

### **3.11 – Extreme Temperatures Hazard Profile**

The Extreme Temperature Hazard in New York State is often underestimated because other natural hazards occur more frequently (e.g., Floods, Tornadoes, Hurricanes) and its effects can vary based on region and vulnerable population within the State. The Mitigation Plan Development Team researched the extreme temperature hazard as it affects the State. Contents of this section result from research and outreach including the following sources:

- New York State Emergency Management Office, *New York State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan Vol. II*
- National Weather Service, [www.nws.noaa.gov/om/brochures/heat\\_wave.shtm](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/brochures/heat_wave.shtm)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency, [www.fema.gov/hazard/heat/heat\\_before.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/hazard/heat/heat_before.shtm)
- New York City Office of Emergency Management, *New York City Heat Emergency Plan*
- City of Long Beach New York, [http://www.longbeachny.org/index.asp?Type=B\\_BASIC&SEC=%7BF277C090-D853-4DA5-A92C-8D99AFB90965%7D](http://www.longbeachny.org/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC=%7BF277C090-D853-4DA5-A92C-8D99AFB90965%7D)
- National Climatic and Data Center, <http://www4.ncdc.noaa.gov/cgi-win/wwcgi.dll?wwevent~storms>
- State of California, *2007 Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan*.

The following chart provides the definition of an extreme temperature event:

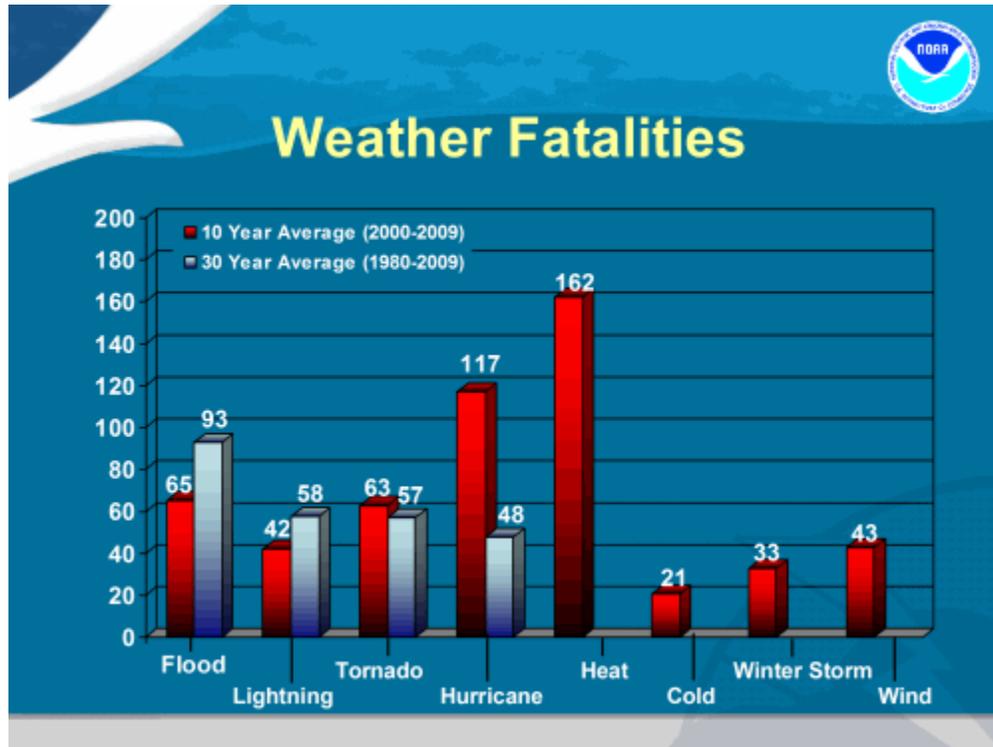
<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>Extreme Heat</b>	<p>Temperatures that hover 10 degrees or more above the average high temperature for the region and last for several weeks are defined as extreme heat. Humid or muggy conditions, which add to the discomfort of high temperatures, occur when a "dome" of high atmospheric pressure traps hazy, damp air near the ground. Excessively dry and hot conditions can provoke dust storms and low visibility. Droughts occur when a long period passes without substantial rainfall. A heat wave combined with a drought is a very dangerous situation.</p>
<b>Extreme Cold</b>	<p>Although no specific definition exists for Extreme Cold, the following are characteristics of an Extreme Cold event: Temperatures at or below freezing for an extended period of time, for Northern States temperatures at or below zero degrees for an extended period of time. Note that Extreme Cold events are usually part of Winter Storm events but can occur during anytime of the year and have devastating effects on New York State agricultural production.</p>

#### **The Concept of Extreme Heat**

Extreme heat is defined as temperatures which hover 10 degrees or more above the average high temperature for a region and last for several weeks, and though the event may not be as notable as other hazards which affect NYS, its effects can have devastating consequences. While it is hard to quantify the exact total number of deaths which are advanced by heat wave weather, in a normal year there are about 162 documented deaths due to summer heat.

