DATA SET DESCRIPTION

HISTORICAL HEAT ALERTS

version 001

cite data set as DWD: Historische Hitzewarnungen in Deutschland, Version v001, 2021.

CONTACT

Deutscher Wetterdienst
Zentrum für Medizin-Meteorologische Forschung Freiburg (ZMMF)
Stefan-Meier-Str. 4
79104 Freiburg

Tel.: +49 (0)69 8062-9630
Fax: +49 (0)69 8062-9622
E-Mail: mm.freiburg@dwd.de

DATA DESCRIPTION

parameter	Official heat alert
Spatial coverage	Germany, districts
Temporal coverage	01.01.2005 - 31.12.2020
Temporal resolution	täglich
data format	CSV (comma separated values), Details see below

DISCLAIMER

The heat warning system of DWD is subject to continuous improvements and developments. Therefore, the criterias leading to heat alerts has changes over time. **Estimating trends from this data set is not recommended**

DATA FORMAT

Heat warnings per district and day are stored in one CSV-file per year. Field separator is a ‘,’ (comma), the file encoding is UTF-8 (-BOM). The header can be found in the first line of each file.

district ID	3 letter ID of the district, e.g. BXX
date	date of the heat alert, format: YYYY-MM-DD
warning level	see below
name	Name of the district
federal state	name of the federal state

WARNING LEVEL

code	description	criteria
1	strong	Perceived temperature above about 32°C for at least two days in a row and high temperatures during the night.
3	extreme heat stress	perceived temperatur above 38°C.

DISTRICTS

The districts used in the DWD warning system are not always identical to the official districts of Germany.

COPYRIGHT

REVISION NUMBERS

For the current year, the information on the heat alerts is included after the end of the warning season. In this case, the revision number of the data set will not change. An increment of the revision number takes place in case of bug fixes.

REFERENCES

- Koppe, C. (2009) The Heat Health Warning System of the German Meteorological Service. In: UMID Special Issue: Climate Change and Health 3: 39-43.
- Matzarakis, A., Laschewski, G., Muthers, S. (2020) The Heat Health Warning System in Germany—Application and Warnings for 2005 to 2019. Atmosphere, 11, 170.
- Pfafferott, J., Becker P. (2008): Erweiterung des Hitzewarnsystems um die Vorhersage der Wärmebelastung in Innenräumen, Bauphysik 30(4):237 - 243, DOI: 10.1002/bapi.200810031