

HEAT RELATED ILLNESSES SC TRACKING

NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION META DATA

BACKGROUND

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is a federal agency within the US Department of Commerce. NOAA is commissioned with understand and predicting changes in the Earth's environment, including weather, oceans, and coastal areas. The NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information produces daily summaries of temperature, precipitation, snowfall, and snow depth.

The process of integrating data from multiple sources, including weather stations, into the Global Historical Climate Network takes place in three steps:

1. Screening the source data for stations whose identity is unknown or questionable
2. Classifying each station in a source dataset either as one that is already represented or as a new site
3. Merging the data from the different sources

Before data is published, a variety of Quality Control steps are performed. You can read more about the [Quality Control Steps here](#).

DATA LIMITATIONS

Global Historical Climate Network data used to produce the Daily Summaries map, available online through NOAA, is derived from daily land and surface observations recorded from around the world. Both record length and period of record vary by station and cover intervals ranging from less than year to more than 175 years are present. Data may not cover all regions or time periods, limiting the overall coverage and understanding of temperature trends.

USE CONSTRAINTS

Any user of this data must have reviewed and understood the metadata content before attempting to understand, interpret, or use NOAA data. This is a public dataset and is not for commercial purposes. Any use of this data should contain proper data source acknowledgement to: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Global Historical Climate Network. Additional data requests should be made directly to NOAA.



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NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION META DATA

MEASURE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

The minimum and maximum temperatures observed on each day for the previous month, by both county and meteorological station, are displayed on the [Heat Related Illness Dashboard](#).

Data is updated monthly and was last updated July 30, 2025.

SUGGESTED CITATION

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Global Historical Climate Network. [Graphic name]. Available online: www.dph.sc.gov/tracking. Accessed on [date accessed].

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Learn more about the Global Historical Climatology Network here:
www.ncei.noaa.gov/products/land-based-station/global-historical-climatology-network-daily

Learn more about NOAA here:
www.noaa.gov



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HEAT RELATED ILLNESSES SC TRACKING

CDC NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH TRACKING META DATA

BACKGROUND

The National Environmental Public Health Tracking (EPHT) program is the first national effort to provide the nation with standardized data from multiple information systems, including health, environmental, and hazard data. Non-infectious disease, environmental, and socio-economic data is collected, integrated, analyzed, and disseminated from national, state, and local partners by members of the National Tracking Network. Regular surveillance activities also include data linkages. SC Tracking is one of the many members of this cooperative agreement.

DATA LIMITATIONS

Data, in some instances, has been modeled from Forcing File A of Phase Two of the North American Land Data Assimilation System (NLDAS-2). Modeled estimates may differ from weather station-based observations. An area may be described as having a higher or lower value than what actually occurred. As such, modeled meteorological data may not accurately reflect the true maximum air temperature and heat index in all locations.

ACCESS CONSTRAINTS

Blank or missing data may be due to one of the following reasons: (1) data were not collected, (2) data were collected but were not provided to the CDC, or (3) data were incomplete or did not meet data quality standards.

USE CONSTRAINTS

Any user of this data must have reviewed and understood the metadata content before attempting to understand, interpret, or use CDC EPHT data. This is a public dataset and is not for commercial purposes. Any use of this data should contain proper data source acknowledgement to: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Environmental Public Health Tracking Network. Additional data requests should be made directly to the CDC.



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HEAT RELATED ILLNESSES SC TRACKING

CDC NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH TRACKING META DATA

MEASURE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

The number of extreme heat events and number of extreme heat days that occurred May - September is available from 2020-2024 at the state, county, and census-tract levels. This data is available on the [Heat Related Illness Dashboard](#).

Extreme heat is a period of high heat and humidity with temperatures above 90°F for at least two to three days. The data can be observed by two to three minimum duration days that reach absolute thresholds of 90°F, 95°F, 100°F, and 105°F.

Data is updated annually and was last updated on June 26, 2025.

SUGGESTED CITATION

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Environmental Public Health Tracking Data Explorer. [Graphic name]. Available online: www.dph.sc.gov/tracking. Accessed on [date accessed].

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Learn more about CDC EPHT National Program:
ephtracking.cdc.gov



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HEAT RELATED ILLNESSES SC TRACKING

US BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS META DATA

BACKGROUND

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is an agency housed within the US Department of Labor. It is the principal fact-finding agency in the broad field of labor economics and statistics, and serves as part of the US Federal Statistical System. BLS collects, calculates, analyzes, and publishes data essential to the public, employers, researchers, and government organizations. The BLS collects occupational data through the Occupational Requirements Survey (ORS).

DATA LIMITATIONS

Estimates are subject to sampling error, which may cause the sampled results to differ from the true value of job requirements in all establishments. See the [ORS Handbook of Methods](#) for more information. The ORS program advises against making comparisons with previously published ORS estimates. ORS estimates are not time series data and instead reflect job requirements for the published reference period.

