

COMMUNITY ADAPTATIONS TO CITY HEAT

URBAN HEAT ACTION AND POLICY DATABASE

How are Boston, Phoenix,
and New Orleans
protecting people
experiencing homelessness
from extreme heat?

People experiencing homelessness may face prolonged outdoor heat exposure with limited access to air conditioning, shade, water, or a safe place to cool down.



Cities are using different strategies to reduce these risks, from expanding access to shelter to coordinating services and bringing cooling resources directly to people.

The following examples highlight just a few ways Boston, New Orleans, and Phoenix protect unhoused populations in their communities.



Scroll to learn more!



Boston

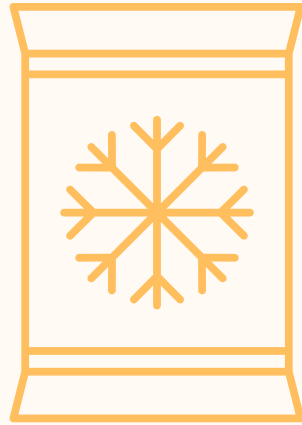
Boston expands protections for people experiencing homelessness through air-conditioned emergency shelters and street outreach. When temperatures reach 90°F or above, shelter amnesty is implemented for people with certain nonviolent restrictions, helping reduce barriers to accessing a safe, cool space.



**Scan to read more
about resources for
unhoused populations!**



Heat emergencies can require expanded access to shelter.



Phoenix

Phoenix's Heat Response Plan calls for equipping homeless outreach teams with water, hats, cooling towels, and other essential supplies, to protect people experiencing homelessness during extreme heat, bringing heat-relief resources directly to residents through teams already conducting outreach in the community.



**Scan to read more
about the Heat
Response Plan!**



Heat relief can be brought directly to people at risk.



New Orleans

Through NOLA Ready, New Orleans coordinates with city agencies, UNITY, and homeless service providers to prepare for the needs of people experiencing homelessness ahead of extreme weather, including extreme heat.



**Scan to read
more about the NOLA
Ready response!**



Coordination helps connect vulnerable residents with resources.

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.



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