

June 3, 2026

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SEASONAL OUTLOOK FOR THE EASTERN CAPE: June to October 2026

1 Overview

The El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is currently still in a neutral state; current predictions indicate that it will rapidly move towards an El Niño state within the next month and continue to strengthen up to early summer and last at least until the end of the 2026/27 summer season. Predictions are more confident now as we have moved out of the reduced performance period for ENSO forecasts. Current seasonal predictions for South Africa extend towards the transition from winter to spring, so the impact on South Africa for the coming summer can only be estimated from typical El Niño events, which is for a drier and warmer summer season. During the winter seasons, it is only the south-western, southern and eastern coastal areas that receive significant rainfall. The eastern coastal areas are expected to receive above-normal rainfall during winter and early spring, whilst below-normal rainfall is expected for the south-western and southern coastal areas during this late winter and early spring period. Minimum and maximum temperatures are largely expected to be above-normal for most parts of South Africa during the winter seasons. The SAWS will continue to monitor the weather and climate conditions and provide updates on any future assessments that may provide more clarity on the current expectations for the coming season.

Climate information: Seasonal prediction

2 Local Overview

2.1 Eastern Cape Dam Levels (Latest weekly data)

Dam Name	This Week (%)	Last Year (%)
Belfort Dam	100.0	100.0
Binfield Dam	95.7	99.1
Bridle Drift Dam	80.1	102.1
Darlington Dam	50.7	47.6
Elands Drift Dam	54.9	66.1
Groendal Dam	100.9	99.7
Impofu Dam	100.6	52.1
Kromrivier Dam	100.6	79.6
Katrivier Dam	100.2	99.9
Kommandodrift Dam	92.3	77.0
Kouga Dam	101.1	78.4
Loerie Dam	101.4	62.6
Lubisi Dam	66.9	40.3
Nahoon Dam	72.4	98.8
Ncora Dam	97.3	100.2
Nqweba Dam	102.3	83.6
Waterdown Dam	100.0	100.3
Wiggleswade Dam	95.7	100.5
Xonxa Dam	98.1	98.8
Umtata Dam	98.6	101.5
Gariep Dam	99.6	99.2

Table 1: Gariep Dam and Eastern Cape Dam Levels - Weekly Data

2.2 Winterberg and surrounding areas

A strong signal for above-normal precipitation, however this is a summer rainfall region, hence might see limited impact.

2.3 Gamtoos / Kouga Region / Nelson Mandela Bay Metro

Starting with above-normal and moving to below-normal precipitation which indicate it might be a drier winter.

2.4 Gariep Dam / Nooitgedacht System)

Above normal precipitation, but this is a summer rainfall region, hence might see limited impact.

2.5 Klein Karoo (Small Karoo-, Steytlerville/Jansenville and surrounds)

Above-normal precipitation and above-normal temperatures are expected.

3 Water and Energy

The anticipated above-normal rainfall conditions in the eastern coastal areas during winter and early spring are likely to boost surface runoff into dams and reservoirs, substantially increasing water storage capacity and availability for purposes such as household, industrial, and agricultural use. Such conditions are likely to relieve pressure on water -scarce regions, including areas that are known to receive significant rainfall during winter seasons. However, intensive rainfall may overwhelm stormwater and sewage systems, resulting in flash floods and flooding in areas prone to floods, including low -lying bridges. In addition, during this period, below -normal rainfall conditions are expected in the south -western and southern coastal areas. Such condition s, coupled

Climate information: Seasonal prediction

with largely forecasted above-normal minimum and maximum temperatures for most parts of the country during the forecasted period, are likely to increase water loss, adding pressure on water -scarce regions. Furthermore, minimum and maximum temperatures are expected to be above normal across the country during the forecast period. This is likely to increase the cooling demand, particularly during early spring. Decision -makers should note these possible outcomes and communicate with affected businesses and communities.

