

Maldives Monthly Climate Outlook

April 2026



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Summary

Considering the latest climate model outputs, prevailing large-scale climate drivers, and national climate data, in the month of April 2026, the Maldives is likely to experience above-normal rainfall in southern atolls and slightly below normal rainfall over rest of the country. Additionally, both maximum and minimum temperatures are expected to be slightly above normal across the country.

Introduction

This consensus outlook on rainfall and temperature for the Maldives has been prepared through assessments of the prevailing and prediction of global climate conditions, and seasonal forecasts from different climate models including WMO Lead Centre for Long-Range Forecast Multi-Model Ensemble (LC-LRFMME), North American Multi-Model Ensemble (NMME), multi-model ensemble climate prediction of RIMES, Rainfall and temperature outlook for south Asia, monthly climate anomalies and monthly forecasts of European Centre for MediumRange Weather Forecasts (ECMWF).

Current status and expected condition of major climate drivers.

Equatorial sea surface temperatures (SSTs) are below-average in the east-central Pacific Ocean. In addition, a transition from La Niña to ENSO-neutral is expected in the next month, with ENSO-neutral favoured through May-July 2026 (55% chance) (Climate Prediction Centre, NOAA).

Currently, neutral Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) conditions are prevailing over the Indian Ocean. Hence, forecasts suggest that these neutral IOD conditions are likely to persist during March to April 2026 and thereafter (Earth System Science Organization, IMD).

The Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) is still weak as the index is currently in Phase 7 with an amplitude near to 1. However, it is likely to migrate to Phase 8, with an



amplitude becoming more than 1, during the early days of week 1 (India Meteorological Department, IMD).

Calibration of climate models

Most of the calibrated precipitation models indicate above-normal rainfall in the southern region of the country and slightly below-normal rainfall over the rest of the country.

Global Producing Centres and WMO Lead Centre Forecasts

The Probabilistic Multi-Model Ensemble from the WMO Lead Centre for Long-Range Forecast Multi-Model Ensembles (LC-RFMME) for April also indicates the probability of below-normal rainfall over Northern and central regions and above-normal rainfall in the southern region of the country. Additionally, the temperature outlook shows a higher probability of above-normal temperatures over the country.

Rainfall and temperature climatology over the Maldives during the month of April

- Rainfall

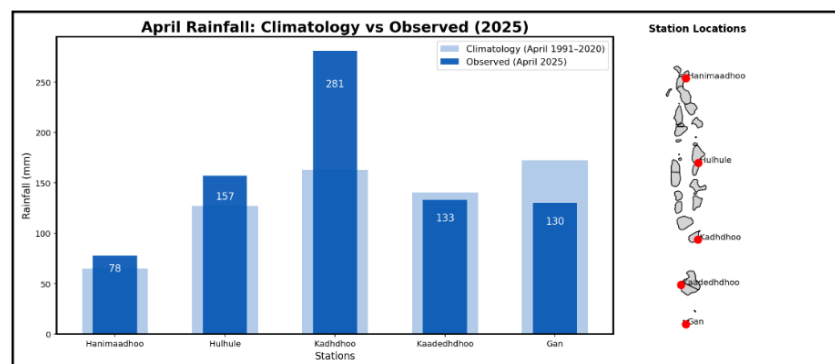


Figure 1 Comparison of total rainfall of five stations of Maldives from 1991 – 2020 with observed rainfall of April 2025.

From Figure 1, It can be observed that the northern region, represented by Hanimaadhoo, and the central region, represented by Hulhule, experienced above-normal rainfall in April 2025 compared to the climatological average (1991–2020). In contrast, the southern region, which includes Kadhdhoo, Kaadedhdhoo, and Gan, shows varying conditions. Kadhdhoo recorded significantly higher rainfall than average, Kaadedhdhoo experienced rainfall close to the long-term mean, while Gan recorded below-normal rainfall for the month.