Its annual fatality potential is matched by no other natural hazard profiled by NYS (See **Figure 3-117**). In a 40-year period from 1936 – 1975, nearly 20,000 people were killed in the United States by the effects of heat and solar radiation. In the disastrous heat wave of 1980, more than 1,250 people died as a result of extreme heat. In terms of New York State, from 1994 – 2006 there have been 86 fatalities as a result of extreme heat; 79 took place in a period of 7 years, ranging from 1999 - 2006.

**Figure 3-117**  
**Weather Fatalities**



*\*Source: National Weather Service.*

### Heat Index

Created by the National Weather Service, **Figure 3-118**, the Heat Index (HI), is a chart which accurately measures apparent temperature of the air as it increases with the relative humidity. The Heat Index can be used to determine what effects the temperature and humidity can have on the population. **Table 3-47** describes the adverse effects that prolonged exposures can have on individuals. To determine the Heat Index, you need the temperature and the relative humidity. Once both values are known, the Heat Index will be the corresponding number with both values. That number provides how it really feels. It is important to know that the Heat Index (HI) values are devised for shady, light wind conditions. Exposure to full sunshine can increase HI values by up to 15 degrees. Also, strong winds, particularly with very hot, dry-air can be extremely hazardous to individuals.

Figure 3-118

**Heat Index**  
 Accurate measurement of temperature during an extreme heat event  
 Temperature (°F)

	80	82	84	86	88	90	92	94	96	98	100	102	104	106	108	110
<b>40</b>	80	81	83	85	88	91	94	97	101	105	109	114	119	124	130	136
<b>45</b>	80	82	84	87	89	93	96	100	104	109	114	119	124	130	137	
<b>50</b>	81	83	85	88	91	95	99	103	108	113	118	124	131	137		
<b>55</b>	81	84	86	89	93	97	101	106	112	117	124	130	137			
<b>60</b>	82	84	88	91	95	100	105	110	116	123	129	137				
<b>65</b>	82	85	89	93	98	103	108	114	121	128	136					
<b>70</b>	83	86	90	95	100	105	112	119	126	134						
<b>75</b>	84	88	92	97	103	109	116	124	132							
<b>80</b>	84	89	94	100	106	113	121	129								
<b>85</b>	85	90	96	102	110	117	126	135								
<b>90</b>	86	91	98	105	113	122	131									
<b>95</b>	86	93	100	108	117	127										
<b>100</b>	87	95	103	112	121	132										

**Likelihood of Heat Disorders with Prolonged Exposure or Strenuous Activity**

  Caution    
   Extreme Caution    
   Danger    
   Extreme Danger

\*Source: National Weather Service

Table 3-47

**Adverse Effects of Prolonged Heat Exposure**

Category	Heat Index	Health Hazards
<b>Extreme Danger</b>	<b>130°F - Higher</b>	<b>Heat Stroke/ Sunstroke is likely with continued exposure.</b>
<b>Danger</b>	<b>105°F - 129°F</b>	<b>Sunstroke, muscle cramps, and/or heat exhaustion possible with prolonged exposure and /or physical activity.</b>
<b>Extreme Caution</b>	<b>90°F - 105°F</b>	<b>Sunstroke, muscle cramps, and/or heat exhaustion possible with prolonged exposure and /or physical activity.</b>
<b>Caution</b>	<b>80°F - 90°F</b>	<b>Fatigue possible with prolonged exposure and/or physical activity.</b>

The National Weather Service (NWS) provides alerts when Heat Indices approach hazardous levels. **Table 3-48** provides the alert procedures for the National Weather Service. In the event of an extreme heat advisory, The National Weather Service does the following:

- Includes HI values and city forecasts;
- Issues special weather statements including who is most at risk, safety rules for reducing risk, and the extent of the hazard and HI values;
- Provides assistance to State/Local health officials in preparing Civil Emergency Messages in severe heat waves.

**Table 3-48**

<b>Product</b>	<b>Criteria</b>
<b>Heat Advisory (NYC)</b>	The NWS issues a Heat Advisory within 24 hours of the onset of the following conditions: Heat Index of at least 100°F but less than 105°F for any period of time, or when nighttime lows are above 80°F for any period of time. (Note: This weather product was modified for New York City. The national definition places the heat index requirement at 105°F).
<b>Excessive Heat Watch</b>	The NWS issues an Excessive Heat Watch within 24 to 48 hours of the onset of the following conditions: Heat Index of at least 105°F for more than 3 hours per day for 2 consecutive days, or a Heat Index of at least 115°F for any period of time.
<b>Excessive Heat Warning</b>	The NWS issues an Excessive Heat Warning within 24 hours of the onset of the following conditions: Heat Index of at least 105°F for more than 3 hours per day for 2 consecutive days, or a Heat Index of more than 115°F for any time period.

