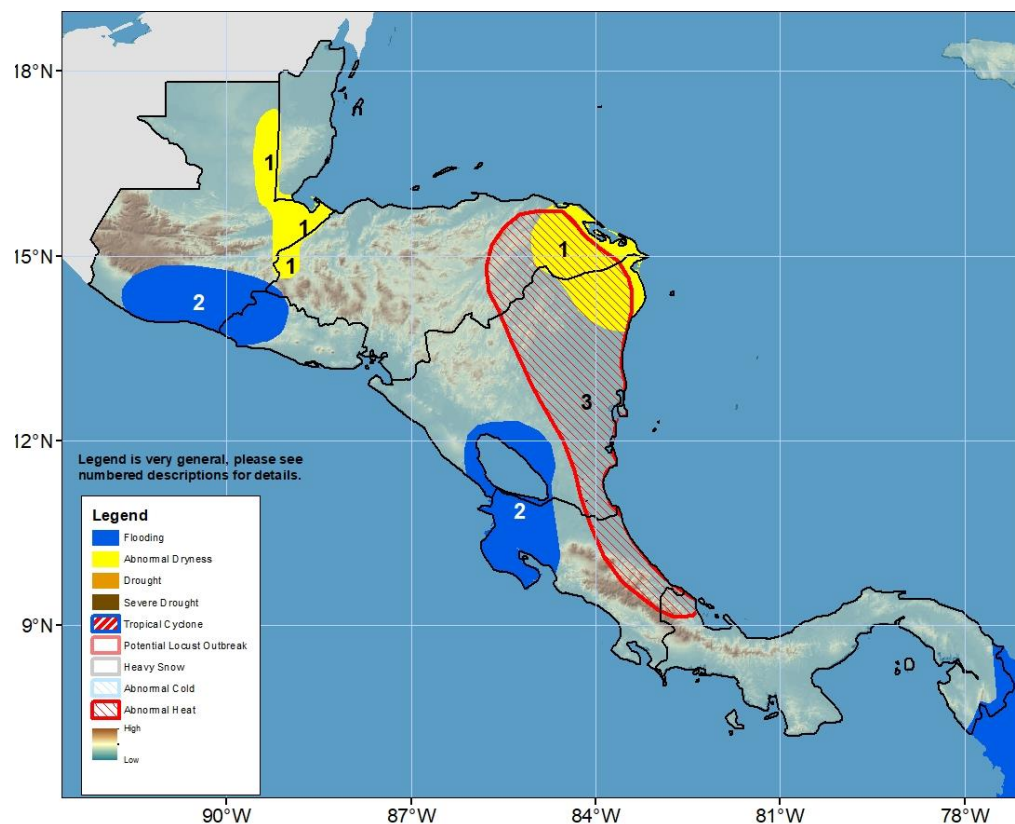


Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 15 – 21 August 2024

Abnormal heat and drier conditions in the Atlantic-facing regions likely.



- 1) Rainfall in excess of 100 mm was limited to the eastern coast of Nicaragua, while southern Guatemala, eastern Belize, northern coast of Honduras, and northern Panama received 75-100 mm during the last week. Central Guatemala was drier than average during the same period.
- 2) Rainfall was erratic and scarce over central Guatemala, southeastern Honduras, and northeastern Nicaragua for the past 30 days and 90 days. As a result, abnormal dryness polygon is placed in those regions.
- 3) Probabilities are high for a hybrid maximum temperature/heat index to exceed the 90th percentile for at least 3 days over southeastern Honduras, eastern Nicaragua, and eastern Costa Rica.

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 takes into account 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 a number of other national and regional organizations in the countries concerned.

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During the last week, southern Guatemala, eastern Belize, northern coast of Honduras, eastern Nicaragua, and northern Panama recorded moderate to heavy rainfall. According to the CPC Unified Gauge, the heaviest rainfall (100-150 mm) fell in eastern Nicaragua, while southern Guatemala, eastern Belize, northern Honduras, and northern Panama received 75-100 mm. Weekly anomalies exceeded 25mm above the average in these localities. Lower rainfall amounts between 10-50mm were recorded in the remaining parts of Central America. Except over central Guatemala, southeastern Honduras, northeastern Nicaragua, eastern Costa Rica, and southern Panama where slightly below average rainfall was observed, most areas recorded weekly rainfall anomalies of at least 10 mm or more above the average. With the continuing dryness in central Guatemala, ground reports indicated that the high temperatures in the region exacerbated the dryness over the Quiche, Huehuetenango, and Alta Verapaz departments. During the last 30 days, heavy rainfall totals brought positive anomalies in most parts of Central America. The largest positive anomalies exceeding 100 mm were recorded in southern Guatemala, northeastern Belize, southern Nicaragua, and northern Costa Rica. However, rainfall deficits from 25 mm to 100 mm were observed in central Guatemala, northeastern Nicaragua, and southeastern Honduras. In addition, the 90-day rainfall analysis shows that these same areas registered cumulative rainfall deficits between 50-80 percent of the average. Responding to the drier than average rainfall conditions, poor vegetation health conditions are observed in central and northern Guatemala, central Belize, southeastern Honduras, and northeastern Nicaragua.

Week 1 GEFS Rainfall Total Forecast and GEFS Rainfall Anomaly Forecast (mm) 15 – 21 August 2024

