

**CITY OF PHOENIX  
WEEKLY HEAT RESPONSE UPDATE**

**MONDAY, MAY 16, 2022**

**REVIEWING MONDAY, MAY 9–SUNDAY, MAY 15**

**Summary**

The highest temperatures of 2022 to date were observed over the weekend of May 14-15. Heat-related calls for service to the Phoenix Fire Department hit year-to-date highs over the same time period. Health and search data continue to suggest a modest, but slowly increasing, community impact of extreme heat. Water supplies and new signage are being distributed to cooling centers and hydration stations in the City of Phoenix. The We're Cool program has reached 400 points of contact and spread awareness of heat relief resources and services for homelessness. Temperatures are forecast to be above seasonal normal over the upcoming week, with most days classified as Moderate Heat Risk. 22 of the City's 31 heat response programs and services are fully or partially operational.

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

After a relatively cool start to the week, above-average conditions arrived for the weekend with two consecutive days at or above 104°F. The daily high of 105°F on Sunday, May 15 was the highest temperature observed at Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport this year.

	<b>Daily High °F</b>	<b>Normal High °F</b>	<b>Departure from Normal °F</b>	<b>Daily Low °F</b>	<b>Normal Low °F</b>	<b>Departure from Normal °F</b>
May 9	89	91.9	-2.9	68	67.4	0.6
May 10	90	92.2	-2.2	66	67.7	-1.7
May 11	89	92.6	-3.6	66	68	-2
May 12	86	92.9	-6.9	59	68.3	-9.3
May 13	96	93.3	2.7	62	68.6	-6.6
May 14	104	93.7	10.3	68	68.9	-0.9
May 15	105	94	11	71	69.2	1.8

## 100°F AND 110°F DAY TRACKER

	Year to Date	Normal Year to Date
100°F days	3	4.3
110°F days	0	0

## HEAT WARNING TRACKER

No Excessive Heat Warnings have been issued year to date. Excessive Heat Warnings have been issued in the month of May in 3 of the past 10 years.

## 2. FORECAST WEATHER CONDITIONS

The National Weather Service forecast for the upcoming week has temperatures consistently at or above seasonal normal. Moderate HeatRisk is forecast for the majority of the week, with a minor reprieve on Friday and Saturday. No precipitation and only occasional light cloud cover is expected.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
104	102	100	100	98	100	104
	74	74	73	72	72	74

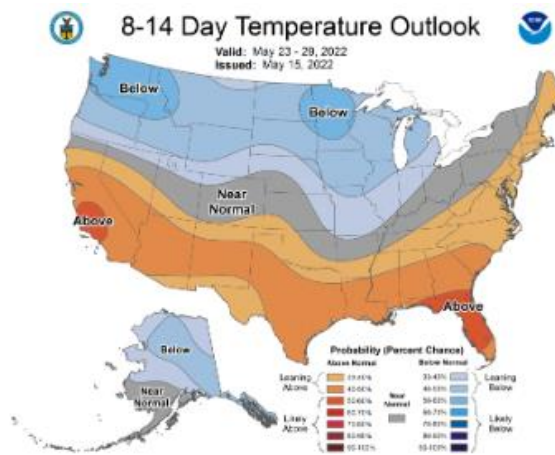
No risk.	Risk to those extremely sensitive to heat.	Risk to those sensitive to heat.	Risk to most people.	Risk to everyone.
None	Low	Moderate	High	Very High

The following week (May 23–29) brings a shift in the regional weather pattern away from strong high pressure in the West, but the odds remain tilted toward above-normal temperatures.

**Above: 43%**  
**Near: 33%**  
**Below: 24%**

Probability of the average temperature during next week being above, near, or below normal.

[Get more from the NOAA/Climate Prediction Center](#)



### 3. HEAT-HEALTH DATA

#### HEAT-RELATED MORTALITY AND MORBIDITY

There have not been any confirmed heat-associated deaths this year in Maricopa County as of May 16, per the Maricopa County Department of Public Health (MCDPH). The preliminary Yearly Heat Mortality Report for 2021 from MCDPH is available online:

<https://www.maricopa.gov/Archive.aspx?ADID=5404> .

