

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

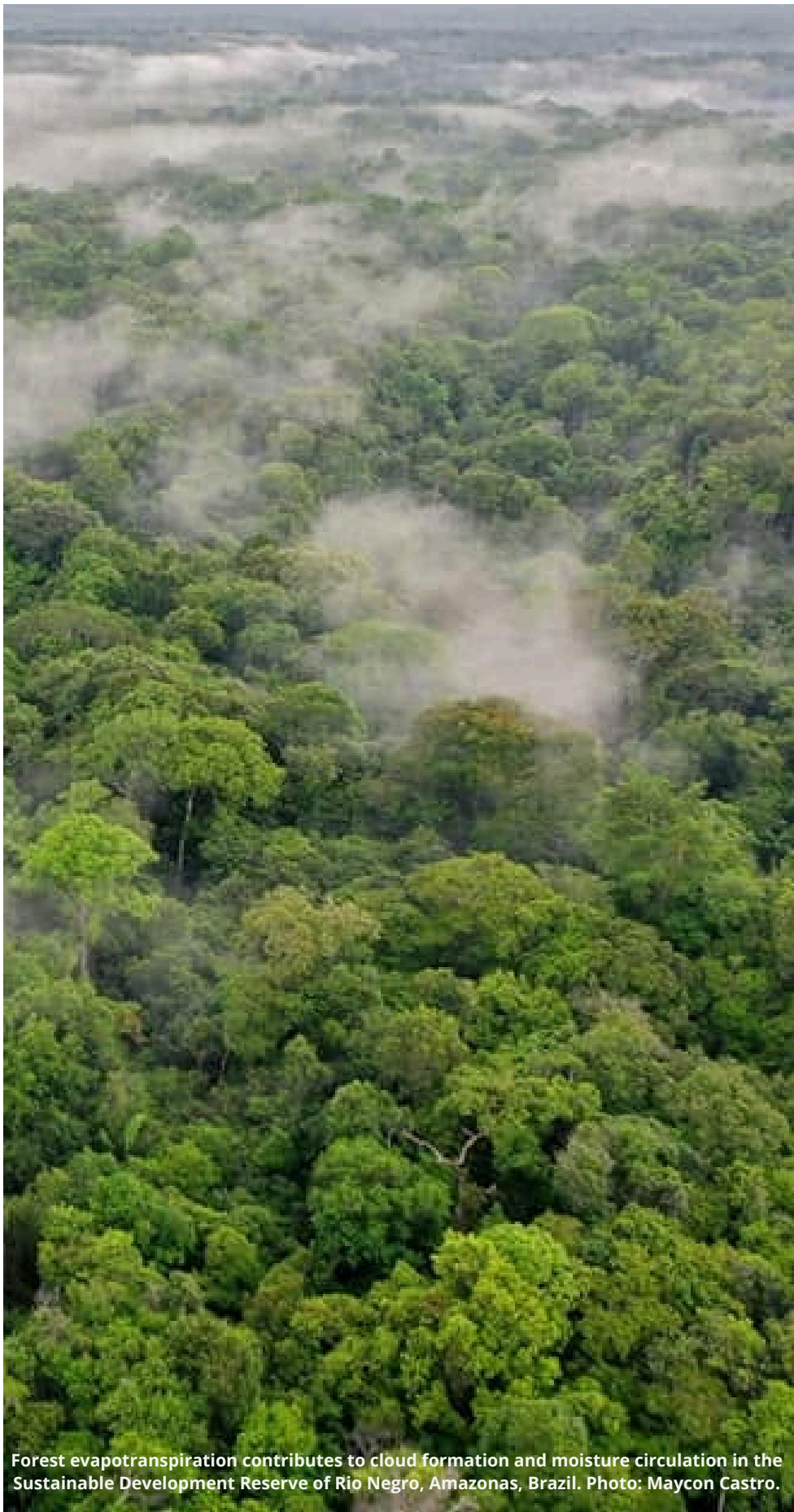
I am pleased to present the first edition of the Environmental Monitoring Bulletin of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), a periodic publication that reaffirms the commitment of our eight Member Countries to a better known, monitored, and protected Amazon. In line with the Belém and Bogotá Declarations, this bulletin strengthens regional cooperation through the exchange of information and scientific knowledge.

Protecting the Amazon means protecting the climate stability and water security of South America. Its forests sustain the flying rivers that carry moisture to much of the continent. Continuous monitoring of El Niño and the integration of reliable data are essential to anticipate its impacts and strengthen the preparedness and coordinated response of Amazonian countries.

With the technical support of the Amazon Regional Observatory (ARO), this publication offers an integrated view of the main environmental indicators of the region. We aspire for it to become a reference tool for Member Countries, strengthening evidence-based cooperation.

The Amazon speaks through data; our responsibility is to transform them into coordinated actions to build a sustainable future for the region.

Martín Von Hildebrand
Secretary-General
ACTO



Forest evapotranspiration contributes to cloud formation and moisture circulation in the Sustainable Development Reserve of Rio Negro, Amazonas, Brazil. Photo: Maycon Castro.

