

SOMALIA WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

Valid From 1 - 7 April 2025

Forecast Highlight:

- Light rains expected over parts of Jubaland and Southwest States
- Most areas in Hirshabelle, Galmudug, Puntland, and Somaliland likely to remain dry
- Isolated moderate rains may occur in Badhaadhe district (Lower Juba) by the end of the week
- Very hot conditions ($\geq 40^{\circ}\text{C}$) forecast in parts of Lower Juba, Middle Juba, Lower Shabelle, Bay, raising heat stress and moisture loss concerns

Review Summary:

- Moderate rains recorded in Buur Hakaba (55 mm) and Baardheere (52 mm).
- Light rains (< 20 mm) observed in parts of Woqooyi Galbeed, Awdal, Gedo, Banadir, Hiraan, and Sanaag.
- Juba River levels remain elevated due to upstream rainfall; slight increase observed at Luuq.
- Shabelle River levels stable but below normal in Belet Weyne.

Weather Review

In the last one-week, light to moderate rains were generally observed in the southern and central parts of Somalia and in Woqooyi Galbeed region and parts of Awdal region. Moderate rainfall was received at Buur Hakaba (55.0 mm) in Bay region and Baardheere (52.0 mm) in Gedo region between 21 and 31 March 2025 (Figure 1). The following other individual stations (Figure 1) received light rainfall of below 20.0 mm within the same period: Allaybaday (17.5 mm), Baligubadle (12.0 mm), Taysa (10.0 mm), Wajaale (9.5 mm), Gebiley (7.0 mm), Hargeisa (6.0 mm), Aburin (5.5 mm), and Salaxley (4.0 mm) in Woqooyi Galbeed region, Baki (16.5 mm) and Dilla (6.0 mm) in Awdal region, Luuq (13.5 mm) in Gedo region, Mogadishu (13.3 mm) in Banadir region, Mahas (4.3 mm) and Belet Weyne (2.0 mm) in Hiraan region, and Ceel Afweyn (1.5 mm) in Sanaag region.

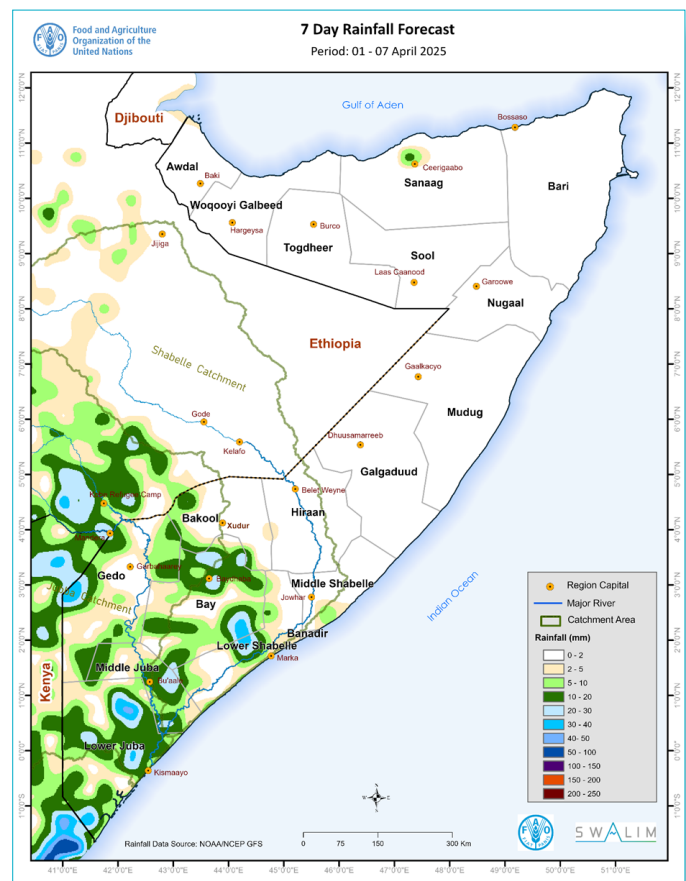
Weather Forecast for the Week Between 1 - 7 April 2025

Rainfall Forecast:

Based on NOAA-NCEP Global Forecasting System (GFS), light rains are expected in some parts of southern Somalia, while most parts of Hirshabelle, Galmudug, Puntland and Somaliland remain dry. The present position and strength of the Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO) and its evolution is not likely to favor occurrence of heavy rains within the forecast period.

