

## CITY OF PHOENIX WEEKLY HEAT RESPONSE UPDATE

MONDAY, JUNE 27, 2022

REVIEWING MONDAY, JUNE 20–SUNDAY, JUNE 26

### Summary

Astronomical summer kicked off with a week of consistent and seasonally typical temperatures. Elevated moisture is keeping daytime highs relatively constrained, but also limiting nighttime cooling. Moderate temperatures in the low-to-mid 100s are expected for the July 4 weekend. No significant heat events are expected the next two weeks, but temperatures will remain of concern for public health.

The pace of heat-related calls to the Phoenix Fire Department remained steady relative to the week prior with an average of approximately 12 per day. Year-to-date calls continue to trend slightly **below** the pace from 2021. Three confirmed heat-related deaths were added to the Maricopa County records, which show a higher year-to-date total than 2021. The first telephone calls to residents through the Cool Callers program were made on June 24, and both heat safety outreach programs continue to receive additional volunteer interest.

### I. RECENT AND YEAR-TO-DATE WEATHER CONDITIONS

Temperatures were consistently near climatological averages over the previous week. An increase in atmospheric moisture constrained daily high temperatures. This moisture also limited nighttime cooling, until an increase in thunderstorm activity over the weekend pushed nighttime lows below seasonal averages. This was the first full week in June without a daytime high reaching 110°F or a nighttime low failing to dip below 90°F. After the previous week, the average temperature for warm season 2022 (April 1 to present) remains comparable to the same period in 2021 (0.03°F warmer) and 3.5°F higher than the climatological normal.

	Daily High °F	Normal High °F	vs. Normal °F	Daily Low °F	Normal Low °F	vs. Normal °F
Mon 6-20	103	105.5	-2.5	75	80	-5
Tues 6-21	108	105.6	2.4	79	80.3	-1.3
Weds 6-22	107	105.8	1.2	86	80.6	5.4
Thurs 6-23	108	106	2	84	80.9	3.1
Fri 6-24	108	106.1	1.9	85	81.2	3.8
Sat 6-25	107	106.2	0.8	79	81.5	-2.5
Sun 6-26	107	106.3	0.7	80	81.7	-1.7

## HOT DAYS AND NIGHTS TRACKER

	Year to Date (2022)	Year to Date (2020)	Normal Year to Date
100°F days	36	43	30.7
110°F days	6	9	4.0
85°F nights	7	3	2.4

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

No Excessive Heat Warnings were issued last week. There have been 6 days with Excessive Heat Warnings this June. 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.

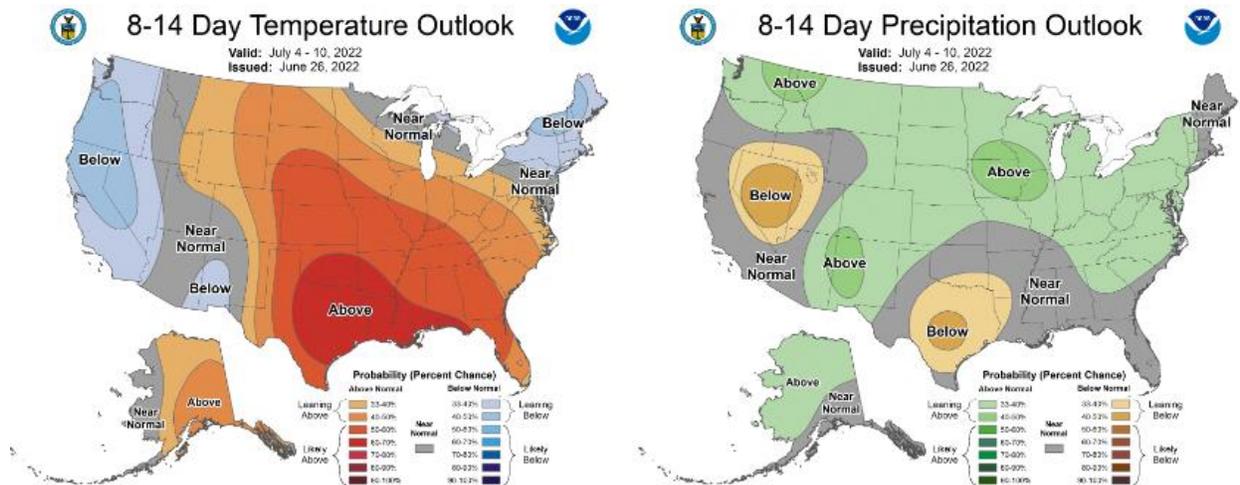
## 2. NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FORECAST

