COMMUNITY ADAPTATIONS TO CITY HEAT

URBAN HEAT ACTION AND POLICY DATABASE

How do government policies and programs for home cooling differ between Boston, New Orleans, and Phoenix?

the CATCH HEAT PROJECT

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Funded by: wellcome

As temperatures rise, safe indoor cooling is becoming increasingly important for protecting public health during extreme heat.

Cities are using different strategies to help residents stay cool at home, including energy efficiency programs, tenant protections, and emergency utility assistance.

Cities are implementing multiple overlapping heat strategies – these examples highlight just a few ways Boston, New Orleans, and Phoenix are navigating indoor heat and cooling access.

Scroll to learn more!

Boston

Boston is investing in energy efficiency and weatherization programs to help residents reduce indoor heat exposure and lower cooling costs during extreme heat. Programs like Mass Save support home energy improvements and cooling access.

Scan to read more about Mass Save!

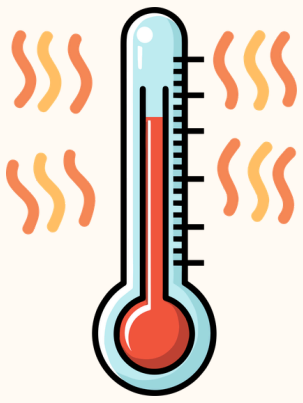
🏠 Energy efficiency can improve indoor heat safety.

Phoenix

Phoenix has expanded emergency utility assistance and heat-related shutoff protections to help residents maintain access to cooling during dangerous heat events. These programs can be especially important for households facing financial hardship during extreme summer temperatures.

Scan to read more about emergency utility assistance!

⚡ Emergency utility assistance can help prevent dangerous loss of cooling.



New Orleans

New Orleans established indoor temperature protections and utility affordability measures as residents face rising energy burdens during extreme heat. Advocacy groups have pushed for stronger tenant and utility protections to help residents maintain safe indoor temperatures.

Scan to read more about indoor temperature protections!

🌡️ Indoor cooling can also be a housing and tenant's rights issue.

Heat protections vary widely across cities — with major gaps in coverage and enforcement.

Do you know if your city has heat protection laws? Tell us!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1AnYCRaw0rBkSprgtFkxWEsUjcODexJlSmq5OlGu1bNo/viewform?edit_requested=true

Check out our database to learn more about heat action and policies!

https://www.catchcityheat.org/policy-database

Making **extreme heat** impacts visible in **frontline communities.**

Working in Boston, Phoenix, and New Orleans.

the CATCH HEAT PROJECT

A project at Boston University School of Public Health funded by a Climate Impact Award from Wellcome Foundation.

https://www.catchcityheat.org/

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Funded by: wellcome