The temporal and spatial distribution of the forecast rainfall (Map 1) are as follows:

Light cumulative rainfall of less than 50 mm is forecast over most parts Middle Juba region particularly Buuale district; most parts of Lower Juba region particularly Kismaayo districts, southern parts of Badaadhe and eastern parts of Afmadow district; some parts of Gedo particularly Ceel Waaq district, eastern parts of Garbahaarey district and southern parts of Baardheere district; some parts of Lower Shabelle particularly Qoryooley district; some parts of Bay region particularly Buur Hakaba district and northern parts of Baydhaba districts; some parts of Bakool region particularly Rab Dhuure district and western parts of Ceel Barde district. Light rains are also possible over eastern parts of Balcad district in Middle Shabelle and elevated areas in the central parts of Ceerigaabo district



Map 1: Weekly cumulative rainfall forecast over Somalia from 1 - 7 April 2025

in Sanaag region. The rains over Lower Juba region particularly southern parts of Badaadhe district may intensify leading to moderate amounts (more than 50 mm) by the end of the forecast period. It is noteworthy that such light to moderate rains is likely to fall over the Lower Juba River catchment, within and outside Somalia.

Dry conditions are likely to prevail over vast areas in Hiraan, Middle Shabelle, Galgaduud, Mudug, Nugaal, Bari, Sool, Sanaag, Togdheer, Woqooyi Galbeed and Awdal regions. Dry conditions

are also likely over most areas of Bakool region particularly Tayeeglow and Xudur districts; most parts of Lower Shabelle region including Wanla Weyn, Afgooye, Kurtunwaarey, Sablaale, and Baraawe districts; some parts of Bay region particularly Qansax Dheere district, northern parts of Diinsoor district and southern parts of Baydhaba district; most parts of Gedo region particularly Doolow and Luuq districts, western parts

Temperature Forecast:

Forecasted maximum (*Map 2*) and minimum temperatures indicate the persistence of north-south varying thermal conditions across the country with notable coastal cooling influence. The spatial variation of forecast temperature is as follows:

