

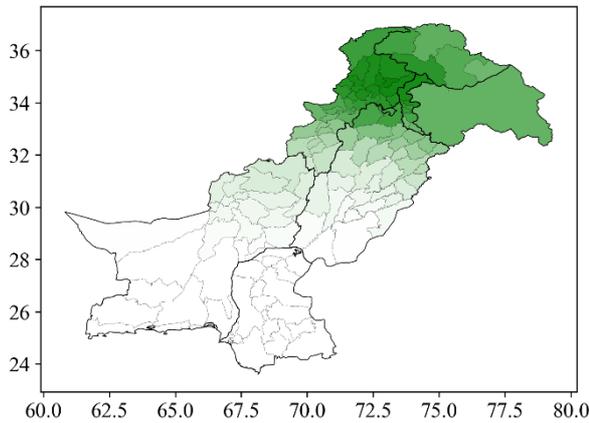
Seasonal Agro-Climat Outlook and Advisory for March - May 2026

Brief Introduction

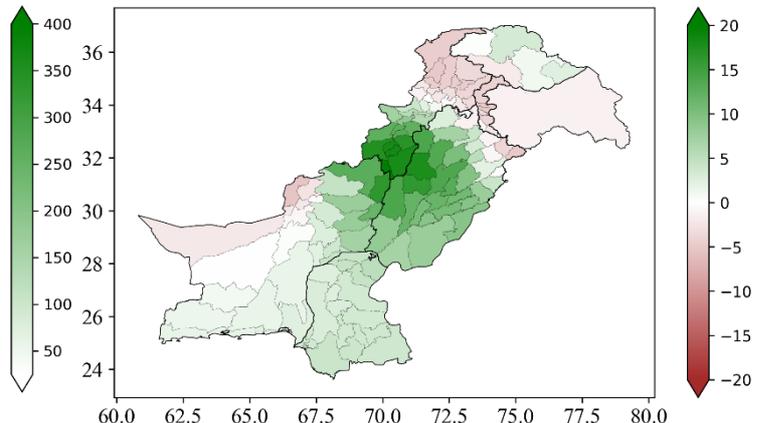
The Pakistan Meteorological Department issues monthly and seasonal forecasts using global climate models at the end of each month. Since a single model and dataset are not deemed reliable for long-term prediction and forecasting, models developed by various institutes and different datasets are utilized for accuracy, along with different boundary conditions for each model output. Currently, 13 recommended models are employed to generate a multi-model ensemble for seasonal predictions.

Seasonal Projections (Precipitation)

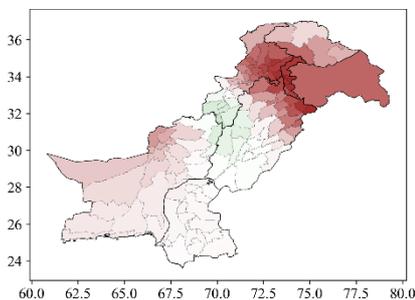
Total Precipitation (mm), MAM 2026



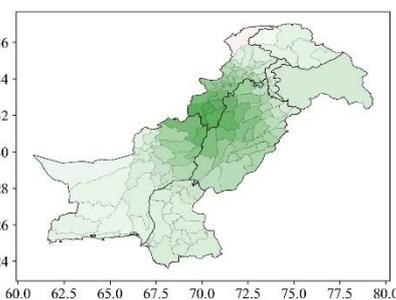
Precipitation (mm) Anomaly Outlook, MAM 2026



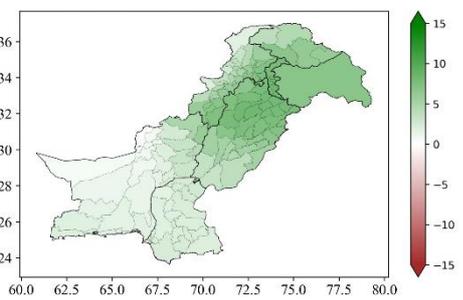
Precipitation (mm) Anomaly, Mar 2026



Precipitation (mm) Anomaly, Apr 2026



Precipitation (mm) Anomaly, May 2026



The precipitation outlook for March to May 2026 (MAM 2026) indicates that Pakistan is likely to experience generally above-normal rainfall during this period. This trend is especially notable in Central and Southern Punjab, as well as Lower Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Conversely, Sindh, the adjacent regions of Balochistan, and certain isolated areas in Gilgit Baltistan are expected to experience precipitation levels that are mostly near normal. On the other hand, Upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Azad Kashmir, isolated segments of North-East Punjab, and the western part of Balochistan are anticipated to experience below-normal rainfall during the same timeframe.

