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Global Temperature Report: February 2011

Global climate trend since Nov. 16, 1978: +0.14 C per decade

February temperatures (preliminary)

Global composite temp.: -0.02 C (about 0.04 degrees Fahrenheit) below 30-year average for February.

Northern Hemisphere: -0.04 C (about 0.07 degrees Fahrenheit) below 30-year average for February.

Southern Hemisphere:  $\pm 0.00$  C (about 0.00 degrees Fahrenheit) above/below 30-year average for February.

Tropics: -0.35 C (about 0.63 degrees Fahrenheit) below 30-year average for February.

January temperatures (revised):

Global Composite: -0.01 C below 30-year average

Northern Hemisphere: -0.06 C below 30-year average

Southern Hemisphere: +0.04 C above 30-year average

Tropics: -0.35 C below 30-year average

(All temperature anomalies are based on a 30-year average (1981-2010) for the month reported.)

Notes on data released March 14, 2011:

Color maps of local temperature anomalies may soon be available on-line at:

<http://nsstc.uah.edu/climate/>

The processed temperature data is available on-line at:

[vortex.nsstc.uah.edu/data/msu/t2lt/uahncdc.lt](http://vortex.nsstc.uah.edu/data/msu/t2lt/uahncdc.lt)

As part of an ongoing joint project between UAHuntsville, NOAA and NASA, Christy and Dr. Roy Spencer, a principal research scientist in the ESSC, use data gathered by advanced microwave sounding units on NOAA and NASA satellites to get accurate temperature readings for almost all regions of the Earth. This includes remote desert, ocean and rain forest areas where reliable climate data are not otherwise available.

The satellite-based instruments measure the temperature of the atmosphere from the surface up to an altitude of about eight kilometers above sea level. Once the monthly temperature data is collected and processed, it is placed in a "public" computer file for immediate access by atmospheric scientists in the U.S. and abroad.

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