Extreme Heat: The Physical Effects on Vulnerable Populations



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Trends in surface temperature, humidity, and trade wind in the Hawaiian Islands

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Department of Health - Climate Change and Health Conference October 23-24, 2024

Heat can cause dehydration, exhaustion, skin rashes, fainting and stroke.

Annual Average Temperature (°C, 1950-2024)





The World Meteorological Organization defines a heat wave as 5 or more consecutive days of prolonged heat in which the daily maximum temperature is higher than the average maximum temperature by 5°C or more.



Maximum temperature

Maximum Temperature (1950-2024), LIHUE Airport



Maximum Temperature (1954-2024), KAHULUI Airport





Minimum Temperature (1950-2024) Honolulu International Airport

Trend in minimum temperature is stronger than that in maximum temperature



Relative Humidity (%), 2006-2024



Relative Humidity



Average Relative Humidity (2006-2024) HILO International Airport





Annual Boxplot of Lihue Frequency and Intensity 1984-2005

Wind data: <mark>1984-</mark> 2009

Garza, Chu, North, and Schroeder, 2012: Changes of the prevailing trade winds over the Islands of Hawaii. Journal of Geophysical Research (Atmosphere).

d) 16% 9% 7% 17% 19% 10% 10% 12%



Figure 1. Orientation map of land and buoy stations.

 Table 2. Buoy Station Frequency of Winds for the Period of

 1984–2009 for Each Cardinal Direction^a

		Frequency of Winds		
	B1	B2	B3	B4
N	5%	3%	3%	2%
NE	24%	31%	34%	39%
E	51% 75%	61% <mark>92%</mark>	48%	53%
SE	7%	3%	9%	4%
S	4%	1%	2%	1%
SW	4%	1%	1%	1%
W	3%	0.47%	1%	0.50%
NW	3%	1%	1%	0.38%

^aNE and E directions are in bold and represent the highest frequencies.







Time Series	Northcast Q	
Honolulu	-2.00*	NE trade frequency
Lihue	-0.833	1984-2009
Kahului	-0.172	
Buoy 51001	-0.162	
Buoy 51002	-3.125	
Buoy 51003	-3.087	
Buoy 51004	-3.36*	

- Annual mean temperature at four major airports (Daniel Inouye International Airport, Lihue, Kahului, Hilo) in Hawaii shows a statistically significant increasing trend over the last 75 years (1950-2024). For Honolulu, the overall warming is about 1.33°C.
- At high elevation (Mauna Loa Observatory), the warming trend is also significant.
- Annual mean maximum temperature at airport stations (except for Hilo) shows an increasing trend and annual mean minimum temperature also shows an upward trend (except Kahului).
- Consistent with temperature trends, humidity also sees an increasing trend for three major airports (except for Kahului) during 2006-2024.
- Northeast trade wind prevails in the Hawaiian Islands and its frequency in Honolulu, Maui, and Kauai (as well as the adjacent ocean buoy stations) shows a pronounced decline during 1984-2009.

Extreme Heat: Physical Effects on Vulnerable Populations

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(NO DISCLOSURES)

Oahu seeing more heat-related emergencies in 2023

Hawaii News Now, July 31, 2023

HEAT EMERGENCIES DOUBLE ON OAHU DURING THIS HOT BUT NOT RECORD-SETTING SUMMER

Heat Related Illness

• <u>heat index</u>: heat + humidity

<u>heat index > 95°F</u>: mortality with temp + duration

• <u>wet bulb</u>: measures temp on thermometer covered in a wet cloth soaked in ambient temp



Physiologic Responses to Heat Strain

- Vasodilation/heat exchange
- Sweating/evaporation
- Conduction



(RR 1·	021
[95%	CI
1.020)—
1.023	3])