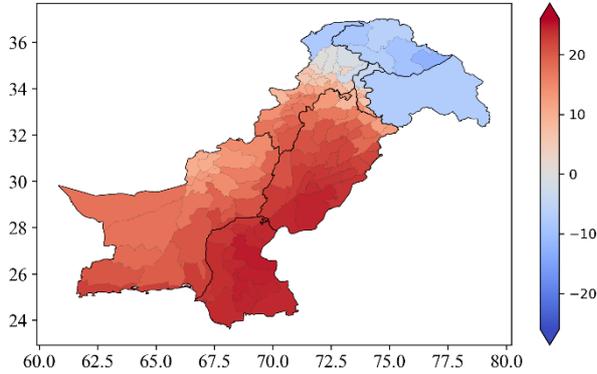


Month-wise Situation

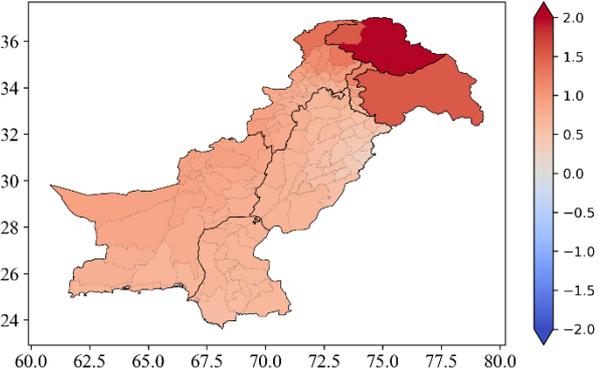
- In March 2026, below-normal precipitation is expected across most regions of the country. Northern Pakistan, particularly Gilgit-Baltistan, Azad Kashmir, and the upper parts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab, is likely to experience below-average rainfall, with additional deficits anticipated in certain areas of Balochistan. In contrast, lower Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, along with adjacent parts of Punjab and Balochistan, may receive slightly above-normal conditions, while Sindh is forecasted to receive near-normal precipitation.
- The precipitation anomaly for April 2026 indicates widespread above-normal rainfall throughout much of Pakistan, with the most significant positive anomalies projected in lower Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and neighboring areas of Punjab and Balochistan, suggesting that April will likely be wetter than usual. However, Chitral is expected to experience slightly below-normal precipitation.
- The precipitation anomaly for May 2026 reveals a strong positive anomaly pattern across Pakistan, primarily concentrated in Azad Kashmir, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, and the surrounding areas of Balochistan. Other regions are expected to receive slightly above-normal amounts of rainfall.

Seasonal Projections (Minimum Air Temperature)

