REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, URBANIZATION AND CLIMATE CHANGE
Turkish State Meteorological Service

State of the Climate in May 2026

Climate and Agricultural Meteorology Department
Research Department

2026

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PREFACE

The Turkish State Meteorological Service (TSMS), under the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization, and Climate Change, prepares monthly, seasonal, and annual climate analyses consisting of temperature and precipitation assessments in order to inform the public and raise awareness regarding climate conditions.

Climate is a key environmental factor that directly affects a wide range of sectors, particularly urban development, agriculture, water resources management, energy production, and transportation. Therefore, continuous monitoring and analysis of climatic conditions play a crucial role in the long-term planning processes of these sectors.

Located within the Mediterranean Basin, Türkiye is among the regions most vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change, including heat waves, forest fires, droughts, floods, storms, and hail events. In recent years, an increase has been observed in both the frequency and intensity of extreme meteorological events associated with changing climate conditions.

This bulletin presents an assessment of temperature and precipitation observations recorded during the previous month and compares them with the climatological normals for the period 1991–2020. In addition, the report includes analyses of extreme temperature and precipitation events across Türkiye, regional climate evaluations, basin-based precipitation assessments, and the number of precipitation days.

All climate reports prepared by the Turkish State Meteorological Service are publicly available through the “Analyses” section of the official website at https://www.mgm.gov.tr.

We hope that these reports will contribute to increasing public awareness of weather and climate events, incorporating climate considerations into sectoral planning activities, supporting the development of climate-resilient cities, and assisting decision-makers in adaptation and risk-reduction efforts related to food security and disaster management.

Sincerely,

Volkan Mutlu COŞKUN

Director General
Turkish State Meteorological Service

1. Introduction

- ✓ The long-term (1991–2020) mean temperature for May is 17.1°C, while the national mean temperature in May 2026 was recorded as 15.7°C.
- ✓ The lowest temperature during the month was measured at -2.0°C in Ardahan, while the highest temperature reached 37.9°C in Ceylanpınar.
- ✓ In May 2026, mean temperatures were generally near the seasonal averages across almost the entire Marmara Region (except Bilecik), the coastal parts of the Black Sea and Aegean Regions, the western parts of the Mediterranean Region, and the provinces of Ağrı, Iğdır, Ardahan, Van, and Hakkari in Eastern Anatolia. Temperatures were above normal in Kale (Demre) and Bartın, while most other parts of the country experienced temperatures below the climatological averages.
- ✓ The national mean temperature in May 2026 was 15.7°C, which is 1.4°C below the 1991–2020 May climatological average of 17.1°C.
- ✓ The areal average precipitation in May 2026 was 95.6 mm, which is approximately 81% above the 1991–2020 climatological average of 52.7 mm. The highest monthly precipitation total was recorded in Ordu with 206.7 mm, while the lowest was observed in Muğla with 35.6 mm. Compared to the climatological average, precipitation increased by 81%, and compared to May 2025, when the national average precipitation was 48.2 mm, it increased by 97%. Nationwide, May 2026 was the wettest May recorded in the last 33 years.
- ✓ During May, precipitation was more than 20% below normal in the western parts of Aydın and Muğla, the southwestern parts of Antalya, and around Iğdır and Ardahan. The decrease exceeded 60% in the vicinity of Kale, Finike, and Kumluca. In contrast, precipitation totals exceeded three times the climatological average in the areas surrounding Mersin, Osmaniye, Ordu, Tokat, and Samsun.
- ✓ Province-wide precipitation totals ranged from 206.7 mm in Ordu, the wettest province, to 35.6 mm in Muğla, the driest province. Except for Ardahan, Aydın, Iğdır, and Kars, all provinces received above-normal precipitation. Furthermore, Adana, Aksaray, Amasya, Erzincan, Giresun, Gümüşhane, Isparta, Kayseri, Konya, Mersin, Niğde, Osmaniye, Rize, Tokat, Trabzon, and Tunceli recorded their highest May precipitation totals in the last 66 years.

2. Temperature

In May 2026, mean temperatures were generally near the climatological averages across almost the entire Marmara Region (except Bilecik), the coastal parts of the Black Sea and Aegean Regions, the western parts of the Mediterranean Region, and the provinces of Ağrı, Iğdır, Ardahan, Van, and Hakkari in Eastern Anatolia. Temperatures were above normal in Kale (Demre) and Bartın, while the rest of the country experienced below-normal temperatures.

The national mean temperature in May 2026 was 15.7°C, which was 1.4°C below the 1991–2020 climatological average of 17.1°C (Figures 2.1 and 2.2).

