

Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook 27 April – 3 May, 2023

Temperature:

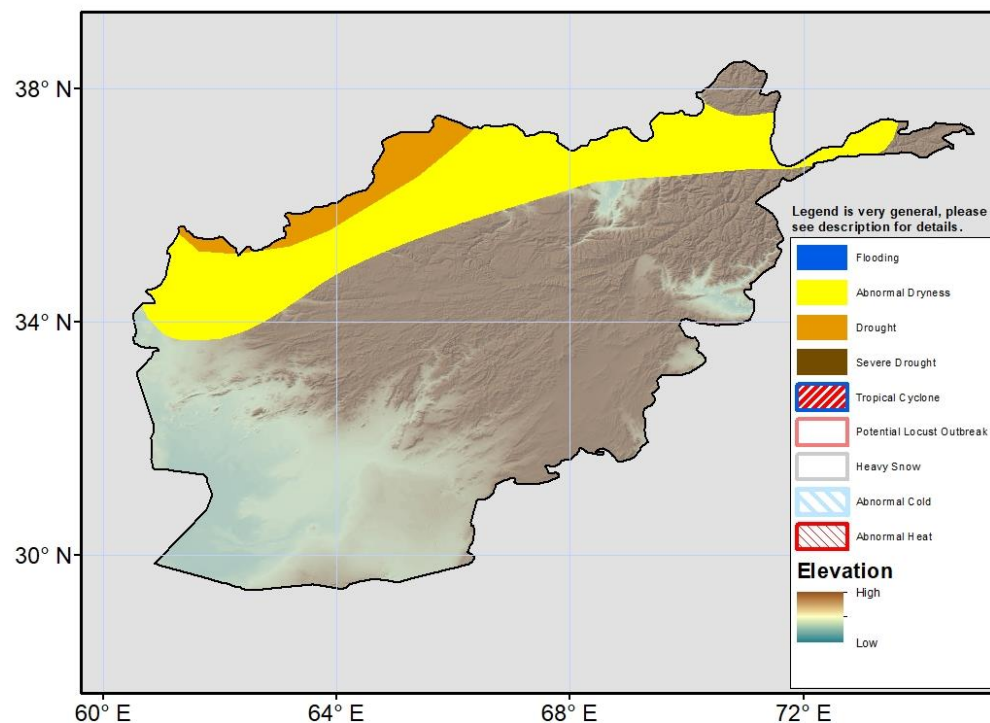
Mean maximum temperatures were near average across Afghanistan during the past week, with a small region of modest positive anomaly in the West and a few scattered regions of modest negative anomaly elsewhere. Northern provinces observed maximum temperatures higher than 25°C and western/southwestern provinces higher than 30°C. Cooler than average mean minimum temperatures (2-6°C anomalies) were generally observed across the country. Minimum temperatures in the northern lowlands stayed above 10°C. Many of the central highland areas experienced sub-zero minimum temperatures, as did the northeastern mountains.

Warmer than average conditions will spread into western and northern portions of the country during the outlook period. The 7-day mean temperature anomalies are forecast to be 1-4°C. Along the eastern border with Pakistan, mean temperatures should remain below average with anomalies of 2-6°C. Subfreezing temperatures are expected for the northeastern mountains at elevations higher than 4,000m. Maximum temperatures are forecast to exceed 30°C in the low elevations of the North and throughout the South and West. Maximum temperatures may exceed 35°C in Farah and Nimroz provinces.

Precipitation:

During the last 7 days, moderate to locally heavy precipitation occurred over the eastern half of Afghanistan. Widespread liquid equivalent totals of 10-50mm were observed, with totals exceeding 50mm in Nuristan and Kunar provinces. Significant snows accumulated at higher elevations. Lighter rains were observed in the West. Due to recent weeks' enhanced precipitation, 30-day rainfall analysis shows positive anomalies (25-100mm) for eastern/southeastern Afghanistan. Deficits (25-100mm) have accrued according to 90-day analysis. As such, a drought hazard was added within the existing region of abnormal dryness. Vegetation health indices indicate degraded ground conditions.

For the outlook period, light to moderate snowfall is forecast for the mountains in the East and Northeast as two upper level disturbance cross the region. Some snow showers are possible in the higher parts of the central highlands. Total liquid equivalent precipitation is forecast to be significant with 25-75mm in the East and Southeast. Some river flooding is possible. Lighter rains (<25mm) are expected in central portions of the country.



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.

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