	k	Relative risk (95% Cls)		80% prediction interval	l², p value	Egger's p value
Mortality*						
Cardiovascular disease (100-199)	151	1.021 (1.020–1.023)	•	(1.012-1.030)	93-6%, p<0-0001	p<0.0001
Hypertensive diseases (I10-I15)	6	1.032 (0.998–1.066)	— •—	(0.969-1.094)	79·4%, p<0·0001	p=0.52
Coronary heart diseases (120-125)	30	1.028 (1.020-1.036)	•	(1.001-1.054)	90·4%, p<0·0001	p=0.40
Acute coronary syndrome (I21-I22)	8	1.035 (1.017-1.052)	_	(1.000-1.069)	75-6%, p<0-0001	p=0.69
Heart failure (I50)	6	1.028 (1.014-1.041)		(1.005-1.050)	37·9%, p=0·15	p=0.67
Stroke (160-169)	34	1.038 (1.031-1.045)	•	(1.016-1.060)	78.7%, p<0.0001	p=0.02
Others, including cardiac arrest	4	1.021 (1.003-1.040)	_	(0.984-1.059)	78·1%, p=0·003	p=0.78
Sex						
Mal	19	1.016 (1.009–1.022)	•	(1.000-1.032)	91·8%, p<0·0001	p=0.53
Female	20	1.021 (1.012-1.030)	•	(0.998-1.044)	94·2%, p<0·0001	p=0.45
Age (years)						
0-64	24	1.009 (1.004-1.014)	•	(0.997-1.022)	85·9%, p<0·0001	p=0.51
≥65	46	1.017 (1.016-1.019)	•	(1.013-1.021)	94·4%, p<0·0001	p<0.0001
Climate zone (Köppen classification)					
Group A (tropical)	27	1.041 (1.030-1.052)	-	(1.014-1.067)	78∙0%, p<0∙0001	p<0.0001
Group B (dry)	15	1.029 (1.015-1.043)		(0.995-1.062)	89·7%, p<0·0001	p=0.03
Group C (mediterranean)	19	1.032 (1.021–1.043)	-	(1.001-1.062)	95·6%, p<0·0001	p=0.54
Group C (oceanic)	15	1.018 (1.011-1.024)	•	(1.002–1.033)	91·5%, p<0·0001	p=0.27
Group C (subtropical)	95	1.019 (1.017-1.021)	•	(1.011-1.027)	90·3%, p<0·0001	p<0.0001
Group D (continental)	41	1.031 (1.025–1.037)	•	(1.008-1.054)	92·3%, p<0·0001	p=0.002
National income level						
High income	64	1.020 (1.018-1.022)	•	(1.012-1.028)	96·0%,p<0·0001	p=0.001
Upper-middle income	83	1.026 (1.022-1.029)	•	(1.010-1.041)	88-9%, p<0-0001	p<0.0001
Lower-middle income	4	1.112 (1.040–1.183)	•	(0.956–1.267)	73·6%, p=0·01	p=0.02
		0-9	1.0 1.1			
Liu et al. Lancet Planetary He	alth 20)22 Decreas	ed risk Increased risk	https://www.thelanc	et.com/journals/la	nplh/article/PIIS2

https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanplh/article/PIIS2542-5196(22)00117-6/fulltext



Ebi, Kristie L et al.2021





Percentage changes per 1 °C increase in temperature for kidney disease morbidity Urolithiasis 2.2% (ICD-10 N20-N23) Acute kidney injury 1.2% (ICD-10 N17) Urinary tract infections 0.8% (ICD-10 N10-N12, N30, N39) Morbidity rates were higher in: Male **People living** ≤ 64 in temperate climate zones

Liu et al.2021

https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048969721048816

Sugar Cane worker, Chichigalpa, Nicaragua

CKD of Unknown Origin in Central America: The Case for a Mesoamerican Nephropathy



Heat	Heat	Heat Stroke		
Cramps	Syncope			
Heat Rash	Heat			
Heat Edema	Exhaustion			
H ₂ 0, salt losses	hypoperfusion Core temp <1	n 04 CNS/organ fail Core temp≥ 105		
Exacerbation of Chronic Diseases				

Heat Related Illness

Most fatalities are preventable!

Early recognition is key!

Heat Exhaustion

Heat Stroke



- Loosen clothing
- Sip cool water
- Seek medical help if symptoms don't improve



Dizziness

Confusion

Becomes Unconscious ACT FAST

CALL 911

- Move person to a cooler area
- Loosen clothing and remove extra layers
- Cool with water or ice

Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not given.



Heat exhaustion can lead to heat stroke.

Stay Cool, Stay Hydrated, Stay Informed!





A critical review of the effectiveness of electric fans as a personal cooling intervention in hot weather and heatwaves

Robert D Meade, Sean R Notley, Nathalie V Kirby, Glen P Kenny

DRY Heat (Low Humidity) = Low Heat Index



A critical review of the effectiveness of electric fans as a personal cooling intervention in hot weather and heatwaves

Robert D Meade, Sean R Notley, Nathalie V Kirby, Glen P Kenny

HUMID Heat = High Heat Index





Extreme Heat | Special Conditions/Locations (No Air Conditioning: Use a Fan)

Phase: During •

Validity Rating: Insufficient

- While electric fans may provide comfort, they do not prevent heat-related illness when the temperature is in the high 90s. [1]
- "While many cities distribute fans among at-risk populations to prevent heat-related deaths, fans are inadequate at extremes of heat and humidity; in the absence of temperature and humidity gradients, evaporative and convective cooling with a fan is ineffective." [7]
- Note: There is no validation to prove fans reduce risk of death (if no AC). Other than making you "feel" cooler, the studies are mixed as to the results.

