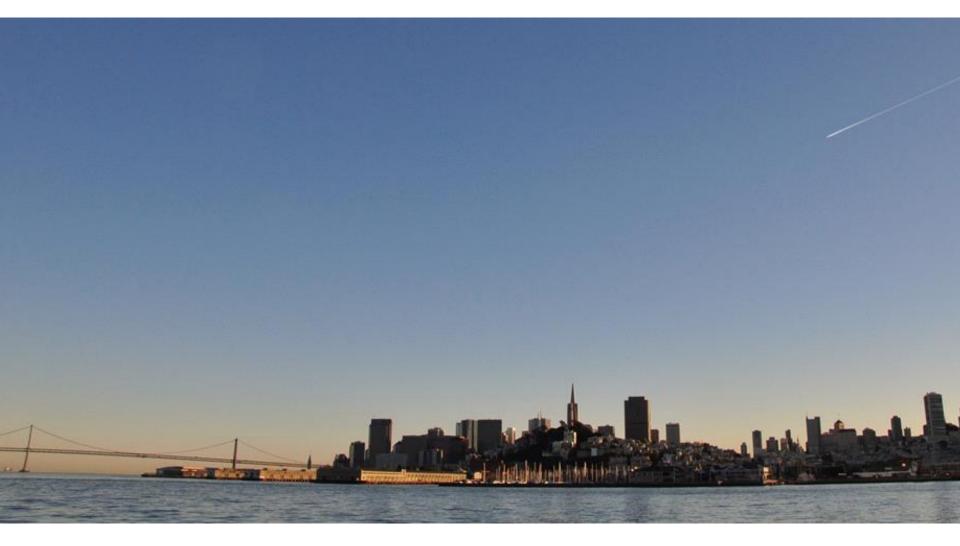
Coupling Public Health with Climate Resilience



Office of Policy & Planning San Francisco Department of Public Health City and County of San Francisco Climate and Health Program Email: <u>cyndy.comerford@sfdph.org</u> Twitter: @sfclimatehealth

Presentation Objectives

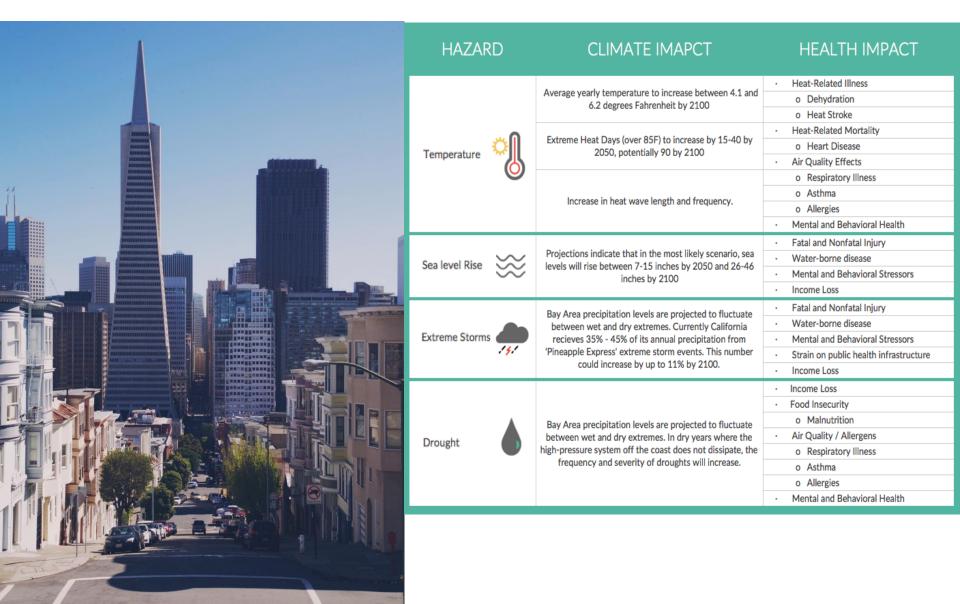
- Provide information about of the San Francisco Department of Public Health Climate and Health Program and City-Wide Initiatives
- Explain why it is important for Public Health professionals to know about climate change and the projected impacts of climate change on health.
- Learn about some of the past initiatives and highlights of the Climate and Health Program
- Learn about upcoming strategic activities

