

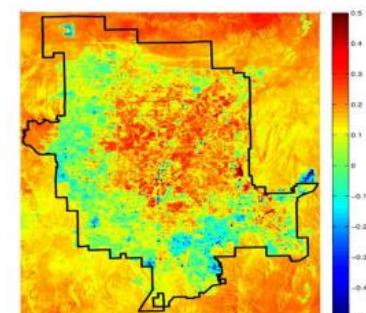
Strengthening Resiliency in Communities of Color in Nevada and Arizona

Clark County, Nevada:
Heat & Health Policy
Community Forum

June 30, 2021



This work is funded by the Walmart Foundation as part of its research initiative “Impact of COVID-19 on Communities of Color.”



Fortalecimiento de la resiliencia en comunidades de color en Nevada y Arizona

Condado de Clark, Nevada:
Foro Comunitario: las Pólizas sobre
el Calor y la Salud

el 30 de Junio, 2021



Study Overview

- Funded by Walmart Foundation 
- Disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 on Latino and Native American communities
- Community-informed approach

Resumen del Estudio

- Patrocinado por la Fundación Walmart 
- Impactos desproporcionados del COVID-19 en las comunidades latinas e indígenas americanas
- Enfoque informado por la comunidad

Study Goal

- To inform decision-makers in government, the private sector, and communities about opportunities to support community resilience to extreme heat through policy and planning.



Meta del Estudio

- Para informar a los tomadores de decisiones en el gobierno, el sector privado y las comunidades sobre las oportunidades para apoyar la resiliencia de la comunidad al calor extremo a través de pólizas y planificación.



Study Questions



Heat Challenges

- What heat-related challenges did COVID-19 expose or exacerbate?



Policy Gaps

- What policies help address these challenges?
- What are the gaps?
- How can policy help reduce negative impacts?

Preguntas del Estudio



Retos con el calor

- ¿Cuáles son los retos relacionados con el calor expuestos o exacerbados por el COVID-19?



Oportunidades en Políticas

- ¿Qué pólizas ayudan a resolver estos retos?
- ¿Qué falta en las pólizas?
- ¿Cómo pueden las pólizas ayudar a reducir los impactos negativos?

What We Did

- Needs Assessment: Interviews (and survey)
- Landscape Analysis: Policy review
- Gap Analysis: Interviews + Observed gaps
- Recommendations

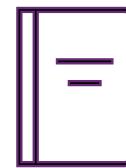
Lo que hicimos

- Evaluación de necesidades: entrevistas (y encuesta)
- Análisis: revisión de políticas
- Análisis de oportunidades en políticas: entrevistas + faltas observadas
- Recomendaciones

Policy Review

46 policies related to heat:

- 16 Plans
- 15 Programs & initiatives
- 15 Statutes & codes



Analyzed for:

- Focal heat issues
- Strategies
- Relevant spaces
- Beneficiaries

* Nevada, Clark County, City of Las Vegas

Revisión de Pólizas

46 pólizas relacionadas con el calor:

- 16 Planes
- 15 Programas e iniciativas
- 15 Estatutos y códigos



Analizado para:

- Problemas enfocados en el calor
- Estrategias
- Espacios relevantes
- Beneficiarios

* Nevada, Condado de Clark, Las Vegas

Who We Spoke With

15 community leaders

33 community members

- 9 Native American; 24 Latino/a

59% women

44% live in a single-family home

41% live in an apartment

53% rent their home

76% have walkable access to a green space

65% earn less than \$75,000 annually

56% earn less than \$50,000 annually

(Median HH income in CC= \$57K)



Hablamos con estos participantes

15 líderes comunitarios

33 participantes comunitarios

9 indígena; 24 Latino/Latina

59% mujeres

44% viven en una casa de una familia

41% viven en un apartamento

53% alquilan su hogar

76% pueden caminar a un lugar con plantas (espacio verde)

