



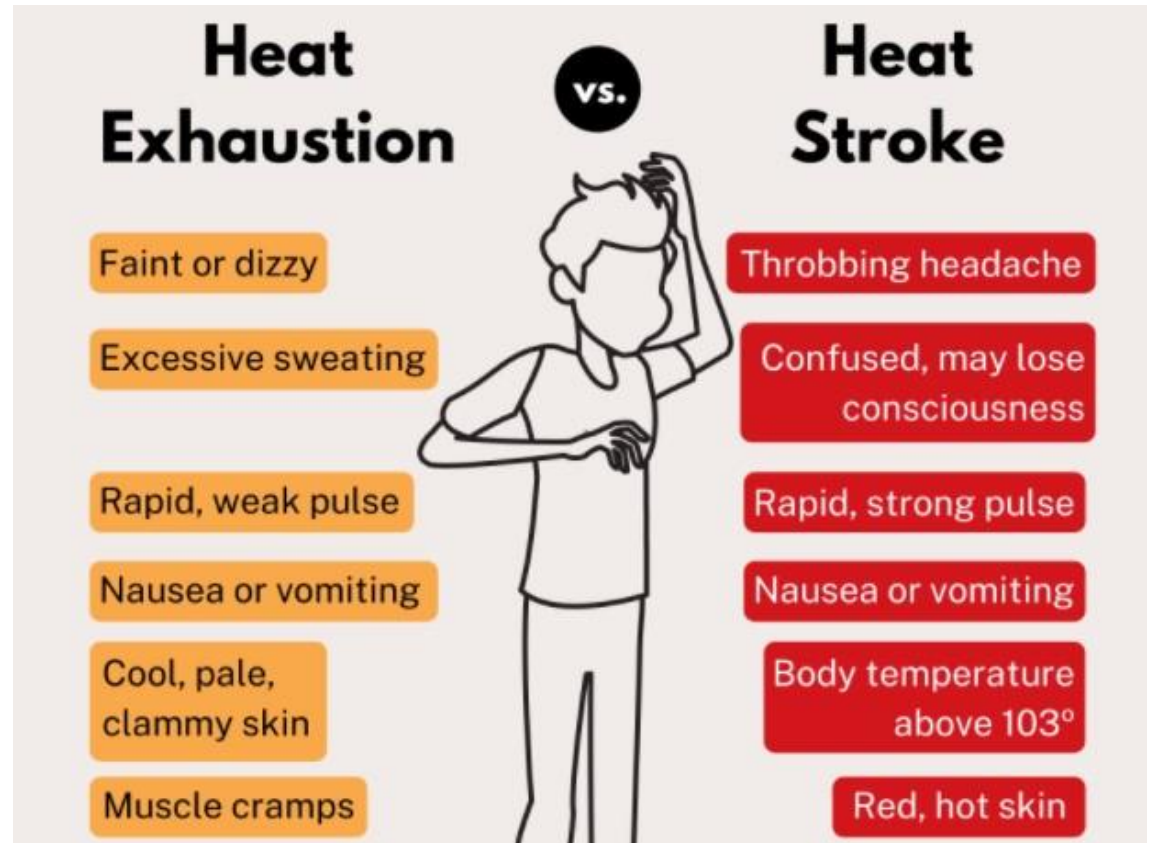
OREGON
HEALTH
AUTHORITY

Senate Committee on Housing and Development
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Center for Health Protection

