

**From:** Copernicus Support (Legacy) <[copernicus-support@ecmwf.int](mailto:copernicus-support@ecmwf.int)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 December 2021 12.07  
**To:** [era5-users@lists.ecmwf.int](mailto:era5-users@lists.ecmwf.int)  
**Subject:** IMPORTANT: Final validated ERA5 product to differ from ERA5T for Sep-Dec 2021

Dear ERA5 user,

We are writing to you because you may have downloaded preliminary data (ERA5T) from September 2021 onwards which, following continuous monitoring by the ECMWF Reanalysis team was identified as needing correction due to the assimilation of anomalous snow depth observations over Central Asia.

**As a result of this, for September, October, November and at least part of December 2021, the final ERA5 product will differ from ERA5T.** Although the affected area of ERA5T is limited to a few relatively small areas and affects mainly surface parameters such as snow depth, soil moisture and to a lesser extent 2-metre temperature and humidity, the results of the final, corrected, release (where the anomalous station observations were now withdrawn) will vary slightly everywhere around the globe for most parameters.

**In practical terms, this means that:**

- If you have accessed ERA5 data for 1 September 2021 or later, this will not correspond to the final validated version. If you think the local effects over Central Asia affect your application, we strongly recommend you to re-access the data once the final validated dataset has been released. For September 2021 this will be after Thursday 2 December 2021. For October and later months, we would ask you to wait until these are released.
- To know whether you have accessed ERA5T data or the consolidated set you can look at the value of `expver` in your data files. It's 0005 for ERA5T and 0001 for the final validated release.
- The issue was resolved for ERA5T data from 15 November 2021. However, the final validated version is being produced in a parallel stream and as long as it hasn't caught up with ERA5T, both will differ. **We will update [this announcement](#) when this occurs** and both streams have been aligned again. After that date (assuming that no other issues are found) ERA5T will correspond to the final validated version again.

We apologize for the inconvenience this may cause. This is the first time since the introduction of the ERA5T service that it will be temporarily superseded.

For details on this issue (including CDS catalogue entries affected by this issue), **please refer to our [announcement on the user forum](#)**. We recommend that you "**watch**" this [announcement](#) to receive an email notification when we will update the page with the latest information.

If you have any questions, you may of course [contact us](#) through our secure portal. **Do not reply to this message** - it will not be read.

Best regards,  
ECMWF Support