

**Country: Turkey**

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## Assessment of the seasonal forecast for the winter season

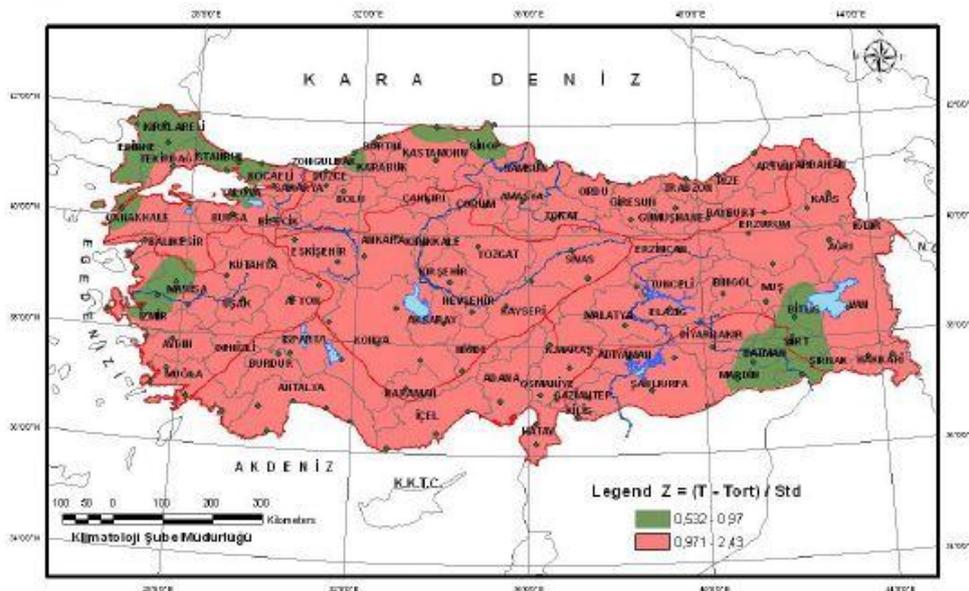
**DJF 2014-15**

### 1. SEECOF-12 Climate outlook for the 2014-15 winter season:

According to SEECOF-12 consensus statement, in 2014-2015 winter season, temperature was expected to be above normal or around normal mostly. Precipitation was expected to be above normal in general except for the western part of the country.

### 2. Analysis of the 2014-15 winter season:

Temperature of December 2014 was higher than normal in general. Temperature was around normal in cities of Çanakkale, Edirne, İstanbul, Kırklareli, Lüleburgaz, Uzunköprü, Yalova, Akhisar, İzmir, Manisa, Amasra, İnebolu, Sinop, Zonguldak, Bitlis, Batman, Cizre, Mardin and Siirt. The lowest and highest temperature values of the month was  $-3,8^{\circ}\text{C}$  in Ardahan and  $16^{\circ}\text{C}$  in İskenderun.



Precipitation of December 2014 was higher than last year's precipitation in general. Mean precipitation of December is 100,4 mm, normal is 89,7 mm and mean precipitation of December 2013 was 47,1 mm. Observations shows that, precipitation was higher than normal by 11,9% and higher than last year's precipitation by more than %100. Precipitation of

December 2014 for Aegean region was 180,2 mm while the normal was 115,8 mm and December 2013's precipitation was 18,3 mm. December 2014 precipitation has been 55,6% higher than the normal.



Figure 2. December-2014 Precipitation Anomalies

In January 2015, mean temperature values were above normal for Kars, Iğdır and Erzurum, and they were around normal for the rest of the country. The lowest and highest temperatures observed in January 2015 were -10,5 °C in Ardahan and 12,1 °C in Alanya.

