

MARCH 2026

# CLIMATE BULLETIN



DEKAD 1, MARCH (1-10)

GMET/CLIMATE/010326

FORM337

3/1/2026

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## SUMMARY

- **Rainfall:**
  - Most areas received high rainfall (>20.0 mm).
  - Cape coast received the highest rainfall of 100.5 mm
  - The northern sector reported less or no rainfall.
  - Forest zone: Highest rainy days (6 days).
  - Transition area to northern parts: Least or no rainy days (2 days).
- **Rainfall Anomalies:**
  - Deficit rainfall in some forested and coastal areas.
  - Surplus rainfall in specific areas – northern, forested areas and coastline.
- **Temperatures:**
  - **Maximum:**
    - Elevated in Northern and Transition zones.
    - The maximum of the Maximum temperature of 39.7°C was recorded in Navrongo.
    - Relatively cooler temperatures along the coast and in select forested areas.
  - **Minimum:**
    - Warmer in Northeastern regions, Transitional zone, and Coastal areas.
    - Cooler in Transition areas and certain forested areas.
    - The minimum of the Minimum temperature was recorded in Abetifi in the Forest zone, reaching 21.38°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.

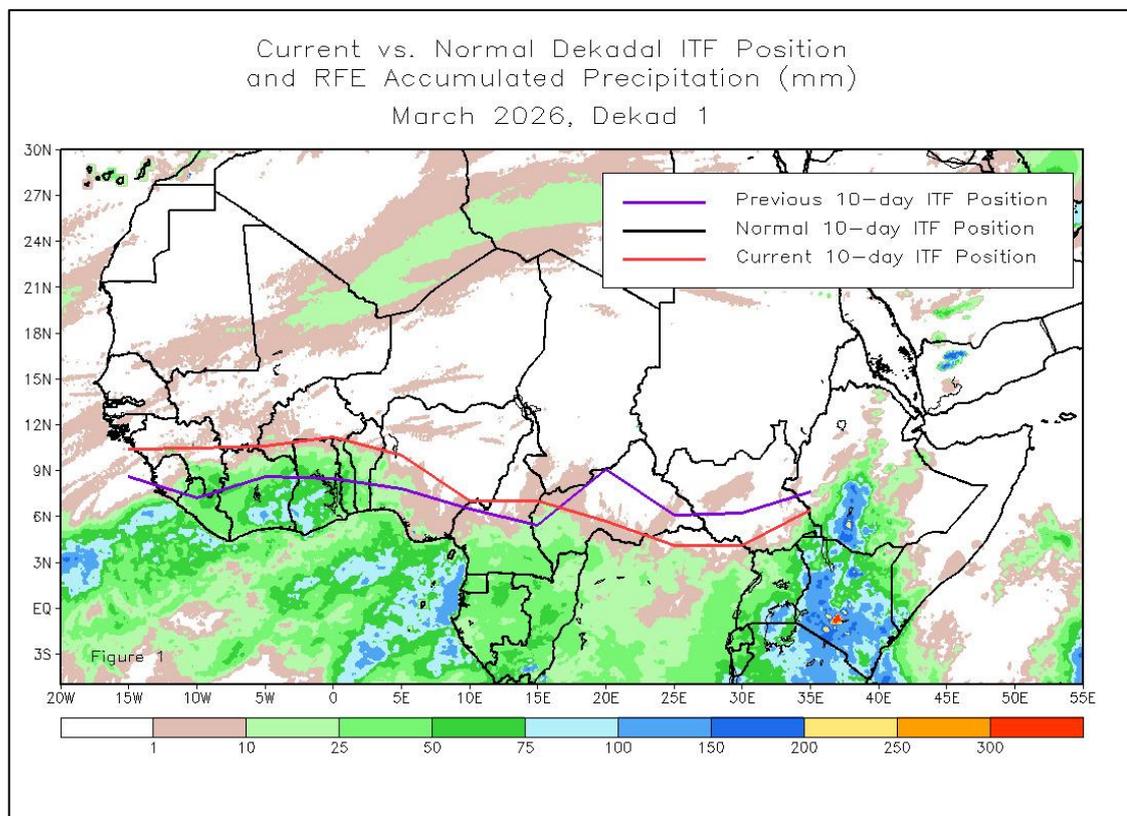


Figure 1. Current ITF position for March 1st Dekad, 2026

Between March 1 and 10, the current Inter-Tropical Front (ITF) moved northward compared to its previous location. Specifically, the current ITF was located at approximately 11.2N in the northern sector of the country which is north of its previous position at 8.5N. Figure 1 displays the current position of the ITF during the 1st dekad of March and its previous position during the 3rd dekad of February. 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

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.

