



WEATHER SUMMARY FOR JANUARY 2026

TEMPERATURE

The mean temperature in January 2026 was 21.15°C , which is 0.27°C above the 1991–2020 climatological average of 20.88°C , indicating slightly warmer-than-normal conditions over the country. The mean maximum temperature was 26.9°C , exceeding the long-term average of 26.24°C by 0.7°C and ranking January 2026 as the 7th warmest January on record for the period 1991–2026.

The highest daily maximum temperature recorded during the month was 29.5°C on 24 January, and no hot days ($\text{Tmax} \geq 30^{\circ}\text{C}$) were observed. The mean minimum temperature was 15.4°C , slightly below the climatological average of 15.5°C , corresponding to a negative anomaly of -0.1°C . The lowest minimum temperature recorded was 13.2°C on 21 and 23 January. A total of 11 cold days ($\text{Tmin} \leq 15^{\circ}\text{C}$) were observed, mainly during the third week of the month. Overall, minimum temperatures remained generally near normal, while warmer daytime conditions were experienced particularly between mid- and late January.

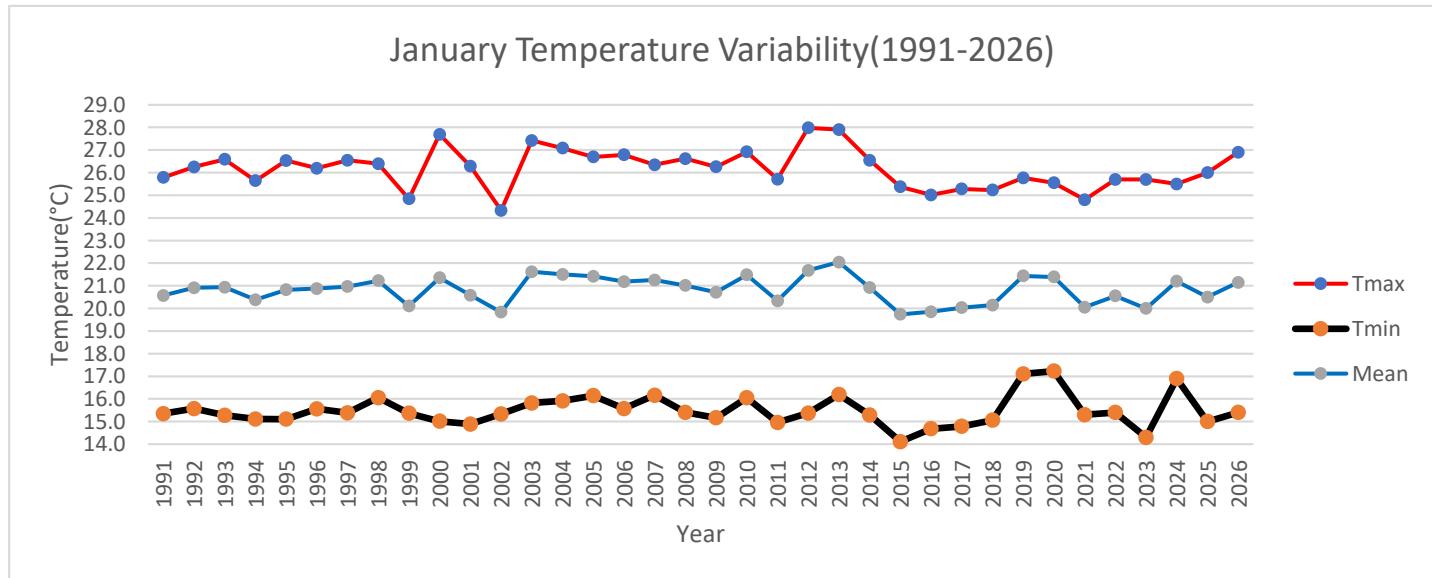


Figure 1. Temperature variability

The January temperature anomaly time series for the period 1991–2026 shows considerable year-to-year variability around the 1991–2020 climatological mean, with alternating positive and negative departures. Both warmer-than-normal and cooler-than-normal January conditions are evident throughout the record. January



2026 recorded a positive anomaly of +0.3 °C, indicating slightly warmer-than-normal conditions. Overall, the anomaly pattern reflects persistent interannual variability with a tendency toward more frequent positive anomalies in recent years.

