

Country: Turkey

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Assessment of the seasonal forecast for the winter season

DJF 2016-2017

1. SEECOF-16 climate outlook for 2016-2017 winter season:

In SEECOF-16 consensus statement, for 2016-2017 winter season, Turkey was expected to have above normal temperatures in general. For precipitation, north part of the country there was no significant signals and for the south part below normal precipitation was expected.

2. Analysis of the 2016-2017 winter season:

Temperature of December 2016

In December 2016 mean temperatures were around normal in Antalya, Eskişehir, Kayseri, Tokat, Ağrı, Bingöl, Erzurum, Hakkâri, Muş, Van, Yüksekova, Batman, Siirt, Diyarbakır and Ceylanpınar. In the other parts of the country, temperatures were below normal. In December the lowest mean temperature was observed in Ağrı as $-11,9^{\circ}\text{C}$ and the highest temperature was observed in Alanya as $11,7^{\circ}\text{C}$.

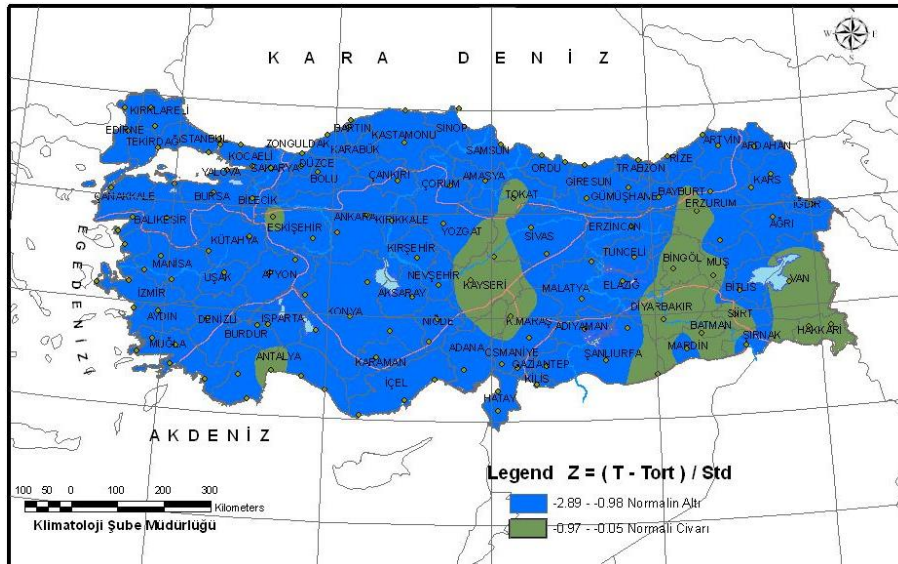


Figure 1. December-2016 Mean Temperature Anomalies

Precipitation of December 2016

December 2016 precipitation was higher than the year before and it was above normal in general. Precipitation of December 2016 is 81,1 mm, December 2015 is 22,9 mm and precipitation normal of December is 78,3 mm. Precipitation has increased by 3,6 % compared to the normal, and increased by more than 100.0 % compared to December 2015.

