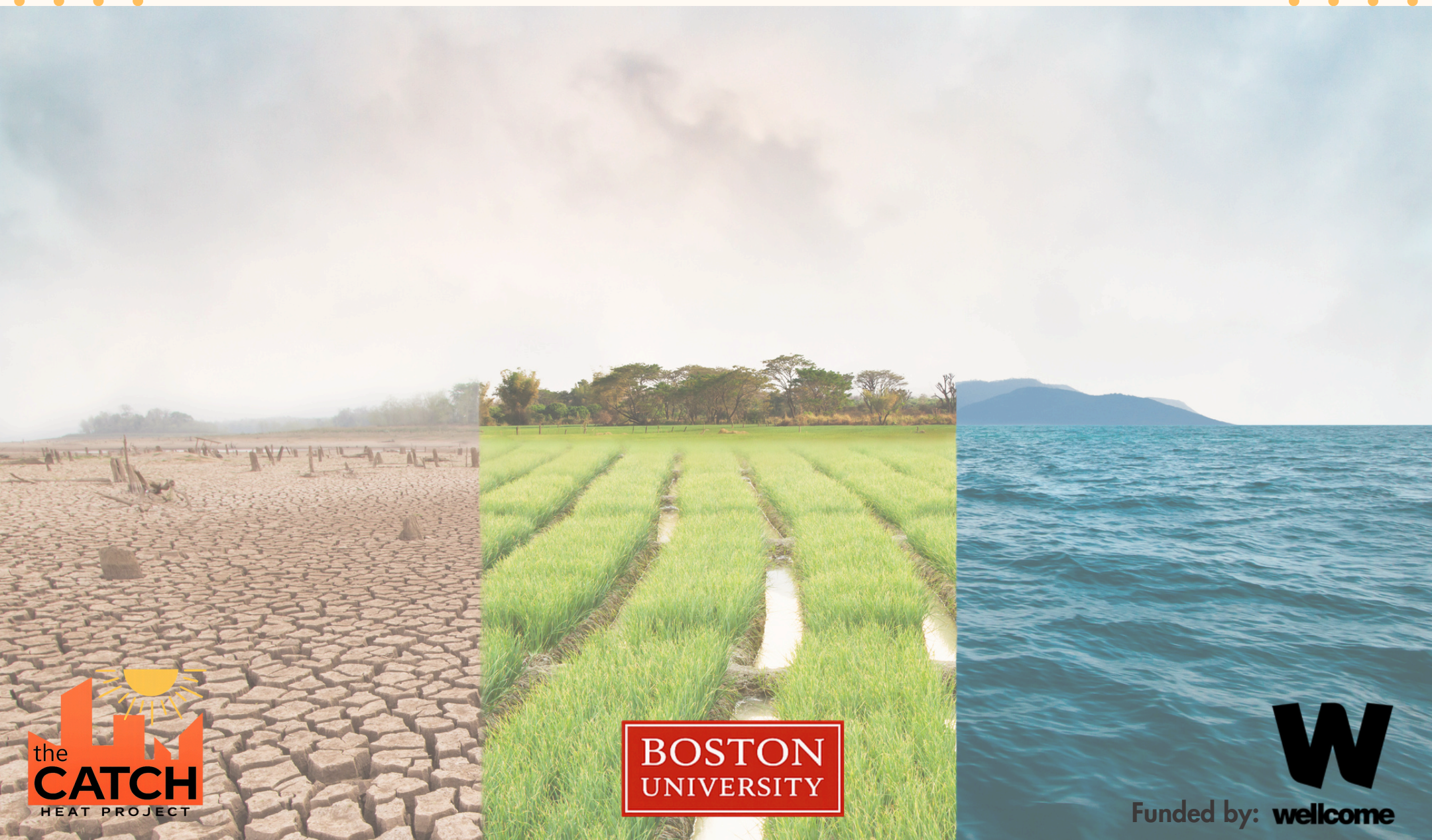


COMMUNITY ADAPTATIONS TO CITY HEAT

URBAN HEAT ACTION AND POLICY DATABASE

How do geography and
climate affect approaches
to extreme heat
intervention in Boston,
Phoenix, and New Orleans?



Extreme heat does not impact every city in the same way. Geography, climate, infrastructure, and historical disasters can all shape how cities approach heat preparedness and resilience planning.

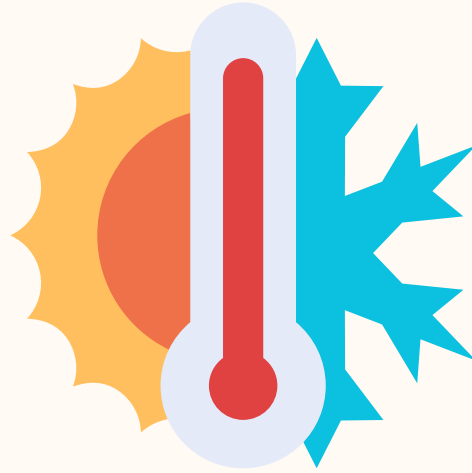


The United States encompasses a substantial range of climates and weather patterns, resulting in wide variation in how cities approach extreme heat interventions.