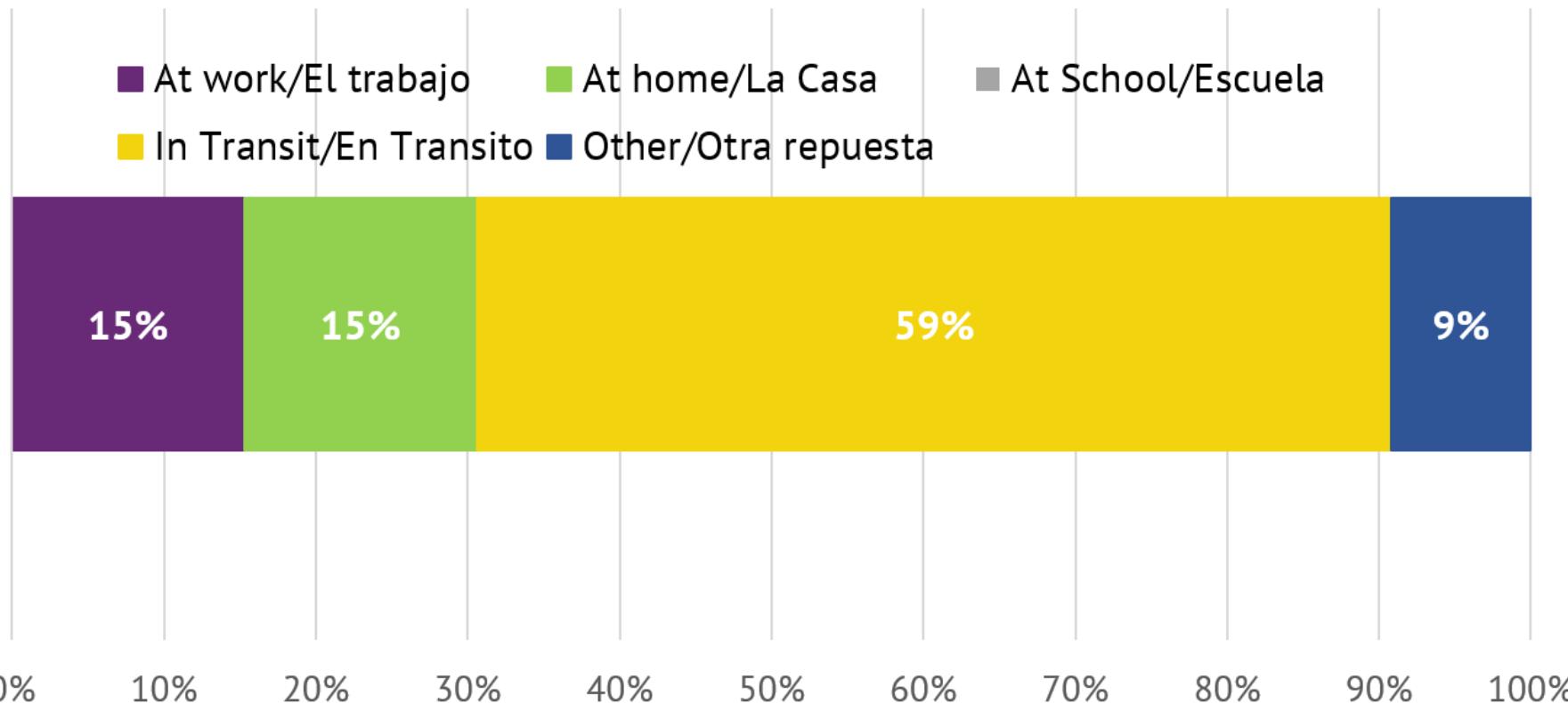
65% logra menos de \$75,000

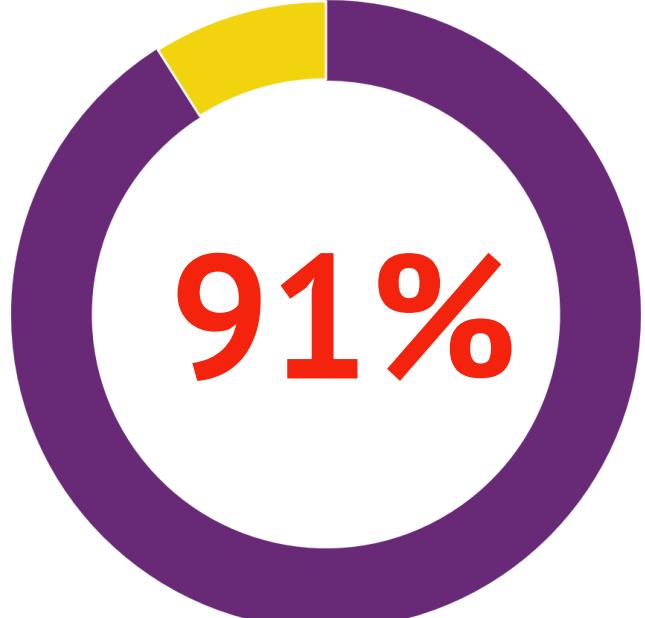
56% logra menos de \$50,000



Where do You Experience Heat the Most?

