

Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook 13 April – 19 April, 2023

Temperature:

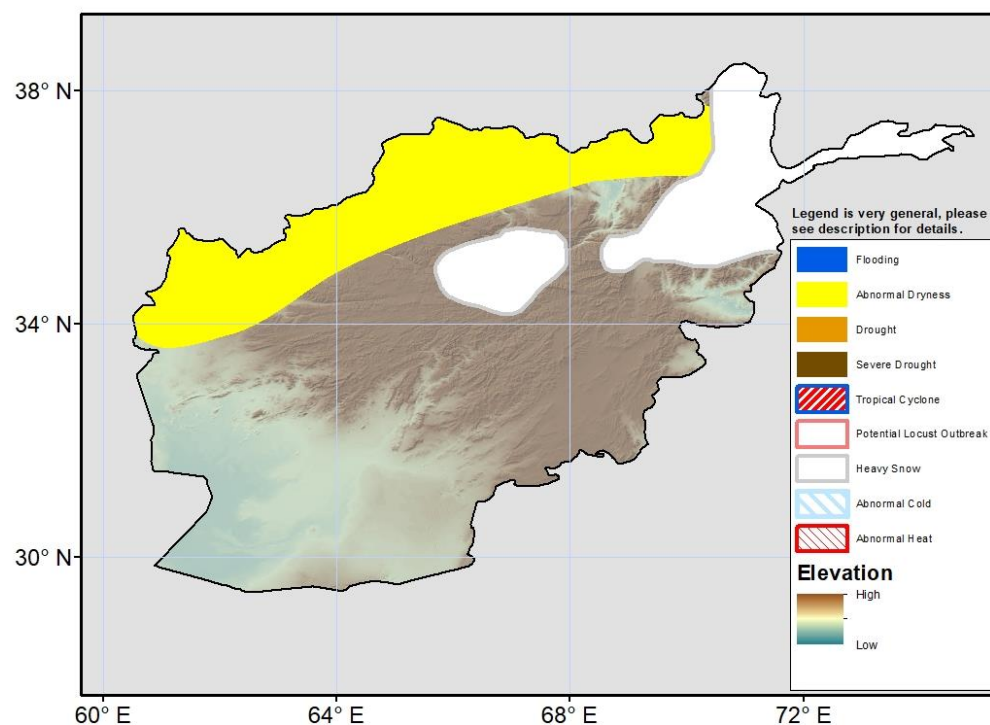
Mean maximum temperatures were above average across northwestern Afghanistan during the past week. Observed maximum temperature anomalies of 2-6°C were recorded. Conversely near-average temperatures were present in eastern Afghanistan. Northern provinces observed maximum temperatures greater than 25°C, and southwestern provinces greater than 30°C. The highlands warmed well above freezing. Cooler than average minimum temperatures were observed in the South and East. Minimum temperatures in the northern lowlands stayed warmer than 10°C and were 0 to -5°C across the eastern central highlands.

Warmer than average conditions will persist into the outlook period. Mean temperatures are forecasted to average 1-4°C warmer than normal across central, eastern, and northern provinces. The lower elevations of the North should warm above 25°C while southwestern areas will exceed 30°C. A cool air mass will enter the region by the end of the period, dropping minimum temperatures 4-8 below average for much of the country.

Precipitation:

During the last 7 days, light to locally moderate precipitation occurred across the northern half of Afghanistan. Liquid equivalent totals of 2-25mm were observed according to observations, with snows accumulating at higher elevations. Due to enhanced precipitation in recent weeks, 30-day rainfall analysis shows positive anomalies for parts of eastern Afghanistan, though deficits linger across the North. Snow water equivalent values still remain well below average across the country. As such, abnormal dryness is present over northern and northwestern Afghanistan.

For the outlook period, heavy snowfall is forecast for the northeast mountains and portions of the central Highlands. 30-70cm of snow is likely in the Northeast, while 15-30cm is expected in the Central Highlands. As such, heavy snow hazards are placed. Light to moderate rains (5-25mm) are expected for many other central and eastern portions of the country. Some isolated flooding is possible in eastern Afghanistan where locally rain is likely over already-saturated soils.



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