

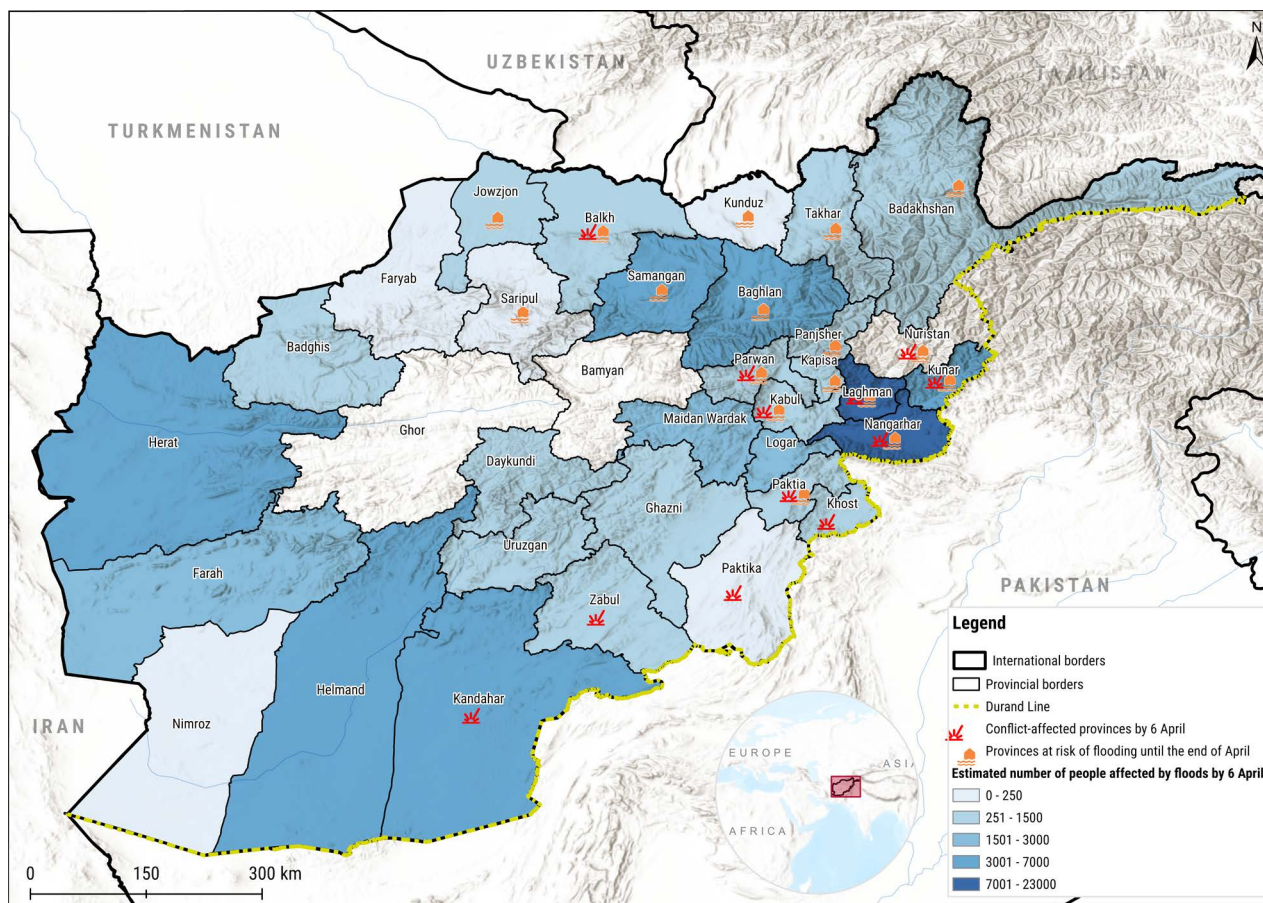
Flooding: key impacts, aggravating factors, and risks to watch

MAP 1. FLOOD-AFFECTED PROVINCES BY 9 APRIL 2026, PROVINCES AT RISK OF FURTHER FLOODING UNTIL 30 APRIL, AND KEY AGGRAVATING FACTORS

AGGRAVATING FACTOR:

Severely flood-affected Herat received the highest number of returnees from abroad (mostly Iran) across Afghanistan in 2025, including many who live in makeshift or damaged shelters or in open air, as do returnees across Afghanistan

(IOM 24/02/2026; ACAPS 18/12/2025).



Sources: ACAPS using data from OCHA (09/04/2026 and 18/03/2026); Chashma-Sar (accessed 09/04/2026); Tropical Tidbits (accessed 09/04/2026); WMO (09/04/2026)

AGGRAVATING FACTOR:

In August 2025, a magnitude-6 earthquake in the severely flood-affected provinces of Kunar, Laghman, and Nangarhar caused significant damage and destruction, leaving around 49,000 IDPs in mid-March 2026. In November 2025, another earthquake in Balkh and Samangan left affected communities living in damaged homes and the open air (OCHA 18/03/2026; Protection Cluster 19/03/2026).