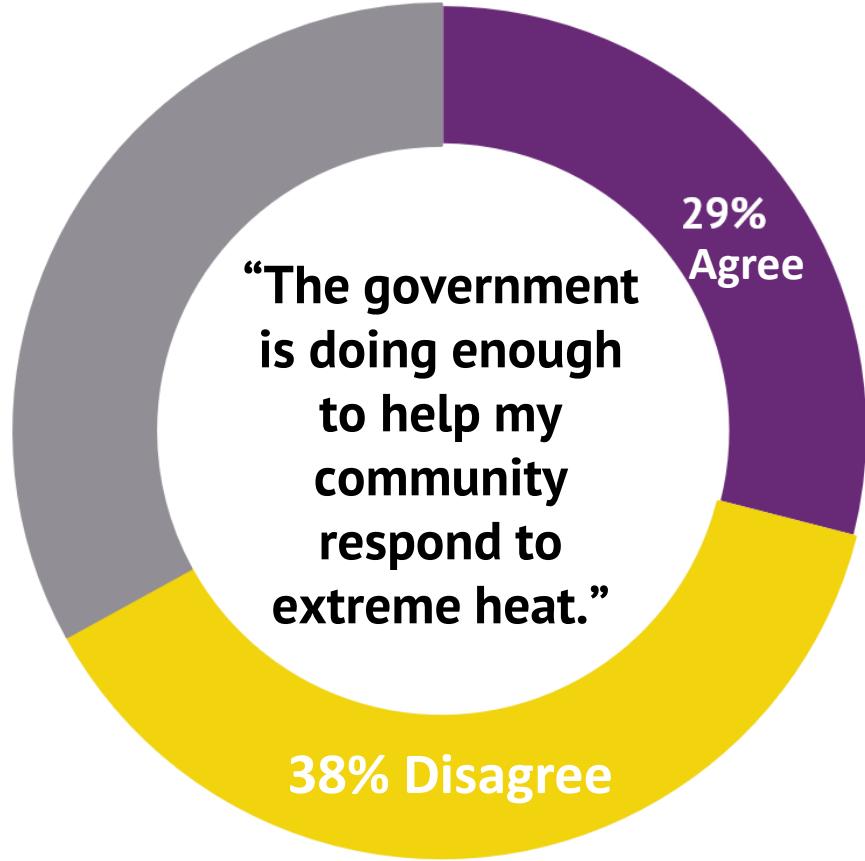
¿Dónde usted sufre más del calor?





are *somewhat or very concerned* about the risks posed by extreme heat

están algo o muy preocupados por los riesgos que plantea el calor extremo



29% están de acuerdo con la declaración: "*El gobierno está haciendo lo suficiente para ayudar a mi comunidad a responder al calor extremo.*" 38% no están de acuerdo.

What We Heard

Primary Heat Challenges

Thermal discomfort

- Indoors and outdoors
- During transit



Energy use

- Utility/AC maintenance expenses
- Broken/inefficient AC

Concerns about Health

- Dehydration
- Aggravation of underlying conditions (e.g., asthma)



Lo Que Escuchamos

Retos principales debidos al calor

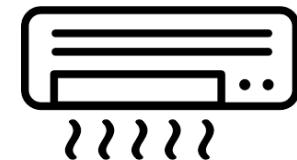
Incómodos debido al calor

- Al aire libre y adentro
- Durante el tránsito



Uso de energía

- Gastos de servicios públicos
- Gastos de mantenimiento de aire acondicionado
- Aire acondicionado averiado/ineficiente



Preocupaciones sobre la salud

- Deshidración



Thermal discomfort at home and outdoors

Indoors (At home)

