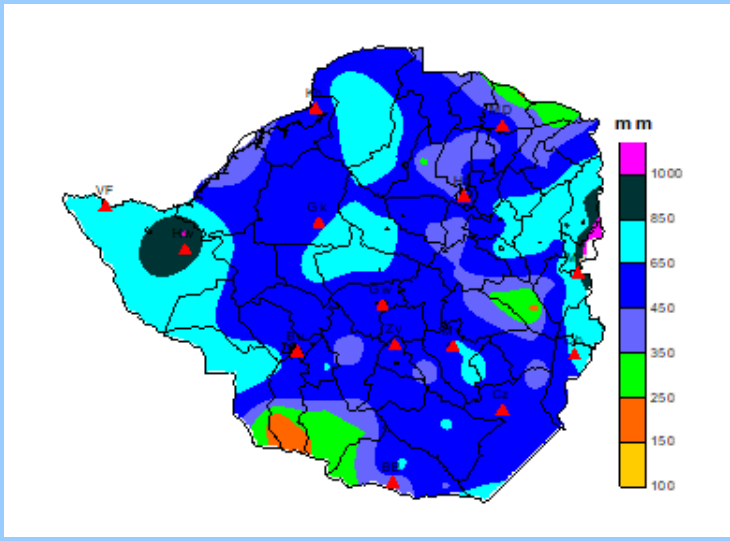


**FIGURE 2: SEASONAL RAINFALL TOTALS: 01 OCTOBER 2025 -27 JANUARY 2026**

Cumulative rainfall totals for the period 01 October to 27 January indicate that high seasonal totals, ranging from about 450mm to over 650mm, were recorded across large parts of the country. However, lower totals below 350mm, occurred in isolated areas of the south-western districts, eastern districts and extreme northern districts. Generally good seasonal rainfall received across most parts of the country has supported crop growth, pasture development and water availability. In areas that recorded high cumulative rainfall, continued monitoring for waterlogging, nutrient leaching and crop diseases is recommended, while timely weeding and field management should be maintained. In isolated areas with lower rainfall, particularly in the south-western, eastern and extreme northern districts, climate smart practices are encouraged to conserve soil moisture (e.g. applying mulching where possible), as well as monitoring crops for signs of moisture stress as the season progresses.

## SEASONAL RAINFALL PERCENTAGE OF NORMAL: 1 OCTOBER 2025 – 27 JANUARY 2026

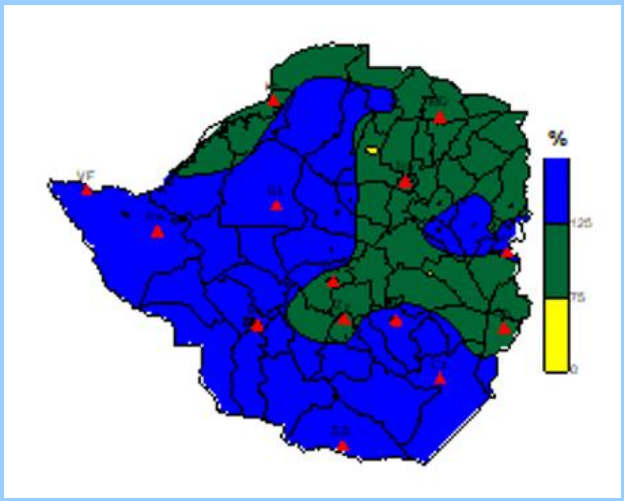


**FIGURE 3: ACCUMULATION RAINFALL AS PERCENTAGE OF AVERAGE: 1 OCTOBER 2025-27 JANUARY 2026**

The percentage of normal rainfall distribution confirms a predominantly above-normal (blue-coloured region) 2025/26 rainfall season in most parts of the country to late-January, with several areas recording exceptionally wet conditions, while some parts of the northern, central and eastern regions (green-coloured regions) experienced normal rainfall.

These conditions are generally favourable for crop growth, pasture development and water resources, but may also increase the risk of waterlogging, flooding and crop diseases in affected areas. In regions that received normal rainfall, farmers are encouraged to continue with timely agronomic practices and to monitor moisture levels to sustain crop performance for the remainder of the season.

## WEEKLY EVAPORATION 21 JANUARY 2026 TO 27 JANUARY 2026

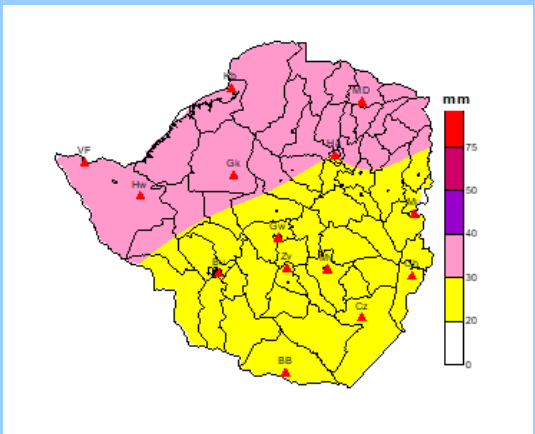


**FIGURE 4: WEEKLY EVAPORATION: 21 JANUARY-27 JANUARY 2026**

The country experienced evaporation rates below 40 mm (Figure 4). The southern regions recorded lower rates, ranging from 20 to 30 mm, while the northern provinces reported rates between 30 mm and 40 mm. In general, these lower evaporation rates are favorable for crop growth, as they result in reduced evapotranspiration and enhanced soil moisture retention.

## WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR THE PERIOD: 29 JANUARY 2026 – 04 FEBRUARY 2026.

Expect predominantly dry and hot conditions across most districts of the country. However, interludes of brief isolated thunderstorms should be confined to the north-western and eastern districts in parts of Mashonaland West , Mashonaland Central and Manicaland provinces.

Advisory

- While cumulative rainfall for the season to date has been largely normal to above normal, the anticipated dry spell may temporarily lower moisture availability. Continued monitoring and adaptive management is advised.
- Stakeholders are advised that the forecast conditions may lead to increased evapotranspiration and moisture stress, particularly in rain-fed agricultural areas. Farmers are encouraged to conserve soil moisture, limit unnecessary field disturbances, and monitor crops and livestock for heat stress.
- In the north-western and eastern districts, where isolated thunderstorms are forecast, farmers should take advantage of any rainfall received for timely field management, while remaining alert to the localized and short-lived nature of the rains