

Seminole Canyon is a stunning spot, but the heat "down in the hole" is definitely a different beast than the temperature at the visitor center.

If it's **90°F** outside, the heat index depends entirely on the relative humidity. In the Comstock and Del Rio area, humidity typically fluctuates between 35% and 65%.

Heat Index at 90°F

Here is how the "feels like" temperature shifts based on humidity levels:

Relative Humidity	Heat Index (Feels Like)	Risk Level
40%	91°F	Caution
50%	95°F	Extreme Caution
60%	100°F	Extreme Caution
70%	106°F	Danger

Why the Canyons are Hotter

While the chart gives you the standard "shade" calculation, there are three factors that make the canyon floor feel much more intense:

- **Sun Exposure:** In direct sunlight (which is most of the trail to Fate Bell or Panther Cave), the heat index can jump by as much as **15°F**. So, that 90°F day with 50% humidity could feel like **110°F** when you're out on the rocks.
- **Radiant Heat:** The limestone canyon walls act like a giant oven. They soak up the sun all day and radiate that heat back toward you, often making the air inside the canyon several degrees warmer than the official "outside" temperature.
- **Airflow:** Down in the canyons, the breeze often dies out, which stops your body from cooling itself through evaporation.