MARCH 2026

# CLIMATE BULLETIN

DEKAD 1, MARCH (21-31)

GMET/CLIMATE/030326 FORM337

3/1/2026

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## SUMMARY

- **Rainfall:**
  - Most areas received high rainfall (>20.0 mm).
  - Bimbila received the highest rainfall of 115.1 mm
  - Forest zone: Highest rainy days (6 days).
  - Transition area to northern parts: Least or no rainy days (4 days).
- **Rainfall Anomalies:**
  - Surplus rainfall in most parts of the country.
  - Deficit rainfall in specific areas – northern and forested areas.
- **Temperatures:**
  - **Maximum:**
    - Elevated in Northern and Transition zones.
    - The maximum of the Maximum temperature of 39.4°C was recorded in Navrongo.
    - Relatively cooler temperatures along the coast and in select forested areas.
  - **Minimum:**
    - Warmer in Northern, Transition and some coastal areas.
    - Cooler in forested areas.
    - The minimum of the Minimum temperature was recorded in Abetifi in the Forest zone, reaching 20.7°C.

## OBSERVED CLIMATE DRIVERS

### INTERTROPICAL FRONT

Also known as the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) is a critical meteorological feature that significantly influences weather patterns in West Africa, including Ghana. The ITF is a boundary zone where the warm, moist air from the Atlantic Ocean (southwesterly monsoon winds) meets the hot, dry air from the Sahara Desert (northeasterly Harmattan winds). This convergence leads to the formation of clouds and precipitation, making it a key driver of the rainy season in West Africa. The northward movement of the ITF during March-July brings the rainy season to Ghana.

