

CITY OF PHOENIX WEEKLY HEAT RESPONSE UPDATE

MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2022

REVIEWING MONDAY, JUNE 6–SUNDAY, JUNE 12

Summary

The first major heat event of the season set and tied multiple records for daytime and overnight temperatures and caused significant public health impacts. Among the records, the high temperature on June 11 was 114°F, tying a record set in 1918. An Excessive Heat Watch is in effect for Thursday, June 16, but significant cooling is expected for the weekend with a chance of thunderstorms and rain.

Heat-related calls to the Phoenix Fire Department spiked last week. The 136 calls received between June 6 and 12 accounted for more than one-third of all heat-related calls received this year. The City continues to expand its heat response programs and services. 25 of the City's 31 heat response programs and services are fully or partially operational, with another program moved to fully operational status last week. New heat relief options including an air conditioned tent were added in the vicinity of the Human Services Campus to help people experiencing homelessness.

I. RECENT AND YEAR-TO-DATE WEATHER CONDITIONS

The previous week brought seven straight days of above normal temperatures. Daily highs consistently reached 105°F or above, and there were three straight days at 113°F and above at the end of the week. This stretch pushed the average daily high temperature for warm season 2022 (April 1 to present) up to 0.92°F warmer than the same period in 2021 and 3.9°F warmer than the climatological normal for the same period.

	Daily High °F	Normal High °F	vs. Normal °F	Daily Low °F	Normal Low °F	vs. Normal °F
Mon 6-06	105	102	3	79	75.7	3.3
Tues 6-07	107	102.3	4.7	missing	76	missing
Weds 6-08	110	102.6	7.4	84	76.3	7.7
Thurs 6-09	109	102.9	6.1	84	76.6	7.4
Fri 6-10	113	103.2	9.8	87	77	10
Sat 6-11	114	103.5	10.5	90	77.3	12.7
Sun 6-12	113	103.7	9.3	87	77.6	9.4

100°F AND 110°F DAY TRACKER

	Year to Date (2022)	Year to Date (2020)	Normal Year to Date
100°F days	23	29	18.1
110°F days	4	5	1.2

Notes: Year to Date statistics for 2020 are included as a point of comparison to the hottest summer in the recorded history of Phoenix by most climatological measures. Normal is defined based on the 1991–2020 time period.

HEAT WARNING TRACKER

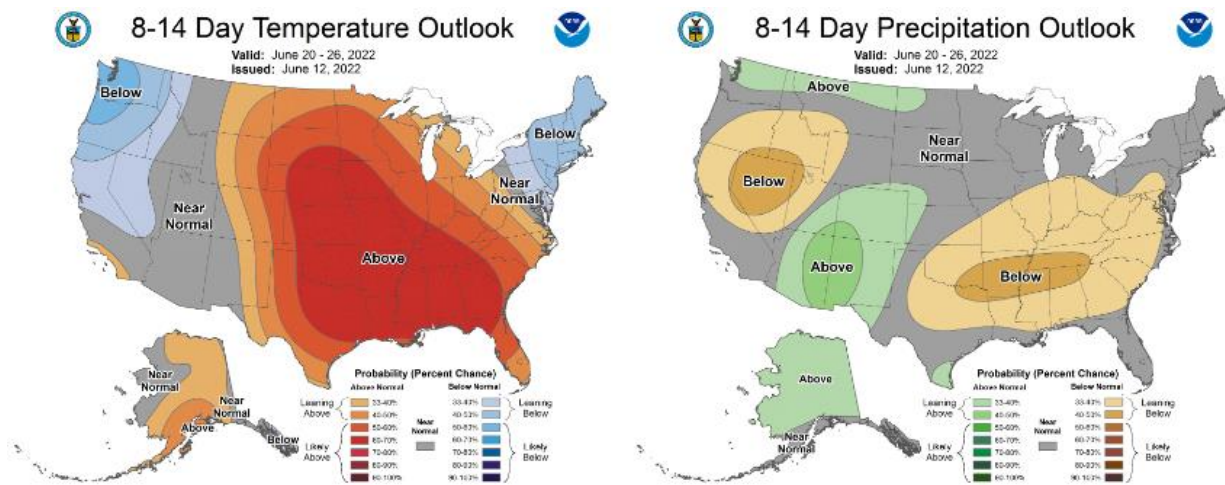
The first Excessive Heat Warning of the year was in effect for 5 days last week (Wednesday June 8 – Sunday June 12). Last summer, Excessive Heat Warnings were in effect for 9 days in the month of June. The record for Excessive Heat Warning days in June is 14, set in 2017.

2. NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FORECAST

There are no Very High Heat Risk days in the forecast for the upcoming week, but every day will have at least Moderate to High Heat Risk. Thursday is forecast to be the hottest day and could have an Excessive Heat Warning in effect, with an Excessive Heat Watch issued as early as today. Forecast models continue to support a major shift in the weather pattern heading into the weekend that would bring a significant increase in moisture and a reasonable chance for the first precipitation of the warm season.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
107	105	108	114	110	104	104
	82	80	81	87	86	82
No risk.		Risk to those extremely sensitive to heat.	Risk to those sensitive to heat.	Risk to most people.	Risk to everyone.	
None		Low	Moderate	High	Very High	

The early forecast for the following week (June 20–June 26) has near-normal temperatures and conditions favorable for above-average precipitation.



3. HEAT-HEALTH DATA

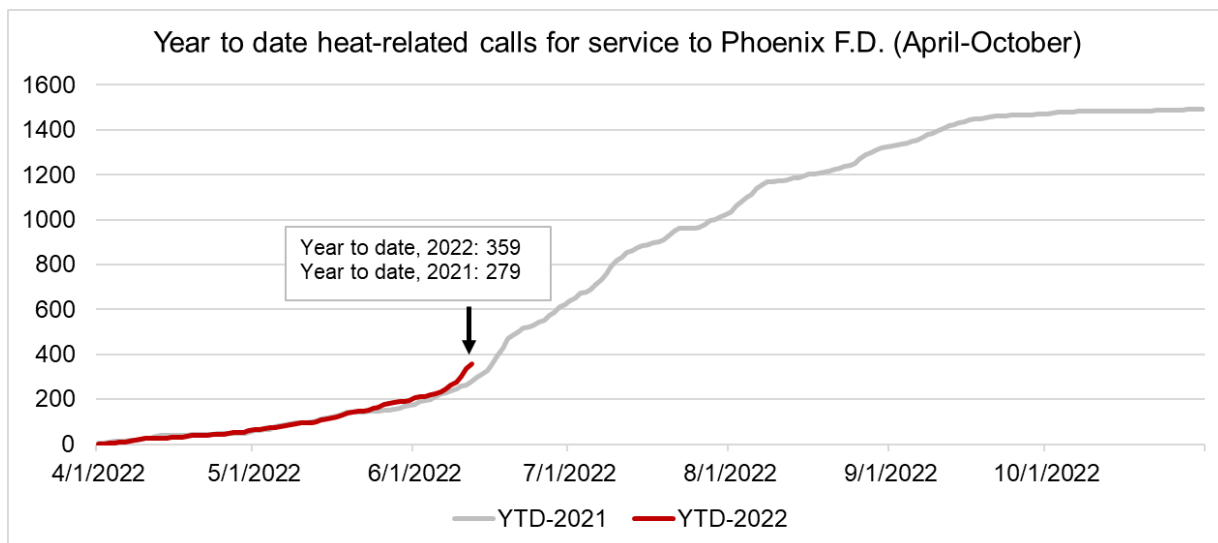
HEAT-RELATED MORTALITY AND MORBIDITY

The Maricopa County Department of Public Health continues to report one confirmed heat-associated death for 2022. As of their June 4 report, there are 29 additional cases under investigation, an addition of 9 cases from the prior week. MCDPH heat-health reports are available online: <https://www.maricopa.gov/1858/Heat-Surveillance>.

HEAT-RELATED CALLS FOR SERVICE TO PHOENIX FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Phoenix Fire Department responded to 136 calls for service identified by the dispatcher to be related to heat over the previous week. This represented an increase of 105 cases (339%) above the week prior. Advanced life support systems were deployed for 40 of the 136 calls. In 2021, the same 7-day period had 52 calls for service related to heat, with considerably lower temperatures. Saturday, June 11 (high temperature 114°F), had 38 heat-related calls for service, setting a new daily high for the year by a significant margin. June 19 had the most heat-related calls last year with 43, with a high temperature of 116°F. (Note: heat dispatch call data typically do not reflect mountain rescues related to overheating and/or dehydration).

Year to date, heat-related calls for service to the Phoenix Fire Department are now running approximately 29% higher than 2021.



4. COMMUNITY SEARCH DATA

PHOENIX 3-1-1

There were 16 resident inquires made through Phoenix 3-1-1 for the period June 6–June 10 that were related to summer heat, a decrease of 5 calls from the week prior. The majority of calls continued to be related to public and private swimming pools. For the first time this summer a 311 call was received with a report of a dehydrated individual, which was referred to 911. Another call was received related to trailhead closures associated with the Excessive Heat Warning.

