

FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA
ETHIOPIAN METEOROLOGICAL INSTITUTE
METEOROLOGICAL DATA AND CLIMATOLOGY LEAD EXECUTIVE
REMOTE SENSING AND CLIMATOLOGICAL DESK
SEASONAL CLIMATE BULLETIN
BELG 2026

*Some Applications of
Climate Information*

Disaster Management



**Water Resources
Management**



Construction



Environment & Health



Transport



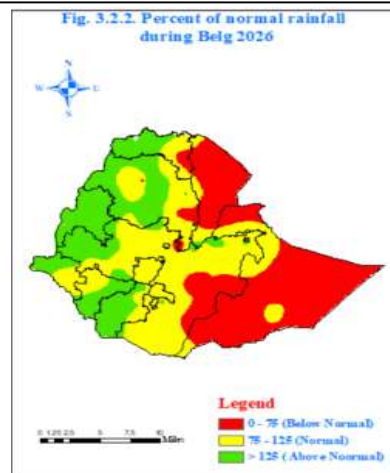
Recreation & Tourism

HIGHLIGHTS

During Belg, on the other hand, the day remained hot over the lowlands of the northeastern, eastern, southeastern, and northwestern parts of the country, recording extreme maximum temperature values of more than 40 °C (Fig 3.1.2). On the other hand, the highlands of Eastern & central Amhara, Tigray Central, and Eastern Oromia, and some pocket areas of SNNP have days with minimum temperatures below 4 °C (Fig. 3.1.1).

During Belg 2026 The map indicates that negative rainfall differences (red shading), representing areas that were drier than the previous Belg season, dominated much of the eastern, southeastern, and southern parts of the country, including most of the Somali Region, eastern Oromia, southern Afar, and parts of the Southern Region. This suggests that these areas experienced lower rainfall totals during Belg 2026 compared with the Belg 2025 seasonal rainfall.(Table 3.2.1)In contrast, positive rainfall differences (blue shading), indicating areas that were wetter than the previous Belg season, were observed across much of western, northwestern, and parts of central Ethiopia. These wetter conditions covered large areas of Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella, western Oromia, western Amhara, and parts of central Ethiopia, reflecting an improvement in rainfall relative to the previous Belg season.(Fig.3.2.3).

During Belg 2026 Rainfall was below normal over large parts of eastern and southeastern Ethiopia, including much of the Somali Region, eastern Afar, eastern Oromia, and adjacent areas, indicating substantial rainfall deficits. Near-normal rainfall was observed across central Ethiopia and in scattered areas of the south and northwest, suggesting rainfall amounts close to the long-term average. In contrast, above-normal rainfall occurred mainly over western Ethiopia, including much of Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella, western Oromia, and parts of western Amhara, where seasonal rainfall exceeded the climatological average.



Foreword

This climate bulletin is prepared and disseminated by the Ethiopia Meteorological Institute (EMI). It is aimed at providing climatological information to different services of the community involved in various socio-economic activities.

The information contained in this bulletin is believed to assist planners, decision-makers, and the community at large by providing details of the climatic conditions of the nation in each period.

This bulletin differs from the other real time and near real time bulletins issued by the Agency, which for their input depend only on meteorological stations equipped with single side band radio for data transmission. Though this bulletin is not real time, published with a delay of at least two months, the information contained in this bulletin is based on data coming from a much larger number of meteorological stations. Moreover, the information contained in this bulletin is not sector-specific and a wide range of users can benefit from it. The Agency disseminates monthly, seasonal, and annual climatological bulletins in which all-necessary climatological information and significant climatic anomalies are highlighted.

We have a strong belief that various socio-economic activities related to planning disaster mitigation, water resources management, construction, environmental protection, transportation, recreation, tourism, and others will benefit most by the careful and continuous use of this bulletin. Meanwhile, your comments and constructive suggestions are highly appreciated to make the objectives of this bulletin a success.

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western Indian Ocean, and easterly flow was dominant over the Arabian

1. Synoptic Situation

1.1 Surface

During February 2026, the Mascarene High, with a mean central pressure value above 1020 hPa, was centered at approximately 35°S, 85°E. In the next month of the season, March 2026, the mean central pressure value was above 1020hPa and was centered at about 37°S, 85°E. In the following month, the mean central pressure value was above 1020hPa. It was centered at about 35°S, 85°E, and finally the last month of April 2026, a mean central pressure value of above 1020hPa was centered at about 35°S, 85°E.

