

Bitter Cold Brings 13 Deaths to Single Russian Region

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At least 13 people have died due to cold in the Far East Russian region of Buryatia so far this new year, with alcohol a common denominator in their deaths.

The regional Investigative Committee branch said nine of the hypothermia victims were middle-aged and elderly men. Temperatures in the region have hovered between minus 34 and minus 49 degrees Celsius over the first days of January.

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Three women and one 17-year-old girl who was found outside a diner on Sunday also fell victim to the elements.

“As with the girl, a large concentration of ethyl alcohol was found in the blood of almost all

the frozen people,” the investigators [said](#) on Wednesday.

The Investigative Committee said the death toll could climb once all postmortem reports are filed.✕

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