

## Lost Winter in Japan

**Analysis: Climate change adding more winter days above freezing — affecting snowfall, winter sports, ecosystems, and more**

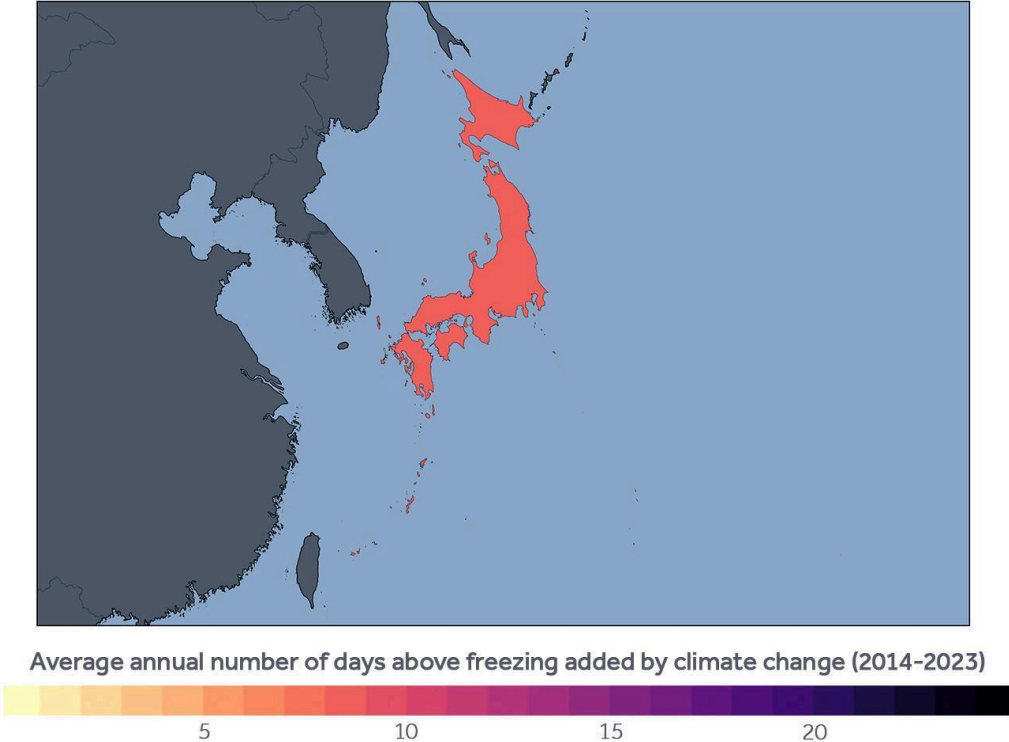
December 2024

### KEY FACTS

- Across Japan, climate change — due primarily to burning oil, coal, and methane gas — is causing a significant increase in winter days above freezing, otherwise called lost winter days.
  - Analysis of daily minimum temperatures during winter (December, January, February) shows that Japan experienced at least eight additional days above freezing annually during the past decade (2014-2023) due to human-caused warming.
  - Around 56% of Japanese cities analyzed (32 of 57) saw at least an additional two weeks' worth of winter days above freezing each year, compared to a world without climate change.
  - Losing winter's chill affects snowfall, winter sports, water supplies, spring allergies, crops, and more.
- [Download data](#)

*This national summary is part of a broader analysis, in which Climate Central assessed how warming temperatures, attributed to climate change, affected the number of days above freezing (0°C) during winter (December, January, February) in 123 countries across the Northern Hemisphere over this past decade (2014-2023). For locations across the globe, findings show how many lost winter days — days between December-February where minimum temperatures exceeded 0°C — are occurring annually due to climate change. For detailed methodology and summary of findings for 123 countries and 901 cities, [see the full report](#).*

**RESULTS**



**Figure 1.** Annual winter days with minimum temperatures above 0°C added by climate change in Japan. Results averaged over a ten-year period (2014-2023).

City	Prefecture	Winter days above 0°C annually	Winter days above 0°C added by climate change annually
Fuji	Shizuoka	64	35
Fukayacho	Saitama	62	25
Nagaoka	Niigata	58	23
Hiroshima	Hiroshima	61	23
Ashikaga	Tochigi	55	23
Kyoto	Kyoto	60	21
Ageoshibo	Saitama	60	20
Fujimino	Saitama	60	20
Nagoya	Aichi	60	20
Adachi	Tokyo	72	20
Arakawa	Tokyo	72	20
Nerima	Tokyo	72	20
Saitama	Saitama	72	20
Setagaya	Tokyo	72	20
Tokyo	Tokyo	72	20

**Table 1.** Winter days with minimum temperatures above 0°C added due to climate change, for select cities in Japan included in this analysis. Results averaged over the past decade (2014-2023).

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*Climate Central is an independent group of scientists and communicators who research and report the facts about our changing climate and how it affects people's lives. Climate Central is a policy-neutral 501(c)(3) nonprofit.*

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