ARIZONA 2-1-1






Requests for electrical utility assistance fielded by Arizona 2-1-1 increased over the previous week, with 213 calls placed in Maricopa County.

GOOGLE SEARCH

Google staff members are preparing a prototype customized dashboard for monitoring heat-health impacts and search queries related to heat for the City of Phoenix that will be tested and evaluated this summer. Publicly available Google Trends data for Arizona showed a sharp increase in search inquiries related to heat exhaustion, heat stroke, air conditioners, and heat warnings. There was a moderate increase in searches for swimming pools and no clear trend in searches related to cooling centers.

5. STATUS OF HEAT RESPONSE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Program status indicated by color in status column. Updates are provided in the right-hand column as relevant to program planning and implementation.

	Fully operational (21 programs)
	Partially operational (4 programs)
	Planning and preparation (6 programs)
	No action to date (0 programs)
	No information available this week (0 programs)

City of Phoenix Heat Response Programs and Services – Summer 2022				
Initiative	Target population	Lead depts.	Status	Updates
FOCUS AREA 1. Situational awareness at City Hall and real-time response				
1.1 First responder services	ALL	FIRE, PD		Normal operations.
1.2 Reciprocal relationship with 3-1-1 and 2-1-1	ALL	OHRM, 311		More search terms and customized analysis will be added in future reports.
1.3 Real-time monitoring of weather and health data with AZ Heat Resilience Work Group	ALL	OHRM		Normal operations. The work group meets biweekly on Thursday afternoons during the summer with participation from multiple city departments.
1.4 Enhancing heat response resources for first responders	ALL	OHRM, PD		Planning continues with OHRM and PD staff.
1.5 Pilot program with Google search data for public health	ALL	OHRM		Pilot dashboard in development. Additional planning conversations forthcoming.
1.6 Weekly status reports	CITY DEPTS	OHRM		Sixth report distributed June 13.
FOCUS AREA 2. Public engagement, communications, and outreach				
2.1 Multi-platform Heat Safety Messaging	ALL	COMMS, OHRM		Summer safety messaging has transitioned to full operational mode. More than 20 heat-related posts appeared on the City's primary Twitter account over the previous week, including new content produced by the Communications team this year.
2.2 We're Cool Volunteer Program	UNSHELTERED, HIKERS	VOL, OHRM, FIRE		22 outreach shifts have been completed, with 17 focusing on street outreach and 5 at City trailheads. More than 1100 contacts have been made through this program with nearly 1300 water bottles distributed. Additional supplies distributed include hats, sunscreen, cooling center maps, heat safety cards, cooling towels, misters, and umbrellas. Staff from OHRM, HSD, VOL, TRANSIT and FIRE, and volunteers from CERT have participated. APS contributed 7 volunteers for one shift the previous week and has committed to additional engagement.
2.3 Cool Callers Volunteer Program	LIVING ALONE, LIMITED COOLING	VOL, OHRM		Public enrollment has opened and volunteer training is underway. The first program participant signed up on June 10.
2.4 Let's Talk Heat Booklet	ALL	A&C		Booklets are being printed and are expected to ready for distribution at community events soon. A digital version is available on the City website (link available below).
2.5 Investments in Cooling Center Signage	ALL	OHRM, VOL		New signs for cooling centers are being distributed to City facilities and community partners through multiple channels, including the Cooling Center Response Network platform.
2.6 **NEW** Heat Relief Resource Distribution	ALL	OHRM, VOL		Distribution of heat relief supplies to community organizations continues this week. More than 25 organizations have been allocated supplies with more than 20,000 individual items committed.
FOCUS AREA 3. Publicly accessible cool space and drinking water				
3.1 Supporting the regional Heat Relief Network	ALL	OHRM, LIBRARY, PARKS, HSD		56 City facilities are participating as cooling centers or hydration stations. Staff from multiple departments are supporting Heat Relief Network participation, including managing water distribution.

