Original Research Article

Temperature extremes over selected stations: Ikeja, Osogbo and Maiduguri

ABSTRACT

This research aims to determine the temperature extremes for Ikeja (Lagos), Osogbo (Osun) and Maiduguri (Borno), Nigeria, West Africa using Statistica analytical tool. Thirty (30) years daily maximum and minimum temperature data (1971 – 2000) for Lagos, Osogbo and Maiduguri used for this study were collected from Nigeria Meteorological Agency (NIMET), Oshodi, Nigeria. Analysis of extreme temperature trend indicated that in Ikeja the percentage occurrence of warm days (TX90P) in which the maximum temperature is above 34^0C (90^{th} percentile value) is increasing over the years in Ikeja while the percentage occurrence of cold days (TX10P) in which the maximum temperature is below 28^0C [10^{th} percentile value] is decreasing Ikeja, in Osogbo the percentage occurrence of warm days (TX90P) in which the maximum temperature is above 35^0C [90^{th} percentile value) is increasing over the years in Oshogbo at a slower rate whereas the percentage occurrence of cold days (TX10P, number of days) in which the maximum temperature is below 27^0C [10^{th} percentile value] is constant over Oshogbo and in Maiduguri the percentage occurrence of warm days (TX90P, number of days) in which the maximum temperature is above 41^0C [90^{th} percentile value] is constant over the years in Maiduguri whereas the percentage occurrence of cold days (TX10P, number of days) in which the maximum temperature is below 30^0C [10^{th} percentile value] is slightly increasing over Maiduguri. Percentage of warm days indicated that values is constant at around 13-15% during the three (3) decades under investigation across the study areas whereas day time cooling increases slightly by 2% in Ikeja, 1% in Osogbo and 3% in Maiduguri significant level and Cold night decrease at 1% in Ikeja and remain constant in Osogbo but decrease by 5% in Maiduguri significant level.

Keywords: [Extreme, Temperature, Percentile, Minimum and Maximum}

1. INTRODUCTION

Extreme events cause destruction of properties, injuries, loss of lives and threaten the existence of some species. Observed globally averaged warming and projected future warming over Central Africa have direct implications on the occurrence of extreme weather and climate events; as it is unlikely that the mean climate could warm without altering climatic extremes. Extreme events drive changes in natural and human systems much more than average climate [1-5]. Yet quantifiable information describing how weather and climate extremes are changing over Africa has, until now, been unavailable. In preparation for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fourth Assessment Report [6] a major effort was undertaken to analyze how extremes are changing over as much of the world as possible. This included intensive international collaboration on data exchange and analysis, and, where data were not available, holding regional climate change workshops to generate information on extremes [7]. However, neither of these efforts was able to provide information for the whole of Africa. However, neither of these efforts was able to provide information for Nigeria and the whole of Africa. Hence this research seeks to determine the temperature extremes over Ikeja (Lagos), Osogbo (Osun) and Maiduguri (Borno) in Nigeria, Western Nigeria.

2. MATERIAL AND METHODS

Thirty (30) years daily maximum and minimum temperature data (1971 – 2000) for Lagos, Osogbo and Maiduguri used for this study were collected from Nigeria Meteorological Agency (NIMET), Oshodi, Nigeria. Daily maximum and minimum temperature data were analyzed to compute the 10th and 90th percentile values. Values less than the 10^{th} and greater than the 90^{th} percentile were extracted and counted for each day per annum and repeated for each year over the 30 years period. The values were then standardize to account for missing data. Plots to show the 30 years variabilities of the extremes for each of the parameter were generated. The data is set to between the range; >=90^{th} Percentile values for the maximum temperature and <=10^{th} Percentile values for the minimum temperature. Table 1 below shows the 90^{th} percentile and 10^{th} percentile for both maximum and minimum temperature for the three stations within the years of consideration.