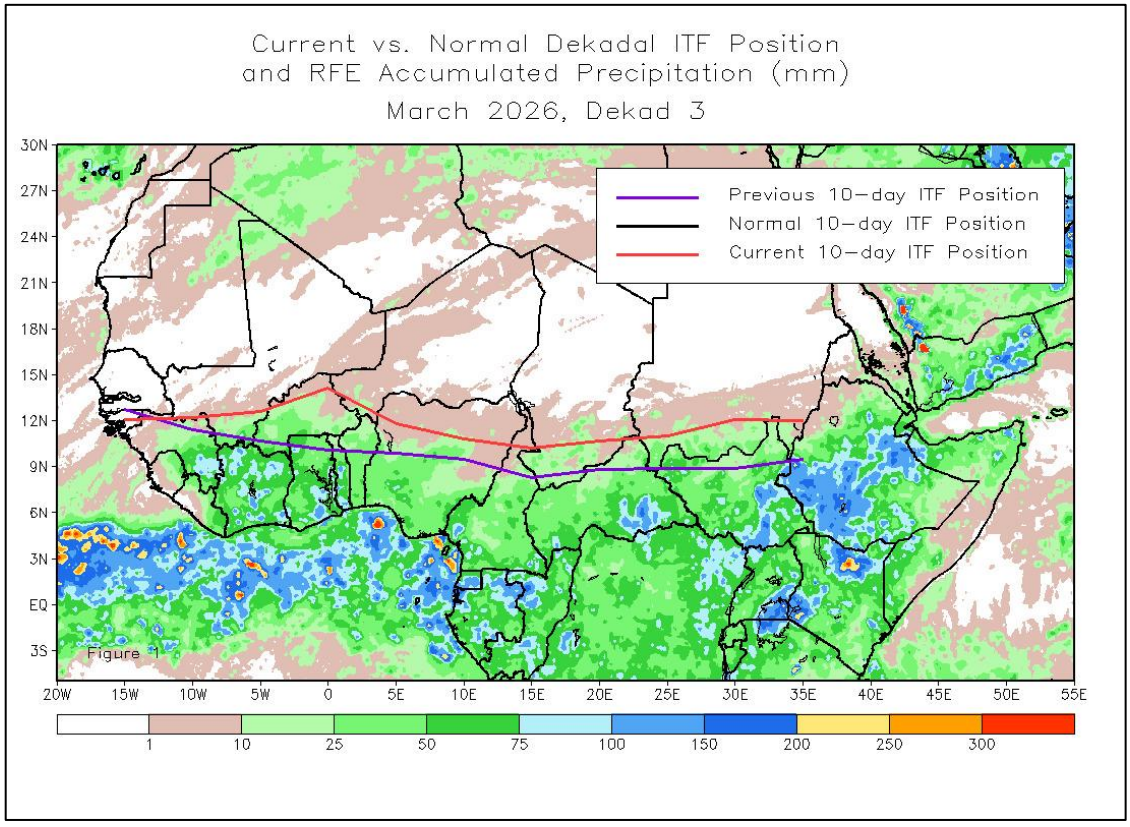



*Figure 1. Current ITF position for March 3rd Dekad, 2026*

Between March 21 and 31, the current Inter-Tropical Front (ITF) moved northward compared to its previous location. Specifically, the current ITF was located at approximately 14.4N in the northern sector of Burkina Faso which is north of its previous position at 10.1N. *Figure 1* displays the current position of the ITF during the *3rd* dekad of March and its previous position during the *2nd* dekad of March. Similarly, *Table 1* below also shows the evolving ITF's position of Ghana, located between 5W and 5E.

| DEKAD | 5W | 0 | 5E |
|---|---|---|---|
| January 1 | 10.7 | 9.0 | 6.6 |
| January 2 | 6.4 | 6.6 | 9.4 |
| January 3 | 6.5 | 6.5 | 7.6 |
| February 1 | 9.3 | 10.2 | 9.6 |
| February 2 | 10.7 | 10.9 | 10.4 |
| February 3 | 8.6 | 8.5 | 7.8 |
| March 1 | 10.6 | 11.2 | 10.0 |
| March 2 | 10.7 | 10.1 | 9.9 |
| March 3 | 12.6 | 14.1 | 11.8 |

*Table 1. Dekadal evolution of the ITF position over Ghana 2026.*

## MADDEN-JULIAN OSCILLATION (MJO)

MJO is a tropical disturbance that moves eastward around the globe, influencing weather patterns, including rainfall and temperature, in various regions. The MJO has phases (1-8), with each phase corresponding to its location over the tropics. Its position and strength can have significant implications for weather in Ghana, particularly during the West African monsoon season.

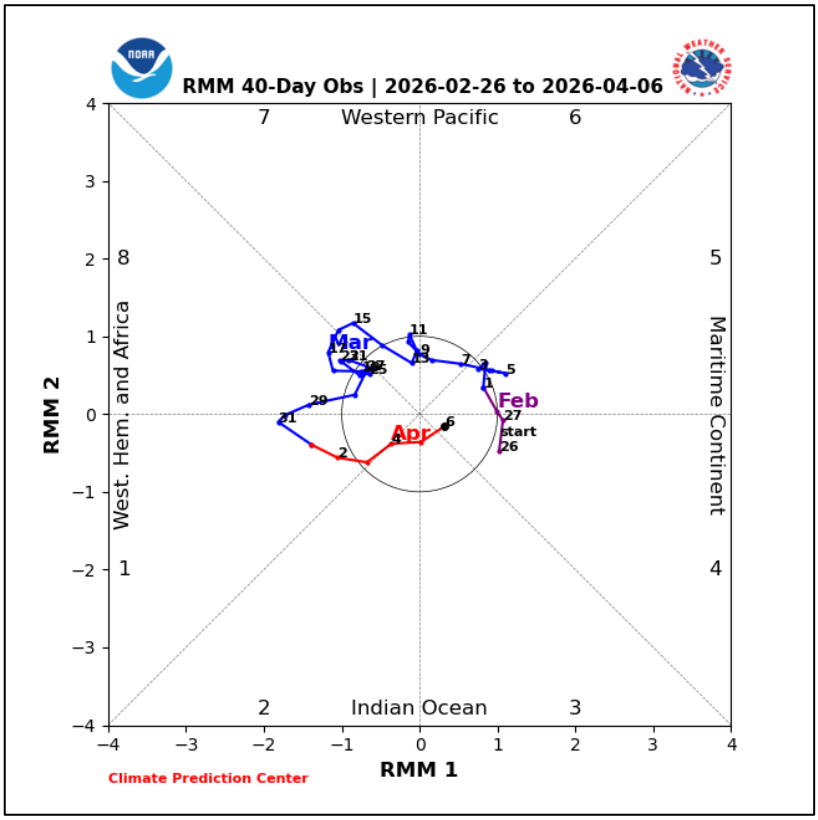



*Figure 2. Current MJO position as of March 3rd Dekad, 2026*

From *figure 2*, the MJO was primarily in phase 8 (Western Pacific) transitioning toward phase 1 (Western Hemisphere and Africa). This implies suppressed to more favorable conditions for rainfall over Ghana, with improving convective activity toward the latter part of the week.

