EXTREME HEAT & PUBLIC HEALTH

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HEAT WAVES ARE INCREASING IN
SEVERITY
FREQUENCY
DURATION
冷却季节
纽约市已采取措施来保护人们——以及地球——免受热浪之害。

By Nex Kramer on Aug 13, 2019

"The annual mean air temperature of a city with 1 million people or more can be 1.8–5.4°F (1–3°C) warmer than its surroundings" (EPA)
Weather Fatalities 2019

- **Flood**: 92, 88
- **Lightning**: 20, 25
- **Tornado**: 41, 42
- **Hurricane**: 0, 5
- **Heat**: 103, 63
- **Winter**: 68, 27
- **Cold**: 35, 35
- **Wind**: 27, 32
- **Rip Currents**: 27, N/A

**Legend**
- Red: Weather Fatalities for 2019
- Blue: 10-Year Average (2010-2019)
- Yellow: 30-Year Average (1990-2019)

**Note**: This graph does not tell the whole story!
"WE ARE IN THE SAME STORM, BUT NOT ALL IN THE SAME BOAT"
WHO'S ESPECIALLY AT-RISK TO EXTREME HEAT IMPACTS?

- Older adults
- Children
- People with chronic illness
- Pregnant people
- Outdoor workers
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...but also people who
- live in older, poorly maintained apartment buildings;
- live in crowded apartments with intergenerational living;
- live in neighborhoods with less green space access,
- live in neighborhoods with more air pollution from buildings and industrial sites; and
- been exposed to air pollution across the lifespan
- stretch their resilience and their means across many hardships, such as food, rent, chronic illness, immigration concerns, and more,

....and it is all due to historical and systematic (environmental) racism
CLIMATE CHANGE
[Extreme heat]

ENVIRONMENTAL
RACISM

ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH IMPACTS
Address energy insecurity

The inability to adequately meet basic household energy needs due to the interplay of physical conditions of housing, household energy costs and energy-related coping strategies.
Everyone has a right to a healthy & cool home

What makes a home energy insecure?

- Planned brown outs in low income communities of color
- The wall insulation retains heat, so your home stays hot for days after a heat wave
- Short periods of utility failures, due to increased usage from air conditioners
- Your landlord does not address maintenance issues like holes, cracks, leaks
- Choosing between turning your air conditioning on, or your oxygen machine

What makes a home energy secure?

- A home that is well cared for by the landlord
- Access to energy efficient air conditioning & fans
- A home that remains at safe temperatures during extremely hot days
- Affordable utility bills
- A home that is well ventilated
- Healthy children & elderly

Under the sun, there is no place for injustice.
• Long Term Solutions

• Short Term Solutions & Emergency Response
Thank you.

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www.weact.org/heat