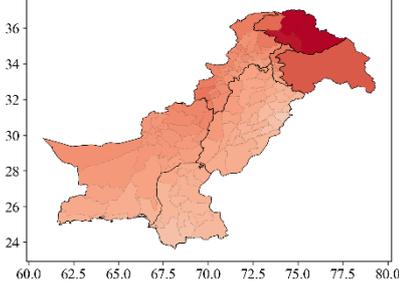
Minimum Temperature (°C), MAM 2026



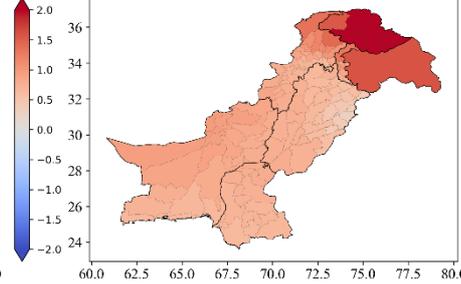
Tmin (°C) Anomaly Outlook, MAM 2026



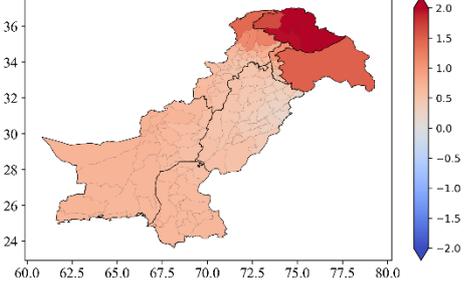
Tmin (°C) Anomaly Outlook Mar 2026



Tmin (°C) Anomaly Outlook Apr 2026



Tmin (°C) Anomaly Outlook May 2026

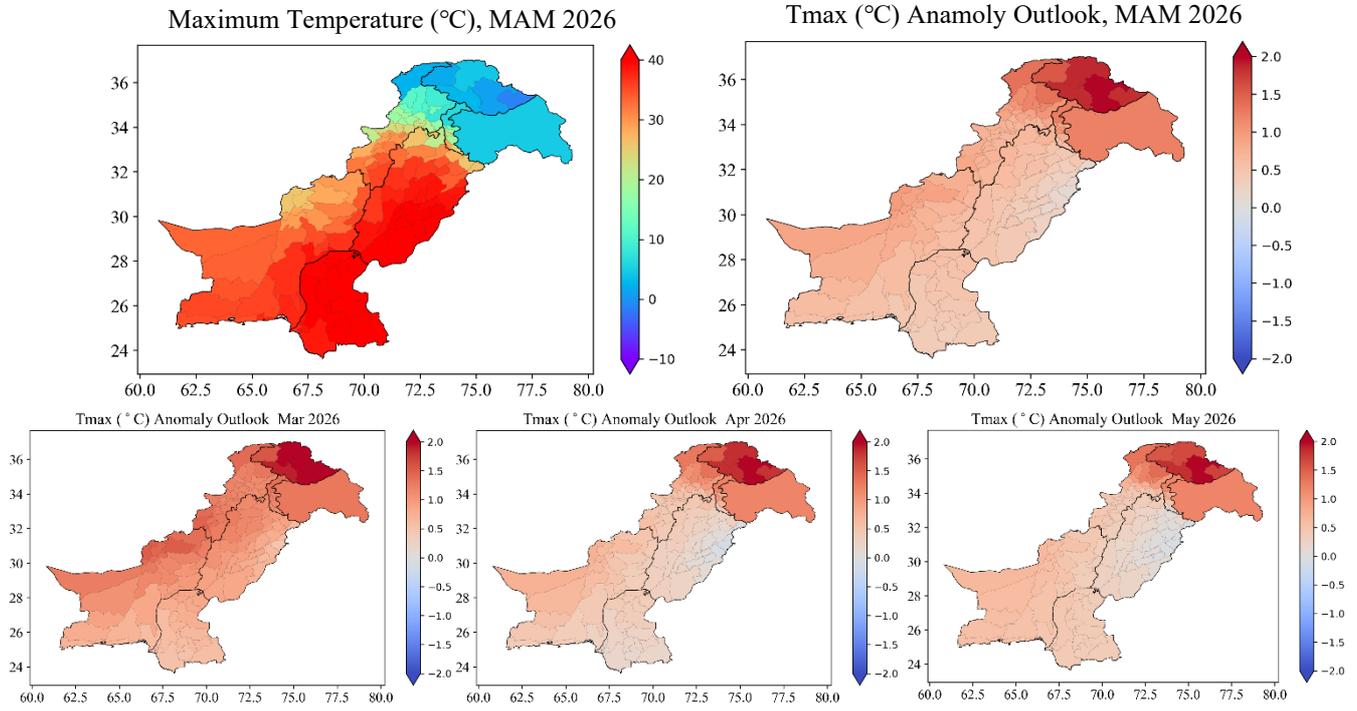


A tendency of above-normal minimum (nighttime) temperatures is expected nationwide during March to May 2026 (MAM), with the most significant warming anomalies anticipated in northern parts, particularly in Gilgit-Baltistan.

Month-wise Situation

- In March 2026, minimum temperatures are expected to be above normal by approximately 2.0°C across the country, with the most significant warming anomalies occurring in northern regions, especially in Gilgit-Baltistan.
- In April 2026, above-normal minimum temperatures are expected to continue nationwide.
- In May 2026, above-normal minimum temperatures are likely to persist, following a similar pattern as seen in May.

Seasonal Projections (Maximum Air Temperature)

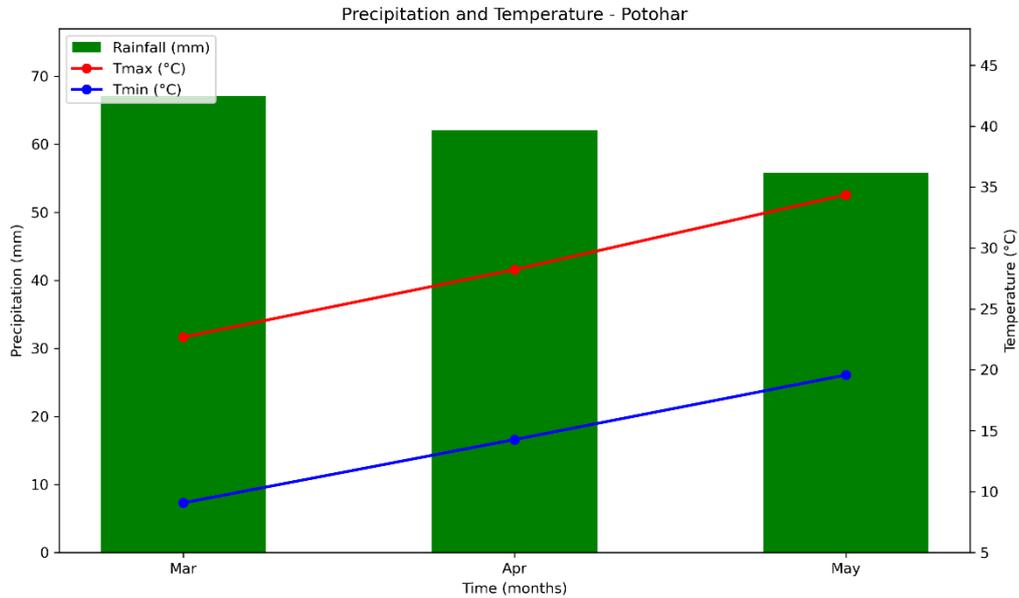


A trend of above-normal maximum (daytime) temperatures is anticipated across much of the country. The most substantial increases in daytime temperatures are expected in Gilgit-Baltistan and adjoining regions of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Azad Jammu and Kashmir during the MAM period of 2026. In contrast, only isolated areas in eastern Punjab are projected to experience near-normal temperatures.