2003 Heat Wave Europe



Climate-The European Heat Wave of 2003



Excess deaths		
France	14,802	
Germany	7,000	
Spain	4,230	
Italy	4,175	
UK	2,045	
Netherlands	1,400	
Portugal	1,316	
Belgium	150	
TOTAL	35,118	

Photo Credit: AFP/Getty Images



Delayed Health Effects

Fouillet A et al. 2006

Heat Related Vulnerability

- Chronic dx: DM, CVD, renal, lung, psych
- Age extremes
- Exposure to seasonality
- SES
- Geography/residence urban heat island
- Occupation
- Athletes

Heat Related Vulnerability: Meds and Drugs

Diuretics, ACE	Dehydration
NSAIDS, ACE	Reduced renal function
Anti-psychotic	Decreased sweat, thermoregulation
Anti-Parkinsonian	66
Anti-Emetic	66
Anti-Histamines	Vasoconstriction
Laxatives	Electrolyte imbalance
Stimulant Drugs	Hyperthermia



Pathophysiology underlying drug-induced hyperthermic syndromes. MH, malignant hyperthermia; NMS, neuroleptic malignant syndrome; SS, serotonin syndrome; PHS, parkinsonism-hyperpyrexia syndrome; ITB, intrathecal baclofen withdrawal syndrome; ACh, anticholinergic syndrome; Uncouplers, drugs that uncouple oxidative phosphorylation.



Maricopa County Department Of Public Health

A graph shows the percentage of heat-related deaths in Maricopa County each year that involved drugs, alcohol, or both. As the number of heat-related deaths has risen, so has the percentage of heat deaths involving substance use. 65% of all heat deaths involved substances last year. 51% of all heat deaths involved methamphetamine last year.

Heat and Mental Health

Suicide

- Depression
 - Poor cognition
 - Impaired memory
- Substance misuse
 - Aggression : DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Irritability

Sleep problems Poor judgement Who is at risk? People with

- Pre-existing mental health conditions
- Dementia
- Psychiatric meds

Worsened by:

1111

1111

....

1111

1111

 Poverty, substance abuse

https://jaxtherapynetwork.com/hot-weather-affects-mentalhealth/

URBAN HEAT ISLAND



https://insideclimatenews.org/content/urban-heat-island-effect



Island of Oahu Percent of Persons Below Poverty Level by Census Tract 2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates Percent of Persons Below Poverty 0 - 5.0% 5.1% - 10.0% 10.1% - 20.0% 20.1% - 65.4% No Population / No Data Available State Percentage Below Poverty Level: 10.2% Honolulu County Percentage Below Poverty Level: 9.3% This map was produced by the Office of Planning (OP) for planning purposes. It should not be used for boundary interpretations or other spatial analysis beyond the limitations of the data. Information 2.5 10

Miles

Planning (OP) for planning purposes. It should not be used for boundary interpretations or other spatial analysis beyond the limitations of the data. Information regarding compilation dates and accuracy of the data presented can be obtained from OP. Map Date: 01/16/13 Map No: 20130116-01-DK Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 ACS 5-Year Estimates; extracted by the Hawaii State Data Center. DBEDT.

Note: The labels shown on the map are census tract numbers.

Athletes / Children





Youth and High School Kids are vulnerable!

- Highest level of participation, least resources
- Child/Coach dynamic: fear, retribution
- Not wanting any reason to be taken off the roster
- Not wanting to let the team/coaches/families down
- Game schedule dictated by school schedule





Nancy Lane/MediaNews Group/Boston Herald via Getty Images

USA FOOTBALL



Please use these guidelines provided by the Hawaii State Department of Education and Hawaii State Department of Health in identifying and addressing heat-related illness.

ILLNESS	DESCRIPTION	SIGNS/SYMPTOMS	FIRST AID / WHAT TO DO
Early Heat Stress	Occurs during prolonged exposure to high ambient temperatures and humidity, direct sun, and without sufficient rest and fluids. When children feel thirsty, they may already be dehydrated. A child may lose greater than 2% of their body weight as sweat before they feel thirsty.	 Tired Headache Confusion/anxiety Normal body temperature Sweating, may be excessive Nosebleeds Dry lips, tongue Nausea Heat rash 	 Monitor and assist as necessary. Send to a cooler location. Have them sit or lie down and rest, keep calm. Encourage drinking generous amounts of water. Loosen or remove excess clothing. Apply cool compresses, or cool water. Monitor for cessation of sweating: If symptoms persist, escort student to health room. School health aide (SHA) will monitor temperature and notify parent or guardian in accordance with the SHA manual.
Heat Cramps	Occurs during or after intense exercise. Athlete will experience acute, painful, involuntary muscle contractions typically in the arms, legs, or abdomen.	 Muscle cramps along with the symptoms listed above May include: Thirst Dehydration Fatigue Sweating 	 Stop all activity and sit quietly in a cool place. Drink water or a sports drink. Do not engage in exercise/strenuous activity for a few hours after cramps subside. Muscle massage may assist the cramping muscles. If symptoms persist, escort student to health room.

