

Private Bag X097, Pretoria, 0001 • Tel: + 27 (0) 12 367 6000 • www.weathersa.co.za • USSD: *120*7297#

2022-01-25

New Record-Breaking Temperatures following the Heat Wave in the Western and Northern Cape

The Western Cape has experienced heat wave conditions over the past weekend (21 – 23 January 2022). Heat wave conditions are characterized by prolonged periods (at least three consecutive days or more) of temperatures (min/max) exceeding the average of the hottest month by 5 °C or more. South Africa is still in the summer season, thus hot conditions are normal during this time of the year.

While it became very hot over the past weekend in Cape Town, the South African Weather Service (SAWS) investigated the measurements of maximum recorded temperatures in Cape Town and Robertson of 45.2 °C and 45.9 °C, on Saturday and Sunday, respectively. Due to certain environmental factors at these sites around the Automatic Weather Station (AWS) equipment, SAWS can confirm that these factors could have resulted in locally induced heat, which influenced the temperature readings of both stations. For this reason, these values **will not be accepted** into the SAWS Climate Database as new maximum temperature records for the month of January.

The highest ever recorded maximum temperature in January for Cape Town city therefore remains at 39.1 °C (measured on 25/01/2007), while for all other months, the highest maximum temperature of 42.4 °C was measured on 3 March 2015. SAWS can confirm that a new record-breaking minimum temperature was measured on Sunday morning, 23 January 2022 (Table 1) in Alexander Bay.

**Certified for
Excellence**

Board Members: Ms Feziwe Renqe (Chairperson), Vacant (Deputy Chairperson), Ms Sandika Daya, Ms Mmapula Kgari, Ms Nana Magomola, Prof Sylvester Mpandeli, Mr Itani Phaduli, Mr Grant Son, Dr Mmaphaka Tau, Mr Peter Lukey (DFFE Rep), Mr Ishaam Abader (CEO).

Company Secretary: Ms Milicent Fatlane (Interim Company Secretary)

Table 1: New Highest Minimum Temperature records for the month of **January**: Northern Cape.

Station	New Highest Minimum Temperature Record (°C)	Date/Month/Year	Old Highest Minimum Temperature Record (°C)	Date/Month/Year
Alexander Bay	22.8	23/01/2022	22.5	16/01/1963

While heat wave conditions were experienced over large parts of the Western Cape, slightly cooler conditions can be expected over the next couple of days, with light rain possible along the Garden Route at times.

The South African Weather Service would like to thank the public for their interest in this matter.

Compiled by:

Cape Town Weather Office, Kumsa Masizana, Lucky Dlamini, Musa Mkhwanazi and Charlotte McBride.

Edited by: Ezekiel Sebegu

For technical and weather enquiries:

National Forecasting Centre: Tel: 012 367 6041 or Cape Town Weather office: 064798 6994

Media enquiries: Ms Hannelee Doubell: Acting Senior Manager, Communications and Stakeholder Relations; Tel: (012) 367 6104; Cell: 072 222 6305; E-mail: hannelee.doubell@weathersa.co.za

USSD: Dial *120*7297#; Weather-ready, Climate-smart

Download our WeatherSMART APP free from the App store:

For Apple Smartphones: <https://apps.apple.com/za/app/weathersmart/id1045032640>

For Android Smartphones: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=za.co.afrigris.saws.droid.activity&gl=ZA>