Table 1. The 90th percentile and 10^{th} percentile for both Maximum and Minimum Temperature

STATIONS	90^{TH} PERCENTILE (T-MAX(>=)	10^{TH} PERCENTILE (T-MAX(<=)	90^{TH} PERCENTILE (T-MIN(>=)	10^{TH} PERCENTILE (T-MIN(<=)
IKEJA	34	28	26	21
MAIDUGURI	41	30	26	13
OSOGBO	35	27	24	18

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 PERCENTILE-BASED TEMPERATURE INDICES

Figure 1 shows the annual trends in temperature extremes between 1971 and 2000 for the percentile-based temperature indices in Ikeja. Figure 1a indicate that the percentage occurrence of warm days (TX90P, number of days; in percentage) in which the maximum temperature is above 34^0C (90^{th} percentile value) is increasing over the years in Ikeja while the percentage occurrence of cold days (TX10P, number of days [in percentage] in which the maximum temperature is below 28^0C [10^{th} percentile value]) is decreasing over the same station (Ikeja) as shown in Figure 1b. Thus Ikeja had been experiencing day time warming over the years and could be as a result of industrial activities. Another significant observation for Ikeja, representing rainforest zone, was that of a tendency towards night time warming as indicated, in Figure 1d, by a decrease in TN10P (percentage or proportion of days with minimum temperature below 21^0C [10^{th} percentile value], that is a decrease in the general pattern of cold nights) and an increase in TN90P (proportion or percentage of days with minimum temperature above 26^0C [90^{th} percentile value], that is an increase in the pattern of warm nights) as shown in Figure 1c. Basically, night time warming could be as a result of congestion of residents not allowing the easy passage of Outgoing Long wave Radiation (OLR). Generally, Ikeja is a place with strong tendency for day time warming and night time warming.

