

“Silent Killers”

Madeleine K. Scammell, DSc.

Associate Professor of Environmental Health

Boston University School of Public Health
Department of Environmental Health



Celebrating 25 Years
of Fighting for Social and
Environmental Justice!
GreenRoots



MANOS

MesoAmerican Nephropathy Occupational Study
Estudio de Salud Ocupacional de Nefropatía Mesoamericana



Chelsea East Boston Heat Study (C-HEAT)

BOSTON
UNIVERSITY

Excess

Heat exhaust

Weather | sun safety |

CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE... A SILENT KILLER

1 in 10
CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE
AFFECTS 10% OF
THE POPULATION.

WHO IS AFFECTED?

10%
of the population
worldwide is
affected by CKD.

Half of people
aged
75
or more have some
degree of CKD



Kidney disease
can affect people
of all ages and
races.

1 in 5 **MEN**
and 1 in 4
WOMEN
between the ages
of 65 and 74 have
CKD

High blood pressure
and diabetes are
the most common CKD
causes in adults

HOW TO DETECT CKD?



Early CKD often has no signs or symptoms. A person can lose up to 90% of their kidney function before experiencing any signs.



But it can be detected by simple tests:

- a urine test to check if there is any protein in your urine, or
- a blood test to measure the level of creatinine in your blood



Signs of advancing CKD include: swollen ankles, fatigue, difficulty concentrating, decreased appetite, and foamy urine.

ARE YOU AT RISK?

- Do you have high blood pressure?
- Do you suffer from diabetes?
- Do you have a family history of kidney disease?
- Are you overweight?
- Do you smoke?
- Are you over 50 years?
- Are you of African, Hispanic, Aboriginal or Asian origin?

IF YOU HAVE ANSWERED
YES TO ONE OR MORE OF

Control and Prevention (CDC).

and climate change is

arth/silent-killer



information about your use of our site

BOSTON
UNIVERSITY

[Shows](#)[Video](#)[TV Schedules](#)[Shop](#)[Donate](#)[Search](#)[Search This Site](#)[Search PBS](#)[☰ Menu](#)[▶ Full Episodes](#)[||| Podcasts](#)[✉ Subscribe](#)[Live](#)

The 'silent massacre' killing El Salvador's sugarcane workers

Feb 28, 2018 6:20 PM EST

More From This Episode

Support Provided By:

[Learn more](#)

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/the-silent-massacre-killing-el-salvadors-sugarcane-workers>

[Fred de Sam Lazaro](#)

Feb 2018

BOSTON
UNIVERSITY

HEAT STRESS HYPOTHESIS

Lucas et al. *Extreme Physiology & Medicine* 2015, 4(Suppl 1):A23
http://www.extremephysiolmed.com/content/4/S1/A23



Extreme Physiology
& Medicine

MEETING ABSTRACT

Open Access

Heat stress and workload associated with sugarcane cutting - an excessively strenuous occupation!

Rebekah Al Lucas^{1*}, Theo Bodin², Ramon García-Trabaniño³, Catharina Wesseling², Jason Glaser⁴, Ilana Weiss⁴, Emmanuel Jarquin⁵, Kristina Jakobsson⁶, David H Wegman⁷



Environmental Research

Volume 142, October 2015, Pages 746-755

Heat stress, dehydration, and kidney function in sugarcane cutters in El Salvador – A cross-shift study of workers at risk of Mesoamerican nephropathy

Ramón García-Trabaniño^a, Emmanuel Jarquin^b, Catharina Wesseling^c, Richard J Johnson^d, Marvin González-Quiroz^{e, f}, Ilana Weiss^g, Jason Glaser^g, Juan José Vindell^h, Leo Stockfeltⁱ, Carlos Roncal^d, Tamara Harra^d, Lars Barregard^j

Annals of Nutrition and Metabolism

OPEN ACCESS

Proceedings

Mechanisms by Which Dehydration May Lead to Chronic Kidney Disease

Roncal-Jimenez C.^a · Lanaspa M.A.^a · Jensen T.^a · Sanchez-Lozada L.G.^b · Johnson R.J.^a



International Journal of
Environmental Research
and Public Health



Article

Climate Trends at a Hotspot of Chronic Kidney Disease of Unknown Causes in Nicaragua, 1973–2014

Zoe E. Petropoulos^{1,*},^f,^g, Oriana Ramirez-Rubio^{2,3,†}, Madeleine K. Scammell¹,^g,^h,ⁱ,^j, Rebecca L. Laws¹, Damaris Lopez-Pilarte³, Juan José Amador³, Joan Ballester², Cristina O'Callaghan-Gordo^{2,4,5,6} and Daniel R. Brooks³



Journal of Pharmacological Sciences
Volume 141, Issue 1, September 2019, Pages 49-55



Full Paper

A novel rat model of contrast-induced nephropathy based on dehydration

Kun Liu^a, Ling-yun Zhou^a, Dai-yang Li^a, Wen-jing Cheng^b, Wen-jun Yin^a, Can Hu^a, Yue-liang Xie^a, Jiang-lin Wang^a, Shan-ru Zuo^a, Lin-hua Chen^a, Ge Zhou^a, Xiao-cong Zuo^{a, c}

Prevalence and Risk Factors for CKD Among Brickmaking Workers in La Paz Centro, Nicaragua

Lianne Gallo-Ruiz,* Caryn M. Sennett,* Mauricio Sánchez-Delgado, Ana García-Urbina, Tania Gámez-Altamirano, Komal Basra, Rebecca L. Laws, Juan José Amador, Damaris Lopez-Pilarte, Yorghos Tripodis, Daniel R. Brooks, Michael D. McClean, Joseph Kupferman, David Friedman, Aurora Aragón, Marvin González-Quiroz, and Madeleine K. Scammell

Rationale & Objective: In Central America, there is a high prevalence of chronic kidney disease (CKD) of nontraditional etiology often observed among agricultural workers. Few studies have assessed CKD prevalence among workers in nonagricultural occupations, which was the objective of this investigation.

Study Design: Prospective cohort study.

Setting & Participants: Male and female workers (n = 224) employed by artisanal brickmaking facilities in La Paz Centro, Nicaragua.

Predictors: Age, sex, education, smoking status, body mass index, alcohol consumption, water consumption, first-degree relative(s) with CKD, years worked, hours worked per week, job category, study visit (baseline and follow-up), and self-report.

Outcomes: CKD, estimated glomerular filtration rate at 2 time points

Analytical Approach: Generalized linear model with an identity link function was used to estimate the relationship between eGFR at baseline and eGFR at follow-up, adjusting for potential confounders.

Boston |
Department

factors and time with change in eGFR was also evaluated. Multivariable logistic regression models were used to evaluate predictors of CKD.

Results: The CKD prevalence was 12.1% (n = 27), 100% of cases were male, 30% had stage 5 CKD (eGFR < 15 mL/min/1.73 m²), and 22% were younger than 35 years. Proportions of participants with eGFRs < 60 mL/min/1.73 m² at baseline and follow-up were 13.8% and 15.2%, respectively. Linear regression analysis demonstrated significant predictors of lower kidney function at baseline including oven work, older age, lack of education, and having an immediate family member with CKD. Predictors of CKD identified using logistic regression analysis included oven work and lack of education.

Complete author and article information provided before references.

Correspondence to
M. González-Quiroz
(marvin99_00@yahoo.es)

*L.G.R and C.M.S.
contributed equally to this work.

