

SASSCAL Info Map

Winter Temperatures for Southern Africa

The influenza season in southern Africa is commonly associated with the winter months from May to August, but may start as early as April (NICD 2019). It has been suggested that the Covid-19 or coronavirus displays similar trends, with a higher incidence in lower temperature areas (Biqing et al 2020). While in the northern hemisphere, scientists draw correlations between the SARS outbreak of 2003 and Covid-19, and are hopeful that infections will taper off towards the summer months, experts don't know the consequence of the upcoming winter in the southern hemisphere on the spread of the virus (HEALTH 2020).

For most of southern Africa, the coldest month during the winter period is July, with an average monthly temperature for July in Cape Town of 9 °C, Gaborone of 5 °C, Harare of 7 °C, Luanda of 18 °C, Lusaka of 8 °C, Pretoria of 4 °C and Windhoek of 6 °C.

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References

- Biqing C et al. 2020. Roles of meteorological conditions in COVID-19 transmission on a worldwide scale.
- 2. HEALTH24.2020. Will warmer weather really help deter the coronavirus?
- 3. NICD. 2019. Flue season is around the corner.
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