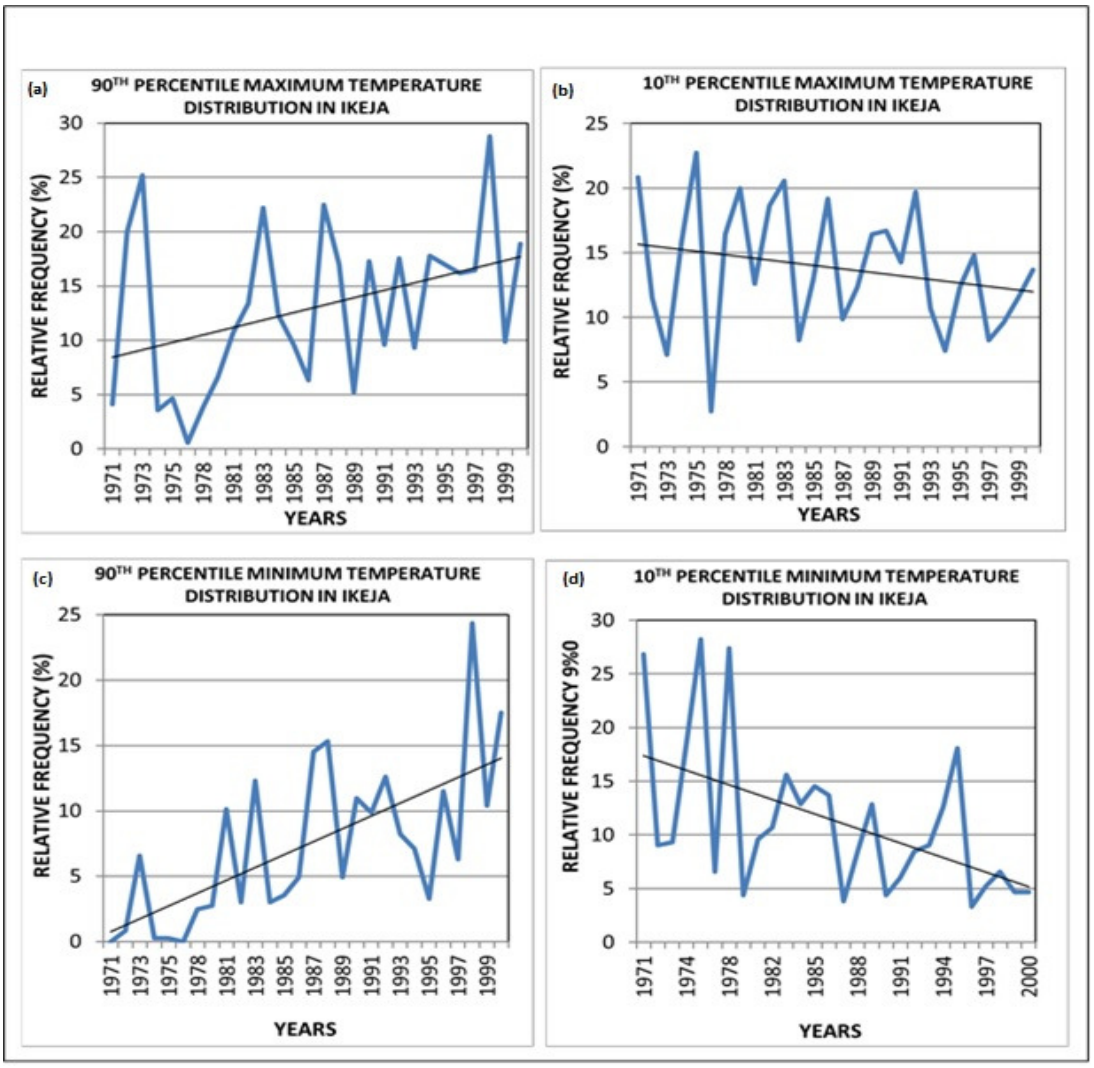

Fig 1. Temperature Extreme in Ikeja

Figure 2 shows the annual trends in temperature extremes between 1971 and 2000 for the percentile-based temperature indices in Oshogbo. Figure 2a showed that the percentage occurrence of warm days (TX90P, number of days [in percentage] in which the maximum temperature is above 35^0C [90^{th} percentile value]) is increasing over the years in Oshogbo but at a slower rate when compared to Ikeja whereas the percentage occurrence of cold days (TX10P, number of days [in percentage] in which the maximum temperature is below 27^0C [10^{th} percentile value]) is constant on the average over Oshogbo as shown in Figure 2b. Percentage of day time warming indicates that values rise from around 10% to about 14% on the average over the three (3) decades under investigation whereas day time cooling is on the average around 10%. Thus, the tendency is that Oshogbo had been experiencing day time warming over the years but at a slight increase because the frequency of occurrence of day time cooling is relatively constant. Considering night time cooling/warming for the same station, results from Figures 2c, d showed that percentage of occurrence of warm nights (TN90P, number of days [in percentage] in which the minimum temperature is above 26^0C [90^{th} percentile value]) decreases slightly over the years whereas the proportion of cold nights (TN10P, number of days [in percentage] in which the minimum temperature is below 13^0C [10^{th} percentile value]) increases over the years in Oshogbo. These generally indicate night time cooling (since night time warming is declining and night time cooling is on the increase) in Oshogbo during the three (3) decades under investigation. Thus when compared with Ikeja (in which day and night are warming using threshold values for maximum and minimum temperatures respectively), Oshogbo is slightly warming during the day and generally cooling during the nights in the past three (3) decades.

