

Selected Significant Climate Anomalies and Events December 2016

GLOBAL AVERAGE TEMPERATURE
December 2016 average global land and ocean surface temperature was the 3rd highest since records began in 1880.

ICELAND
Most stations had monthly temperatures at or near their warmest on record. The capital city of Reykjavik had its 4th warmest December on record.

EUROPE
The December temperature for Europe ranked in the warmest quarter of all years in its 107-year record. Denmark reported its 6th warmest December and the United Kingdom had its 8th warmest on record.

ASIA
The Asian continent experienced its 14th warmest December in the 107-year continental record.

ARCTIC SEA ICE EXTENT
December 2016 sea ice extent was 7.8% below the 1981-2010 average. This marked the 2nd smallest December sea ice extent since satellite records began in 1979, 7,700 miles greater than the record-small extent of 2010.

AUSTRIA AND FRANCE
Austria and France were both record dry during December. For France, the last two Decembers were the two driest in the 57-year national record.

SUPERTYPHOON NOCK-TEN
(December 21st – 28th, 2016)
10-min maximum winds: 185 km/h. The Category 5-equivalent storm weakened before making eight landfalls over the Philippines on the 25th and 26th, leading to three fatalities.

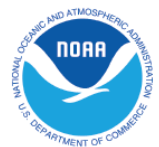
CONTIGUOUS UNITED STATES
The contiguous U.S. observed an average December precipitation total in its highest third among all Decembers on record. Nine of the past 11 Decembers have been wetter than average.

AFRICA
It was the 2nd warmest December for Africa in the 107-year continental record, behind only 2009.

SOUTH AMERICA
Overall, it was the 3rd warmest December in the 107-year continental record for South America.

ANTARCTIC SEA ICE EXTENT
December 2016 sea ice extent was 22.2% below the 1981-2010 average, the smallest extent in the 37-year satellite record.

AUSTRALIA
Australia observed its 5th wettest December in its 117-year record. South Australia was record wet for the month, while the Northern Territory and Western Australia were both 3rd wettest.



Please Note: Material provided in this map was compiled from NOAA's State of the Climate Reports. For more information please visit: <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc>