Für Mensch & Umwelt



Final HOPE project meeting 'Cooling the Heat!' Brussels, 3 March 2025

Heat Extremes, Public Health Impacts and Adaptation Policy

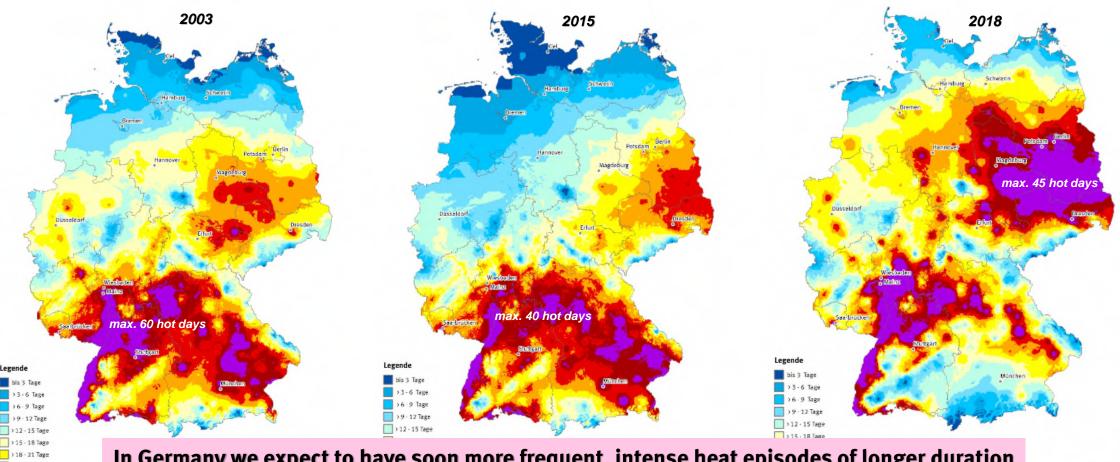
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I. Climate Change causes regional heat extremes in Germany

-> hot days (Tmax >= 30°C) during summer 2003, 2015 and 2018



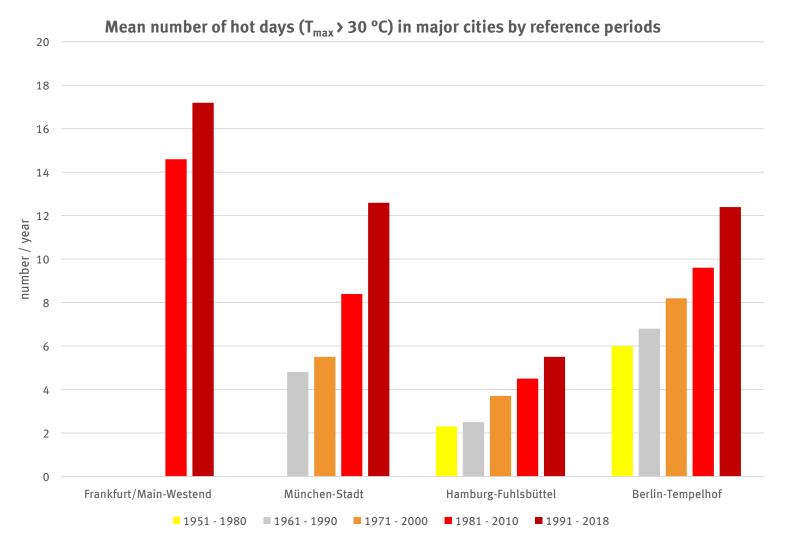
In Germany we expect to have soon more frequent, intense heat episodes of longer duration In 2022, ~65 mio people (77,6%) are living in urban agglomerations

Heat will be a serious health problem within the increasing ageing population

Source: UBA 2018

I. Exposure to local heat extremes

-> urban heat burden is evident in all big cities country-wide

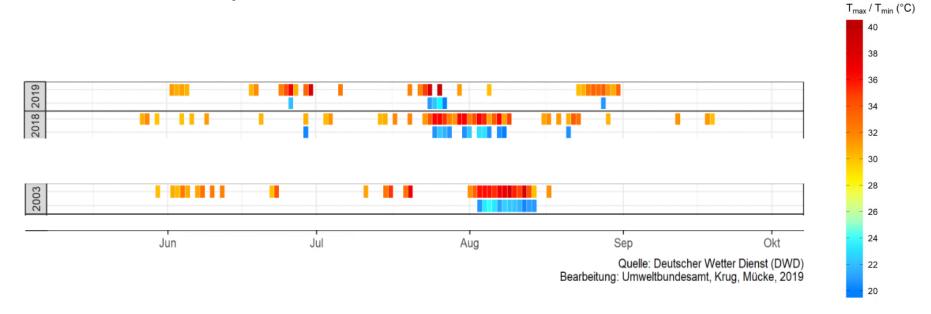


I. Exposure to local heat extremes – day and night

-> the urban heat island (UHI) effect is evident for an increased health-burden in cities