ACCESS CONSTRAINTS

All ORS-collected data and tabulated estimates are subject to the BLS confidentiality requirements that prevent the disclosure of establishment and respondent identifying information. ORS-collected data and tabulated estimates are used solely for statistical purposes. BLS has a confidentiality policy which ensures that the survey sample composition, lists of sampled establishments, responding establishments, and names of respondents will be kept confidential. In addition, the policy assures respondents that published figures will not reveal the identity of any specific establishment and will not allow the data of any specific responding establishment to be identified. Each published estimate is screened to ensure that it meets these confidentiality requirements.



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HEAT RELATED ILLNESSES SC TRACKING

US BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS META DATA

USE CONSTRAINTS

Any user of this data must have reviewed and understood the metadata content before attempting to understand, interpret, or use US BLS data. No attempt should be made identify the people or businesses through use of this data set. This is a public dataset and is not for commercial purposes. Any use of this data should contain proper data source acknowledgement to: US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Additional data requests should be made directly to US BLS.

MEASURE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

The number of workers in South Carolina who spent more than half of their shifts outdoors in 2024 is displayed on the [Heat Related Illness Dashboard](#).

According to the US BLS, an occupation has outdoor exposure when workers perform critical tasks outdoors and are unprotected and exposed to the elements. Shown occupations on the dashboard include bellhops, foresters and conservationists, surveyors, loggers, farmers, lifeguards, coaches and scouts, recreation workers, postal service mail carriers, landscapers and groundskeepers, and construction workers.

This data is updated annually and was last updated on June 26, 2025.

SUGGESTED CITATION

US Bureau of Labor Statistics. [Graphic name]. Available online: www.dph.sc.gov/tracking. Accessed on [date accessed].

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Learn more about the US Bureau of Labor Statistics here:
<https://bls.gov>

Learn more about the Occupational Requirements Survey here:
<https://bls.gov/ors/>



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HEAT RELATED ILLNESSES SC TRACKING

SC REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE META DATA

BACKGROUND

The South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office (RFA) provides diverse fiscal and statistical analyses, reports, and other services to various state and local government entities, the private sector, and South Carolinians. RFA collects healthcare data from all civilian hospitals in the the state, including emergency department reports, outpatient surgery report and inpatient reports.

RFA data is stored on the Private Sector Health Care Utilization Database, which contains information from the UB-04 billing system. The database includes all inpatient hospitalizations and emergency department visits from short-term acute care hospitals. The database includes information such as patient demographics, ICD-10 diagnoses and procedures, charges, length of stay, patient disposition, etc. The South Carolina Data Oversight Council, a seventeen member public/private body formed by the state statute with the SC RFA as staff, oversees the collection and release of information from this database.

DATA LIMITATIONS

RFA data is not population-based and does not include information on people at hospitals managed by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Data is based on the county where residents live, not where they are diagnosed.

ACCESS CONSTRAINTS

In accordance with RFA guidelines, numbers less than five are suppressed to protect patient confidentiality. Associated crude rates, inpatient charges, and charges for emergency department visits are suppressed as well. Suppression is not required for age-adjusted rates as personal identity is protected as they are calculated, but may be suppressed when published on SC Tracking dashboards.



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HEAT RELATED ILLNESSES SC TRACKING

SC REVENUE OF FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE META DATA

USE CONSTRAINTS

Any user of this data must have reviewed and understood the metadata content before attempting to understand, interpret or use RFA data. No attempt should be made to identify patients through use of this data set. This is a public dataset and is not for commercial purposes. Any use of this data should contain proper data source acknowledgement: SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office, Health and Demographics Section. Additional data requests should be sent directly to SC RFA.

MEASURE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Heat-related illness (HRI) is defined as a constellation of explicit effects of hot weather on the body, including heat stroke and sunstroke (hyperthermia), heat syncope/collapse, heat exhaustion, heat cramps, heat fatigue, heat edema, and other/unspecified clinical effects attributed to excessive heat exposure. Heat cases are present with increased numbers during the summer months, and as such, only emergency department visits and hospitalizations occurring from May 1 to September 30 are included. Heat-related illness is categorized using ICD-10 codes T67, X30, or X32 (excluding W92). The below data is displayed on the [Heat Related Illness Dashboard](#).

The number and rate of HRI hospitalizations and ED visits by month for counties in South Carolina from 2019-2023.

The number and rate of HRI hospitalizations and ED visits by age group and month and year from 2019-2023 at the region-level.

All rates are per 100,000 population. Age groupings used for HRI data include 0-17, 18-34, 35-64, and 65+. Data is updated annually and was last updated June 26, 2025.

SUGGESTED CITATION

SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office, Health Demographics Section. [Graphic name]. Available online: www.dph.sc.gov/tracking. Accessed on [date accessed].

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Learn more about SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office here:
<https://rfa.sc.gov/>



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