

# At least 10 dead as record heatwave hits Shanghai

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Workers install an air-conditioning unit at a food stall in Shanghai on July 2, 2013. More than 10 people have died in China's commercial hub Shanghai, a local health official said Wednesday as the city grapples with its highest temperatures in at least 140 years.

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Much of China is in the grip of a summer heatwave, and the China Meteorological Association issued a high temperature warning for several eastern and central provinces, saying temperatures could reach 41 degrees Celsius (106 Fahrenheit) on Wednesday.

Leng Guangming, a spokesman at the Shanghai Municipal Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, said there had been at least 10 victims of [heat stroke](#) up to last Friday in the city. He declined to give a more precise or more recent number.

City forecasters said temperatures were "rising rapidly" and could reach 40 C in People's Square on Wednesday.

Experts blame a subtropical high pressure system and a lack of rain for the record-breaking heatwave, according to state media.

Pictures have shown people sheltering from the heat in air-conditioned shops or subways, and trying to cool off in [swimming pools](#) and rivers.

Footage of a slice of pork cooked through in 10 minutes on outdoor stone slab, taken by a Shanghai TV station, has gone viral online.

"It turns out that the only difference between me and roast meat is a pinch of cumin," joked one user of the Twitter-like microblog Sina Weibo.

Tuesday was the eighth consecutive day with temperatures above 38 C in Shanghai, the official Xinhua news agency reported, citing the [local weather bureau](#).

The temperature reached 40.6 C last Friday, topping a previous high of 40.2 C in 1934 and the highest since records began in 1873, Xinhua said earlier.

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