## 1.0 RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE DISTRIBUTION

### 1.1 RAINFALL

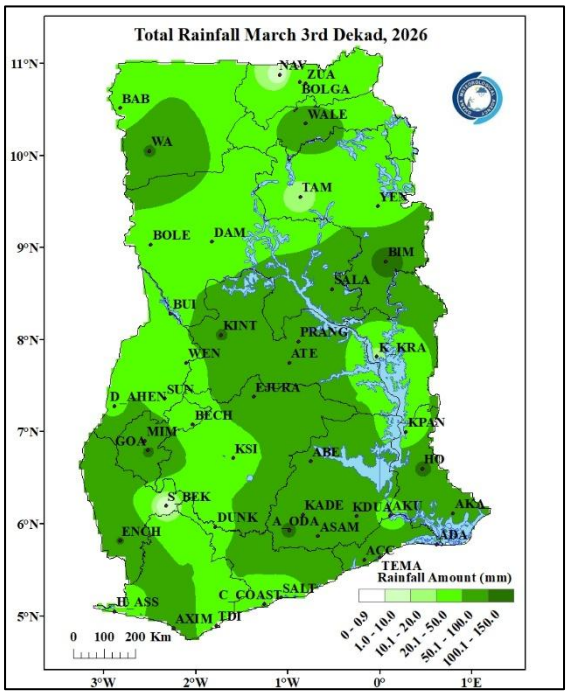



*Figure 3a: Total Rainfall March 3rd Dekad, 2026*

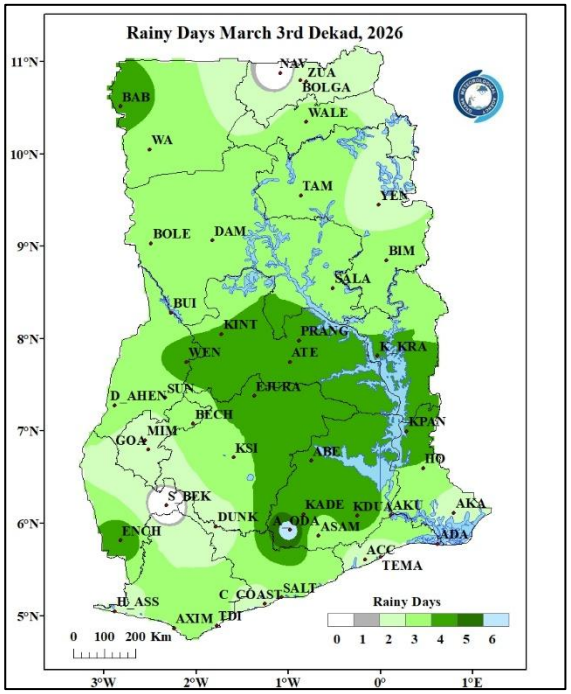



*Figure 3b: Rainy Days March 3rd Dekad, 2026*

*Figure 3a* illustrates the rainfall distribution across Ghana during the third ten-day period of March. The northern station Bimbila recorded the highest rainfall amount with a total of 115.1 mm. Almost all areas in the country experienced rainfall during the period, except for Navrongo and Sefwi-Bekwai.

*Figure 3b* also illustrates the frequency of rainy days during the specified period. Again, areas around Navrongo and Sefwi-Bekwai recorded no rainy day. The forested areas around Akim Oda saw up to 6 rainy days recorded.