#### HEAT-RELATED CALLS FOR SERVICE TO PHOENIX FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Phoenix Fire Department responded to 25 calls for service identified by the dispatcher to be related to heat over the previous week. This represented an increase of 2 cases (8.7%) above the week prior. Advanced life support systems were deployed for 7 of the 25 calls. In 2021, the same 7-day period had 28 calls for service related to heat, with similar temperatures. Saturday and Sunday, May 14 and 15 (high temperature 104°F-105°F), each had 6 heat-related calls for service, which tied April 30 for the year-to-date high for daily call volume. June 19 had the most heat-related calls last year with 43, with a high temperature of 116°F.

### 4. COMMUNITY SEARCH DATA

#### PHOENIX 3-1-1

There were 19 resident inquiries made through Phoenix 3-1-1 for the period May 9–13 that were related to summer heat, an increase of 3 calls (18.8%) from the week prior. As in the previous week, the majority of calls were related to swimming pools, including inquiries about dates and hours for City pools. One referral was made to the Neighborhood Services Department Home Repair program after a question about air conditioning replacement.

#### ARIZONA 2-1-1

Staff from Arizona 2-1-1 presented at the first May meeting of the Arizona Heat Resilience Work Group to share the range of services offered by 2-1-1. City staff are developing reporting protocol with Arizona 2-1-1.

#### 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 show a recent increase in searches related to heat exhaustion, heat stroke, and swimming pools, but no clear trend in searches related to cooling centers, air conditioning, or heat warnings.

## 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 (13 programs)
	Partially operational (9 programs)
	Planning and preparation (9 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
<b>FOCUS AREA 1. Situational awareness at City Hall and real-time response</b>				
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		Initial working model developed with 311, planning continues with 211.
1.3 Real-time monitoring of weather and health data with Arizona 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 leveraging search data for public health	ALL	OHRM		Pilot dashboard in development. Additional planning conversations forthcoming.
1.6 Weekly status reports	CITY DEPTS	OHRM		Second report distributed May 16.
<b>FOCUS AREA 2. Public engagement, communications, and outreach</b>				
2.1 Multi-platform Heat Safety Messaging	ALL	COMMS, OHRM		Initial summer safety messaging through social media channels and updates to summer and heat safety sections of relevant City websites. Approximately 20 heat-relevant posts were issued on City Twitter accounts, many of which focused on volunteer recruitment. A summer safety media shoot with staff from multiple departments will be held May 10. Planning conversations continued for Arizona Heat Awareness week (May 23-27) with the Arizona Department of Health Services and National Weather Service.
2.2 We're Cool Volunteer Program	UNSHELTERED , HIKERS	VOL, OHRM, FIRE		6 outreach shifts have been completed season to date, with 4 focusing on street outreach and 2 at City trailheads. Approximately 400 contacts have been made through this program with 550 water bottles distributed thus far. Additional supplies distributed include hats, sunscreen, cooling center maps, heat safety cards, cooling towels, misters, and umbrellas. Staff from OHRM, HSD, VOL, and FIRE, and volunteers from CERT, have participated. Volunteer