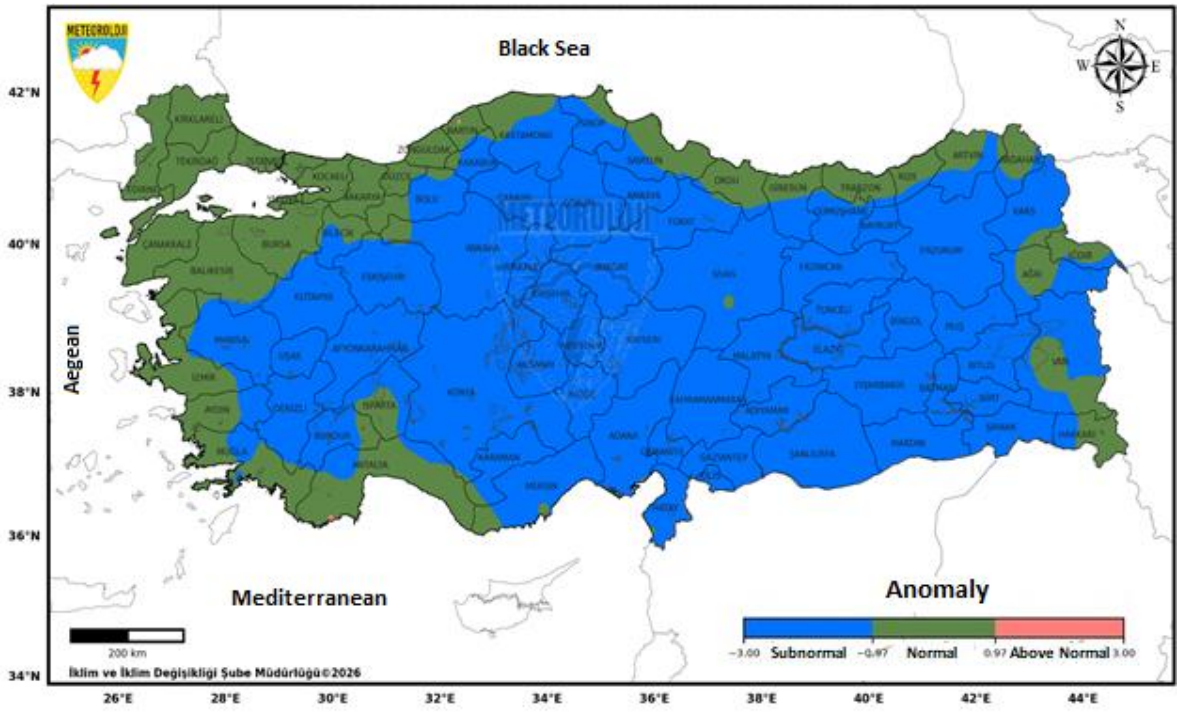

Figure 2.1 Spatial mean temperature anomalies for May 2026

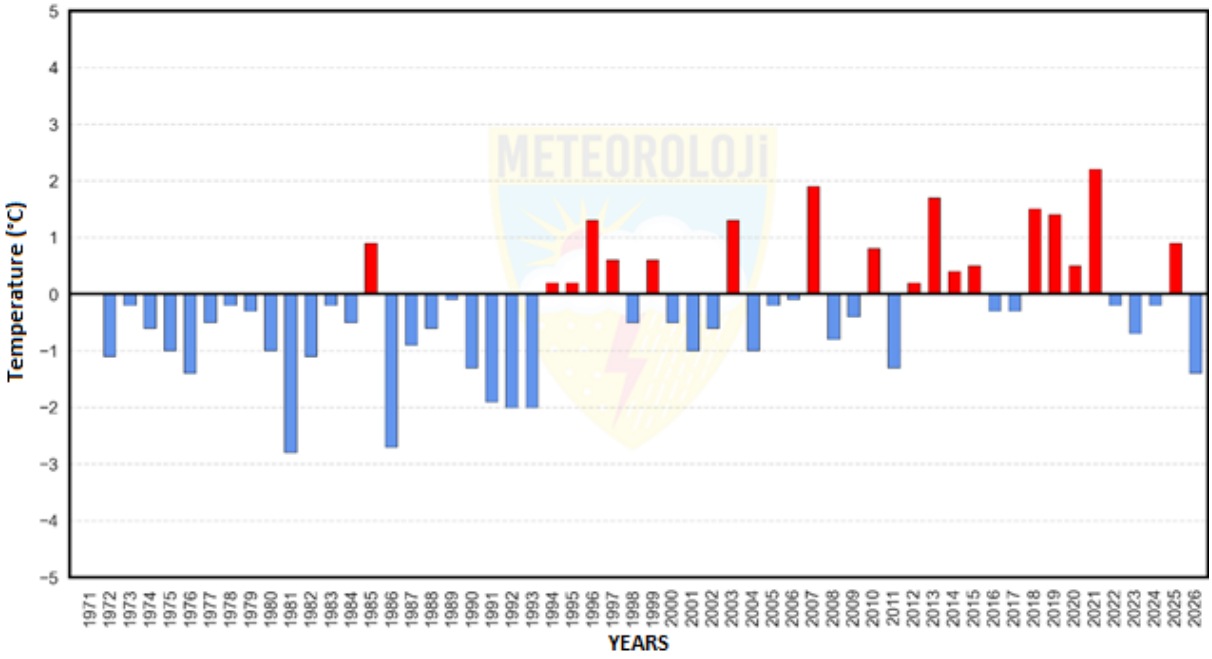

Figure 2.2 Mean temperature anomaly for May in Türkiye

Mean temperature anomalies were negative throughout most of the country, with the exceptions of Bartın and Yalova, where temperatures were above the climatological average (Figure 2.3).