4 Health Sector

The June to October 2026 seasonal forecast suggests potential health implications associated with rainfall variability and above-normal temperatures in most parts of South Africa. Above-normal rainfall forecast for parts of the eastern coastal areas during winter and early spring may increase the likelihood of localised flooding, poor drainage, water source contamination, waterborne diseases and water - related injuries, particularly in low-lying and flood-prone communities. Below-normal rainfall forecast for parts of the south-western and southern coastal areas during late winter and early spring may place additional pressure on local water availability, hygiene and sanitation conditions should dry conditions persist. Above-normal minimum and maximum temperatures forecast over most parts of South Africa may increase heat -related health risks, particularly among vulnerable groups such as children, older persons, outdoor workers and people with chronic illnesses. Warmer conditions may also increase ultraviolet exposure during clear -sky periods, with associated risks such as sunburn and longer -term skin damage. authorities, municipalities and disaster management structures are advised to use the seasonal forecast to support preparedness planning, including flood -risk communication in wetter eastern coastal areas, safe water, sanitation and hygiene messaging in areas affected by wet or dry conditions, and continued heat -health and ultraviolet -exposure awareness. Communities are therefore encouraged to remain alert to rainfall -related risks by avoiding flood -prone areas and ensuring safe water and sanitation practices. To reduce heat - and ultraviolet -related risks, communities are also advised to maintain adequate hydration and use appropriate sun protection. authorities and disaster management structures are advised to strengthen public health messaging and ensure the timely dissemination of flood advisories, water safety guidance, heat -health information and UV -risk awareness to support preparedness and response across affected regions.

5 Agriculture Sector

During winter and early spring seasons, only the southern, south-western, and eastern coastal regions of the country receive significant rainfall. The forecast indicates that above-normal rainfall is anticipated in the eastern coastal areas, which is likely to bring positive impacts for crop and livestock production. However, the south -western and southern coastal areas of the country, which normally receive significant rainfall during winter and early spring, are expected to receive below-normal rainfall during this period. Below-normal rainfall conditions in these areas are expected to have a significant impact on crop and livestock production. Therefore, the relevant decision -makers are encouraged to advise farmers in these regions to practice soil and water conservation, proper water harvesting and storage, and other appropriate farming practices.

Climate information: Seasonal prediction

6 Eastern Cape Rainfall Outlook

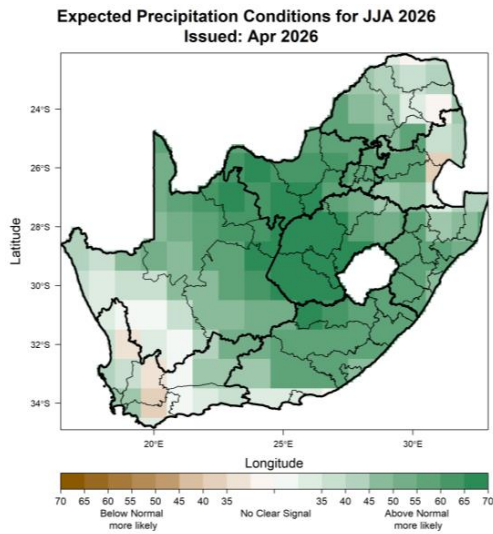


Figure 1: Rainfall for June to August (JJA)

Precipitation is expected to be above-normal. Temperatures are expected to be higher than normal.

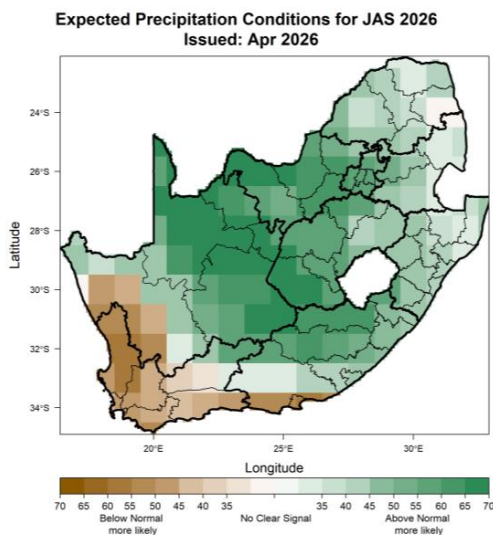


Figure 2: Rainfall for July to September (JAS)

Rainfall is expected to be above-normal with exception of the south-western corner that will be below-normal rainfall. Temperatures are expected to be higher than normal.