3.2 Reusable water bottle pilot program	ALL	OHRM, PUBLIC WORKS		Staff are continuing to distribute bottles from an initial inventory of 5,000 reusable aluminum water bottles through the We're Cool Program. A qualifying bid for a larger order has been secured through an RFQ.
3.3 Shade and shelter enhancements at and near the Human Services Campus	UNSHELTERED	HSD		Staff implemented a new cooling tent at 9 th Avenue and Jackson on June 11 that will operate through the summer, and continue to explore opportunities to improve cooling and water access in this area.
3.4 New shelter at 28 th St. and Washington St.	UNSHELTERED	HSD		The shelter is fully operating with high demand and use.
3.5 Provision of portable water tanks	ALL	WATER, OHRM		Staff continue to explore viable options and possible funding sources.
FOCUS AREA 4. Supporting cool and safe home environments				
4.1 Cooling ordinance and landlord tenant program	RENTERS	NSD, HSD		Normal operations.
4.2 Housing repair programs and weatherization	LIMITED HOME COOLING	NSD		Normal operations. Expansion of the home weatherization program is being considered through ARPA funding.
4.3 Emergency utility assistance	LOW INCOME	HSD		Normal operations.
4.4 Suspension of water shutoffs	LOW INCOME	WATER		Normal operations.
4.5 Navigating utility disconnection rules	LOW INCOME	OHRM, COMMS		Web content is being prepared to disseminate through City platforms and channels. OHRM and 311 staff have reviewed existing rules to ensure accurate communication to residents.
FOCUS AREA 5. Supporting cool and safe mobility and recreation				
5.1 Take a Hike, Do it Right	HIKERS	PARKS		Normal operations. Closure of Piestewa Peak and Camelback summit trailheads during 11am-5pm is anticipated for several days during the upcoming heat event.
5.2 Adding shade structures at transit stops	TRANSIT USERS	TRANSIT		Normal operations.
5.3 Valley Metro real-time transit tracking	TRANSIT USERS	TRANSIT		Normal operations.
5.4 ARPA-funded transit passes	NON-PROFIT ORGS AND THEIR CLIENTS	TRANSIT		Normal operations.
5.5 City pools	ALL	PARKS		City pools have opened for summer 2022.
5.6 SunBlock Umbrella Distribution	ALL	A&C		Umbrellas are being manufactured using designs sourced from a public art competition. Delivery is anticipated in June.
FOCUS AREA 6. Supporting cool and safe workplaces and schools				
6.1 City employee heat safety efforts	CITY EMPLOYEES	HR SAFETY		Normal operations.
6.2 Promoting ADHS School Heat Safety Toolkit	SCHOOLS	OHRM, COMMS		Messaging content is being prepared to share throughout the summer.
6.3 Reducing and reporting workplace heat safety concerns	EMPLOYERS, EMPLOYEES	OHRM, COMMS, HR SAFETY		Messaging content is being prepared to share throughout the summer, staff are planning cross-departmental meeting to discuss engagement with state agencies including ADHS and ADOSH.

Department key: OHRM – Office of Heat Response and Mitigation; PD – Police; COMMS – Communications; VOL – Volunteer Programs; A&C – Arts and Culture; HSD – Human Services Department; NSD – Neighborhood Services Department.

6. HEAT RESPONSE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

New Cooling Tent near Human Services Campus: Ahead of the first major heat event of the season, the City of Phoenix spearheaded an effort to add new heat relief options for people experiencing homelessness in the vicinity of the Human Services Campus. A new air-conditioned enclosed tent provides seating capacity for approximately 100 people and will be open daily through September. Staff members from Human Services, the City Manager's Office, Volunteer Programs, Parks and Recreation, Heat Response and Mitigation, and the Office of Council District 7 supported the launch of the new amenities. Public transit provided a City bus that added additional cooling capacity over the weekend.



7. REGIONAL AND NATIONAL HIGHLIGHT

The City of Tempe is operating a mobile cooling center called “Jenny’s Trailer” this summer. The 20-foot trailer is powered by solar energy and includes air conditioning, Wifi, and cold water. Funding was provided by multiple partners including the Honorable Jenny Norton and Arizona State University.



8. HEAT SAFETY – DID YOU KNOW?

Research regarding the efficacy of fans as cooling strategies continues to evolve. At temperatures of 100°F and above, with low humidity, fans can be counterproductive cooling strategies for older individuals because they accelerate dehydration and convective heat gain. Young healthy adults can safely use fans with air temperatures at 108°F or below.

KEY WEBSITES

[City of Phoenix Office of Heat Response and Mitigation](#)
[City of Phoenix Let's Talk Heat Booklet](#)
[City of Phoenix Heat Relief Supply Request Form for Community Organizations](#)
[National Weather Service Phoenix Forecast Office Heat Page](#)
[Maricopa Association of Governments Heat Relief Network](#)
[Maricopa County Department of Public Health Heat-Health Surveillance Program](#)
[Arizona Department of Health Services Climate and Health Program](#)

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