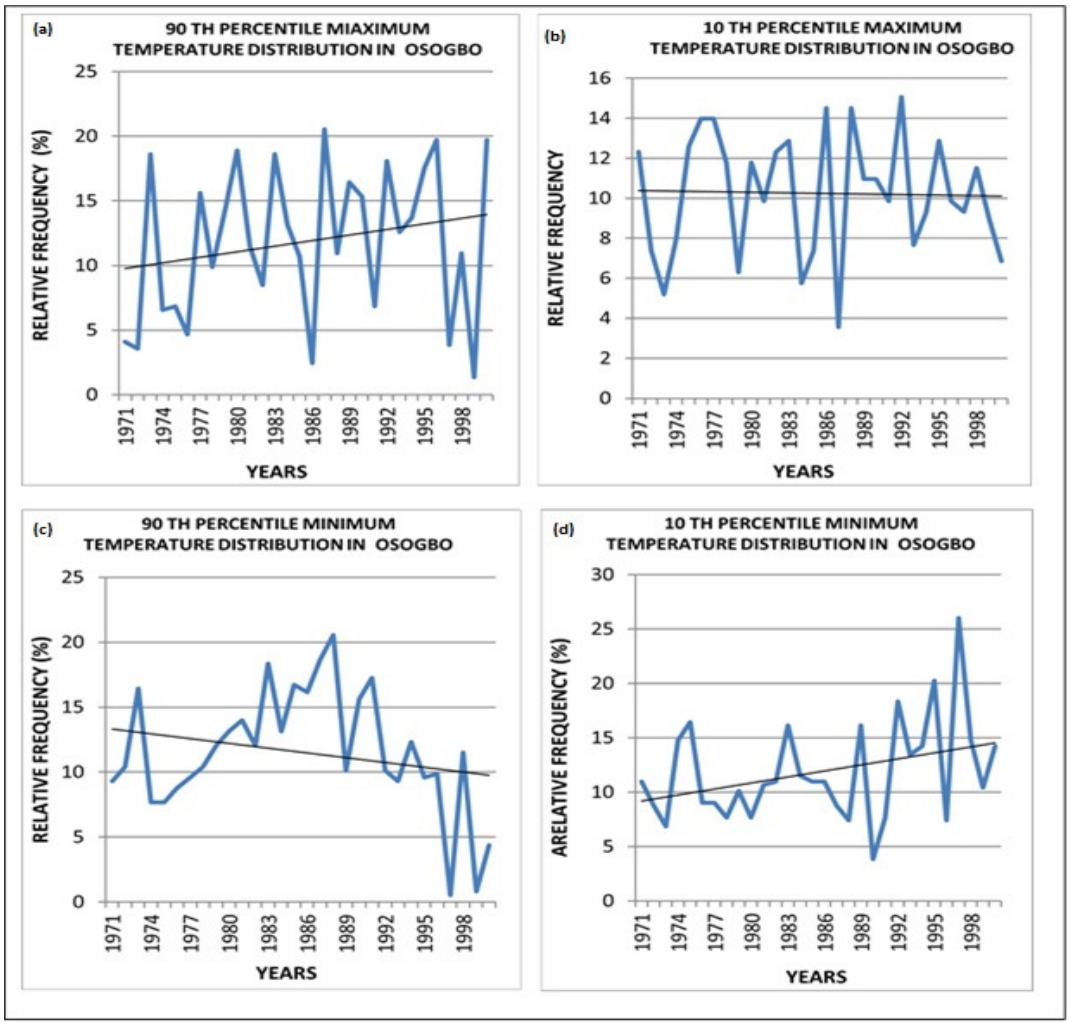

Fig 2. Temperature Extreme in Osogbo

Figure 3 shows the annual trends in temperature extremes between 1971 and 2000 for the percentile-based temperature indices in Maiduguri. Figure 3a showed that the percentage occurrence of warm days (TX90P, number of days [in percentage] in which the maximum temperature is above 41[90th percentile value]) is constant (on the average) over the years in Maiduguri whereas the percentage occurrence of cold days (TX10P, number of days [in percentage] in which the maximum temperature is below 30^{0}C [10th percentile value]) is slightly increasing on the average over Maiduguri as shown by the trend line in figure 3b. Percentage of warm days indicated that values is constant at around 13% during the three (3) decades under investigation whereas day time cooling increases slightly between 11% and 13%. Thus, because the percentage of cold days increases over the years, the tendency is that Maiduguri had experience day time cooling over the years but at a slight increase because the frequency of occurrence of day time warming is relatively constant. Considering night time cooling/warming for the same station, results from Figures 3c, d showed that percentage of occurrence of warm nights (TN90P, number of days [in percentage] in which the minimum temperature is above 24^{0}C [90th percentile value]) increases over the years whereas the proportion of cold nights (TN10P, number of days [in percentage] in which the minimum temperature is below 18^{0}C [10th percentile value]) increases over the years in Maiduguri. Both the night time cooling and night time warming are increasing at the same proportion.