CREDITS

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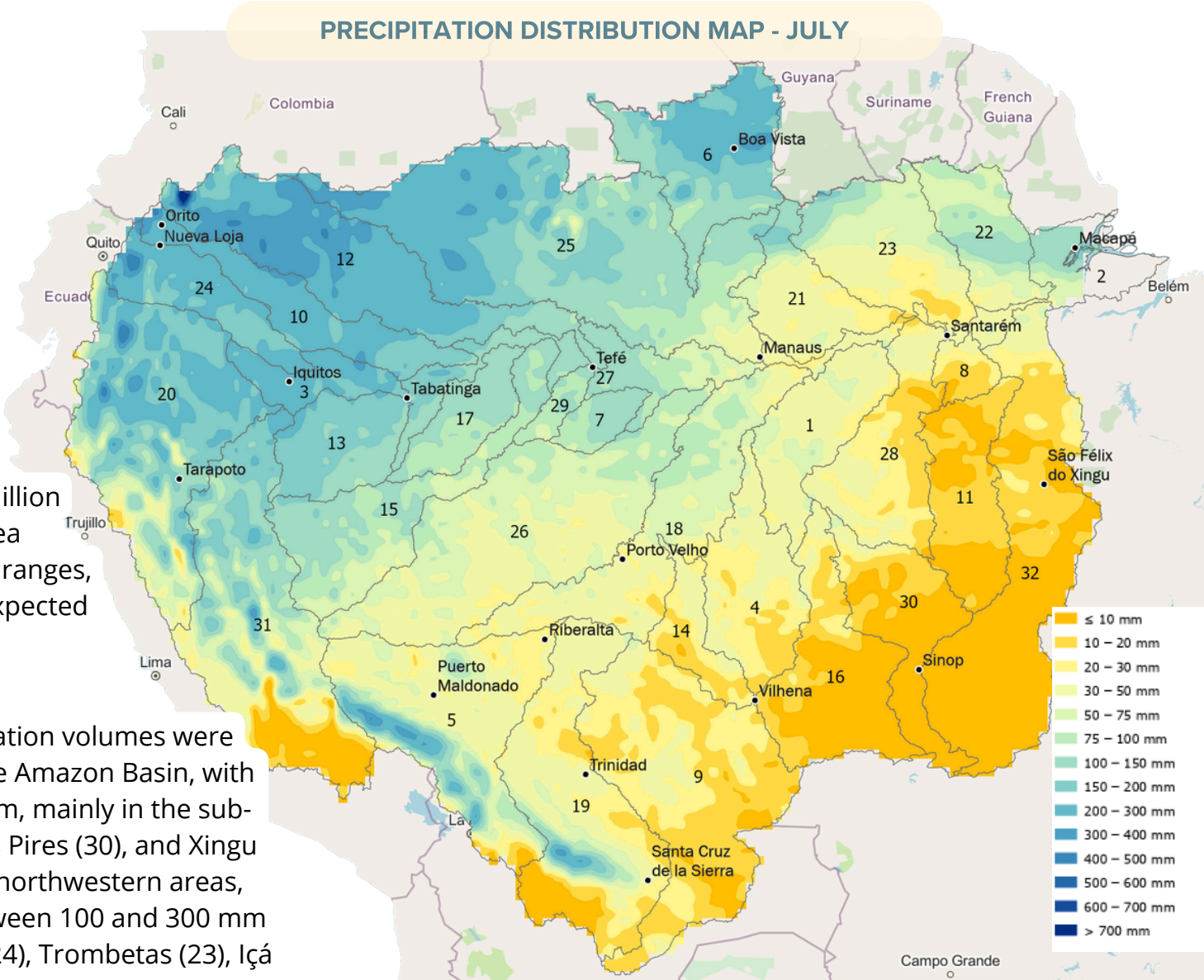


REGIONAL RAINFALL OVERVIEW

Precipitation conditions remained close to normal across most of the Amazon Basin in July

The Amazon Basin covers 5.9 million km². In July, about 75% of its area recorded rainfall within normal ranges, 18.8% below and 6.2% above expected levels.

In July 2026, the lowest precipitation volumes were recorded in the southeast of the Amazon Basin, with accumulated totals below 10 mm, mainly in the sub-basins of the Juruena (16), Teles Pires (30), and Xingu (32) rivers. In the northern and northwestern areas, accumulated totals ranged between 100 and 300 mm in the sub-basins of the Napo (24), Trombetas (23), Içá (10), Negro (25), and Branco (6) rivers.



Source: ERA5/ECMWF-C3S; processing and analysis: ARO/ACTO, 2026.

32

Total Sub-basins

6

Sub-basins in dry condition

24

Sub-basins with rainfall within normal ranges

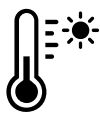
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Sub-basins above normal

KEY MESSAGES



• Of the 32 hydrographic sub-basins analyzed by the ARO, most showed precipitation within climatological normal ranges.



• The most pronounced deficits were recorded in the sub-basins of Uatumã-Nhamundá (21), Negro (25), Branco (6), and Trombetas (26), with rainfall significantly below the climatological average.



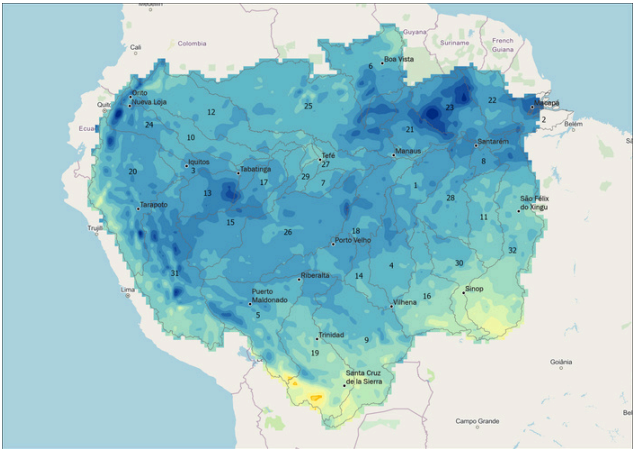
• Between April and July, there was a progressive reduction in accumulated rainfall volume in the Amazon Basin, especially in the northern and southeastern regions.

WHAT DESERVES ATTENTION?

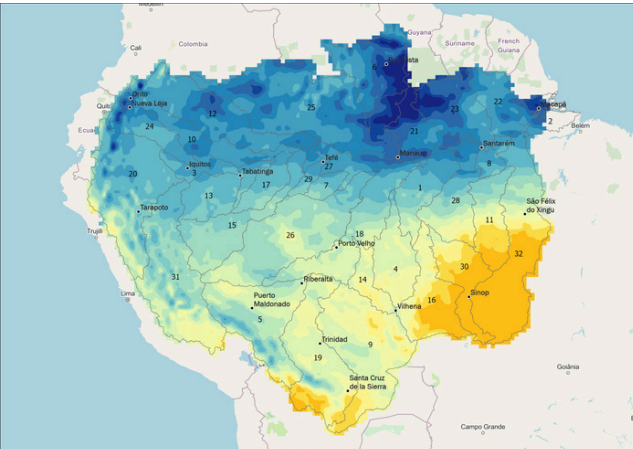
The Negro River sub-basin (25) requires special attention, as it showed a dry trend in February, April, and July.

