

How are pasture and water in Marsabit this month?

Pasture in Marsabit is greener than normal

The vegetation condition index (VCI) for the three months August to October 2026 is 55. Kenya's National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) reads above 50 as greener than normal.

It is improving: last month it was 49 (normal).

Pasture was poorer at this time of year in 21 of the last 24 years.

Rain in July to September 2026 was 72% of normal, the 8th driest of 36 years since 1991.

Pasture (VCI-3M)	Last month	Rain, last 3 months
55	49	72%
Greener than normal	Improving	of normal (14 mm against 20 mm)

Years with poorer pasture

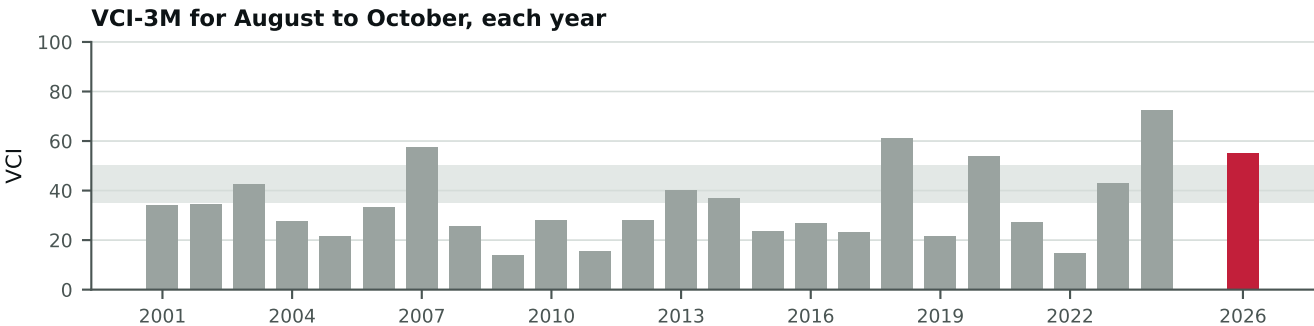
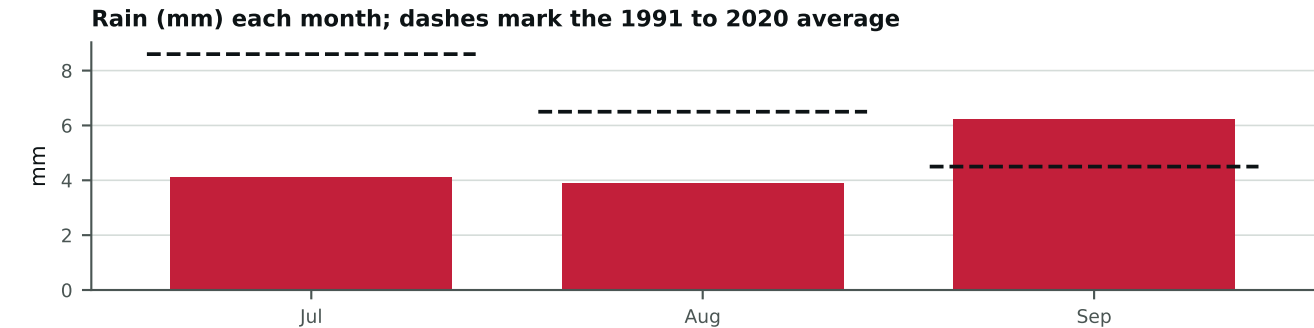
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same months, since 2001

Good for spotting drought across Marsabit's grassland and shrubland; it shows how green the land is, not how much grazing is left after livestock.

Water points

Water point	Open water	Of usual	Status
Lake Paradise	no open water	-	Dry (21 October)
Kalacha	no open water	-	Dry (21 October)



Data sources and licences

MODIS MOD13Q1 v061 vegetation index. NASA open data, no restrictions on use. MODIS MOD13Q1 v061: Didan, K. (2021). NASA EOSDIS LP DAAC. <https://doi.org/10.5067/MODIS/MOD13Q1.061>. Accessed via Microsoft Planetary Computer. Use does not imply endorsement by NASA.

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CHIRPS v3 rainfall. CC BY 4.0. UCSB Climate Hazards Center CHIRPS version 3.0, processed by dynamical.org. Funk, C. et al. (2026), Sci Data 13, 718. <https://doi.org/10.15780/G2JQ0P>. CC BY 4.0.

Copernicus Sentinel-2 Level-2A imagery. Copernicus Sentinel data legal notice (free, full and open use, including commercial). Contains modified Copernicus Sentinel data 2017–2026, accessed through Microsoft Planetary Computer.

geoBoundaries Kenya ADM1 (2020). Public Domain. Boundary source: RCMRD GeoPortal, Africa GeoPortal. Runfola, D. et al. (2020) geoBoundaries: A global database of political administrative boundaries. PLoS ONE 15(4): e0231866.

County drought bulletins: NDMA Kenya: <https://www.ndma.go.ke/>

Food security outlook: FEWS NET: <https://fews.net/>

Desert locust warnings: FAO Locust Watch: <https://www.fao.org/locusts/en/>