During February 2026, St. Helena's high with a mean central pressure value of above 1020hPa was centered at about 33°S, 8°E. In the next month of the season is March 2026, the mean central pressure was situated at about 35°S, 8W° and in the following next month' the mean central pressure value of above 1020hPa was centered at about 37°S, 8°E and finally, during the last month of the Belg 2026 the mean central pressure value of above 1020hPa was centered at about 30°S, 10°E.

During February 2026, the Azores' high with a mean central pressure value of 1010hPa was centered at about 32°N, 30°W, and in the next month of the season March 2026 the mean central pressure value of above 1020hPa was centered at about 38°N, 40° and in the next month' the mean central pressure value of above 1020hPa was centered at about 35°N, 40°E and finally in the last month of Belg 2026 the mean central pressure value of above 1020hPa was centered at about 32°N, 45°W.

1.2 Lower Troposphere (850 hPa vector wind)

During the first month of Belg, 2026, the cross-equatorial and easterly flow of below 0 to 12m/s was observed over the

Peninsula. In the next month, the cross-equatorial and westerly flow of below 0 to 8m/s was flowing from the Arabian Peninsula to the African continent. Then, in the month of April, the northeasterly flow of below 0 – 8 m/s was observed over the western Indian Ocean, and easterly and northeasterly flows were dominant over the Arabian Peninsula. In the last month, Belg season the northeasterly flow of below 0 – 12 m/s was observed over the western Indian Ocean, and easterly flow was dominant over the Arabian Peninsula.

1.3 Middle Troposphere (500-hPa Geo-Geopotential height)

During February 2026, the variation in geopotential height values ranged from 3 to 12 gpm over central and eastern Africa. In March 2026, geopotential height values ranged from -3 to 6 gpm. In April 2026, geopotential height values ranged from 3 to 9. As the last month of the season, the variation in geopotential height values was -6 to 3 gpm over central and eastern Africa.

1.4. Upper Troposphere (200 hPa vector wind)

During February 2026, the easterly flow associated with the Subtropical Northerly flow had a core speed of 0-15 m/s along 0 to 5°N latitude. In March 2026, a core speed of 0-15 m/s. In April 2026, the easterly flow associated with the same was measured at speeds of 3-9 m/s along 0 to 10°N. May 2026 marks the end of the season, with an easterly flow associated with the Subtropical Northerly flow having a core speed of 0-9 m/s along 0 to 10°N latitude.

2. Tropical Oceanic and Atmospheric Highlights

During February 2026, sea surface temperatures (SSTs) were below average in the east-central equatorial Pacific. The depth of the oceanic thermocline (measured by the depth of the 20°C isotherm) was above-average across much of the equatorial Pacific. The corresponding sub-surface temperatures were 1-4°C above-average across the equatorial Pacific.

During March 2026, sea surface temperatures (SSTs) were near average in the central and east-central equatorial Pacific. The depth of the oceanic thermocline (measured by the depth of the 20°C isotherm) was above-average across much of the equatorial Pacific. The corresponding sub-surface temperatures were 1-4°C above-average across the equatorial Pacific

During April 2026, sea surface temperatures (SSTs) were near average in the east-central equatorial Pacific. The depth of the oceanic thermocline (measured by the depth of the 20°C isotherm) was above-average across the equatorial Pacific. The corresponding sub-surface temperatures were 1-7°C above-average across the equatorial Pacific

During May 2026, sea surface temperatures (SSTs) were above average across the central and eastern equatorial Pacific. The depth of the oceanic thermocline (measured by the depth of the 20°C isotherm) was above-average across the central and eastern equatorial Pacific. The corresponding sub-surface temperatures were 1-7°C above-average across equatorial Pacific.central equatorial Pacific.

**Reference: Climate Diagnostic
Bulletin of Belg (from
February to May) 2026**

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/enso_advisory/index.html

3. Weather

3.1 Temperature

During Belg, on the other hand, the day remained hot over the lowlands of the northeastern, eastern, southeastern, and northwestern parts of the country, recording extreme maximum temperature values of more than 40 °C (Fig 3.1.2). Specifically, the extreme maximum temperature values were as high as 44.6, 43.5, 41.4, 40.8, 43, 41.6, 41.5, 40.8, 40.8, 40, 42.2, 42, 40, 40, 41.8, and 40.5at, Metema, Fugnuido, Gambella, Elidar, Fugnuido, Gambella, Metema, Elidar, Gewane, Gode, Metema, Fugnuido, Gambella, Gode, Metema, and Aysha stations in Feb, Feb, Feb, Feb, March, March, March, March, March, March, April, April, April, April, May, and May at the date of 12th, 7th, 4th, 17th, 20th, 14th, 18, 30th, 26th, 29th, 20th, 19th, 18th, 8th, 5th, 24th respectively. ...

