

CITY OF PHOENIX WEEKLY HEAT RESPONSE REPORT

SEPTEMBER 18, 2023

REVIEWING SEPTEMBER 11–17

Summary

- The upcoming week is expected to be mild with no day exceeding Minor HeatRisk.
- Heat-health impacts have dropped considerably below July and August peaks.
- Internal and external partners will be invited to participate in post-season evaluation activities beginning in October.

1. NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FORECAST

Temperatures are forecast to dip below seasonal normals for the remainder of the week with highs dipping below 100°F. Breezy conditions are expected for the middle of the week but precipitation chances are nearly zero. Computer models suggest that temperatures could push back above 100°F next week but there are no indications that Heat Warning thresholds will be approached.

Tue Sep 19	Wed Sep 20	Thu Sep 21	Fri Sep 22	Sat Sep 23	Sun Sep 24
100	97	98	95	97	98
77	74	73	74	74	73
No risk.	Risk to those extremely sensitive to heat.	Risk to those sensitive to heat.	Risk to most people.	Risk to everyone.	
None	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme	

NWS Phoenix Heat Dashboard: <https://www.weather.gov/psr/heat>

2. HEAT-HEALTH DATA

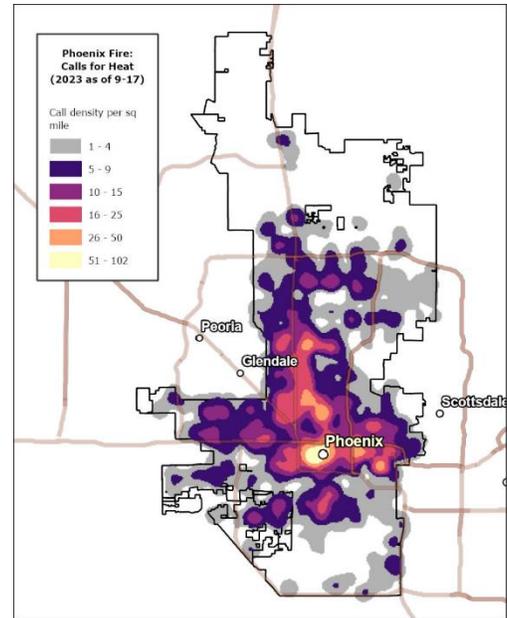
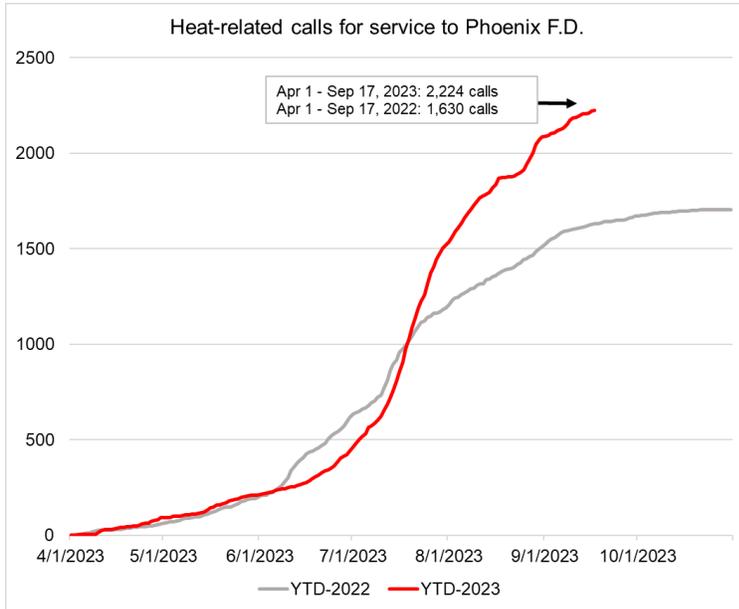
HEAT-RELATED MORTALITY AND MORBIDITY

The Maricopa County Department of Public Health has confirmed 202 heat-associated deaths countywide for 2023 as of September 9, with 356 additional cases under investigation. 149 of the confirmed cases were associated with outdoor exposure, and 84 were among people experiencing homelessness. At the same time last year, there were 175 confirmed cases, with 238 under investigation. All MCDPH heat-health reports are available online:

<https://www.maricopa.gov/1858/Heat-Surveillance>.

