2021 Heat Deaths

Tianna Baker, Epi Data Analyst
Vjollca Berisha, Sr. Epidemiologist
In 2021, there were 338 heat-associated deaths in Maricopa County

First heat associated death-April 11
Last heat associated death-Nov 23

- Heat Caused= 193
- Heat Related= 145

**Under Investigation=4**
338 heat-associated deaths were reported in 2021, a 4.6% increase from 2020 and a 69.8% increase from 2019.
The proportion of indoor heat deaths has been decreasing since 2018 but increased for 2021. Heat deaths overall have also been increasing each year.
There was a 44% increase in the number of people who died indoors from 2020 to 2021.
Most indoor heat deaths occurred in June and July.
Indoor Heat Deaths AC Status
n=82

- AC Present: 84%
- AC Not Present: 13%
- Unknown: 2%
A non-functioning AC was the most common reason for inadequate cooling of the home. N=69

- Non-functioning: 75%
- Turned off: 19%
- No Electricity: 3%
- Unknown Reason: 3%
Among those with AC present over the past 5 years, the large increase in non-functioning ACs in 2021 stood out the most.
Questions/Discussion
Number of indoor heat deaths with no electricity regardless of AC status.
Percentage of indoor heat deaths where A/C was not present.

21% in 2017
8% in 2018
9% in 2019
17% in 2020
13% in 2021
A little less than 1/2 of indoor heat deaths occurred in a house and over 1/3 occurred in a mobile home.
For most indoor heat deaths-- the person lived independently.
Most indoor heat deaths among males occurred among those aged 50-64 years old. Most female deaths occurred among those aged 75 and older.
Most indoor heat deaths did not involve alcohol or drugs.
Indoor Heat Deaths and Daily Temperatures.
Zipcodes 85351, 85013, 85208, 85040, and 85009 had the highest indoor heat death rates (8-14 indoor deaths per 100,000 people).
Further questions or comments? Contact:

Media Inquiries:
Sonia Singh: Sonia.Singh@Maricopa.gov

Non-Media Inquiries
Aaron Gettel: Aaron.Gettel@Maricopa.gov
Tianna Baker: Tianna.Baker@Maricopa.gov
Vjollca Berisha: Vjollca.Berisha@Maricopa.gov