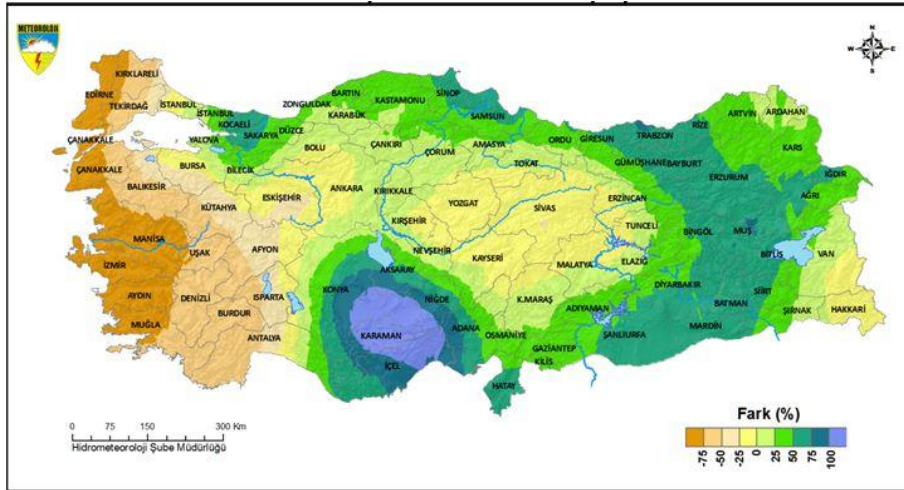


Figure 2. December-2016 Precipitation Anomalies

Temperature of January 2017

In the west part of Turkey, and also in Cihanbeyli, Gemerek, İnebolu, Sinop, Bitlis, Iğdır and Kars, mean temperatures of January 2017 were below normal. In the other parts of the country it was around normal. While average temperature for January is 2.8°C, for January 2017 it was 1.0°C. For January 2017, the lowest temperature was in Kars as -14,2°C and the highest was in Alanya as 11,3°C.

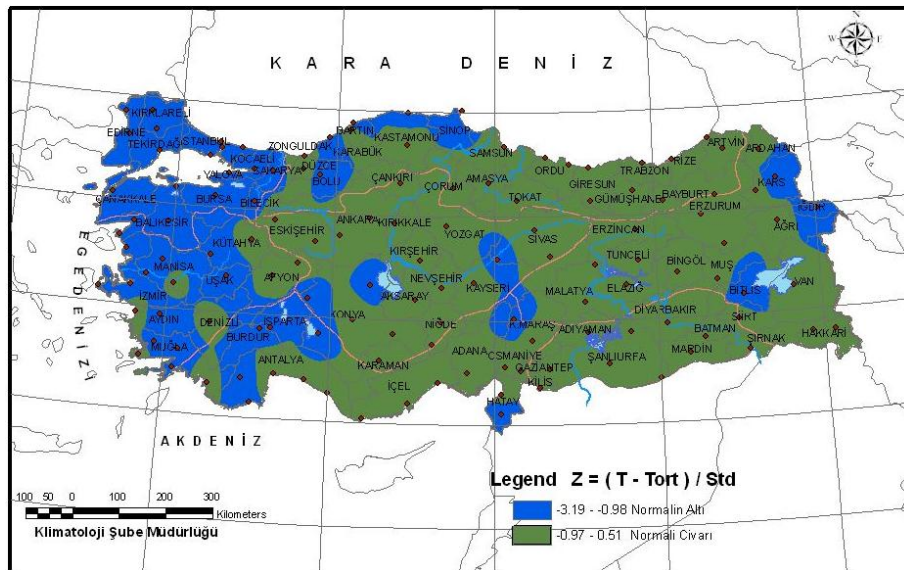


Figure 3. January-2017 Mean Temperature Anomalies

Precipitation of January 2017

Precipitation was less than the January precipitation normal and the precipitation of January 2016. While the precipitation normal of January is 67,3 mm, average precipitation for January 2017 was 54,1 mm, and for January 2016, it was 114,1 mm. Precipitation has decreased by 19,6 % compared to the normal, and decreased by 52,6 % compared to January 2016.

