



# CHASHMA-SAR

## Afghanistan Climate & Water Risk Bulletin



June 2026 | Issue #5 | Data: May 23 to Jun 8, 2026 | Forecast: Jun 11 to Jun 27, 2026

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<b>13</b> provinces need action now	<b>5/34</b> provinces in drought (3-month score)	<b>2</b> provinces in severe drought	<b>4</b> southwest provinces with dust
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**Bottom line:** The drought is now weaker. Rain came back in late May, so the 3-month drought score got better in most provinces. The number of provinces in drought fell from 30 in the last issue to 5 now. But crops are still weak in the west and center after a dry spring. The May to June wheat harvest may be smaller than normal in Badghis, Ghor, Faryab, Herat, and Samangan. Mountain snow has almost finished melting, and the next 15 days look dry. So, the risk of river floods is low. The dust season has started in four southwest provinces: Nimroz, Helmand, Kandahar, and Farah.

### All 34 Provinces at a Glance (Worst First)

Province	VHI	SPI-3	SWE (mm)	ECMWF 15d (mm) / Overall
Jawzjan	54 ALER	-1.53 SEV	0.05 NORM	0.0 / ALER
Faryab	51 ALER	-1.18 MOD	0.64 NORM	0.5 / ALER
Badakhshan	70 NORM	-1.55 SEV	1.88 WATC	3.5 / ALER
Badghis	51 ALER	-0.87 NEAR	0.70 NORM	0.2 / ALER
Ghor	51 ALER	-0.65 NEAR	0.73 NORM	0.2 / ALER
Samangan	51 ALER	-0.45 NEAR	2.37 WATC	0.5 / ALER
Daykundi	51 ALER	-0.54 NEAR	0.44 NORM	0.2 / ALER
Herat	52 ALER	-0.56 NEAR	0.17 NORM	0.0 / ALER
Uruzgan	52 ALER	0.19 NEAR	0.56 NORM	0.0 / ALER
Sar-e-Pul	52 ALER	-0.80 NEAR	3.10 WATC	1.1 / ALER
Wardak	53 ALER	-0.30 NEAR	1.15 WATC	0.8 / ALER
Bamyan	54 ALER	-0.70 NEAR	2.78 WATC	0.7 / ALER
Parwan	55 ALER	-0.14 NEAR	6.13 ALER	0.7 / ALER
Takhar	57 WATC	-1.22 MOD	2.63 WATC	1.8 / WATC
Kabul	55 WATC	-0.10 NEAR	0.38 NORM	1.4 / WATC
Ghazni	55 WATC	0.07 NEAR	0.34 NORM	0.4 / WATC
Baghlan	55 WATC	-0.42 NEAR	6.30 ALER	0.9 / WATC
Logar	56 WATC	0.12 NEAR	0.84 NORM	2.1 / WATC
Paktya	56 WATC	0.34 NEAR	0.72 NORM	4.1 / WATC
Kunduz	57 WATC	-0.72 NEAR	0.30 NORM	0.0 / WATC
Zabul	58 WATC	0.62 NEAR	0.19 NORM	0.0 / WATC
Kandahar	58 WATC	0.22 NEAR	0.02 NORM	0.0 / WATC
Kapisa	58 WATC	-0.45 NEAR	0.41 NORM	0.4 / WATC
Balkh	60 WATC	-0.76 NEAR	0.34 NORM	0.1 / WATC
Paktika	61 WATC	0.94 NEAR	0.04 NORM	1.0 / WATC
Farah	61 WATC	-0.38 NEAR	0.03 NORM	0.0 / WATC
Hilmand	62 WATC	-0.18 NEAR	0.01 NORM	0.0 / WATC
Nangarhar	62 WATC	0.43 NEAR	0.33 NORM	4.7 / WATC
Kunar	64 WATC	-0.22 NEAR	0.24 NORM	6.0 / WATC
Panjsher	71 NORM	-1.02 MOD	2.91 WATC	0.6 / WATC
Laghman	66 NORM	0.03 NEAR	0.25 NORM	1.2 / NORM
Khost	71 NORM	0.12 NEAR	0.09 NORM	5.8 / NORM
Nimroz	73 NORM	-0.28 NEAR	0.00 NORM	0.0 / NORM
Nuristan	75 NORM	-0.70 NEAR	0.86 NORM	4.0 / NORM

