Study Overview

Disproportionate impacts of extreme heat and COVID-19 on Latino and American Indian communities in Phoenix and Las Vegas

Policy can mitigate heat challenges

Study Goal

Inform communities and decision-makers in the public and private sectors about opportunities to further address community members' needs and concerns around extreme heat
What we did

**Landscape analysis**
State, county, and city plans, programs and initiatives, & statutes and codes

From 2010-2021

Coded for heat issue, strategy, space

**Needs assessment**
Semi-structured interviews w community leaders and members

Heat challenges, heat management strategies, helpful policies/supports, recommendations

**Gap analysis**
Compared community members’ needs and concerns with current policy landscape to identify opportunities for policy action
City of Phoenix case study

Report highlights
Landscape analysis

Top heat issue: Public health

Top strategy: Information

Spaces: Public, Private, Outdoor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plans</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs/initiatives</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statutes/codes</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Needs assessment

- 15 community leaders
  - Nonprofits
  - Community groups
  - Maricopa County

- 57 community members
  - 88% women
  - 60% aged 25-44 years
  - 49% live in single family home
  - 63% renters
  - 65% working full or part-time
  - 75% have an annual household income of $50,000 or less

Racial-ethnic identity of community members

- American Indian: 24
- Latino/a: 29
- Both: 4

Annual household income

- Less than $25,000: 33.3%
- $25,001-$50,000: 42.1%
- $50,001-$75,000: 14.0%
- $75,001-$100,000: 5.3%
- Prefer not to answer: 5.3%
Needs assessment

A majority of community members we spoke with…

• Experience heat most often in transit or at home
• Use a personal vehicle
• Spent the majority of the day at home in 2020
• Felt too hot inside their home at least sometimes
• Are somewhat or very concerned with the risks posed by heat

Interviews revealed salient heat challenges with...

Where do community members experience extreme heat the most frequently?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In transit</td>
<td>33 (58%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>At home</td>
<td>11 (19%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>At work</td>
<td>6 (11%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>4 (7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At school</td>
<td>1 (2%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Energy use and thermal discomfort at home

Thermal discomfort in public outdoor spaces

Thermal discomfort during transit

Health and body
Key take-aways from Phoenix, AZ

Many Phoenix community members struggle to maintain thermal comfort in their homes during the summer.


Community members would like increased access to shade and water features in public outdoor recreation areas.

Many community members are not aware of existing resources, such as information on heat safety, assistance programs, and cooling centers.