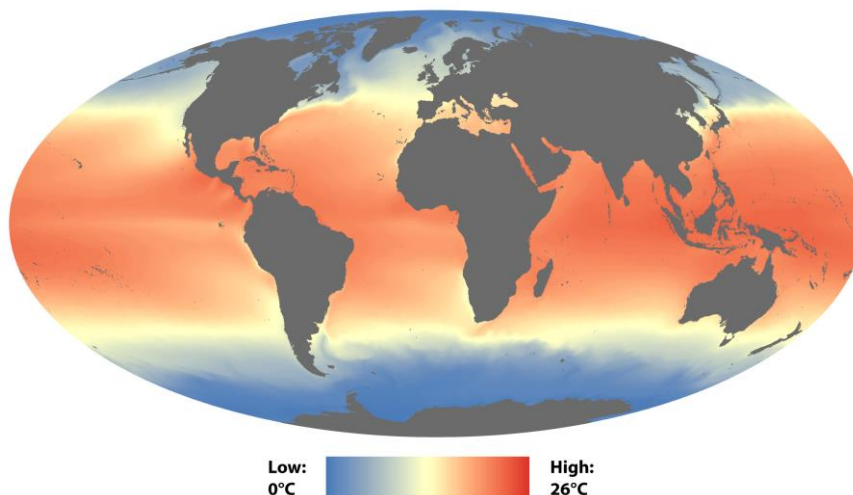


Mean Annual Sea Surface Temperature 2009-2013 (2015)



Description:	This dataset shows the global distribution of mean annual sea surface temperature, averaged for the period from 2009 to 2013. It was created using remotely-sensed images from NASA's (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) Ocean Color database (http://oceancolor.gsfc.nasa.gov).
Citation(s):	NASA Ocean Biology (OB.DAAC). (2014). Mean annual sea surface temperature for the period 2009-2013 (composite dataset created by UNEP-WCMC). Data obtained from the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) Aqua Ocean Colour website (NASA OB.DAAC, Greenbelt, MD, USA). Accessed 28/11/2014. URL: http://oceancolor.gsfc.nasa.gov/cgi/l3 . Cambridge (UK): UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre. URL: http://data.unep-wcmc.org/datasets/36 .
Temporal range:	2009-2013
Geographical range:	Global
Supplementary information:	Sea surface temperature is given in degrees Celsius.
Purpose of creation:	Sea surface temperature is a climatic descriptor and it is controlled by other climatic variables such as air temperature, and ocean and wind currents. Sea surface temperature is a key factor affecting biodiversity patterns as the majority of organisms respond to the temperature of their immediate environment.
Creation methodology:	Information on the origins and calculations of the MODIS Aqua data can be accessed at Ocean Color Web (http://oceancolor.gsfc.nasa.gov/cms/data/aqua). UNEP-WCMC obtained Aqua MODIS daily sea surface temperature data in HDF format from the Ocean Color website (http://oceancolor.gsfc.nasa.gov/cgi/l3). The HDF data were converted to ArcGIS rasters using Marine Geospatial Ecology Tools (MGET), and units were converted into degrees Celsius using the raster calculator tool (ESRI ArcMap). The composite layer for years 2009 through 2013 was then created using the mosaic function in ArcMap, to calculate mean sea surface temperature across all layers.
Version:	1.0 (May 2015)
Data lineage:	
Category:	Environment descriptor