Moderate Heat Risk is forecast to continue for every day of the upcoming week with daily high temperatures in a narrow range between 104°F and 109°F. Temperatures will peak on Tuesday and Wednesday, before higher precipitation probabilities return to the forecast for the second half of the week.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
105	108	109	104	104	106	106
88	90	87	86	86	86	87

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 week of July 4<sup>th</sup> suggests that temperatures and rainfall probabilities will continue to trend near climatological averages.



### 3. HEAT-HEALTH DATA

#### HEAT-RELATED MORTALITY AND MORBIDITY

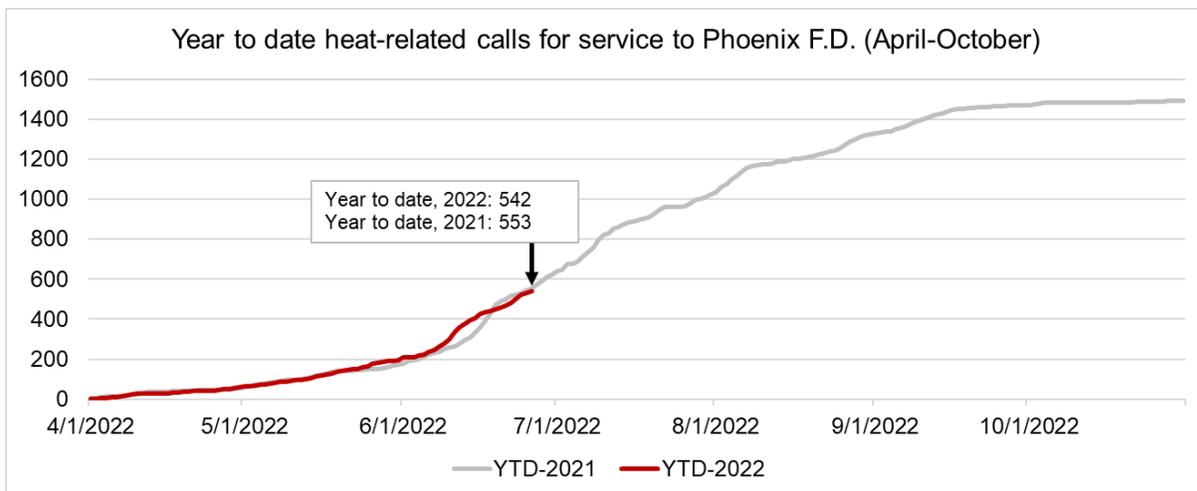
The Maricopa County Department of Public Health is now reporting 6 confirmed heat-associated death for 2022, an increase of 2 from the previous reporting period. As of their June 18 report, there are 62 additional cases under investigation, an addition of 18 cases from the prior week. MCDPH heat-health 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 92 calls for service identified by the dispatcher to be related to heat over the previous week. This was nearly the same number of calls as the week prior (91 calls). Advanced life support systems were deployed for 29 of the 92 calls. In 2021, the same 7-day period had 83 calls for service related to heat, with similar high temperatures (average high temperature of about 107°F both in 2021 and 2022. The highest daily number of calls over the previous week occurred on Thursday June 23 (high of 108°F), with 20 heat-related calls, which was similar to the daily maximum number of calls last week (19 calls). 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 2% **lower** than 2021.