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

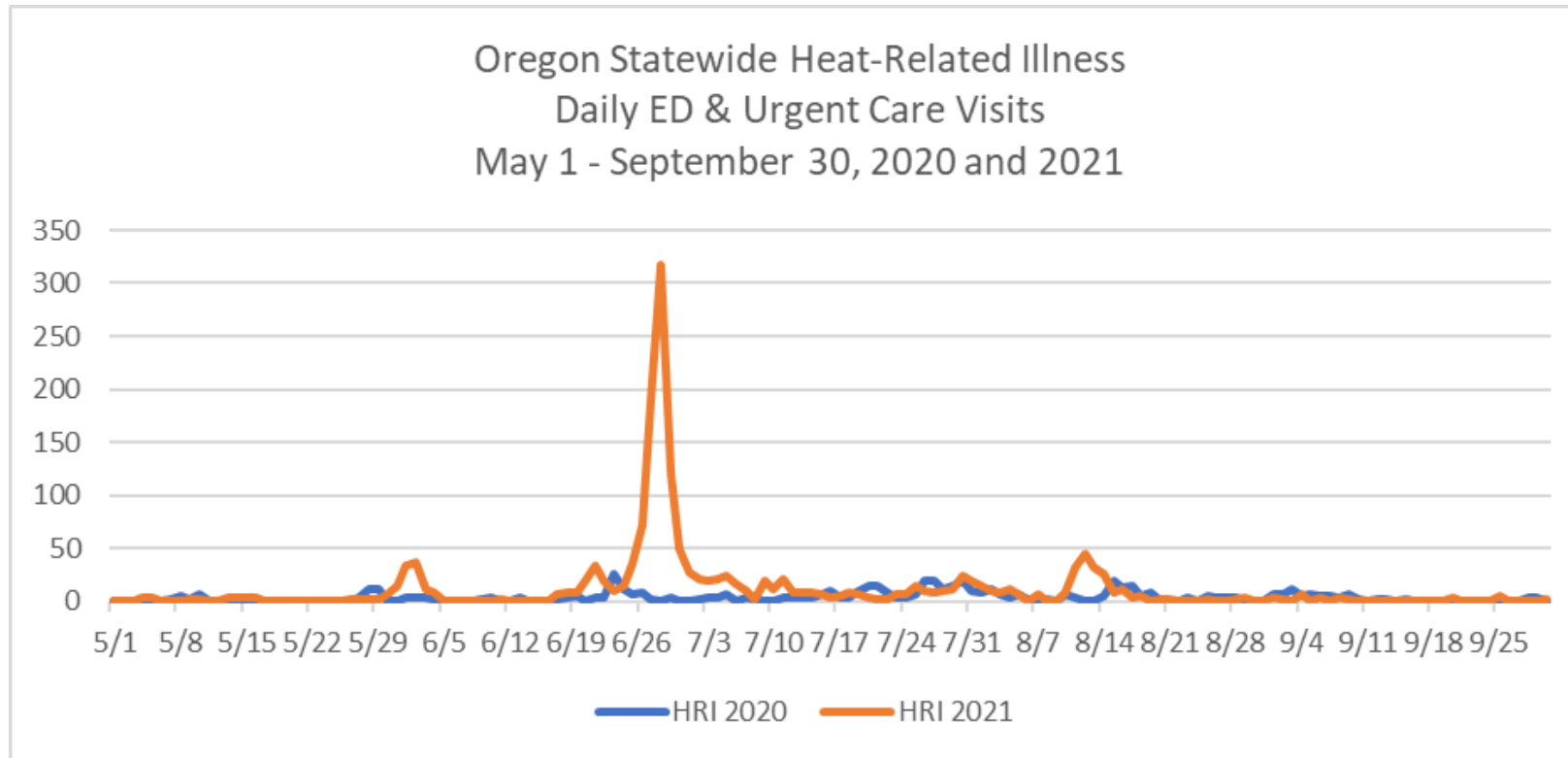


Populations disproportionately vulnerable to heat



- Infants and young children
- People with chronic medical conditions (often older)
- People taking certain medications (often older)
- Unsheltered people
- Socially isolated
- Low income
- Outdoor workers
- Less tree canopy
- Athletes