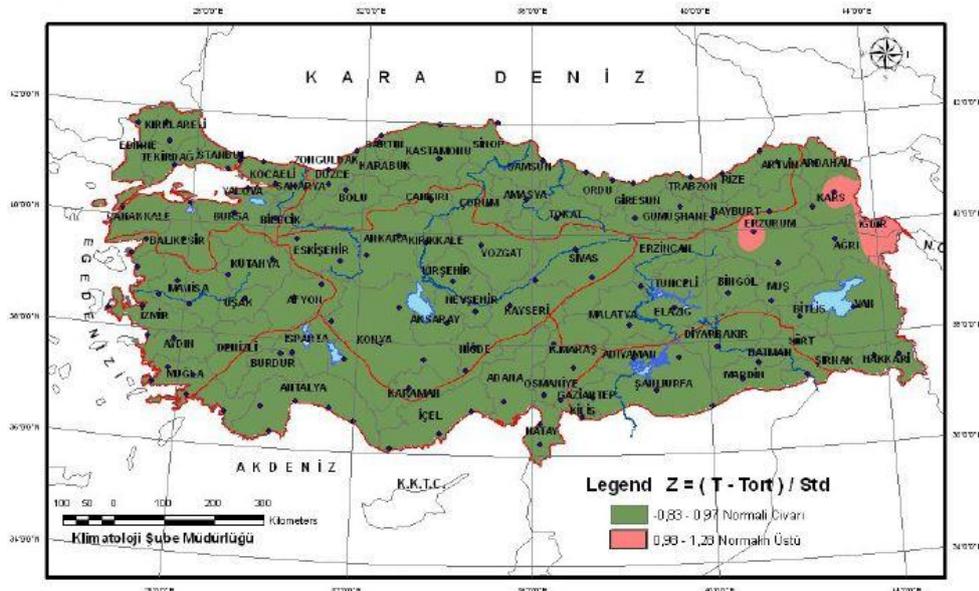


Figure 3. January-2015 Mean Temperature Anomalies

January 2015 precipitation was higher than normal and last year's precipitation. January mean precipitation is 84,9 mm for 2015 while January precipitation normal is 65,9 mm and January 2014 precipitation is 58,4 mm. January 2015 precipitation became higher than normal by 28,7% and higher than last year's by %45,5.

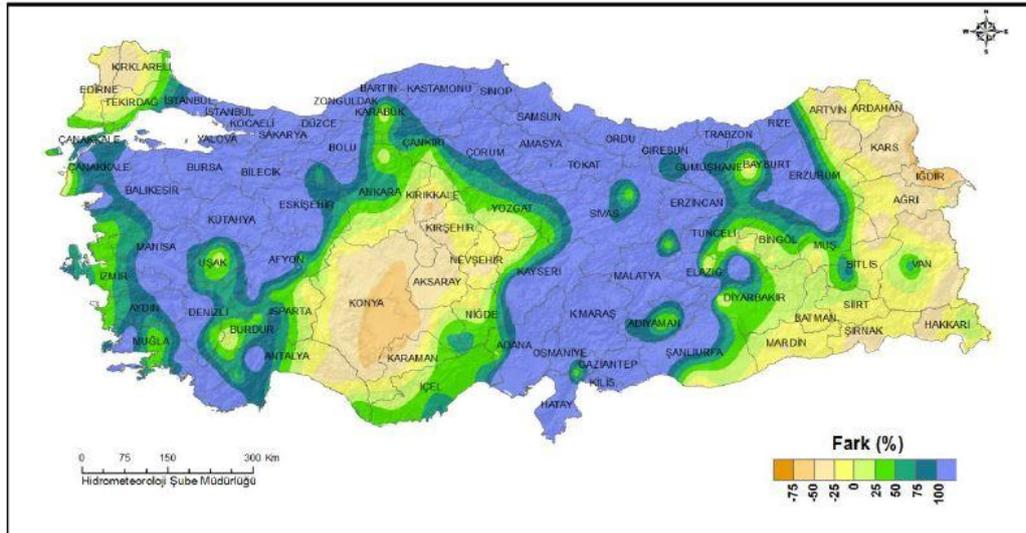


Figure 4. January-2015 Precipitation Anomalies

Mean temperature of February 2015 was above normals in Antalya, Eskişehir, Sivas, Northeastern part of the country, inland and eastern parts of Eastern Anatolia and also in Diyarbakır. For the rest of the country it was around normals. The lowest mean temperature value was -9,0 °C in Ardahan, and the highest was 13,3 °C in İskenderun.

