

Weather



05

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Europe Tactical (UPDATE): Alerts for high temperatures, wildfires issued in several countries on July 5-6; remain abreast of updates

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Current Situation

- Alerts for adverse weather conditions have been issued in several countries in Europe on July 5-6, with details as follows:
- Meteo-France, **France's** national meteorological agency, has placed seven departments in southern France under an orange heatwave alert on July 5-6, the second-highest on a four-tier scale indicating expected dangerous weather.
- Affected departments include Ardche, Aude, Drome, Gard, Hérault, Pyrénées-Orientales, and Vaucluse, with temperatures of 35-37 degrees Celsius expected, including highs of 40 degrees Celsius.
- Meteo-France also classified the same seven southern departments as facing a very high wildfire

risk, warning that weather conditions are highly conducive to the ignition and spread of forest fires.

Source: [Meteo-France](#)

- In **Greece**, the Ministry for Climate Crisis and Civil Protection has issued Level 4 wildfire warnings, the second-highest on a five-tier scale, for multiple regions, including Attica, Corinthia, Argolis, and Crete, indicating a very high risk for wildfires.

Source: [civilprotection](#)

- Separately, a wildfire broke out near Thessaloniki, Greece, during the evening hours (local time) on July 4 amid ongoing high temperatures in the region. Authorities ordered the evacuation of several settlements, including Anthoupoli, Filothei, and Galini.

Source: [AP](#)

- In **Portugal**, authorities have declared a nationwide state of alert across mainland Portugal until July 6 due to the significant deterioration in wildfire conditions. Additionally, the Instituto Portugues do Mar e da Atmosfera (IPMA) has assessed almost the entire mainland as facing maximum or very high rural fire danger, while red weather warnings remain in effect across much of the country due to extreme temperatures.

Source: [portugal.gov](#)

- In **Spain**, Agencia Estatal de Meteorologia (AEMET), the national meteorological agency, has issued orange alerts, the second highest on a three-tier scale, in multiple regions nationwide on July 5-6 for high temperatures, primarily in southwestern and central areas, as well as some northern areas. Affected regions include Aragon, Catalonia, Extremadura, western Castilla-La Mancha, northern Andalusia, and Madrid, among others. Yellow alerts are also in effect in other regions nationwide.
- Red alerts, indicating an extraordinary danger, for high temperatures are forecast in Valencia, Lleida, and Zaragoza on July 7.
- AEMET has also issued a warning for an elevated wildfire threat amid the heatwave due to high temperatures and dry conditions

Assessments & Forecast

1. Given the combination of extreme temperatures and dry conditions, the risk of wildfires will remain high in France, Greece, Portugal, and Spain in the coming days. These conditions will not only prove conducive to wildfires but will also impede firefighting efforts to contain fires. Given this, governments are also likely to request external support from other countries, as already seen in Portugal, where Italy and Spain have sent firefighting resources amid wildfires in recent days.
2. Increased demand for cooling is likely to place additional pressure on electricity networks, elevating the risk of localized power outages. Such outages could have secondary impacts on transport services, businesses, and other critical infrastructure.
3. The risk of heat-related medical incidents, including heatstroke, is also likely to remain elevated, particularly among children, the elderly, and individuals participating in outdoor activities or large public gatherings. Indeed, reports from July 5 indicate that France alone recorded an excess of 2,025 deaths in the last week of June, which coincided with record heat, compared to the previous week, while Spain recorded 1,029 excess deaths attributed to high temperatures in June. Authorities are likely to continue issuing public health advisories and implementing mitigation measures where temperatures remain above seasonal norms.

Recommendations

Those operating or residing in the aforementioned countries of Europe on July 5-6 and in the coming days are advised to remain abreast of updates by the authorities regarding risks related to inclement weather conditions.