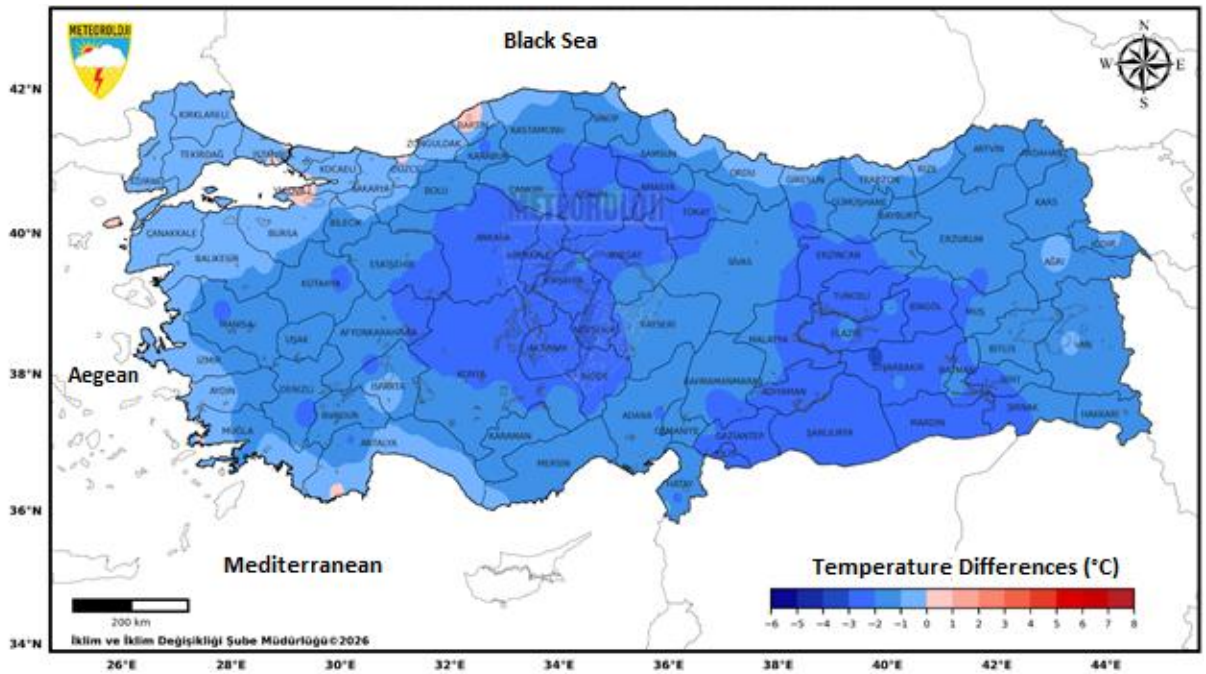

Figure 2.3 Mean temperature anomalies for May 2026

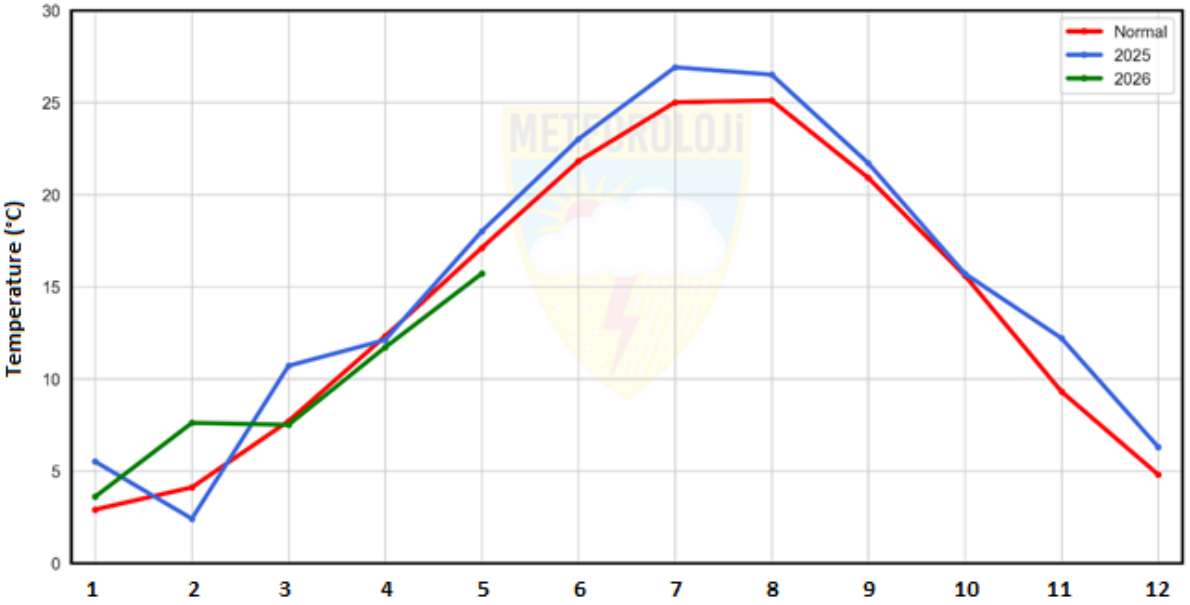

Figure 2.4 Comparison of May 2026 mean temperatures with the long-term average and the previous year

The comparison of monthly mean temperatures for 2026 with the 1991–2020 climatological averages and the corresponding values from 2025 indicates that temperatures during the first five months of 2026 were generally below both the climatological normals and the previous year's levels. While January and February were warmer than normal, temperatures in March and April were close to the climatological averages. In May, the national mean temperature was recorded at 15.7°C, remaining below both the 1991–2020 May average of 17.1°C and the corresponding value observed in May 2025. The persistence of lower temperatures relative to 2025 since March suggests that cooler-than-average conditions prevailed across much of the country during the spring season. This pattern is consistent with the widespread negative temperature anomalies observed in May.