\*Source: NYC Heat Emergency Plan

### **Health-related ailments**

Exposure to excessive heat can pose a number of health risks to individuals. **Table 3-47** below defines different health hazards and some of the symptoms associated with extreme heat conditions.

**Table 3-47**

<b>Health Hazard</b>	<b>Symptoms</b>
<b>Sunburn</b>	Redness and pain. In severe cases: swelling of skin, blisters, fevers, and headaches.
<b>Dehydration</b>	Excessive thirst, dry lips and slightly dry mucous membranes
<b>Heat Cramps</b>	Painful spasms, usually in muscles of legs and abdomen, and possible heavy sweating
<b>Heat Exhaustion</b>	Heavy sweating; weakness; cold, pale and clammy skin; weak pulse; possible fainting and vomiting
<b>Heat Stroke</b>	High body temperature (104°F or higher), hot and dry skin, rapid and strong pulse, and possible coma

Source: NYC Heat Emergency Plan,

**Figure 3-119** below is an excerpt from the National Weather service pertaining to the effects of heat on the human body and risks of over exposure.

**Figure 3-119**

**National Weather Service Publications: Heat Wave**

**How Heat Affects the Body**

Human bodies dissipate heat by varying the rate and depth of blood circulation, by losing water through the skin and sweat glands and-as the last extremity is reached-by panting, when blood is heated above 98.6 degrees. The heart begins to pump more blood, blood vessels dilate to accommodate the increased flow, and the bundles of tiny capillaries threading through the upper layers of skin are put into operation. The body's blood is circulated closer to the skin's surface, and excess heat drains off into the cooler atmosphere. At the same time, water diffuses through the skin as perspiration. The skin handles about 90 percent of the body's heat dissipating function.

Sweating, by itself, does nothing to cool the body, unless the water is removed by evaporation; high relative humidity retards evaporation. The evaporation process itself works this way: the heat energy required to evaporate the sweat is extracted from the body, thereby cooling it. Under conditions of high temperature (above 90 degrees) and high relative humidity, the body is doing everything it can to maintain 98.6 degrees inside. The heart is pumping a torrent of blood through dilated circulatory vessels; the sweat glands are pouring liquid-including essential dissolved chemicals, like sodium and chloride onto the surface of the skin.

**Too Much Heat**

Heat disorders generally have to do with a reduction or collapse of the body's ability to shed heat by circulatory changes and sweating, or a chemical (salt) imbalance caused by too much sweating. When heat gain exceeds the level the body can remove, or when the body cannot compensate for fluids and salt lost through perspiration, the temperature of the body's inner core begins to rise and heat-related illness may develop.

Ranging in severity, heat disorders share one common feature: the individual has overexposed or over exercised for his age and physical condition in the existing thermal environment.

Sunburn, with its ultraviolet radiation burns, can significantly retard the skin's ability to shed excess heat. Studies indicate that, other things being equal, the severity of heat disorders tend to increase with age-heat cramps in a 17-year-old may be heat exhaustion in someone 40 and heat stroke in a person over 60.

Acclimatization has to do with adjusting sweat-salt concentrations, among other things. The idea is to lose enough water to regulate body temperature, with the least possible chemical disturbance.

## The Concept of Extreme Cold

Extreme Cold conditions typically accompany Winter Storm events and it is recommended to review the Winter Storm hazard profile of this plan for additional information. NOAA notes the following:

Exposure to cold can cause frostbite or hypothermia and become life-threatening. Infants and elderly people are most susceptible. What constitutes extreme cold varies in different parts of the country. In the South, near freezing temperatures are considered extreme cold. Freezing temperatures can cause severe damage to citrus fruit crops and other vegetation. Pipes may freeze and burst in homes that are poorly insulated or without heat. In the North, extreme cold means temperatures well below zero.

