

Cyprus records a second death from heatstroke as temperatures soar

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Smoke from a wildfire drifts over Troodos mountain between villages Farmakas and Fikardou in Nicosia district in the eastern Mediterranean island of Cyprus, Saturday, June 15, 2024. Credit: AP Photo/Petros Karadjias

A Cyprus health official said a second elderly person has died from



heatstroke after a weeklong heat wave that baked the east Mediterranean island nation with reportedly record temperatures for the month of June.

An 84 year-old woman died a day after her admission to a hospital on Friday, said State Health Services Organization spokesman Charalambos Charilaou. He said another three <u>elderly patients</u> were in serious condition.

Temperatures on the island have soared all week, exceeding 40 degrees Celsius (104 degrees Fahrenheit).

The high temperatures and <u>strong winds</u> also have hampered firefighting efforts, including in a mountainous area southwest of the capital Nicosia, where over 3.2 square kilometers (1.2 square miles) of forest were scorched, threatening a village.

Last week, 49 <u>residents</u> in two communities in the island's western Paphos district were evacuated to hotels as a wildfire threatened their homes, while aircraft from Greece and Jordan joined in firefighting efforts.

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