- Poor insulation
- Inefficient/broken/no air conditioner



Outdoors (Front yards, backyards, public spaces, work sites)

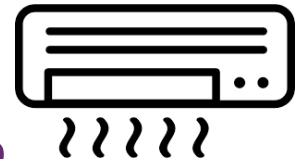
- Lack of shade, trees, green space, and water
- Lack of shelter and water at work



Malestar en el calor en casa y afuera

Adentro (En casa)

- Aislante deficiente
- Aire acondicionado ineficiente/averiado o sin aire acondicionado



Espacios al aire libre (Patios delanteros, patios traseros, espacios públicos, los sitios del trabajo)

- Falta de áreas sombreadas, árboles y espacios verdes
- Falta del albergue y agua

Thermal discomfort in transit

Private vehicle

- Broken/inefficient air conditioner
- Cost of gas to run air conditioner

Public transit

- Lack of shade and/or water at bus stops
- Lack of shade when walking to bus stop, walking to school

Malestar en el calor durante el tránsito

Vehículo privado

- Aire acondicionado averiado/ ineficiente
- Costo del gas para hacer funcionar el aire acondicionado

Tránsito público

- Falta de áreas sombreadas y agua en las paradas de autobús
- Falta de áreas sombreadas al caminar hacia la parada del autobús

Impacts of thermal discomfort

How are participants impacted by heat-related challenges?

- Physical
- Financial
- Mental

What impact did COVID have?

- Existing challenges often made worse by COVID and/or
- New challenges arose

Los impactos del malestar debido al calor

¿Cómo se ven afectadas los participantes por los retos relacionados con el calor?

- Físico
- Mental
- Financiero

¿Qué impacto tuvo COVID?

- Retos a menudo empeorados por COVID y/o
- Surgieron nuevos retos

How did COVID affect heat mitigation strategies?

Places typically sought out to escape extreme heat were closed

- Indoor
 - Libraries, Schools/ Universities, Malls, Movie Theaters, Work
 - Homes of friends that had working AC
- Outdoor
 - Pools, parks

¿Cómo afectó el COVID a las estrategias de mitigación del calor?

Los lugares que normalmente se buscaban para escapar del calor extremo estaban cerrados.

- Interior
 - Bibliotecas, escuelas / universidades, centros comerciales, cines, trabajo
 - Casas de amigos con aire acondicionado funcionando
- Exterior
 - Piscinas, parques

Challenges with energy use

Energy use

- At home
- Financial impacts
- Challenges often made worse by COVID
- Increased use, expense

Retos con el uso de energía

Uso de energía

- En casa
- Impactos financieros
- Los retos a menudo empeoran con COVID
- Más uso de la energía, gastos

Health Concerns

Direct

- Sweating, Dehydration, Dizziness

Indirect

- Aggravates asthma
- High blood pressure

Indoor/Outdoor/In Transit

- Indoor: when AC broken/absent
- Outdoor: walking to school, working
- In transit: when AC broken, waiting for bus

Preocupaciones de Salud

Directo

- Transpiración, Deshidración, Mareo

Indirecto

- Agrava el asma
- Agrava hipertensión arterial

Community identified helpful supports & programs

Typical year

- Rural and urban parks
- Public pools, splash pads, community centers
- Social support
- Libraries
- Energy assistance, weatherization programs
- Don't know/none identified

During COVID

- Financial assistance (e.g., stimulus check, unemployment benefits)
- Social support
- Don't know/none identified

Programas y apoyos útiles identificados por la comunidad

Año típico

- Parques rurales y urbanos
- Piscinas públicas, chapoteaderos, centros comunitarios, bibliotecas
- Apoyo social
- Asistencia energética, programas de climatización
- No sabe/ ninguno identificado

Durante COVID

- Apoyo social
- Ayuda financiera (p.e., estímulo, beneficios por desempleo)
- No sabe/ninguno identificado