**Table 3-50** provides National Weather Service terms to know for the Extreme Cold hazard.

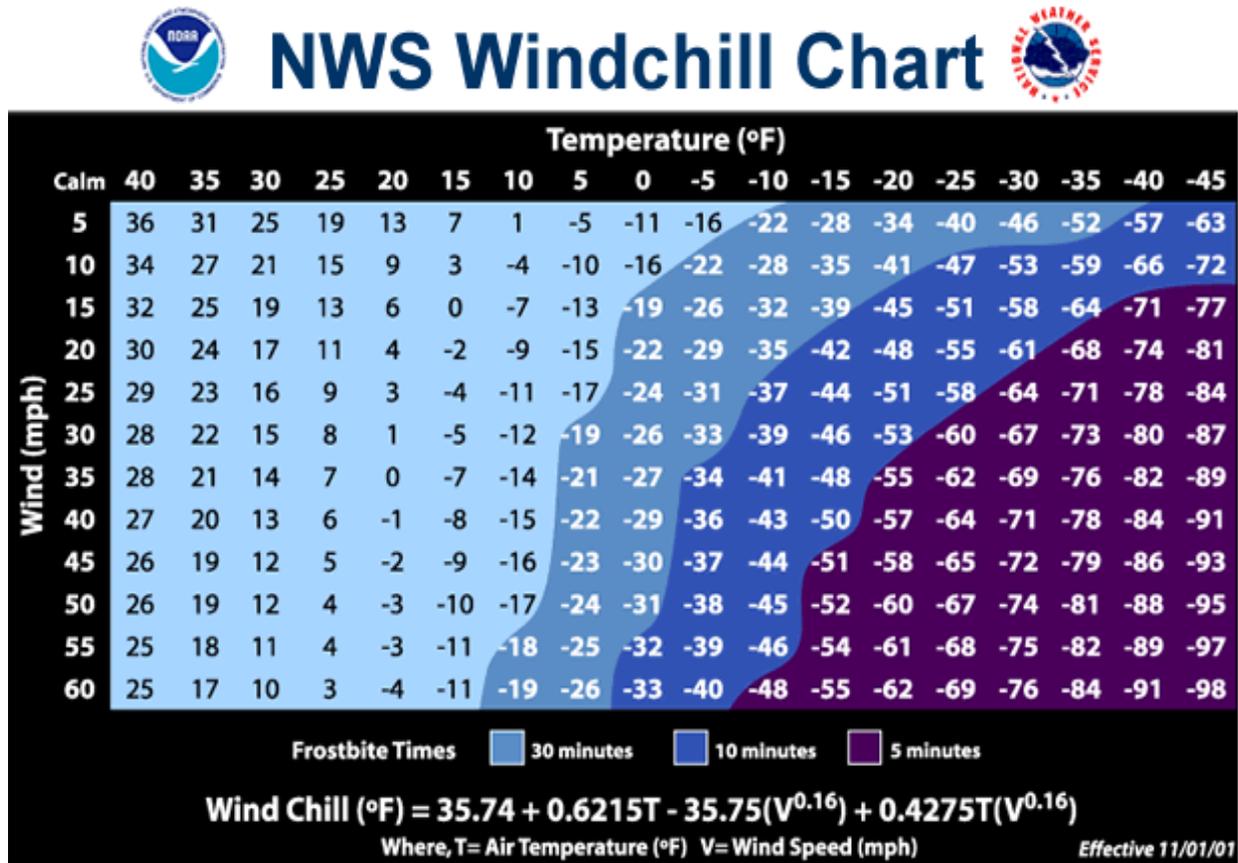
**Table 3-50**

Wind Chill	Is not the actual temperature but rather how wind and cold feel on exposed skin. As the wind increases, heat is carried away from the body at an accelerated rate, driving down the body temperature. Animals are also affected by wind chill; however, cars, plants and other objects are not.
Frostbite	Is damage to body tissue caused by extreme cold. A wind chill of -20 degrees Fahrenheit (F) will cause frostbite in just 30 minutes. Frostbite causes a loss of feeling and a white or pale appearance in extremities, such as fingers, toes, ear lobes or the tip of the nose. If symptoms are detected, get medical help immediately! If you must wait for help, slowly re-warm affected areas. However, if the person is also showing signs of hypothermia, warm the body core before the extremities.
Hypothermia	Is a condition brought on when the body temperature drops to less than 95 degrees Fahrenheit (F). It can kill. For those who survive, there are likely to be lasting kidney, liver and pancreas problems. Warning signs include uncontrollable shivering, memory loss, disorientation, incoherence, slurred speech, drowsiness and apparent exhaustion. Take the person's temperature. If below 95 degrees F, seek medical care immediately!

Source: NOAA

**Figure 3-120**, on the next page, depicts NOAA's Wind Chill Chart. NOAA's 2001 "Winter Storms The Deceptive Killers" preparedness guide documents that 50% of injuries related to the Cold happen to people over 60 years old, more than 75% happen to males, and about 20% occur in the home.

Figure 3-120



Previous Significant Occurrences

Table 3-51  
National Climatic Data Center Recorded Extreme Temperature Events

Location or County	Date	Type	Dth	Inj	PrD
1 <a href="#">Areawide</a>	02/01/1993	Extreme Cold	0	0	50K
2 <a href="#">Mid Hudson Valley</a>	05/11/1993	Record Heat	0	0	0
3 <a href="#">Areawide</a>	10/08/1993	Record Heat	0	0	0
4 <a href="#">Mohawk Valley</a>	11/15/1993	Record Heat	0	0	0
5 <a href="#">WESTCHESTER</a>	01/16/1994	Extreme Cold	1	0	0
6 <a href="#">Susquehanna Region</a>	04/15/1994	Record Heat	0	0	0