Although the reduction in rainfall is characteristic of this season in the southern Amazon Basin, low precipitation combined with elevated temperatures and the influence of **El Niño** may increase the risk of forest fires.

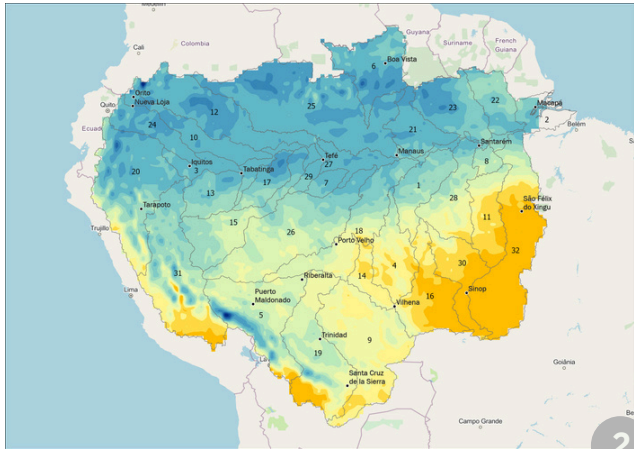
APRIL



MAY



JUNE



Source: ERA5/ECMWF-C3S; processing and analysis: ARO/ACTO, 2026.

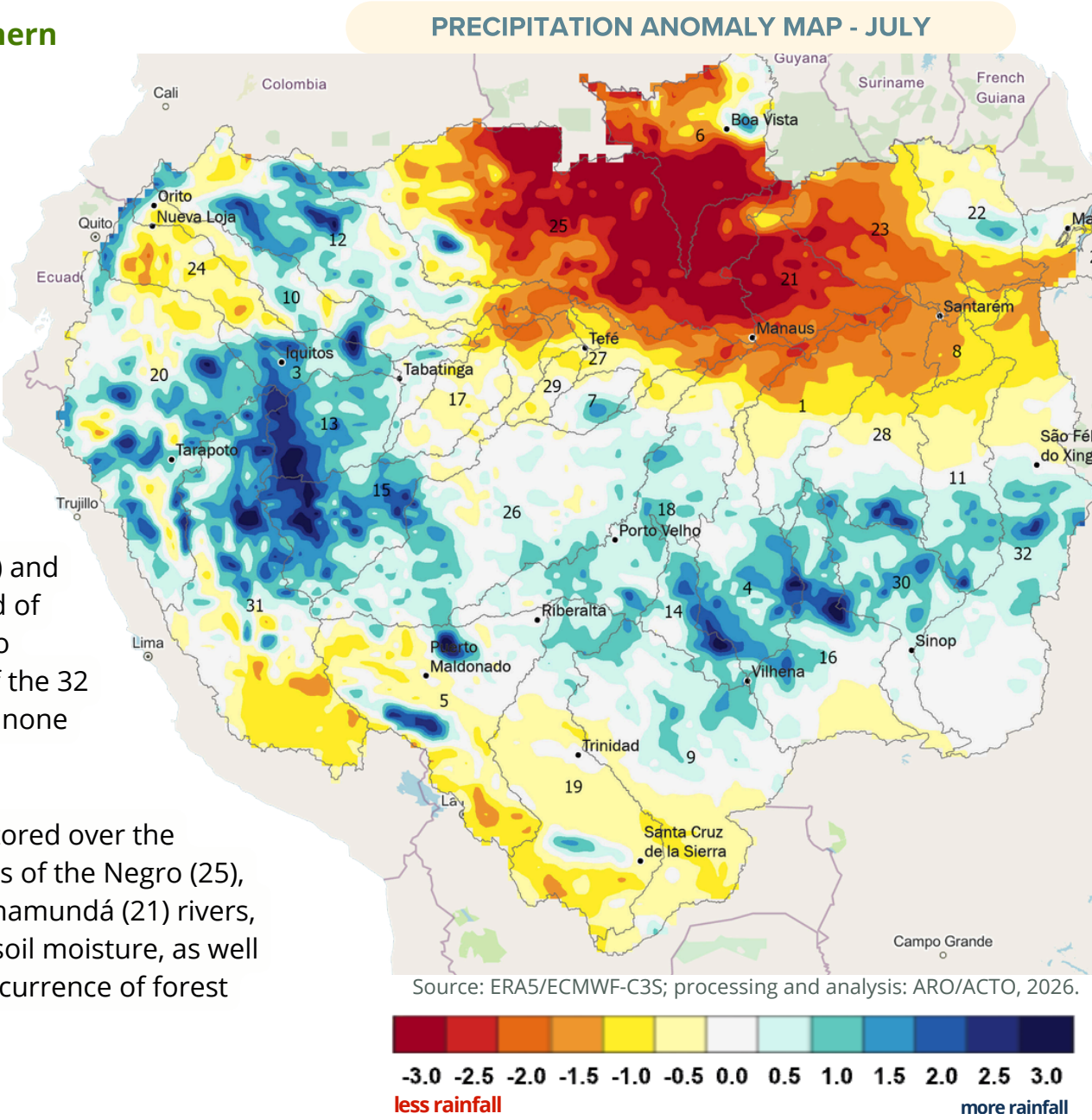
PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURE ANOMALIES

Rainfall deficits intensify in the northern Amazon Basin

In July 2026, normal precipitation conditions prevailed in the Amazon Basin, although a core of negative anomalies expanded. The most pronounced deficits were recorded in the sub-basins of the Uatumã-Nhamundá (21), Negro (25), Branco (6), and Trombetas (23) rivers, with rainfall significantly below the climatological average.

In contrast, the sub-basins of the Javari (13) and Amazonas in Peru (3) rivers showed a trend of rainfall above expected levels. This scenario represents a change from June, when 30 of the 32 sub-basins were within normal ranges and none showed a dry trend.

The persistence of deficits should be monitored over the coming months, especially in the sub-basins of the Negro (25), Branco (6), Trombetas (23), and Uatumã-Nhamundá (21) rivers, due to potential effects on river flows and soil moisture, as well as increased conditions favorable to the occurrence of forest fires during the dry season.