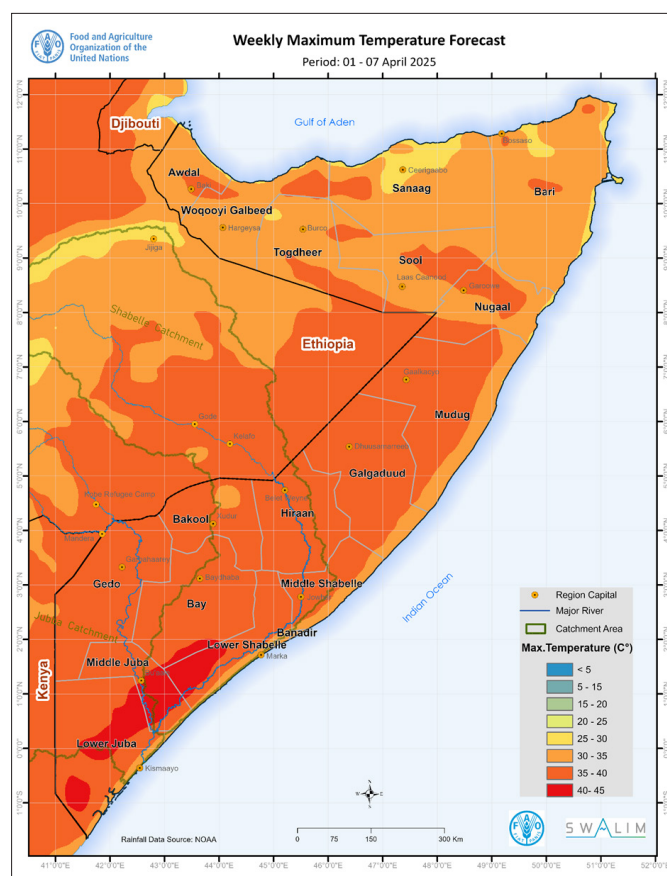
Based on **minimum temperature**, nighttime thermal conditions are likely to vary from between 15 °C and 20 °C over vast inland areas in the north to 25 °C and 30 °C in the south. Nighttime temperatures of less than 20 °C are likely to be observed over most parts of Togdheer and Sool regions, most inland parts of both Sanaag and Bari regions; Borama district and southern parts of both Baki and Lughaye districts in Awdal region; Gebiley and Hargeisa districts in Woqooyi Galbeed region; and Garowe and Burtinle districts in Nugaal region. Warmest nighttime conditions as a result of temperatures greater than 30 °C are likely over most parts of Lower Shabelle region; Doolow, Luuq and Garbahaarey districts and southern parts of Baardheere district in Gedo region; Buur Hakaba district in Bay region, northern parts of Afmadow district and southern parts of Kimaayo district in Lower Juba region; Saakow district in Middle Juba region; Jalalaqsi district in Hiraan region, Jowhar and Balcad districts in Middle Shabelle region; Banadir region, and narrow coastal strip along Galmudug. The rest of the country is likely to observe nighttime temperatures of between 20 °C and 30 °C.

Elevated daily maximum temperatures exceeding 40 °C are likely to be observed over eastern and northern parts of Afmadow district and inland parts of Badhaadhe district in Lower Juba region; Bualle district and northern parts of Jilib district in middle Juba region; Sablaale and Kurtunwaarey districts in Lower Shabelle region; narrow southern strips over both Diinsoor and Buur Hakaba districts in Bay region.

Moderately high daily maximum temperatures ranging from 35 °C to 40 °C are expected over the rest of the other inland areas in Lower Juba, Middle Juba, Lower Shabelle, and Bay regions; most parts of Gedo, Bakool, and Hiraan; most inland areas of Middle Shabelle, Galgaduud and Mudug. Such moderately high daily temperatures are also possible over isolated areas in the north including Baki district in Awdal region; Berbera district in Woqooyi Galbeed region; Buhoodle district and southern parts of Burco district in Togdheer region; Taleex, Xudun and Caynabo districts in Sool region; Garowe district in Nugaal region and Ceel Afweyne in Sanaag region.

High daily maximum temperatures ranging from 30 °C to 35 °C are likely over the rest of the other areas in Nugaal, Sool, Woqooyi Galbeed and Awdal regions; some parts of Togdheer particularly northern parts of Burco district and southern parts of Owdweyne district; some parts of Sanaag region particularly Laasqoray district and southern parts of Ceerigaabo district; most parts of Bari particularly Qardho, and Bossaso districts and inland parts of Bandarbeyla and Iskushuban districts. Such high temperatures are also anticipated along narrow coastal strips in Lower Juba, Middle Juba, Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle, and Banadir regions; coastal areas of Ceel Dheer in Galgaduud region, and Xarardheer, Hobyoy and Jariiban districts in Mudug region.

of Qarbaahaarey district and northern parts of Baardheere district; some isolated areas in Middle Juba region particularly eastern parts of Saakow district; isolated areas of Lower Juba region particularly northern parts of Afmadow district. It is important to point out that such dry conditions with chances of light rains are expected over the Shabelle River catchment within and outside Somalia.



Map 2: Weekly maximum temperature forecast over Somalia 1 - 7 April 2025

Moderate daily maximum temperatures ranging from 25 °C to 30 °C are forecast over vast area in the northern part of Ceerigaabo district and narrow northern strip in Laasqoray district in Sanaag region; northern parts of Owdweyne district in Togdheer region; and Qandala district in Bari region.

