

(Idogho et al., 2022b). However, excessive rainfall also heightened flooding risks, as noted in West Africa (Ragatoa et al., 2020). Projections for 2016-2025 indicate further increases to 1,158 mm, consistent with national anomalies (Akinsanola and Ogunjobi, 2020). While increased rainfall may replenish habitats, extremes threaten ecosystem stability. Cohen et al. (2016) demonstrated similar climate-driven disruptions in Lake Tanganyika, underscoring the compounded risks of rainfall variability and warming. Overall, Ilaje's rainfall dynamics reflect regional climate trends, emphasizing the need for adaptive water management, flood control, and resilient livelihood strategies.

Table 3 Rainy season, rainfall and temperature in Ilaje LGA (1996-2025)

Year	Onset Date	Cessation Date	Length of Rainy Days	Annual Rainfall (mm)	Rainfall Deviation (%)	Mean Annual Temp (°C)	Temp Deviation (°C)
1996	Mar-25	Oct-28	218	1,820	-7.6	27.4	-0.3
1997	Mar-29	Oct-20	206	1,960	-0.6	27.7	0.0
1998	Apr-05	Oct-18	196	1,750	-10.4	28.0	0.3
1999	Mar-22	Oct-25	217	2,020	2.0	27.9	0.2
2000	Apr-02	Oct-15	196	2,120	7.6	28.1	0.4
2001	Mar-30	Oct-19	203	1,890	-3.9	27.6	-0.1
2002	Mar-28	Oct-17	203	2,050	3.4	27.8	0.1
2003	Apr-03	Oct-21	201	1,980	0.3	28.0	0.3
2004	Mar-27	Oct-12	199	2,200	8.9	28.2	0.5
2005	Apr-01	Oct-16	198	1,880	-4.6	27.5	-0.2
2006	Mar-25	Oct-18	207	1,740	-11.0	27.3	-0.4
2007	Apr-04	Sep-30	179	2,060	3.8	27.9	0.2
2008	Mar-29	Oct-14	199	2,180	8.3	28.0	0.3
2009	Apr-06	Oct-10	187	1,930	-1.1	27.7	0.0
2010	Mar-26	Oct-13	201	2,070	3.6	28.1	0.4
2011	Apr-03	Oct-11	191	1,860	-5.3	27.6	-0.1
2012	Mar-28	Oct-20	206	1,990	0.7	27.8	0.1
2013	Apr-01	Oct-16	198	2,150	6.8	28.3	0.6
2014	Mar-24	Oct-18	208	1,810	-6.0	27.5	-0.2
2015	Apr-05	Oct-12	190	1,700	-12.1	27.2	-0.5
2016	Mar-27	Oct-14	201	2,030	2.6	27.9	0.2
2017	Mar-30	Oct-15	199	2,090	5.5	28.0	0.3
2018	Apr-02	Oct-18	199	1,970	0.0	27.8	0.1
2019	Mar-26	Oct-20	208	2,200	8.9	28.4	0.7
2020	Apr-04	Oct-11	191	1,950	-0.5	27.9	0.2
2021	Mar-29	Oct-13	198	1,830	-5.8	27.6	-0.1
2022	Apr-03	Oct-15	195	2,040	3.1	28.1	0.4
2023	Mar-31	Oct-18	201	2,120	7.0	28.3	0.6
2024	Apr-02	Oct-10	191	2,010	1.0	28.4	0.7
2025	Apr-07	Oct-05	182	1,980	0.3	28.5	0.8

Source: Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet), 2025