7 <a href="#">Areawide</a>	06/15/1994	Record Heat	0	50	0
8 <a href="#">Areawide</a>	11/04/1994	Record Heat	0	0	0
9 <a href="#">Areawide</a>	01/12/1995	Record Heat	0	0	0
10 <a href="#">Northern New York</a>	03/08/1995	Record Heat	0	0	0
11 <a href="#">Northern New York</a>	03/13/1995	Record Heat	0	0	0
12 <a href="#">Northern New York</a>	03/14/1995	Record Heat	0	0	0
13 <a href="#">Areawide</a>	06/19/1995	Record Heat	0	0	0
14 <a href="#">Northern</a>	06/25/1995	Record Heat	0	0	0
15 <a href="#">KINGS</a>	07/13/1995	Heat Wave	7	0	0
16 <a href="#">St. Lawrence Valley</a>	07/13/1995	Record Heat	0	0	0
17 <a href="#">Areawide</a>	07/14/1995	Record Heat	0	0	0
18 <a href="#">Southern Tier</a>	07/15/1995	Record Heat	0	0	0
19 <a href="#">Southern Tier</a>	08/03/1995	Record Heat	0	0	0
20 <a href="#">Southern Tier</a>	08/18/1995	Record Heat	0	0	0
21 <a href="#">St Lawrence Co</a>	10/20/1995	Record Warmth	0	0	OK
22 <a href="#">NYZ009 - 015&gt;018 - 022&gt;025 - 036&gt;037 - 044&gt;046 - 055&gt;057 - 062</a>	01/05/1996	Extreme Cold	0	0	0
23 <a href="#">NYZ032&gt;033 - 038&gt;043 - 047&gt;054 - 058&gt;061 - 063&gt;066</a>	01/06/1996	Extreme Cold	0	0	0
24 <a href="#">NYZ051&gt;052</a>	01/19/1996	Excessive Heat	0	0	0
25 <a href="#">NYZ056</a>	02/04/1996	Extreme Cold	0	0	0
26 <a href="#">NYZ022&gt;025 - 044&gt;046 - 055&gt;057 - 062</a>	03/08/1996	Extreme Cold	0	0	0
27 <a href="#">NYZ022&gt;025 - 044&gt;046 - 055&gt;057 - 062</a>	05/07/1996	Extreme Cold	0	0	0
28 <a href="#">NYZ016&gt;018</a>	05/30/1996	Extreme Cold	0	0	0
29 <a href="#">NYZ009 - 015&gt;018 - 022&gt;025 - 036&gt;037 - 044&gt;046 - 055&gt;057 - 062</a>	10/04/1996	Extreme Cold	0	0	0
30 <a href="#">NYZ009 - 015&gt;018 - 022&gt;025 - 036&gt;037 - 044&gt;046 - 055&gt;057 - 062</a>	01/17/1997	Extreme Windchill	0	0	0

31 <a href="#">NYZ026&gt;031 - 034&gt;035</a>	01/17/1997	Extreme Windchill	0	0	0
32 <a href="#">NYZ077</a>	01/19/1997	Extreme Cold	1	0	0
33 <a href="#">NYZ026&gt;031 - 034&gt;035</a>	01/19/1997	Extreme Cold	0	0	0
34 <a href="#">NYZ032&gt;033 - 038&gt;043 - 047&gt;054 - 058&gt;061 - 063&gt;066</a>	03/27/1998	Excessive Heat	0	0	0
35 <a href="#">NYZ032&gt;033 - 038&gt;043 - 047&gt;054 - 058&gt;061 - 063&gt;066</a>	12/02/1998	Record Warmth	0	0	0
36 <a href="#">NYZ026&gt;031 - 034&gt;035</a>	12/30/1998	Extreme Cold	0	0	0
37 <a href="#">NYZ032&gt;033 - 038&gt;043 - 047&gt;054 - 058&gt;061 - 063&gt;066</a>	06/07/1999	Excessive Heat	0	0	0
38 <a href="#">NYZ067&gt;081</a>	07/04/1999	Excessive Heat	33	0	0
39 <a href="#">NYZ032&gt;033 - 038&gt;043 - 047&gt;054 - 058&gt;061 - 063&gt;066</a>	07/04/1999	Excessive Heat	0	0	0
40 <a href="#">NYZ032&gt;033 - 038&gt;043 - 047&gt;053</a>	01/17/2000	Extreme Cold	0	0	0
41 <a href="#">NYZ067&gt;081</a>	01/17/2000	Extreme Windchill	3	0	0
42 <a href="#">NYZ067&gt;081</a>	01/21/2000	Extreme Windchill	0	0	0
43 <a href="#">NYZ067&gt;081</a>	01/27/2000	Extreme Windchill	0	0	0
44 <a href="#">NYZ032&gt;033 - 038&gt;043 - 047&gt;054 - 058&gt;061 - 063&gt;066</a>	03/08/2000	Record Warmth	0	0	0
45 <a href="#">NYZ009 - 015&gt;018 - 022&gt;025 - 036&gt;037 - 044&gt;046 - 055&gt;057 - 062</a>	09/28/2000	Extreme Cold	0	0	0
46 <a href="#">NYZ009 - 015&gt;018 - 022&gt;025 - 036&gt;037 - 044&gt;046 - 055&gt;057 - 062</a>	08/01/2001	Excessive Heat	0	0	0
47 <a href="#">NYZ067&gt;078 - 080</a>	08/08/2001	Excessive Heat	4	1	0