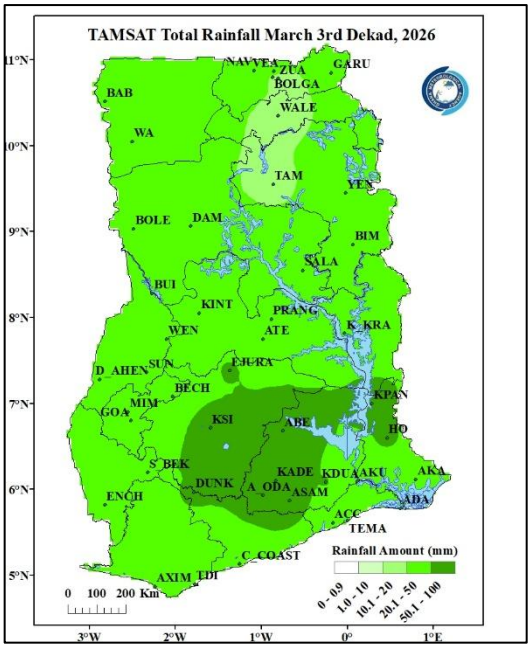



*Figure 4. TAMSAT Total Rainfall March 3rd Dekad, 2026*

Figure 4 presents the total rainfall derived from the TAMSAT rainfall estimate. The data indicates some spatial consistencies. However, rainfall amounts were underestimated in most parts of the country. Specific areas include Wa, Walewale, Kintampo, Mim, Axim, Accra, Ada, and Bimbila.

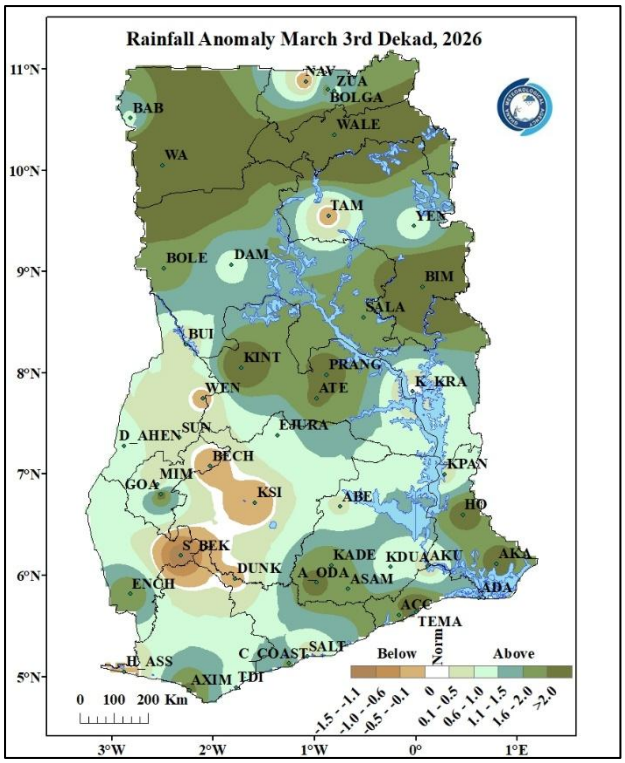



*Figure 5: Rainfall Anomaly for March 3rd Dekad, 2026*

*Figure 5* also highlights areas with deviations from normal rainfall. Most places in the country (e.g. Ho, Abetifi, Bui, Damango, Wa Enchi, Axim, Akim Oda, and Accra experienced above-normal rainfall. In contrast, Navrongo, Wenchi, Kumasi, Sefwi Bekwai, Bechem and its environs experienced normal to below-normal rainfall