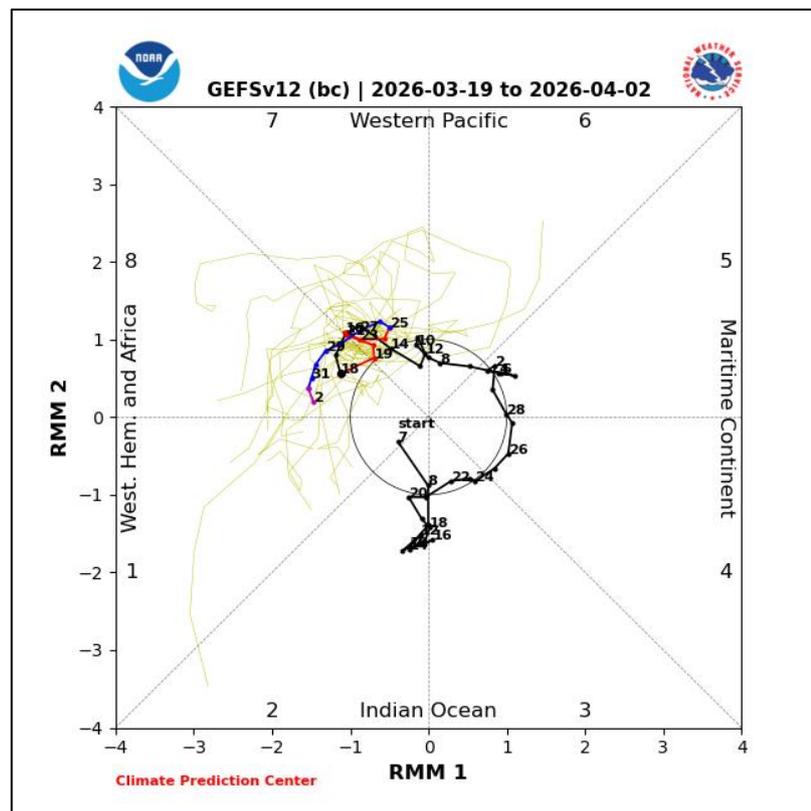


Figure 2. Current MJO position as of March 1st Dekad, 2026

From figure 2, the MJO was primarily in phase 6 (Maritime continent) transitioning toward phase 7 (Western pacific). This phase is unfavourable for rainfall, implying suppressed convection and a possible delay in the onset of the major rainy season, particularly across southern sectors, where the MJO's signal is weak (i.e. inside the unit circle).