How to read the colours: green = normal, orange = watch, red = action needed. VHI below 55 means crop stress. SPI-3 below -1.0 means drought, below -1.5 means severe. SWE is snow left in the mountains; in mm. ECMWF is the 15-day rain forecast. The Overall rating combines crop health (VHI) and the drought score (SPI-3).

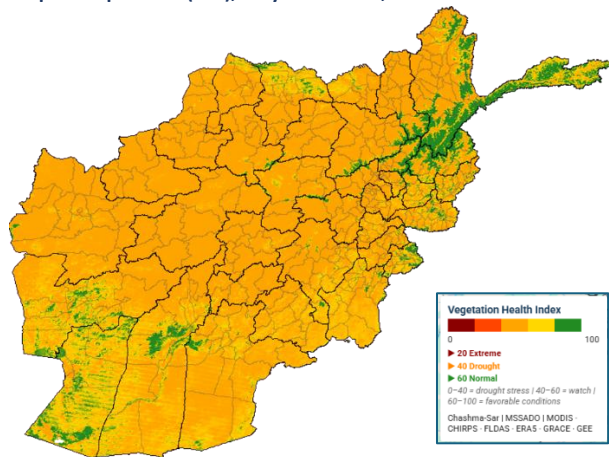
## How to Read This Bulletin

Four satellite measurements are used to check each province. Use this glossary to read the table.

Term	Plain-language hint	How to read it
VHI	How healthy crops and pasture look from satellite	Higher is healthier. Below 55 = stress, below 40 = crisis
SPI-3	A 3-month drought score built from rainfall	Below -1.0 = moderate drought, below -1.5 = severe
SWE	Water held in mountain snow, in mm	Near 0 = snowmelt finished. Higher = more residual snowpack
ECMWF 15d	A 15-day rain forecast	Below 25 mm = a dry period ahead
AOD / SDS_Fcst	How much dust is in the air (dust-storm forecast)	Above 0.5 = health warning for vulnerable people
Rating words	Overall status of a province	NORM = acceptable, WATC = watch, ALER = action needed, CRIS = immediate

## The Maps: Crops, Drought, Snow and Rain

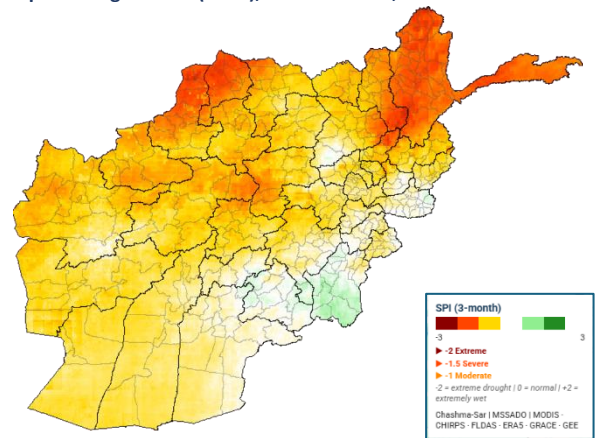
Map 1. Crop Health (VHI), May 23 to Jun 8, 2026



Crops are weakest in the west and center. The lowest are Badghis, Ghor, Faryab, Samangan, Daykundi, and Herat. 12 provinces have weak crops during the wheat harvest.

Source: MODIS satellite (1 km); Kogan (1995).