Am J Kidney Dis. XX(XX):
1-9. Published online Month
X, XXXX.

doi: 10.1053/
ajkd.2019.01.017

© 2019 by the National
Kidney Foundation, Inc.

Table 3. Linear Regression Models of eGFR

Variable	eGFR, mL/min/1.73 m ²			
	Mean Difference (95% CI)	P	Coefficient From Time Interaction (95% CI)	P
Age, per 1 y older	-0.95 (-1.42 to -0.47) ^a	<0.001 ^a	0.07 (-0.27 to 0.41)	0.7
Male sex	-5.24 (-17.02 to 6.54)	0.4	-2.22 (-10.88 to 6.45)	0.6
BMI ≥ 30 vs <30 kg/m ²	-2.28 (-12.85 to 8.29)	0.7	-0.77 (-9.38 to 7.85)	0.9
Education				
No formal education	-14.17 (-24.30 to -4.05) ^a	0.006 ^a	-1.98 (-9.29 to 5.32)	0.6
Primary	-3.9 (-12.50 to 4.69)	0.2	-5.70 (-11.88 to 0.47)	0.07
Secondary/university	1.00 (reference)	—	1.00 (reference)	—
Immediate family member with CKD (Y vs N)	-7.66 (-15.17 to -0.32) ^a	0.05 ^a	-1.64 (-7.14 to 3.86)	0.6
F/U study visit (vs BL)	3.31 (-11.07 to 18.88)	0.6		
Job				
Oven work at both visits	-15.52 (-26.02 to -5.01) ^a	0.004 ^a	7.10 (-0.59 to 14.79)	0.07



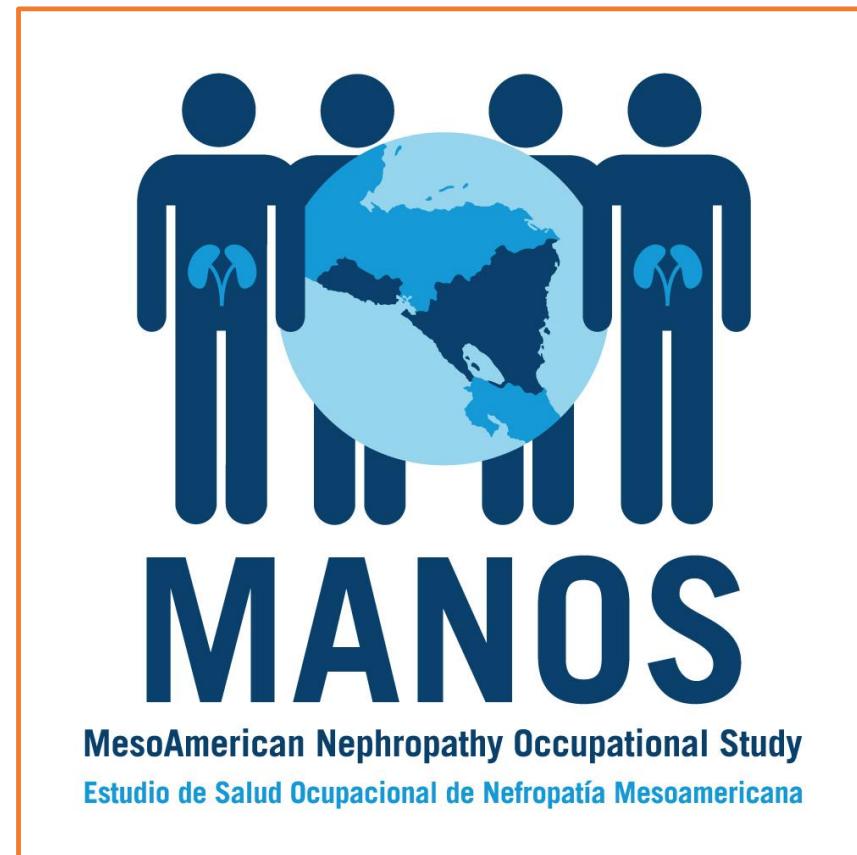
El Salvador:

Dr. Emmanuel Jarquin
Dr. Ramon Trabanino

Nicaragua:

Dr. Juan Jose Amador
Lic. Damaris Lopez

Boston University School of Public Health
Department of Environmental Health





About

Senior Leadership
COVID-19 Response
SPH at a Glance
Strategy Map
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice
Accreditation
Visit SPH
Partnerships
Academic Departments
Biostatistics
Community Health Sciences
Environmental Health
Epidemiology
Faculty & Staff
Epidemiology Doctoral Student Alumni
Courses
Degrees & Programs
Research
Research Areas
Research Group for the Study of Chronic Kidney Disease in Central America
Our Team
Our Projects
Publications
In the News
Contact us
Contact
Global Health
Health Law, Policy & Management
Offices & Centers
Committees
SPH45

MANOS BU Team

- Dan Brooks
- Jessica Leibler
- Sinead Keogh
- Zoe Petropolous
- Iris Delgado
- Erin Polka
- David Friedman (Harvard/BIDMC)
- Yorghos Tripodis
- Mike McClean

Collaborators:

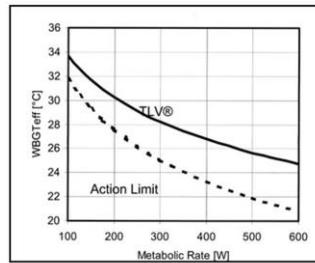
- Linda McCauley, Emory University
- Ana Navas-Acien, Columbia University
- Patrick Parsons, State University of New York
- Kannan Kurunthachalam, New York University
- Chirag Parikh, Johns Hopkins University

Characterizing Heat Exposure & Heat Stress

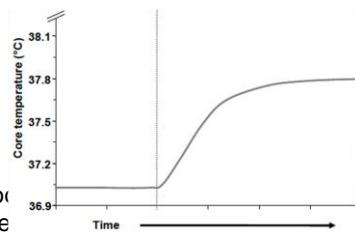


Zoe Petropoulos, PhD
NIEHS F31 ES030974

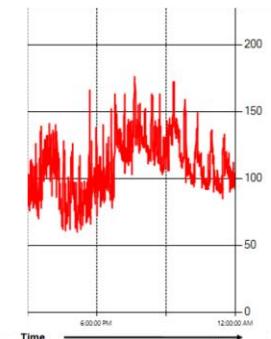
Wet Bulb Globe Temperature



Core Body Temperature



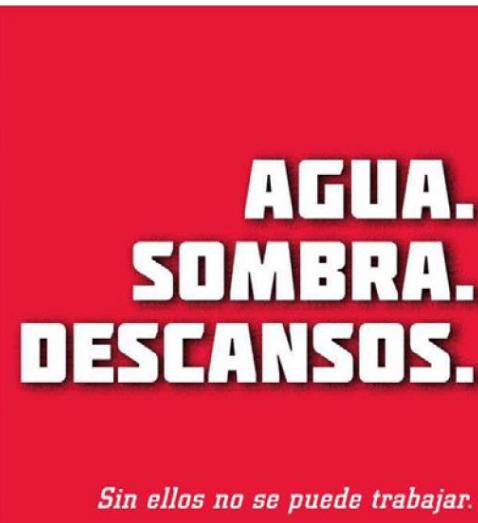
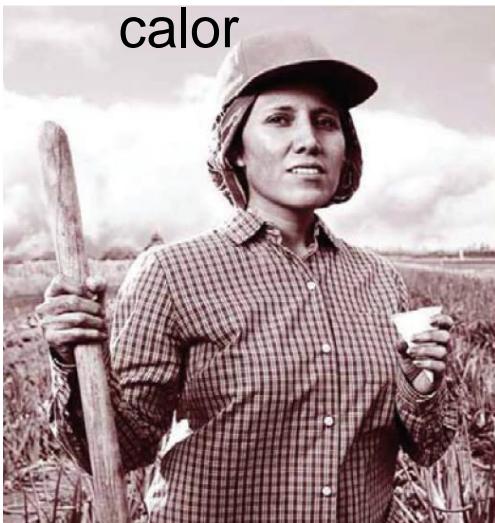
Heart Rate and Accelerometry