Climate Change is Happening Now



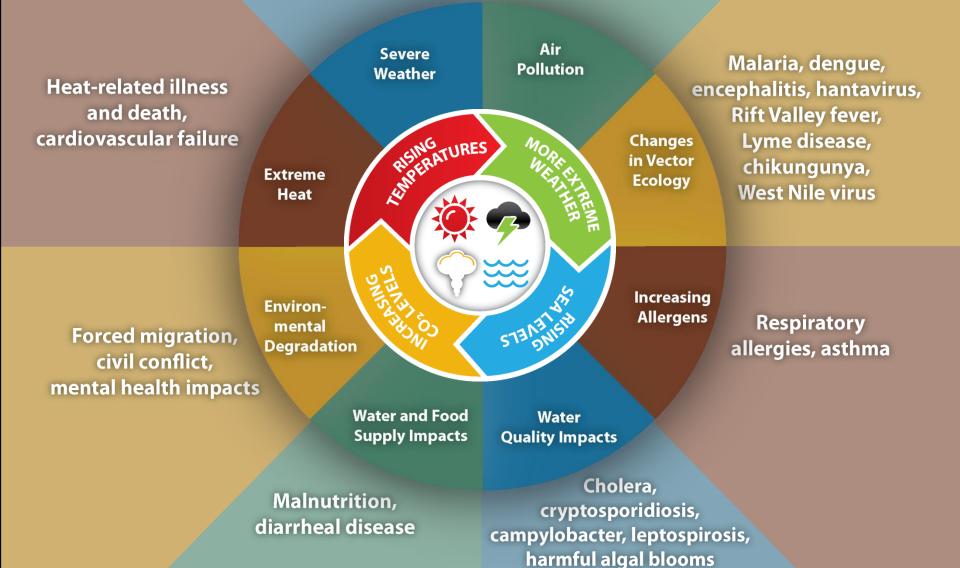
Northwestern Glacier melt, Alaska from 1940 (left) to 2005 (right)

Climate Projections



Impact of Climate Change on Human Health

Injuries, fatalities, mental health impacts Asthma, cardiovascular disease

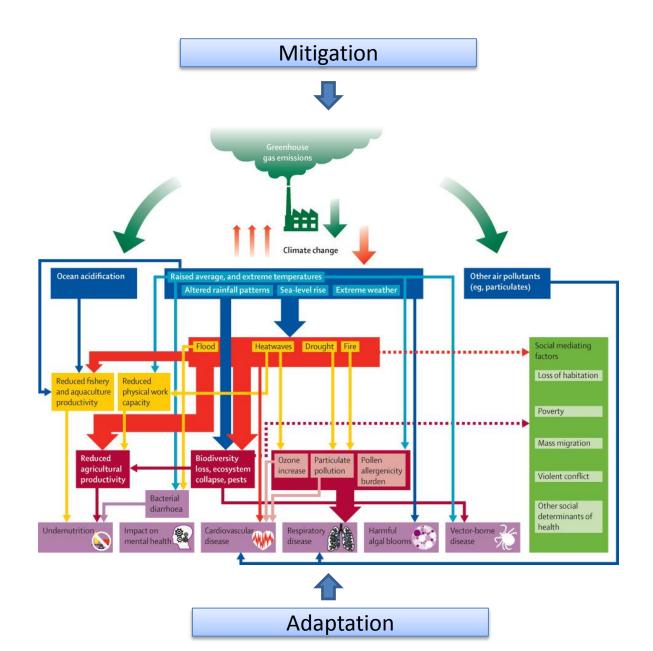


Climate Change Already Impacts Health

Deaths from climate change



Climate Change Impacts are Complex



Health Disparities Contribute Climate Vulnerability

- Rates of diseases are associated with race and poverty
 - Stroke and cardiovascular mortality

"Mentally unhealthy days"

- Diabetes
- Asthma

- Deaths and hospitalizations increase with heat in people with:
 - Cardiovascular diseases
 - Diabetes
 - Respiratory Diseases
 - Psychiatric
- Reducing health disparities: part of the climate justice agenda

The Climate Gap





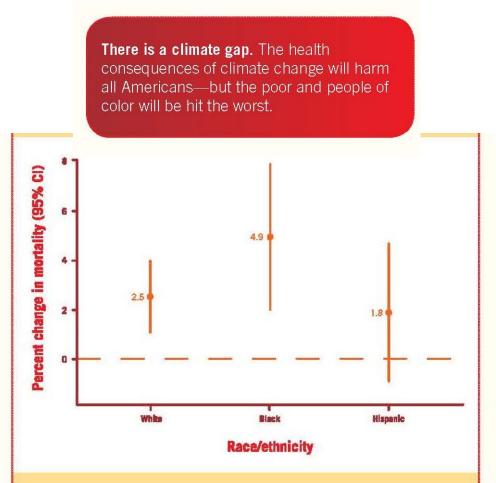
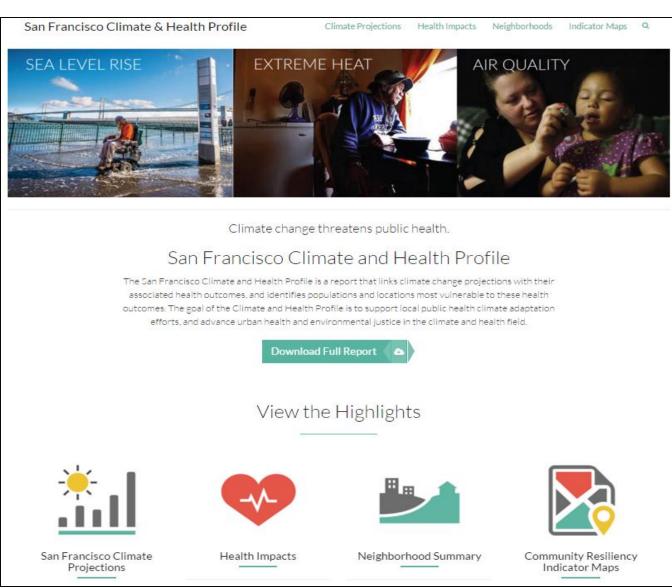


Figure 2. Percent change in mortality associated with 10°F increase in mean daily temperature by race/ethnicity in nine California counties. May through September, 1999–2003 (Source: Basu and Ostro 2008).