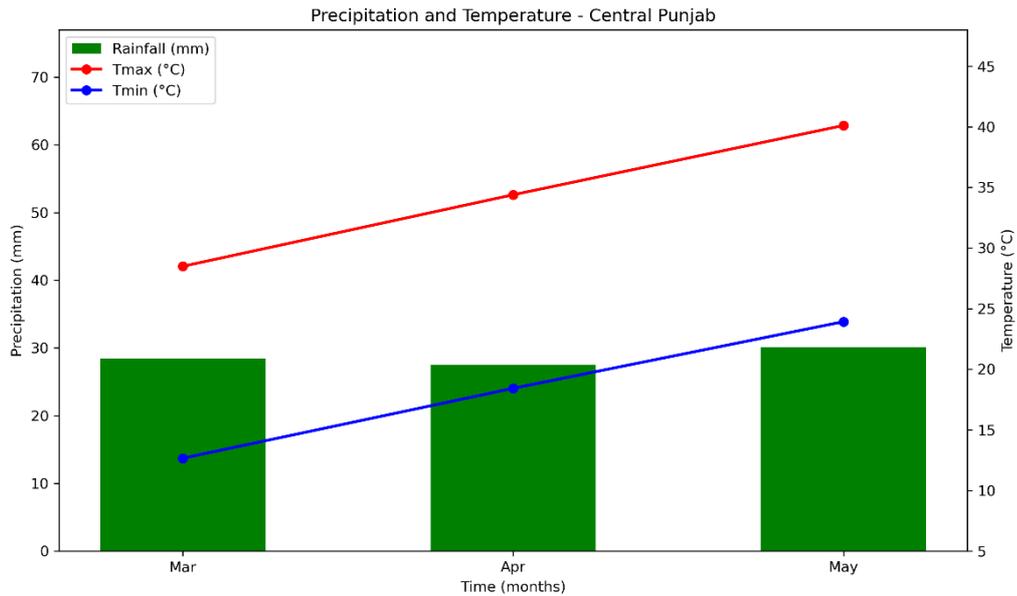
Month-wise Situation

- In March 2026, above-normal maximum temperatures are anticipated across the country, with the most pronounced anomalies expected in Gilgit Baltistan.
- In April 2026, maximum temperatures are anticipated to align with seasonal norms across the country. However, it is noteworthy that eastern Punjab may experience temperatures below the normal range. Conversely, Gilgit Baltistan and neighboring areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are projected to encounter above-normal temperatures.
- Throughout May 2026, the pattern of above-normal maximum temperatures is expected to follow the trend observed in the previous month.

Outlook for Agroclimatic Zones



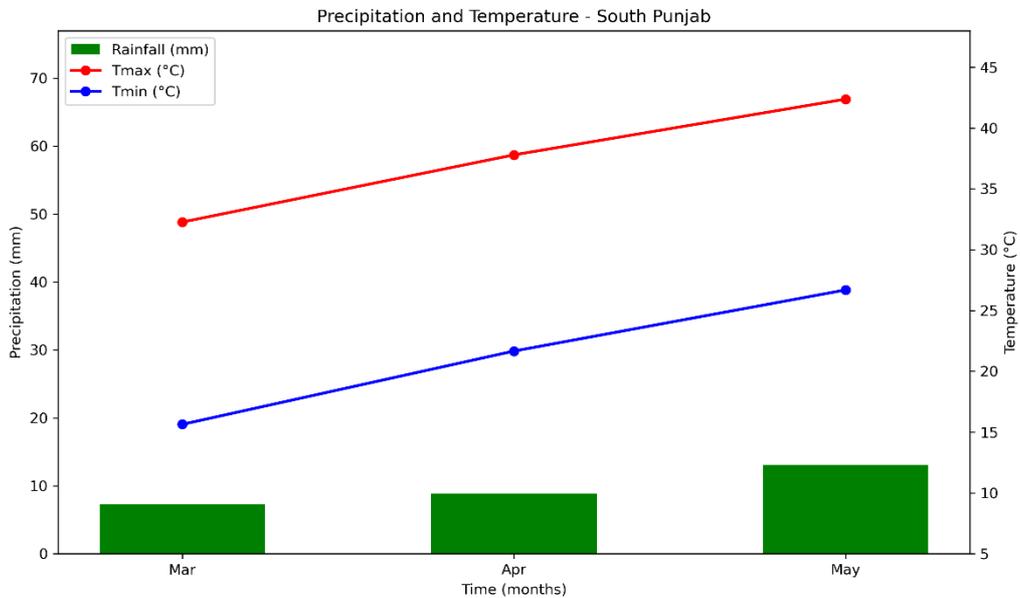
The **Potohar Region** is expected to receive considerable precipitation, especially in March 2026. Additionally, following the seasonal patterns, maximum and minimum temperatures are anticipated to gradually increase.



