

# Japan heatwave kills two, hundreds taken to hospital

June 1 2014

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Two people have been killed and hundreds treated in hospital after a weekend heatwave swept over Japan, officials and reports said Sunday.

A 74-year-old women collapsed while working in a greenhouse in the eastern prefecture of Chiba on Saturday and was later pronounced dead.

In Ibaraki, also in the east of the country, a 61-year-old was found collapsed in her garden and died.

On Sunday, a 76-year-old man was taken to hospital unconscious in Sera, in the western prefecture of Hiroshima, after collapsing near a river bank.

"He is suspected of having a heatstroke," a local ambulance worker told AFP by telephone.

The official said there were unconfirmed reports that the man had been working in [rice paddies](#) before collapsing.

More than 300 people were treated at [hospital](#) on Saturday alone, the [public broadcaster](#) said as mercury rose past 30 degrees Celsius (86 Fahrenheit) in many towns across the nation.

The temperature reached 33 degrees C (91F) in central Tokyo by mid-afternoon Sunday with over 36 degrees C (97 F) recorded in Tatebayashi, north of the capital.

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