The following examples highlight how local environmental conditions and climate risks influence heat policy approaches in Boston, Phoenix, and New Orleans.



Scroll to learn more!



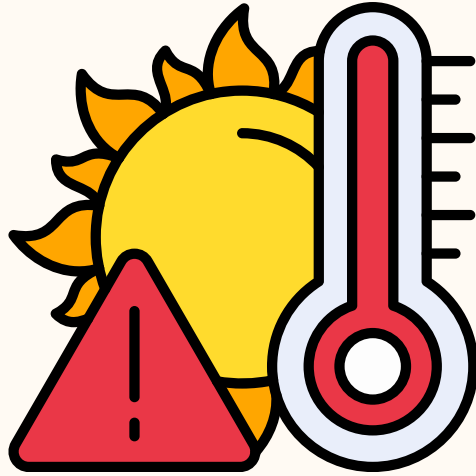
Boston

Extreme heat is a newer and growing challenge in Boston, where infrastructure has historically been designed to protect residents from cold weather rather than prolonged heat exposure. The city has had to adapt its planning, public health response, and resilience strategies to address rising heat risks.



**Scan to read more
about Heat Resilience
Solutions for Boston!**

 Cities historically built for cold weather may face new heat adaptation challenges.



Phoenix

Phoenix experiences prolonged periods of extreme heat, with temperatures frequently exceeding 110°F during the summer. Chronic heat exposure and ongoing drought conditions have influenced the city's focus on heat mitigation, cooling access, and water-related resilience strategies.



**Scan to read more about
Phoenix's Office of Heat
Response & Mitigation!**



Chronic extreme heat can drive long-term heat adaptation strategies.



New Orleans

New Orleans' approach to climate resilience has been deeply shaped by hurricanes, flooding, and the long-term impacts of post-Katrina disaster recovery. Heat preparedness is often interconnected with broader conversations about disaster resilience, power reliability, and community recovery.



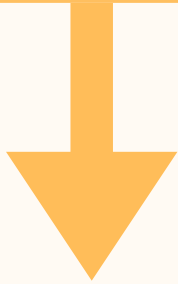
**Scan to read more about
Climate Action for a
Resilient New Orleans!**



Disaster recovery history
can shape heat resilience
planning.

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!

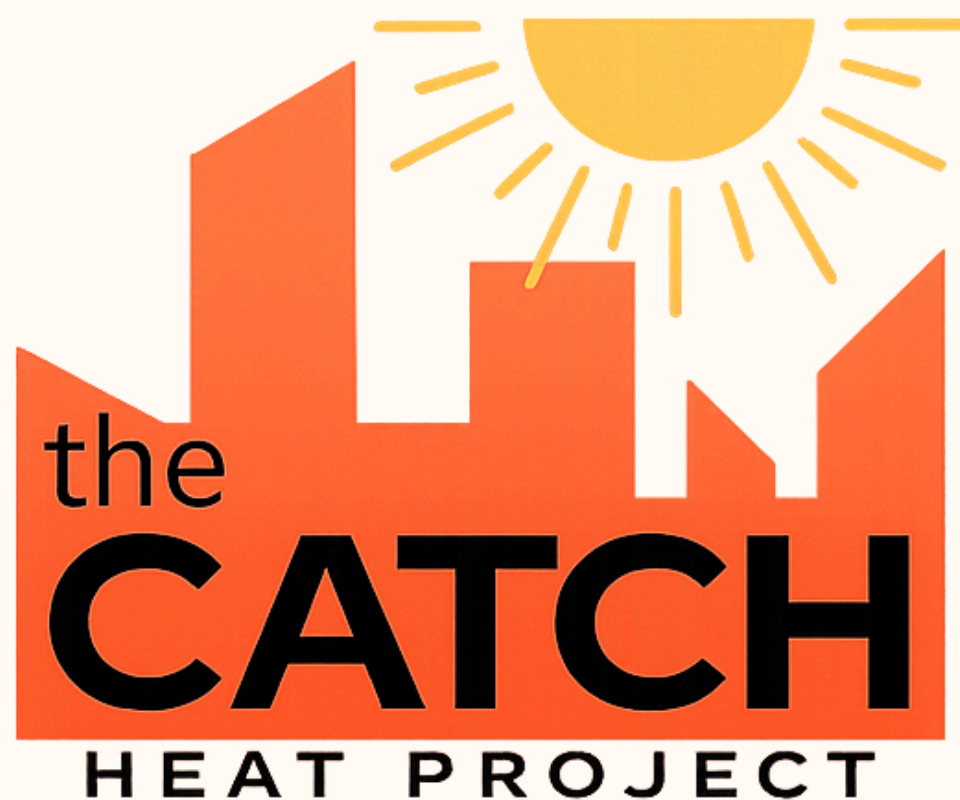


Check out our database to learn more about heat action and policies!



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

Working in Boston, Phoenix, and
New Orleans.



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



<https://www.catchcityheat.org/>