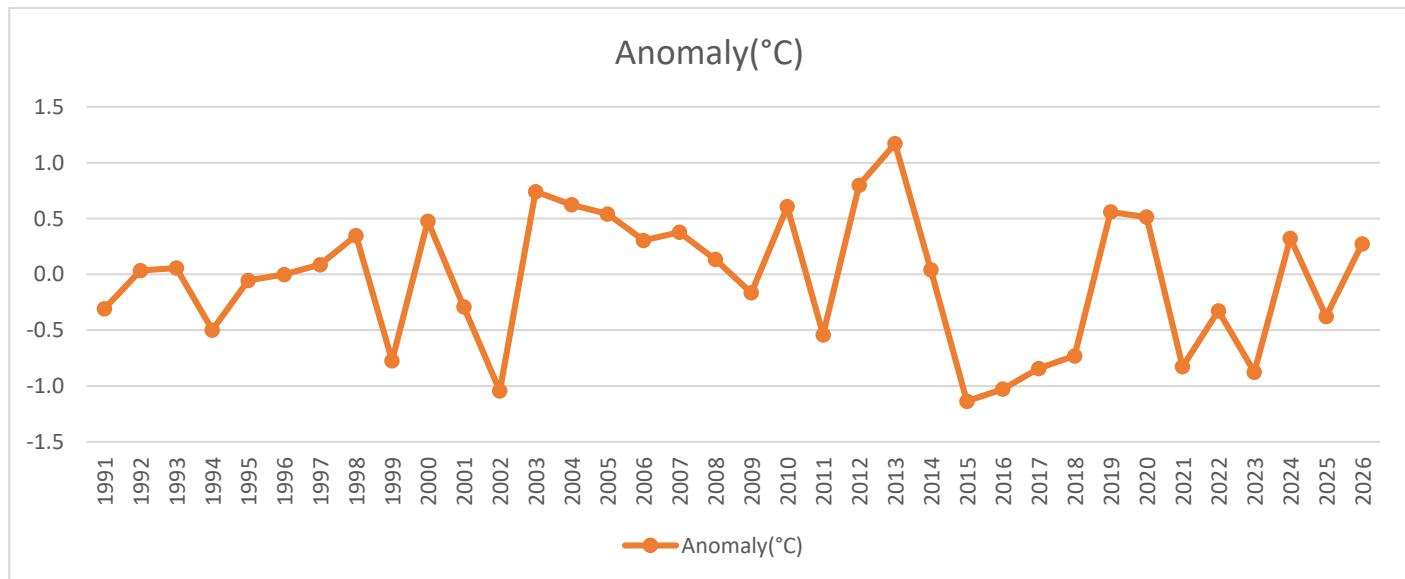


Figure 2.Temperature Anomaly

RAINFALL

January 2026 recorded a total rainfall of 176 mm at Rubengera Meteorology Weather Station, which is well above the long-term climatological normal of 90.6 mm (1991–2020). This represents an anomaly of +85 mm, or +94%, showing that the month was much wetter than usual. Rainfall occurred on 15 days, with the maximum 1-day rainfall of 33.8 mm on 12 January. Other high-impact rainfall events included 28.3 mm on 6 January and 27.3 mm on 31 January.

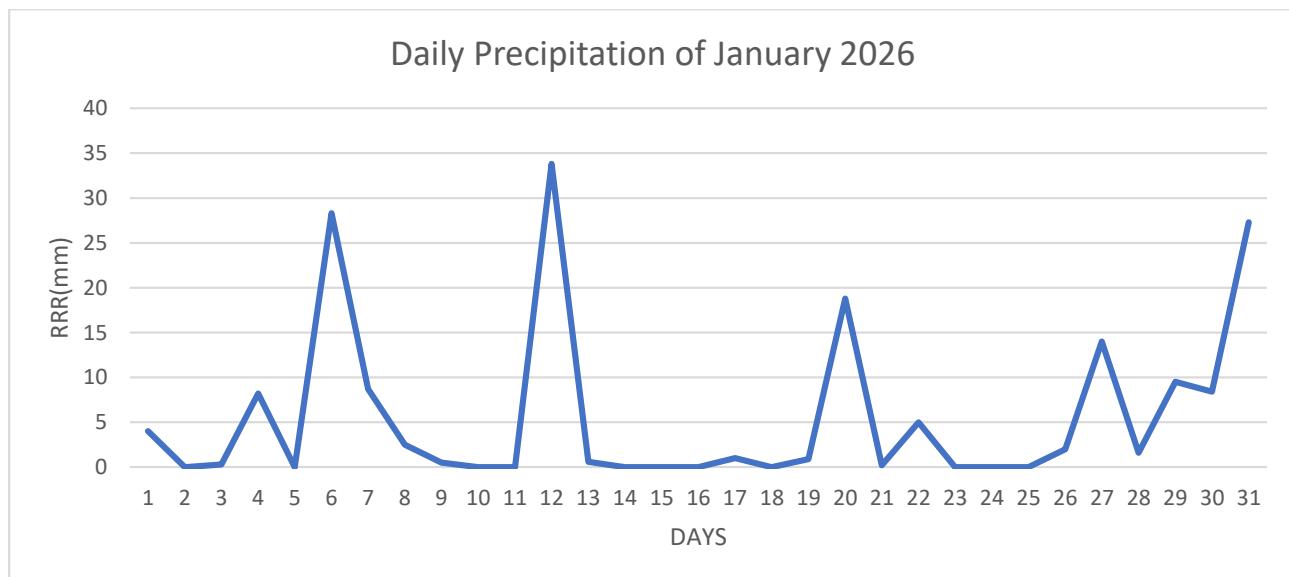


Figure 3. Daily Rainfall of January 2026

Rainfall was unevenly distributed, with wet periods interspersed with dry days. The most notable wet spells were on 6 – 8 January, 12 January, 20 January, and 27–31 January, which contributed most to the monthly total. These intense rainfall events highlight the variability of precipitation during the month and suggest that local water management and flood monitoring should be maintained.