WHAT DOES ANOMALY MEAN?

Negative Values

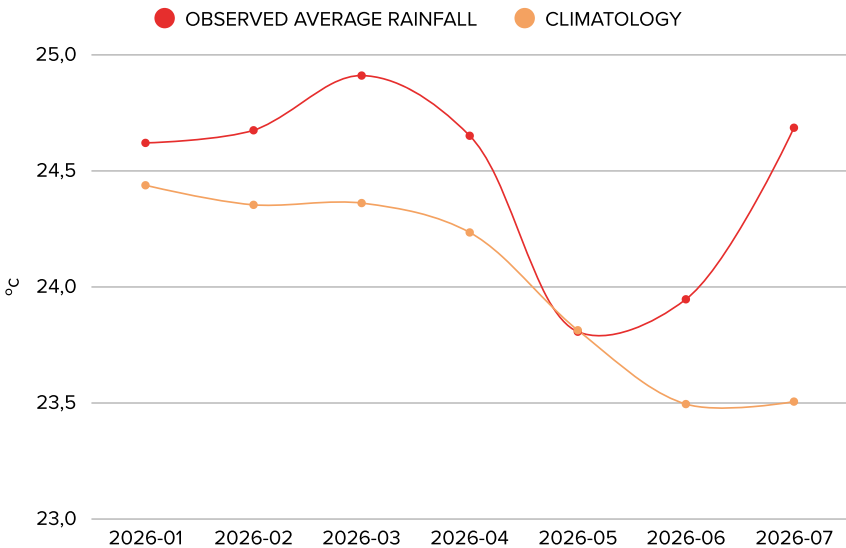
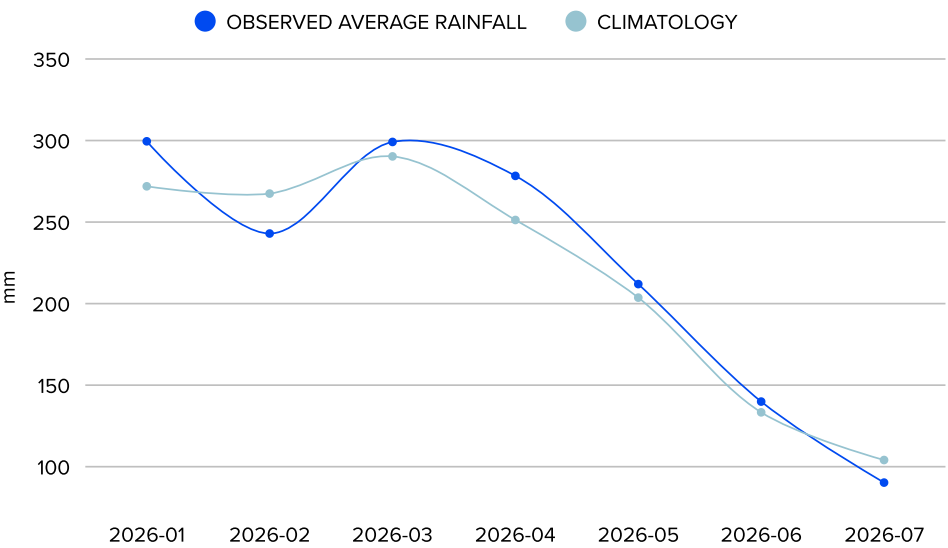
Indicate precipitation deficit or lower temperatures compared to historical averages.

Values close to zero

Indicate precipitation or temperature conditions within normal ranges compared to historical averages.

Positive Values

Indicate precipitation or temperature conditions above normal compared to historical averages.



In July 2026, the average precipitation in the Amazon Basin was approximately 90 mm, about 10 mm below the average for the period.