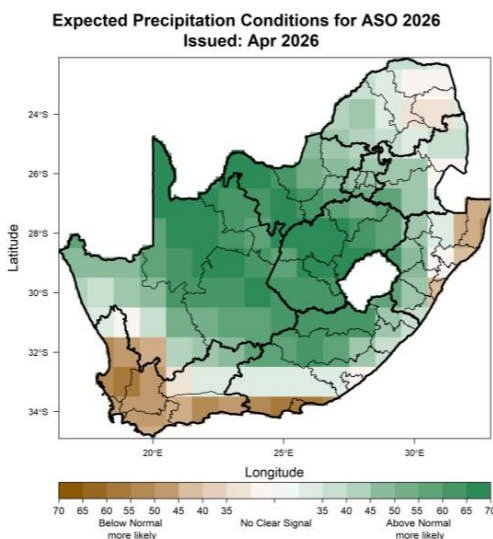


Figure 3: Rainfall for August to October (ASO)

Rainfall is expected to be above-normal with exception of the south-western corner that will be below-normal rainfall. Temperatures are expected to be higher than normal.

Climate information: Seasonal prediction

7 Day Temperatures

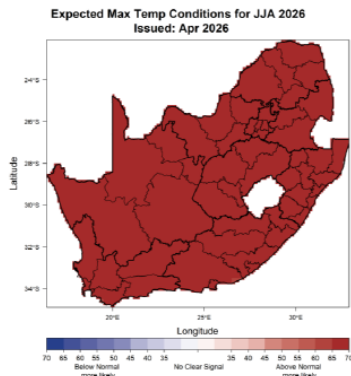


Figure 4
Daytime temperatures for
June to August (JJA)

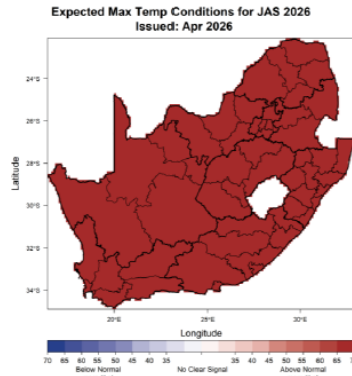


Figure 5
Daytime temperatures for
July to September (JAS)

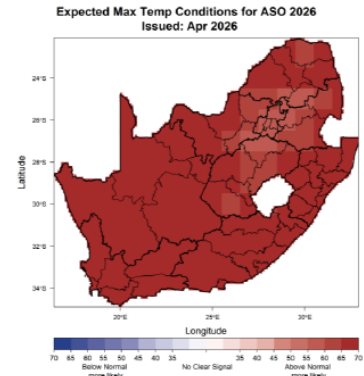


Figure 6
Daytime temperatures for
August to October (ASO)

8 Night Temperatures

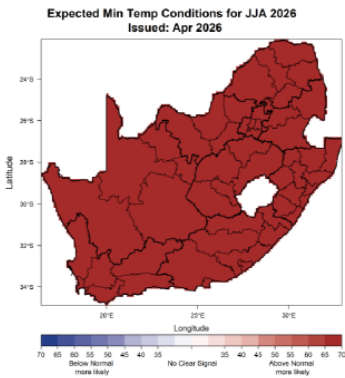


Figure 4
Daytime temperatures for
June to August (JJA)

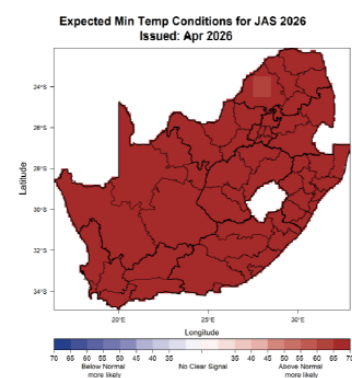


Figure 5
Daytime temperatures for
July to September (JAS)

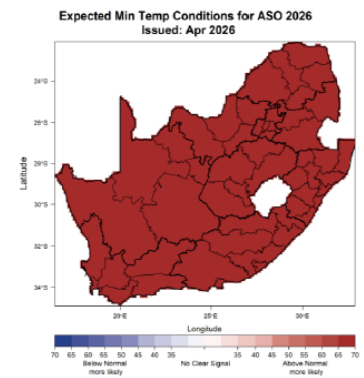


Figure 6
Daytime temperatures for
August to October (ASO)

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