Daily temperature maximum 'hot days' (orange: $T_{max} > 30$ °C) and minimum ,tropic nights' (blue: $T_{min} > 20$ °C)

at the innercity Met-Station Frankfurt/Main-Westend 2003, 2018 and 2019



I. Exposure to local heat extremes

-> how private air conditioning (A/C) give an additional impact on overheatet nighttime temperature in big cities

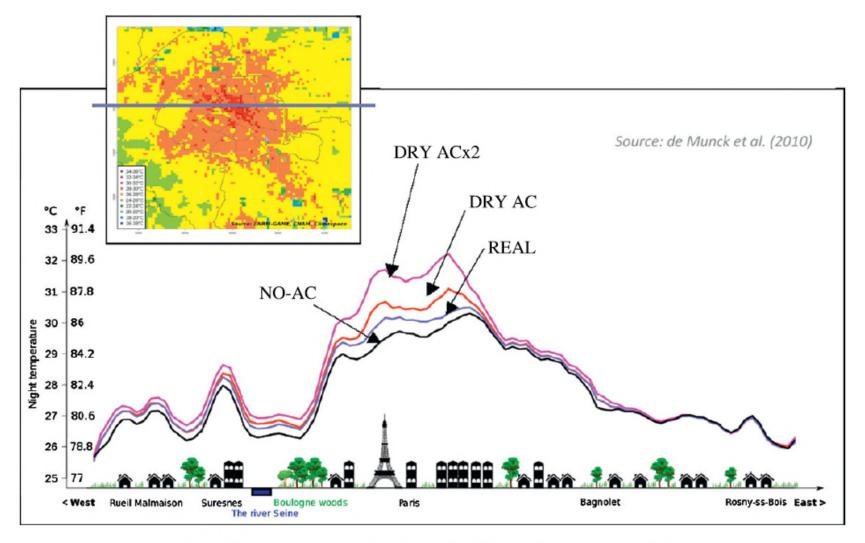
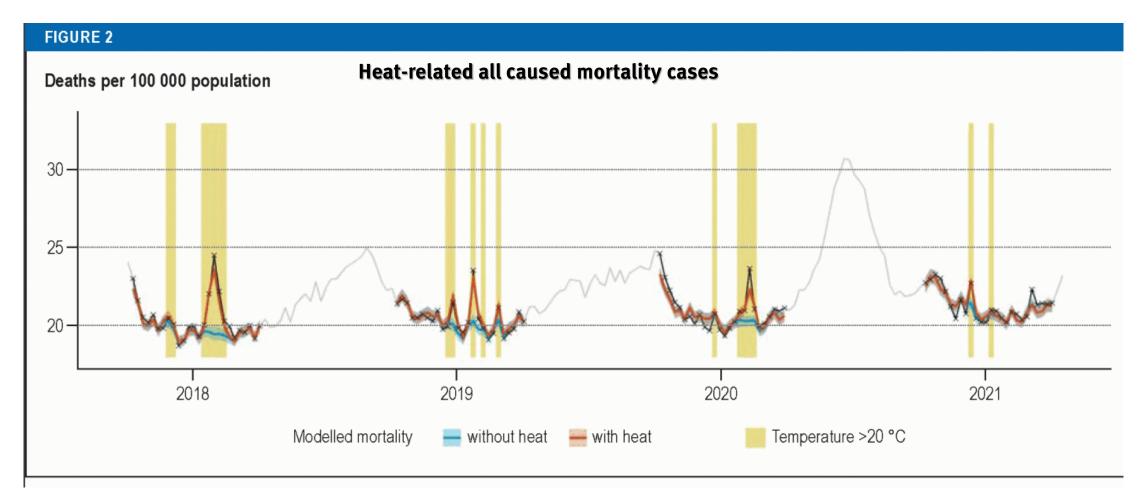


Fig. 4. Temperature profiles at night-time for a West-to-East cross section [16].