BOSTON
UNIVERSITY

HEAT STRESS HYPOTHESIS

- Prevención de enfermedades a causa del calor

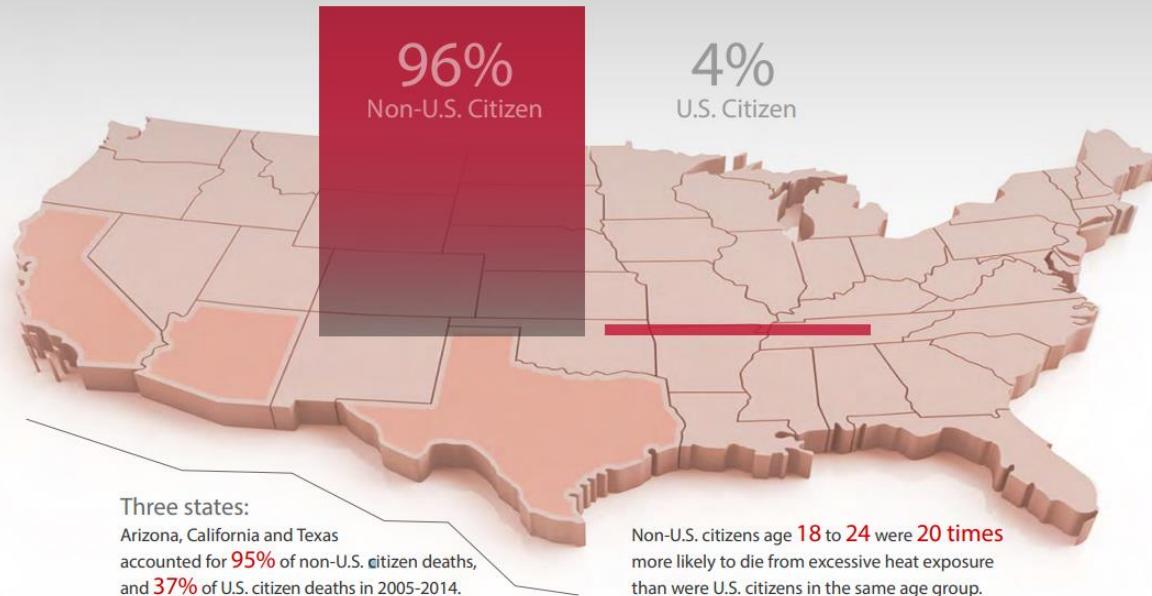


HEAT STRESS HYPOTHESIS



Differences in Heat-related Mortality by Citizenship Status: United States 2005-2014

Estimated Percentage of Heat-related Deaths by Citizenship (2005-2014)



Heat-related deaths accounted for 999 (2.23%) deaths among non-U.S. citizens compared with 4,196 (0.02%) deaths among U.S. citizens.



06:41



















































































































































































































































































































































Data Dashboard

City Heat Plans

Temperature Sampling

Photovoice

About Us



C-HEAT:

A study of heat exposure in Chelsea and
East Boston, Massachusetts

A collaborative research
project between
GreenRoots and the
Boston University School of
Public Health.

The main goal of the project is to build the capacity
for these communities to respond to extreme heat
events. Our research considers heat exposure and
related health concerns among the most vulnerable
populations in the Chelsea Creek communities.

c-heatproject.org

Twitter: [@C_HEATProject](https://twitter.com/C_HEATProject)

GreenRoots

- Roseann Bongiovanni
- Bianca Bowman
- Ibrahim Lopez-Hernandez

Boston University

- Patricia Fabian
- Flannery Black-Ingersoll
- Pilar Botana
- Leila Heidari
- Patrick Kinney
- Julie de Lange
- Hannah Levine
- Jonathan Levy
- Alina McIntyre
- Chad Milano
- Abgel Negassa
- Ameera & Alex Saba

Thank you to C-HEAT Study participants

City of Chelsea

- Victor Tiernan and Ben Cares

Advisory team

- **Zoe Davis** City of Boston, Climate Resilience Program
- **Matt Frank** Chelsea Housing Authority
- **Melanie Gárate** Mystic River Watershed Association/Mystic Resilience Collaborative
- **Indrani Ghosh** Weston & Sampson
- **Rafael Mares** The Neighborhood Developers
- **Fidel Maltez** City of Chelsea, Department of Public Works



- Kalila Barnett



Goal and Objectives

- **Build capacity to respond to extreme heat events:**
 - **Map.** Characterize high-risk locations and populations AND mitigating community assets via participatory mapping and monitoring.
 - **Measure.** Analyze personal and home temperature exposure patterns via field measurements
 - **Listen.** Learn about barriers and opportunities to maintain temperature control among vulnerable residents via Photovoice, surveys, and questionnaires
 - **Translate.** Key findings from our studies into intervention strategies at individual, community and city level



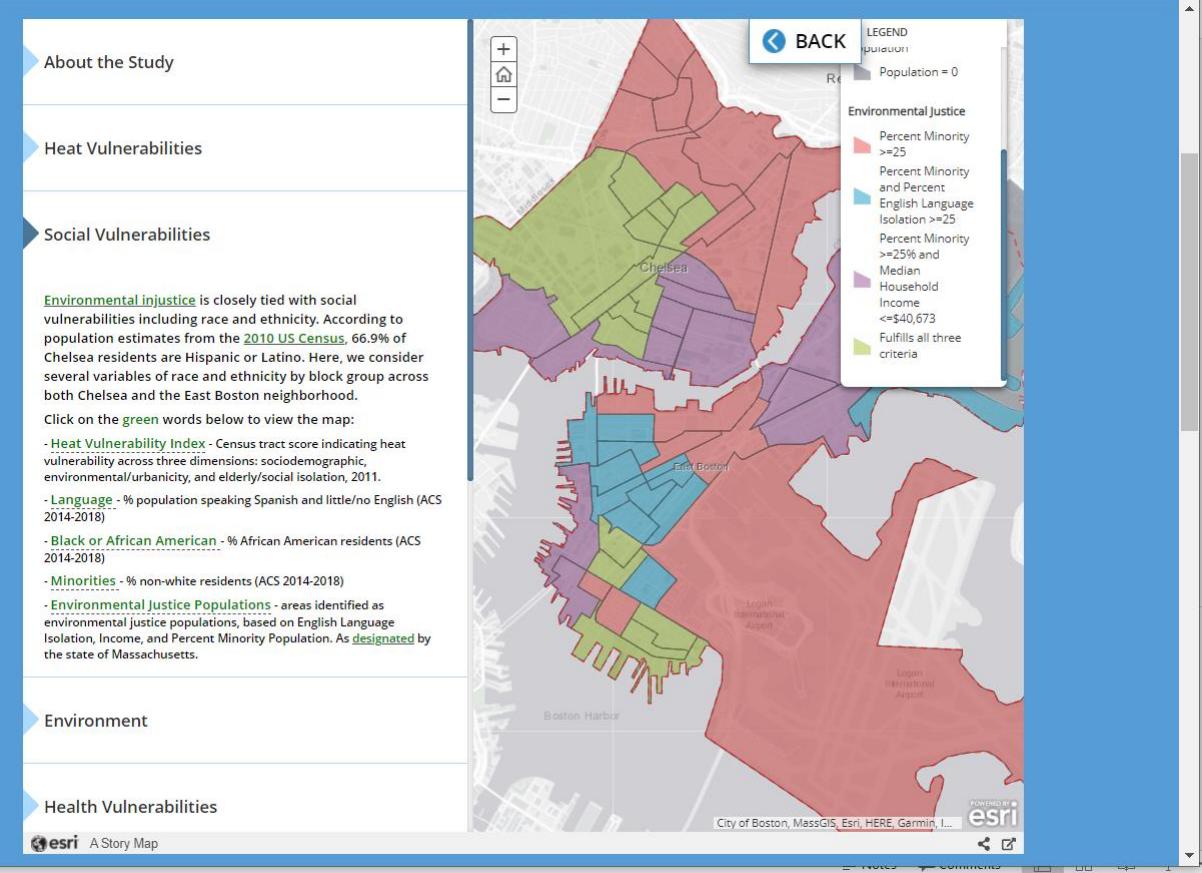
Data Dashboard City Heat Plans Temp
Photovoice Community Resources Pre
Data Applications About Us

