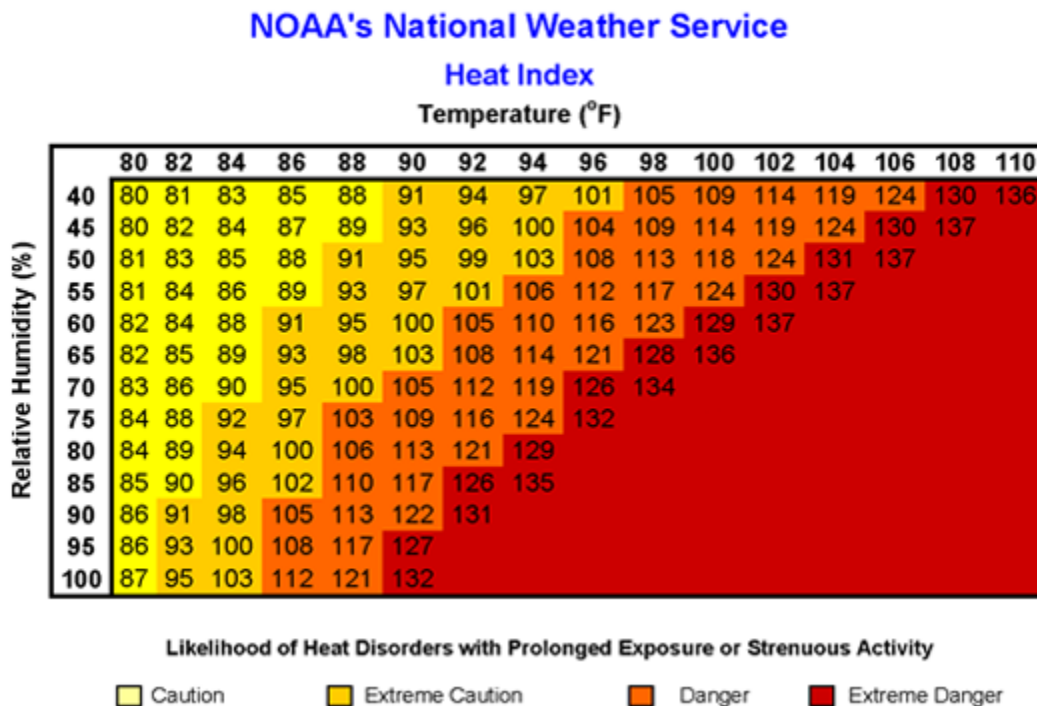


Mask Use During Times of High Heat and Humidity

An employee does not need to wear a mask if it impedes their vision, if they have a medical condition, or if it would create an unsafe condition in which to operate equipment or execute a task, including during hot and humid conditions.

Face shields should be considered as an acceptable alternative to face masks when high temperatures and humidity create unsafe conditions, unless their use impedes an employee's vision. Additionally, social distancing measures should be enforced when conditions are unsafe for wearing a mask and/or face shield. Employers should utilize discretion when determining unsafe conditions. The following heat index provides optional guidance to determine whether or not conditions are such that masks can be removed in favor of face shields or social distancing:



The following Heat Index thresholds present an increased potential for heat disorders while wearing a mask:

A Heat Index of 91 or greater while performing light or moderate work.

A Heat Index of 80 or greater while performing heavy or very heavy work.

Employees who work within 6 feet of another worker must continue to wear a mask, face covering, or face shield.

The Heat Index should be monitored throughout the shift. In the event that the Heat Index drops below the above thresholds masks, face coverings, or face shields must be worn.

For up to date heat index values the following apps may be utilized:

[CDC NIOSH Heat Index App for iPhone](#)

[CDC NIOSH Heat Index App for Android Devices](#)