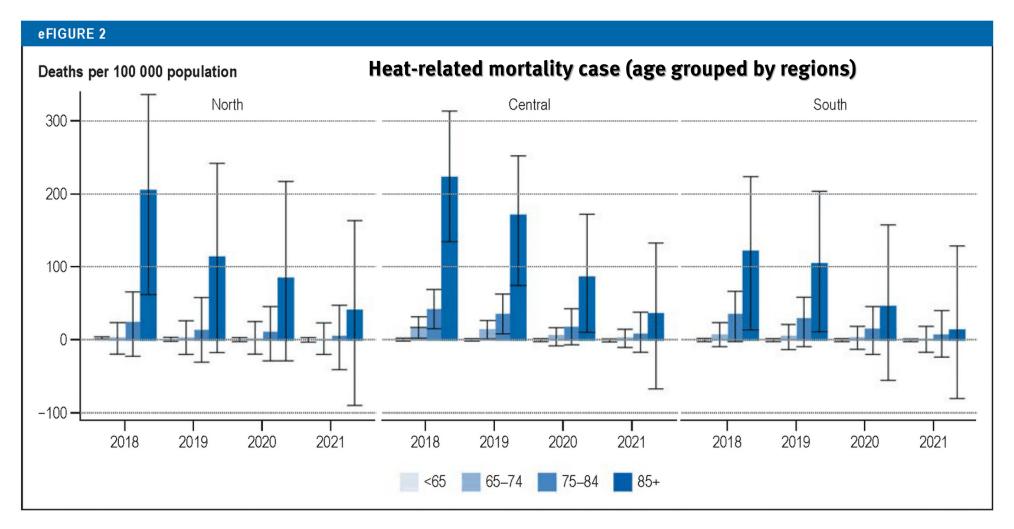
II. Heat related mortality in Germany – a country-wide assessment (2018 – 2021)



Winklmayr C, Muthers S, Niemann H, Mücke HG, an der Heiden M (2022): Heat-related mortality in Germany 1992 to 2021. Dtsch Arztebl Int 117(37):603–609 https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC9639227/

Source: Winklmayr et al. 2022

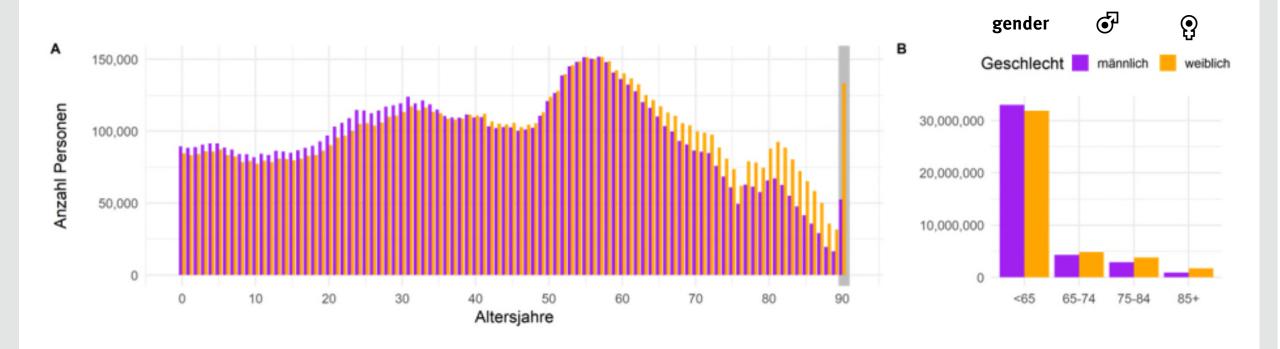
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Source: Winklmayr et al. 2022

II. Age distribution of the population in Germany



II. Heat health impacts – who is most at risk?

UV and heat stress symptoms/illnesses:

sunburn, sunstroke

heat exhaustion, cramps, syncope, oedema, exsiccosis, heatstroke

Data of the Federal Statistical Office, 2020:

0-24 Jahre: 24 % 25-59 Jahre: 47 % >= 60 Jahre: 29 %

2050: >= 60 Jahre: > 50%

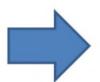
Elderly

Homeless

Outside Workers Outdoor Athletes

Small Children





3,4 Million People in need of nursing care

(as registered with statutory nursing care insurance)

Cared for in institutions 24 %

76 % With support of professional carers: 24%

By their families: 52%
All numbers from the Federal Statistical Office 2018

Source: A. Herrmann 2020

II. Heat exacerbate illnesses

Conditions which increase the risk of dying in a heat-wave				
	Main ICD ^a chapters			
Diabetes mellitus, other endocrine disorders	E10-E14			
Organic mental disorders, dementia, Alzheimer's	F00-F09			
Mental and behavioural disorders due to psychoactive substance use, alcoholism	F10-F19			
schizophrenia, schizotypal and delusional disorders	F20-F29			
extrapyramidal and movement disorders (e.g. Parkinson's disease)	G20-G26			
Cardiovascular disease, hypertension, coronary artery disease, heart conduction disorders	100-199			
Diseases of the respiratory system, chronic lower respiratory disease (COPD, pronchitis)	J00-J99			
Diseases of the renal system, renal failure, kidney stones	N00-N39			