On the other hand, the highlands of Eastern & central Amhara, Tigray Central, and Eastern Oromia, and some pocket areas of SNNP have days with minimum temperature below 4 °C (Fig. 3.1.1). Specifically, days with minimum temperature values of less than 5.0 °C were reported Alemaya, Bui, Jijiga, Ambamariam, D/Brehan, Wegeltena, Mehalmeda, Robe, Alemketema, Adelle, Dangla, Bui, Ambamariam, Alemketema, Dangla, Debark, D/Brehan, Bui, Jijiga, Ambamariam, and Alemketema stations' values were as high as 2.4, 2.7, 3, 3.2, 3.2, 4.2, 4.5, 4.6, 4.8, 5, 2.5, 3.2, 3.3, 3.5, 4.8, 4.5, 4.4, 3.2, 3.6, and 4.8 in °C Feb, Feb, Feb, Feb, Feb, Feb, Feb, Feb, Feb, Feb, March, March, March, March, March, April, April, April, May, and May at the dates 5th, 17th, 1st, 8th, 17th, 14th, 11th, 16th, 19th, 16th, 13th, 8th, 19th, 29th, 29th, 4th, 22nd, 13th, 11th, 16th, 28th, 3rd respectively. In General, the Belg 2026 the spatial distribution of seasonal average temperature departures from the long-term normal during the Belg 2026 season. Overall, positive temperature departures (green) dominated much of the country, indicating that seasonal average temperatures were generally

warmer than normal across large parts of central, western, southwestern, and southern Ethiopia. In contrast, negative temperature departures (red) were observed over parts of the northern, northeastern, eastern, southeastern, and a few localized areas in the west and south, indicating cooler-than-normal seasonal average temperatures. This pattern suggests that Belg 2026 was characterized by predominantly above-normal seasonal temperatures over most of Ethiopia, with localized areas experiencing below-normal conditions. (Fig. 3.1.3).

Table 3.1.1: Stations with extreme maximum temperatures exceeding 42°C during Belg 2026.

Name	Month	Date	Amount
Metema	Feb	12	44.6
Fugnuido	Feb	7	43.5
Gambella	Feb	4	41.4
Elidar	Feb	17	40.8
Fugnuido	March	20	43
Gambella	March	14	41.6
Metema	March	18	41.5
Elidar	March	30	40.8
Gewane	March	26	40.8
Gode	March	29	40
Metema	April	20	42.2
Fugnuido	April	19	42
Gambella	April	18	40
Gode	April	8	40
Metema	May	5	41.8
Aysha	May	24	40.5

Table 3.1.2: Stations with extreme minimum temperatures of 5 °C or lower during Belg 2026.

St. Name	Month	Date	Extr. Tmin (°C)
Alemaya	Feb	5	2.4
Bui	Feb	17	2.7
Jijiga	Feb	18	3
Ambamariam	Feb	17	3.2
D/Brehan	Feb	14	3.2
Wegeltena	Feb	11	4.2
Mehalmeda	Feb	16	4.5
Robe	Feb	19	4.6
Alemketema	Feb	16	4.8
Adelle	Feb	13	5
Dangla	Feb	8	5
Bui	March	19	2.5
Ambamariam	March	29	3.2
Alemketema	March	29	3.3
Dangla	March	4	3.5
Debark	March	22	4.8
D/Brehan	April	13	4.5
Bui	April	11	4.4
Jijiga	April	16	3.2
Ambamariam	May	28	3.6
Alemketema	May	3	4.8

3.2. Rainfall

The Belg (February to May) season in Ethiopia is the second rainy season. Hence, the seasonal total rainfall exceeds 300 mm over most parts of the country (Fig. 3.2.1). In particular, the seasonal total rainfall values for Belg 2026 were 855.1, 720.3, 743.4, 738.3, 755.67, 883.9, 665.2, 855.6, 674.3, 656.2, 670.5, 826.8, 743.3, and 723.6 mm at the Aman, Bedelle, Chewka, Chira, Dilla, Gatira, Jimma, Jinka, Majji, Masha, Nekemte, Sawula, Tepi, and Wolaita Sodo stations, respectively (Table 3.2.2). The daily rainfall values for the Chira, Ginir, Nura-Era, Werabe, Meisso, Kachise, Gimbi, Gode, Bure, Dolomena, Masha, Bore, Gidaayana, Tepi, Sirinka, and Arise Robe stations were recorded as 71, 80, 81, 85.1,

148.7, 88.4, 76.1, 73.2, 72.7, 70.5, 70.2, 76.8, 80, 81.6, 81.9, and 85.2 mm in the months of Mar, Mar, Mar, Mar, Mar, Apr, Apr, Apr, Apr, Apr, Apr, May, May, May, May, May on the dates 26th, 3rd, 27th, 24th, 21st, 3rd, 24th, 22nd, 9th, 8th, 10th, 3rd, respectively (Table 3.2.1).

