



July 2024 Heat-Related Illness ESSENCE Report

Date range: 07/01/24 – 07/31/24

Marion County

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In July 2024, Marion County experienced a significant increase in heat-related illness (HRI) cases, with 75 visits to emergency departments and urgent care facilities. This marks the second-highest number of HRI cases recorded in the county’s history for a single month. July 2024 in Salem was also the second hottest month on record since 1892, and it broke the record for the most consecutive days with air temperatures exceeding 100°F, with a total of five days.

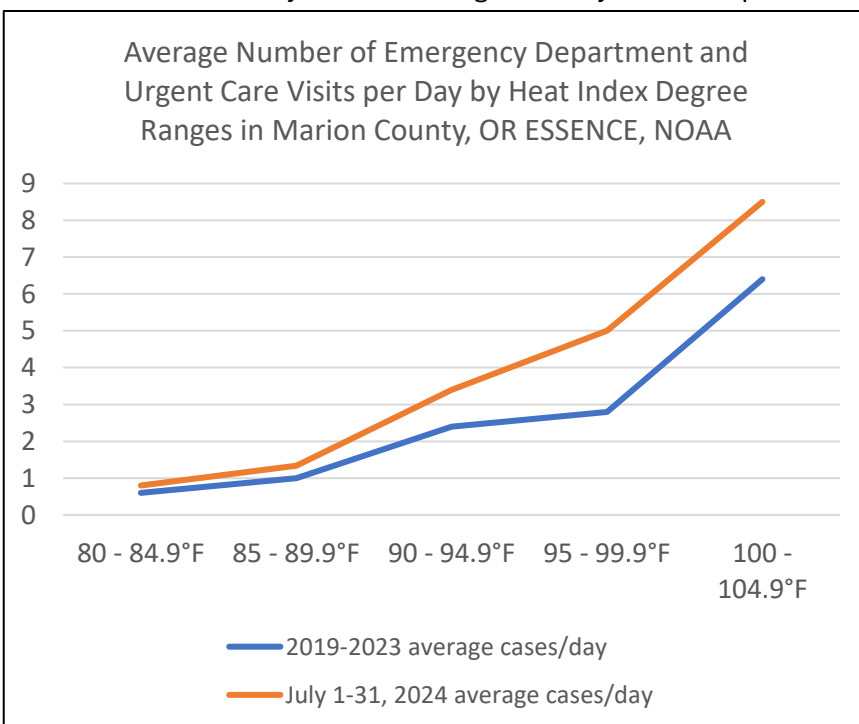
Heat-Related Illness (HRI) Cases in July 2024:

- Marion County: 75 HRI cases (average 2.4 per day)
- Oregon: 720 HRI cases (average 23.2 per day)
- Observation: Marion County residents visited an emergency department or urgent care clinic 1.3 times more often than all other Oregon residents.
- Hospitalizations (24+ hour visit): 12 cases (16% of all cases; this is below the 2019-2023 average of 23.7%)

Marion County Demographics:

- Unhoused: Case counts for persons identified as homeless is suppressed due to low count (less than 6)
- Sex/Gender: 51 cases (68%) were Male
- Age: 32 cases (42.7%) were individuals aged 24-44
- Ethnicity:
 - Identified Hispanic/Latino: 16.9 rate per 100,000 (21.3% of all cases)
 - Identified Not Hispanic/Latino: 22.0 rate per 100,000
 - Observation: Non-Hispanic/Latino identifying individuals visited an emergency department or urgent care clinic 1.3 times more often than Hispanic/Latino identifying individuals.
- Zip code: 26 cases (34.7%) occurred in zip code 97301 (NE Salem)

Heat-Related Illness by heat index degree in July 2024 compared to recent historical averages:



Heat Index range	Total Days	2019-2023 average cases/day	July 1-31, 2024 average cases/day
80 - 84.9°F	10	0.6	0.8
85 - 89.9°F	6	1	1.3
90 - 94.9°F	5	2.4	3.4
95 - 99.9°F	5	2.8	5
100 - 104.9°F	2	6.4	8.5

Heat index is what the temperature feels like to the human body when relative humidity is combined with the air temperature in shade. If exposed to direct sunlight, the heat index value can be increased by up to 15°F. Weather data collected from the McNary Airport in Salem, OR.

Sources:

NOAA (2024). Local Climatology Data. Accessed 8/7/24: ncei.noaa.gov/cdo-web/datatools/lcd.

OR ESSENCE (2024). ESSENCE Site. Accessed 8/7/24: <https://essence.oha.oregon.gov/>.