Source: WHO 2008

-> additional important heat health risk factor to be considered: **Obesity E66.-** (ICD10-code)

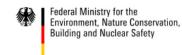
a International Classification of Diseases

III. Use of WHO Heat Health Guidance (2008) for a Guideline in Germany (2017)

-> part of the National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy /DAS (since 2008)



BMUB 2017





WHO proposes following eight core elements:

- I. Lead body and interdisciplinary cooperation
- II. Use of heat alert system
- III. Information and communication
- IV. Reducing heat indoors
- V. Particular care for vulnerable population groups
- VI. Preparedness of the health and social care system
- VII. Long-term urban planning and building sector
- VIII. Monitoring and evaluation of measures

Recommendations for Action

Рекомендации

Heat Action Plans to protect human health по составлению планов действий по защите здоровья населения от воздействия аномальной жары

https://www.bmuv.de/en/topics/health-chemicals/overview-health/overview-health-in-climate-change/recommendations-for-heat-action-plans

presented at the 6th WHO Ministerial Environment and Health Conference in Ostrava/CZ 2017

III. Heat Health Action Plans – local and regional (since 2019)



MANNHEIMER HITZEAKTIONSPLAN





Article

Heat Perception and Coping Strategies: A Structured Interview-Based Study of Elderly People in Cologne, Germany

Juliane Kemen 1,*, Silvia Schäffer-Gemein 1, Johanna Grünewald 2,30 and Thomas Kistemann 1,4,5

Thematic song of the Heat Health Action Plan for elder people in Cologne: Drinke! by Trio KLABES to be obtained from youtube

Journal of Public Health (2024) 32:1733-1742 https://doi.org/10.1007/s10389-023-01932-2

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Heat in German cities: a study on existing and planned measures to protect human health

Heat Health Action Plans

Dresden

Erfurt

Köln

Mannheim

Nürnberg

Offenbach

Worms

Würzburg

••••

Berlin

Brandenburg

Hessen

Thüringen

Ba-Wü und NRW



III. Heat health measures — various concepts for adaptation and protection (2023)

-> selected study results (51 municipalities included); number of prevention measures mentioned

Environment-related measures	<u>(n)</u>	<u>Health-related</u> measures	<u>(n)</u>
- Improved insulation of buildings, eg roof greening	50		
- Urban greening (shaded green and blue spaces)	43	- individual behavior advice (information, communication, education,	tion) 43
- Window shadings, eg shutters, canopies, awnings	27		
- Cold and fresh air production areas for air drainage	23		
- Reduction the degree of soils sealing	22		
- Public drinking water dispensers	14		
- Ventilation technologies	13		
		- use of heat health warnings systems	7
		- development of a Heat Action Plan	7
		- access to cooling spaces/rooms	6
		- Information/campaigns for the public, incl. vulnerable groups	5
		- Hotlines; occupational health safety measure	3
		- volunteers and neighborhood assistance; buddy system	2

Source: Hannemann et al. 2023

Heat Extremes, Public Health Impacts and Adaptation Policy

III. Heat Health Action Plans to protect and prevent

-> Announcement for spring 2025: VDI expert recommendations for application at municipality level



Effektiver Hitzeschutz für Kommunen

VDI-EE 3787 Blatt 13.1: Koordination, Kooperation, Hitzewarnsystem, Monitoring und Evaluierung

- Verantwortlichkeiten und Zusammenarbeit relevanter Akteure
- Empfehlungen zur Nutzung des Hitzewarnsystems und Handlungsfolgen aus Hitzewarnungen
- Zielgruppenspezifische Aufklärung und Kommunikation über Gefahren und Schutzmaßnahmen
- Vorschläge zur Überprüfung und Verbesserung der Effektivität eines Hitzeaktionsplans

VDI-EE 3787 Blatt 13.2: Vorbereitende Maßnahmen zum Schutz von Risikogruppen

- Identifikation und Schutz gefährdeter Risikogruppen durch gezielte Maßnahmen
- Vorbereitung und Einbeziehung von Akteuren aus Gesundheits- und Sozialwesen zur Umsetzung von Maßnahmen

