2025 Updated Strategies and Approaches

to the 2024 ADHS Recommendations and Findings for the Arizona Extreme Heat Preparedness Plan



Executive Summary

Arizona's Proactive Stride Towards Heat Resilience:

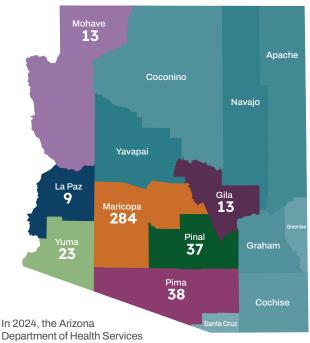
A Collaborative Success Story

Through strategic collaboration, the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) and hundreds of dedicated partner organizations made significant strides in safeguarding Arizona communities from extreme heat in 2024. This report highlights key accomplishments across four strategic goals: driving heat relief activities, reducing heat-related illnesses and deaths, preparing for extreme heat, and fostering innovative solutions – building a solid framework for continued progress in 2025 and beyond.

A cornerstone of 2024 was the enhanced statewide coordination of heat relief efforts, bolstered by increased funding and strategic leadership. The Arizona Heat Preparedness Network, powered by the Civic Roundtable platform engaging over 130 individuals from 80 organizations, became a central hub for resource sharing and communication. Landmark achievements included the implementation of a multi-tiered heat alert system and the expansion of the Heat Alert Network, which significantly improved the timely dissemination of critical heat risk information to over 48,000 public health officials and community members.

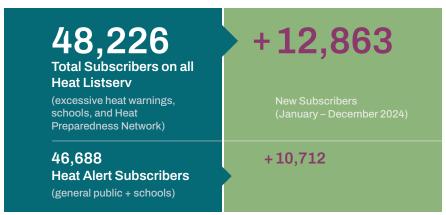


A multi-modal communication strategy further amplified heat safety awareness, ensuring critical alerts reached Arizonans. ADHS also developed and disseminated translated materials and distributed over 900 heat safety kits, ensuring vital information and resources reached people suffering from the heat. The newly implemented heat tier map (see next page) provided real-time information to partners and guided targeted interventions.



Cooling Center Map expanded to include sites from seven counties, a 50% increase in the number of counties from previous years for a total of 417 cooling centers. (Source: ADHS)

Data-driven decision-making was central to preparedness efforts. The ADHS cooling center map expanded its reach (from 323 heat relief sites in 4 counties to 417 in 7 counties), recording over 15,705 views and connecting more communities to life-saving relief. The development of Heat Response Activation Tiers streamlined emergency response protocols. Furthermore, the development and launch of the Arizona Social Vulnerability Index (AZSVI) in 2024, a collaborative effort of the Arizona Health Improvement Plan (AzHIP) Data Advisory Committee, Arizona State University, ADHS GIS, and the ADHS Office of Health Equity, marked a significant step towards a more targeted and equitable heat response. This crucial data-driven tool helps agencies and organizations identify vulnerable regions and residents across Arizona. ADHS used the AZSVI to help inform strategic planning, paving the way for more targeted interventions in 2025.

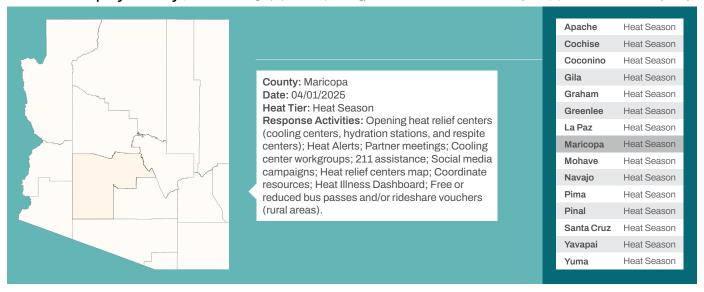


Bulletins Distributed 96	
Total Delivered	1,208,102
Open Rate	27.4%
Click Rate	39.7%

2024 Heat Season Started Earlier and Ended Later Than 2023 Heat Alerts, 2023–2024 (Source: ADHS)



Heat Tier Map by County (Source: www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/extreme-weather/heat-safety/index.php#heat-dashboard-heat-tier-by-county)



Building on the collaborative spirit and data-informed strategies of 2024, ADHS is strategically focused on maximizing impact and efficiency in 2025. Leveraging the established framework and the Civic Roundtable platform, efforts will prioritize impactful heat response activities, enhance partner engagement, and inform heat relief legislation. Continued focus on multilingual outreach, improved situational awareness, and the refinement of tools, such as the heat tier system and GIS mapping will further strengthen preparedness. By working together and applying research insights, we will leverage innovation to advance heat relief efforts.

The collective achievements of 2024 underscore Arizona's proactive commitment to building a heatresilient future. By continuing to foster strong partnerships, leverage data-driven insights, and implement innovative strategies, ADHS is well-positioned to further safeguard the health and well-being of all Arizonans in the face of extreme heat in 2025 and beyond.

Arizona's greatest asset in building lasting heat resilience lies in the strength of our network, specifically the dedicated individuals and organizations whose collaborative efforts drive this vital work. Our ongoing collaboration and shared commitment will ensure that we continue to build a future where all Arizonans are resilient, even in extreme heat.