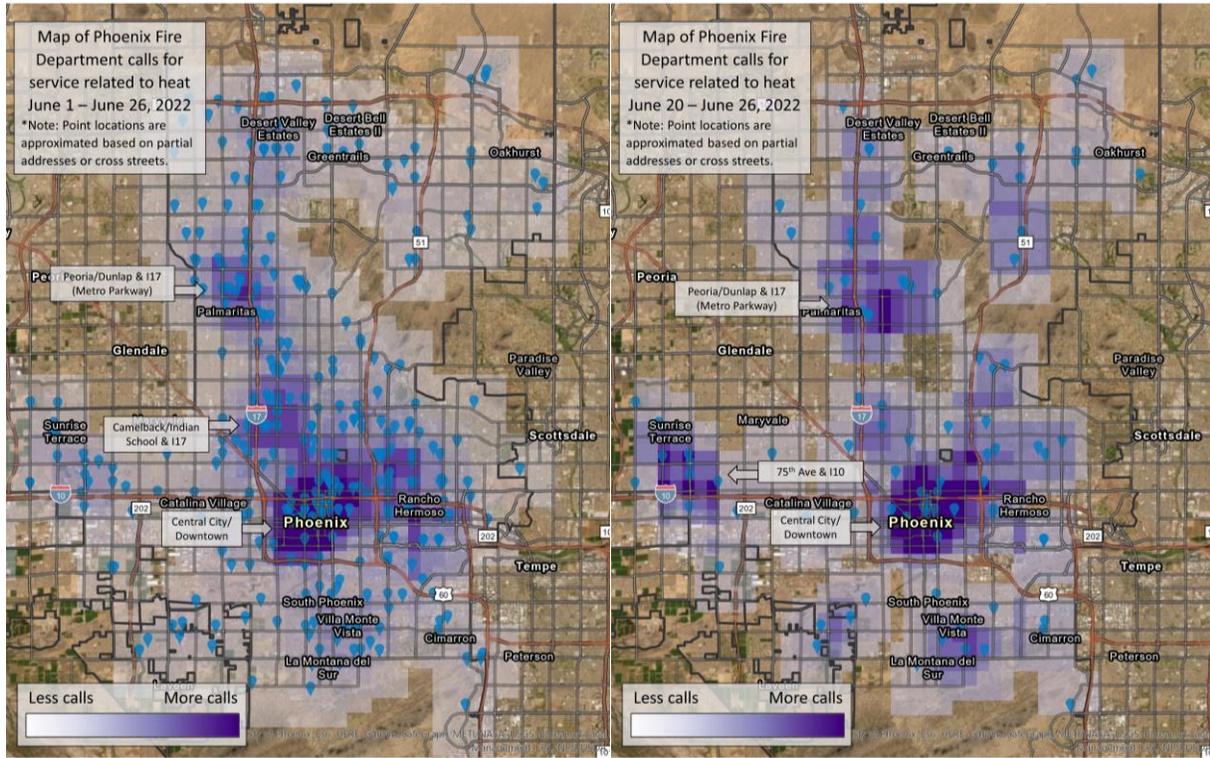


Spatially, for the month of June to date (through June 26), heat-related calls for service have been concentrated in three areas: Central City/Downtown, east of the I-17 between Camelback Rd and Indian School Rd, and west of the I-17 between Peoria Ave and Dunlap Ave.

Over the past week, the areas of concentration remained mostly the same, however one area around 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the I-10 had a larger volume of calls compared to previous weeks and surrounding areas.

### Month of June to date

### Last week



## 4. COMMUNITY SEARCH DATA

### PHOENIX 3-1-1

There were 15 resident inquires made through Phoenix 3-1-1 for the period June 20–June 24 that were related to summer heat, an increase of 5 calls from the week prior. Approximately half of these calls were related to aquatics. Other topics of interest included trail hours and closures, landlord tenant issues related to cooling, downed trees, cool pavement, pool permitting, and contact information for the Office of Heat Response and Mitigation.

## ARIZONA 2-1-1

There were 256 requests for electrical utility assistance fielded by Arizona 2-1-1 over the previous week in Maricopa County. This represented a 25% decrease from the previous week.

