



## WEEKLY RAINFALL BULLETIN

**RELEASED:** 04 MARCH 2026

**SEASON:** 2025-2026

**VALID:** 05 MARCH TO 11 MARCH 2026

### WEEKLY RAINFALL

### BULLETIN

BULLETIN N°19 of rainfall Season 2025/2026



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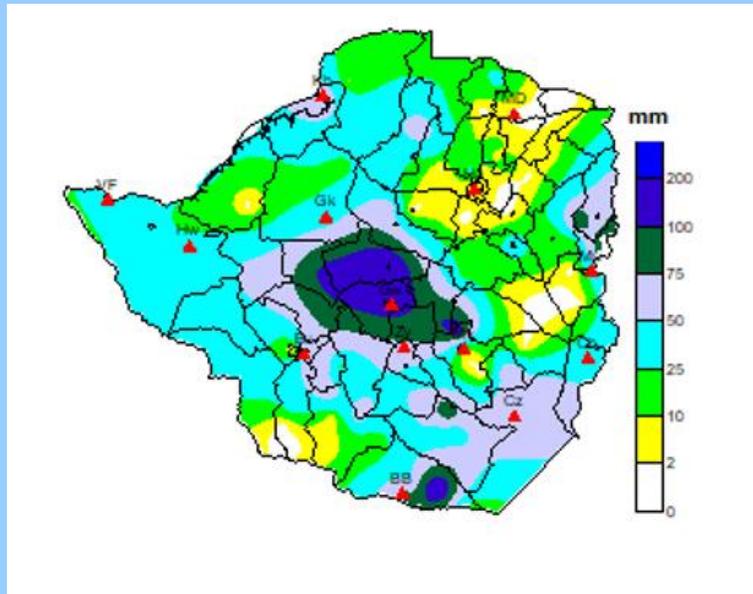
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## SUMMARY OF PAST WEEK: 25 FEBRUARY 2026 – 04 MARCH 2026



**FIGURE 1: WEEKLY RAINFALL TOTALS: 25 FEBRUARY 2026 – 04 FEBRUARY 2026**

The week ending 4 March 2026 was dominated by mostly cloudy conditions with scattered thunderstorms across the country. Rainfall exceeding 50mm was widespread across the central and south-eastern parts of the country, with the heaviest rainfall concentrated in the central interior. Parts of the extreme northern and southern borders received significantly less, with some areas recording less than 10mm during the period. The highest weekly totals, represented by the dark blue and purple core on the map, were recorded in the central belt covering areas around Gweru and Kwekwe. The highest weekly totals were recorded as follows: Tshwasingo (136.5mm), Kwekwe (131.9mm), Makoholi (119.5mm), Gweru (113.2mm), and Nkayi (108.9mm).