BEAT THE HEAT

Summer's high temperatures put student athletes at increased risk of heat illness. There are several types of heat illness. They range in severity, from heat cramps and heat exhaustion, which are common but not severe, to heat stroke, which can be deadly. Although heat illnesses can be fatal, death is preventable if they're quickly recognized and properly treated.

DEHYDRATION AND HEAT ILLNESSES

As a rule-of-thumb, most athletes should consume 200 to 300 milliliters of fluid every



It takes only **30 MINUTES** for cell damage to occur with a core body temperature of 105 degrees.



Currently, 13 states have heatacclimatization policies, for secondary school athletics with New Jersey being the first.



Exertional heat stroke is one of the top three killers of athletes and soldiers in training.

• From 2010-15, 20 athletic heat stroke fatalities were reported.

It takes seven to 14 days for a body to adapt to exercising in the heat.

SIGNS OF MINOR HEAT ILLNESS



B



and spasms

Lightheadedness, when not associated with other symptoms

EARLY WARNING SIGNS OF EXERTIONAL HEAT STROKE



It's policy!



Football: Acclimatization

Re-acclimitazation

Wet Bulb Temp Guidelines



2.67 Practice Policy for Heat and Humidity:

- (a) Schools must follow the statewide policy for conducting practices and voluntary conditioning workouts (this policy is year-round, including during the summer) in all sports during times of extremely high heat and/or humidity that will be signed by each head coach at the beginning of each season and distributed to all players and their parents or guardians. The policy shall follow modified guidelines of the American College of Sports Medicine in regard to:
 - (1) The scheduling of practices at various heat/humidity levels.
 - (2) The ratio of workout time to time allotted for rest and hydration at various heat/humidity levels.
 - (3) The heat/humidity levels that will result in practice being terminated.
- b) Football Only: Acclimatization and Re-Acclimatization (prior to October 1st)
 - (1) Acclimatization
 - a. Football practice may begin five consecutive weekdays prior to the start date for football.
 1. In the first five days of practice for any student, the practice may not last longer than two (2) hours, and the student may wear no other protective football equipment except helmet and mouthpieces. NOTE:
 - (a) The time for a session shall be measured from the time the players report to the practice or workout area until they leave that area.
 - (b) During acclimatization practices, teams may hold a walk-through as long as there is at least a three-hour break between the two activities.
 - (2) Re-Acclimatization Required for any athlete who misses five (5) consecutive days of practice for any reason.
 - a. Day 1 (Only COVID related quarantine can begin on last day of quarantine): 1.5 hours conditioning helmets only
 - b. Day 2: 2 hours practice helmets only
 - c. Day 3: 2.5 hours practice with helmets and shoulder pads
 - d. Day 4: 2.5 hours practice with full pads
 - e. Day 5: 2.5 hours practice with full pads or play a game
- (c) A scientifically-approved instrument that measures the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature must be utilized at each practice (prior to October 1) to ensure that the written policy is being followed properly. WBGT readings should be taken at a minimum of every 30 minutes, beginning 30 minutes prior to the start of practice. All WBGT monitors shall be calibrated, at a minimum, every two (2) years or earlier if recommended by the manufacturer.

