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# Excessive Heat and Health

*Senate Committee on Housing and Development  
February 2, 2022*

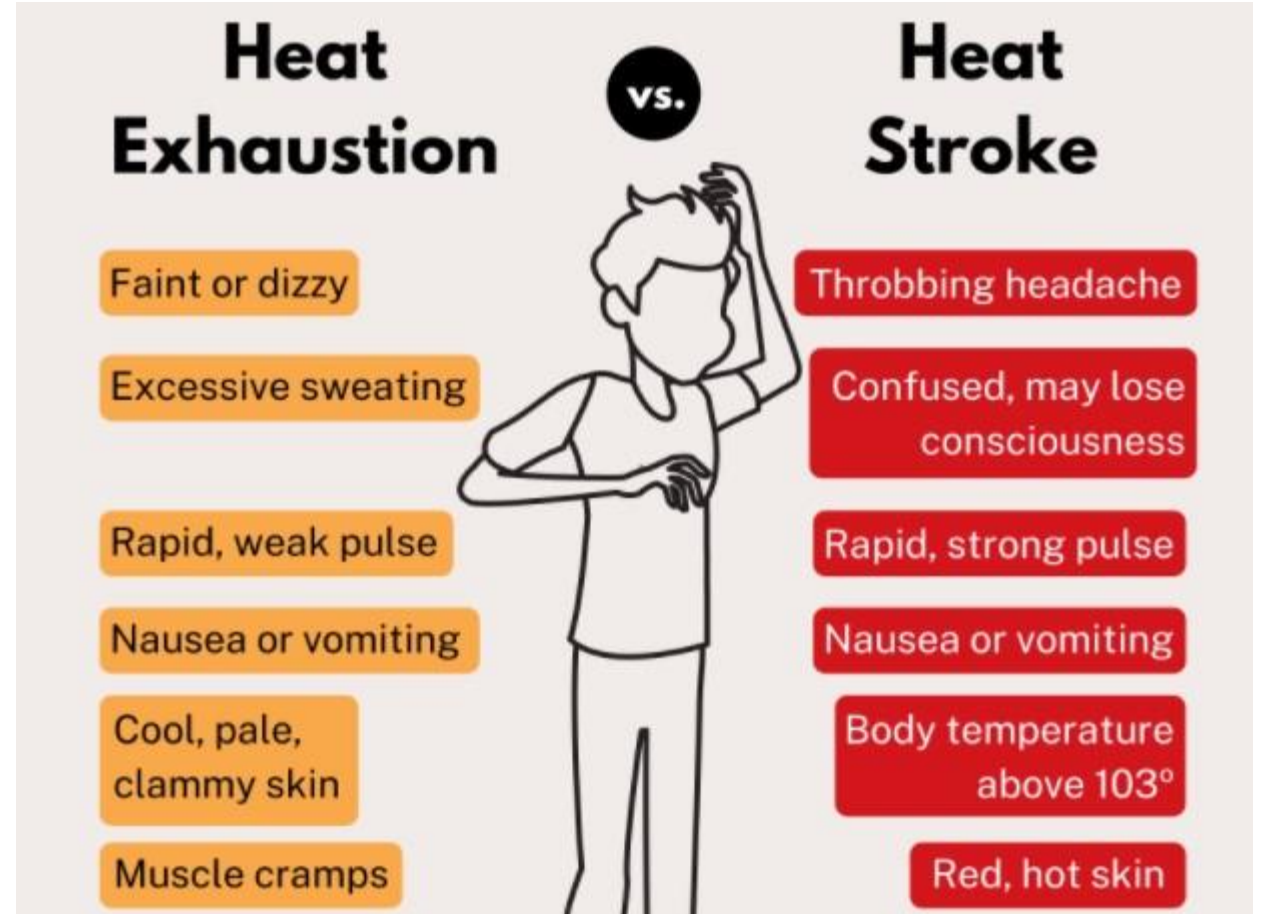
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The logo for the Oregon Health Authority. The word "Oregon" is in a smaller, orange, serif font. The word "Health" is in a large, blue, serif font. The word "Authority" is in a smaller, orange, serif font, positioned below "Health".