# 1.0 RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE DISTRIBUTION

## 1.1 RAINFALL

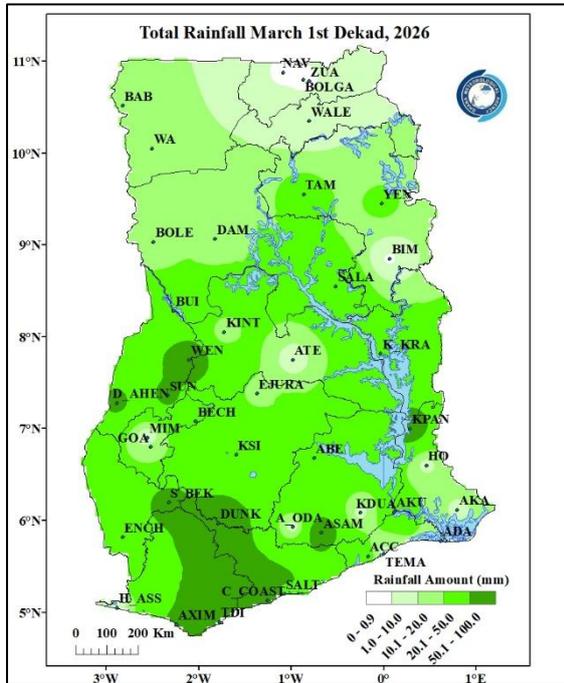


Figure 3a: Total Rainfall March 1st Dekad, 2026

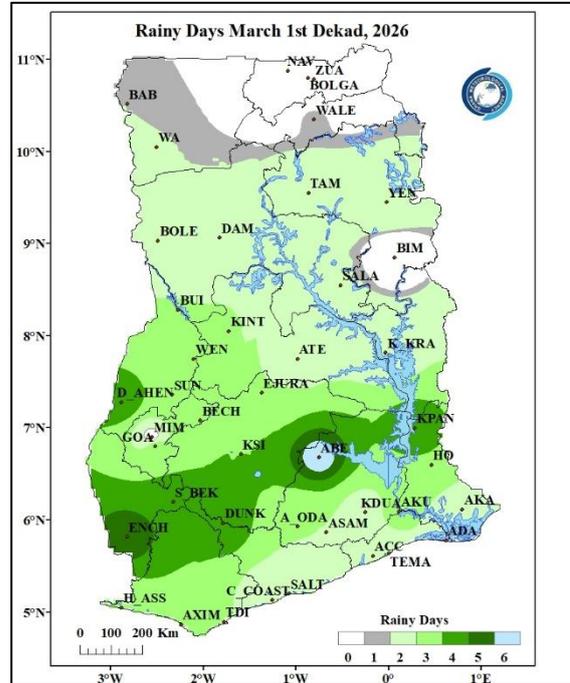


Figure 3b: Rainy Days March 1st Dekad, 2026

Figure 3a illustrates the rainfall distribution across Ghana during the first ten-day period of March. The Southern station Cape coast recorded the highest rainfall amount with a total of 100.5 mm. In contrast, some areas in the Northern region such as Navrongo, Zuarungu, Bolgatanga and Bimbila experienced no rainfall during the period.

Figure 3b also illustrates the frequency of rainy days during the specified period. Most areas in the Upper West, Upper East, and Northeastern regions recorded 1 rainy day or null rainy day. The forested areas around Aetifi saw up to 6 rainy days recorded.

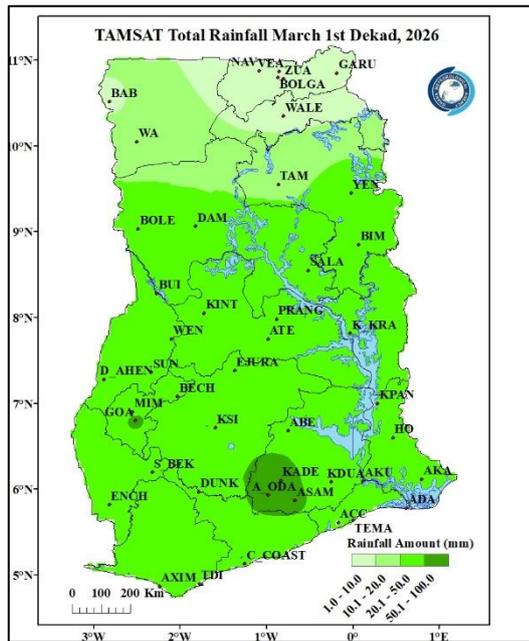


Figure 4 presents the total rainfall derived from the TAMSAT rainfall estimate. The data indicates some spatial consistencies, with rainfall amounts slightly underestimated in the southern sector.

Figure 4. TAMSAT Total Rainfall March 1st Dekad, 2026

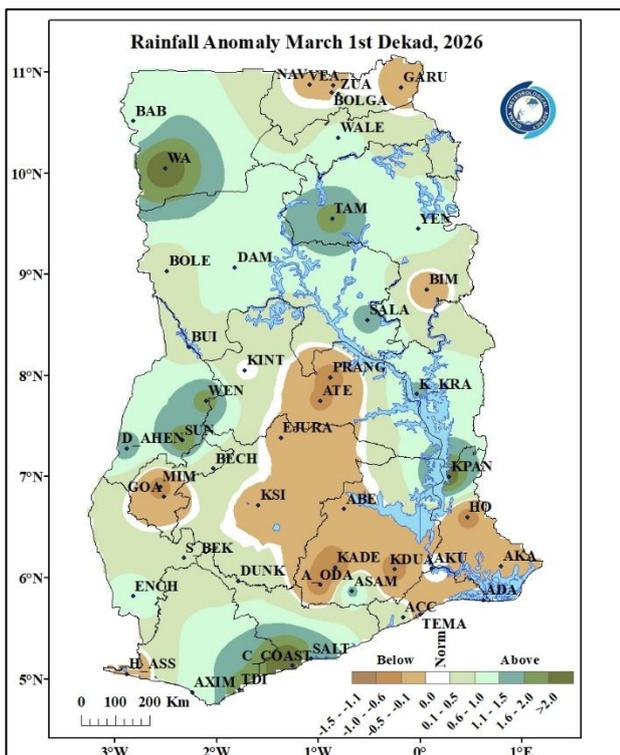


Figure 5 also highlights areas with deviations from normal rainfall. Places around Ho, Kumasi, Kade, Abetifi, Atebubu, Garu, Tamale, and Vea, located in the forest to the northern sector of the country experienced below-normal rainfall. The rest of the country experienced normal to above normal rainfall (e.g. Axim, Accra, Enchi, Kpando, Kete Krachi, Tamale, and Sunyani and its environs)