2.1. Regional Temperature

Mediterranean Region: Mean temperatures were generally near the climatological averages in the vicinity of Silifke, Elmalı, Yumurtalık, Dalaman, Anamur, Samandağ, Gazipaşa, Köyceğiz, Kaş, Finike, Manavgat, Antalya Airport, Isparta, Alanya, Eğirdir, and Fethiye, while Kale (Demre) recorded above-normal temperatures. Temperatures in the remaining parts of the region were below the climatological averages. The long-term (1991–2020) mean temperature

for May in the region is 19.7°C, whereas the regional mean temperature in May 2026 was 18.5°C. The lowest temperature recorded in the region was -0.1°C in Göksun, while the highest temperature reached 35.4°C in Kozan.

Central Anatolia Region: Mean temperatures were near the climatological averages around Kangal, while the rest of the region experienced below-normal temperatures. The long-term May mean temperature for the region is 15.1°C, compared to 13.1°C recorded in May 2026. The lowest temperature was -0.6°C in Ulukışla, and the highest temperature was 28.5°C in Çumra.

Black Sea Region: Mean temperatures were below the climatological averages in the vicinity of Osmancık, Beypazarı, Karabük Kapullu, Kızılcahamam, Tokat, Tosya, Zile, Şebinkarahisar, İspir, Merzifon, Amasya, Kastamonu, Bolu, Çorum, Boyabat, Oltu, Bayburt, and Gümüşhane. Temperatures were above normal in Bartın, while the remaining parts of the region experienced temperatures near the climatological averages. The long-term May mean temperature for the region is 15.7°C, whereas the regional mean temperature in May 2026 was 14.4°C. The lowest temperature recorded was 0.3°C in Bayburt, while the highest temperature reached 31.8°C in Bartın.

Eastern Anatolia Region: Mean temperatures were near the climatological averages in the vicinity of Başkale, Ardahan, Yüksekova, Iğdır, Van Regional Station, and Ağrı, while the rest of the region experienced below-normal temperatures. The long-term May mean temperature for the region is 13.9°C, compared to 12.2°C recorded in May 2026. The lowest temperature recorded was -2.0°C in Erzurum, while the highest temperature reached 31.3°C in Iğdır.

Southeastern Anatolia Region: Mean temperatures were below the climatological averages throughout the region. The long-term May mean temperature for the region is 20.9°C, while the regional mean temperature in May 2026 was 18.6°C. The lowest temperature recorded was

4.8°C in Mardin, whereas the highest temperature reached 37.9°C in Ceylanpınar .

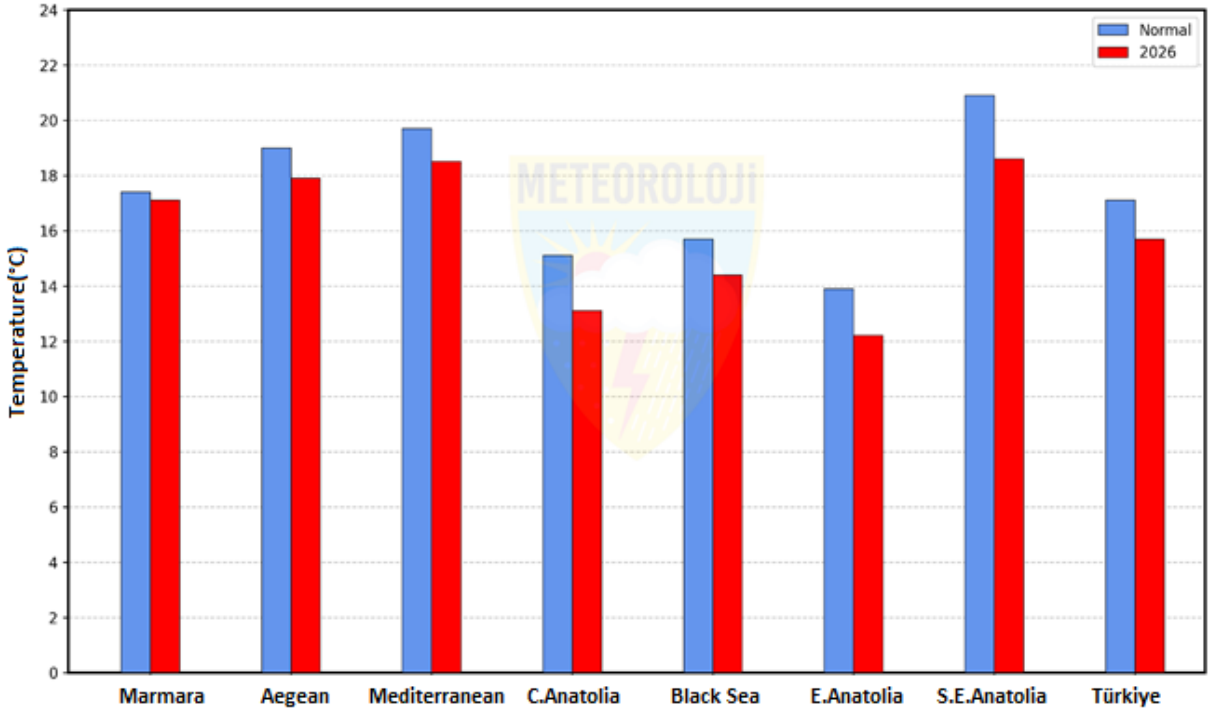

Figure 2. 5 Regional mean temperature differences in May 2026 (URL 1).