HEAT-RELATED CALLS FOR SERVICE TO PHOENIX FIRE DEPARTMENT

As of September 17, 2023, the Phoenix Fire Department has responded to 2,224 calls for heat-related illness this summer. This call volume is 36% higher than last year's total at this time. The number of calls has dropped significantly from the summer peak—this week's call volume (40 calls) was the lowest one-week total since early June. Year-to-date, the highest concentration of heat-related calls for service has been the Central City/Downtown area (accounting for ~18% of calls). The second highest call density has been the I-17 corridor between Thomas Rd & Peoria Ave (~16% of calls), especially around 7th/19th Ave & Camelback/Indian School Rd.



*Note: areas on the map below in pink/orange/yellow indicate areas of higher concentration.

3. DEPARTMENT AND PROGRAM REPORTS

- Heat Relief Network facilities:
 - There are 44 city facilities serving as cooling centers or hydration stations. All regional sites are mapped by MAG: <https://hrn.azmag.gov/>. Free transportation to cooling centers is available 8am-5pm daily through Arizona 211. Heat Relief Network programs typically run through September 30.
 - The city bus serving as a temporary cooling center near the Human Services Campus concluded service on September 4. Construction trailers recently donated to the Human Services Campus are now providing heat relief outside of the Campus property.
- Heat Response and Mitigation / Volunteer Programs:
 - The We're Cool program has exceeded 7,700 engagements across 65 shifts with more than 1,800 hours of volunteer time contributed thus far.
 - The new downtown Heat Relief station located Cesar Chavez Plaza will remain operational through September.
 - The City of Phoenix has distributed 8,784 cases of water (~320,256 bottles) to 35 community partners. An additional 3,648 cases (~72,568) bottles) have been distributed to City departments participating in the Heat Relief Network.
- City departments reported no experienced or anticipated service impacts over the prior week and continue to promote available resources.
- The Office of Heat Response and Mitigation will be coordinating the annual evaluation of the city's heat response initiatives and inviting participation from city departments and external partners beginning in October.

4. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS OF NOTE

- Arizona Heat Resilience Work Group**
 Meets the first and third Thursday of each month at 3pm during the summer
<https://asu.zoom.us/j/89813795064> (first Thursday)
<https://asu.zoom.us/j/83924761104> (third Thursday)
- Regional Cooling Center Work Group**
 Meets the third Tuesday of each month at 2pm
<https://asu.zoom.us/j/87075809286>
- Phoenix Environmental Quality and Sustainability Commission**
 Typically meets the second Thursday of each month at 3pm
 Meetings posted at <https://www.phoenix.gov/cityclerk/publicmeetings/notices>

5. YEAR-TO-DATE WEATHER CONDITIONS (AS OF SEPTEMBER 17)

HOT DAYS AND NIGHTS TRACKER

	Year to Date (2023)	Year to Date (2022)	Normal Year to Date
100°F days	111	104	101.8
110°F days	55 (new record)	22	20.8
85°F nights	59 (new record)	49	36.5

Note: Normal is defined based on the 1991–2020 time period.

HEAT WARNING TRACKER

No Excessive Heat Warnings are in effect or anticipated at this time.

MONTHLY AVERAGE TEMPERATURES (COMPLETED MONTHS)

	Average High (2023)	Average High (2022)	Normal Average High
April	88.0	90.1	85.6
May	96.0	97.6	94.6
June	103.3	106.5	104.4
July	114.7 (new record)	107.5	106.5
August	109.5 (2 nd highest all-time)	103.5	105.1

Note: Normal is defined based on the 1991–2020 time period.

Questions about this report may be directed to Michelle Litwin, Heat Response Program Manager in the Office of Heat Response and Mitigation: michelle.litwin@phoenix.gov