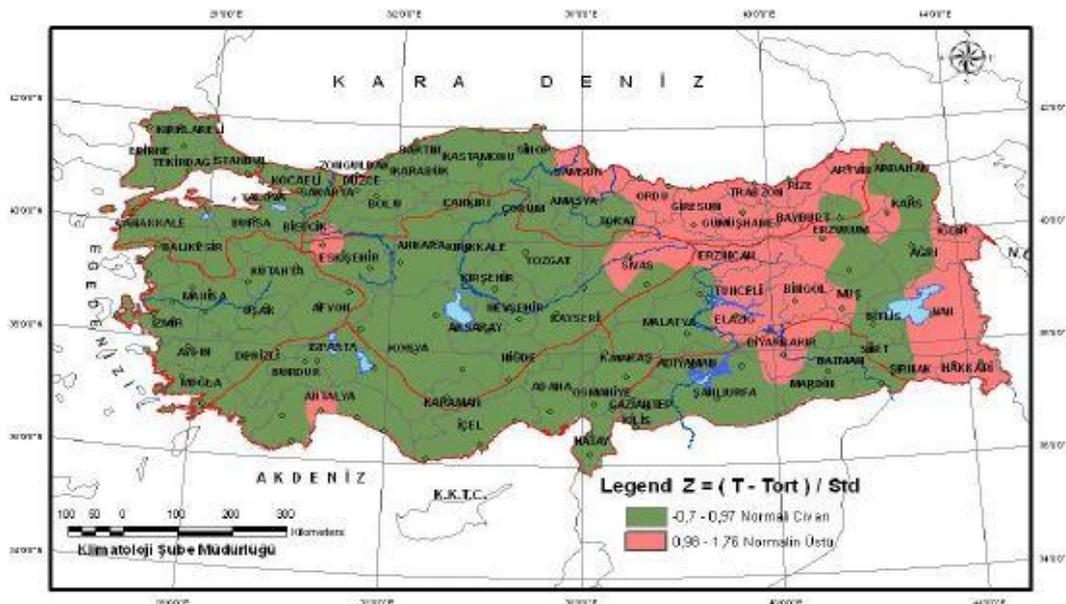


Figure 5. February-2015 Mean Temperature Anomalies

Precipitation was higher than normal and also than last year's. February 2015 mean precipitation is 73,8 mm, precipitation normal of February is 61,5 mm and mean precipitation February 2014 is 21,8 mm. February 2015 precipitation was % 20 higher than normal and more than % 100 higher than last year's precipitation.

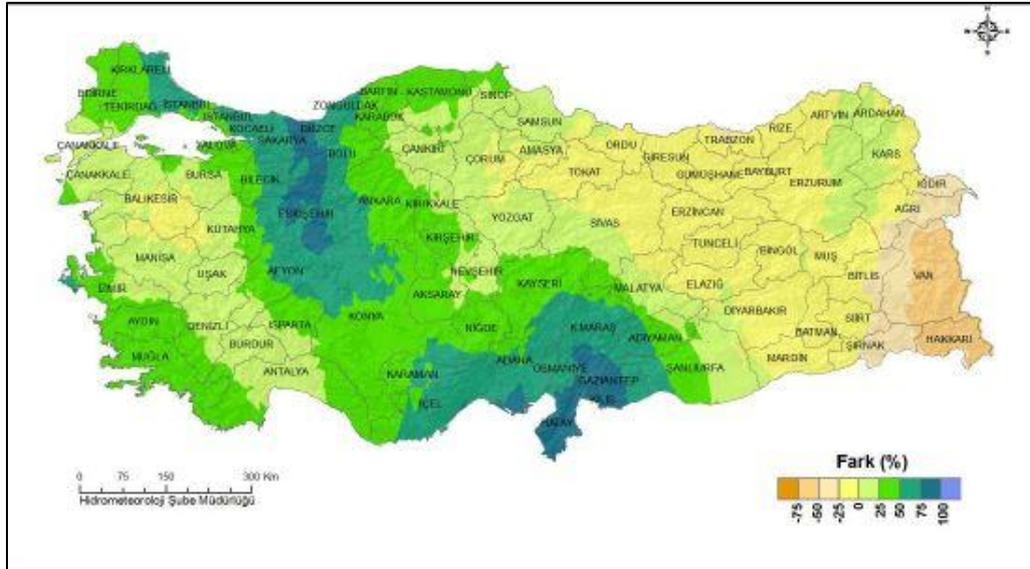


Figure 6. February-2015 Precipitation Anomalies

### 3. High Impacts Events:

In **December** 2014, roads between Kütahya - Afyonkarahisar and Balıkesir-Akhisar were blocked due to heavy snowfall.