48 <a href="#">NYZ038&gt;040 - 049&gt;050 - 052&gt;054 - 058&gt;061 - 064&gt;066</a>	08/08/2001	Excessive Heat	0	0	0
49 <a href="#">NYZ052</a>	12/01/2001	Record Warmth	0	0	0
50 <a href="#">NYZ052</a>	04/15/2002	Record Warmth	0	0	0
51 <a href="#">NYZ064&gt;065</a>	04/27/2002	Freeze	0	0	0
52 <a href="#">NYZ009 - 022&gt;025 - 036&gt;037 - 044&gt;046 - 055&gt;057</a>	05/17/2002	Extreme Cold	0	0	63K
53 <a href="#">NYZ038&gt;043 - 047&gt;054 - 058&gt;061 - 063&gt;066</a>	05/20/2002	Freeze	0	0	0
54 <a href="#">NYZ041&gt;043 - 047&gt;048 - 051 - 054 - 058 - 061 - 063</a>	05/22/2002	Freeze	0	0	0
55 <a href="#">NYZ067&gt;081</a>	07/02/2002	Excessive Heat	0	0	0
56 <a href="#">NYZ067&gt;081</a>	07/29/2002	Excessive Heat	0	0	0
57 <a href="#">NYZ032&gt;033 - 042</a>	10/09/2002	Freeze	0	0	0
58 <a href="#">NYZ032&gt;033 - 038&gt;043 - 047&gt;054 - 058&gt;061 - 063&gt;066</a>	10/15/2002	Freeze	0	0	0
59 <a href="#">NYZ009 - 018 - 036&gt;037 - 044&gt;046</a>	03/03/2003	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0
60 <a href="#">NYZ009 - 015&gt;018 - 022&gt;025 - 036&gt;037 - 044&gt;046 - 055&gt;057 - 062</a>	01/10/2004	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	180K
61 <a href="#">NYZ026&gt;031 - 034&gt;035 - 087</a>	01/13/2004	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0
62 <a href="#">NYZ009 - 037</a>	01/13/2004	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	20K
63 <a href="#">NYZ067&gt;081</a>	01/15/2004	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0
64 <a href="#">NYZ032&gt;033 - 038&gt;043 - 047&gt;054 - 058&gt;061 - 063&gt;066 - 082&gt;084</a>	01/15/2004	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0

65 <a href="#">NYZ009 - 015&gt;018 - 022&gt;025 - 036&gt;037 - 044&gt;046 - 055&gt;057 - 062</a>	01/15/2004	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	220K
66 <a href="#">NYZ026&gt;031 - 034&gt;035 - 087</a>	01/15/2004	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0
67 <a href="#">NYZ087</a>	01/26/2004	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	1	0	0
68 <a href="#">NYZ009</a>	12/20/2004	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0
69 <a href="#">NYZ009 - 037</a>	01/18/2005	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
70 <a href="#">NYZ026&gt;031 - 034&gt;035 - 087</a>	01/18/2005	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0
71 <a href="#">NYZ026&gt;027</a>	01/20/2005	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0
72 <a href="#">NYZ009 - 016&gt;018 - 023 - 025 - 036&gt;037 - 044&gt;046 - 056&gt;057</a>	01/21/2005	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
73 <a href="#">NYZ009 - 015&gt;018 - 022&gt;025 - 036&gt;037 - 044&gt;046 - 055&gt;057 - 062</a>	01/21/2005	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
74 <a href="#">NYZ009 - 015&gt;018 - 022&gt;025 - 036&gt;037 - 044&gt;046 - 055&gt;057</a>	01/23/2005	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
75 <a href="#">NYZ026&gt;031 - 034&gt;035 - 087</a>	01/23/2005	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0
76 <a href="#">NYZ009 - 018 - 036&gt;037 - 044&gt;046 - 056&gt;057</a>	01/27/2005	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
77 <a href="#">NYZ080&gt;081</a>	01/27/2005	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	3	0	0
78 <a href="#">NYZ010</a>	07/13/2005	Excessive Heat	0	0	0
79 <a href="#">NYZ009 - 015&gt;018 -</a>	12/14/2005	Cold/wind	0	0	0K

