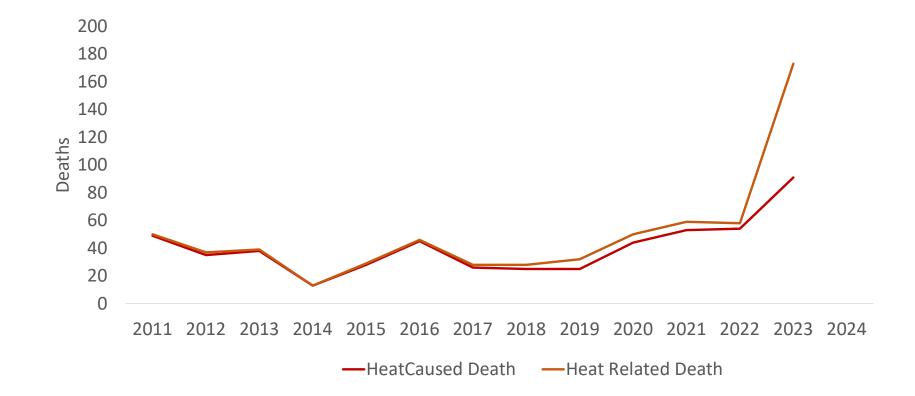
# Supporting Heat Resilience in Pima County

Heidi E Brown, MPH, PhD 18 Sept 2024

## Pima County



https://www.azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/extreme-weather/pubs/heat-related-mortality-year-2012-2023.pdf

### **Heat-Caused Deaths**



Heat-caused includes deaths where environmental heat exposure is the primary cause of death. Historical data on heat-caused deaths is available in the <u>PCOME Annual Reports</u>. Data includes undocumented border crosser (UBC) deaths and non-UBC deaths. Cases pending certification are excluded.

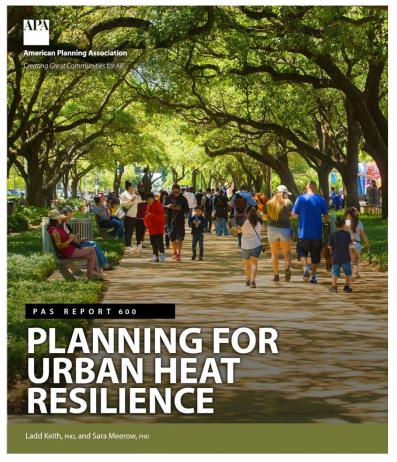


### **Planning for Urban Heat Resilience**

### Urban heat resilience

"Proactively mitigating and managing urban heat across the many systems and sectors it affects."





(Keith & Meerow, 2022)

### **Planning for Urban Heat Resilience**

### Heat governance

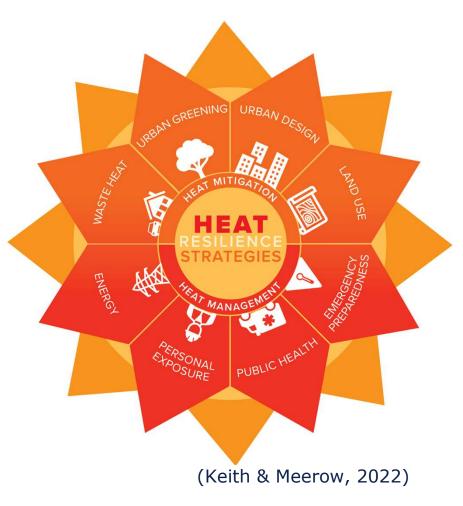
The actors, strategies, processes, and institutions that guide decision-making for mitigating and managing heat as a hazard. (Keith et al., 2021)

