The Polk County Heat Vulnerability analysis was created by the Building Resilience Against Climate Effects program within the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. The data displayed in the map is meant to serve as an informational tool to better understand the spatial distribution of human populations most vulnerable to extreme heat related events.

** The Wisconsin Heat Vulnerability Index is based on multiple indicators associated with risk for heat-related illness and mortality. The index analysis was created as a measure of vulnerability by U.S. Census block groups during an extreme heat event. The measure includes: health factors, demographic and household characteristics, natural and built environment factors (e.g., air quality, temperature, land cover) and population density.

* The Polk County Heat Vulnerability Index is based on the Wisconsin Heat Vulnerability Index but has a reduced number of health-related indicators. It is representative of the heat vulnerability in Polk County, and is not representative of the vulnerability compared to the other counties in Wisconsin.

** The Wisconsin Heat Vulnerability Index is based on multiple indicators associated with risk for heat-related illness and mortality. The index analysis was created as a measure of vulnerability by U.S. Census block groups during an extreme heat event. The measure includes: health factors, demographic and household characteristics, natural and built environment factors (e.g., air quality, temperature, land cover) and population density.