## 1.2 TEMPERATURE

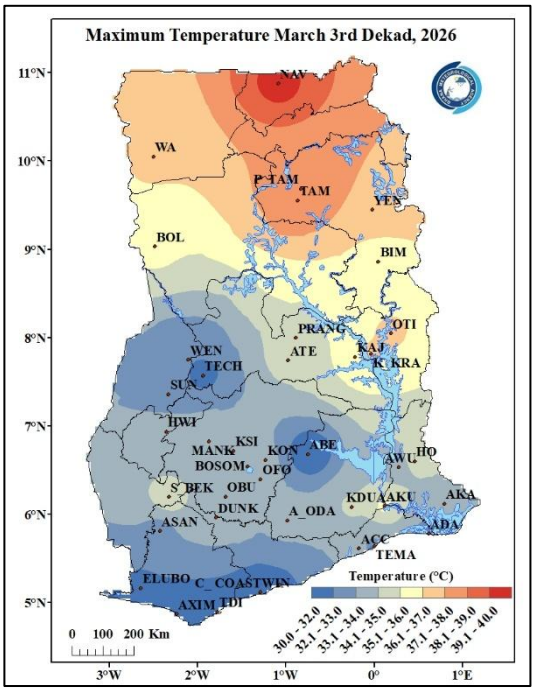



*Figure 6a. Maximum Temperature March 3rd Dekad, 2026.*

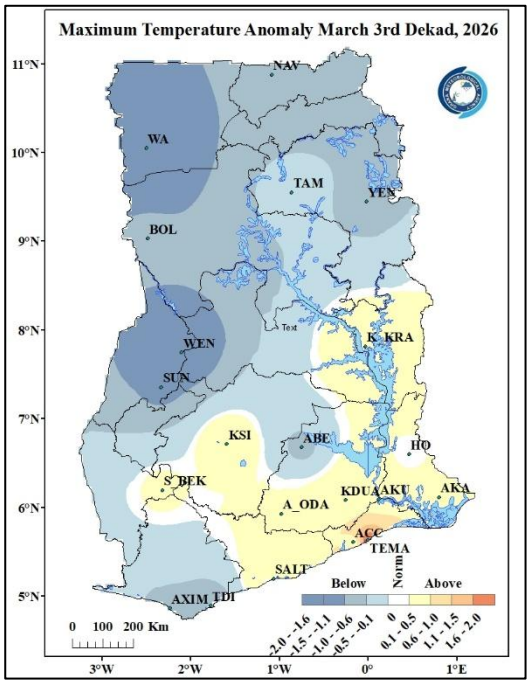



*Figure 6b. Maximum Temperature Anomaly March 3rd Dekad, 2026.*

*Figure 6a* displays the distribution of average daytime temperatures across the country. The northern belt recorded higher temperatures, ranging from 36.1°C to 40.0°C. The highest temperature of **39.4**°C was recorded in **Navrongo**, while the lowest temperature of **30.2°C** was observed in **Abetifi**. In the transition zone, temperatures ranged between 30.0°C and 37.0.0°C. Similarly, the southern sector, including Abetifi, Accra, Saltpond, and Axim experienced temperatures ranging from 30.0°C to 36.0°C. Temperature were relatively cooler during this dekad.

Maximum Temperature Anomaly is represented in *figure 6b* above, showing an increasing gradient from the Northern sector to the Southern half of the country. Below-normal temperatures dominated the northern sector, parts of the transition and forested zones, specifically around Sunyani, Wenchi, Atebubu, Abetifi, Axim and Takoradi. The eastern portions of the transition, forest and coastal areas however experienced normal to above-normal temperatures during the period.