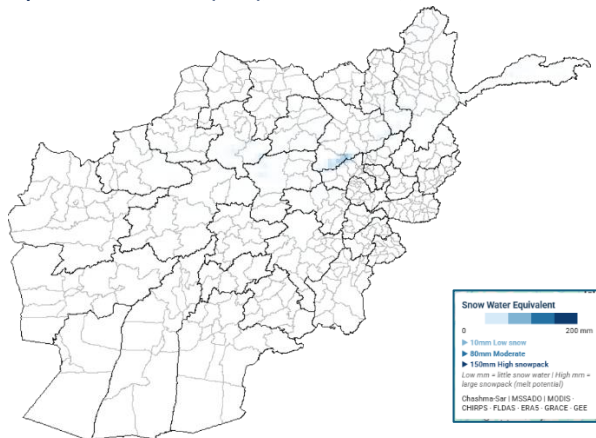
Map 2. Drought Score (SPI-3), Mar 7 to Jun 7, 2026



The 3-month drought score got better in most provinces. Only Badakhshan and Jawzjan are still severe. This is much better than the last issue.

Source: CHIRPS, ERA5-Land; McKee et al. (1993).

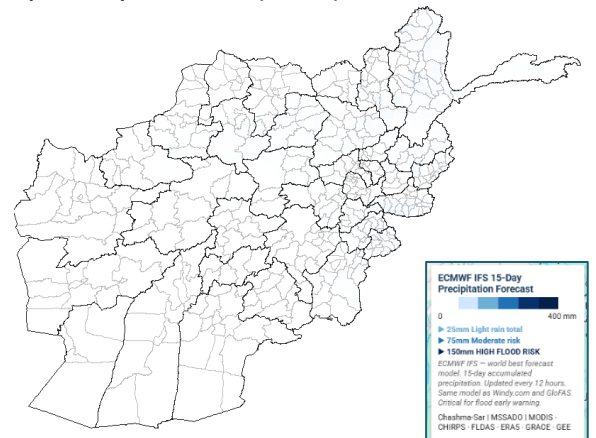
Map 3. Mountain Snow (SWE), Mar 7 to Jun 7, 2026



Mountain snow has almost finished melting. A little is left in the Salang and Andarab valleys (Baghlan, Parwan). The south has none.

Source: NASA FLDAS, snow water equivalent in mm.

Map 4. 15-Day Rain Forecast (ECMWF), Jun 11 to Jun 27, 2026



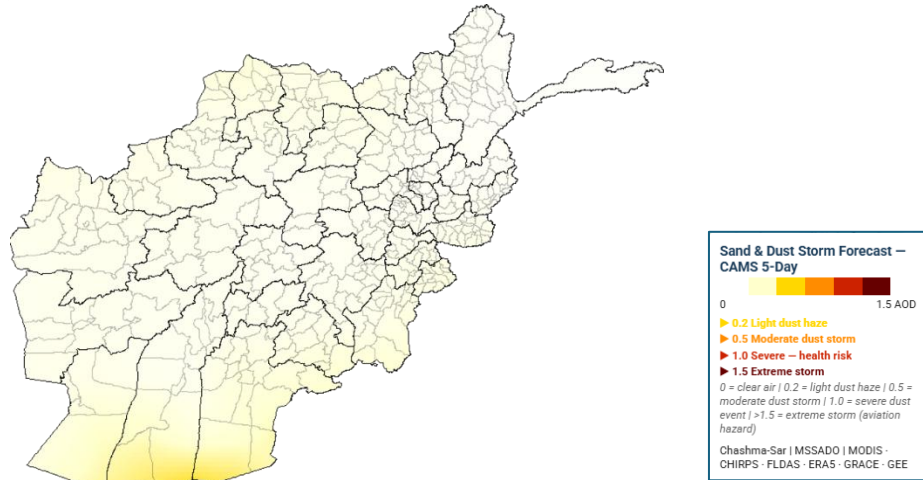
The next 15 days look dry. All 34 provinces will get less than 25 mm of rain. The dry weather continues into late June.

Source: ECMWF IFS 15-day forecast (same model as Windy.com).

**Watch these first:** Faryab, Jawzjan, and Sar-e-Pul have weak crops and a low drought score together. In the northeast, Badakhshan and Takhar have the lowest drought scores.