Current River Levels

The Shabelle River levels have been generally stable in the last one week with the runoff from the light to moderate rains observed within its catchment slowing down the previous 3-months decline. According to measurements (1.75 m) taken today (1 April), the Shabelle River at Belet Weyne is 68 cm below LTM (*Graph 1*). Similarly stable patterns have been observed at both Bulu Burte and Jowhar. Today's height at Bulu Burte (1.80 m) is exactly similar to last week's level and is approximately equal to the station LTM but is 42 cm below 2024's value. There is a general convergence between today's level at Jowhar (2.30 m) and 2024 and LTM.

As is expected, the sensitivity of the Juba River to rainfall induced run-off led to slight fluctuations in the levels in the last one week. Although on a downward trend in the last 3 days, the height of Juba River at Dollow today (2.08 m) is still 74 cm above LTM and just 26 cm below last year's level. At Luuq (*Graph 2*), today's level (2.36 m) represents a 26 cm rise compared to last week's value and is 86 cm above the LTM and just 12 cm above 2024 level. It is very likely that the Juba River depicts similar behaviour downstream at Bardheere and Bualle.

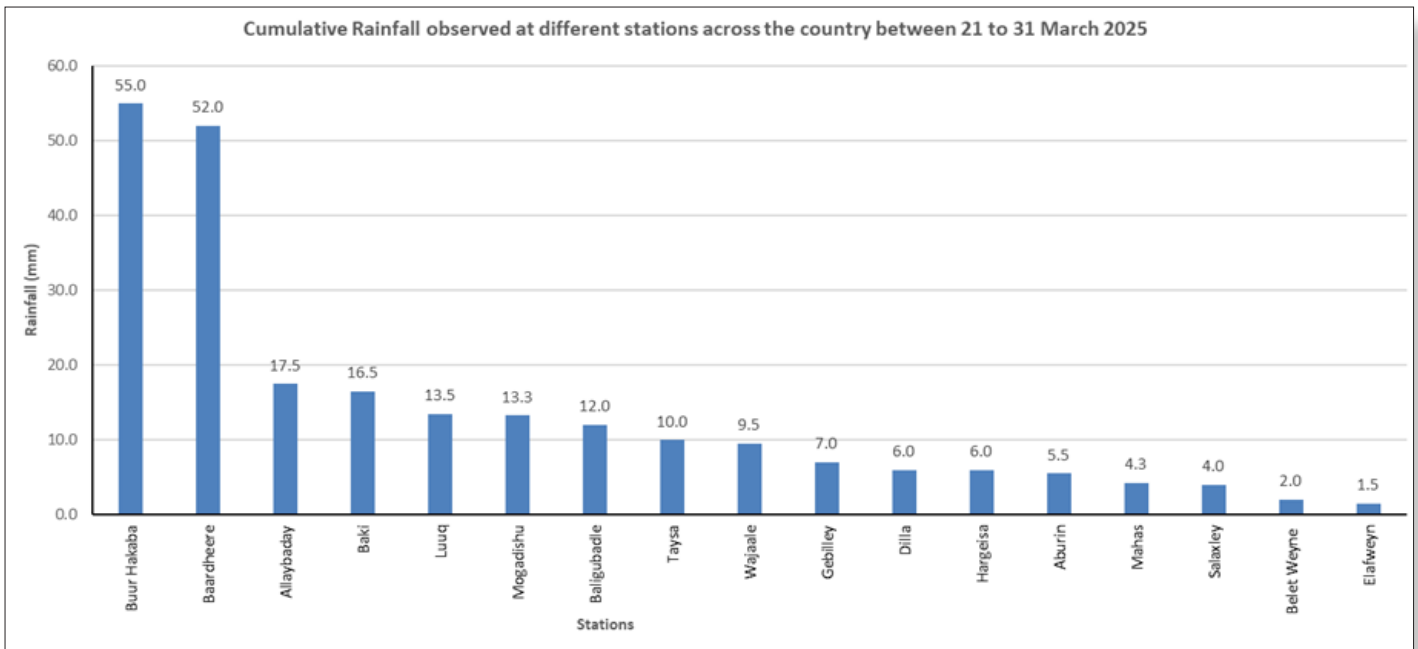
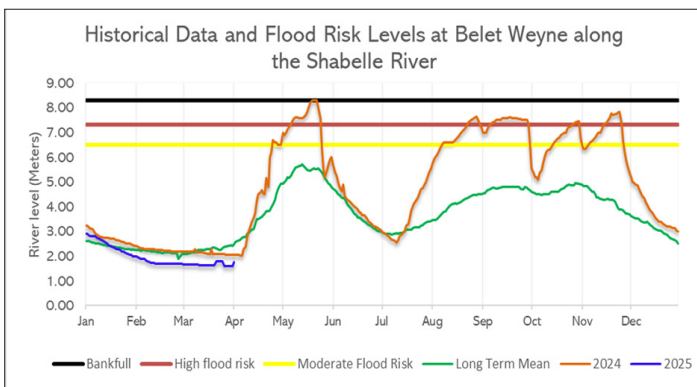
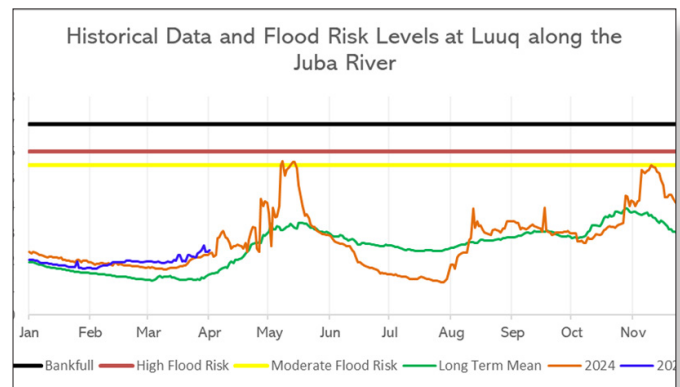


