



PRESS RELEASE

June 2025 Marks Third Warmest June on Record Globally, Following 2023 and 2024.

Record High-Intensity Marine Heatwaves Impact 62% of the Mediterranean Sea.

Toulouse, 8 July 2025 — Marine heatwaves continue to intensify and expand, with June 2025 breaking records for sea surface temperatures and heatwave extent across Europe and the global ocean, according to Mercator Ocean International, operator of the EU's Copernicus Marine Service. While some regions show signs of easing, others remain under severe thermal stress.

Key Highlights

1. In the Mediterranean Sea, June 2025 was the warmest June on record with a mean surface temperature (SST) of $23.86 \pm 0.47^{\circ}\text{C}$
2. 62% of the Mediterranean Sea surface was affected by marine heatwaves of categories strong or higher in June 2025 - the highest extent ever recorded.
3. 72% of the global ocean surface recorded above-average temperatures, with 20% experiencing marine heatwaves on 30 June 2025.
4. Marine heatwaves are increasing in frequency and severity, threatening marine ecosystems and coastal communities worldwide.

Overview of June and the first half of 2025

Global Ocean

- June 2025 was the third warmest June on record globally (after 2023 and 2024), with a mean sea surface temperature (SST) of $20.75 \pm 0.07^{\circ}\text{C}$. 9 of the hottest months of June have occurred during the last 10 years.
- 72% of the global ocean surface recorded SST above the long-term average (using the reference period 1993-2022).
- 20% of the global ocean was affected by high intensity marine heatwaves (category strong or above) at the end of June.
- Global SST for the first half of 2025 with $20.89 \pm 0.06^{\circ}\text{C}$ was the second warmest on record after 2024 ($21.04 \pm 0.06^{\circ}\text{C}$).

Mediterranean Sea

- **June 2025 was the warmest June ever recorded**, with a mean SST of $23.86 \pm 0.47^{\circ}\text{C}$ —surpassing the previous high of 2003.
- **88% of the basin experienced above-average temperatures** this month; more than 60% of the area saw monthly mean SSTs at least $+1^{\circ}\text{C}$ above normal, and nearly 30% exceeded $+2^{\circ}\text{C}$.

- **The western Mediterranean was the hardest hit**, with marine heatwaves reaching record levels for intensity, duration, and extent.
- **At the peak, 62% of the Mediterranean Sea surface was affected by a high intensity marine heatwave (category high or above)**, compared to 40% for the same period last year.
- **The first half of 2025 (January–June) was the warmest on record**, with 88% of the basin having been exposed to high intensity marine heatwave conditions during this period.

North Atlantic Ocean

- **June 2025 was the third warmest June on record**, with a mean sea surface temperature (SST) of $22.84 \pm 0.20^{\circ}\text{C}$.
- **71% of the region recorded above-average SSTs**, with the most pronounced anomalies observed along the European and North American coastlines.
- **The first half of 2025 was also the third warmest on record**, with 50% of the North Atlantic affected by high intensity marine heatwave conditions during this period.

Weekly forecasts: 5-12 July 2025

Mediterranean Sea

- Western basin: marine heatwave intensity and area are decreasing, shifting from strong/severe to moderate/locally strong.
- Eastern basin: heatwave also diminishing, with only a few moderate areas remaining.

North Atlantic Ocean

- Heatwave shrinking off Portugal but expanding mid-basin; intensity remains strong/severe.
- North Sea heatwave decreasing; moderate to locally extreme patches remain.
- From eastern Florida to the mid-Atlantic: shrinking near Florida, expanding in the mid-basin; intensity stable (moderate to severe).

Media Resources

For further details and data visualizations, consult the full [weekly MHW and monthly Ocean Temperature bulletins](#) on the Mercator Ocean International

- Visualize the sea surface temperatures and anomalies on the Copernicus Marine Service viewer: [Viewer SST today](#)
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About Mercator Ocean International

Mercator Ocean International is a world leader in digital oceanography, providing trusted ocean analysis, forecasting, and intelligence to advance science, policy, and societal needs. Founded in 1995 and headquartered in Toulouse, France, the organisation employs 120 staff and is led by Director General Pierre Bahurel. As a European organization registered in France, Mercator Ocean International operates the Copernicus Marine Service on behalf of the European Union and is recognised as a global ocean prediction centre. It co-develops the European Digital Twin of the Ocean with European partners and hosts the G7 Future of the Seas and Oceans Initiative Coordination Centre. More information on <https://www.mercator-ocean.eu/>

About Copernicus Marine Service

The [Copernicus Marine Service](#) is dedicated to ocean observation, monitoring and forecasting. It is funded by the European Commission (EC) and implemented by Mercator Ocean international. Copernicus Marine provides regular and systematic reference information on the state of the physical and biogeochemical ocean at the global and European regional scale. Mercator Ocean's marine heatwave bulletins rely on Copernicus Marine data.



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THE EUROPEAN UNION

