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**UN says extreme heat is the new normal – 20th July 2023**

## Level 0

The UN has said extreme heat is "the new normal". There are more and longer heatwaves. This week, parts of the USA and China were over 50°C. Death Valley was 53.9°C and Xinjiang was 52.2°C. Japan issued a heat alert. It asked people to stay in the shade and drink plenty of water.

The UN said we need to cut greenhouse gas emissions. It said we need to change our lives because heatwaves are "the new normal". They are affecting our health and water supplies. The heat is making people change their travel plans. A woman tried to "escape the heat" by going to Rome, but said it was hotter than Texas.

## Level 1

The UN has warned that extreme heat is "the new normal". There are more heatwaves and they are longer and hotter. In the past week, parts of the USA and China were over 50°C. In Death Valley, it was 53.9°C; and in Xinjiang, it got up to 52.2°C. Japan has issued a heat alert. It asked people to stay in the shade and drink plenty of water. The UN warned the heatwaves could continue for another month.

The UN warned we need to cut greenhouse gas emissions. It said heatwaves are having, "a major impact on human health...and water supplies." It said society needs to "adapt to what is unfortunately becoming the new normal". The heat is making people change their travel plans. They are going to cooler countries. A woman tried to "escape the heat" by going to Rome, but said that was hotter than her hometown in Texas.

## Level 2

The United Nations has warned that extreme heat is "the new normal". Climate change is causing more heatwaves and making them longer and hotter. Many countries have had record hot weather in the past week. In parts of the USA and China, the mercury went over 50°C. In Death Valley, California, it was 53.9°C; and in Xinjiang, China, it got up to 52.2°C. European countries and Japan have issued heat alerts. They asked people to stay in the shade and drink plenty of water. The UN warned the heatwaves could continue for another month.

The UN warned of the need to cut greenhouse gas emissions. It said heatwaves are happening more often and this is having, "a major impact on human health...and water supplies." It added that more work is needed, "to help society adapt to what is unfortunately becoming the new normal". The heat is making holidaymakers change their travel plans. People are choosing to holiday in cooler countries. A woman who tried to "escape the heat" by going to Rome complained that the Italian capital was hotter than her hometown in Texas.

## Level 3

The United Nations weather agency has warned that extreme temperatures are "the new normal". Scientists say climate change is making heatwaves longer, hotter and more frequent. Many countries have been experiencing record hot weather in the past week. In parts of the USA and China, the mercury went over 50°C (122°F). In Death Valley, California, it was 53.9°C; and in Xinjiang, China, it got up to 52.2°C. In Spain and Italy, the temperature rose to 46°C. Many European countries and Japan have issued heat alerts. They advised people to stay in the shade and drink plenty of water. The U.N. weather agency has warned Europe's heatwave could continue for another month.

A spokesperson for the United Nations warned of the need to cut greenhouse gas emissions. He said: "Extreme weather is increasing in frequency in our warming climate. It is having a major impact on human health...and water supplies." He added: "We have to step up efforts to help society adapt to what is unfortunately becoming the new normal." The European Travel Commission said the extreme heat is making holidaymakers change their travel plans. People who used to holiday in Spain, Italy and Greece are choosing to go to cooler countries instead. A woman who wanted to "escape the heat" by going to Rome complained that the Italian capital was hotter than her hometown in Texas.

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