Oregon  
Health  
Authority

# Excessive heat health impacts

- Heat stroke – most serious, body unable to control its temperature – Call 911
- Heat exhaustion – milder illness, caused by prolonged exposure to high temperatures, especially when not drinking enough or right kind of fluids



# Populations disproportionately vulnerable to heat



Children

**WHO:**

More males  
than females  
are affected



Older adults



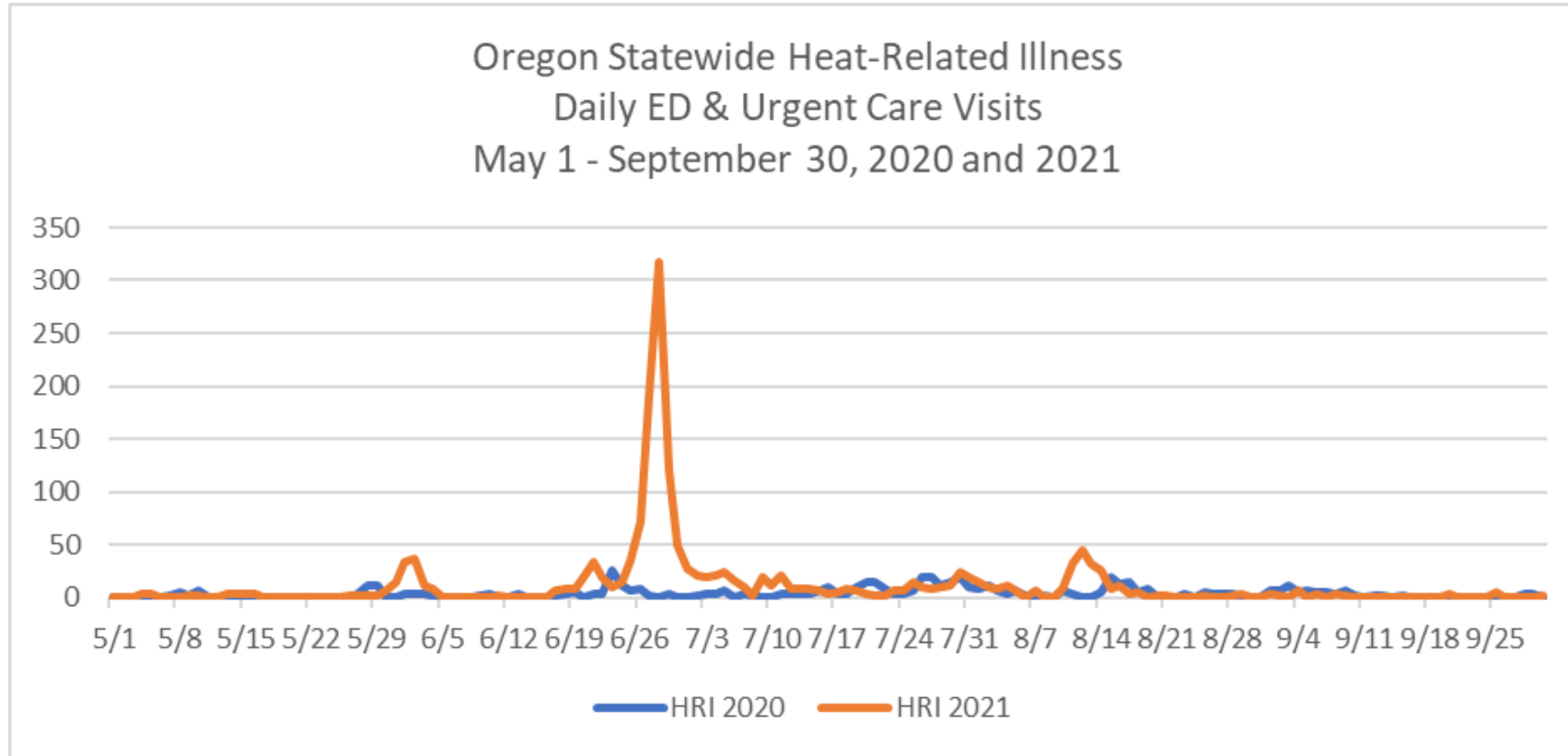
Outside workers



People with disabilities

- Infants and young children
- People with chronic medical conditions
- People taking certain medications
- Unsheltered people
- Outdoor workers
- Low income
- Less tree canopy
- Social isolation
- Athletes

# Oregon Statewide Heat-Related Illness 2020 and 2021



- 59% of heat-related illness ED visits in 2021 were from zip codes with a median household income below \$50,000
- At least 109 deaths solely attributed to heat in summer 2021
- Statewide: 190% more heat-related ED & urgent care visits in 2021 than 2020 (1719 versus 593)

# Questions?

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/ph/preparedness/prepare/pages/prepareforextremeheat.aspx>

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