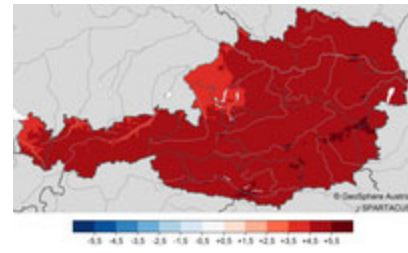




02.09.2024

Warmest August in measurement history

"August 2024 was extremely warm and was 3.0 degrees above the average for the 1991-2020 climate period in the lowlands of Austria and 3.3 degrees above the average for the 1991-2020 climate period in the summit regions," says climatologist Hans Ressler from GeoSphere Austria, "which puts the lowlands in first place in the series of the warmest August months in the 258-year history of measurements and the mountains in first place in the 174-year mountain measurement series. It is also noteworthy that August is the fifteenth month in a row that is above average. The last relatively cool month was May 2023."



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Compared to the climate period 1961-1990, which was not yet so severely affected by global warming, August 2024 was 4.8 degrees above average in the lowlands and 5.1 degrees in the mountains.

Two to three times as many hot days as average

August 2024 brought two to three times as many hot days (at least 30 degrees) as an average August. With 19 hot days, Eisenstadt reached the same value as in the record year 1992. *Info: Table of hot days in the linked PDF*

Longest frost-free period at Sonnblick

At the Sonnblick Observatory of GeoSphere Austria, at over 3100 meters above sea level in the Hohe Tauern in Salzburg, there was not a single day with temperatures below 0 degrees this August. This is the first frost-free month here since measurements began in 1886.

The frost-free period on the Hoher Sonnblick began on July 5th and is still ongoing in the first week of September. Currently (up to and including September 2nd, 2024) there are 60 days without sub-zero temperatures. That is almost twice as long as the longest frost-free period on the Sonnblick to date. The previous record was 31 days and occurred twice, starting on August 12th, 1994 and starting on June 8th, 2019.

Drought and heavy rain

August 2024 was characterized by long dry periods and some severe thunderstorms with heavy rain, which caused flooding and mudslides in some places. In the Austria-wide evaluation, there

was 29 percent less precipitation than in an average August (SPARTACUS dataset). The last time it was similarly dry in an August was 2019 (-25 percent). The last time it was significantly drier was 2015 (-41 percent).

In the Austria-wide evaluation, the number of hours of sunshine in August 2024 was ten percent above the long-term average.

-> PDF download of the entire climate balance including graphics and state analysis