### **Heat mitigation**

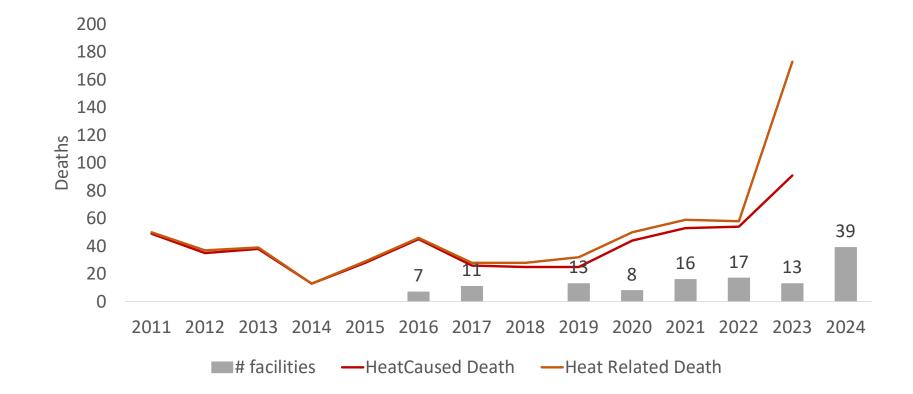
Strategies that reduce the built environment's contribution to urban heat. (Keith & Meerow, 2022)

### Heat management

Strategies that prepare and respond to chronic and acute heat risk. (Keith & Meerow, 2022)



## Pima County, Cooling Centers



https://www.azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/extreme-weather/pubs/heat-related-mortality-year-2012-2023.pdf

## Talk Outline

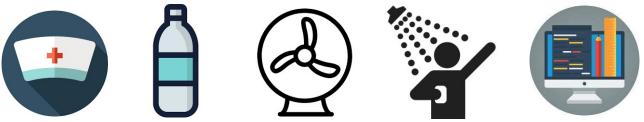
- Heat Respite Access
  - Mapping locations
  - Using *Spatial Optimization* to find potential new locations
  - Evaluation of Access
- Exposure
  - Body Heat Storage as a novel means to assess access

## Tucson Pima Collaboration to End Homelessness Summer Sun Respite Centers

- 11 sites in 2019 39!! in 2024
- Donations needed: bottled water, bug repellant, flip flops, sunglasses, sunscreen, white t-shirts, hats, backpacks



• Varying services





A Healthy Pima County. Everyone. Everywhere. Everyday.

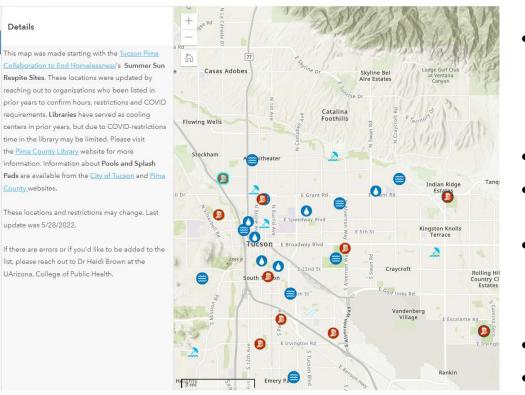
## 2020-2022 Mapping

**Cooling Centers** 

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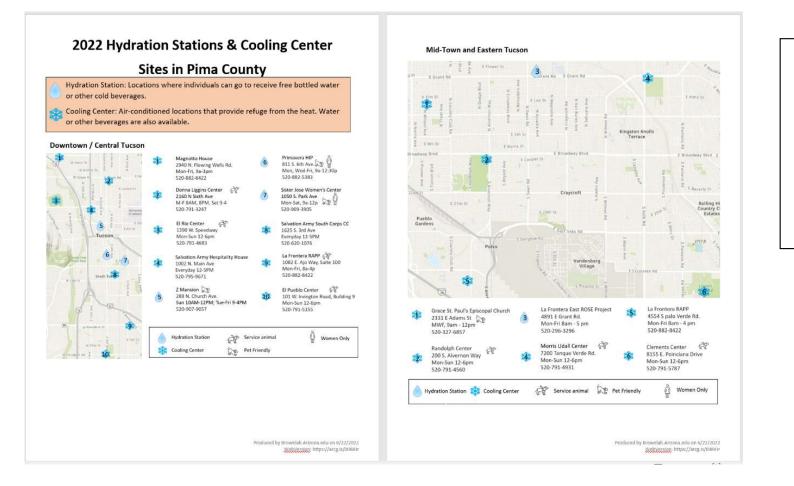
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- Identifying heat respite locations
  - Splash pads, pools (<u>City of Tucson</u> and <u>Pima Co</u> websites)
  - Cooling centers (<u>Tucson Pima Collab to</u> <u>End homelessness</u>) & <u>libraries</u>
- Contacted each organization
- Added question about pet policy when contacting organizations
- <u>Pima Association of Governments</u>, & <u>ADHS</u> pulled link from <u>Brownlab.Arizona.edu</u> so as we update, they update
- <u>2022 TPCH</u> links to our map
- PDF version created for distribution