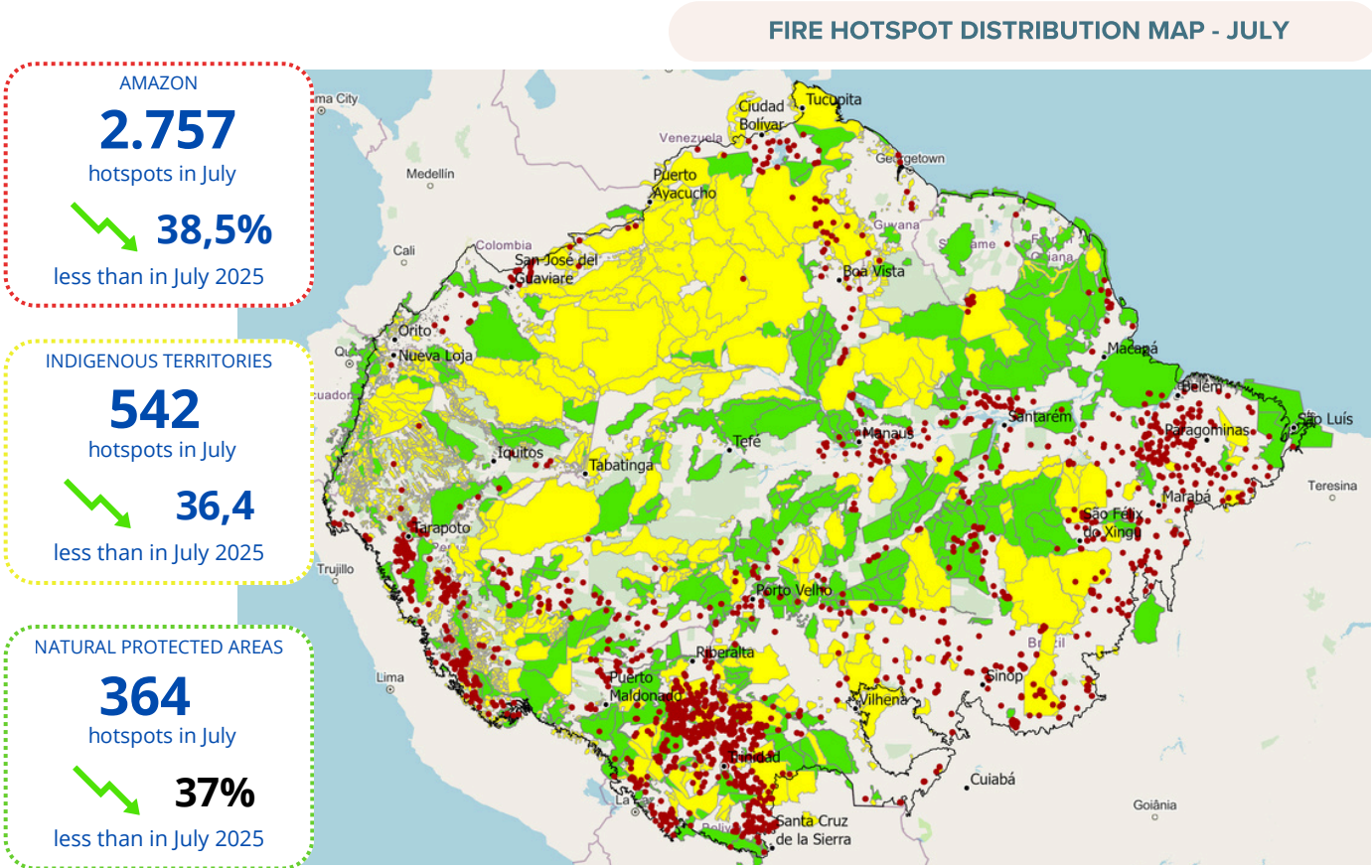


Regarding the observed average temperature, July 2026 recorded approximately 24.68 °C, a positive anomaly of 1.18 °C above the average for the period.

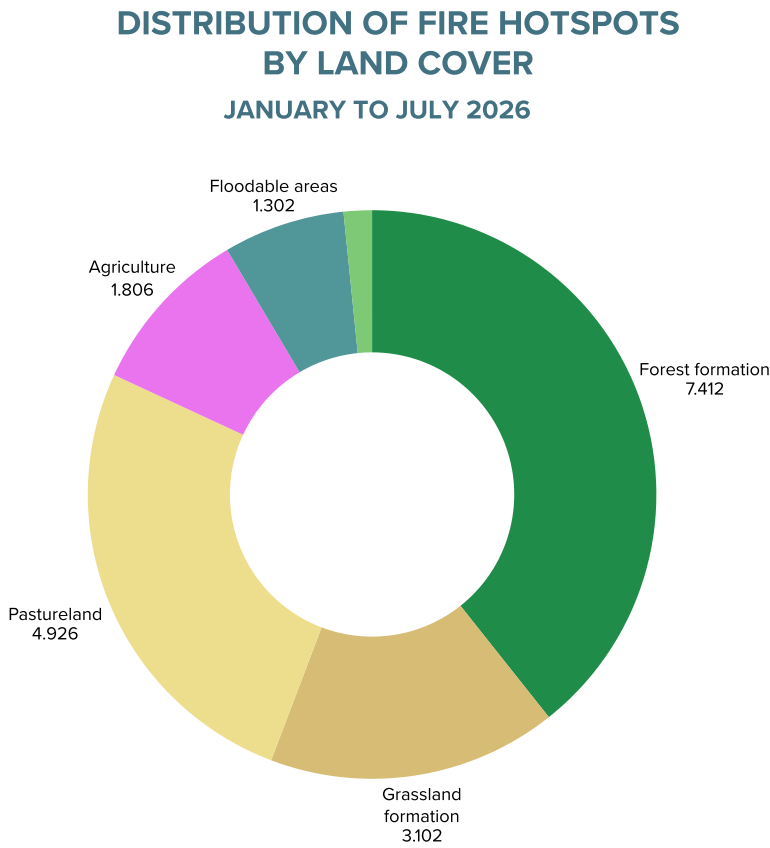
FIRE HOTSPOTS - January to July

Hotspots increase in the Amazon and are concentrated in the southwest of the region

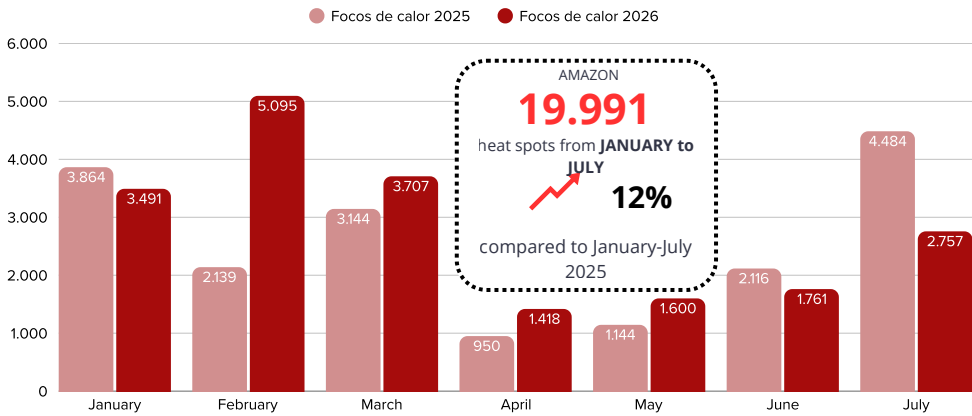
In **July alone, 2,757 hotspots were recorded**, of which 364 occurred in Natural Protected Areas (13%) and 542 in Indigenous Territories (about 20%). The total represents a 38.5% reduction compared to July 2025.



Between January and July 2026, forest formations concentrated the highest number of hotspots in the Amazon, with 7,412 records (37%), followed by pastures, with 4,926 (25%), and grasslands, with 3,102 (16%).