2.2. Extreme Temperature

In May 2026, two new record-low temperatures were observed. Minimum temperature records for May were broken at the Anamur and Kaş meteorological stations, with temperatures of 8.2°C and 9.7°C, respectively (Table 2.1).

Table 2.1. Minimum temperature records broken in May 2026.

Record Low Temperatures (°C)					
Day	**Month**	**Station**	**2026**	**Previous Record (up to 2025)**	**Difference**
4	May	Anamur	8.2	8.6	-0.4
4	May	Kaş	9.7	10.7	-1.0

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3. Precipitation

Across Türkiye, April 2026 precipitation increased by 50% relative to the climatological normal (Figure 3.1 and Table 3.1).

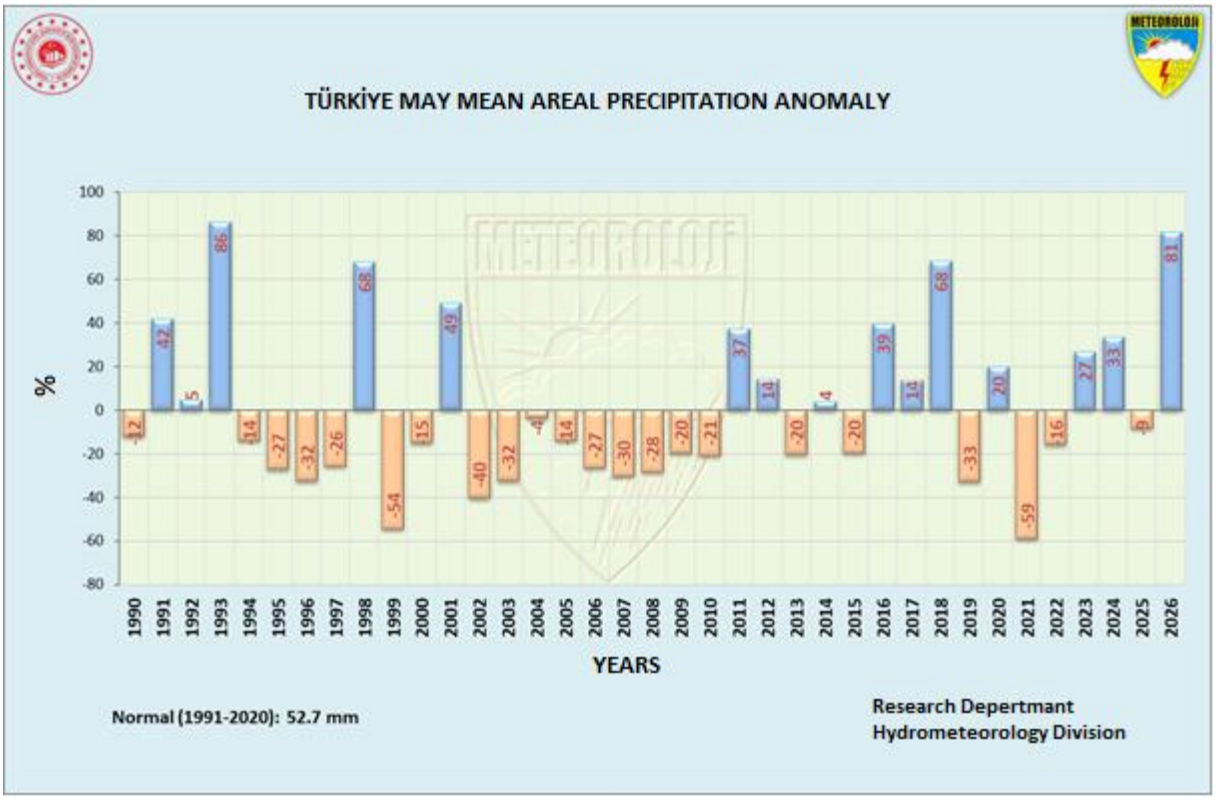

Figure 3.1. Departure of May 2026 precipitation totals from the long-term climatological normals.

Table 3.1. Nationwide precipitation in Türkiye in April 2026.

