

Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook 4 January– 10 January, 2024

Temperature:

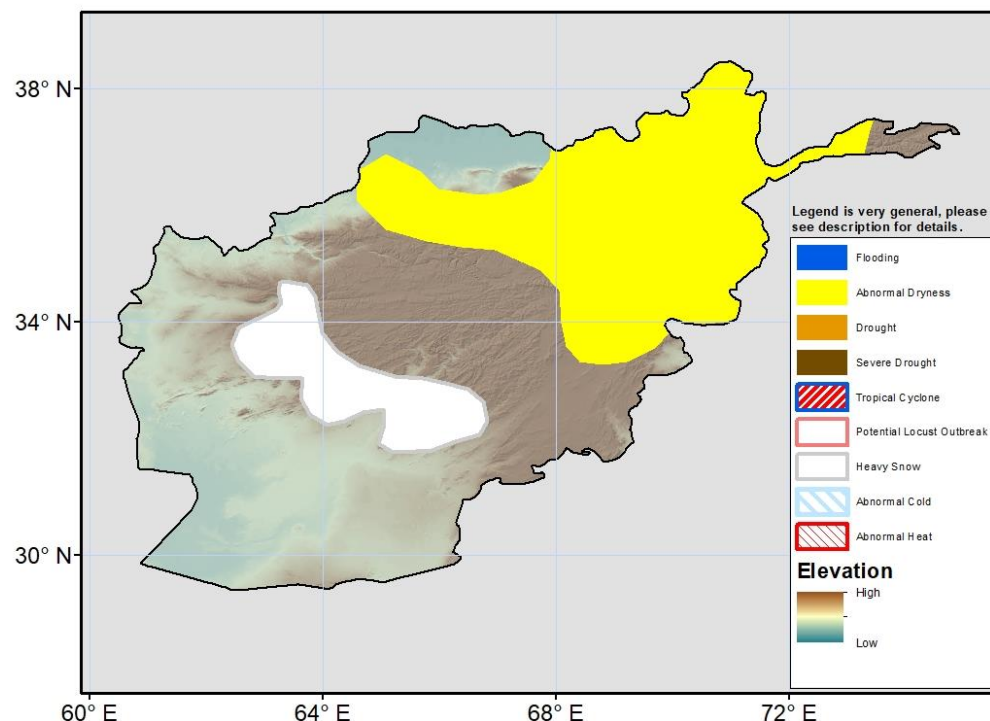
Mean maximum temperatures were above average across Afghanistan. Positive anomalies were broadly 4-6°C, with larger anomalies (6-8°C) in some central, northeastern, and eastern parts. Mean maximum temperature exceeded 20°C in the Southwest. Weekly average minimum temperatures were near to above average. Many places observed 2-6°C positive anomalies. Mean minimum temperatures ranged from -10°C to -20°C in the Northeast's mountains and -10°C to -5°C in the Central Highlands.

During the outlook period, 7-day mean maximum temperatures are forecasted to be well-above average across Afghanistan. Positive anomalies will be ubiquitous (>2°C), with the largest anomalies (6-8°C) along the northern tier of the country. Mean maximum temperature will exceed 15°C in the Southwest, but stay below freezing in the Central highlands. 7-day mean minimum temperatures are likewise forecasted to be above average by 2-8°C across the country, with the greatest departures in the Central Highlands. Minimum temperatures are likely to be -15 to 0°C in the Central Highlands and as cold as 15-25° below freezing in the Northeast.

Precipitation:

During the last 7 days, only a few light rain or snow showers were observed in northern or western Afghanistan. Total liquid equivalent was 2 to 5 mm. Rainfall analysis for the period since 1 November shows below-average precipitation over the country (10-100mm anomalies, locally higher in the West). Snowfall performance to date has been subpar throughout the country. Negative snow depth, and snow water equivalent anomalies are greatest in the Northeast as well as along the northern slopes of the central mountains. As a result, abnormal dryness is placed in northern, eastern, and northeastern Afghanistan.

For the outlook period, moderate to locally heavy precipitation is expected across many central portions of the country. Total liquid equivalent precipitation should be 5 -25 mm, perhaps locally higher. Heavy snowfall accumulations are likely for the southern and western slopes of the Central highlands where a heavy snow hazard is posted with more than 20 cm likely.



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