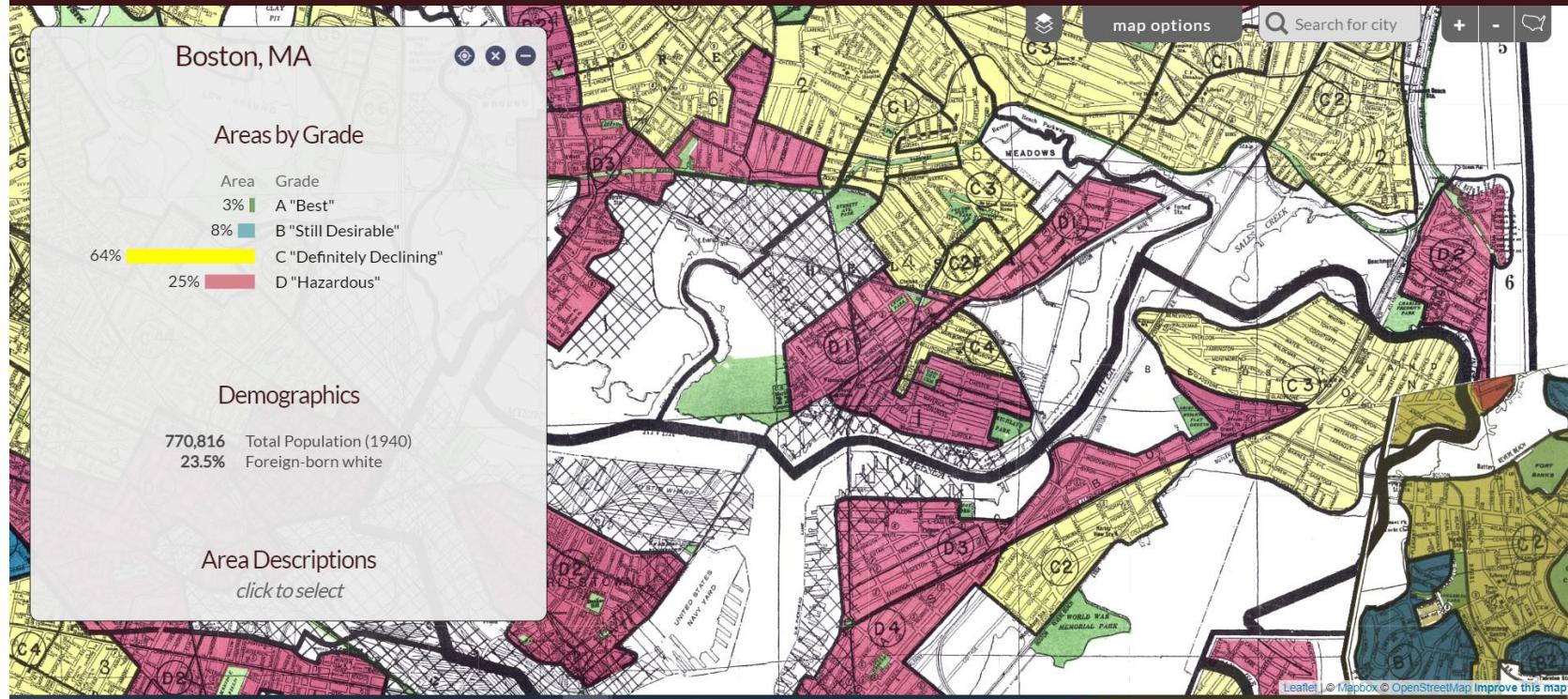
Do you worry about extreme heat?
Are you concerned about your health?

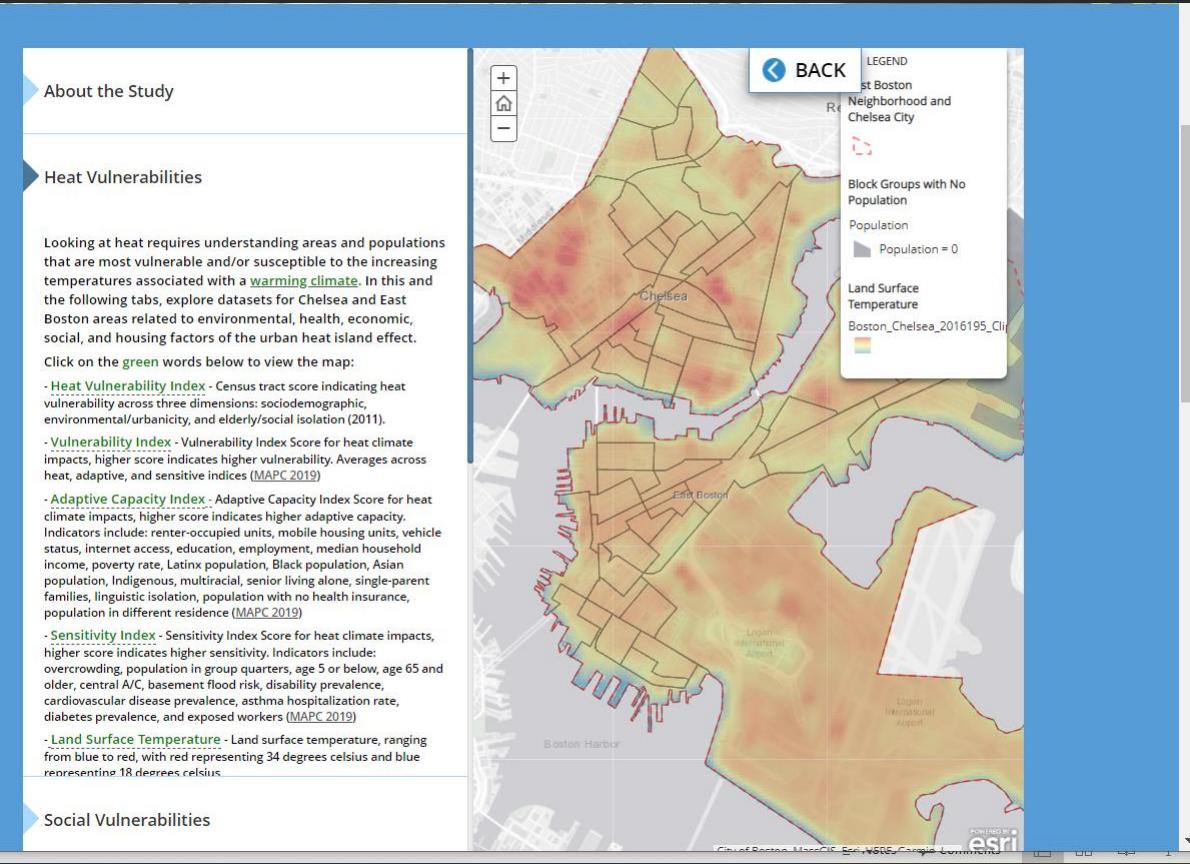
C-HEAT:

A study of heat exposure in Boston, Massachusetts

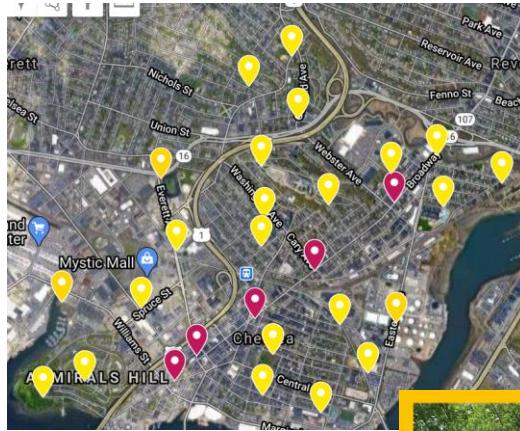
A collaborative research project between GreenRoots and the Boston University School of Public Health.





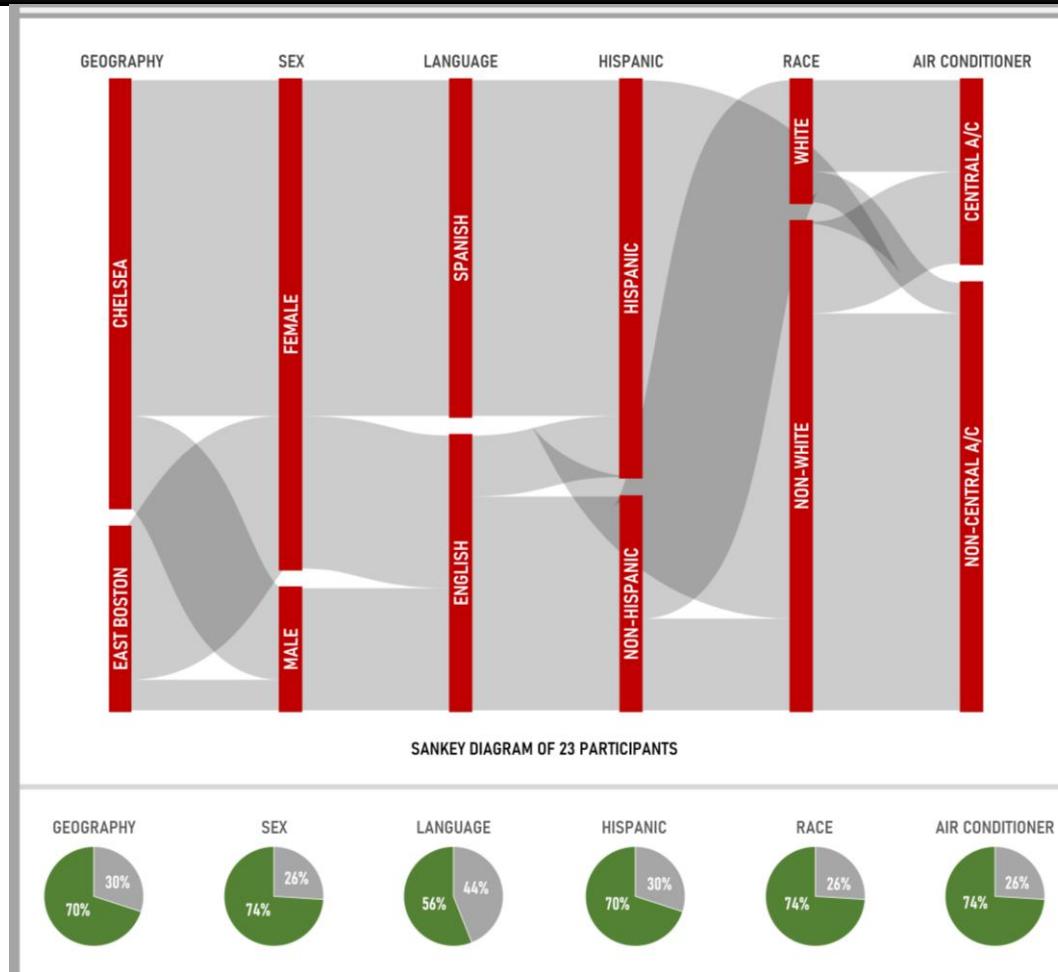


Outdoor temperature



- Partnered with City of Chelsea
- Municipal Vulnerabilities Planning grant





- 24 households
- Recruited via email list serv, member mtgs, word of mouth



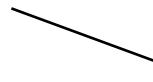
Indoor and personal data collection

Phone data connects to a cloud database 

Azure function  (Microsoft service available at BU) requests (1) and receives (2) data, and uploads (3) to the HIPAA Sharepoint database **every 10 minutes**

Biometric data:

(heart rate, step count, sleep)



Location data:

(Latitude, Longitude) *



1 inch



Data in
the cloud

Temp / Relative Humidity:



1.5
inch

Where is it hot?



- **20 ambient sensors** on trees in Chelsea and East Boston
- **Installed** between May 21 and June 17
- As of August 31, we collected on average **~69 days of data** per sensor

Where is it hot?

Hourly outdoor temperatures...