AGGRAVATING FACTOR:

An escalation in conflict between Afghanistan and Pakistan since late February 2026 has left at least 94,000 people displaced in Khost, Kunar, Nangarhar, Paktia, and Paktika, while assessments continue in Nuristan. Conflict has increased explosive ordnance (EO) contamination, already significant in eastern provinces, which floods may shift to new areas or bring to the surface (OCHA 06/04/2026).

This report is based on public and non-public information available to ACAPS at the time of writing. Given the rapidly evolving situation and significant information gaps, it may not reflect the most up-to-date situation in affected provinces.

OVERVIEW

Between 25 March and 6 April 2026, severe flooding affected over 73,300 people across 165 districts in 31 of Afghanistan's 34 provinces – about one-third of the country's total territory (OCHA 09/04/2026; IOM X 09/04/2026). Casualty, damage, and destruction reports are evolving rapidly as assessments continue in affected provinces, complicated by restricted access caused by persistent rainfall and infrastructure damage. On 8 April, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies reported that the floods had killed at least 127 people and injured more than 190 others (ECHO 09/04/2026; IFRC 10/04/2026).

KEY IMPACTS BY 9 APRIL

- Agricultural land, food stocks, irrigation canals, and storage facilities, including more than 7,500 hectares of farmland in Badghis, Faryab, Herat, Samangan, and Uruzgan provinces, suffer from localised damage. Over 1,800 livestock have been lost (ECHO 09/04/2026; AVA 04/04/2026; KabulNow 09/04/2026; Chashma-Sar unpublished; written communications with humanitarian responders, 06-12/04/2026). Agricultural damage at the start of the spring planting season has compromised both income and food sources for affected households (IFRC 10/04/2026; ACAPS accessed 10/04/2026).
- Around 1,300 homes have been destroyed and 7,800 damaged. Households sleeping in the open face safety risks and rain exposure, while those with host families face overcrowding and lack of privacy (OCHA 09/04/2026; written communications with humanitarian responders, 06-12/04/2026). Collapsed roofs have contributed to casualties (KabulNow 09/04/2026). Earthquake and conflict IDPs in eastern, northeastern, and southeastern provinces, as well as returnees, may experience flood damage to their makeshift shelters; heightened exposure to floodwater, rainfall, and associated health risks; and secondary displacement risks.
- There is significant damage to WASH infrastructure in provinces including Baghlan, Kabul, Kunar, and Logar (AVA 04/04/2026; Chashma-Sar unpublished).
- Lack of lighting, security features (e.g. doors, locks), and adequate WASH facilities in temporary displacement settings compromise the safety, privacy, and dignity of women and girls (IFRC 10/04/2026).
- Mines and other EO have likely moved, particularly in the most flood-affected eastern communities, which are also among the most EO-contaminated (OCHA 09/04/2026; written communications with humanitarian responders, 06-12/04/2026).

ANTICIPATED SCOPE AND SCALE

- There is an elevated risk of further flooding and landslides until the end of April, with cumulative precipitation forecasts anticipating above-average precipitation across the **central, eastern, northern, and northeastern regions**. There is an especially high flood risk in **Badakhshan, Kunar, Nuristan, and Takhar provinces** (Chashma-Sar accessed 09/04/2026; Tropical Tidbits accessed 09/04/2026; WMO 09/04/2026).
- **Crop losses** are likely if flooding persists across wheat-growing areas of the eastern and northern regions, aggravating food insecurity nationwide. Flooding, combined with above-average temperatures anticipated between April–June, may also increase the risk of **pest and disease outbreaks**, such as fungal diseases, damaging yields (WMO accessed 09/04/2026). That said, widespread precipitation has increased soil moisture, alleviated drought, and improved conditions for the October 2025 to May 2026 winter wheat season (OCHA 09/04/2026).
- **Waterborne and vector-borne disease transmission may increase** because of water contamination and widespread damage to WASH infrastructure. In the last six months, the most flood-affected eastern and northeastern provinces had already experienced dengue and malaria outbreaks (Kunar, Laghman, Nangarhar, and Nuristan) and acute watery diarrhoea outbreaks (Badakhshan, Baghlan, Kunar, Kunduz, Laghman, Nangarhar, Nuristan, and Takhar) (Health Cluster 10/02/2026; WHO 13/12/2025).

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE, FUNDING, AND CONSTRAINTS

- Key transport routes, including the Salang Pass, the Herat–Kandahar highway, and the Khost–Paktia corridor, face disruptions. 19 bridges and approximately 200km of roads have been damaged or destroyed, while nine northern provinces remained cut off from Kabul until 3 April because of snowfall and blocked routes (OCHA 09/04/2026; Chashma-Sar unpublished).
- Emergency shelter is among the most underfunded sectors in 2026, compounding the challenges of rehabilitating damaged infrastructure such as water systems, roads, and housing following floods and earthquakes (OCHA 19/12/2025).
- Interim Taliban Authority restrictions on women's and girls' freedom of movement and women's employment have constrained women's and girls' access to life-saving assistance following recent shocks, including the August and October 2025 earthquakes (Protection Cluster 19/03/2026). There is a risk that women and girls face similarly limited access to assistance following the most recent floods.