## PDF Versions for Dissemination





## Standardization of Icons



**Cooling Centers** 

Cooled indoor locations that provide refuge from the heat during the day. Drinking fountains or bottled water are available.



**Respite Centers** 

Indoor, air-conditioned locations that offer hydration and allow for uninterrupted rest, sitting, or lying down (depending on each facility) during hours of operation.

#### **Hydration Stations**

Locations where individuals can go to receive bottled water and other collected donated items. Can be indoors or outdoors.



#### **Collection Sites**

Water bottles can be donated here for use at hydration and cooling locations. Some sites also accept other donations, such as cash; light colored, long-sleeved T-shirts; socks; underwear; hats; lip balm; sun block; and pre-packaged snacks.

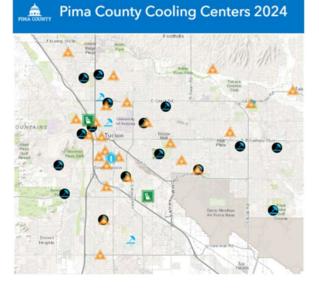
## Evaluation

- Who
  - Administrators (7)
  - Staff (7)
  - Users/Clients (n=142)
- What
  - Challenges/Needs
  - Access





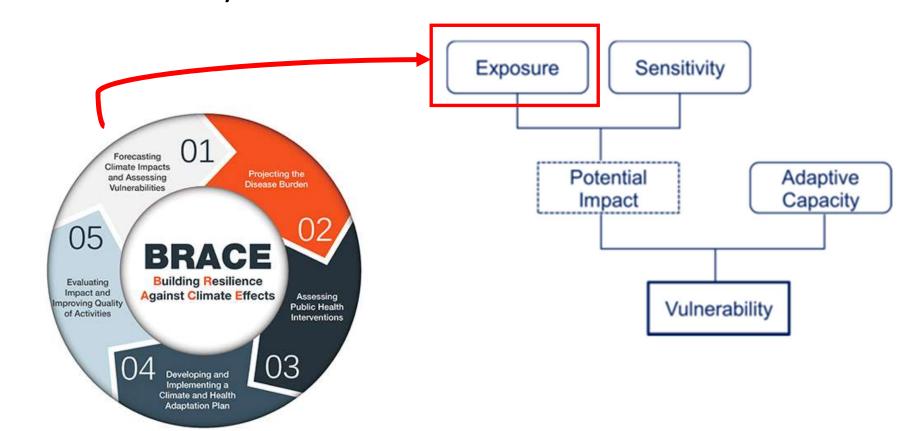
### Cooling Center Evaluation Pilot A Summary Report



July 2024 Prepared by Heidi E. Brown, PhD, MPH, Julia Jernberg MD, MBA, and Jennifer Wishnie, DVM, MSc, MPH, DACVPM

### Talk Outline

- Heat Respite Locations
  - Mapping Cooling Centers locations
  - Using Spatial Optimization to find potential new locations
  - Evaluation of Access
- Exposure
  - Body Heat Storage as a novel means to assess access