Policies for Thermal Comfort: Transportation & Public Space

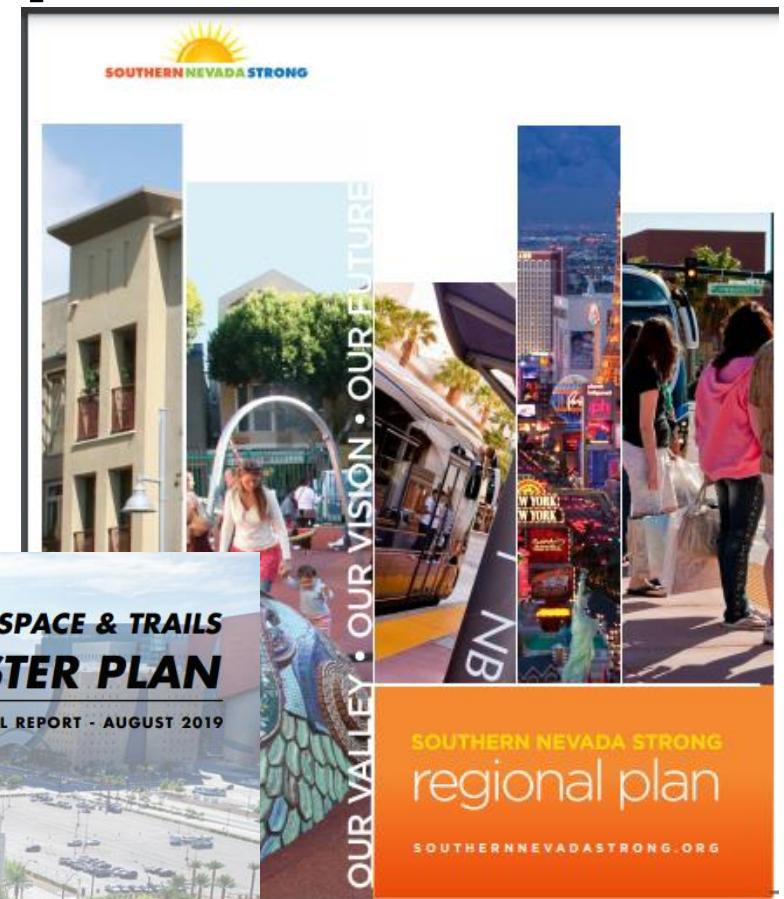
The screenshot shows the RTC website's navigation bar with links for Ways to Travel, About, Projects & Initiatives, Traffic Cams, News, Contact, and SNS. Below the navigation is a large orange banner with the text "Transportation Planning". To the left of the banner is a dark image of a city street. On the right, there is a vertical stack of four smaller images: a building, a person walking, a night cityscape, and a person walking at night.

[Overview](#) > [Transportation Planning](#) > [Planning Studies & Reports](#) > Regional Walkability Plan

Help us make Southern Nevada streets more walkable

Many streets in Southern Nevada are uncomfortable for pedestrians; sidewalks are often obstructed by light poles, end abruptly at the edge of undeveloped properties, or do not meet universal design standards. Additionally, wide roadways, suburban development patterns, and a lack of pedestrian scaled lighting, shade, and street activity contribute to lower levels of walkability and daily activity.

To overcome these challenges, the Regional Walkability Plan will serve as a blueprint for a walkable street network that connects people to community destinations, workplaces, and transit. The plan is an implementation action of the On Board Mobility Plan and aims to improve community health and increase pedestrian comfort and safety.



Policies for (Home) Energy Use

Energy Assistance Program:

The Energy Assistance Program (EAP) provides a supplement to assist qualifying low-income Nevadans with the cost of home energy. Nevada's EAP program has two funding sources, the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) federal block grant and state revenue generated from Nevada's Universal Energy Charge (UEC).

The EAP program year begins July 1st and applications are accepted through June 30th. Applications are evaluated year round or until funding is exhausted. Eligible households receive an annual, one-time per year benefit customarily paid directly to their energy provider(s).



Weatherization Assistance Program

Program Basics

The Weatherization Assistance Program provides energy conservation measures in dwelling units occupied by families at or below 150% of the federal poverty income guidelines as established by the US Office of Management and Budget. For eligible homeowners and renters, there is no direct cost to participate in the program. Owners of eligible rental properties may be required to pay up to 50% of any capital improvement measures that are installed.

