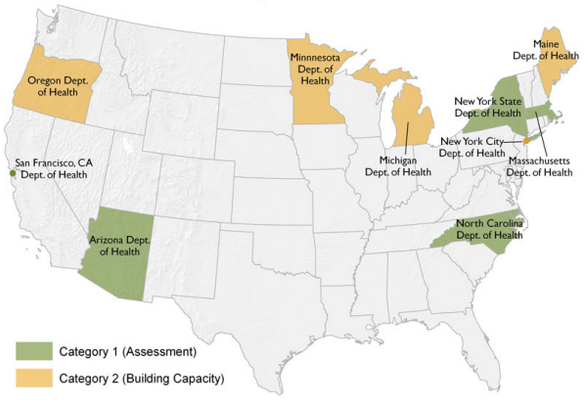
The CDC climate change and public health framework was established in 2006, due to a recognition by many scientists that there was a need to prepare for the inevitability of climate change, and the impact it would likely have on the health of US residents and the world population in general.

CDC formally established its Climate Change Program in FY 2009. CDC's Climate Change Program leads efforts to prevent and adapt to the anticipated health impacts associated with climate change.

The program seeks to identify populations most vulnerable to these impacts, anticipate future trends, assures that systems are in place to detect and respond to emerging health threats, and takes steps to assure that these health risks can be managed now and in the future.

CDC Climate Ready States and Cities Initiative



CS218362

Ten State Health Departments and Their Health Impacts:

Cat 1 Assessment and Planning to Develop Climate Change Programs

Arizona Department of Health Services
Health effects due to extreme heat

Massachusetts Department of Health
Water, food, and vector borne diseases, heat stress, hazardous weather events, respiratory diseases

New York State Department of Health
Extreme weather, waterborne, food-borne, and vector disease

North Carolina Department of Public Health
Temperature related morbidity and mortality; extreme weather; air pollution; water, food, and vector borne diseases

San Francisco Department of Public Health
Heat stress morbidity and mortality associated with air quality impacts

Cat 2 Building Capacity to Implement Climate Change Programs and Adaptations

Michigan Department of Community Health
Heat related disease, respiratory disease

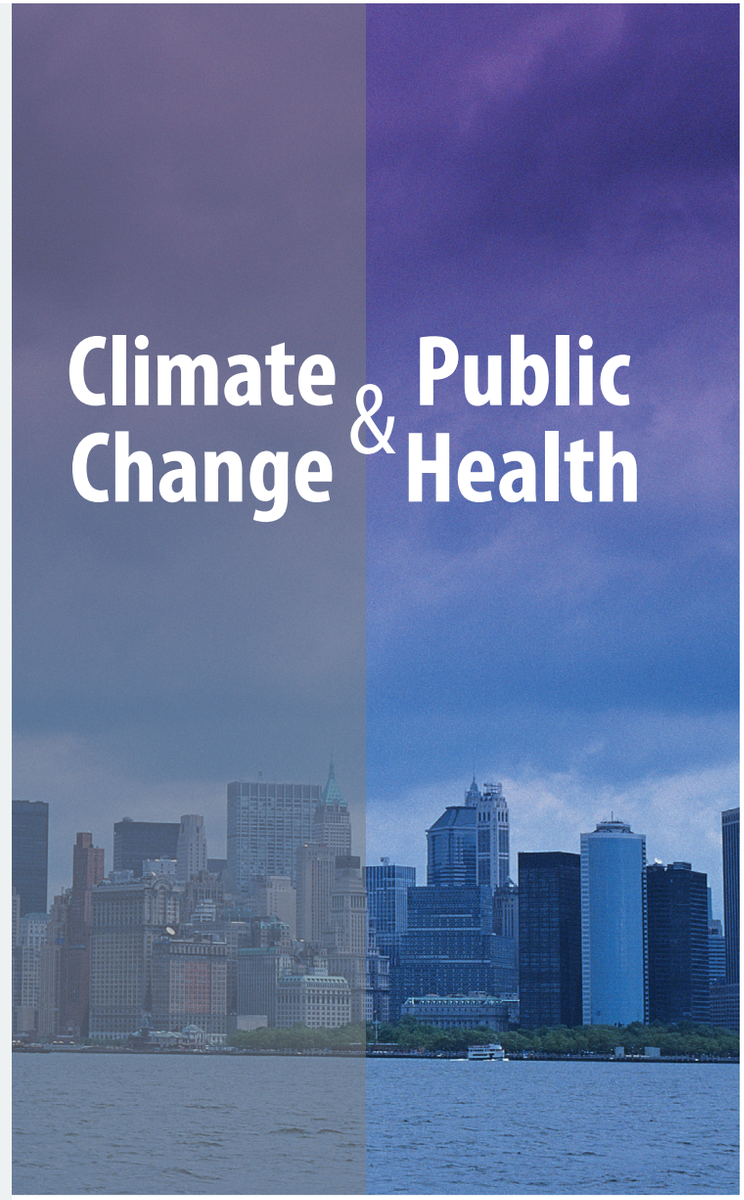
Minnesota Department of Health
Extreme heat events, vector borne disease