During Belg 2026 The map indicates that negative rainfall differences (red shading), representing areas that were drier than the previous Belg season, dominated much of the eastern, southeastern, and southern parts of the country, including most of the Somali Region, eastern Oromia, southern Afar, and parts of the Southern Region. This suggests that these areas experienced lower rainfall totals during Belg 2026 compared with the Belg 2025 seasonal rainfall.

In contrast, positive rainfall differences (blue shading), indicating areas that were wetter than the previous Belg season, were observed across much of western, northwestern, and parts of central Ethiopia. These wetter conditions covered large areas of Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella, western Oromia, western Amhara, and parts of central Ethiopia, reflecting an improvement in rainfall relative to the previous Belg season.

Overall, the comparison reveals a clear west–east contrast, with western Ethiopia generally experiencing wetter conditions

than the previous year, while eastern and southeastern Ethiopia experienced drier conditions. This spatial variability highlights the uneven distribution of Belg 2026 rainfall across the country and its potential implications for rain-fed agriculture and water resources. (Fig. 3.2.2).

During Belg 2026 Rainfall was below normal over large parts of eastern and southeastern Ethiopia, including much of the Somali Region, eastern Afar, eastern Oromia, and adjacent areas, indicating substantial rainfall deficits. Near-normal rainfall was observed across central Ethiopia and in scattered areas of the south and northwest, suggesting rainfall amounts close to the long-term average. In contrast, above-normal rainfall occurred mainly over western Ethiopia, including much of Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella, western Oromia, and parts of western Amhara, where seasonal rainfall exceeded the climatological average. Overall, the Belg 2026 season was characterized by a clear west-to-east gradient, with wetter-than-normal conditions in the west and drier-than-normal conditions across much of the eastern half of the country. (Fig.3.2.3).

Table 3.2.2. Station(s) with 70 mm or more of rainfall in 24 hours during Belg 2026.

Name	Month	Date	Amount
Chira	Mar	26	71
Ginir	Mar	3	80
Nura-Era	Mar	27	81
Werabe	Mar	24	85.1
Meisso	Mar	21	148.7
Kachise	Apr	24	88.4
Gimbi	Apr	3	76.1
Gode	Apr	24	73.2
Bure	Apr	21	72.7
Dolomena	Apr	23	70.5
Masha	Apr	2	70.2
Bore	May	9	76.8
Gidaayana	May	8	80
Tepi	May	13	81.6
Sirinka	May	10	81.9
Arise Robe	May	3	85.2

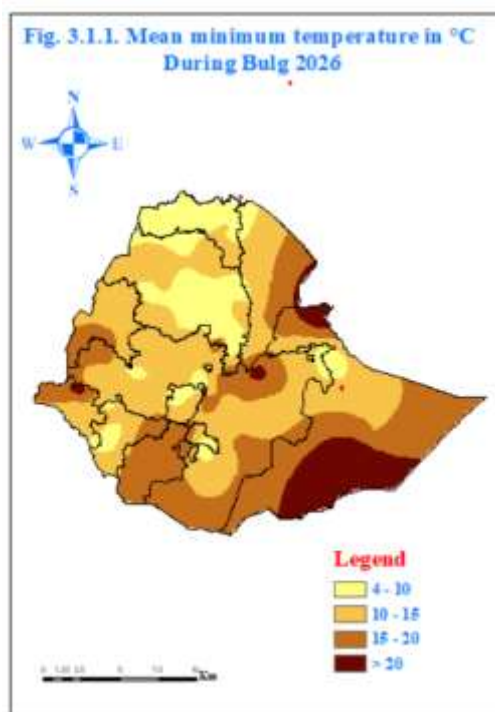


Table 3.2.1. Stations with at least 650 mm of total rainfall during Belg 2025.

Name	Amount
Aman	855.1
Bedelle	720.3
Chewka	743.4
Chira	738.3
Dilla	755.67
Gatira	883.9
Jimma	665.2
Jinka	855.6
Majji	674.3
Masha	656.2
Nekemte	670.5
Sawula	826.8
Tepi	743.3
Wolaita Sodo	723.6