Figure 5: Rainfall Anomaly for March 1st Dekad, 2026

## 1.2 TEMPERATURE

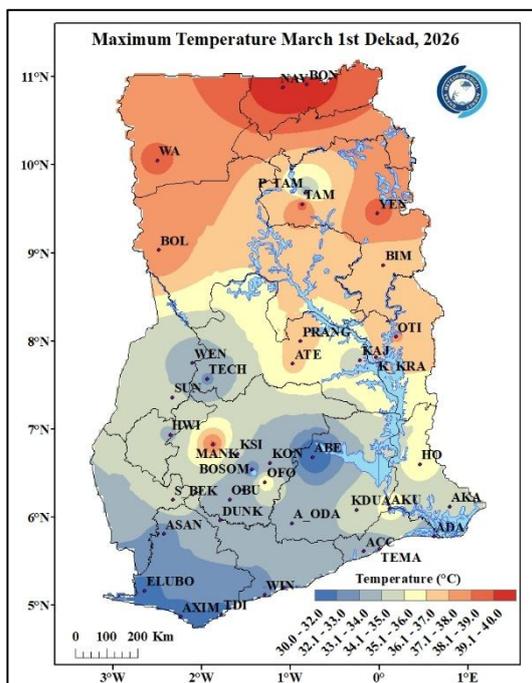


Figure 6a. Maximum Temperature March 1st Dekad, 2026.

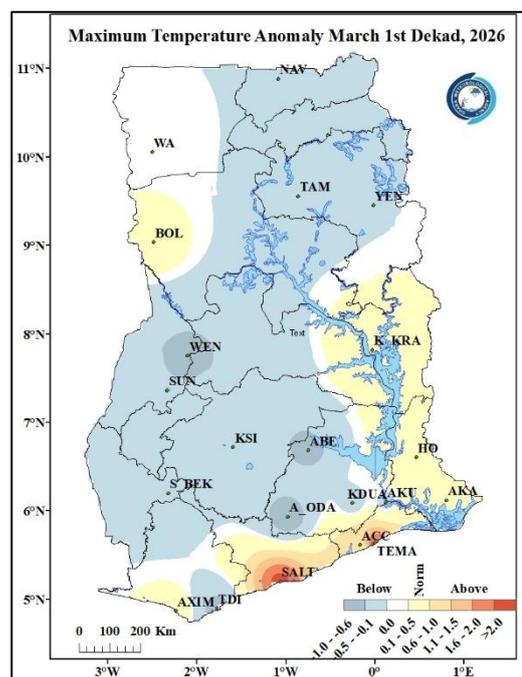


Figure 6b. Maximum Temperature Anomaly March 1st Dekad, 2026.

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 39.7°C was recorded in Navrongo, while the lowest temperature of 30.6°C was observed in Abetifi. In the transition zone, temperatures ranged between 33.1°C and 37.0.0°C. In contrast, the southern sector, including Abetifi, Accra, Saltpond, and Axim experienced relatively cooler temperatures ranging from 30.0°C to 37.0°C. Temperature were relative cooler during this dekad.

Maximum Temperature Anomaly is represented in *figure 6b* above. Areas spanning from the central and eastern coastline, the eastern portions of the forest, transition to the northern sector experienced normal to above-normal temperatures. However, in the Southern half, places like Kumasi, Akim Oda, Abetifi, and Wenchi experienced normal to below-normal temperatures during the period.