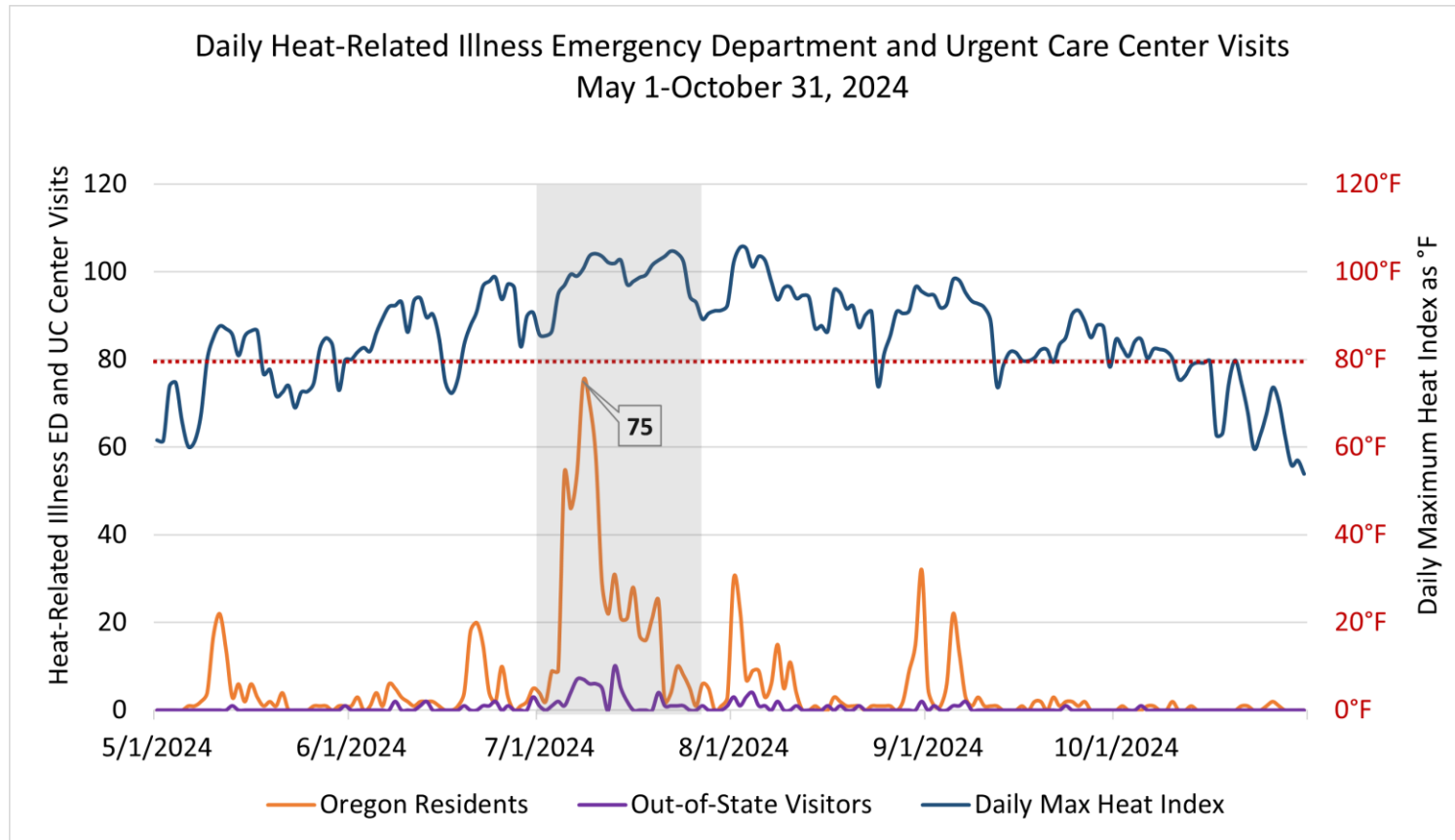
Oregon Statewide Heat-Related Illness 2020 and 2021



- 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)

