

Lost Winter in Poland

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

December 2024

KEY FACTS

- Across Poland, 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 Poland experienced nearly three additional weeks' worth of days above freezing annually during the past decade (2014-2023) due to human-caused warming.
 - Among the 123 countries analyzed, Poland was among those that lost the most chilled winter days due to a warming climate, ranking fifth globally.
 - All of the 13 Polish cities analyzed 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 Poland. Results averaged over a ten-year period (2014-2023).

City	Winter days above 0°C annually	Winter days above 0°C added by climate change annually
Szczecin	54	23
Gdansk	45	21
Lublin	38	21
Poznan	46	21
Wroclaw	48	20
Warsaw	39	20
Olsztyn	34	20
Włocławek	41	19
Katowice	42	19
Krakow	35	19
Gliwice	43	18
Opole	44	18
Wałbrzych	30	16

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

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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