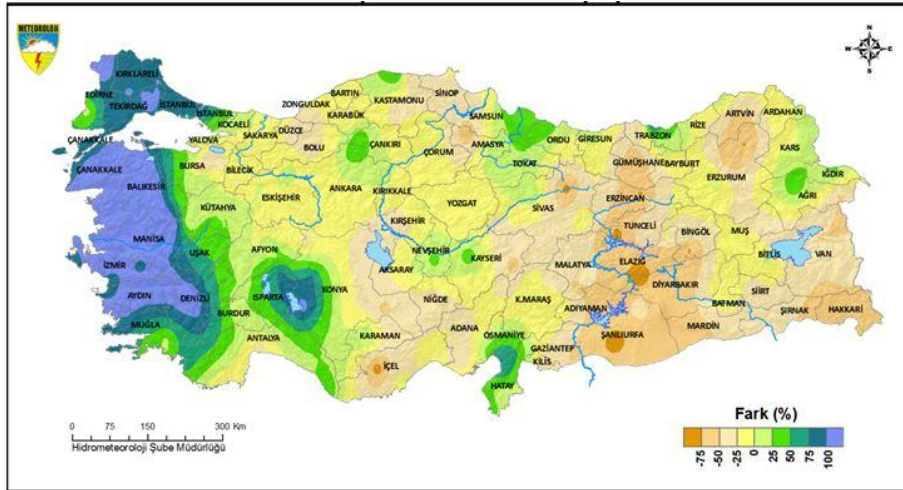


Figure 4. January-2017 Precipitation Anomalies

Temperature of February 2017

Mean temperatures for February 2017 were above normal in the west coast of Turkey and also around Bursa, Fethiye and Antalya; and in the other parts of the country they were around normal. While the long term average temperature for February is 3.5°C and it was 3.9°C for February 2017. The lowest temperature for the month was -12,5°C in Ağrı, and the highest was 12,9°C in İskenderun.

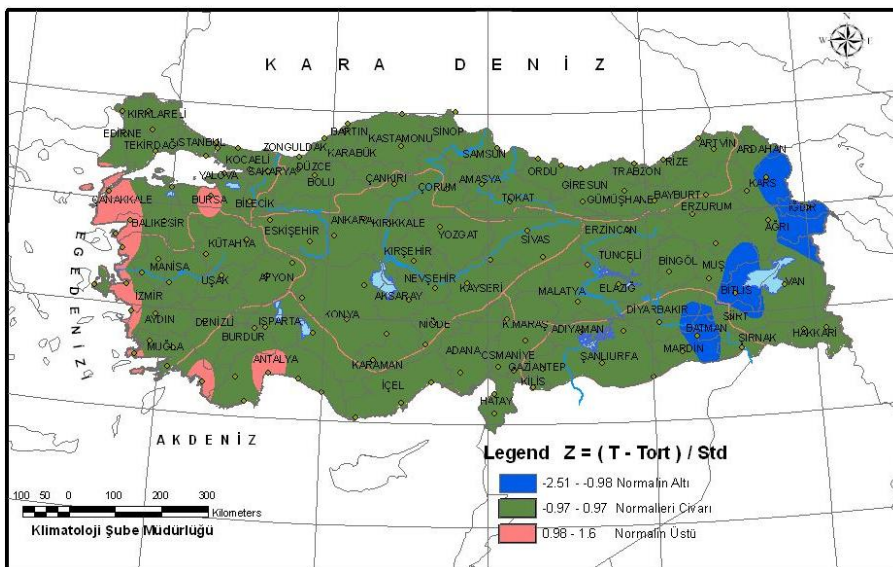


Figure 5. February-2017 Mean Temperature Anomalies

Precipitation of February 2017

February 2017 precipitation was less than both February precipitation normal and also than February 2016 precipitation. While the precipitation normal of February is 62,9 mm, average precipitation for February 2017 was 16,4 mm, and for February 2016, it was 47,3 mm. Precipitation has decreased by 73,9 % compared to the normal, and decreased by 65,3 % compared to January 2016.