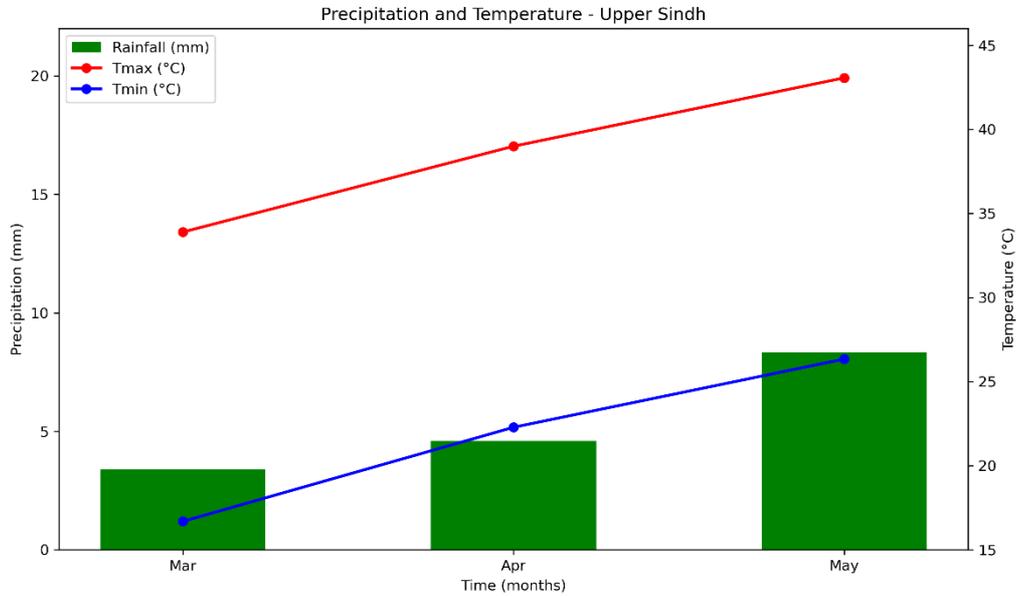
Central Punjab is expected to receive satisfactory precipitation during the period (MAM). The maximum and minimum temperatures are predicted to increase following the seasonal pattern.



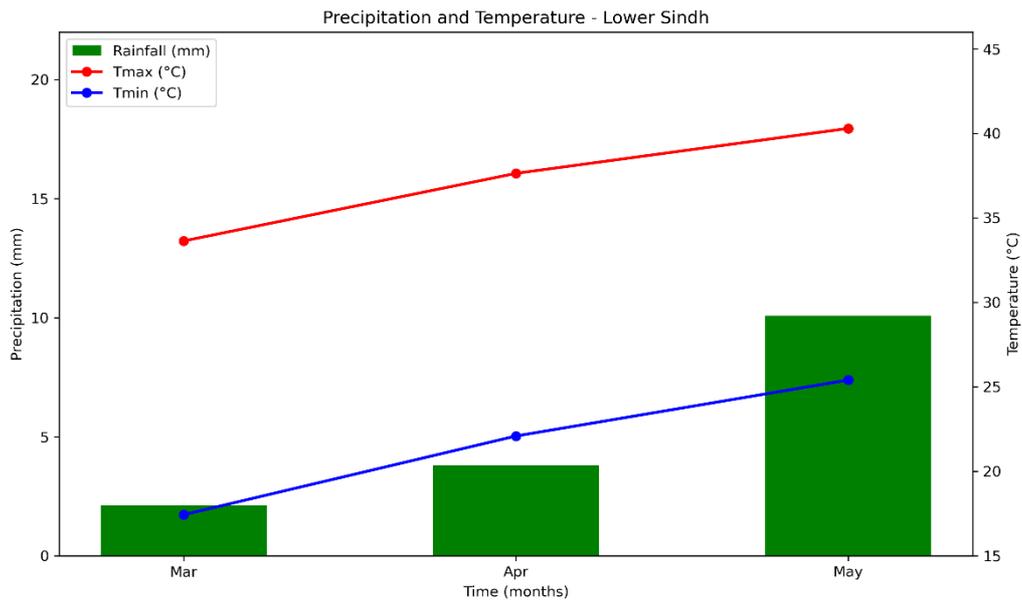
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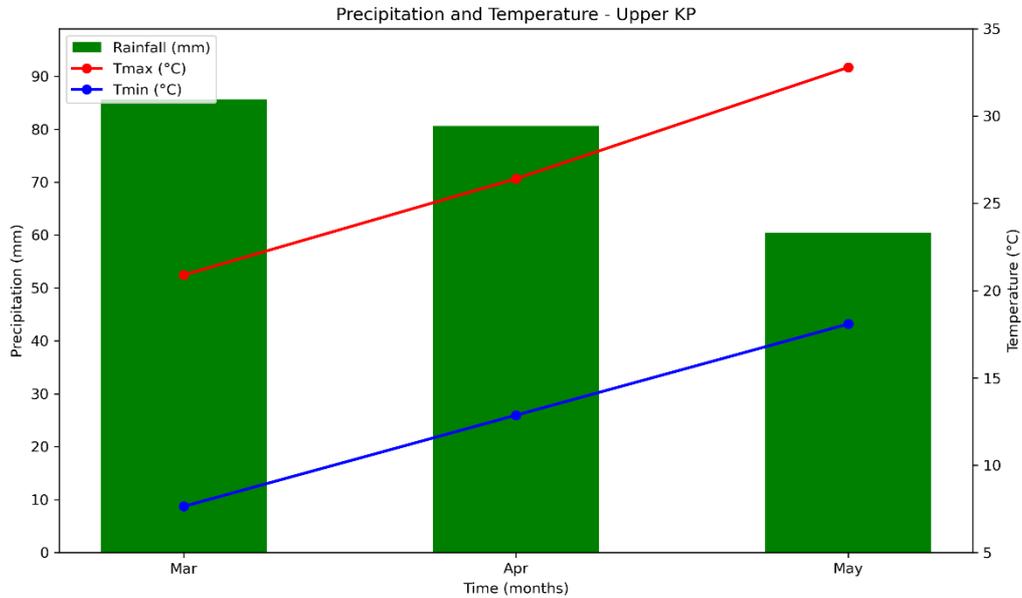
Southern Punjab is expected to receive trace to light precipitation over the next three months (MAM). Additionally, maximum and minimum temperatures are predicted to gradually increase as per the seasonal pattern.