### Vulnerability Assessment

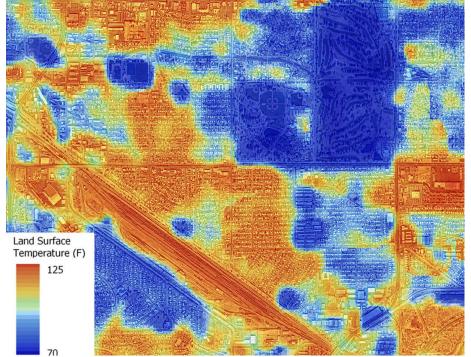
## Heat Indices

- Land Surface Temperature (LST)
  - Degrees F (or C)
  - From satellite imagery
  - Maps 'heat islands' by showing where it is hottest on the Earth's surface
  - Often used in regional/local vulnerability analysis, landscape architecture, and urban planning

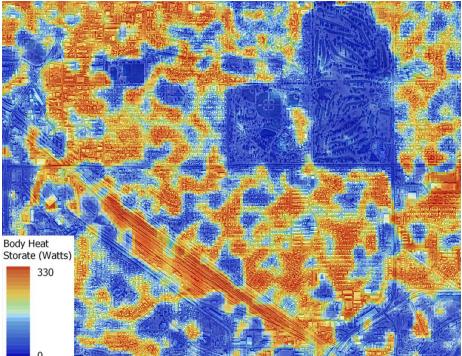
- Body Heat Storage (BHS)
  - Measured in Watts
  - From satellite imagery, topography and radiation estimates, local climate data, and human physiology
  - Maps of where the human body will absorb and conduct the most heat
  - Based on human heat balance equation often calculated for work safety planning, sports medicine, health risk estimates, forensic science, etc.







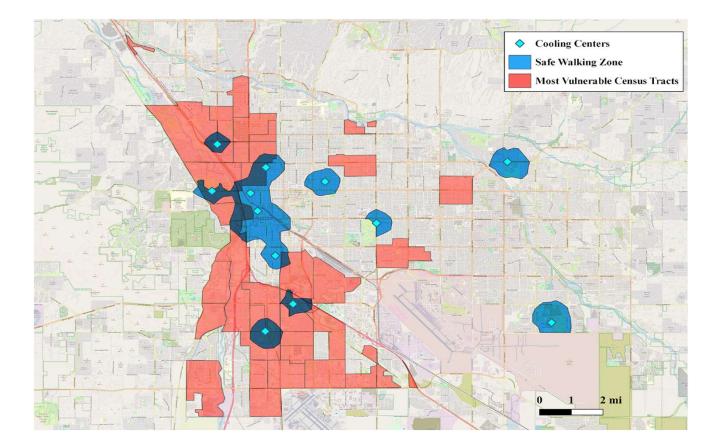
### BHS



- Why are they different?
  - Airflow?
  - Diffuse and direct solar radiation?
  - Landcover/surface/building differences?

Chambers et al., Remote Sens Env 2023

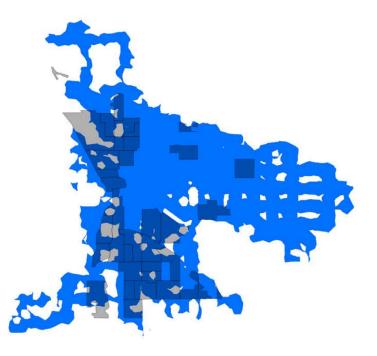
### Tucson population served by cooling centers