Ranged: 55°F to 101°F

Hottest sensor on average: 7 °F higher than
coolest sensor

Mary C. Burke Elementary Complex

Washington & Cherry

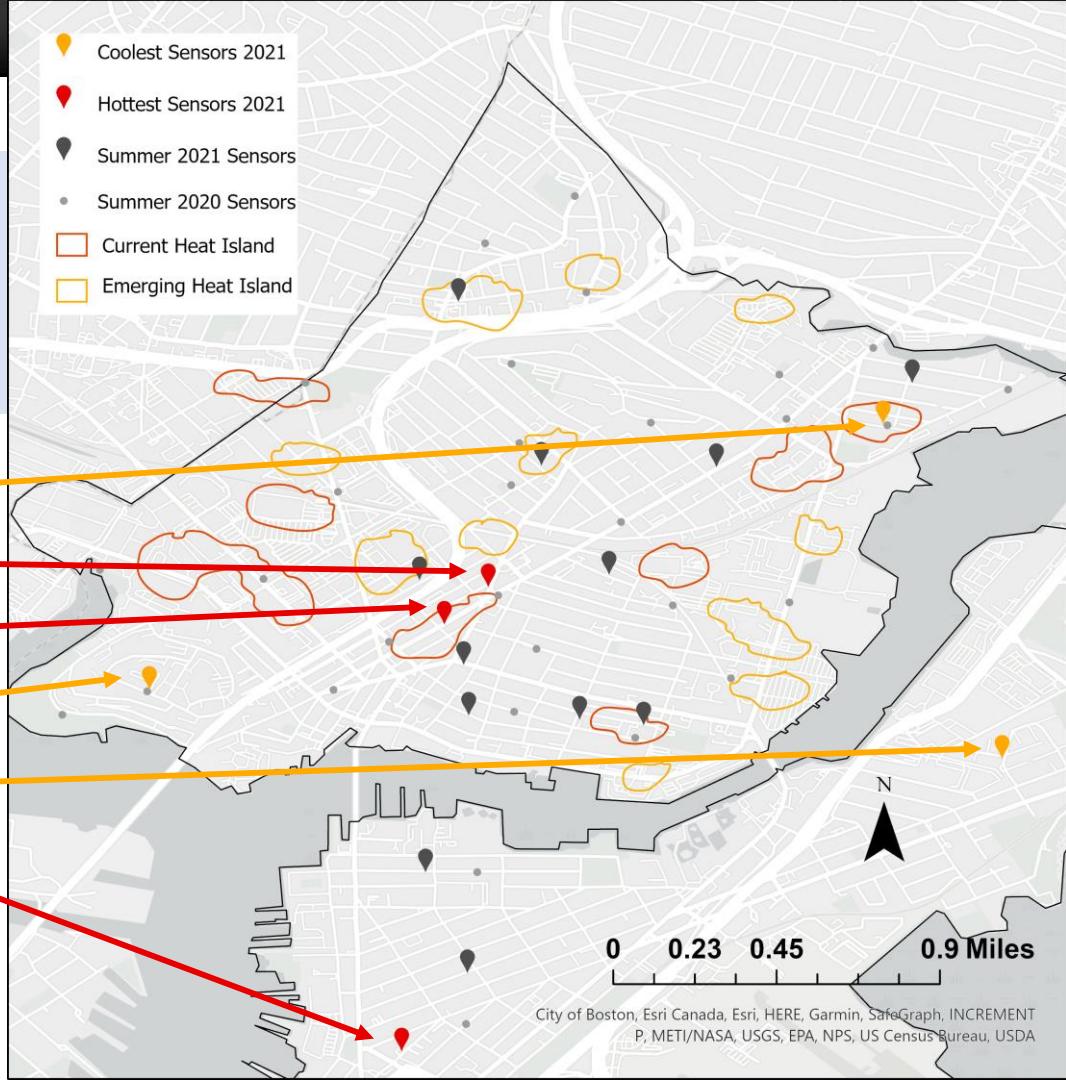
Broadway & Fourth

Boatswains Way

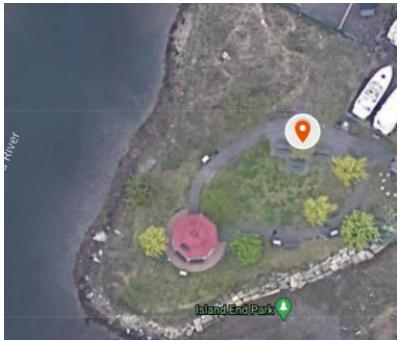
Trustman & Brandywyne

London & Porter

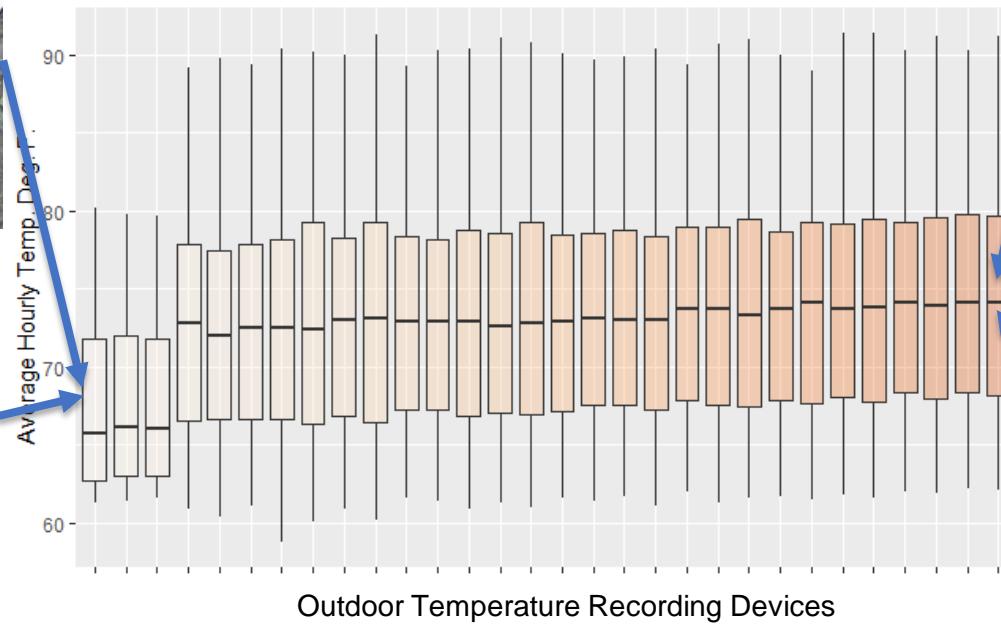
Boston University School of Public Health
Department of Environmental Health



On a hot week: *Outdoor Temperatures*



Outdoor Temperatures 8/21 through 8/28



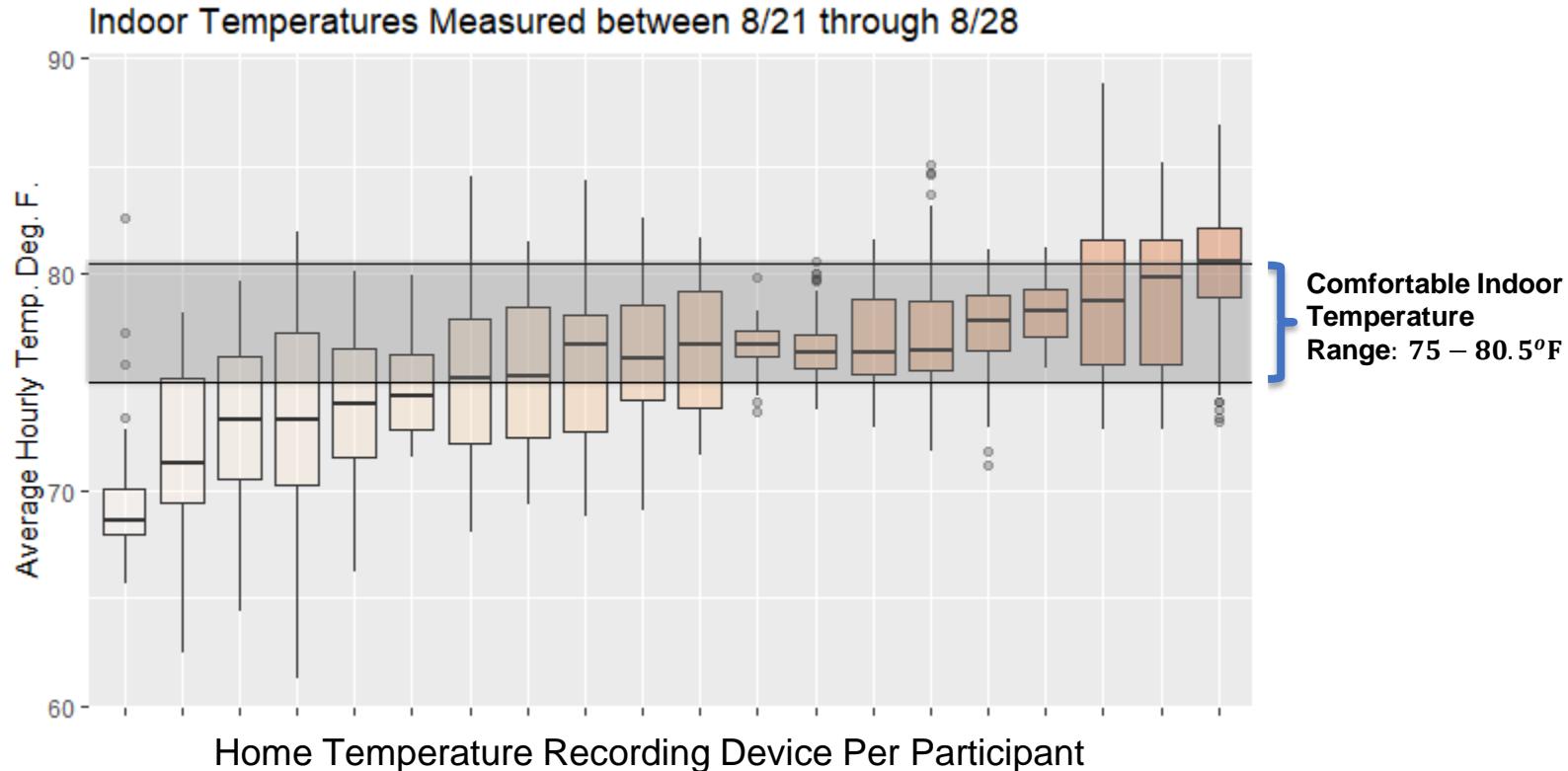
What makes homes hot?