				recruitment, onboarding, training, and coordination is ongoing.
2.3 Cool Callers Volunteer Program	LIVING ALONE, LIMITED COOLING	VOL, OHRM		Volunteer recruitment and onboarding is ongoing, with training scheduled for the week of May 23. Telephones for volunteer use have been secured.
2.4 Let's Talk Heat Booklet	ALL	A&C		Booklets are being printed and are expected to ready for distribution at community events this month. A digital version is available on the City website (link available below).
2.5 Investments in Cooling Center Signage	ALL	OHRM, VOL		Approximately 1000 yard signs for use at City cooling centers and hydration stations are available for distribution; OHRM staff will be working with departments to distribute signs to individual facilities this week. The Parks department received an initial allocation of 50 signs last week.
2.6 <b>**NEW**</b> Heat Relief Resource Distribution	ALL	OHRM, VOL		Heat relief supplies for distribution to community members and community-based organizations are beginning to arrive. OHRM and VOL staff are coordinating distribution logistics with staff at the PPE warehouse. Most supplies are expected to arrive over the next two weeks. Direct distribution of supplies has started through the We're Cool program; distribution to community-based organizations is expected to begin approximately May 20.
<b>FOCUS AREA 3. Publicly accessible cool space and drinking water</b>				
3.1 Supporting the regional Heat Relief Network	ALL	OHRM, LIBRARY, PARKS, HSD		MAG launched the regional Heat Relief Network map on May 1 (link available later in this document). 42 City facilities are currently participating as Cooling Centers or Hydration Stations, an increase of 5 from the prior week. 14 pools will be added to the network as Hydration Stations when they open on May 29. City Twitter accounts also put out a few social media posts sharing the map and calling for businesses/nonprofits to sign up to become a cooling center.
3.2 Reusable water bottle pilot program	ALL	OHRM, PUBLIC WORKS		Staff are beginning 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		The new sprung structure "Respiro" opened in March and additional restrooms and potable water supply have recently come online.
3.4 New shelter at 28 <sup>th</sup> St. and Washington St.	UNSHELTERED	HSD		Facility preparations are ongoing.
3.5 Provision of portable water tanks	ALL	WATER, OHRM		Staff continue to explore viable options and possible funding sources.
<b>FOCUS AREA 4. Supporting cool and safe home environments</b>				
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.
<b>FOCUS AREA 5. Supporting cool and safe mobility and recreation</b>				
5.1 Take a Hike, Do it Right	HIKERS	PARKS		Normal operations.
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		14 pools are scheduled to open on May 29.
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 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

### REUSABLE & RECYCLABLE WATER BOTTLE PILOT PROGRAM

Staff from multiple departments including Public Works and Heat Response and Mitigation have been exploring options to offset a portion of the hundreds of thousands of single-use plastic water bottles that are distributed through regional heat relief efforts each summer. With grant funding, the City secured 5,000 reusable aluminum water bottles from Mananalú. Mananalú is a climate neutral certified company and removes the equivalent of one plastic bottle from ocean-going water for each bottle purchased. The bottles are fully reusable and recyclable. These bottles are being distributed through the We’re Cool program and other outreach efforts. Staff have received positive feedback on the bottles to date and will be evaluating bottle re-use as outreach sites are revisited throughout the summer.



## 7. REGIONAL AND NATIONAL HIGHLIGHT

National heat season awareness week is taking place May 16-20, with focused messaging efforts from 9 federal agencies including the CDC, EPA, NOAA, and FEMA. Each day of the campaign focuses on individual aspects of extreme heat and public health, including heat-related illness awareness, personal vulnerability factors, outdoor and indoor workers, active populations and athletes, and prevention and preparedness actions.



Arizona heat awareness week will take place May 23-27, with focused messaging from the state's National Weather Service Offices, the Arizona Department of Health Services, and the City of Phoenix. This year the Governor's Office will issue an official proclamation of May 23-27 as Arizona Heat Awareness Week.



## 8. HEAT SAFETY – DID YOU KNOW?

Heat is the leading cause of weather-related death in Arizona, according to the National Weather Service Phoenix Forecast Office and the Arizona Department of Health Services. Over the period 2010–2020, there were 3,091 heat-related deaths in the state. Flooding ranked as the second leading cause of weather-related death, with a total of 35 cases over the same time period.



## KEY WEBSITES

[City of Phoenix Office of Heat Response and Mitigation](#)

[City of Phoenix Let's Talk Heat Booklet](#)

[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 the data in this report and suggestions for additional content and analysis may be directed to David Hondula, Director of Heat Response and Mitigation:

[david.hondula@phoenix.gov](mailto:david.hondula@phoenix.gov).