MAY 2026 PRECIPITATION				
Türkiye	**Precipitation (mm)**	**Normal (1991–2020) (mm)**	**Departure from Normal (%)**	
Overall	95.6	52.7	81	Increase

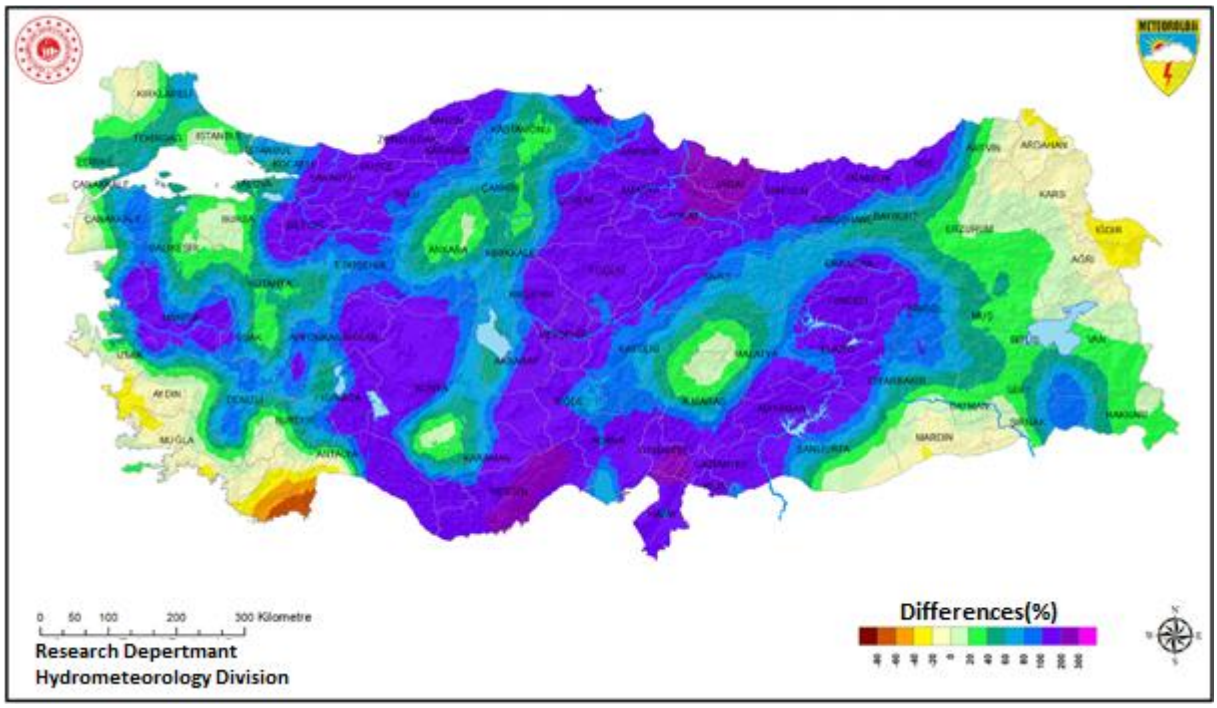

Figure 3.2. Deviation of May 2026 precipitation from the climatological normals.

A national average precipitation of 95.6 mm was recorded across Türkiye in May 2026. The climatological average (1991–2020) for May is 52.7 mm, while precipitation in May 2025 was 48.2 mm. Precipitation in May 2026 was 81% above the climatological average and 98% higher than that recorded in May 2025. As a result, nationwide May precipitation reached its highest level in the last 33 years.

Precipitation was more than 20% below normal in the western parts of Aydın and Muğla, the southwestern parts of Antalya, and around Iğdır and Ardahan. The deficit exceeded 60% in the vicinity of Kale (Demre), Finike, and Kumluca. In contrast, precipitation totals exceeded three times the climatological average in the areas surrounding Mersin, Osmaniye, Ordu, Tokat, and Samsun.

At the provincial scale, the highest precipitation total was recorded in Ordu with 206.7 mm, while Muğla was the driest province with 35.6 mm. Except for Ardahan, Aydın, Iğdır, and Kars, all provinces received above-normal precipitation. Furthermore, Adana, Aksaray, Amasya, Erzincan, Giresun, Gümüşhane, Isparta, Kayseri, Konya, Mersin, Niğde, Osmaniye, Rize, Tokat, Trabzon, and Tunceli recorded their highest May precipitation totals in the last 66 years.

3.1. Regional Precipitation

Regional precipitation totals in May were above both the climatological averages and the corresponding values of the previous year across all regions of Türkiye. In the Mediterranean and Black Sea Regions, precipitation exceeded twice the climatological average. Furthermore, the Mediterranean, Central Anatolia, and Black Sea Regions recorded their wettest May in the last 66 years.

In the Marmara Region, Sakarya recorded the highest precipitation total with 123.5 mm, while the lowest amount was observed in Çanakkale with 50.5 mm.

In the Aegean Region, Afyonkarahisar received the highest precipitation total, amounting to 107.6 mm, whereas Muğla recorded the lowest precipitation with 35.6 mm.

In the Mediterranean Region, the highest precipitation total was recorded in Osmaniye with 166.0 mm, while Antalya received the lowest amount with 57.3 mm.

In the Central Anatolia Region, Yozgat recorded the highest precipitation total with 124.7 mm, whereas Karaman received the lowest precipitation amount with 69.5 mm.

In the Black Sea Region, Ordu was the wettest province with 206.7 mm of precipitation, while Sinop recorded the lowest total with 100.6 mm.

In the Eastern Anatolia Region, Tunceli received the highest precipitation total with 167.7 mm, whereas Iğdır recorded the lowest amount with 49.3 mm.

In the Southeastern Anatolia Region, Siirt recorded the highest precipitation total with 99.2 mm, while Mardin received the lowest precipitation amount with 44.1 mm.