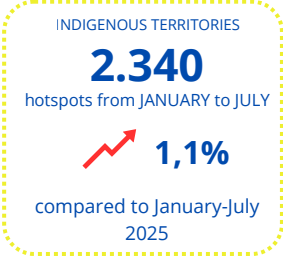
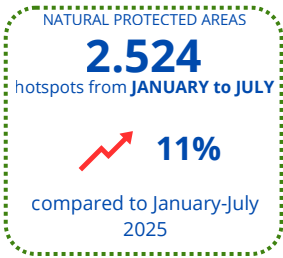
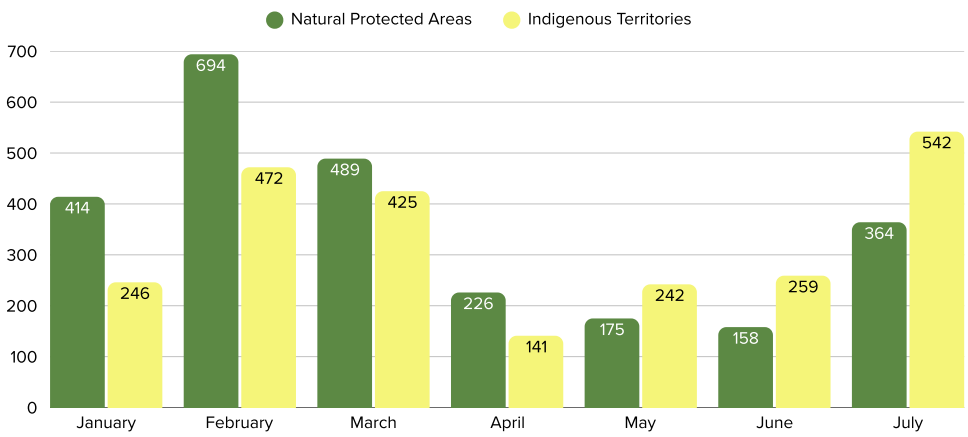


MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION OF FIRE HOTSPOTS - AMAZON



Between **January and July 2026**, the Amazon recorded **19,991 heat spots**, a 12% increase compared to the same period in 2025. Of that total, 2,524 occurred in Natural Protected Areas (about 13%) and 2,340 in Indigenous Territories (about 12%).

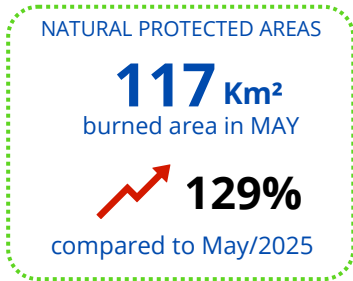
MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION OF HOTSPOTS IN INDIGENOUS TERRITORIES AND NATURAL PROTECTED AREAS



BURNED AREA - January to May*

Burned area increases in the Amazon, with greater concentration in the northern, northwestern and southwestern regions

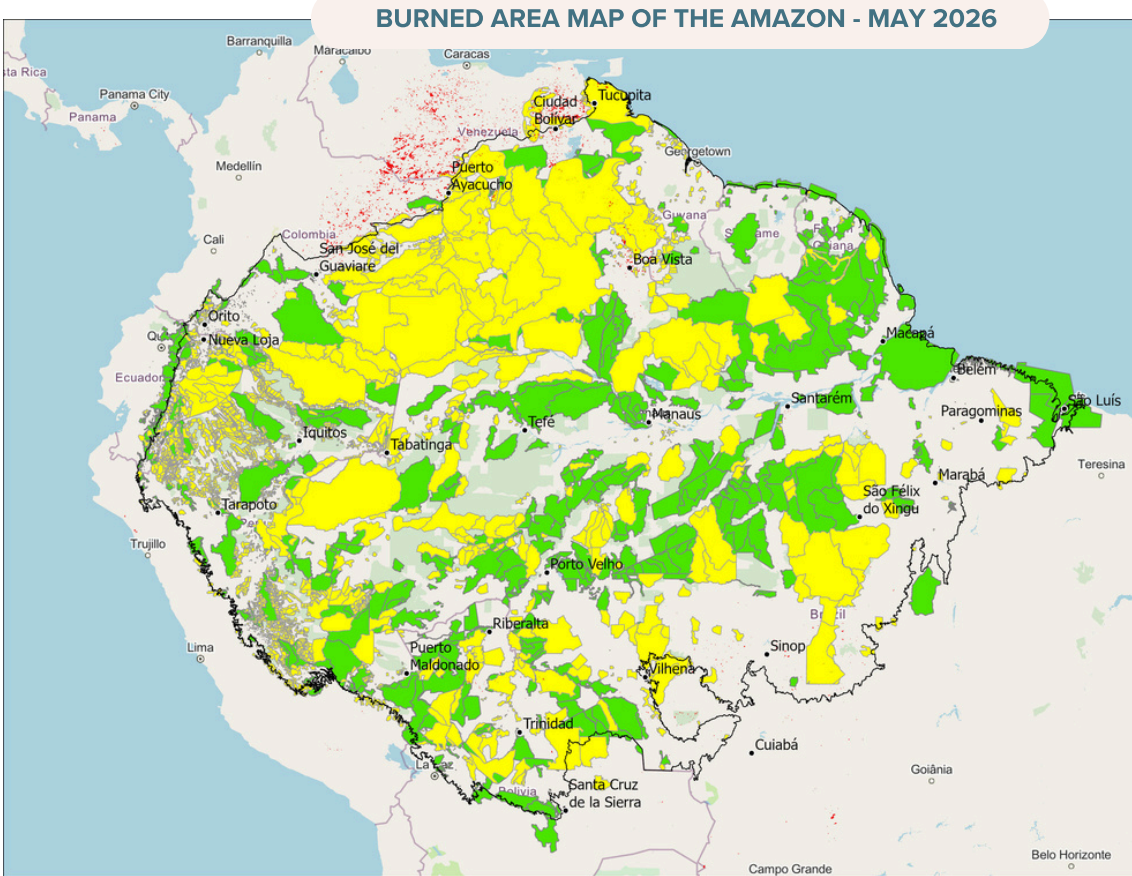
SUMMARY OF BURNED AREA INCIDENCE IN THE AMAZON



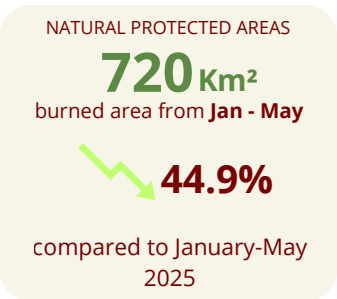
Between **January and May** of 2026, the Amazon recorded **6,254 km² of burned area**, a 38.8% increase compared to the same period in 2025. Of that total, 720 km² (11%) corresponded to Natural Protected Areas and 850 km² (14%) to Indigenous Territories.