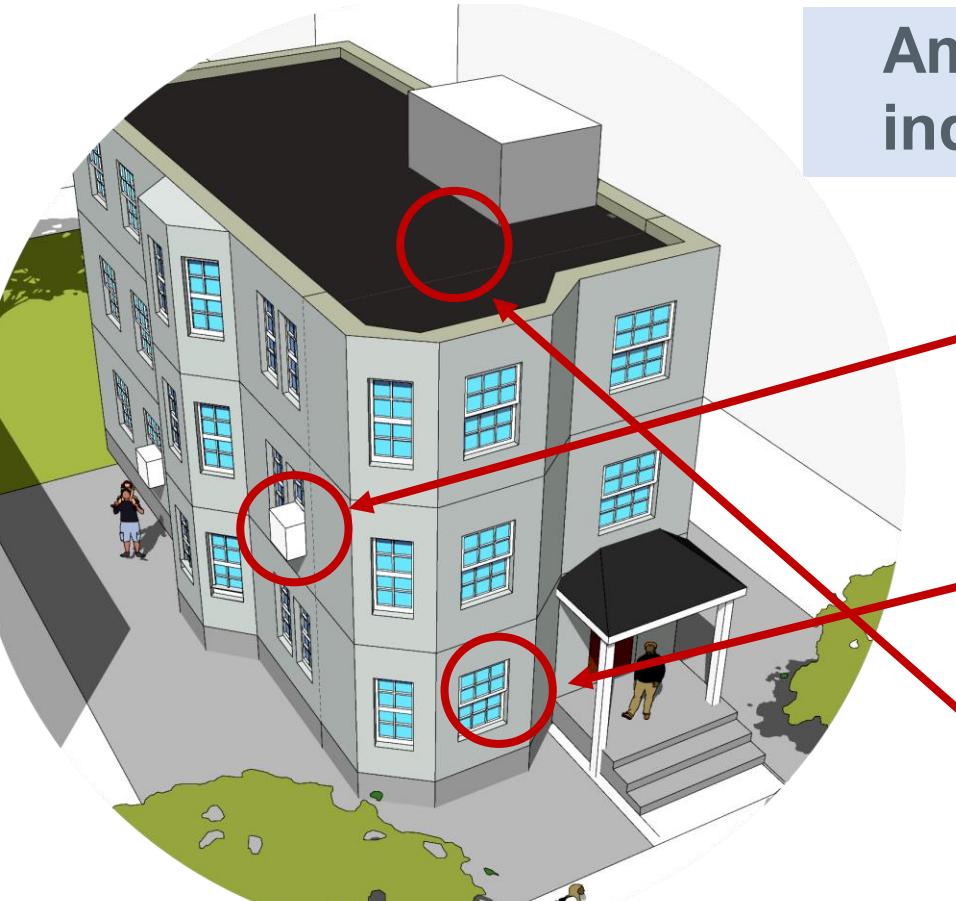
Variables Considered:

- **Roof tone**
- **Façade tone**
- **Façade type**
- **Window-wall ratio**
- **AC type**
- **Shade tree**
- **Floor**
- **Roof shape**
- % Impervious
- % Pavement
- Direction
- % Trees
- Year Built
- Stories
- Style
- Value

On a hot week: *Indoor Temperatures*



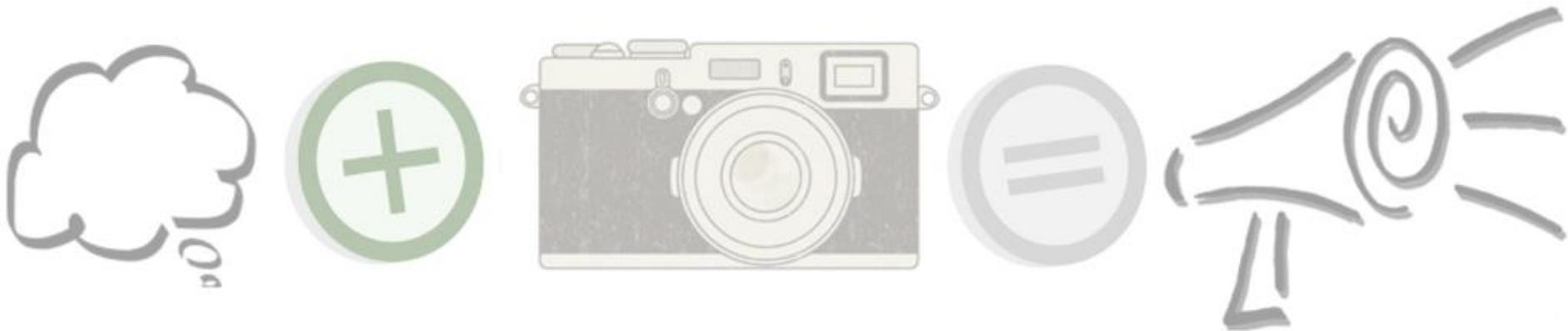
What makes homes hotter or cooler?



Among our participants, cooler indoor temperatures for those...

- **Using AC** in a given week (as indicated by weekly check-ins)
- With **Central AC** (compared to other AC)
- Living **below floor 2** (compared to on/above floor 2)
- With **lighter-colored roofs** (at midday, compared to darker roof tones)

Photovoice



A **participatory action research** method that engages participants in the use of **photography** to represent their **experience and perspectives** on a certain topic.

Budig K, Diez J, Conde P, Sastre M, Hernán M, Franco M. Photovoice and empowerment: evaluating the transformative potential of a participatory action research project. BMC Public Health 2018 vol: 18 (1)

Goals of Photovoice

- 1) to enable people to record and reflect their community's strengths and concerns
- 2) to promote critical dialogue and knowledge about important issue through small group discussions of photographs
- 3) to reach policy makers

Wang C, Burris MA. Photovoice: concept, methodology, and use for participatory needs assessment. Heal Educ Behav. 1997; 24:369–87.