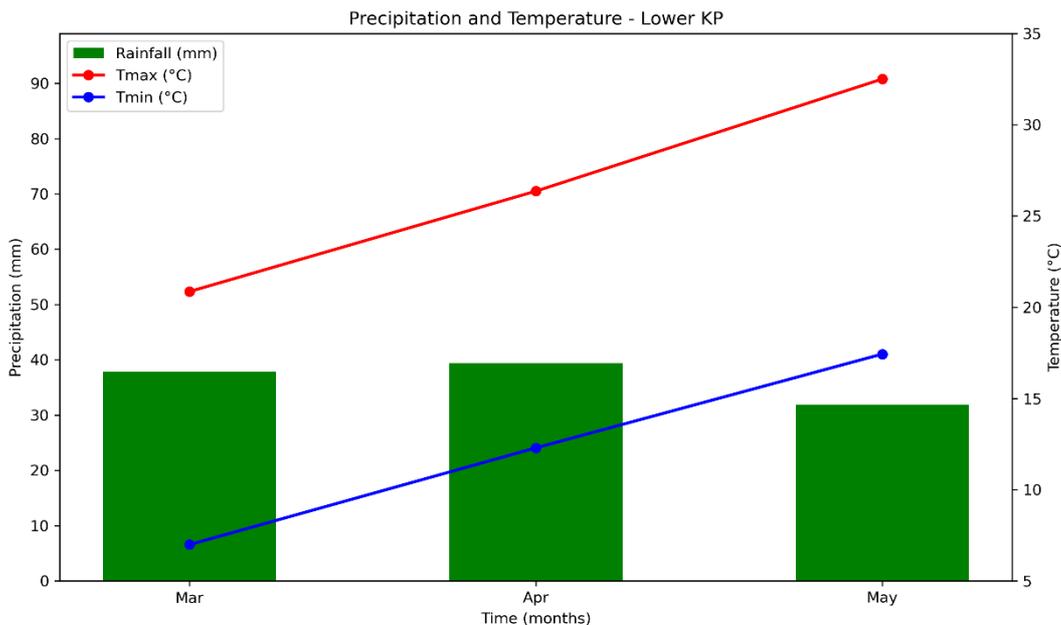
Upper Sindh is expected to receive a few rainfalls during the mentioned period (MAM). Moreover, maximum and minimum temperatures are predicted to increase following the seasonal pattern gradually.



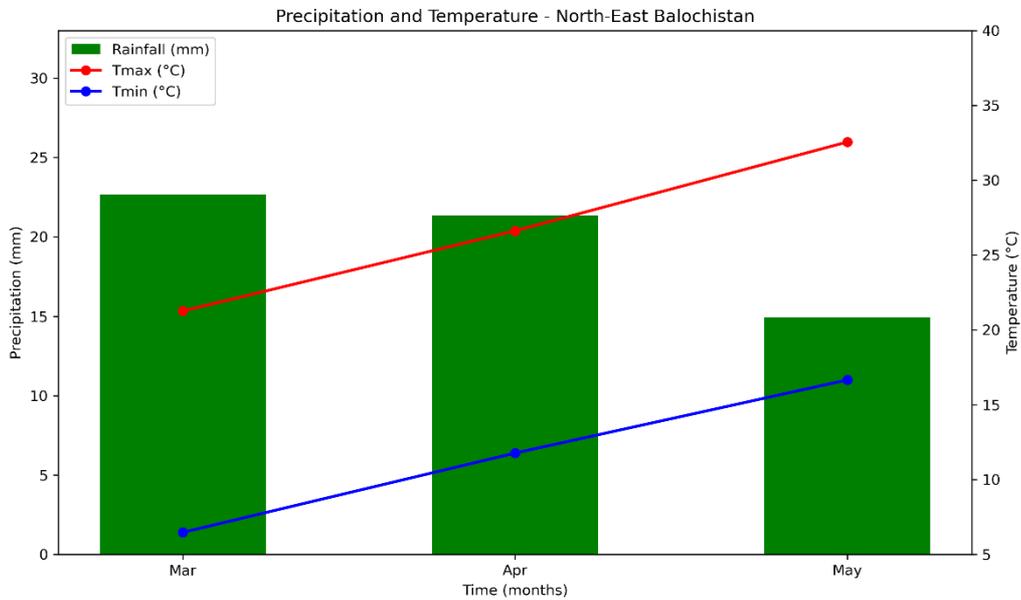
Lower Sindh is anticipated to receive little rainfall during the period (MAM). Following the seasonal pattern, both the maximum and minimum temperatures are predicted to gradually increase.