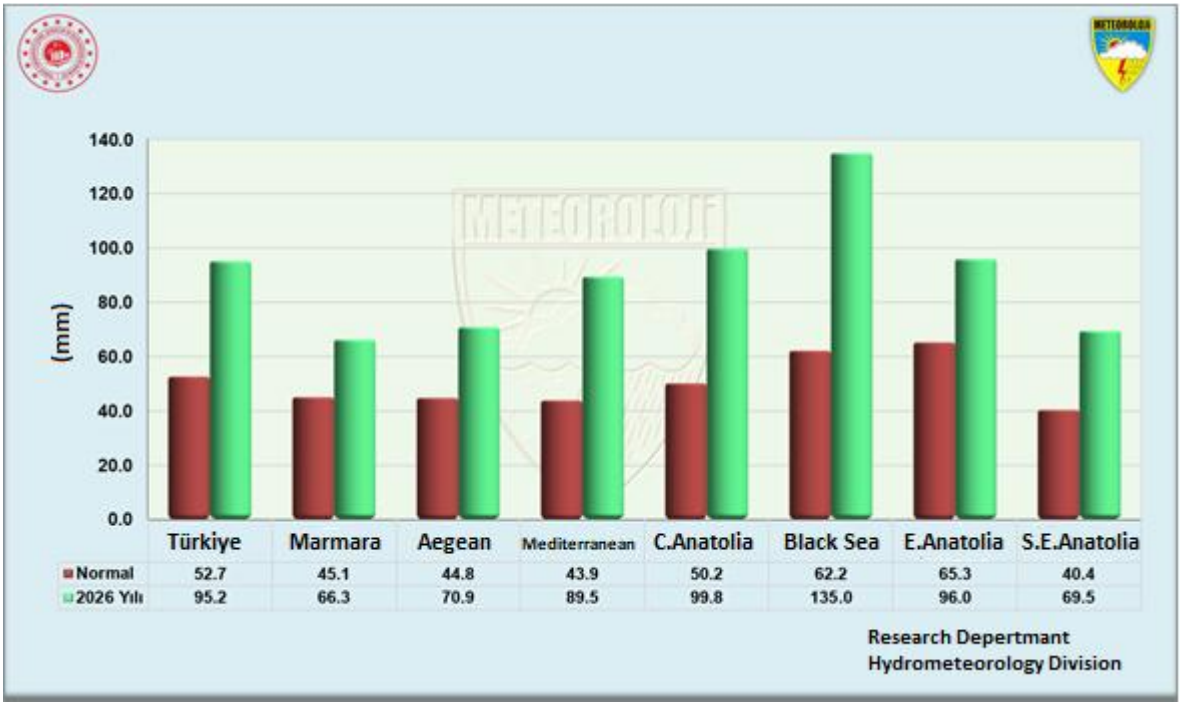

Figure 3.3 Regional Precipitation Differences in May 2026

3.2. Number of Rainy Days

An average of 15.2 precipitation days was recorded across Türkiye in May 2026, compared to the 1991–2020 climatological average of 10.3 days. The number of precipitation days exceeded 25 days in parts of the Black Sea Region, around Nevşehir, Aksaray, Yozgat, Kayseri, and Sivas, as well as in the northern parts of Eastern Anatolia. In contrast, precipitation days fell below 5 days in southwestern Antalya and along the coastal areas of Muğla.

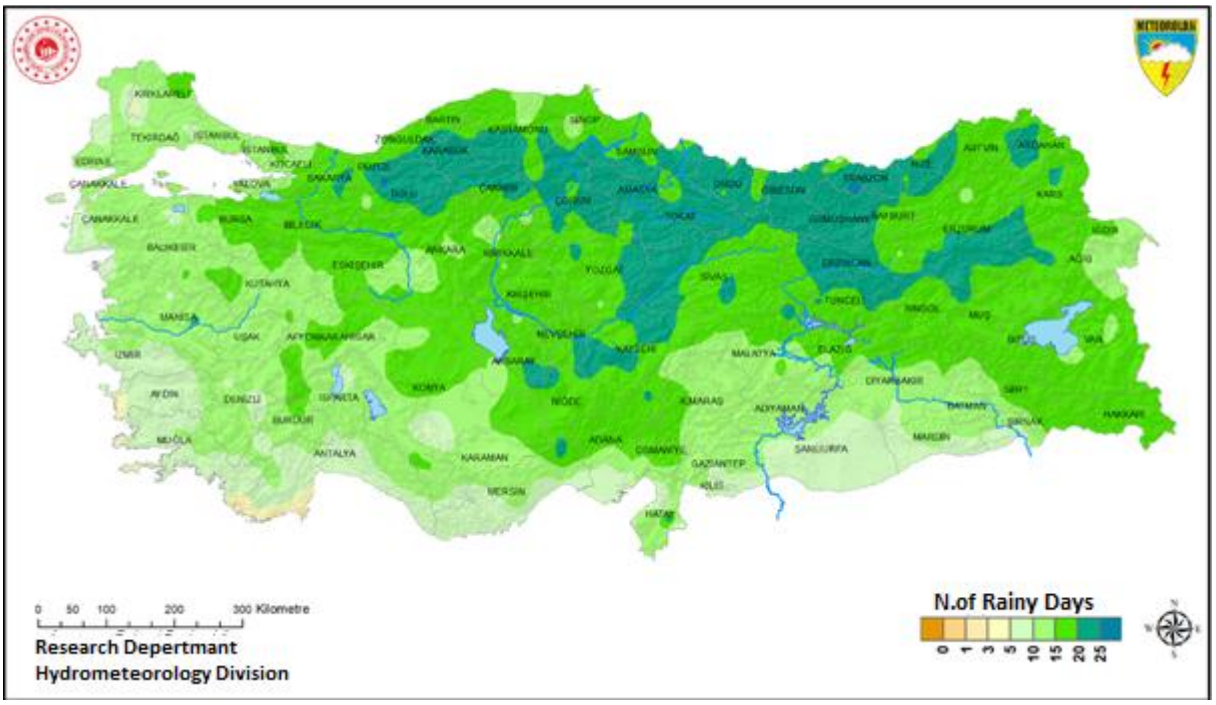

Figure 3.4 Number of rainy days in May 2026 (Url 2).