Results

- Where are the trees? / Here are the trees!
 - Tree (in)equity: there is unequal distribution and access to green space and parks. The quality, utility, and accessibility of green spaces matters.
 - When we feel the heat: in transit! Feeling the lack of shade and the heat from the pavement while walking, at bus stops, and MBTA stations.
 - Compounded problems: Where there is a lack of trees, there are also other exposures: noise, air pollution from cars and buses.
- Populations vulnerable to heat
- Water: the good, the bad and the ugly
- Keeping it cool, creatively



Where are the trees?

This is the industrial side of Chelsea which impacts the microclimate. Both factory and truck exhaust surrounding concrete adds to the heat island effect.

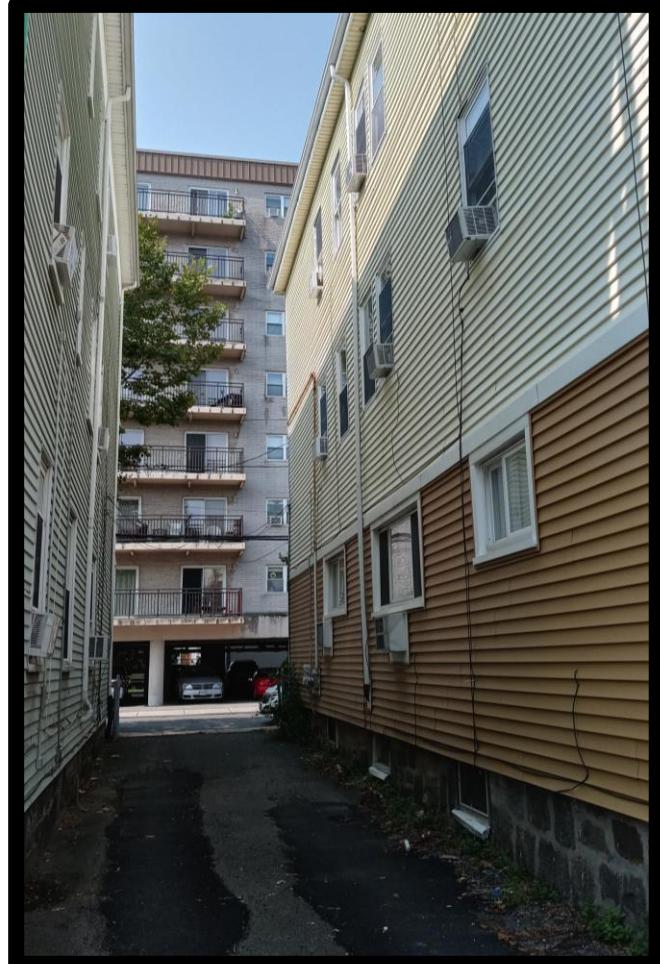


Here are the trees!

This street, and the rest of Admiral's Hill, has an abundance of trees and vegetation that offer protection from the heat as well as the air and noise pollution of the Tobin Bridge. I am hopeful that when city officials see these photos, they'll see how much inequity is present.

Keeping it cool

Cuando sales y miras a tu alrededor, ves muchos aires acondicionados en las ventanas. La mayoría de ellos son viejos, poco eficientes, y ruidosos. En nuestra comunidad, hay mucha gente que no se puede permitir comprar un aparato de aire nuevo. Muchos de ellos, tampoco tienen donde almacenarlo, así que los deben dejar en las ventanas todo el invierno.



Youth Engagement and Social Media

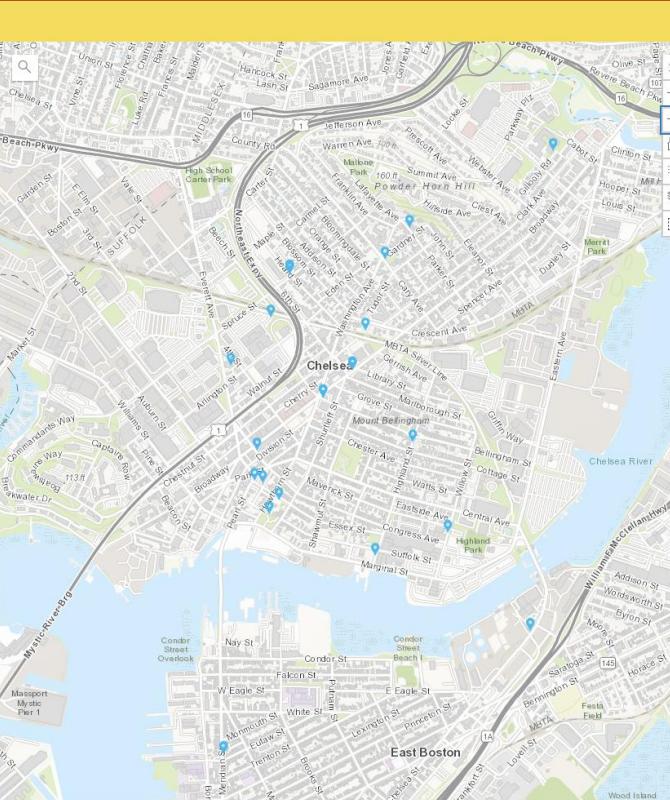
Reporter 1

Reports

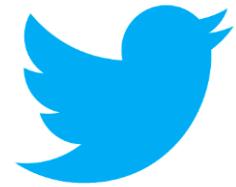


City of Boston, MassGIS, Esri Canada, Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, USGS, METIN/USGS, EPA, USDA

Powered by Esri



<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/b2678cc9407c446e8bcfe7be184dccac>



TikTok



Opportunity: Evaluate use of **Drinking Water & Misting** Stations



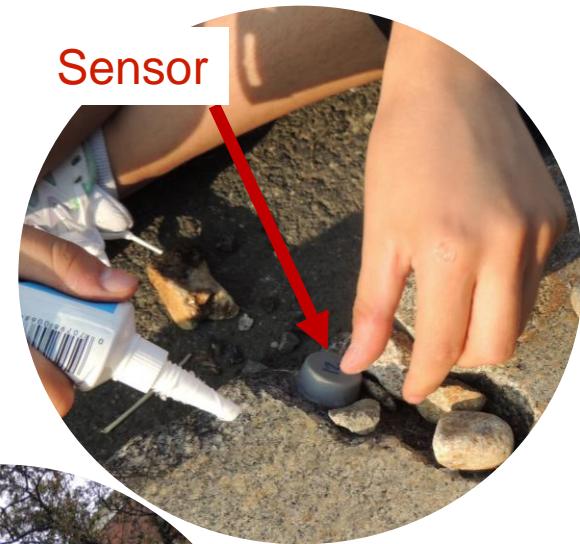
2021-2022 Interventions & Future Analyses



White roofs



Playgrounds & parks



Burke Elementary Complex



Bus stops

Analyze data from “Cool block interventions”



White roof
(City MVP grant)



Lot reimagining
(GreenRoots/BSLA)



**Mural at Boys and
Girls Club**

Other City MVP interventions

- Street reflective murals
- Sidewalk pavers
- Greenspace

Public Health Post

Climate Disease and Kidney Injustice

By Madeleine K. Scammell

November 6, 2017

RESEARCH



<https://www.publichealthpost.org/research/climate-chronic-kidney-disease/>