Energy Conservation Measures

After a home energy assessment is performed by a trained energy auditor, a dwelling unit may qualify for some of these typical energy conservation measures:

- Air sealing;
 - Energy efficient light bulbs;
 - Insulation;
 - Low-flow shower heads;
 - Pipe raps;
 - Solar screens; and
 - Weather-stripping.

Policies for Health

PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
DIVISION OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY
LCB File No. R053-20

January 25, 2021

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [~~omitted material~~] is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§1-12, NRS 618.295 and 618.315.

A REGULATION relating to occupational safety and health; adopting by reference certain standards relating to heat stress and strain; imposing certain duties on employers of employees who are exposed to certain high temperatures; requiring employers to ensure that employees have ready access to potable drinking water; requiring employers to provide employees with access to shade under certain circumstances; requiring an employer to provide employees with training relating to heat illness; imposing certain duties on an employer of an employee who shows signs or symptoms of heat illness; providing that an employee is responsible for monitoring his or her own personal risk factors for heat illness; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

NRS 118A.380 Failure of landlord to supply essential items or services.

1. If the landlord is required by the rental agreement or this chapter to supply heat, air-conditioning service and the landlord willfully or negligently fails to do so, causing the premises to become uninhabitable, the tenant may, in addition to any other remedy:

- (a) Procure reasonable amounts of such essential items or services during the landlord's noncompliance and deduct their actual and reasonable cost from the rent;
 - (b) Recover actual damages, including damages based upon the lack of use of the premises or the diminution of the fair rental value of the dwelling unit;
 - (c) Withhold any rent that becomes due during the landlord's noncompliance without incurring late fees, charges for notice or any other charge or fee authorized by this chapter or the rental agreement, until the landlord has attempted in good faith to restore the essential items or services; or
 - (d) Procure other housing which is comparable during the landlord's noncompliance, and the rent for the original premises fully abates during this period. The tenant may recover the actual and reasonable cost of that other housing which is in excess of the amount of rent which is abated.
2. If the tenant proceeds under this section, the tenant may not proceed under [NRS 118A.350](#) and [118A.360](#) as to that breach.
3. The rights of the tenant under this section do not arise until the tenant has given written notice as required by subsection 1, except that the tenant may, without having given that notice:
- (a) Recover damages as authorized under paragraph (b) of subsection 1 if the landlord:



SERVING SOUTHERN NEVADA
DOING THE MOST GOOD.SM



DONATE TODAY
WHOSE LIFE WILL YOUR DONATION TRANSFORM?

HOME PROGRAMS THAT HELP MAKE AN IMPACT VOLUNTEER FAMILY THRIFT STORES ABOUT US

Extreme Heat Relief Available Now



Cooling Station Location

The Salvation Army Social Services Campus
35 West Owens, N Las Vegas, 89030

Barriers to Policy

- Lack of awareness
- Eligibility (income, citizenship, etc.)
- Language (fluency)
- Lack of access during COVID

Barreras a las políticas

- Falta de conocimiento
- Elegibilidad
- Idioma
- Falta de acceso durante COVID

Potential policy gap: Information awareness

GAP: Information exists, but many participants were not aware of it.

- Identified 15 policies that provide heat information, such as:
 - Websites, Flyers, Reports

Possible oportunidad de políticas: Conocimiento de la información

FALTA: Existe información, pero muchos participantes no lo sabían.

- Identificamos 15 pólizas que brindan información sobre el calor, como:
 - Sitios web, Volantes, Informes

Potential policy gap: Utility assistance access

GAP: Several options exist, but many participants felt they are difficult to access because of:

- Limited eligibility
- Immigration status
- Income threshold
- Documentation needed
- Time required to apply
- Lack of awareness of options
- Language barriers

Possible oportunidad de políticas: acceso a la asistencia de servicios públicos

FALTA: Existen varias opciones, pero muchos participantes pensaban que es difícil acceder a ellas debido a:

- Elegibilidad limitada
- Estado de inmigración
- Nivel de ingresos
- Documentación necesaria
- Tiempo requerido para solicitar
- Falta de conocimiento de opciones

Potential policy gap: Work-related guidelines

GAP: Identified impacts of heat in the workplace, but few policies, plans, and programs addressed heat related impacts in the workplace.

