

Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook 1 February– 7 February, 2024

Temperature:

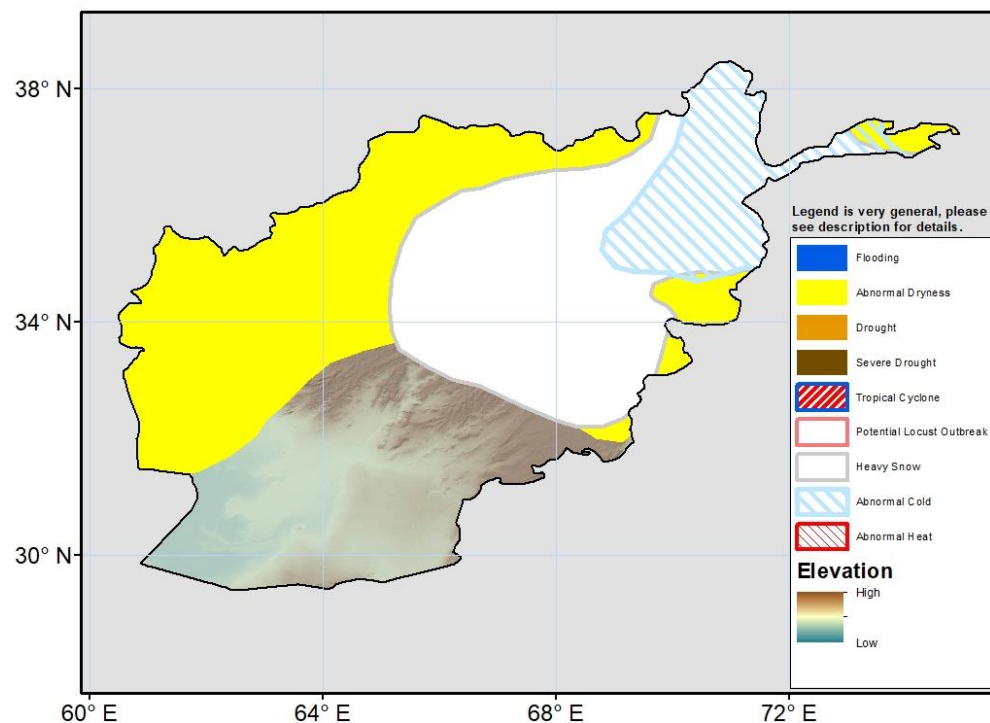
Mean maximum temperatures were above average across most of Afghanistan. Positive anomalies were broadly 2-6°C, with larger anomalies (6-8°C) in some northeastern and southern regions. Maximum temperatures were closer to average in the West. Weekly average minimum temperatures were above average. Many places observed at least 2°C positive anomalies and up to 6°C in the Northeast and South. Mean minimum temperatures ranged from -10°C to -20°C in the Northeast's mountains and -5°C to -15°C in the Central Highlands.

During the outlook period, 7-day mean maximum temperatures are forecasted to be below average across central, eastern, and northeastern Afghanistan. Negative anomalies will be 1-4°C with larger single day anomalies early in the period. Positive maximum temperature anomalies are predicted for provinces bordering Iran and Turkmenistan. 7-day mean minimum temperatures are likewise forecasted to be below average by 2-6°C across central, eastern, and northeastern areas. Minimum temperatures are likely to be -25 to -10°C in the Central Highlands and as cold as 25 to 35°C below freezing in the Northeast.

Precipitation:

During the last 7 days, moderate to heavy precipitation was received across the northern 2 thirds of Afghanistan, much of it in the form of snow at higher elevations. Total liquid equivalent was 10 to 50 mm. Above-average temperatures across the whole country since the start of January result in an increase in snowmelt across Afghanistan. Based on USGS snow depth and snow water equivalent (SWE) analysis, negative snow depth and SWE anomalies currently exist across almost all the basins/regions in the Afghanistan. Multiple rainfall estimates of 30-day precipitation depict below normal rainfall in northeastern, northern, western, central and eastern parts of Afghanistan. The abnormal dryness hazard remains outside of Southern Afghanistan.

For the outlook period, moderate to locally heavy precipitation is expected across most of the country. Total liquid equivalent precipitation should be 5 - 25 mm. Widespread heavy snowfall accumulations of 15 – 30 cm are possible down to relative low elevations.



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