Figure 1: Stations that observed rainfall of more than 1 mm between 21 and 31 March 2025



Graph 1: Shabelle River level at Belet Weyne Gauging Station as of 1 April 2025



Graph 2: Juba River level at Luuq Gauging Station as of 1 April 2025

Impacts Associated with the 1 - 7 April 2025 Weekly Forecast

Considering the lagged effect of previous rains, the light to moderate rains forecast to fall within the catchments of Juba River within and outside Somalia likely to generate sufficient runoff to lead to the rise in the levels in the order of tens of centimeters. Given its sensitivity to run off, noticeable rise is likely to be observed along the Juba River by the end of the forecast period. Even with the lagged effect of previous rains within the catchments of Shabelle River within and outside Somalia, the general dry conditions with chances of light rains this week is likely to sustain the steady levels with slight fluctuations in the order of centimeters.

On the other hand, isolated intense storms within the forecast period could easily generate flash floods in vulnerable poorly drained areas and paved surfaces over Lower Juba region particularly Badhaadhe district.

Although the sub-seasonal drivers do not favor the likelihood of heavy rains within the forecast period, the observed and forecast light to moderate rains and the probable onset of Gu rains in the second week of April calls for sustained provisions of land preparatory activities and inputs in time for early planting of fast-maturing crops and fodder planting to take advantage of the prevailing soil warmth and forecast moisture conditions. However, the hot air mass over Jubaland is particularly worrisome due to its likely negative implications on human thermal comfort and elevated rate of evaporation of the forecast rain-driven soil moisture conditions.

The hot and dry mass is likely to lead to prolonged dryness with elevated temperatures, high risk of heat stress, and evapotranspiration losses, and increased demand for water and reduced pasture availability over inland parts of Galgaduud and Mudug.

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