

# Mexico heat waves leave 48 dead since March

May 25 2024

---



Credit: Andre from Pexels

Mexico has registered 48 deaths in a series of heat waves since March, the government said Friday, as scientists warned that new temperature records could be coming.

More than 950 people have suffered various health effects over the same

period, according to the [health ministry](#).

Last year, Mexico reported a record 419 [heat-related deaths](#) in the hot season, which runs from March to October, in a country of 129 million people.

President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador described this year's heat as "exceptional."

"It's a very regrettable natural phenomenon related to [climate change](#)," he said at his regular morning news conference.

High temperatures and a lack of wind were exacerbating the pollution problem in Mexico City in particular, Lopez Obrador added.

The capital, which sits at 2,240 meters (7,350 feet) above sea level, has traditionally enjoyed a temperate climate and few homes have air conditioning.

But thermometers in Mexico City reached a record 34.3 degrees Celsius (93.7 degrees Fahrenheit) on May 9, the National Water Commission said.

The northeastern state of San Luis Potosi registered a high of 49.6 degrees Celsius.

Scientists from the National Autonomous University of Mexico warned that more records could be broken in the next two weeks.

This year is on course to be "the [warmest year](#) in history," Francisco Estrada, coordinator of the university's Climate Change Research Program, said at a press conference.

It is not just humans that are suffering—in southern Mexico dozens of howler monkeys have dropped dead, apparently due to the heat.

© 2024 AFP

Citation: Mexico heat waves leave 48 dead since March (2024, May 25) retrieved 17 June 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2024-05-mexico-dead.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.