## SEASONAL ACCUMULATED RAINFALL: 01 OCTOBER 2025 – 04 MARCH 2026

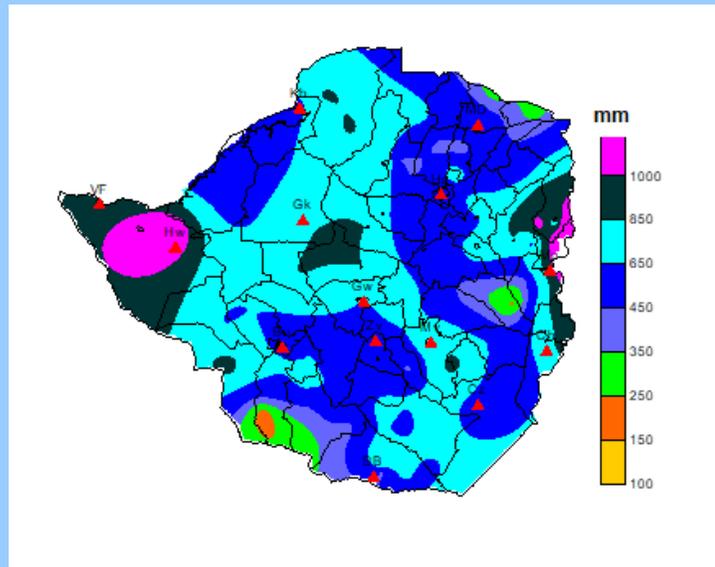


FIGURE 2: SEASONAL RAINFALL TOTALS: 01 OCTOBER 2025 -04 MARCH 2026

According to the map, most parts of the country have received rainfall above 450mm. The highest amounts, exceeding 850mm (indicated by pink shading), have been recorded in the Hwange area to the west and along the Eastern Highlands near Hauna. The lowest rainfall amounts were recorded in parts of Matabeleland South Province. Overall, these high rainfall totals indicate good progress in the 2025/2026 rainfall season so far, despite a prolonged dry spell in February that affected crops across the country. However, ground and surface water sources have been replenished, setting the stage for a good winter season for farmers. Additionally, these accumulations have led to improved pastures for livestock.

## SEASONAL RAINFALL PERCENTAGE OF NORMAL: 1 OCTOBER 2025 – 04 MARCH 2026

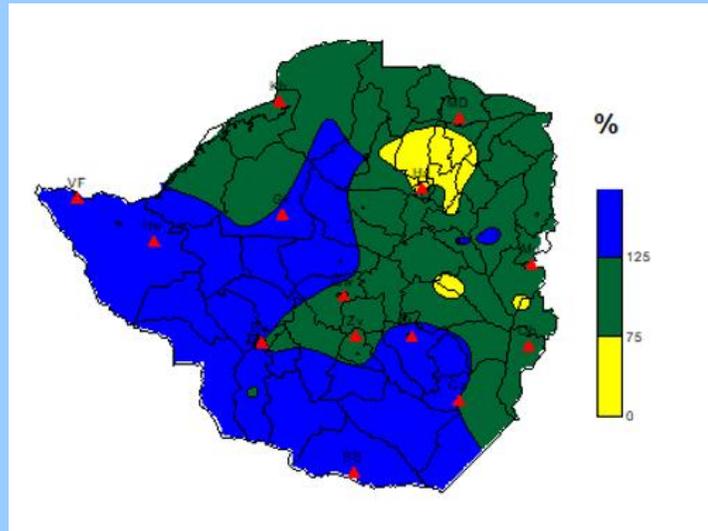
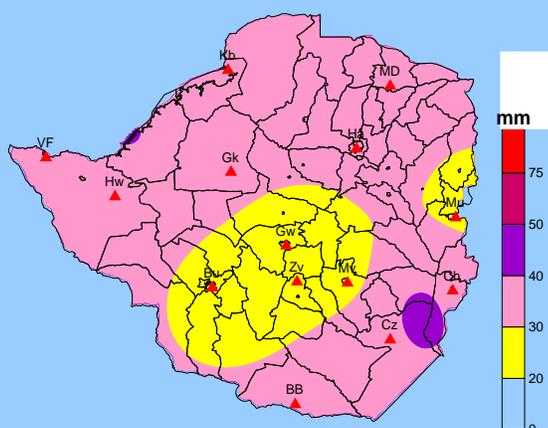


FIGURE 3: ACCUMULATION RAINFALL AS PERCENTAGE OF AVERAGE: 1 OCTOBER 2025-04 MARCH 2026

As shown on the map above, from 1 October 2025 to date, most parts of the country have received normal to above-normal rainfall, with the exception of areas still in the below-normal category—parts of Mashonaland Central and East, indicated by the yellow shading on the map. Regions receiving more than 125% of average rainfall (blue shading) cover significant portions of the western and southern provinces, indicating an exceptionally wet season for these areas. In contrast, areas receiving normal rainfall (75% to 125%) are observed across the central, northern, and eastern regions, including parts of Mashonaland and Manicaland provinces. Although the map shows a good season so far compared to the long-term average, the temporal and spatial distribution of rainfall has been uneven. This erratic nature of the rainfall has led to extreme events during the season for example, very wet conditions recorded in January and very dry conditions recorded in February. Both of these extremes have had a negative impact on rain-fed agriculture.