- Temperature

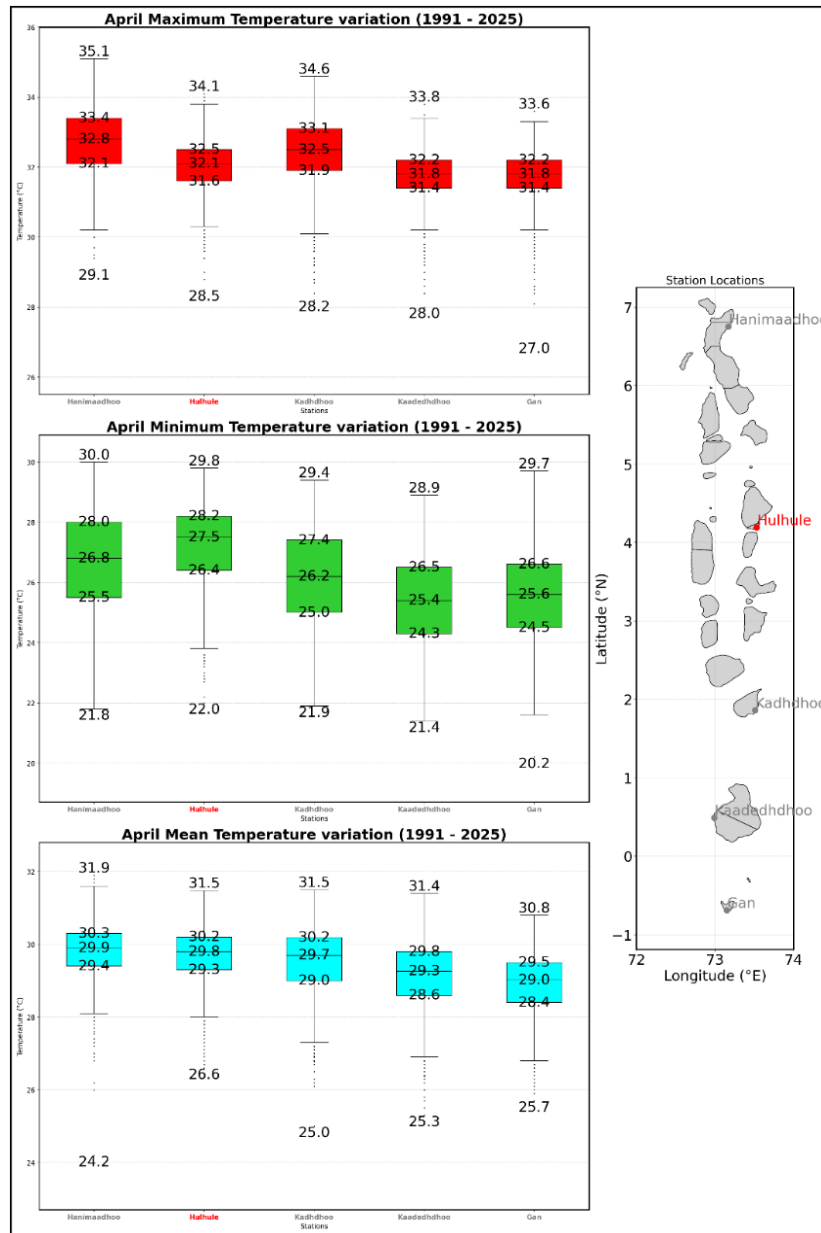


Figure 2 Distribution of daily maximum, minimum and mean temperature of five Meteorological Stations for the period of 1991 to 2025.

From figure 2, The distribution of temperature shows daily mean maximum temperatures range between 31.8°C and 32.8°C with highest maximum temperature of 35.1°C recorded in the northern station, Hanimaadhoo, minimum temperatures range from 25.4°C and 27.5°C with lowest minimum of 20.2°C recorded in southernmost station, Gan and, mean temperatures ranges from 29.0°C and 29.9°C with highest mean temperature of 31.9°C recorded northern station, Hanimaadhoo.



Conclusion

Considering the expected conditions of major climate drivers, seasonal climate predictions from Global and Regional Centres, and local climate data, above-normal rainfall is likely in the southern parts of the country, followed by slightly below-normal rainfall over the rest of the country in the month of April 2026. Moreover, slightly above-normal temperatures are likely throughout the country for the month.

Note:

Normal: Amount of rainfall between 90% - 110% of the average for the period.

Above normal: Amount of rainfall more than 110% of the average for the period.

Below Normal: Amount of rainfall less than 90% of the average for the period