<a href="#">022&gt;025 - 036&gt;037 - 044&gt;046 - 055&gt;057 - 062</a>		Chill			
80 <a href="#">NYZ009 - 015&gt;018 - 022&gt;025 - 036&gt;037 - 044&gt;046 - 055&gt;057 - 062</a>	01/01/2006	Heat	0	0	0
81 <a href="#">NYZ026&gt;031 - 034&gt;035 - 087</a>	01/15/2006	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0
82 <a href="#">NYZ026&gt;027 - 029&gt;031 - 034 - 087</a>	02/18/2006	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0
83 <a href="#">NYZ028 - 035</a>	02/18/2006	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0
84 <a href="#">NYZ026&gt;031 - 034&gt;035 - 087</a>	02/27/2006	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0
85 <a href="#">NYZ026&gt;031 - 034&gt;035 - 087</a>	08/01/2006	Excessive Heat	0	0	0
86 <a href="#">NYZ067&gt;081</a>	08/01/2006	Excessive Heat	42	0	0
87 <a href="#">NYZ026&gt;031 - 034&gt;035 - 087</a>	01/25/2007	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
88 <a href="#">NYZ032 - 038&gt;043 - 047&gt;054 - 058&gt;061 - 063&gt;066 - 082</a>	01/25/2007	Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
89 <a href="#">NYZ072 - 075</a>	02/04/2007	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	3	0	0K
90 <a href="#">NYZ026&gt;031 - 034&gt;035 - 087</a>	03/06/2007	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
91 <a href="#">NYZ073</a>	03/06/2007	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	1	0	0K
92 <a href="#">NYZ026&gt;031 - 034&gt;035 - 087</a>	03/09/2007	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
93 <a href="#">NYZ018 - 056</a>	10/05/2007	Excessive Heat	0	0	0K
94 <a href="#">NYZ049 - 052&gt;053 -</a>	06/09/2008	Heat	0	0	0K

<a href="#">059&gt;060 - 064</a>					
95 <a href="#">NYZ032 - 042</a>	12/07/2008	Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
96 <a href="#">NYZ026&gt;031 - 034&gt;035 - 087</a>	12/08/2008	Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
97 <a href="#">NYZ058 - 063</a>	12/22/2008	Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
98 <a href="#">NYZ032 - 038&gt;040 - 042 - 047&gt;048 - 051 - 054 - 058 - 061 - 063 - 066 - 082</a>	01/01/2009	Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
99 <a href="#">NYZ026&gt;031 - 034&gt;035 - 087</a>	01/14/2009	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
100 <a href="#">NYZ032 - 082</a>	01/14/2009	Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
101 <a href="#">NYZ033 - 038&gt;043 - 054 - 058 - 061 - 063 - 066 - 082</a>	01/16/2009	Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
102 <a href="#">NYZ033 - 038&gt;043 - 054 - 058 - 061 - 063 - 066 - 082</a>	01/16/2009	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
103 <a href="#">NYZ032 - 047 - 051 - 058 - 063 - 082</a>	01/16/2009	Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
104 <a href="#">NYZ032 - 042&gt;043 - 082</a>	01/25/2009	Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
105 <a href="#">NYZ032 - 042&gt;043 - 082</a>	01/25/2009	Extreme Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
106 <a href="#">NYZ032 - 033</a>	03/03/2009	Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
107 <a href="#">NYZ032 - 042</a>	01/29/2010	Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
108 <a href="#">NYZ032 - 042 - 082</a>	01/29/2010	Cold/wind Chill	0	0	0K
<b>Total:</b>			<b>99</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>533K</b>