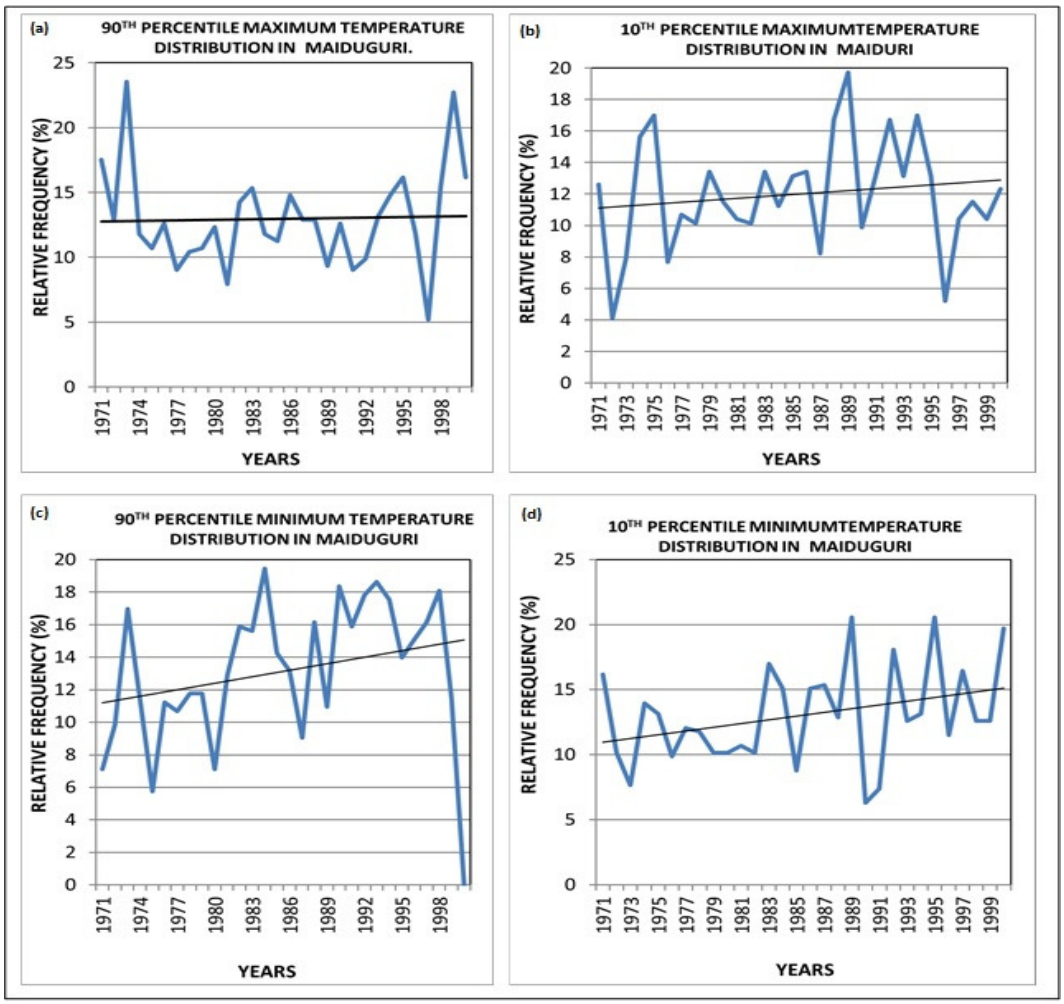

Fig 3. Temperature Extreme in Maiduguri

3.2 DECADAL DISTRIBUTIONS OF TEMPERATURE EXTREMES

Figure 4 shows a decadal maximum and minimum temperature distribution in Ikeja between 1971 and 2000. Figure 4a and 4b showed that the decadal percentage occurrence of warm days (TX90P, number of days [in percentage] in which the maximum temperature is above 34^0C [90^{th} percentile value]) is increasing (on the average) over the years in Ikeja whereas the decadal percentage occurrence of cold days Figure 4c and 4d (TX10P, number of days [in percentage] in which the maximum temperature is below 28^0C [10^{th} percentile value]) is decreasing on the average over Ikeja as shown by a forward shift (marked reduction) in the occurrence of cold daytime temperatures over the 1971–2000, particularly for the most recent decades Figure 4c and 4c. There is also a marked increase in the occurrence of warm nighttime temperatures during the last decades, again with strongest change in the last few decades (Figure 4d). The coldest minimum temperature (TNn) the coldest maximum temperature (TXn) have decreased over the decades while the warmest minimum temperature (TNx),) and the hottest maximum temperature (TXx) have increased but the difference between the decades is clearly shown by Figure 4c and d. The decadal occurrence of cold spells significantly decreased (Figure 4c and 4d) while the annual occurrence of warm spells significantly increased (Figure 4a and 4b). However, the trend in warm spells is greater in magnitude and is related to a dramatic rise in this index since the early 1990s.