VDI-EE 3787 Blatt 13.3: Kurz- und langfristige Maßnahmen zur Hitzereduktion

- Kurzfristige Anpassungsmaßnahmen zur Minderung der Hitzebelastung in Innenräumen
- Orientierung an bestehenden Normen, Standards und Regelwerken zur F\u00f6rderung hitzeresilienter Stadtentwicklung

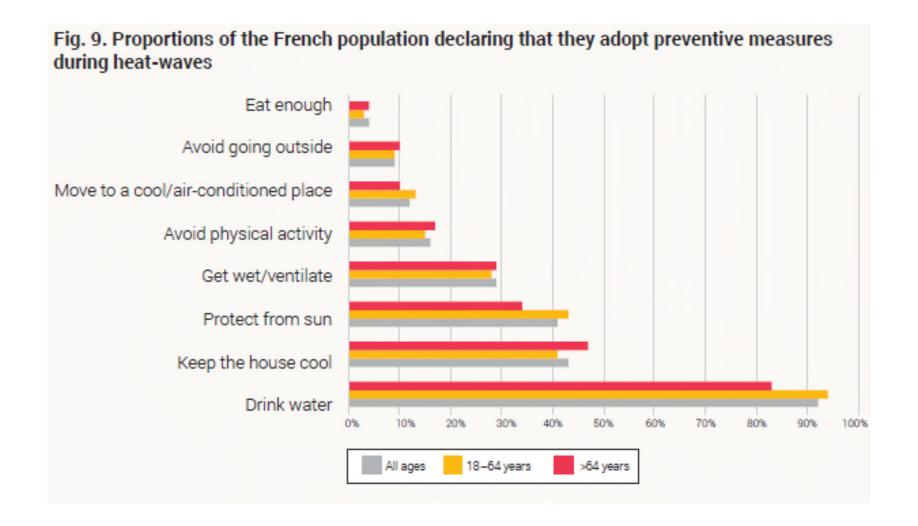
VDI e.V. | VDI-Platz 1 | 40468 Düsseldorf

T+49 (0) 211 62 14-243 | E andreas.rutz@vdi.de | W vdi.de/klimaanpassung



Source: VDI 2025

IV. Individual heat health means of adaptation in France (2019)

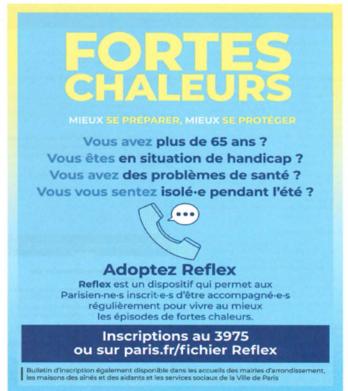


Source: Laaidi et al., 2019

IV. Individual heat health means of adaptation in France (2019)

d'absences prévues entre le 1 st juin et le 15 septembre. Si ces dates changent, n'oubliez pas de nous le signaler en appelant le 3975.	Juinet: Juillet: Août: Septembre:
Personnes de votre entourage à prévenir (conjoint, enfant, famille, voisin, ami, gardien)	i) Nom et prénom : Len avec le bénéficiaire : L'eléphone prioritairement le portable) : 2) Nom et prénom : L'en avec le bénéficiaire : L'en avec le bénéficiaire : Téléphone (prioritairement le portable) :
Coordonnées du médecin traitant montion facultaive)	Nom et prénom :
	Téléphone:
Coordonnées d'une personne intervenant à domicile (aide à domicile, femme de ménage, infirmière, kiné)	Nom et prénom : Lien avec le bénéficialre : Téléphone de l'intervenant à domicile : Nom du service d'aide à domicile :
Si vous remplissez ce questionnaire	Représentant légal : Oui □ Non □ N.□ Mme □ Nome t prénom :
pour le beneficiaire avec son accord, précisez vos coordonnées	Adresse : Courriel : Téléphone :

PARIS



Source: Laaidi et al., 2019

To sum up

Today, it is evidence based with high or very high confidence that:

- high temperature extremes/heatwaves have increased and intensified
- cities are overheated particularly during night-time due to the Urban Heat Island effect/UHI
- heat is a growing public health risk due to expanding urbanization and demographic changes in countries with aging populations
- extreme heat events induced an increase on human morbidity and mortality
- Next to climate protection measures (<u>mitigation</u>), Heat Health Action Plans including early warning and response systems can be an effective <u>adaptation</u> option against extreme heat and to strengthen peoples resilience
- But do not forget: Heat is just a single emerging issue. Beside heat, climate change induces further additional burden due to **droughts** (-> water/drinking water shortages) and **vegetation fires**.

Thank you for your attention

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