Source: <http://www4.ncdc.noaa.gov/cgi-win/wwcgi.dll?wwevent~storms>

# Assessment of Local Vulnerability to Extreme Temperature Hazards

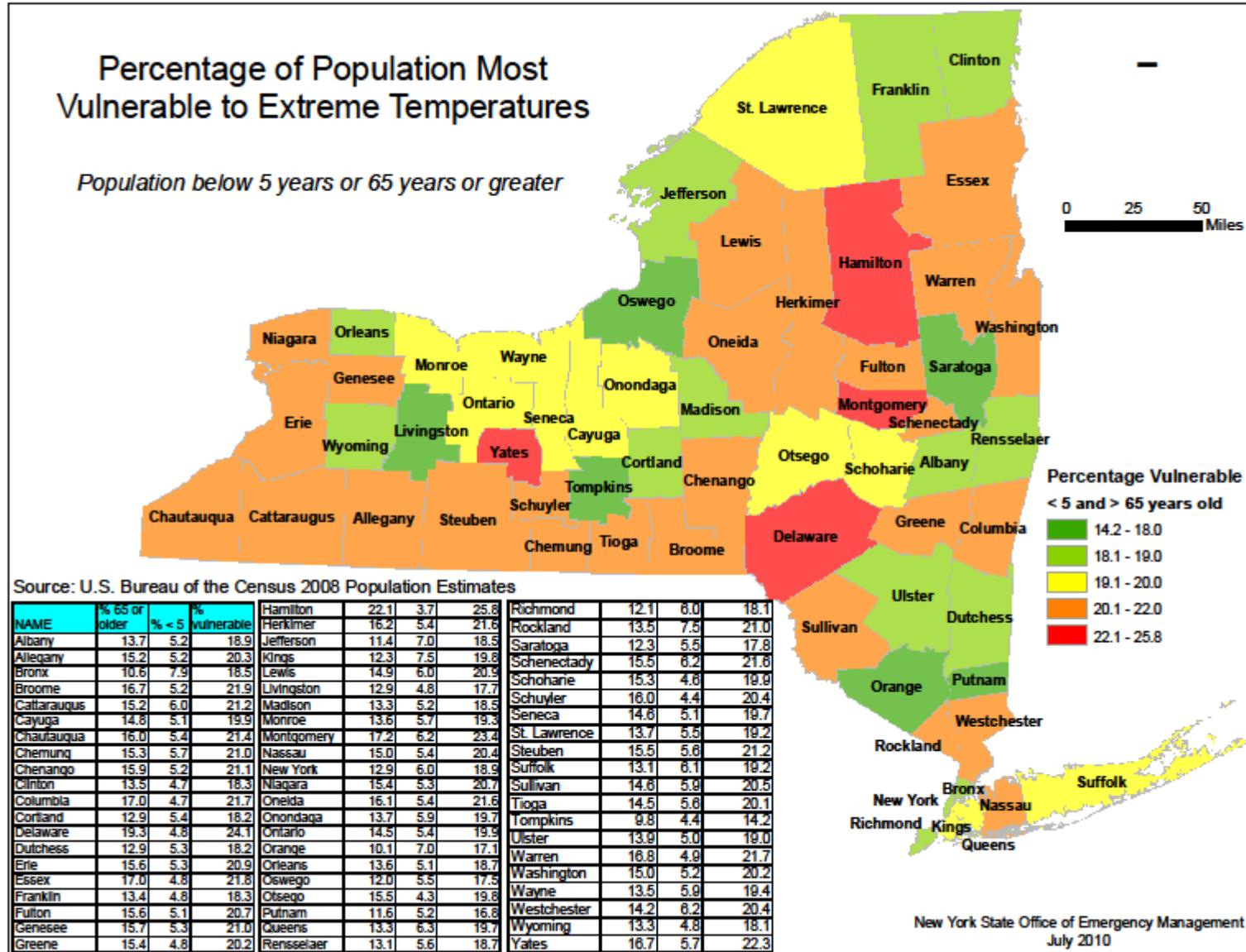
## Vulnerable Populations

Situational and physical characteristics help to identify vulnerable populations that may not comfortably or safely access and use disaster resources. Specifically, when discussing heat related emergency preparedness, the following groups could be considered vulnerable or at greater risk in a heat emergency. Information on some of the following identified populations can be obtained from the United States Census Bureau website, <http://www.census.gov/>:

- Homeless
- Infants and small children under age five
- Women who are pregnant
- Elderly people (age 65 and older)
- Persons who have obesity
- Persons who are bedridden
- Persons with mental illness/disabilities
- Persons with cognitive disorders
- Persons with medical conditions (e.g., heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure, insulin)
- Persons requiring life-saving medications (e.g., for high blood pressure, depression, insomnia)
- Persons who utilize medical equipment (e.g., ventilators, oxygen, G-tubes)
- Individuals with drug or alcohol addictions
- Persons who use mobility devices (e.g., wheelchairs, walkers, canes)
- Persons who are non-ambulatory
- Those with sensory impairments (blind/visually impaired or deaf/hard of hearing)
- Persons who are under extreme working conditions
- Persons who are poor
- Persons who are socially isolated
- Persons who do not speak English with minimal access to information

The following map contains a representation of vulnerable population by County. **Figure 3-121** contains information of individuals 65 and older and 5 and younger. This map contains a broad stroke of information for the Counties. When profiling Extreme Temperatures, it is incumbent upon Local Municipalities to investigate their Jurisdiction's number of vulnerable population to gain an accurate assessment of the represented age groups.

Figure 3-121



## **Mitigation Activities**

At this time, it is impossible to stop an Extreme Heat event. Therefore, mitigation activities should be tailored towards protecting lives and preventing injury from an Extreme Heat event. The following are some sample mitigation activities which can save lives in the event of an Extreme Heat hazard:

- Identify location of vulnerable populations
- Establish cooling centers
- Issues advisories and warnings
- Conduct pre-season public information campaigns

As previously mentioned, it is up to Local Jurisdictions to accurately profile Extreme Heat as well as vulnerable populations that are more susceptible to excessive heat conditions. Preventing an extreme heat event is not plausible; however, limiting its effect on the population is feasible.