## 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 recent declines in searches for heat illness, heat stroke, air conditioning, heat warnings, and swimming pools. There remains no clear trend in searches for 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 (0 programs)

City of Phoenix Heat Response Programs and Services – Summer 2022				
Initiative	Target population	Lead depts.	Status	Updates
FOCUS AREA I. 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		Eighth report distributed June 27.

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 and includes new content produced by the Communications team this year.
2.2 We're Cool Volunteer Program	UNSHELTERED, HIKERS	VOL, OHRM, FIRE		31 outreach shifts have been completed, with 26 focusing on street outreach and 5 at City trailheads. Nearly 1400 contacts have been made through this program. Supplies distributed include water, 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 and Council Offices have participated. Onboarding of new volunteers continues.
2.3 Cool Callers Volunteer Program	LIVING ALONE, LIMITED COOLING	VOL, OHRM		Initial calls were made during the previous week and enrollment of additional participants and volunteers continues.
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 Heat Relief Resource Distribution	ALL	OHRM, VOL		The inventory of heat relief supplies is being restocked and fulfillment of new orders has been temporarily paused. More than 30 organizations have been allocated supplies with more than 28,000 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. Staff are filling requests from community organizations for printed maps showing locations of nearby cooling centers and hydration stations.
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 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> 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. Staff continue to develop neighborhood prioritization criteria for expansion of home weatherization with ARPA funding and are exploring collaborative opportunities with NOAA.
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.
<b>FOCUS AREA 5. Supporting cool and safe mobility and recreation</b>				
5.1 Take a Hike, Do it Right	HIKERS	PARKS		Normal operations. Piestewa Peak and Camelback summit trailheads have closed during Excessive Heat Warnings, as planned.
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.
<b>FOCUS AREA 6. Supporting cool and safe workplaces and schools</b>				
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 for the start of the 2022-2023 school year later this 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

Heat relief network maps: The City’s Volunteer Programs Office and Office of Heat Response and Mitigation have teamed up this year to produce customized Heat Relief Network maps for organizations that would benefit from and/or distribute printed copies. To date, approximately 15 separate maps have been developed that highlight cooling centers and hydration stations within a few-mile radius of a given location. These maps complement the fully interactive web map hosted by the Maricopa Association of Governments. Staff have also started providing maps to local businesses and community organizations that can help build awareness of the Heat Relief Network. Departments and partners that may be interested in receiving customized maps can contact [heatreadyphx@phoenix.gov](mailto:heatreadyphx@phoenix.gov).



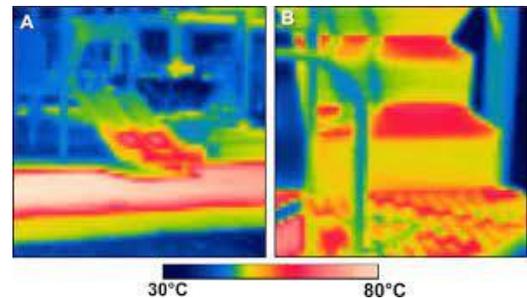
## 7. REGIONAL AND NATIONAL HIGHLIGHT

The Nature Conservancy-Arizona and Phoenix Revitalization Corporation are hosting an Urban Heat Leadership Academy for the second consecutive summer. Over the course of a five-month program, participants work collaboratively and with learning partners to become more prepared to engage with and advocate for cooler and healthier communities. Course topics include science and solutions for heat, water, and air quality challenges, knowledge of local political systems, and opportunities to advocate for community needs. Multiple City staff have contributed to course modules as learning partners.



## 8. HEAT SAFETY – DID YOU KNOW?

Playgrounds are fun, but when exposed to the sun, some playground equipment can become dangerously hot. In full sun, the surface temperature of plastic slides and rubber cushioning can be hot enough to cause second-degree burns in three seconds. Supervising adults should always use a “touch test” before allowing children to play on equipment to ensure it is sufficiently cool and safe.



## 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](#)

Questions about this report may be directed to David Hondula, Director of Heat Response and Mitigation: [david.hondula@phoenix.gov](mailto:david.hondula@phoenix.gov).