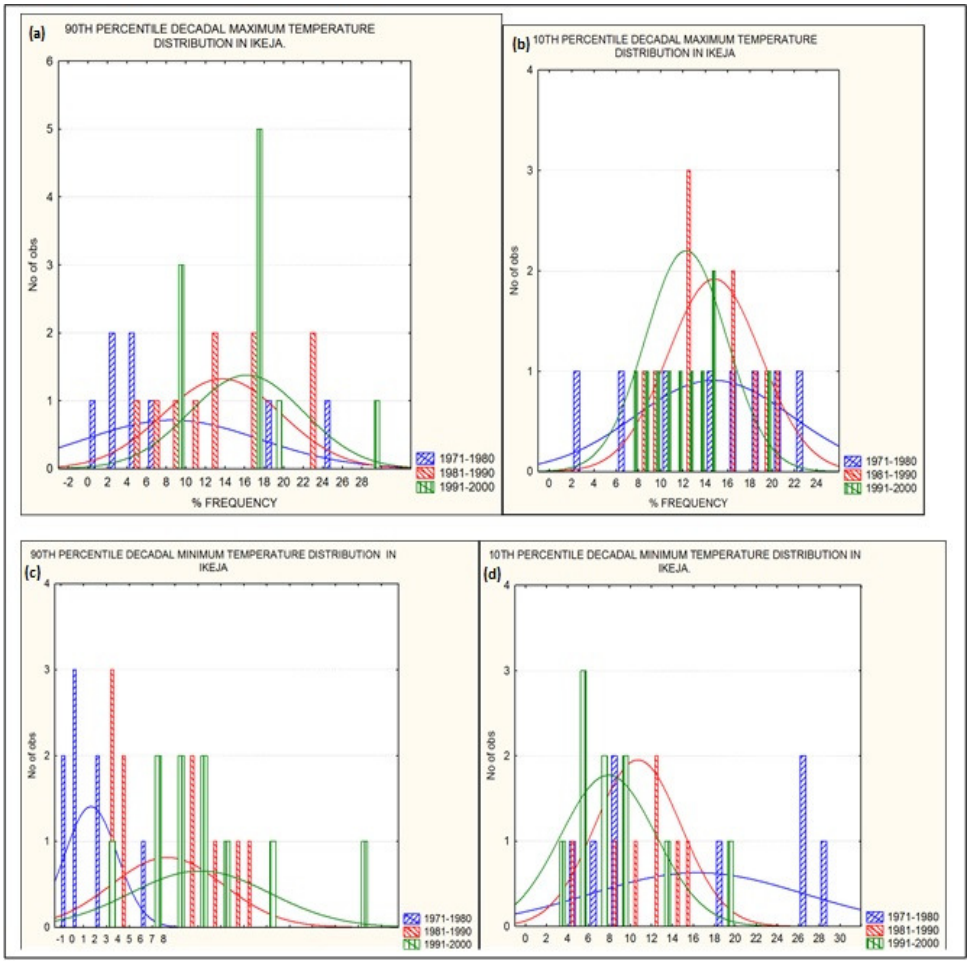

Fig 4. Decadal Minimum and Maximum Temperature Distribution in Ikeja

Figure 5 shows a decadal maximum and minimum temperature distribution in Osogbo between 1971 and 2000. Figure 5 a,b showed that the decadal percentage occurrence of warm days (TX90P, number of days [in percentage] in which the maximum temperature is above 35 ^{0}C [90th percentile value]) is increasing (on the average) over the years in Osogbo whereas the decadal percentage occurrence of cold days Figure 5b (TX10P, number of days [in percentage] in which the maximum temperature is below 27^{0}C [10th percentile value]) is slightly increasing on the average over Osogbo as shown by a forward shift (marked reduction) in the occurrence of warm daytime temperatures over the 1971–2000, particularly for the most recent decades Figure 5c. There is also a marked increase in the occurrence of warm nighttime temperatures during the last decades, again with strongest change in the last few decades (Figure 5d). The coldest minimum temperature (TNn), the warmest minimum temperature (TNx), the coldest maximum temperature (TXn) and the hottest maximum temperature (TXx) have also increased but the difference between the decades is clearly shown by Figure 5c and 5d. The decadal occurrence of cold spells significantly decreased (Figure 5c and 5d) while the annual occurrence of warm spells significantly increased (Figure 5a and 5b). However, the trend in warm spells is greater in magnitude and is related to a dramatic rise in this index since the early 1990s.