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Heat-related morbidity and mortality, respiratory illness, water-borne and vector-borne disease

Oregon Department of Health
Water and food borne diseases, extreme weather, ecosystems

State of Maine Department of Health and Human Services
Heat related outcomes, vector-borne disease

Climate Change & Public Health



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Environmental Health

CDC's Climate Change Program has 3 Core Functions:

For more information about the CDC Climate Change Program and its activities visit: www.cdc.gov/climatechange

Funct1 To translate climate change science to inform states, local health departments, and communities

Priority Actions

1. Enhance the science base to better understand the relationship between climate change and health outcomes
2. Identify locations and population groups at greatest risk for specific health threats, such as heat waves
3. Provide technical advice and support to state and local health departments, the private sector, and others in implementing national and global preparedness measures related to the health effects of climate change

Projects /Activities

- Work with the state and local agencies to translate climate science into health policy for action both regionally and locally
- Expanding the climate change research foundation
- NASA/ROSES project; Using NASA data and models to improve heat watch warning systems
- Local climate change and health indicator project; Travis County, Texas
- Vulnerability assessments for climate-related environmental hazards

Funct2 To create decision support tools to build capacity to prepare for climate change

Priority Actions

1. Track data on environmental conditions, disease risks, and disease occurrence related to climate change
2. Communicate the health-related aspects of climate change, including risks and ways to reduce them, to the public, decision makers, and healthcare providers
3. Develop and implement preparedness and response plans for health threats such as heat waves, severe weather events, and infectious diseases
4. Expand capacity for modeling and forecasting health effects that may be climate-related
5. Promote workforce development by helping to ensure the training of a new generation of competent, experienced public health staff to respond to the health

Projects /Activities

- Developing the 'Climate Ready States and Cities Initiative' to support and lead initiatives to build capacity in state and city health departments to address the public health consequences of climate change
- Funding 8 states and 2 city health departments to undertake climate change and health related assessment, planning, adaptations and capacity building
- Funding of a Climate Module within the Environmental Public Health Tracking Network (EPHT)
- Creation of adaptation guidance for state and local health departments
- Preventing and Treating Heat Related Illness: an e-learning course
- Extreme Heat Media Toolkit

Funct3 To serve as a credible leader in planning for the public health impacts of climate change

Priority Actions

1. Provide leadership to state and local governments, community leaders, healthcare professionals, nongovernmental organizations, the faith-based communities, the private sector and the public, domestically and internationally, regarding health protection from climate change effects
2. Serve as a credible source of information on the health consequences of climate change for the U.S. population and globally
3. Develop partnerships with other government agencies, the private sector, nongovernmental organizations, universities, and international organizations to more effectively address U.S. and global health aspects of climate change

Projects /Activities

- Participation as lead authors on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special report on Weather Extremes, and for the Fifth Assessment Report
- Participation on Inter-Agency Workgroups of the US Global Change Research Program
- Serving as Advisor to Health Canada's Climate and Health Program