In **January** 2015, agricultural damage occurred and transportation stopped in some areas in Antalya due to storm. In Istanbul, flights were cancelled because of storm and heavy snowfall.

In **February** 2015, heavy snowfall affected cities of Bitlis, Kocaeli, Mersin, Bursa, Konya, Karaman, Samsun, Kayseri and İstanbul. Schools were closed and transportation stopped.

#### 4. Verification of the SEECOF-12 climate outlook for the 2014-15 winter season:

In SEECOF-12 consensus statement 2014-2015 winter season temperature for Turkey was expected 20% below normal, 40% around normal and 40% above normal. Temperature was around normal in west, north and also in the southeastern part of the country. Other parts of the country had normal temperature values.

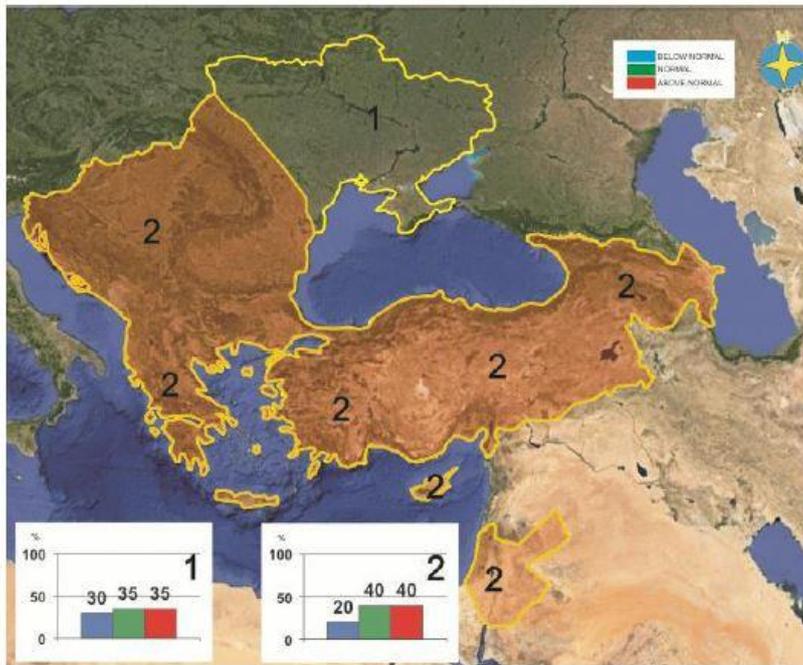


Figure 7. Graphical presentation of 2014/15 winter temperature outlook

