

Heat wave turns deadly in Japan following historic flooding

A grueling heat wave caused at least eight deaths across Japan since Saturday, and the dangerous conditions are not forecast to subside through the duration of the week.

More than 2,000 people were treated at hospitals across southern and central Japan from Saturday into Sunday, according to The Japan Times.

Weekend temperatures peaked at 38.8 C (101.8 F) in Fukuchiyama, Kyoto Prefecture on Sunday.



The intense heat is not expected to wane this week as dry weather continues and daily sunshine bakes much of Japan.

Widespread temperatures of 35 C (95 F) will be reported each day through Friday in inland locations while coastal communities can only expect modest relief from the heat.

Sweltering humidity will push AccuWeather RealFeel® Temperatures between 38 and 43 C (100 and 110 F) during the midday and afternoon hours.



A man holds a child at a water fall to cool off at a park in Tokyo, Monday, July 16, 2018. (AP Photo/Koji Sasahara)

The heat will continue to hamper ongoing relief efforts following the most deadly flooding in decades earlier this month.

The death toll from the historic flooding reached 219 as of Monday with at least 21 people still missing according to AFP. This is the deadliest rain-related disaster in Japan since 1982 when more than 300 people were killed in Nagasaki and Kumamoto prefectures.

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While the expected dry weather is welcomed for ongoing cleanup and recovery efforts, the heat will create dangerous conditions for relief workers and those still homeless following the flooding.

Any rain in the flood-stricken areas is expected to be limited to a stray shower or thunderstorm, mainly in the afternoon and evening hours and over the higher terrain.



Destroyed houses are covered with mud at a damaged area in Hiroshima, southwestern Japan, Wednesday, July 11, 2018. (AP Photo/Haruka Nuga)

The weekend heat resulted in at least 145 people, including relief workers, being treated for heat-related illnesses in the hardest-hit areas of Okayama, Hiroshima and Ehime. These numbers are likely to rise in the coming days as temperatures climb even higher.

No relief is in sight as temperatures are expected to remain well above normal into this weekend.

A tropical cyclone may develop near the Ryukyu Islands later this weekend; however, if the potential storm were to track westward it would only continue the hot, dry weather across southern Japan into next week.

Source: <https://www.accuweather.com/en/weather-news/heat-wave-turns-deadly-in-japan-following-historic-flooding/70005503>

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