## WEEKLY EVAPORATION 25 FEBRUARY 2026 TO 04 MARCH 2026



**FIGURE 4: WEEKLY EVAPORATION: 25 FEBRUARY- 04 MARCH 2026**

Evaporation was lower than 40 mm across the country, with a few exceptions in parts of the Chiredzi district, where high daytime temperatures were recorded during the week under review. Mostly cloudy conditions experienced during the week contributed to these relatively low evaporation rates. The central region, as well as parts of the eastern and southern areas, recorded lower evaporation rates ranging from 20 to 30 mm, as indicated by the yellow shading on the map.

## WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR THE PERIOD: 05 MARCH TO 11 MARCH 2026.

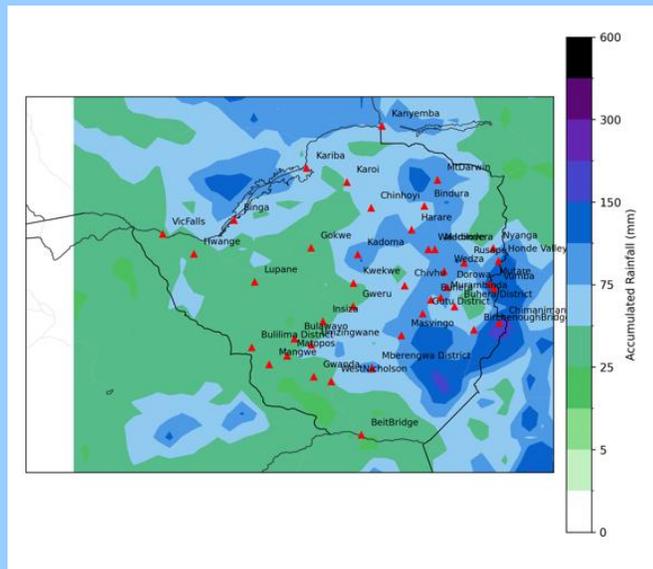


FIGURE 5: WEATHER OUTLOOK FROM 05 MARCH TO 11 MARCH 2026

During the week ending 11 March 2026, mostly cloudy conditions with scattered thunderstorms are expected across the country. Localized downpours are likely in the eastern regions, while the western areas are expected to receive less rainfall than the east.

### **Advisory:**

1. For Farmers in the Late Reproductive Stage (e.g., Grain Filling, Pod Formation):

-Monitor Pests and Diseases: The expected moist, cloudy conditions and scattered thunderstorms create a favorable environment for fungal diseases and pest outbreaks. Farmers should be particularly vigilant.

-**Action:** Scout fields regularly and be prepared to apply appropriate fungicides or pesticides if threshold levels are reached. Consult your local agricultural extension officer for specific recommendations.

2. For Farmers in the Maturation to Harvest Stage (e.g., Maize, Small Grains):

- (Localized Downpours): The forecast of localized downpours poses a risk of lodging (falling over) for mature crops and may delay harvest operations.

3. For Farmers Preparing for Winter Cropping (e.g., Wheat, Winter Vegetables):

-Leverage Residual Moisture: The current rains provide an excellent opportunity to build soil moisture reserves for the upcoming winter season.

- Action: If you have not yet completed land preparation for winter wheat or vegetables, consider doing so soon. The moisture from these rains will aid in germination and early establishment when irrigation or winter rains begin.

-Water Harvesting and Recharge: Farmers in areas expecting significant rainfall (especially the central belt and eastern highlands) should ensure that water conveyance structures (channels, dams, and reservoirs) are clear to capture and store as much runoff as possible for the dry winter months.