

The Heat Crisis: Exploring the Impact on Different Communities

Hutchins Civic Media Project



Aayushi Saxena



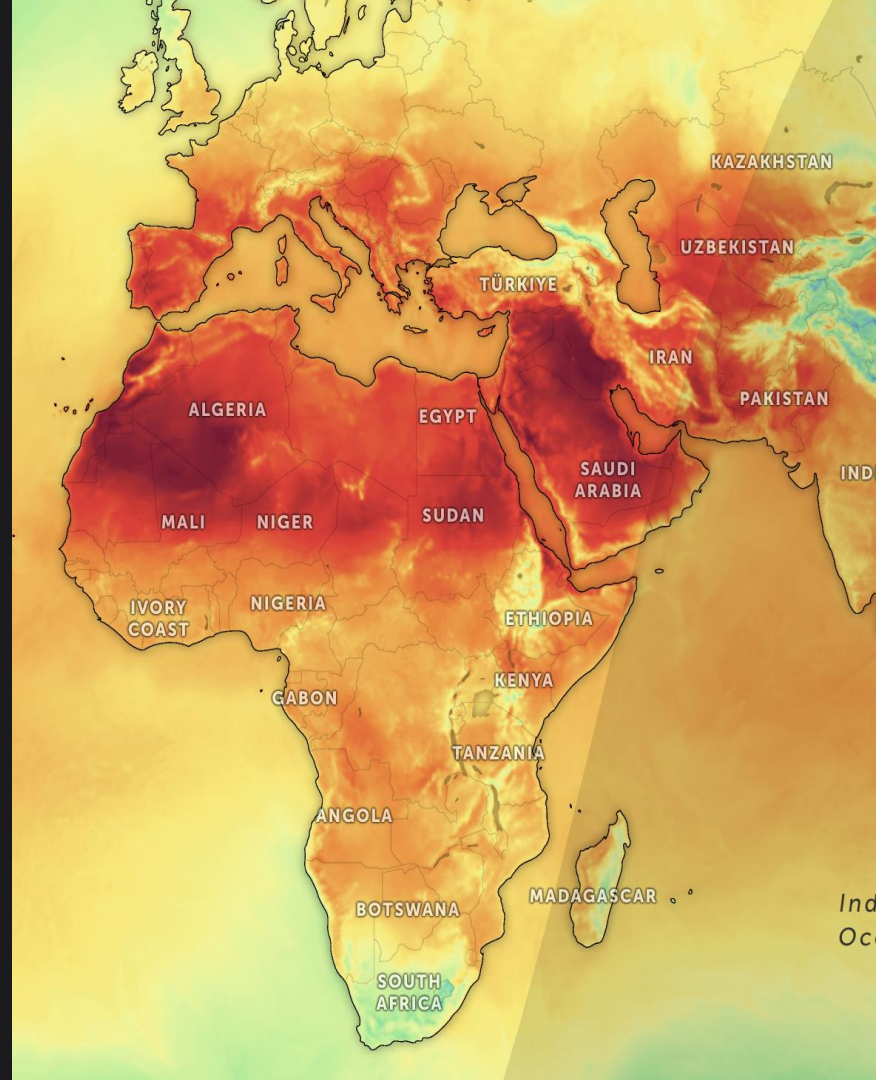
**Extreme heat is one of the leading causes of
weather related deaths in the U.S.**

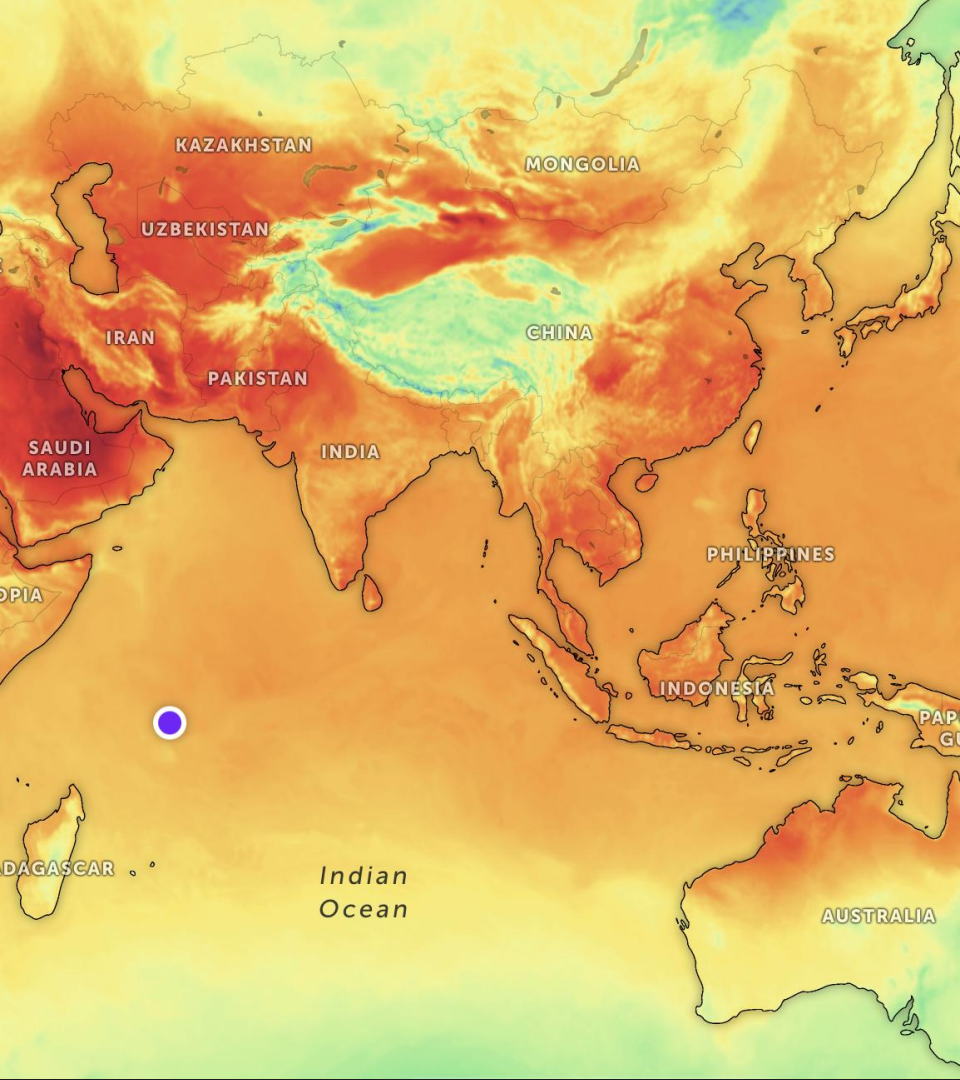
**They result in an average of over
600 people per year from 1999-2009
which is more than all other impacts (except hurricanes) combined**