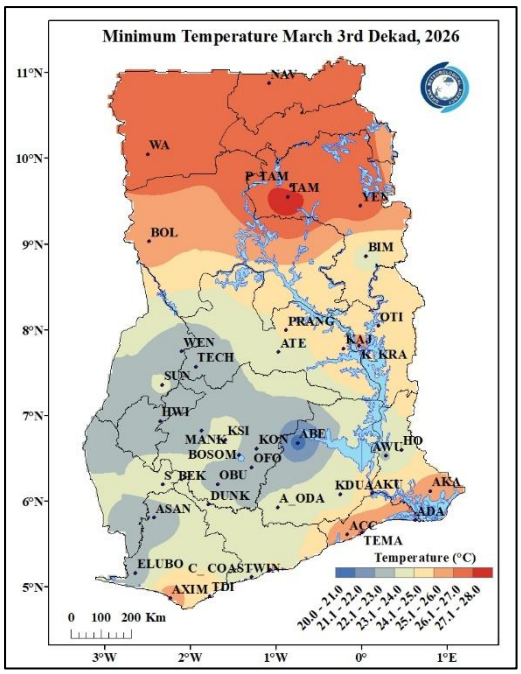



*Figure 7a. Minimum Temperature March 3rd Dekad, 2026*

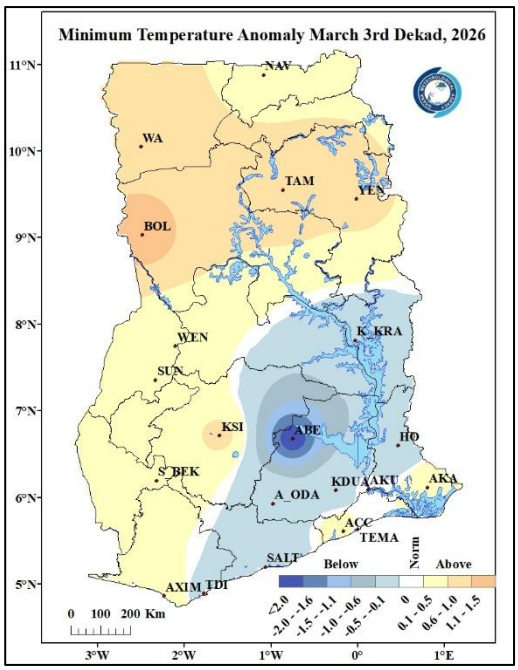



*Figure 7b. Minimum Temperature Anomaly March 3rd Dekad, 2026*

In *Figure 7a*, the average nighttime temperatures varied across different regions. The northern sector, the transition zones, and the coastline of the country, including Yendi, Akatsi, Accra, Ho, Tema, Axim and Kete Krachi, experienced relatively warmer temperatures, with average values ranging from 24.1°C to 28.0°C. The forest zone such as Kumasi, Akim Oda, and Elubo recorded average temperature between 20.0°C to 24.0°C. The lowest average nighttime temperature was recorded in Abetifi in the forest zone, reaching 20.7°C.

In *figure 7b*, we see the Minimum Temperature Anomaly. The eastern portions of the transition, forest and coastal areas experienced below-normal temperatures during the period. The rest of the country experienced normal to above-normal nighttime temperatures indicating increased nighttime temperatures in some specific areas during the period.

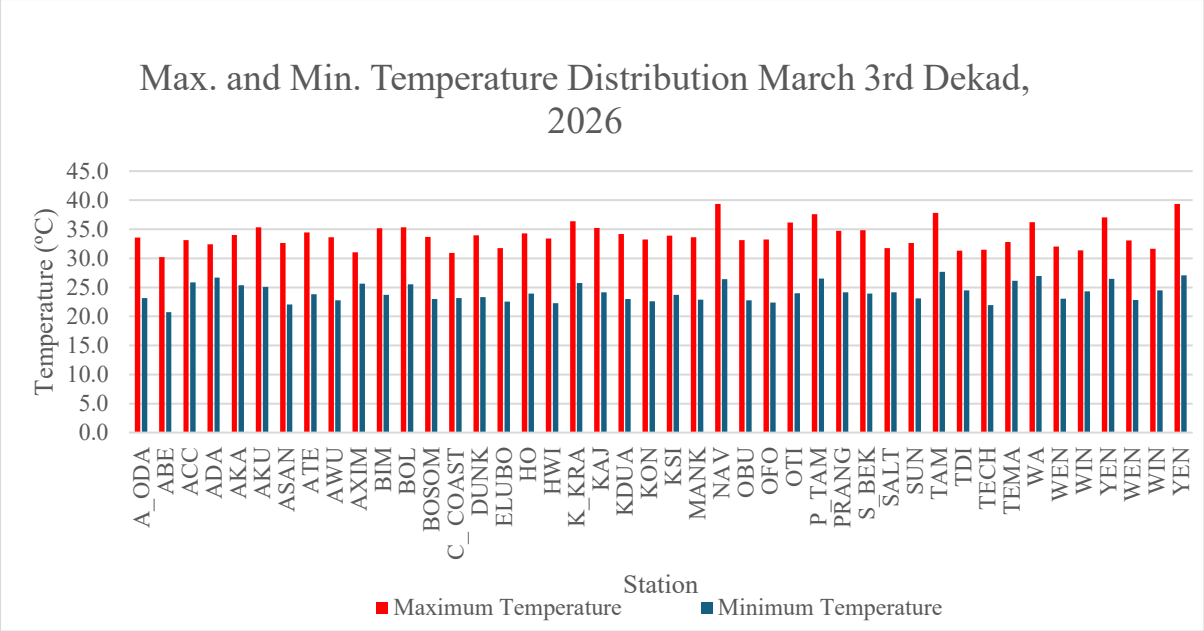
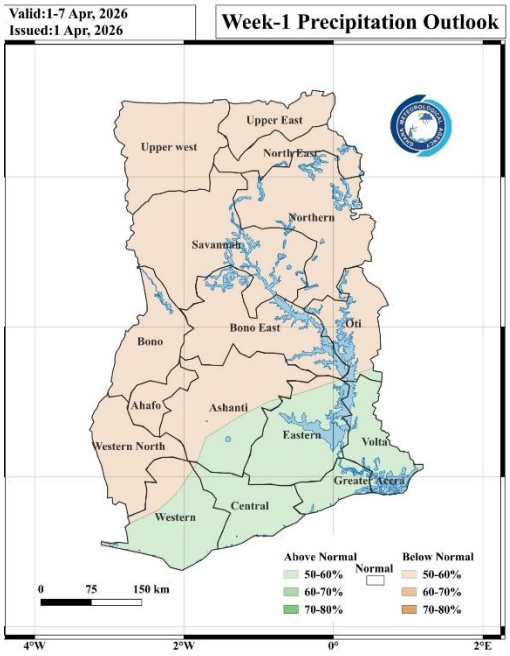