4. Extreme Meteorological Event

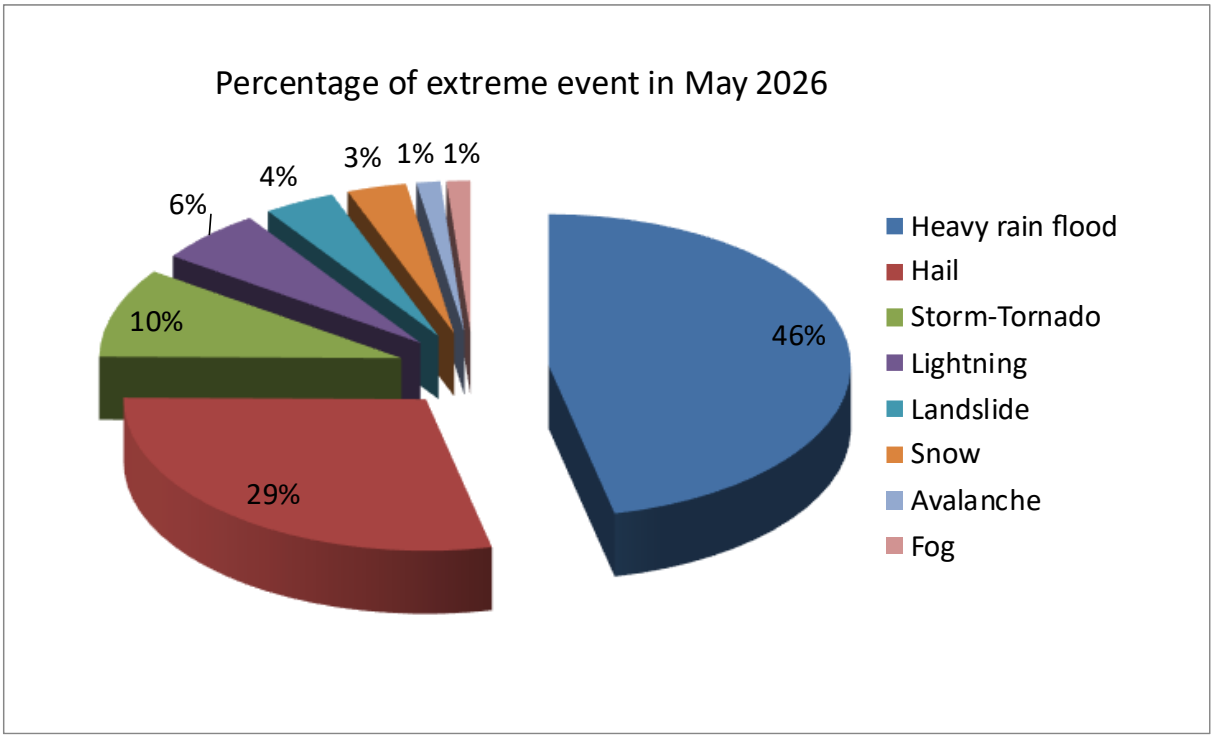

Figure 4.1. Percentage of extreme events in May 2026 (Url 3).

A total of eight categories of extreme meteorological events were reported across Türkiye during May 2026. Heavy rain and flood events constituted the largest share of all recorded events, accounting for 46% of the total. Hail events ranked second with 29%, while storm and tornado events represented 10% of all occurrences. Lightning-related events accounted for 6%, followed by landslides with 4% and snow events with 3%. Avalanche and fog events were the least frequent categories, each comprising 1% of the total extreme meteorological events recorded during the month.

The dominance of heavy rain and flood events is consistent with the exceptionally wet conditions experienced across the country during May 2026. Nationwide precipitation was 81% above the 1991–2020 climatological average, making May 2026 the wettest May in the last 33 years. The widespread occurrence of above-normal precipitation, particularly across the Mediterranean, Central Anatolia, and Black Sea Regions, likely contributed to the increased frequency of flood-related disasters and associated impacts.

Hail, storm, and tornado events together accounted for nearly 40% of all reported extreme events, indicating enhanced atmospheric instability during the month. The occurrence of

landslides was also likely associated with prolonged and intense rainfall episodes, particularly in regions characterized by complex topography and high precipitation totals. In contrast, snow, avalanche, and fog events represented only a small proportion of the total events, reflecting the seasonal transition toward warmer conditions across most parts of the country. Overall, the distribution of extreme meteorological events during May 2026 highlights the dominant influence of precipitation-related hazards and severe convective weather on the month's meteorological conditions.

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