

# Heat Policy: Arizona's Approach Building a Resilient Future in the Face of Extreme Temperatures

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# Arizona's Extreme Heat: A Growing Crisis

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- Record-breaking temperatures and duration of heat waves
- Significant health and mortality impacts, particularly for vulnerable populations
- Economic and infrastructure strain (e.g., power grid, transportation)
- Impacts on outdoor workers, the unhoused, and older adults



# Federal Framework: Guidance and Initiatives

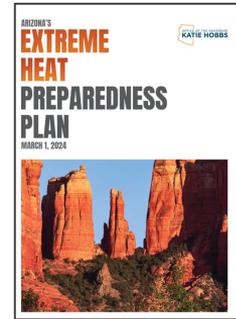
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- **Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA):** National Emphasis Program for heat-related hazards
- **NOAA:** Provides critical data and forecasting through tools like the HeatRisk Forecast Tool and issues heat-related warnings and advisories
- **NIHHIS (National Integrated Heat Health Information System):** A cross-agency initiative providing data and tools
- **The Federal Role:** Providing research, resources, and a national framework for states



# Arizona's State-Level Response

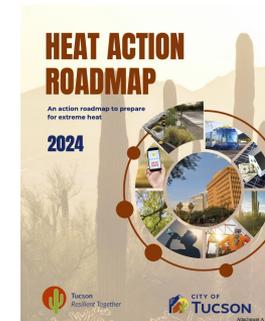
- **Arizona Extreme Heat Preparedness Plan:** A comprehensive, statewide strategy
- **Chief Heat Officer:** State-level position to coordinate heat response
- **Workplace Heat Safety Task Force (EO 2025-09):** Mandated to develop new, detailed guidelines for employers
- **Heat Preparedness Network:** A statewide coordination of cooling centers and hydration stations
- **State-level resources:** [Heat.az.gov](https://heat.az.gov) and public facing dashboards



# Local Leadership: Action on the Ground

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- **Phoenix:** Established the nation's first public-funded heat response office
- **Tucson:** Adopted a Heat Action Roadmap and a Heat Protection Ordinance for city contractors
- **Maricopa County:** Recognized as leaders for tracking heat-related illness and death to inform policy
- **Pima County:** Tracks heat-related illness and death with a public dashboard to inform policy
- **Local Ordinances:** Phoenix, Tempe, and Tucson are implementing contractor safety requirements
- **Partnerships:** Collaboration with nonprofits, universities (ASU and UA), and community organizations



# The Road Ahead: Key Areas for Future Policy

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- **Formalizing Workplace Safety Standards:** Finalizing and implementing the new guidelines from the Task Force
- **Infrastructure Adaptation:** Finding ways to invest in "cool roofs," tree canopies, and shade structures
- **Addressing Energy Affordability:** Brainstorm ways to expand programs to help residents afford cooling costs
- **Housing and Land-Use Policy:** Integrating heat resilience into zoning and development plans





# ARIZONA

Thank you

[Heat.az.gov](https://heat.az.gov)

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