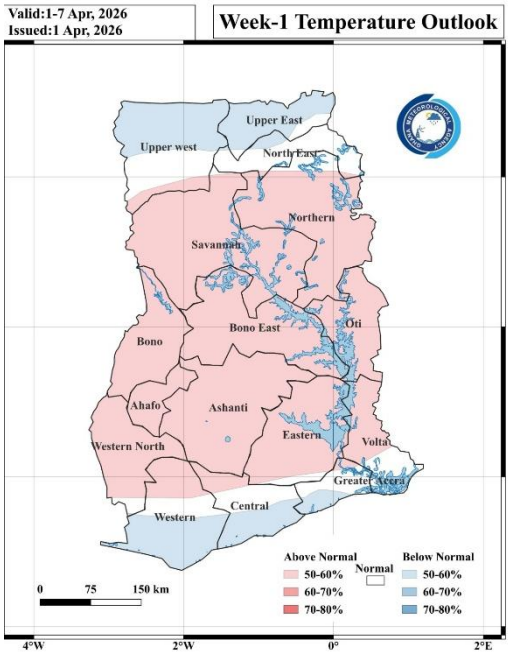

*Figure 8. Max. and Min. Temperature Distribution for March 3rd Dekad, 2026*

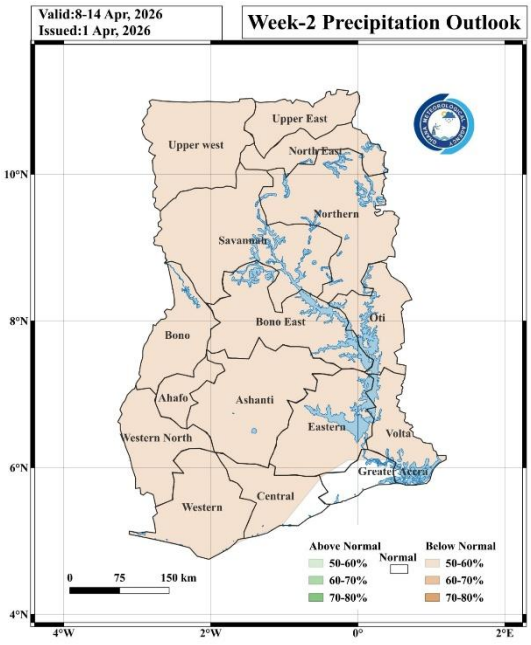
## 2.0 RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK 1ST – 14TH APRIL 2026