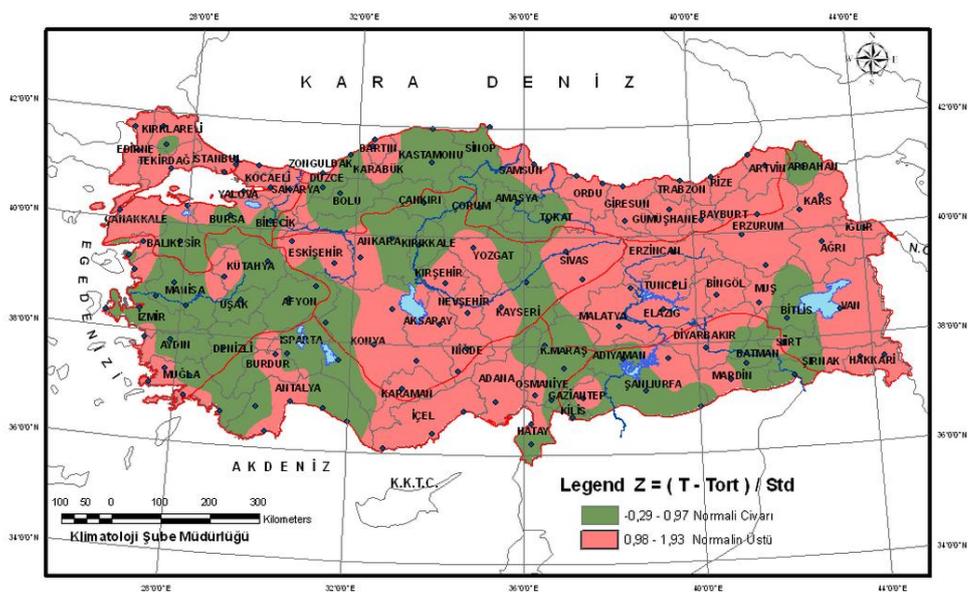


Figure 8. 2014/15 Winter Season Mean Temperature Anomaly of Turkey

In SEECOF-12 consensus statement, precipitation of 2014-2015 winter season was expected to be 40% below normal, 30% around normal and 30% above normal in the west part of the country and it was expected to be 25% below normal, 35% around normal and 40% above normal in the rest of the country. Precipitation was observed higher than normal in the west, north and south coasts and in some cities in the east. Some part in inland and in east side of the country had below normal precipitation.

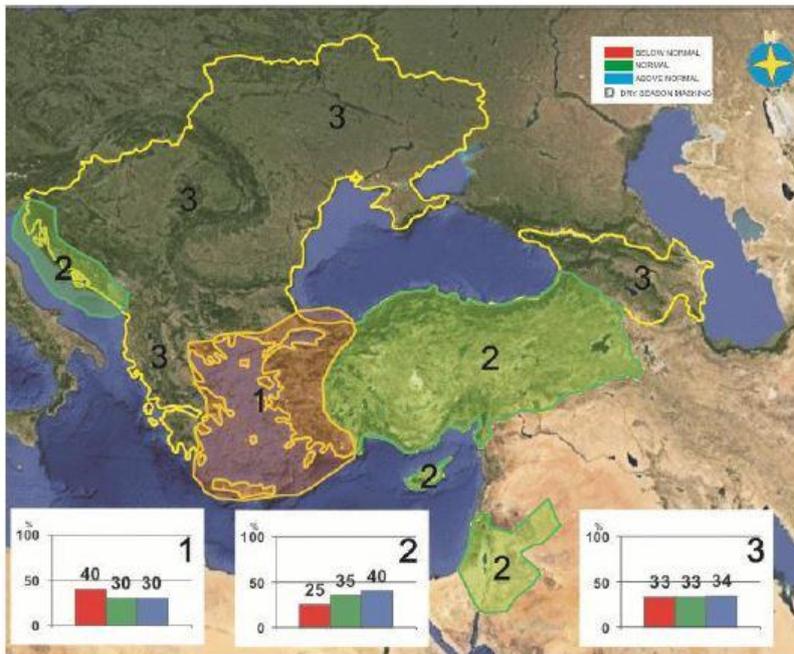


Figure 9. Graphical presentation of 2014/15 winter precipitation outlook

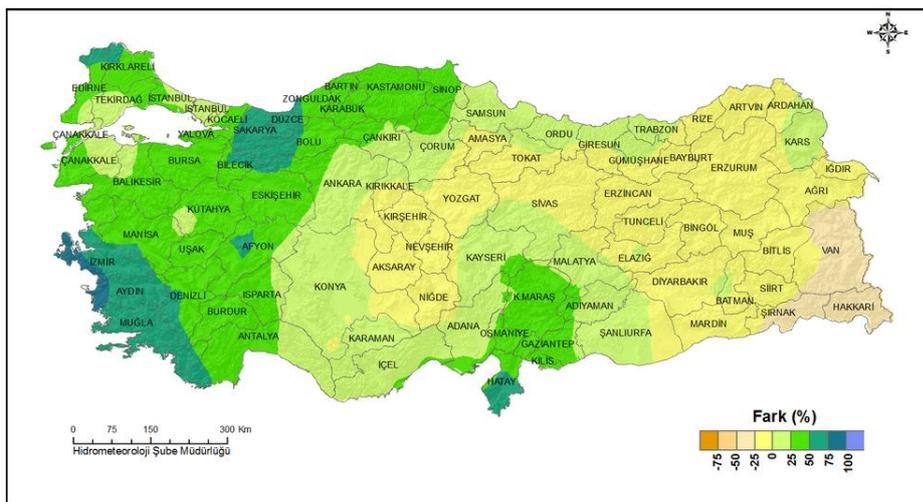


Figure 10. 2014/15 Winter Season Mean Precipitation Anomaly of Turkey