SOLVING THE CLIMATE CRISIS

The Environmental and Energy Study Institute

House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis: Health Recommendations

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Georges C. Benjamin, MD, MACP, FACEP (E), FNAPA
Executive Director
American Public Health Association
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

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CLIMATE AND HEALTH

EXTREME RAINFALL AND DROUGHT

EXPOSURES
- Severe storms
- Flooding
- Wildfires
- Mold

THREATS TO HEALTH
- Injuries
- Asthma
- Heart disease
- Mental health

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WARMER WATER AND FLOODING INCREASE THE RISK OF ILLNESS AND INJURY

THREATS TO HEALTH
- Gastrointestinal illness
- Injury

EXPOSURES
- Severe storms
- Flooding
- Storm water overflow

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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

Visit [www.apha.org/climate](http://www.apha.org/climate) for more information.
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

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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