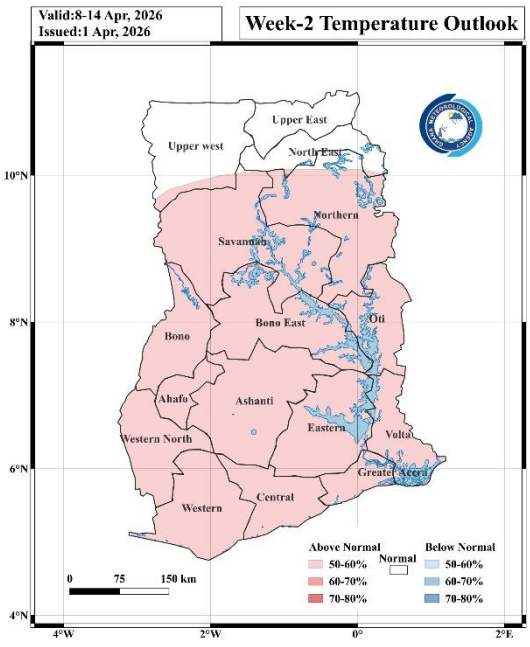
For the coming week, rainfall is projected to be above-normal in along the coast and some forested areas. The rest of the country, from the forest zone to the Northern sector is expected to experience below-normal rains. Temperatures are expected to be normal to below-normal along the coast, in Upper West and Upper East. The rest of the country i.e. forest, transition and Northern regions will experience above-normal temperatures.

For week 2, normal to below-normal is expected across the entire country, whiles temperature is projected to be normal to above-normal.



## 3.0 ADVISORIES

1. **Health Sector**
    - Increased temperatures may lead to dehydration and heat stress.
    - Be cautious of heat-related illnesses, especially for vulnerable groups (elderly, children, and those with chronic illnesses) due to high daytime temperatures particularly in the Northern belt.

2. **Water Resources Management Sector**
    - Conserve water and use it efficiently, especially in regions with little or no rainfall (Northern sector).

3. **General Public**
    - Normal to Above-Normal Temperatures (Nationwide). The public should limit outdoor activities during peak heat hours (11 am to 4 pm).
    - The use of fans or air conditioning where available to stay cool
    - Stay hydrated, avoid prolonged sun exposure, and wear light clothing.
    - Stay updated on weather forecasts from the Ghana Meteorological Agency.

## 4.0 APPENDIX

4.1 TABLE OF STATIONS

| STATIONS | Abrevation | STATIONS | Abrevation | STATIONS | Abrevation |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Abetifi | ABE | Bui | BUI | Salaga | SALA |
| Accra | ACC | Cape Coast | C. COAST | Saltpond | SALT |
| Ada | ADA | Damongo | DAM | Sefwi Bekwai | S. BEK |
| Agona Kwanyako | AG. KWA | Dorma Ahenkro | D. AHEN | Sefwi Wiawso | S. WIAW |
| Agona Swedro | AG. SWE | Duayaw Nkwanta | D. NKWA | Sunyani | SUNY |
| Akatsi | AKA | Dunkwa | DUNK | Techiman | TECH |
| Akim Oda | AK. ODA | Goaso | GOA | Tafo | TAFO |
| Akropong Akwapim | A. Akwap | Ho | HO | Takoradi | TADI |
| Akuse | AKU | Kade | KADE | Tamale | TAMA |
| Asamankese | ASAM | Kete Krachi | K. KRA | Tarkwa | TARK |
| Asankragwa | ASANK | Kintampo | KINT | Tema | TEMA |
| Atebubu | ATE | Koforidua | KOF | Twifo Praso | T. PRA |
| Atieku | ATIEKU | Kpando | KPAN | Vea Dam | VEA |
| Axim | AXIM | Kumasi | KSI | Wa | WA |
| Babile | BABILE | Manga Bawku | M. BAWKU | Walewale | WALE |
| Bechem | BECH | Mim | MIM | Wamfie | WAMF |
| Bibiani | BIB | Navrongo | NAV | Wassaw Akropong | W. AKR |
| Bimbila | BIMB | Nsoatre | NSOA | Wenchi | WEN |
| Bole | BOLE | Obuasi | OBUASI | Winneba | WINN |
| Bolgatanga | BOLGA | Pong Tamale | P. TAM | Yendi | YEN |
| Bompata | BOMPA | Prang | PRANG | Zuarungu | ZUA |
| Breman Asikuma | B. ASIK | | | | |

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