Oregon Statewide Heat-related Illness, 2024



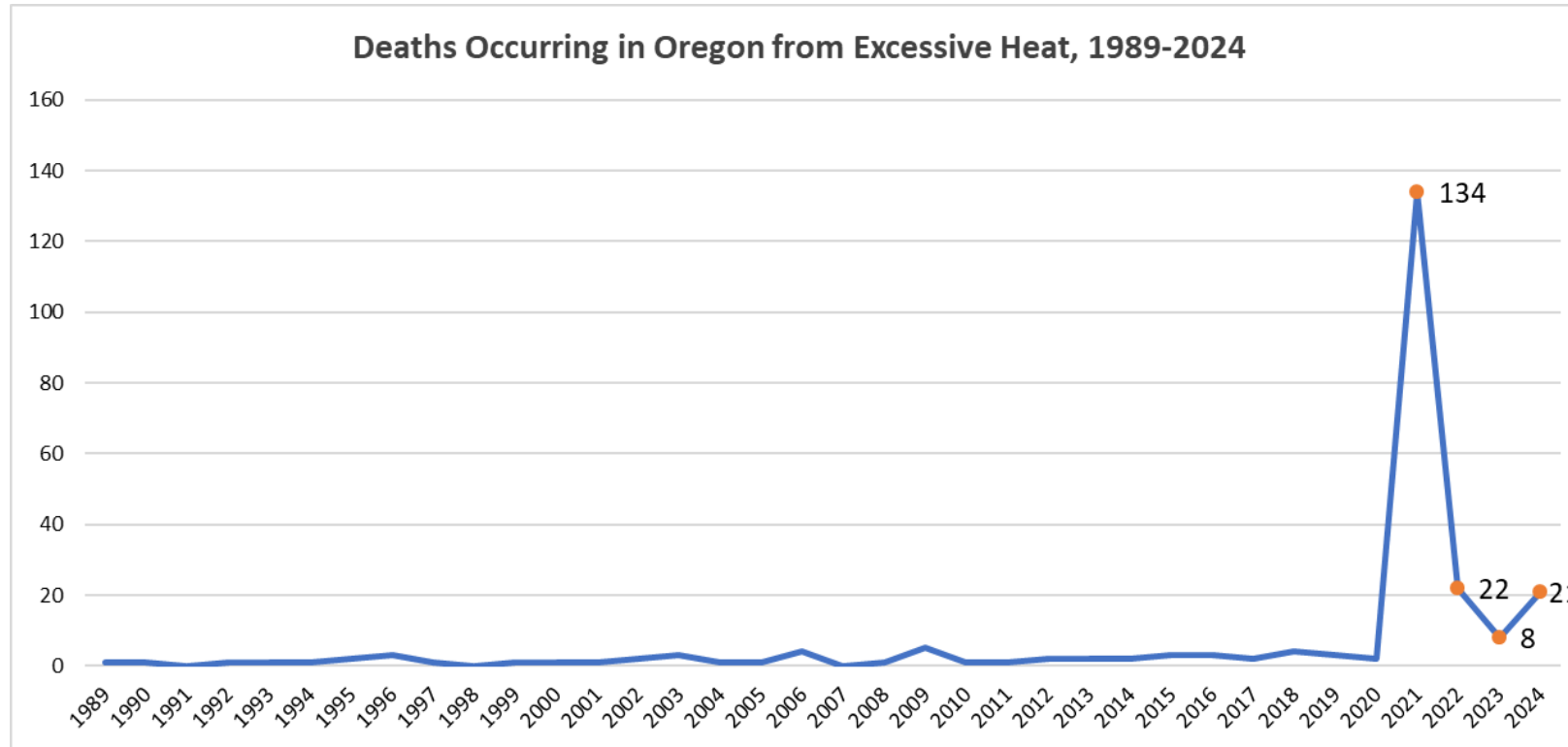
- Most extreme heat events occurred in early and late July, coinciding with the peak number of heat-related illness ED and UC center visits

Consecutive Heat Index days between 80°F and 85°F increased early-season heat-related illness visits to the ED and UC centers

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Public Health Division

Oregon lost 185 lives to extreme heat between 2021 and 2024



- Cardiovascular disease contributed to 67%, diabetes to 38%, substance use to 14%, and mental health conditions (unrelated to substance use) to 24% of heat-related deaths

- In 2024, nearly half of heat-related deaths had multiple contributing causes

Questions?

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

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Environmental Public Health Section

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