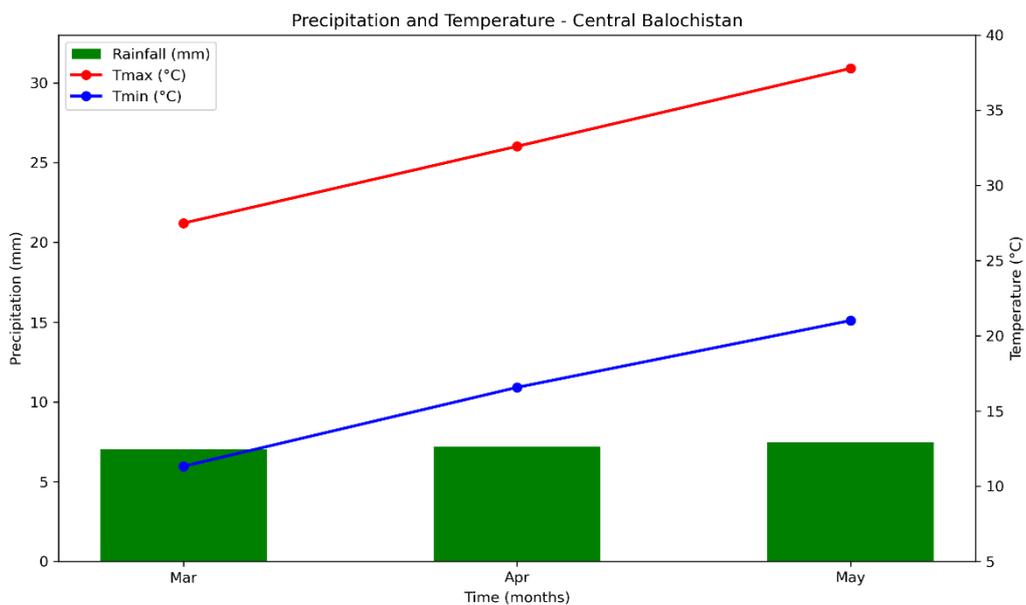
Upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is expected to receive substantial precipitation throughout the MAM 2026 period. The maximum and minimum temperatures are predicted to gradually increase as per the seasonal pattern.



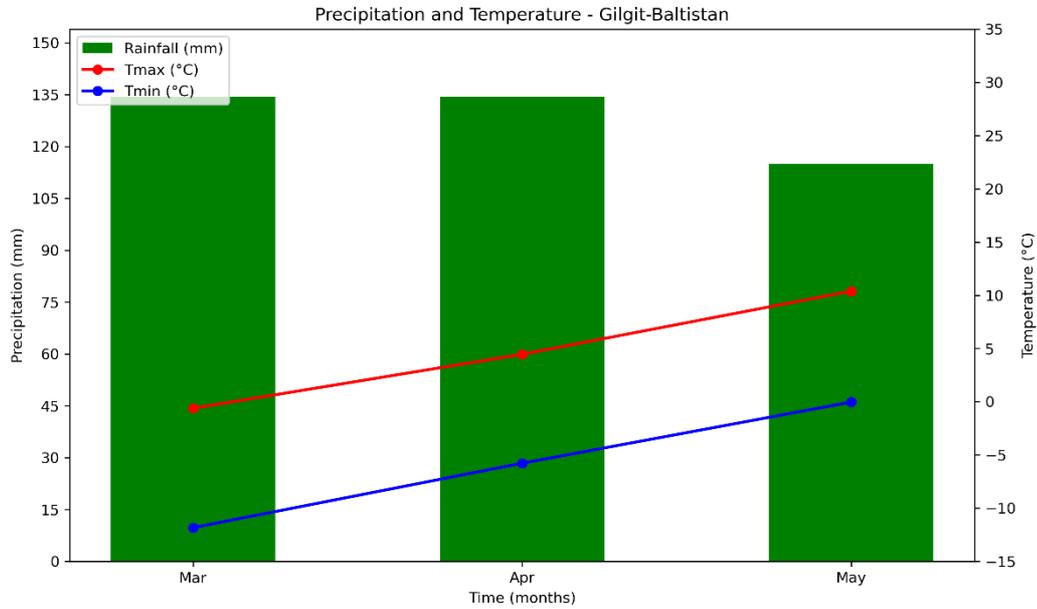
Lower Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is likely to receive a considerable amount of precipitation during the period (MAM). Additionally, maximum and minimum temperatures are predicted to gradually increase, following the seasonal pattern.