In May alone, 888 km² were burned, of which 117 km² (13%) corresponded to Natural Protected Areas and 188 km² (21%) to Indigenous Territories. The burned area during the month increased by 48.2% compared to May 2025.

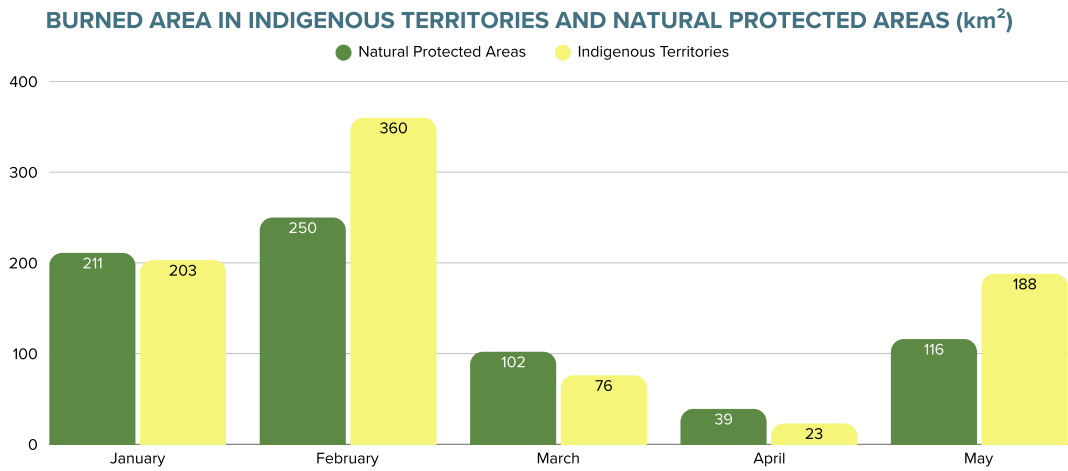
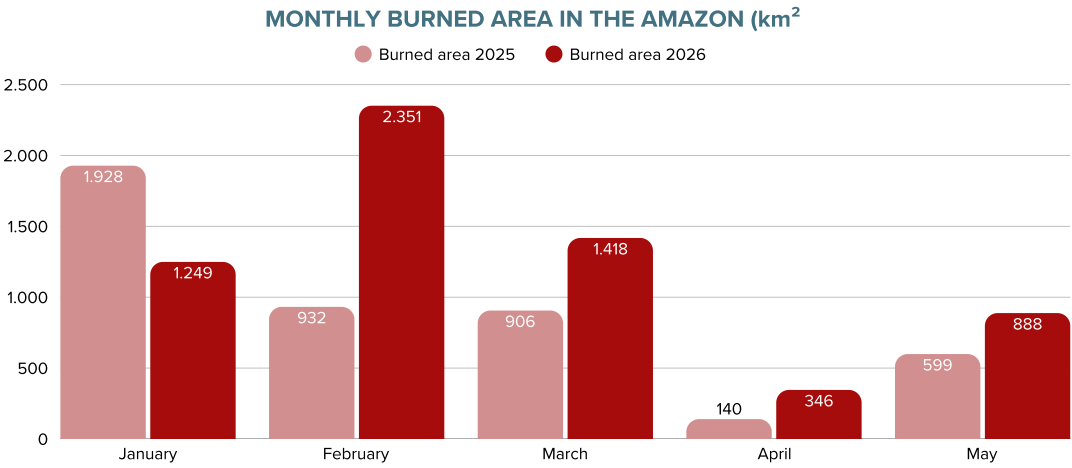
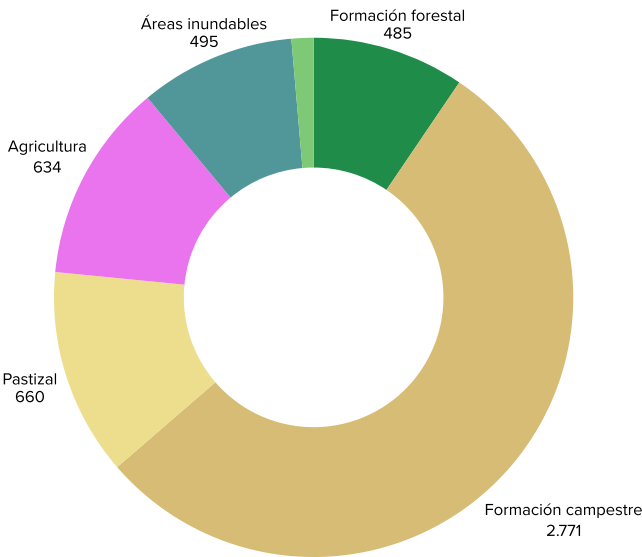
Grassland formations concentrated the largest burned area between January and May 2026, with 2,771 km², followed by pastures, with 660 km², and agriculture, with 643 km².



