

## CITY OF PHOENIX WEEKLY HEAT RESPONSE UPDATE

TUESDAY, MAY 31, 2022

REVIEWING MONDAY, MAY 23–SUNDAY, MAY 29

### Summary

The month of May concluded with another warmer-than-normal week. Temperatures have yet to reach thresholds for Excessive Heat Warnings from the National Weather Service, but the warm season is running multiple degrees warmer than normal and nearly 1°F hotter than 2021. While the upcoming week is forecast to bring conditions similar to recent weeks, temperatures are expected to push even higher for the first full week of June, with conditions favorable to reaching 110°F by June 10.

The Phoenix Fire Department saw another week of increasing call volumes related to heat and 2-1-1 data showed another increase in calls for electrical utility assistance. Heat relief supplies will begin to be distributed to community organizations this week and an [online form](#) to request supplies has been circulated. 24 of the City's 31 heat response programs and services are now fully or partially operational, with multiple programs moved to fully operational status over the past week.

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

Temperatures continued to slowly push higher last week with a new year-to-date high of 106°F observed on Friday, May 27. The week also brought a new highest low temperature of the year of 79°F on the same day. The end of the week brought a brief respite with below normal temperatures for the latter part of Memorial Day weekend. The average daily high temperature for warm season 2022 (April 1 to present) is now 0.92°F warmer than the same period in 2021 and 4.1°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 05-23	97	97.1	-0.1	69	71.6	-2.6
Tues 05-24	99	97.5	1.5	73	71.9	1.1
Weds 05-25	103	97.8	5.2	75	72.2	2.8
Thurs 05-26	105	98.2	6.8	78	72.5	5.5
Fri 05-27	106	98.6	7.4	79	72.7	6.3
Sat 05-28	102	98.9	3.1	77	73.0	4.0
Sun 05-29	95	99.3	-4.3	77	73.3	3.7

## 100°F AND 110°F DAY TRACKER

	Year to Date	Normal Year to Date
100°F days	11	8.8
110°F days	0	0.16

## HEAT WARNING TRACKER

No Excessive Heat Warnings have been issued year to date. Excessive Heat Warnings have been issued in the month of June every year since 2009. The first Excessive Heat Warning of 2021 was issued on June 12 and lasted for 9 days.

## 2. NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FORECAST

Low to moderate Heat Risk is forecast for the upcoming week, and another weekend weather system will bring a slight reprieve from the heat with breezy conditions. The short-term forecast remains devoid of any precipitation.

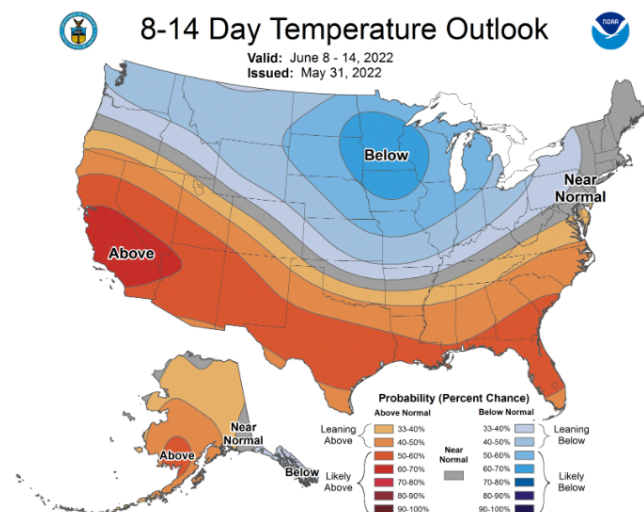
Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
101	105	104	103	103	105	107
73	74	76	76	76	78	80
No risk.	Risk to those extremely sensitive to heat.	Risk to those sensitive to heat.	Risk to most people.	Risk to everyone.		
None	Low	Moderate	High	Very High		

The following week (June 6–June 12) brings a high likelihood of experiencing the hottest weather of the year thus far. Conditions are favorable for an arrival of the first 110°F day of the year close to the climatological normal of June 11.