## Sand and Dust Storm Forecast

### Dust forecast for the next five days



There is light to moderate dust in the air in the southwest, over the Sistan Basin and Registan Desert. It is strongest over Nimroz and Helmand and reaches Kandahar and Farah. People with breathing problems should take care on dusty days.

Source: ECMWF CAMS dust forecast (next 5 days).

### Where to Act First, Priority Provinces

Province	High	Med	Low	Total	Primary risk driver (this issue)
Faryab	14	0	0	14	Weak crops in all 14 districts; in the northwest wheat area
Jawzjan	9	1	1	11	Weak crops and a severe drought score together
Sar-e-Pul	6	1	0	7	Weak crops; a little snow left; harvest time
Badghis	7	0	0	7	Weakest crops in the country; wheat is filling grain
Ghor	10	0	0	10	Weak crops in the central highlands
Herat	16	0	0	16	Weak crops in all 16 districts; harvest time
Samangan	7	0	0	7	Weak crops; planting wheat and maize
Daykundi	9	0	0	9	Weak crops; remote highland area
Uruzgan	4	1	0	5	Weak crops; hard to reach for food
Wardak	9	0	0	9	Weak crops; near Kabul
Bamyan	6	1	0	7	Weak crops; a little snow left; highland planting
Parwan	7	3	0	10	Weak crops; snow left in the Salang valley
Badakhshan	12	6	10	28	Lowest drought score in the northeast; food supply at risk
Takhar	15	1	1	17	Low drought score; a little snow left; northeast harvest

High = weak crops, Med = some stress, Low = healthy. Counts are from all 399 districts.

### What This Means, and What to Do

Topic	What the data shows	What it means, and what to do
Crops and food	Crops are weak in 12 provinces, mostly in the west and center.	The wheat harvest may be smaller. Start food checks in Badghis, Ghor, Faryab, Herat, and Samangan.
Drought	The 3-month drought score is low in 5 provinces; severe in Badakhshan and Jawzjan.	Much better than the last issue. Keep watching the northeast.
Snow and flood	Mountain snow has almost melted. A little is left in the Salang and Andarab valleys. The forecast is dry.	The risk of river floods is low now.
Dust	There is dust in the air in 4 southwest provinces.	People with breathing problems in Nimroz and Helmand should be careful. They should wear a mask on dusty days.

Sources: Crop health: MODIS, Kogan (1995). Drought score: CHIRPS and ERA5-Land, McKee et al. (1993). Snow: NASA FLDAS. Rain forecast: ECMWF IFS 15-day. Dust: ECMWF CAMS. Windows: crops May 23 to Jun 8; drought and snow Mar 7 to Jun 7; forecast Jun 11 to 27.

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## CHASHMA-SAR Afghanistan Multi-Hazard Climate & Water Intelligence Platform

Open access, sustained through institutional partnerships

Do you need more than this bulletin? We can assistance.

<b>District-Level Data</b> This bulletin shows province averages. We also have data for 400+ districts (crop health, drought, snow, rain). Ask us for it as a CSV file or a short report.	<b>Training for Your Team</b> Live training for your team: how to read the indices, understand the maps, and use the data in your work.	<b>Questions and Custom Analysis</b> Questions about the methods, the limits, or what a district number means? We send written answers and custom analysis on request.
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What the platform provides	On demand, for any district in Afghanistan
<b>District data files</b>	Average, lowest, and highest for any index, any dates, all 400+ districts
<b>Short reports</b>	A drought or flood report for a province or district, ready for donors
<b>Combined risk</b>	Districts with two or more risks at the same time
<b>Past records</b>	Any index from 1981 to today, compared with the 30-year average
<b>Forecasts</b>	15-day rain and dust forecasts to help with planning
<b>Climate finance data</b>	Data prepared for climate finance proposals (GCF, GEF) and NDC reports

### Get in touch

We respond within 24 hours.

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