Possible oportunidad de políticas: Directrices relacionadas con el trabajo

FALTA: Impactos identificados del calor en el lugar de trabajo, pero pocas políticas, planes y programas abordaron los impactos relacionados con el calor en el lugar de trabajo.

Potential policy gap: Limited place-based options

GAP: Several options exist, but they are limited. They don't map to where residents experience extreme heat.

- Limited cooling centers, no transportation
- Bus stops lack shade, water, green materials
- Free options are limited
- Limited during COVID/health pandemic

Possible oportunidad de políticas: limitadas opciones basadas en ubicación

FALTA: Existen varias opciones, pero son limitadas. No se asignan a los lugares donde los residentes experimentan un calor extremo.

- Centros de enfriamiento limitados, sin transporte
- Las paradas de autobús carecen de sombra, agua, materiales verdes
- Las opciones gratuitas son limitadas
- Limitado durante COVID / pandemia de salud

Recommendations: Information and Education

- Increase awareness of heat-related programs and resources
 - Free locations/sites
 - Use funding to promote programs
- Provide information on heat and health
 - How heat can impact you
 - Tips and tricks
 - Centralized and accessible
 - In Spanish

Recomendaciones: Información y Educación

- Mejorar conocimiento de los programas y recursos relacionados con el calor
 - Sitios gratis
 - Usar financiamiento para promover programas
- Distribuir información sobre calor y salud
 - ¿Cómo puede impactarle el calor?
 - Consejos
 - Centralizado y accesible
 - En español

Recommendations: Comfortable Spaces

- Access to (free) refuge locations, cooling centers, water
- Home air conditioner access, replacement, repair
- Car air conditioner, replacement, repair
- More shade, trees, greenspace
 - At parks, home, work sites, schools
- More parks, pools, splash pads
- Protect public transit stops
 - More shade, access to water, cooler materials (non-metal)
- Support for houseless residents

Recomendaciones: Información y Educación

- Ampliar acceso (gratuito) a lugares de descanso, centros de enfriamiento y agua.
- Iniciar programas que ayuden a incrementar el acceso/reemplazo/reparación del aire acondicionado en casa
- Iniciar programas que apoyan al reemplazo, reparación del aire acondicionado del coche
- Aumentar áreas sombreadas, árboles, espacios verdes en parques, casas/hogares, lugares del trabajo, escuela
- Construir más parques, piscinas, albercas/ chapoteaderos
- Integrar protección en las paradas de tránsito público: Más sombra, acceso a agua, usar materiales que no generen tanto calor (no metálicas)

Recommendations: Energy

- Utility assistance
 - Increase availability, awareness
 - Expand eligibility
- Continue weatherization, energy audits programs
 - Provide support
- Forgive utility debt accumulated during COVID
- Renewable energy
- Solar panels
- Empower/teach to maintain home cooling systems

Recomendaciones: Energía

- Asistencia de servicios públicos
- Aumentar la disponibilidad, conocimiento
- Ampliar la elegibilidad
- Condonar la deuda de servicios públicos acumulado durante COVID
- Energía removable
- Paneles solares
- Capacitar / enseñar a mantener los sistemas del aire acondicionado domésticos

Recommendations: Non-Home-Based Policies

- Evaluate work environments/risks
 - Shade tents at construction sites
 - Water, breaks, cooling stations
- Programs to repair car air conditioning systems
- Water bottle refilling stations at public transit stops, schools, social service departments

Recomendaciones: Las políticas no basadas en el hogar

- Evaluar entornos / riesgos laborales
 - Tiendas de campaña con sombra en los sitios de construcción
 - Agua, descansos, estaciones de enfriamiento.
- Programas para reparar sistemas de aire acondicionado de automóviles
- Implementar estaciones de llenado de botellas de agua en paradas de transporte público, escuelas, departamentos de servicios sociales

Discussion

Questions? Comments?

- What information would help you have informed conversations about heat?
- How would you like to receive information about heat?
- How can information about heat be made more accessible to your community?

Conversación

¿Preguntas? ¿Comentarios?

- ¿Qué información le ayudaría a tener conversaciones informadas sobre el calor?
- ¿Cómo le gustaría recibir información sobre el calor?
- ¿Cómo se puede hacer más accesible para su comunidad la información sobre el calor?

Questions?

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Preguntas?

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