NOTE: Cooling centers have been added

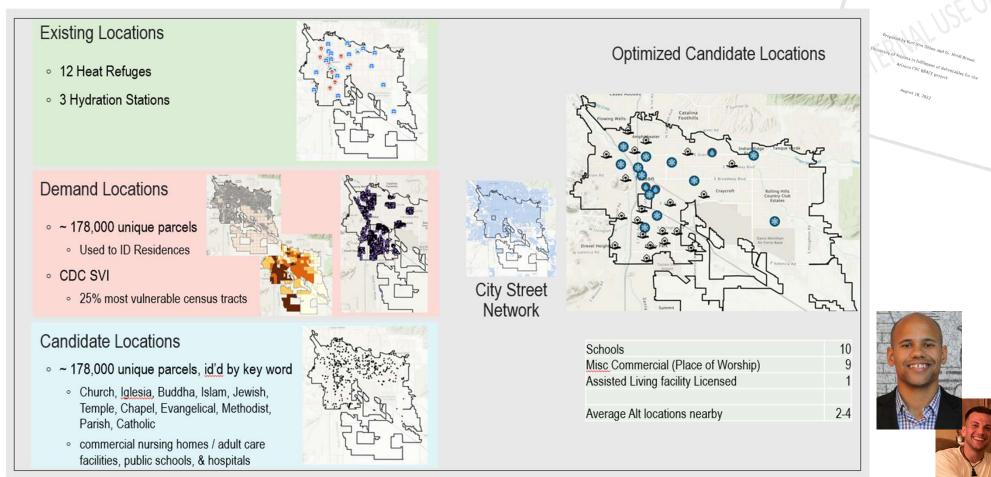
### Better Coverage and Redundancy with Transit

- Increase in vulnerable population served
  - 26 of 29 bus routes intersect walksheds
- Most reach 1 or 3 cooling centers
- Most cooling centers reached by ≤3 routes
  - 3 reached by  $\geq$  7



Keith et al., in Prep

# Spatial Optimization



<sup>Summary</sup> of Pima County Cooling Center Spatial Optimizat

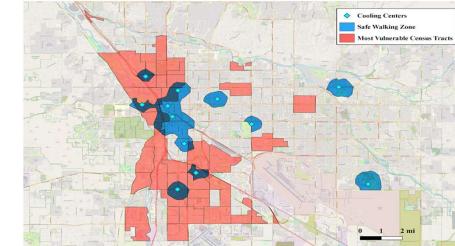
Watkins et al., Submitted

## Conclusions

- Building a Heat Resilient AZ
- BRACE
  - Academic/Local Govt Collab
  - Local Problems/Local Solutions
  - Student Involvement
- Outcomes
  - Resources for Public
  - Support to HDs
  - Academic Publications



pagregion.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/minimalist/index.html?appid=8cee534878de49aaae55ba91b2ef1720



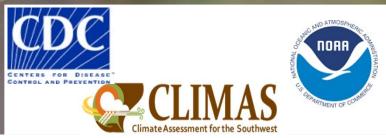
Access

 $\leftarrow$ 

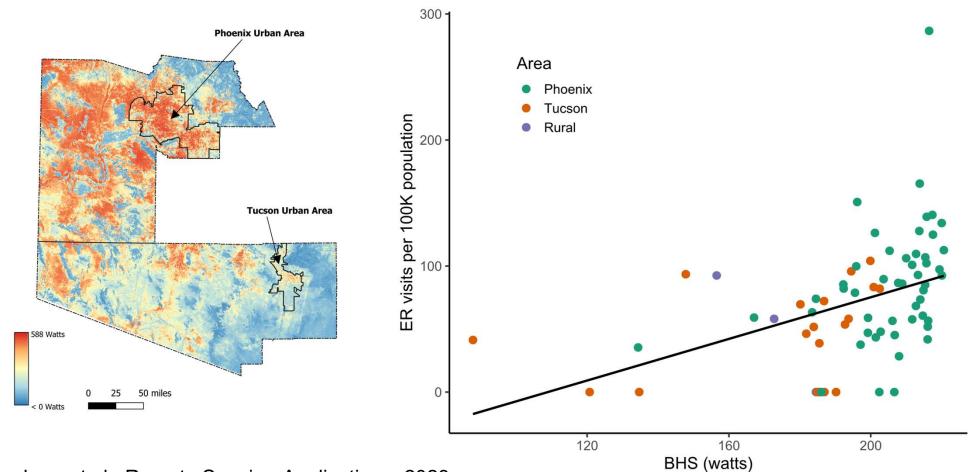
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Heidi E Brown, Ph.D., M.P.H. Prof Public Health HeidiBrown@arizona.edu

<u>AZClimateHealth.Arizona.edu</u> https://sites.arizona.edu/spatialepi-lab/



### Body Heat Storage (BHS) Index



Chambers et al., Remote Sensing Applications, 2023