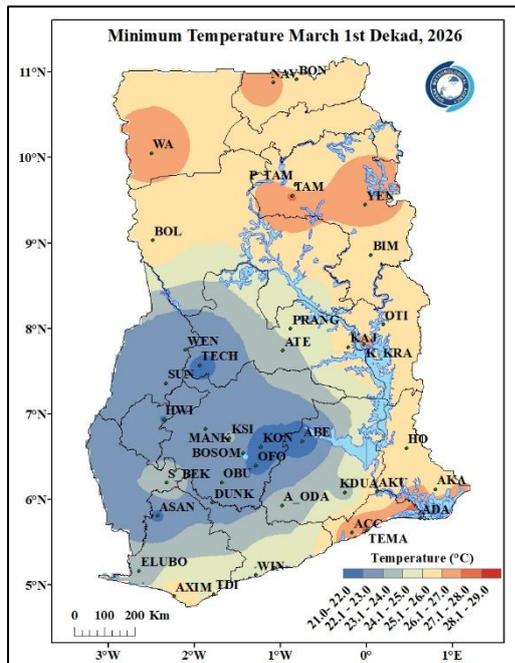


Figure 7a. Minimum Temperature March 1st Dekad, 2026

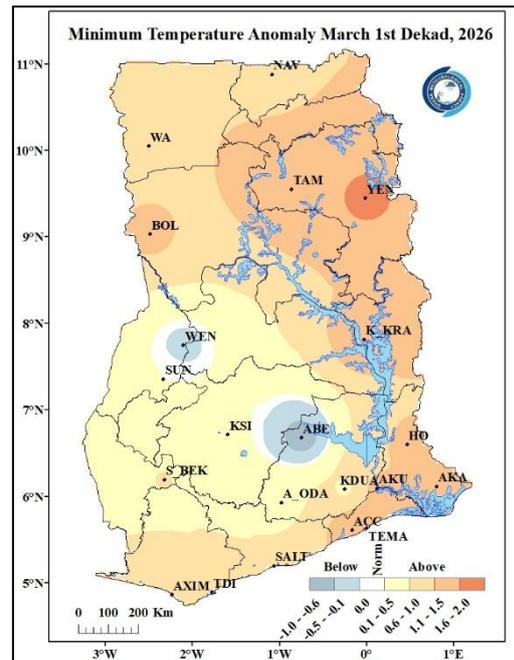


Figure 7b. Minimum Temperature Anomaly March 1st Dekad, 2026

In *Figure 7a*, the average nighttime temperatures varied across different regions. The northern sector and the eastern fringes of the country, including Yendi, Akatsi, Accra, Ho and Kete Krachi, experienced relatively warmer temperatures, with average values ranging from 25.1°C to 29.0°C. Similarly, along the coastal areas, including Axim, Takoradi, and Winneba, the average nighttime temperatures ranged from 24.1°C to 26.0°C. Some parts of the transition zone, such as Wenchi, Atebubu and some areas in the forest zone, like, Kumasi, Akim Oda, and Sefwi Bekwi recorded average temperature between 21.0°C to 24.0°C. The lowest average nighttime temperature was recorded in Abetifi in the forest zone, reaching 21.38°C.

In *figure 7b*, we see the Minimum Temperature Anomaly. Except for Sunyani, Abetifi and its environs that experienced normal to below-normal nighttime temperatures, above-normal temperatures dominated the rest of the country indicating increased nighttime temperatures during the period.

