

SOLVING THE CLIMATE CRISIS

The Environmental and Energy Study Institute

House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis: Health Recommendations

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CLIMATE AND HEALTH

EXTREME HEAT

CAN IMPACT
OUR HEALTH
IN MANY WAYS



EXPOSURES

- 🔥 Longer and hotter warm season
- 🔥 Heat waves



THREATS TO HEALTH

- 🔥 Heat-related illness
- 🔥 Respiratory and heart diseases
- 🔥 Death
- 🔥 Burns from wild fires

EXTREME RAINFALL AND DROUGHT

EXPOSURES

- Severe storms
- Flooding
- Wildfires
- Mold



THREATS TO HEALTH

- Injuries
- Asthma
- Heart disease
- Mental health

CLIMATE AND HEALTH

WARMER WATER AND FLOODING

INCREASE THE RISK OF ILLNESS AND INJURY

EXPOSURES

- ☼ Severe storms
- ☼ Flooding
- ☼ Storm water overflow



THREATS TO HEALTH







- ☼ Gastrointestinal illness
- ☼ Injury

CLIMATE AND HEALTH

CLIMATE CHANGE INCREASES THE NUMBER AND GEOGRAPHIC RANGE OF DISEASE-CARRYING INSECTS AND TICKS






EXPOSURES

-  Increased vectors
-  Warmer weather
-  Expanded territory
-  Shorter winters
-  Standing water
-  Deforestation



THREATS TO HEALTH





-  Lyme disease
-  West Nile virus
-  Zika virus

CLIMATE AND HEALTH

CLIMATE CHANGE DECREASES THE QUALITY OF THE **AIR WE BREATHE**







EXPOSURES

-  Ambient air pollutants
-  Pollen
-  Wildfire smoke
-  Mold



THREATS TO HEALTH

-  Asthma
-  Allergies
-  Heart diseases
-  Death



Health Recommendations

- Strengthen planning to address climate risks to public health
 - Federal health agencies
 - State, local, territorial, and tribal health departments
- Improve data collection on climate-related health impacts
 - Including disproportionate impacts on frontline communities
 - Enhance programs to reduce these health burdens



Health Recommendations

- Ensure resilient public health supply chains
 - Increase supply chain planning and strengthen national shipping and distribution networks
- Enhance U.S. global leadership on climate and health
 - Strengthen U.S. participation in the World Health Organization & the Global Health Security Agenda



Health Recommendations

- Support community preparedness for the health impacts of disasters
 - Increase funding for federal health preparedness programs
 - Help medically vulnerable populations
- Increase the planning and preparedness of hospitals and health infrastructure
 - Require the use of climate-informed building codes and standards
 - Support resilience planning and construction

Health Recommendations

- Strengthen the resilience of veterans health systems
 - Hospitals, housing, and supply chains
- Address the mental health implications of climate change
 - Expand access to mental health services for acute needs after disasters, for students and youth worried about the climate crisis
 - Expand access for communities facing chronic pollution and climate impacts

About APHA

APHA is a global community of public health professionals and the collective voice for the health of the public. APHA is the only organization that combines 140 years of perspective, a broad-based constituency and the ability to influence federal policy to advocate for and improve the public's health.

- Founded – April 18, 1872
- 501C(3) & Nonpartisan
- Over 50,000 individual & affiliate members

