

Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook 28 March – 3 April 2024

Temperature:

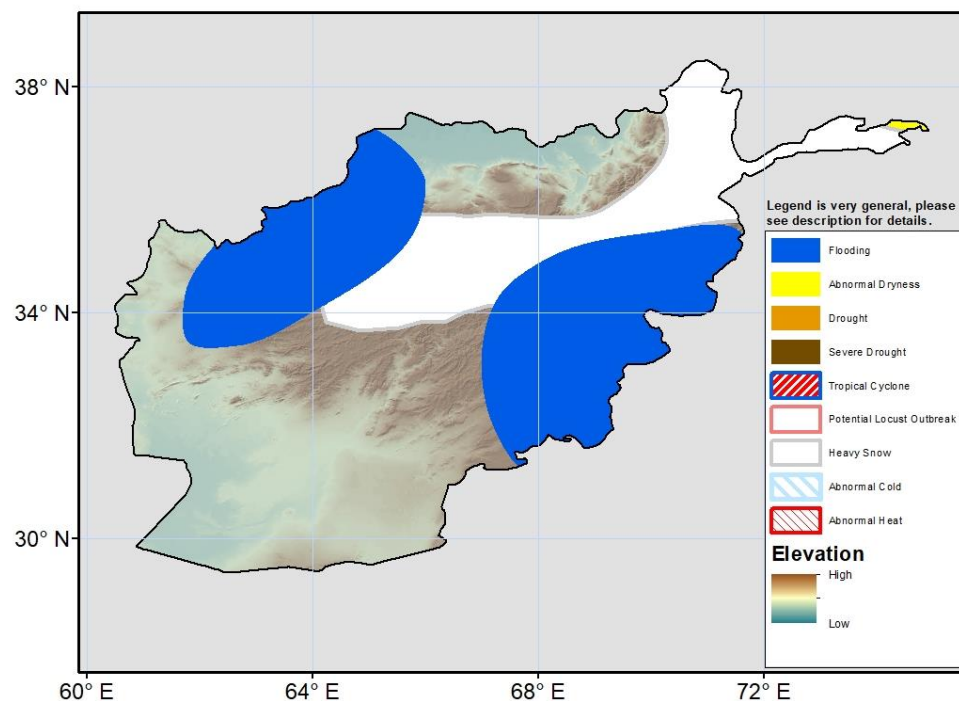
Mean maximum temperatures were above average by 2°C to 8°C in southeastern, central, and eastern parts of Afghanistan. The largest departures were recorded in the North. Maximum temperatures exceeded 30°C in southwestern Afghanistan. 7-day mean minimum temperatures were similarly above average across the country. Mean minimum temperatures ranged from -10°C to 0°C in the Northeast's mountains and -5°C to 0°C in the Central Highlands.

During the outlook period, warmer-than-average conditions will transition to below-average conditions across the entire country by mid-period. Negative 7-day mean maximum temperature anomalies of 2-6°C are forecasted at lower elevations, while near-average conditions are expected in the Northeast. Only the highest elevations (>4000m) in the Northeast will likely remain below freezing. Minimum temperatures of 2-4°C below average are forecasted in the South, West, and North regions and 2-4°C above average is forecasted in the Northeast. Consequently, minimum temperatures are only forecasted to be -5 to 0°C in the Central Highlands.

Precipitation:

During the last 7 days, much of Afghanistan received light to moderate precipitation. Liquid equivalent totals of 2-25 mm were widely recorded, with the higher totals in the East and North. Based on USGS snow depth and snow water equivalent (SWE) analysis, snow depth and SWE show mixed anomalies, but negative anomalies dominate in coverage after recent snowmelt. Rainfall estimates of 30-day precipitation depict 10-100 mm positive anomalies through most of the country. Long-term dryness in the North and West has improved in recent weeks.

For the outlook period, rain and snow are expected to continue across the country. Models forecast heavy precipitation between 25 mm and 75 mm liquid equivalent in the Northeast. Rainfall of 10-25 mm is most likely through the rest of the country, with little rain in the far-south. A heavy snow polygon is posted in Central Highland and Northeastern regions where snowfall will range from 20 cm to 50 cm. Two flooding hazards are posted in southern and northern Afghanistan where substantial precipitation coupled with mountain snowmelt is likely raising stream flows.



Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium-range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), sub-seasonal forecasts up to 4 weeks, and assesses the potential impact of extreme events on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed and predicted to continue during the outlook period. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at the spatial scale of the map. This product considers long-range seasonal climate forecasts but does not reflect current or projected food security conditions. FEWS NET is a USAID-funded activity whose purpose is to provide objective information about food security conditions. Its views are not necessarily reflective of those of USAID or the U.S. Government. The FEWS NET weather hazards outlook process and products include participation by FEWS NET field and home offices, NOAA-CPC, USGS, USDA, NASA, and several other national and regional organizations in the countries concerned.

Questions or comments about the hazard's outlooks may be directed to Dr. Wassila Thiaw, Head, International Desks/NOAA, wassila.thiaw@noaa.gov. Questions about the USAID FEWS NET activity may be directed to Dr. James Verdin, Program Manager, FEWS NET/USAID, jverdin@usaid.gov