**Above: 55%**  
**Near: 33%**  
**Below: 12%**

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

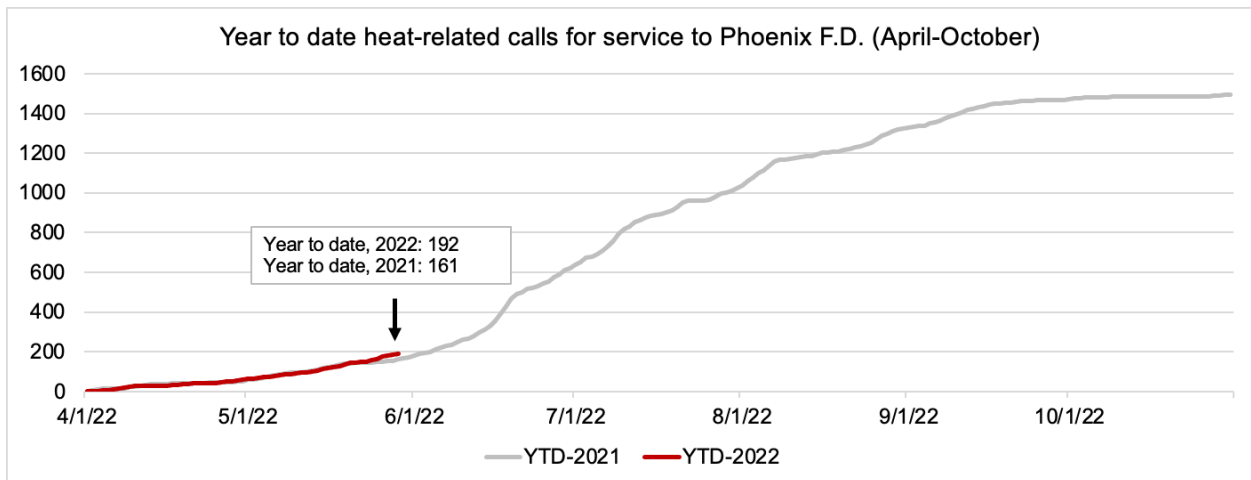
The Maricopa County Department of Public Health continues to report one confirmed heat-associated death for 2022. There are 12 additional cases under investigation, an addition of 5 cases from the prior report. MCDPH heat-health reports are available online:

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

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

The Phoenix Fire Department responded to 44 calls for service identified by the dispatcher to be related to heat over the previous week. This represented an increase of 8 cases (22%) above the week prior. Advanced life support systems were deployed for 14 of the 44 calls. In 2021, the same 7-day period had 18 calls for service related to heat, with much lower temperatures. Thursday, May 26 (high temperature 105°F), had 12 heat-related calls for service, setting a new high for daily call volume year to date. 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 20% higher than 2021.



## 4. COMMUNITY SEARCH DATA

### PHOENIX 3-1-1

There were 14 resident inquiries made through Phoenix 3-1-1 for the period May 23–27 that were related to summer heat, a decrease of 1 call from the week prior. The majority of calls continued to be related to public and private swimming pools. One inquiry was made regarding air conditioner repair and replacement programs that was referred to Neighborhood Services.

### ARIZONA 2-1-1






Requests for electrical utility assistance fielded by Arizona 2-1-1 again reached the highest volume of the 2022 warm season last week, with 182 calls from 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. Staff worked with Google team members over the past week to provide data and parameters to help build the dashboard. Publicly available Google Trends data for Arizona continue to show modest increases in searches related to heat exhaustion, heat stroke, and swimming pools, and inquiries related to air conditioning have continued to increase as well. There is no clear trend in searches related to cooling centers 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 (19 programs)
	Partially operational (5 programs)
	Planning and preparation (7 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		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		Fourth report distributed May 31, following the Memorial Day holiday.
<b>FOCUS AREA 2. Public engagement, communications, and outreach</b>				
2.1 Multi-platform Heat Safety Messaging	ALL	COMMS, OHRM		Summer safety messaging continues to be posted through social media channels and updates to relevant City websites. The Parks and Fire Departments included additional heat safety content on their feeds following multiple heat-related mountain rescues in recent weeks. Additional content was created at the Summer Safety Media Day on May 26.
2.2 We're Cool Volunteer Program	UNSHELTERED, HIKERS	VOL, OHRM, FIRE		13 outreach shifts have been completed, with 9 focusing on street outreach and 4 at City trailheads. Approximately 700 contacts have been made through this program with nearly 900 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, 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 training is underway. Telephones for volunteer use have been secured and caller protocol are being developed.
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 <b>**NEW**</b> Heat Relief Resource Distribution	ALL	OHRM, VOL		Distribution of heat relief supplies to community organizations is beginning this week. A form to request supplies was circulated on May 31.
<b>FOCUS AREA 3. Publicly accessible cool space and drinking water</b>				
3.1 Supporting the regional Heat Relief Network	ALL	OHRM, LIBRARY,		56 City facilities are participating as cooling centers or hydration stations. Staff from multiple departments are

		PARKS, HSD		supporting Heat Relief Network participation, including managing water distribution.
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		Planned improvements for 2022 have largely been implemented. Staff 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 continuing to onboard new clients.
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		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 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

Summer Safety Media Day: The City's Communications Office organized a well-attended Summer Safety Media Day on May 26. The event featured exhibits and demonstrations from several City departments and external partners including APS, SRP, and the National Weather Service. The City live-streamed portions of the event, and multiple media outlets gathered interviews and footage that will be used throughout the summer to raise awareness of summer safety measures, including those for heat safety. Councilwoman Guardado was among City leadership in attendance, pictured with Parks staff promoting Take a Hike, Do it Right.



## 7. REGIONAL AND NATIONAL HIGHLIGHT

The Maricopa Association of Governments coordinates the regional Heat Relief Network web map. This year's map includes improved features, including a toggle button to help users identify cooling centers and hydration stations that are open at the time a user is searching. There are more than 160 locations participating in the Heat Relief Network thus far in 2022.



## 8. HEAT SAFETY – DID YOU KNOW?

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health recommends drinking 24-32 ounces of water *per hour* when working in the heat. Attention to urine color can help individuals monitor their hydration status, with darker colors typically indicating a more dehydrated status. Drinking more than 48 ounces of fluid per hour is not recommended, as it could pose additional risks related to the body's salt balance.

## 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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