Climate and Health Profile



www.sfclimatehealth.org

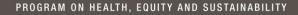
Extreme Heat Risk

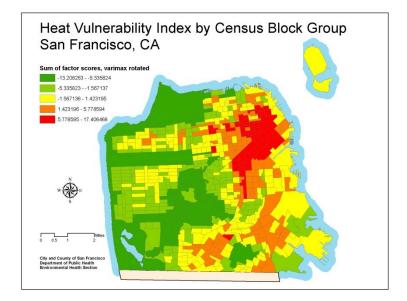
Climate and Health

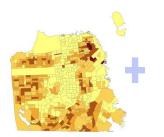
Understanding the Risk: An Assessment of San Francisco's Vulnerability to Extreme Heat Events



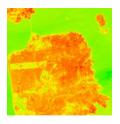














Flooding and Extreme Storms

Climate and Health Understanding the Risk:

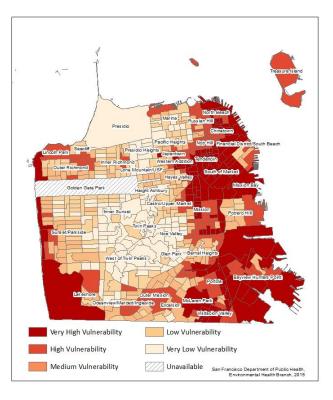
An Assessment of San Francisco's Vulnerability to Flooding & Extreme Storms





San Francisco Department of Public Health City and County of San Francisco Population Health Division

Final Report, Winter 2016



Interactive Story Map

Live Stories

Strategies/Activities - Emergency Planning

San Francisco Department of Public Health Extreme Heat Response Plan An Annex to the SFDPH Emergency Operations Plan





PROGRAM ON HEALTH, EQUITY AND SUSTAINABILITY



San Francisco Department of Public Health Response to a Flood Tabletop Exercise

After-Action Report/Improvement Plan Exercise Date: September 29, 2015



Strategies/Activities - Education

The most likely health outcomes of extreme storms and flooding include:



Physical injuries may increase due to slips and falls, automobile or bicycle collisions, or downed trees or power lines. These injuries are directly caused by flood inundation and extreme storms.



Waterborne illnesses are caused by proximity to contaminated water. San Francisco has little risk of contaminated drinking water, but stormwater overflows may result in raw sewage seepage onto streets or into the Bay.



Respiratory illnesses that impact the lungs, throat, and airways can be spread through airborn particles. Mold growth from water intuition or flooding in buildings, as well as water damage which may cause exposure to toxic building materials, can trigger asthma, allergies, and other respiratory illnesses.



Vector-borne disease can be exacerbated by flood events since rainy seasons, particularly after dry seasons, have been proven to be correlated with rodent vectors such as hantavirus. Standing water may additionally attract mosquito vectors.



Foodborne illnesses may increase if a significant power outage impacts refrigeration in residents and food establishments, as well as if a combined sewer overflow impacts shellfish and other coastal seafood.



Any disruption to the city medical services, either by power outage or transportation network disruption, may cause additional health impacts. Residents dependent on methadone clinics or dialysis may need to find alternative treatments during service disruption.



Carbon monoxide poisoning is a potential health impact of power outages after hazard events. The poisoning is typically caused by improper usage of generators which that emit a harmful, odorless gas.



We are all at risk of increased sensitivity to **mental health impacts** before, during, and after hazard events. These impacts can be caused, triggered, or exacerbated by stress, isolation, or anxiety associated with events.

Any major flood inundation or extreme storm event may lead to **income loss**. Income loss has been correlated with many public health impacts.



SEDPH

Staying Healthy in the Heat

Climate and Health is leading San Francisco's efforts to prepare the city's most vulnerable for climate change emergencies, while advancing urban health, social, and environmental justice.

The impact of climate change on human health is a major concern, especially for populations at high risk which include the elderly, low income, and those with chronic mental disorders and preexisting medical conditions.

PROGRAM ON HEALTH, EQUITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

Next Steps

Climate and Health Adaptation Plan

- Climate Health Risks
- Baseline Conditions
- Potential Interventions
- Indictors of Success
- <u>Opportunities within the Health</u>
 <u>Department</u>
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Goals
 - Emphasize the wider scope of vulnerable populations
 - Bring together Public Health and Health Care
 Delivery Systems
 - Interagency and Cross Sector Collaborations
 - Reduce health burden from climate change