WBGT ACTIVITY GUIDELINES AND REST BREAK GUIDELINES

- Under 82.0 Normal Activities Provide at least three separate rest breaks each hour with a minimum duration of 3 minutes each during the workout.
- 82.0 86.9 Use discretion for intense or prolonged exercise; watch at-risk players carefully. Provide at least three separate rest breaks each hour with a minimum duration of 4 minutes each.
- 87.0 89.9 Maximum practice time is 2 hours. <u>For Football</u>: players are restricted to helmet, shoulder pads, and shorts during practice, and all protective equipment must be removed during conditioning activities. If the WBGT rises to this level **during** practice, players may continue to work out wearing football pants without changing to shorts. <u>For All Sports</u>: Provide at least four separate rest breaks each hour with a minimum duration of 4 minutes each.
- 90.0 92.0 Maximum practice time is 1 hour. <u>For Football</u>: no protective equipment may be worn during practice, and there may be no conditioning activities. <u>For All Sports</u>: There must be 20 minutes of rest breaks distributed throughout the hour of practice.
- Over 92.0 No outdoor workouts. Delay practice until a cooler WBGT level is reached.
 - (d) Practices are defined as: the period of time that a participant engages in a coach-supervised, schoolapproved sport or conditioning-related activity. Practices are timed from the time the players report to the practice or workout area until players leave that area. If a practice is interrupted for a weather-related reason, the "clock" on that practice will stop and will begin again when the practice resumes.
 - (e) Conditioning activities include such things as weight training, wind-sprints, timed runs for distance, etc., and may be a part of the practice time or included in "voluntary workouts." Conditioning activities are not permitted to be used as punishment.
 - (f) A walk-through is not a part of the practice time regulation, and may last no longer than one hour. This activity may not include conditioning activities or contact drills. No protective equipment may be worn during a walk-through, and no full-speed drills may be held.



Sugg et al. : <u>Relationships between maximum temperature and heat-related illness across North Carolina, USA</u>

2007 – 2012 HRI per 100,000 person years Daily HRI ED visits per 100,000 people with respect to maximum temperature for the state level including the threshold temperature location and peak temperature location



Suggetal.





Suggetal.





Conclusions

- HRI peaked 88 100 °F
 NOT the hottest days
- Coastal plain: more HRI



- Isolated and rural locations: 3X in HRI at 37.8 °C (100 °F) compared to urban
- Rural HRI: 18 44 men

Awareness Targets: Temps below current warning thresholds Rural working age adults Men (18-14) Participating in at risk activities (agriculture, outdoor labor, athletics)

Taking Action

- General Education and Policy
- Targeted populations
 - School education
 - Elderly patient education, outreach
 - Homelessness, substance abuse education about heat
- Wish List
 - Detailed surveillance data: Year round; Home zip, age, gender, detailed info

Continuing the Conversation: Physical Effects of Heat



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Daintry Bartoldus

OVERVIEW Introduction

Public Health Challenges

Practical Solutions

Policy Recommendations

Community Engagement and Collaboration

Case Studies and Local Initiatives

Conclusion

INTRODUCTI ON

Impact of Heat on Vulnerable Populations

Extreme heat disproportionately affects individuals with developmental disabilities (DD).

Hawaii's Climate

Warm climate + rising temperatures = higher risks for vulnerable groups.







PUBLIC HEALTH CHALLENGES

Inability to Self-Regulate

Difficulty recognizing signs of heat stress

Medications and Heat

Medications may increase susceptibility to heat-related illnesses

Lack of Access to Cool Environments

IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON INDIVIDUALS WITH IDD

PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS

BUDDY SYSTEM

Pair individuals with a trusted person.

CAREGIVER TRAINING

Recognize heat stress signs for both themselves and others.

EDUCATION

Teach importance of hydration, rest, and cooling.

ALERT SYSTEMS

Accessible warnings for caregivers during heat events

POLICY RECOMMENDATION

Access to cooling centers; shade in public spaces.	Include safety checks in care programs.	Invest in housing and services for long-term handling.
INFRASTRUCTURE	HEAT PROTOCOLS	CLIMATE RESILIENCE



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Self-Advocates

Include in designing heat-related solutions.

Collaboration

Partner with health officials, service providers, and leaders.

IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON INDIVIDUALS WITH IDD

CASE STUDIES AND LOCAL INITIATIVES

ARIZONA

Effective programs for heat risk.

A strong example of a state addressing heat impact on vulnerable populations is Arizona, especially in Maricopa County (Phoenix area), where extreme heat is a major concern.

FEELING SAFE BEING SAFE

Feeling Safe Being Safe

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities has a "Feeling Safe Being Safe" program that provides safety training by selfadvocates for self-advocates and the public. This program can be expanded to include heat safety education.

CONCLUSION

Urge protection for at-risk groups and caregivers.

Encourage audience involvement through advocacy and support.

IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON INDIVIDUALS WITH IDD

Climate Change Health Conference: Continuing the Conversation Physical Effects of Heat Our Kupuna

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Staying Safe in Hot Weather



Learn more about staying safe in hot weather at www.nia.nih.gov/hot-weather-safety.

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STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

National Institute

on Aging



Resources

National

- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- National Institute on Aging
- Federal Emergency Management Agency Ready.gov

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STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

State

- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Hawai'i Home Energy Assistance Program (H-HEAP)
- Office of Community Services – Weatherization Assistance Program



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