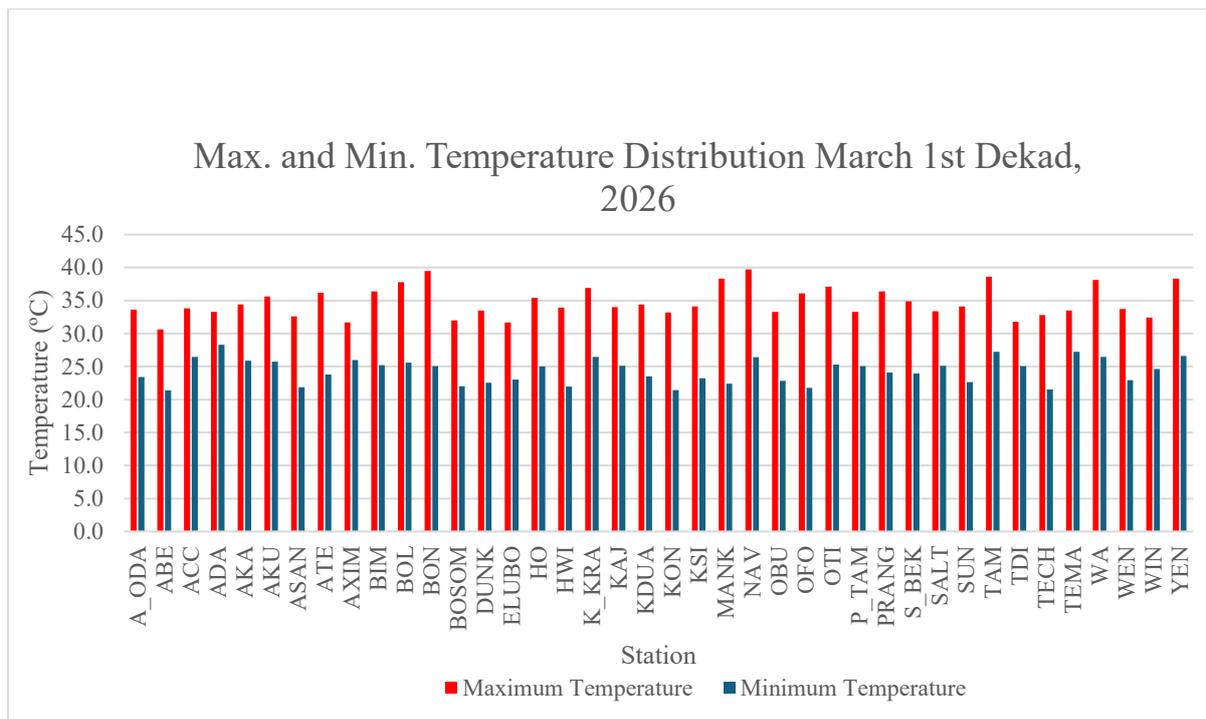
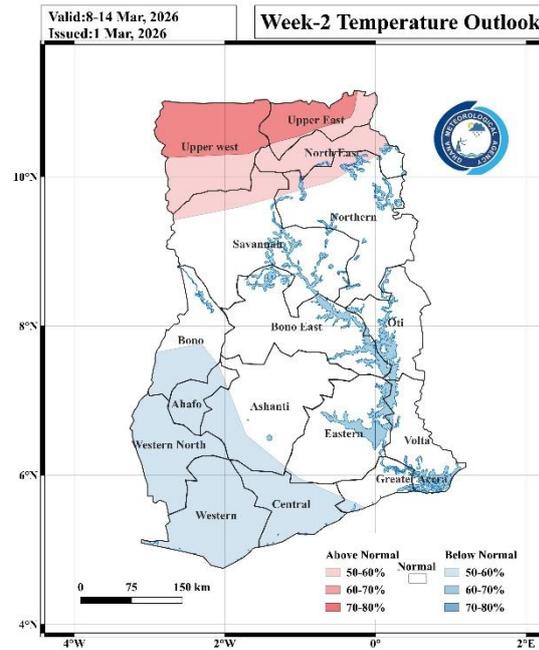
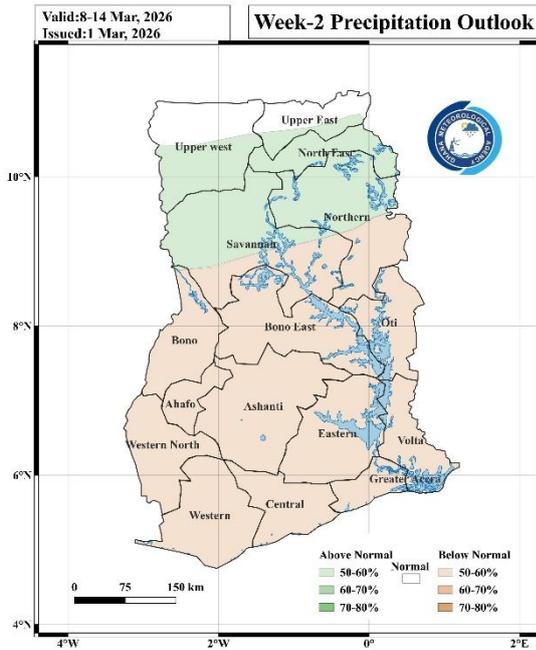


Figure 8. Max. and Min. Temperature Distribution for March 1st Dekad, 2026

## 2.0 RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK 8<sup>TH</sup> – 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026

For the coming week, rainfall is projected to be below-normal in the southern sector, including the transition zone and the southern portions of the Savannah and Northern regions. However, the northern portions of the Savannah and Northern regions, extending to the Northeastern, Upper West and Upper East regions is expected to experience above-normal rainfall. Temperatures on the other hand are expected to be above-normal in the Northeastern, Upper West and Upper East regions, while the western portions of the forest and coastal areas will be normal to below-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	Abreviation	STATIONS	Abreviation	STATIONS	Abreviation
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	Veve 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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