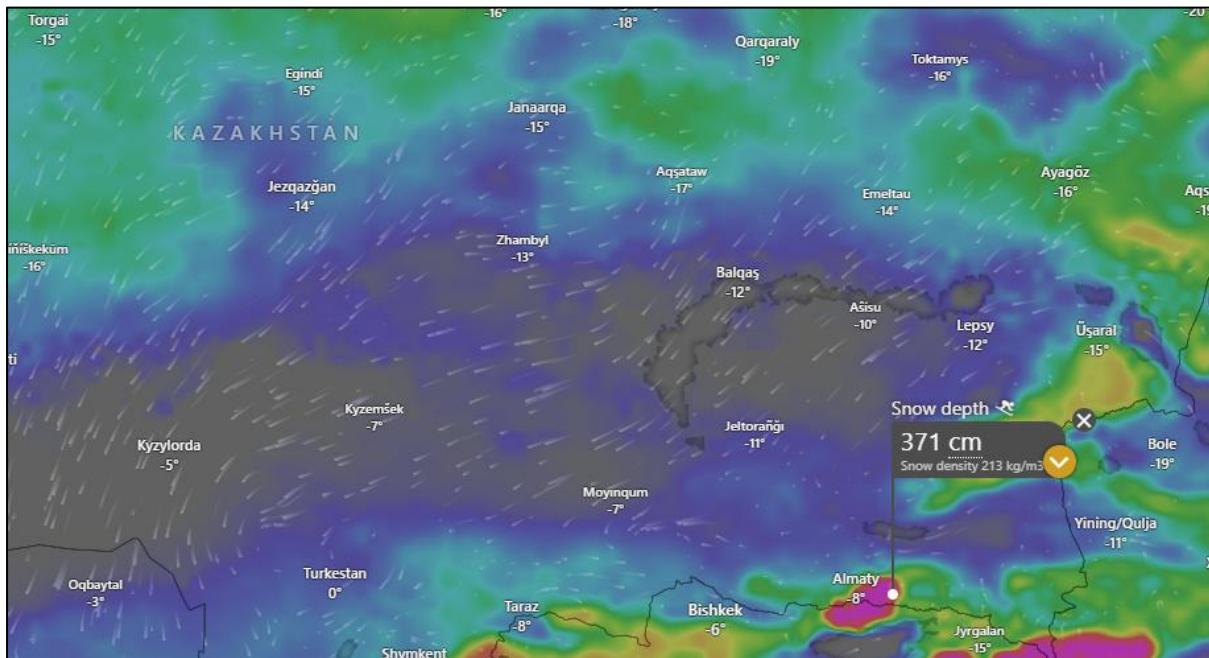




## Snowmelt Flooding - Kazakhstan



Valid: From January 19<sup>th</sup> to January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026

### Affected Areas

Most affected areas include: Southern and south-eastern Kazakhstan; Almaty region, Zhambyl, Turkestan, Karaganda, and Balkhash basin areas. Severely affected areas include: Foothills of the Tien Shan, Ili–Balkhash basin, and low-lying valleys near Almaty, where very deep snowpack increases runoff and flood potential.

### Hazard Types

Snowmelt-induced flooding, Ice-jam flooding, Heavy snowfall & blizzards, Extreme cold stress, Transport and infrastructure disruption.

### Hazard Summary

An exceptionally deep and dense snowpack combined with prolonged sub-zero temperatures is established across large parts of southern Kazakhstan around Esentai river. Any short-term warming, rain-on-snow events, or synoptic disturbances may trigger rapid snowmelt and ice-jam formation, leading to localized flooding. Moreover, ongoing cold and snowfall continue to disrupt transport, energy systems and emergency access.