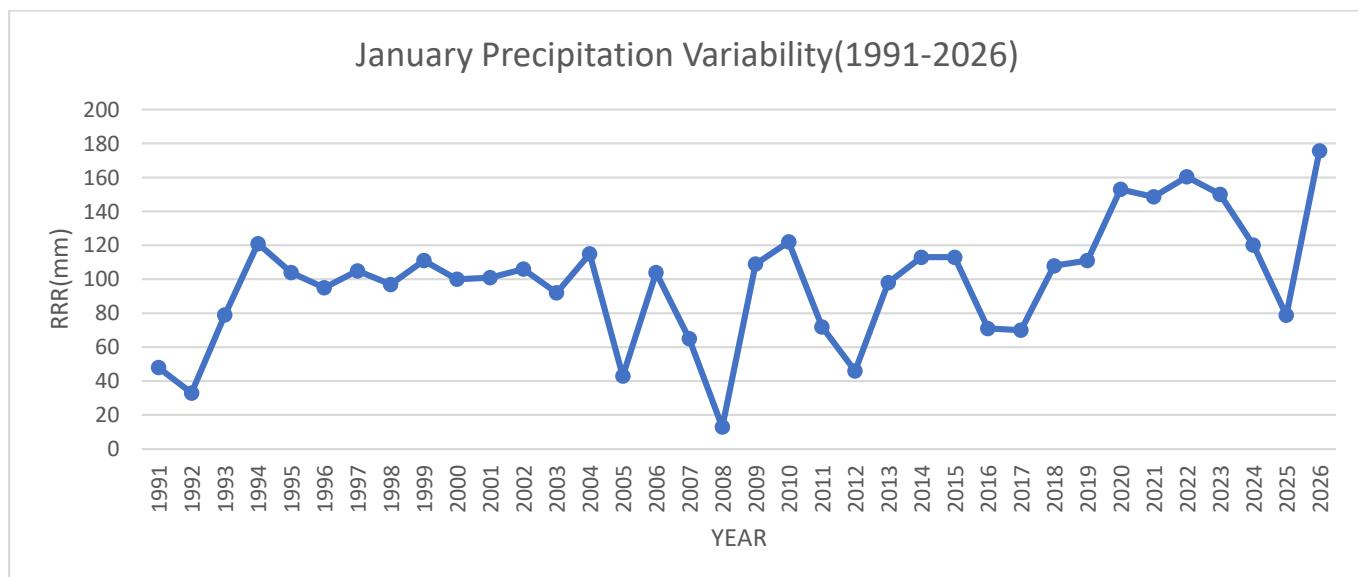


Figure 4. January Rainfall variability



The annual RRR record from 1991 to 2026 indicates pronounced interannual variability, a characteristic feature of the regional rainfall regime. In the early 1990s, RRR values were generally below to near average, followed by a wetter phase in the mid-1990s. The late 1990s and early 2000s were marked by relatively stable conditions, with most years recording between 90 and 110 mm, although notable dry anomalies occurred in 2005 and an extreme dry year in 2008, which registered the lowest RRR of the entire period. From 2009 onward, a shift toward wetter conditions is evident, with frequent above-average years and increasing rainfall totals. The period after 2020 stands out as exceptionally wet, with persistent high RRR values and a maximum of 176 mm recorded in 2026. Overall, the series suggests an intensification of rainfall in recent decades, accompanied by increased frequency of extreme wet events, consistent with enhanced climate variability.

Overall, January 2026 was characterized by above-average rainfall, frequent high-impact events, and active wet periods. The positive anomaly emphasizes the need for careful monitoring of water resources and agricultural planning, as well as preparedness for potential flooding in vulnerable areas.

WIND

Parameter	Value	Unity
Monthly mean wind speed	1.15	m/s
Monthly maximum wind speed	12.73	m/s
Wind speed variability	0.89	m/s
Number of strong wind days	2	days

Wind conditions during January 2026 were generally calm. The monthly wind speed was 1.15m/s indicating predominantly light winds. The highest wind speed recorded during the month reached 12.73m/s, reflecting isolated strong wind events. Wind speed variability was low to moderate, as indicated by mean standard deviation of 0.89m/s. In total, two strong wind days were observed during the month, suggesting limited storm activity. Owing to the absence of wind gust measurements, storm activity assessment was based on daily maximum wind speed.