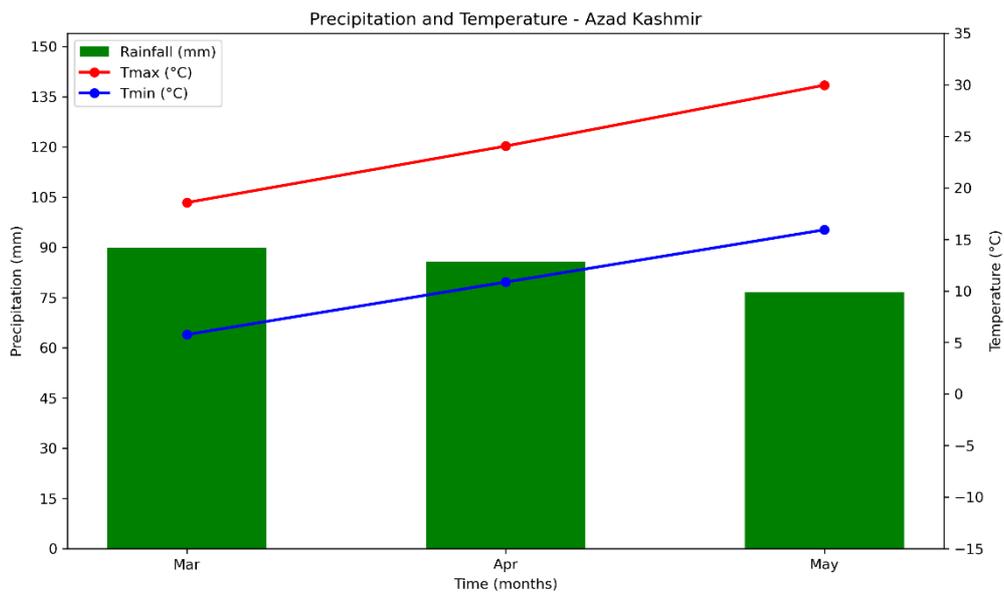
North-Eastern Balochistan is expected to receive substantial precipitation during the period MAM 2026. Additionally, maximum and minimum temperatures are predicted to gradually increase as per the seasonal pattern.



Central Balochistan is expected to receive light precipitation during the period (MAM). The maximum and minimum temperatures are predicted to gradually increase from March to May 2026.



Gilgit Baltistan is expected to receive a valuable amount of precipitation during the mentioned period (MAM 2026). The maximum and minimum temperatures are predicted to gradually increase as per the seasonal pattern.



Azad Jammu & Kashmir is expected to receive considerable precipitation during the next three months (MAM). The maximum and minimum temperatures are predicted to increase gradually from March to 2026.



Advisories to Farmers Based on Recent and Expected Weather Conditions

During March to May 2026 (MAM), Pakistan is projected to experience above-normal rainfall, particularly in the plain areas of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, with near-normal conditions in Sindh and parts of Balochistan. March may remain relatively dry in northern regions, followed by significantly wetter conditions in April and May. Both minimum (night) and maximum (day) temperatures are expected to remain above normal, with stronger warming trends in northern areas, especially Gilgit-Baltistan. Given that wheat across most provinces is at the heading to grain filling and maturity stages, weather variability during this period will be critical for yield formation and harvesting.

In **Punjab**, cities such as Faisalabad, Sargodha, Sahiwal, Multan, Bahawalpur, Khanewal, Toba Tek Singh, and Chakwal, wheat is progressing from heading to grain filling, while southern districts approach maturity. Central and Southern Punjab are expected to receive above-normal rainfall, especially in April and May, with gradually increasing temperatures. Farmers should ensure proper drainage to prevent lodging during grain filling. Timely irrigation at milking/dough stages must be carefully managed in view of rainfall events. In rainfed areas like Chakwal, the expected April rainfall will support grain development; however, rising temperatures in May may accelerate maturity, necessitating timely harvesting to avoid heat stress losses.

In **Sindh**, Rohri, Tandojam, Sakrand, Dadu, Padidan, and Badin, wheat ranges from grain formation to full maturity. With near-normal rainfall and steadily increasing temperatures, evapotranspiration demand will rise. Farmers should avoid late or excessive irrigation at maturity to prevent lodging and grain quality deterioration. Early harvesting in upper and lower Sindh is recommended to safeguard yields from terminal heat during late April and May. Warmer nights may also favor pest development, requiring vigilant field monitoring.

In **Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**, Lower Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is expected to receive above-normal rainfall, particularly in April, while Upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa may experience variable precipitation. Rising temperatures are projected across the province. Wheat crops at tillering to heading stages will benefit from April rains; however, farmers should remain vigilant for fungal diseases under moist and warm conditions. Adequate field drainage and balanced fertilization are recommended to optimize grain setting under warmer nights.

In **Balochistan**, wheat at the tillering stage is reported in good condition. The region is expected to receive light to moderate rainfall, with a gradual temperature rise. Early-season moisture combined with increasing temperatures will enhance vegetative growth; however, water management is critical in irrigated zones.

In **Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu & Kashmir**, considerable precipitation during April and May, along with above-normal minimum and maximum temperatures, is particularly pronounced in Gilgit-Baltistan. Increased rainfall will support crop growth; however, warmer conditions may accelerate phenological development and increase disease pressure at heading stages. Snowmelt may enhance water availability, requiring careful irrigation channel management to prevent localized flooding and waterlogging.

Overall Advisory:

The combined influence of wetter-than-normal conditions during April–May and persistently above-normal temperatures across Pakistan is likely to accelerate wheat development while improving moisture availability in most regions. However, rising heat toward the late season may shorten grain filling duration, particularly in southern provinces. Farmers are advised to synchronize irrigation with rainfall forecasts, strengthen drainage systems, monitor pests and fungal diseases under warm and humid conditions, and ensure timely harvesting to minimize heat and lodging losses. Proactive, weather-informed management during MAM 2026 will be critical to sustaining wheat productivity nationwide.