

Country: Republic of Moldova

Institute: State Hydrometeorological Service

Name: Lidia Trescilo

E-mail: lidia.trescilo@meteo.gov.md

Climatological reference period: 1981-2010.

1. SEECOF-24 Climate outlook for Winter Season 2020/21 for the Moldova

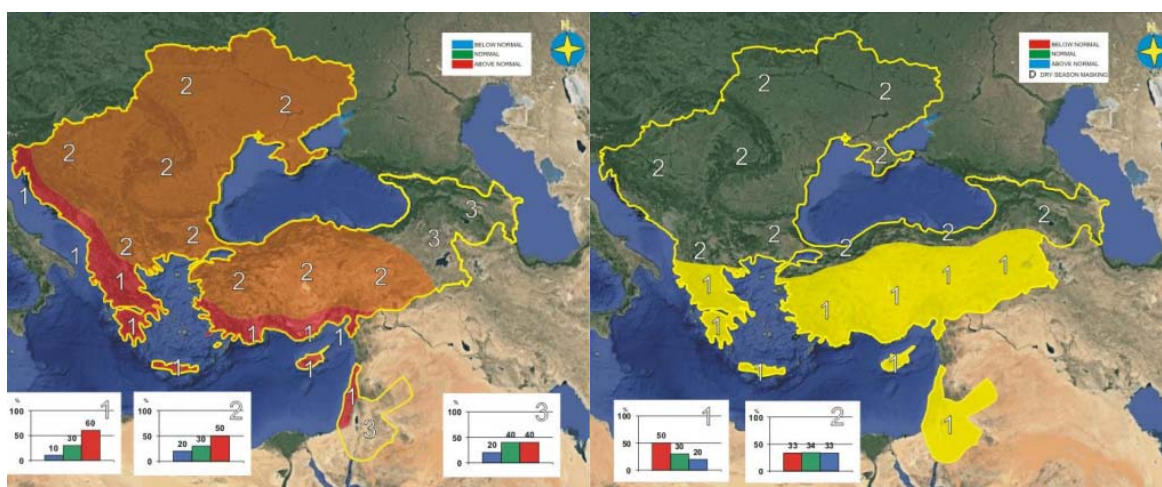


Figure 1. Graphical presentation of the 2020/21 winter temperature outlook

Above normal

Figure 2. Graphical presentation of the 2020/21 winter precipitation outlook

Below, near or above normal

2. Analysis of the Winter Season 2020/21 in Moldova

The winter season 2020-2021 in the Republic of Moldova was predominantly warm and rainy. The stable passage of the average daily air temperature through 0°C, meaning the beginning and end of the meteorological winter, in this season was not observed, which is reported on average once in 5-10 years.

The average air temperature during the season in the territory was -1.5..+1.2°C, being 0.5-2.5°C higher than the norm and is reported on average once in 3-7 years. (Fig.1,2)

The absolute minimum air temperature was -21°C (January, MS Balti), which is reported on average once in 3 years. The absolute maximum reached +20°C (February, MS Codrii, Baltata, Chisinau, Comrat, Ceadir-Lunga), which in this month is reported on average once in 15-20 years.

Very warm weather was maintained on most days of December when the average monthly air temperature by 2.5-4.0°C exceeded the norm, which is reported on average once in 5-10 years.

Abnormally warm weather was also reported in the first decade of January when the average decadal air temperature was 6.0-7.5°C higher than normal and it is reported on average once in 10-20 years.

In the third decade of February, the average air temperature exceeded the norm by 4.0-6.5°C and it is reported on average once in 5-8 years.

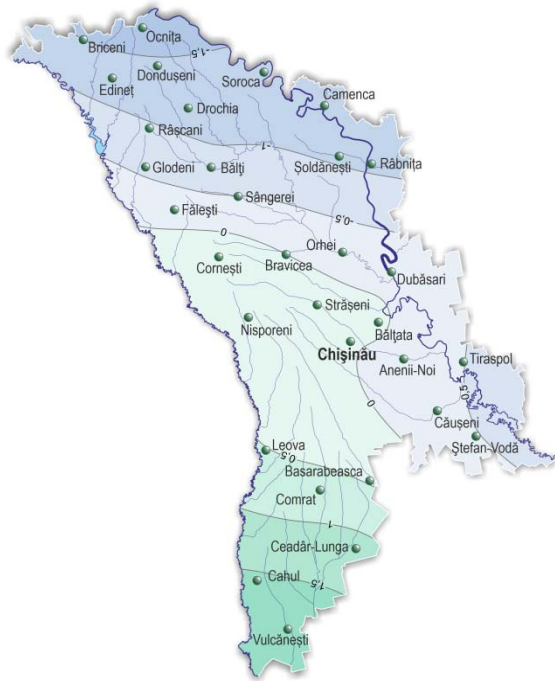


Fig.1. Mean Temperature in Winter, °C



Fig.2. Temperature Anomalies in Winter, °C

The amount of precipitation during the season on 90% of the territory was 80-125 mm (80-135% of the norm), isolated (MS Camenca, Ștefan-Vodă) - 160-175 mm (160-175% of the norm). (Fig.4,5).