Figure 6. February-2017 Precipitation Anomalies

3. Verification of the SEECOF-16 climate outlook for 2016-2017 winter season:

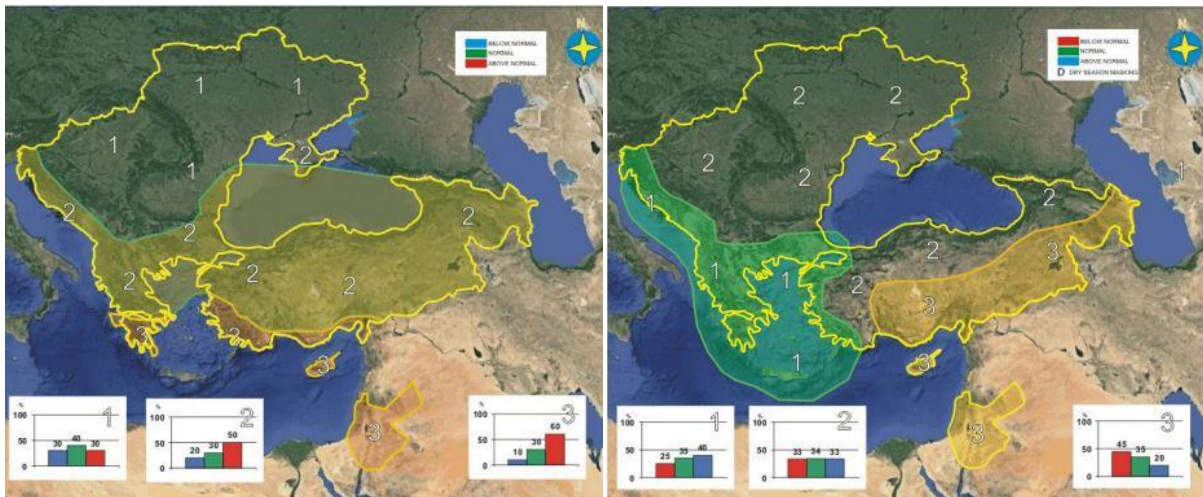


Figure 7-8. Graphical Presentation of 2016-17 Winter Season Temperature and Precipitation Outlook

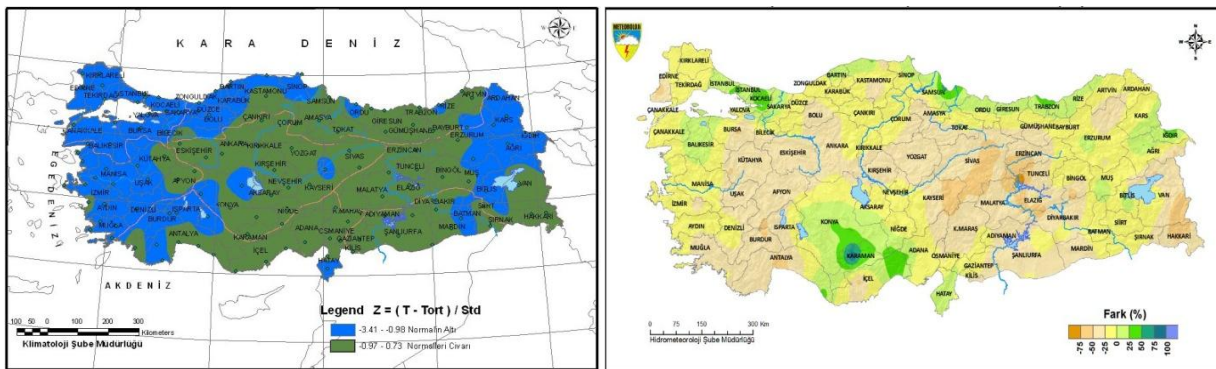


Figure 9-10. 2016-2017 Winter Season Mean Temperature and Precipitation Anomaly of Turkey

Country	Seasonal temperature DJF		Seasonal precipitation DJF		High Impact Events
	Observed	SEECOF-16 climate outlook for temperature	Observed	SEECOF-16 climate outlook for precipitation	
Turkey	Normal and below normal (Below normal in the east, west and northwestern part of the country.)	20% below normal, 30% normal, 50% above normal (in the whole country except west coast and south west coast) 10% below normal, 30% normal, 60% above normal (in west coast and southwest coast)	Above normal (mostly in the north coast) Below normal (in most of the country especially inland)	25% below normal, 35% normal and 40% above normal (in the west coast) 33% below normal, 34% normal and 33% above normal (mostly in the northern half of the country except the west coast) 45% below normal, 35% around normal and 20% above normal (in the southern half of the country except the southwest part)	In December 2016, strong storm caused financial damage on the houses and greenhouses in Anamur. Due to snow in Çanakkale, Çorum, Bilecik, Nevşehir, Ardahan, Artvin and Karaman, transportation was affected. In January 2017, snow caused difficulties in transportation in many cities. Heavy rain for long period of time caused flood in Mersin. In February 2017, agricultural areas were affected due to hail in Aydın. Heavy rain caused flood in Bodrum. In Aksaray, frost caused transportation difficulties. In Bingöl, one person lost his life due to storm.