More than 70% of the global workforce—2.4 billion people—are now at high risk of extreme heat.

What is Extreme Heat?

- Extreme Heat Events (Heat Waves)
 - A persistent period of unusually hot days
- These waves are increasing in intensity & frequency
- Can lead to illness and death for vulnerable populations
 - e.g. children, elderly, outdoor works, and other stakeholders





Before 2025

- The global average surface temperature was 2.32°F (1.29°C) above the 20th century average (57.0 F or 13.9 C)
- The ten warmest years have all occurred during 2015–2024.
- 2024 ranked as the warmest year on record for both the Northern and Southern Hemispheres individually.

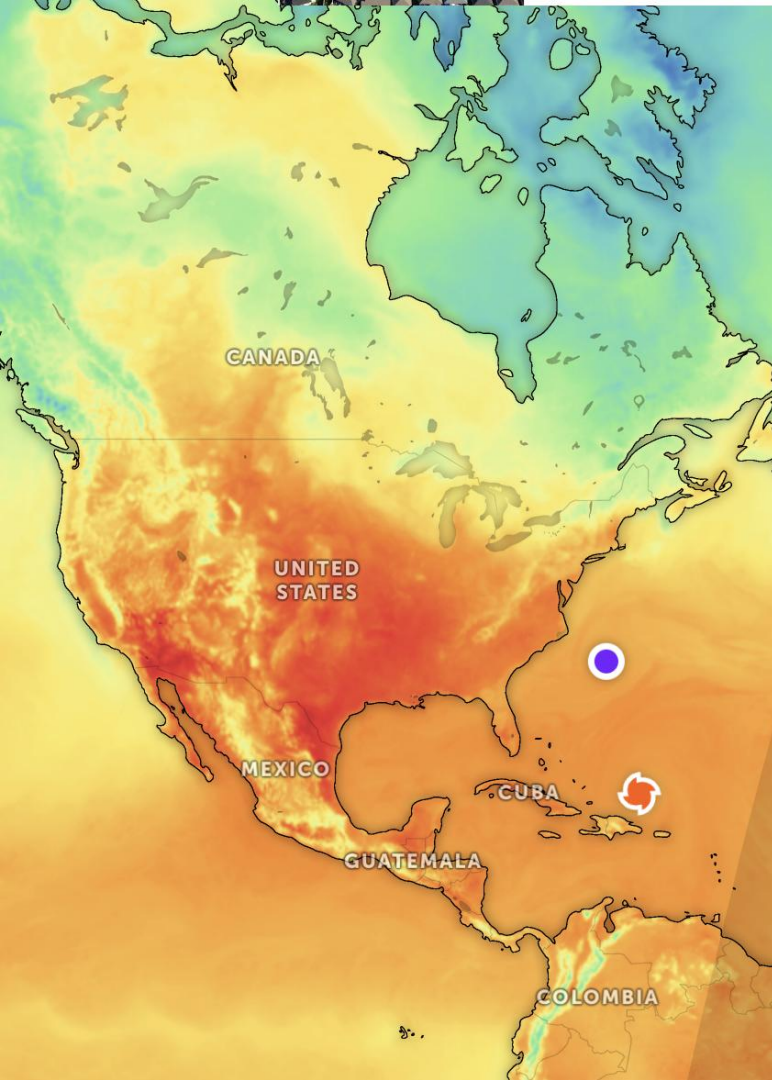
**The frequency of heat waves has increased
steadily from an average
of 2 during the 1960s to 6 per year
during the 2010s and 2020s.**

**The average heat wave season is
about 46 days longer now
than it was in the 1960s**

Timing MATTERS

Heat waves that occur earlier in the spring or later in the fall can catch people off-guard.

This increases exposure to the health risks especially for vulnerable populations.



Interactive Map Activity

Explore the impact of heat on different stakeholders by clicking on the pins & watching videos



References

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