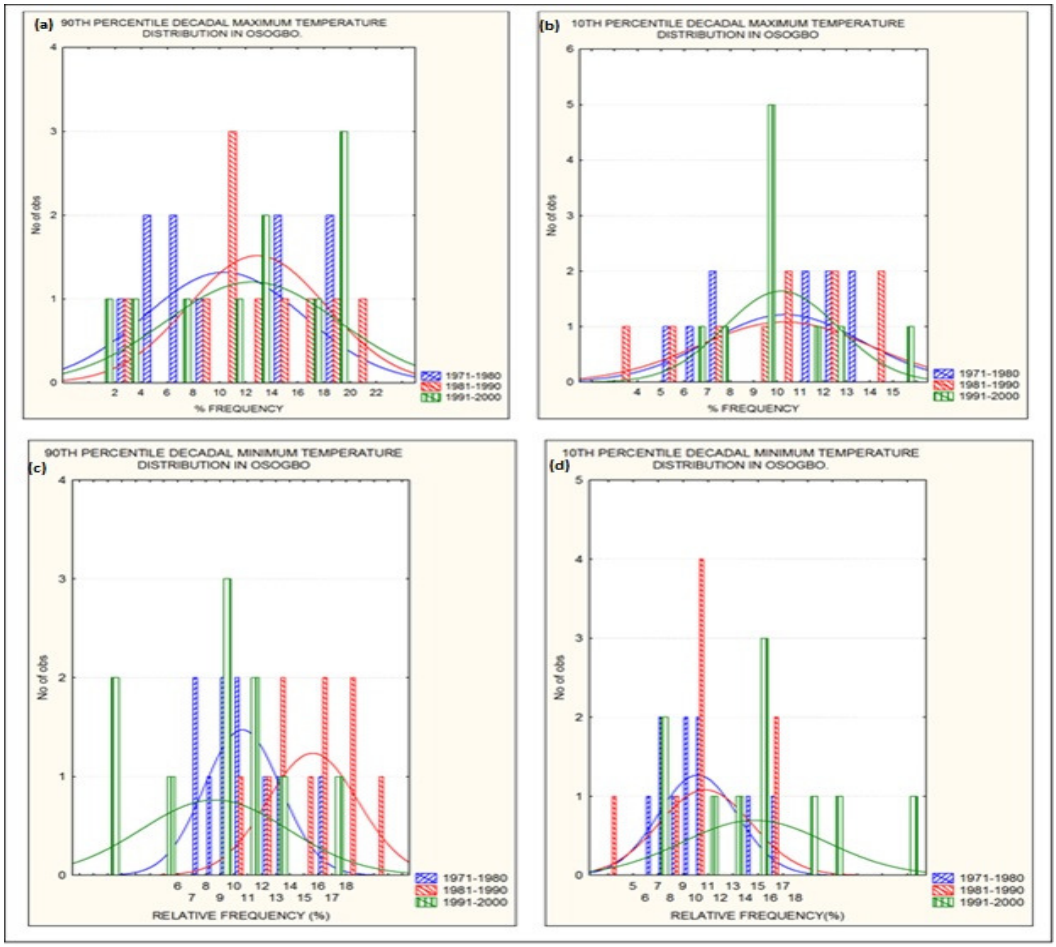

Fig 5. Decadal Minimum and Maximum Temperature Distribution in Osogbo

Figure 6 shows a decadal maximum and minimum temperature distribution in Maiduguri between 1971 and 2000. Figure 6a and 6b showed that the decadal percentage occurrence of warm days (TX90P, number of days [in percentage] in which the maximum temperature is above 410C [90th percentile value]) is increasing (on the average) over the years in Maiduguri whereas the decadal percentage occurrence of cold days Figure 6b (TX10P, number of days [in percentage] in which the maximum temperature is below 30C [10th percentile value]) is decreasing on the average over Maiduguri as shown by a forward shift (marked reduction) in the occurrence of cold daytime temperatures over the 1971–2000, particularly for the most recent decades Figure 6c and 6c. There is also a marked increase in the occurrence of warm nighttime temperatures during the last decades, again with strongest change in the last few decades (Figure 6d). The coldest minimum temperature (TNn) the coldest maximum temperature (TXn) have decreased over the decades while the warmest minimum temperature (TNx),) and the hottest maximum temperature (TXx) have increased but the difference between the decades is clearly shown by Figure 6c and 6d. The decadal occurrence of cold spells significantly decreased (Figure 6c and 6d) while the annual occurrence of warm spells significantly increased (Figure 6a and 6b). However, the trend in warm spells is greater in magnitude and is related to a dramatic rise in this index since the early 1990s.

