October 2024

The month of October marks the beginning of seasonal rainfall monitoring in Malawi. However, **Chitipa District is expected to be generally dry** during this month.

November 2024

During the month of November, most southern parts of the district are expected to receive up to 100mm of rainfall. However, TA Nthalire and parts of Nyika National Park – Chitipa are expected to receive rainfall in the range of 100mm to 150mm. The onset of the season is expected during the last week of November into the second week of December 2024. Strong winds and lightning incidents are expected during this month.

December 2024

More rains are expected during the month of December as rainfall systems become established. Rainfall amounts expected across the district range from 150mm to 250mm, which represent normal to above-normal rainfall. Some parts of TA Mwenemisuku are expected to receive rainfall in the range of 250mm to 350mm. The threat of floods is high during this month.

January 2025

High rainfall amounts are expected to continue to be experienced during the month of January 2025, with most areas in the district receiving rainfall amounts ranging from 250mm to 350mm. Parts of TA Nthalire and Nyika National Park – Chitipa are expected to receive rainfall in the range of 150mm to 200mm. These amounts represent normal to above-normal rainfall. Dry spells exceeding 8 days are unlikely during this period.

February 2025

Chitipa is expected to continue receiving rainfall during the month of February. Most parts of the district are expected to receive rainfall above 150mm. The highest rainfall amounts in TA Mwenemisuku, TA Mwenewenya, and some parts of Chitipa Boma are expected to exceed 200mm. The threat of prolonged dry spells in the district during the month is minimal.

March 2025

Moderate rainfall amounts are expected to continue over Chitipa District during the month of March, especially over TA Nthalire, north of TA Mwenemisuku, and Chitipa Boma, where rainfall may reach about 250mm. Most other areas are expected to receive rainfall in the range of 150mm to 200mm.

April 2025

Most areas in Chitipa District are likely to receive rainfall amounts in the range of 100mm to 150mm during the month of April. Cessation of seasonal rainfall is expected from the last week of March into the second week of April 2025.

Season Summary

- Onset of the rainfall season in Chitipa District is expected between the last week of November and the third week of December 2024.
- Cessation is expected between the last week of March and the second week of April 2025.
- Dry spells exceeding 8 days are unlikely during January 2025.
- The seasonal length is expected to range between 120 to 139 days.
- The 2024–2025 rainfall season is expected to be influenced by a weak La Niña, which is the unusual cooling of ocean waters over the eastern-central equatorial Pacific Ocean.
- Overall, Chitipa District is expected to receive normal to above-normal rainfall amounts during the 2024–2025 season.