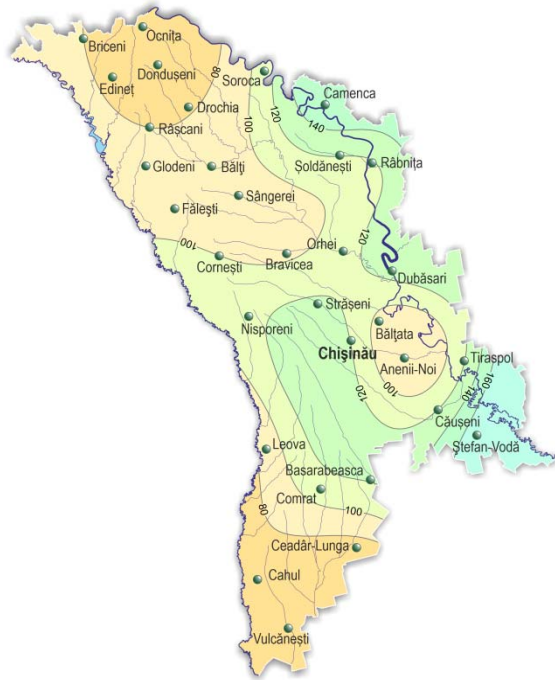


Fig.3. Amount of precipitation in Winter, mm

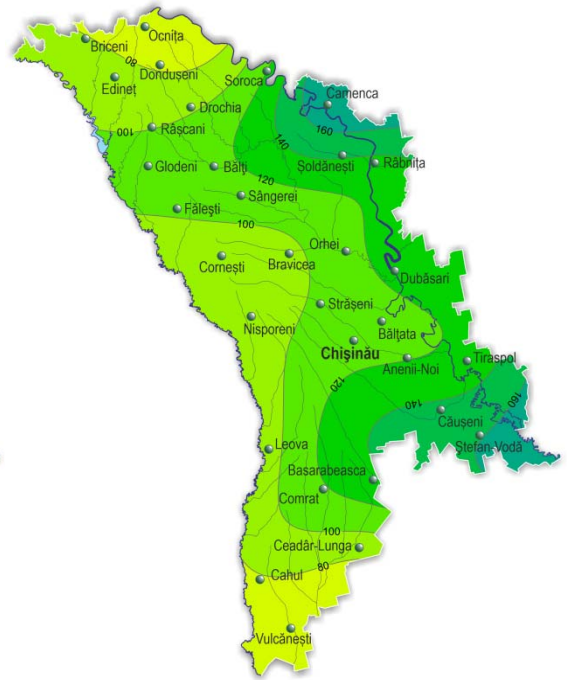


Fig.4. Precipitation Anomalies in Winter, %

The snow layer has been established on the territory since January 28 and almost everywhere (except for some districts in the south of the country) it was maintained until mid-February. Its maximum thickness on meteorological platforms reached 23 cm (January, MS Ștefan-Voda). Towards the end of the month, the snow layer everywhere melted.

Compared to the winter of 2019-20, the average air temperature this season was 3.0-3.5°C lower and precipitation fell more (by 20-80 mm).

The analog season according to the thermal regime is 2018-2019.

3. Assessment of the SEECOF-24 Climate outlook for 2020/21 winter season

Country	Seasonal temperature		Seasonal precipitation		High Impact Events
	Observed	SEECOF-24 climate outlook for temperature	Observed	SEECOF-24 climate outlook for precipitation	
Republic of Moldova	Above normal	Above normal	90% of the territory - near normal 10% of the territory - above normal	Below, near or above normal (33%,33%,33%)	Complicated meteorological conditions were observed on February 8-9: precipitation in the form of sleet and snow, frost and icy deposits, icy roads. As a result on most of the territory was caused damage to power lines and there were traffic difficulties. On February 8, an extreme meteorological phenomenon was reported on MS Chisinau. There were ice deposits with a diameter of 23 mm. Also during the winter season, there were fogs, frost, and icy deposits, blizzard, wind intensifications of up to 21 m/s (MS Cornești), and icy roads.