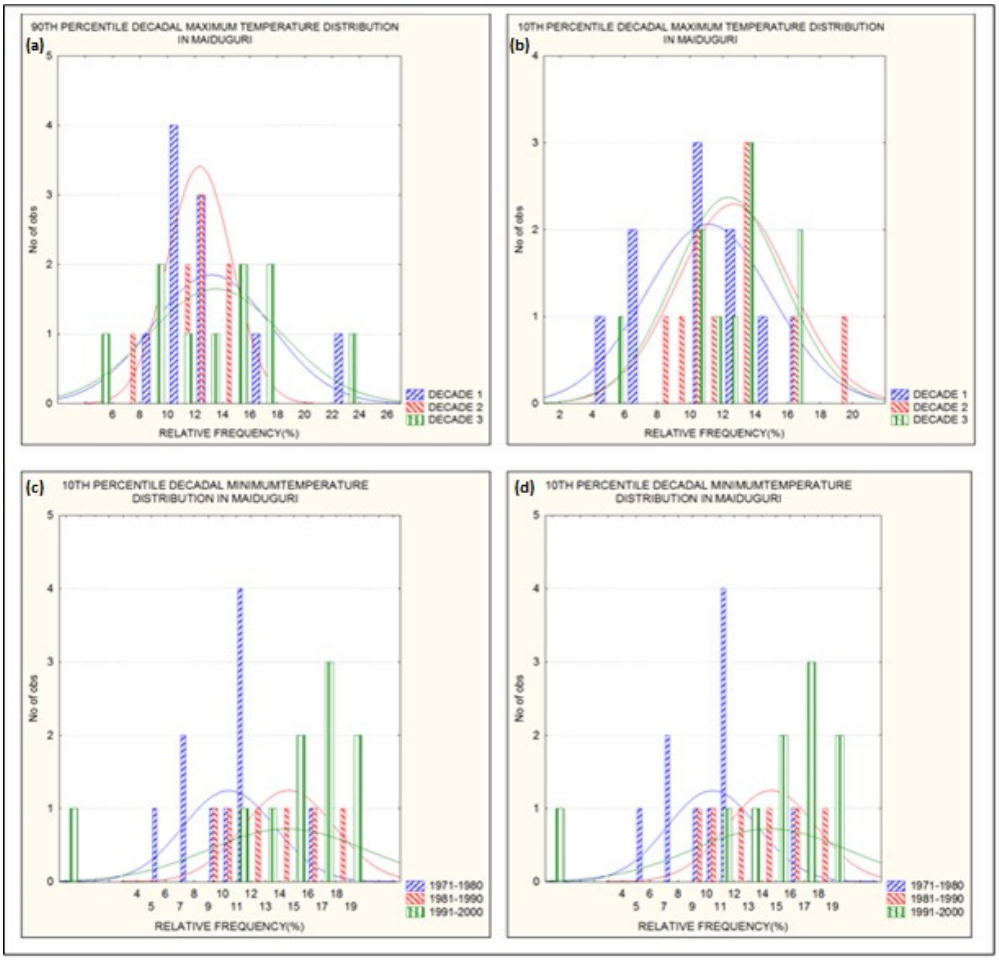

Fig 6. Decadal Minimum and Maximum Temperature Distribution in Maiduguri

4. Conclusion

This study has provided valuable insights about maximum and minimum temperature over Ikeja (Lagos), Osogbo (Osun) and Maiduguri (Borno), Nigeria, West Africa. It reveals that there is significant increase in warm time hour over the year and a decrease in the cold time hour. The increase in the warm time hour may be attributed to increase in carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases resulting from human activities. The increase in anthropogenic activities causes a radioactive heating that traps solar energy in the atmosphere that would otherwise be dissipated back into the space. The increase in the warm and cold time hour is more pronounced in the latter decades in recent years.

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