Source: MODIS/MCD64A1; processing and analysis: ARO/ACTO, 2026



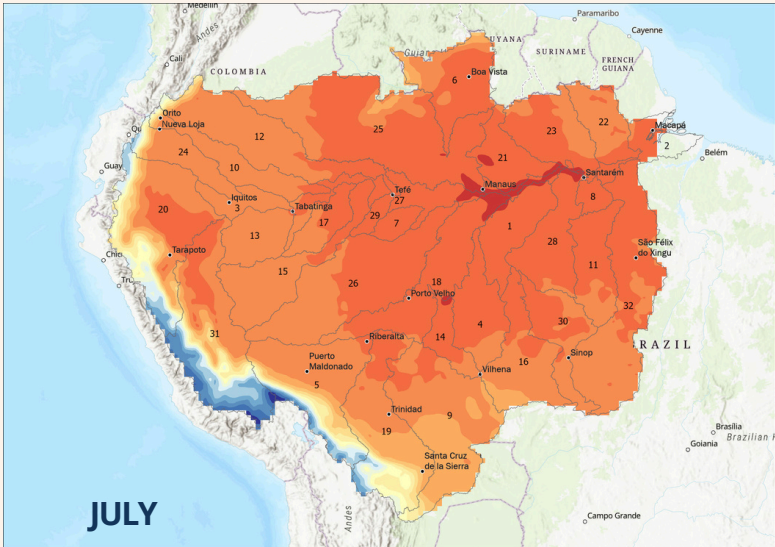
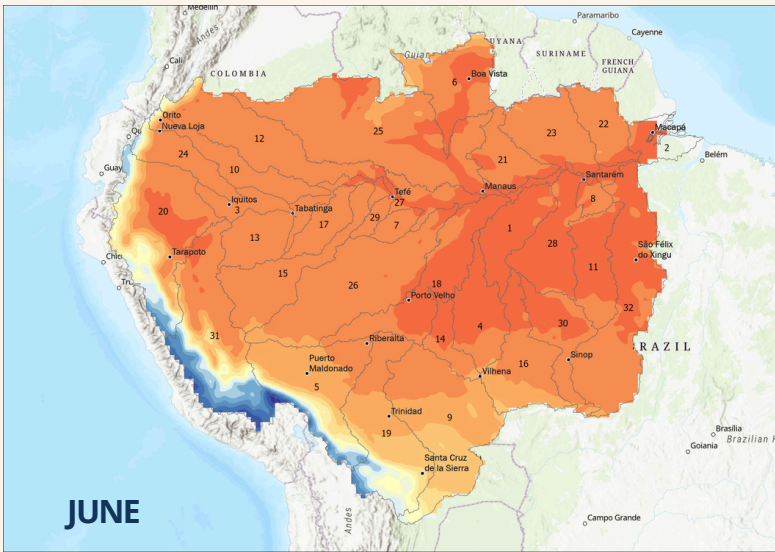
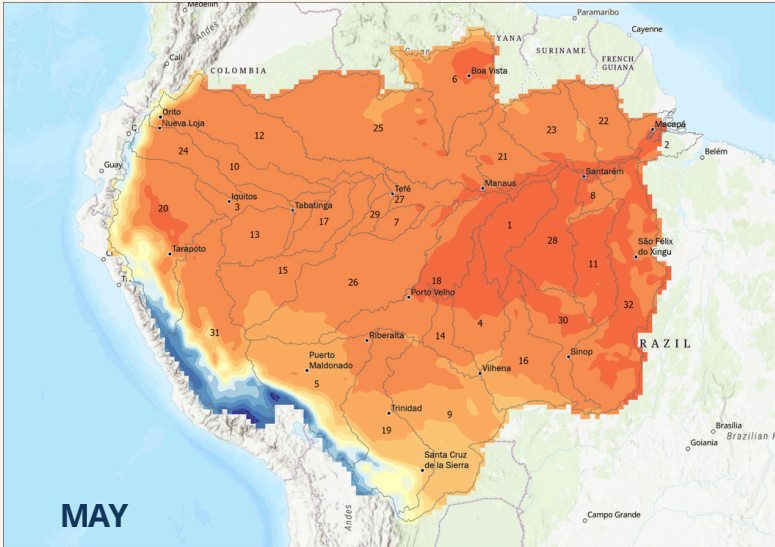
DISTRIBUTION OF BURNED AREA IN THE AMAZON BY LAND COVER JANUARY TO MAY 2026 (km²)



Source: MODIS/MCD64A1; processing and analysis: ARO/ACTO, 2026.

! ATTENTION!

(*) The data come from the MODIS/MCD64A1 sensor and are processed by the Amazon Regional Observatory (ARO). As of now, the 2026 series is only available through May.



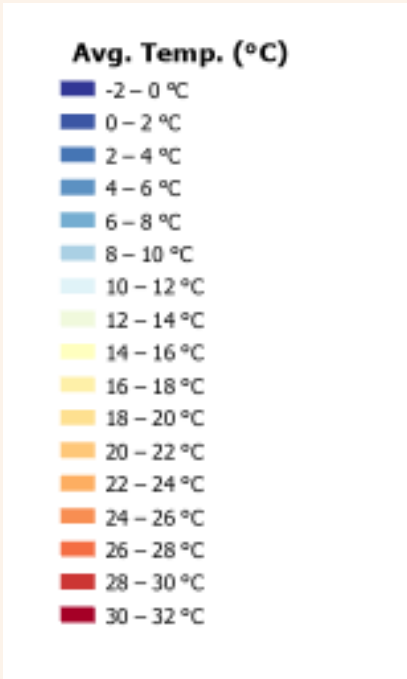
Source: ERA5/ECMWF-C3S; processing and analysis: ARO/ACTO, 2026.

AVERAGE TEMPERATURES RECORDED IN THE LAST THREE MONTHS

The highest temperatures advanced over the Amazon Basin in July

In July, the bands between 26 °C and 30 °C advanced mainly through the central, northern, and eastern regions, with a significant increase along the Santarém-Manaus axis.

The lowest temperatures remained concentrated in the western part of the region, especially in higher altitude areas near the Andes.

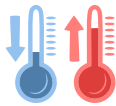


PROCESSED DATA SOURCES



Precipitation

- Data: ERA5/ECMWF-C3S
- Reference climatology: 1991 - 2020
- Subproducts: accumulated precipitation and precipitation anomaly
- Available at: **European Space Agency - ESA**
- <https://cds.climate.copernicus.eu/live>



Temperature

- Data: ERA5/ECMWF-C3S
- Reference climatology: 1991 - 2020
- Subproducts: monthly mean surface temperature and temperature anomaly.
- Available at: **European Space Agency - ESA**
- <https://cds.climate.copernicus.eu/live>



Fire Hotspot

- Data: MODIS/AQUA - T
- Reference: 2003 - present
- Subproducts: hotspot statistics for the Amazon region.
- Available at: **National Institute for Space Research - INPE**
- <https://dataserver-coids.inpe.br/>



Burned Area

- Data: MODIS/MCD64A1
- Reference: 2001 - May/2026
- Subproducts: burned area statistics for the Amazon region.
- Available at: **Distributed Active Archive Centers (DAACs) / NASA**
- ladsweb.modaps.eosdis.nasa.gov