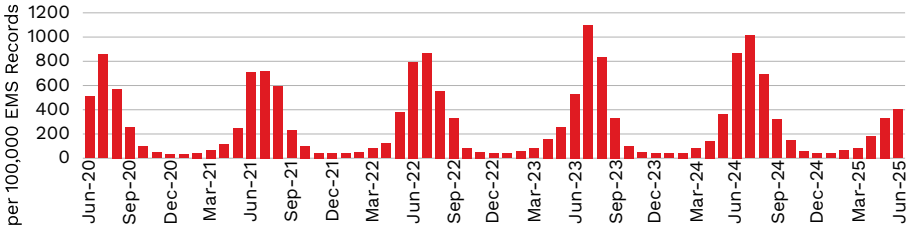
ImageTrend Short Report

July 2025: EMS Response to Heat-Related Illness

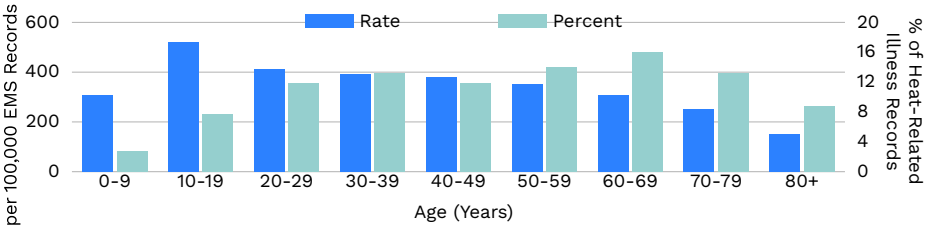
Background

Globally, extreme heat events are becoming increasingly common.[1] Anyone may experience heat-related illness, however, certain populations, including pregnant women, elderly, children, and socioeconomically vulnerable communities, are at heightened risk.[2]

Heat-Related Illness Incidents by Month



Heat-Related Illness Incidents by Age Group



61% of heat-related visits were men

68% of responses resulted in patient treatment/transport

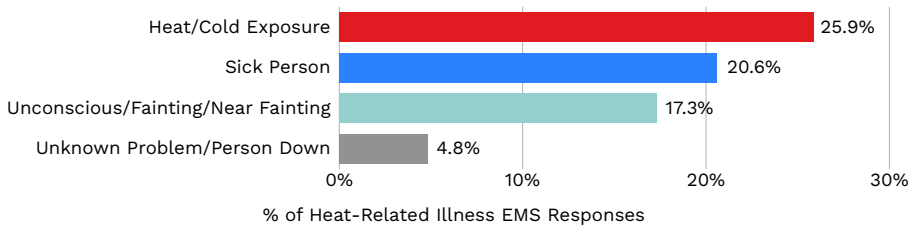
Occuring at athletic/recreation areas:
11% Overall vs. **24%** of 10-19 year-olds

25% were "emergent" intial patient acuity

3% were "critical" initial patient acuity

Occurring at home/private residence:
47% Overall vs. **65%** of 80+ year-olds

Top Dispatch Reasons



Inclusion Criteria: June 2020-2025 biospatial Heat Syndrome
Data Source: biospatial by ImageTrend
Citations:

1. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Extreme Heat. https://www.epa.gov/climatechange-science/extreme-heat#impacts. Accessed June 18, 2025.
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). People at Increased Risk for Heat-Related Illness. https://www.cdc.gov/heat-health/risk-factors/index.html. Accessed June 18, 2025.

Call to Action

Dispatch reason may not always identify heat-related illness as cause for call.

911

EMS clinicians should be prepared to recognize symptoms and risk factors for heat-related illness, especially in vulnerable populations on high-heat days

Agencies should be aware of high-risk populations and partner with community organizations for prevention efforts

Learn more about participating in or conducting research with the ImageTrend Collaborate Dataset here: