

Planning for Climate Impact in Public Health Policy: Opportunities and Challenges

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Acknowledgements

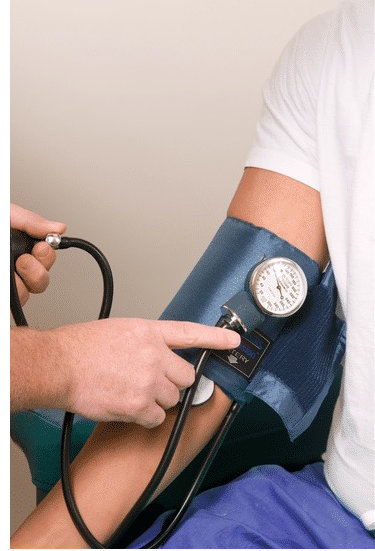
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Opportunities

Public Health related planning happening in New Jersey

- NJ State Health Improvement Plan: *Healthy New Jersey 2030*
- Community Health Needs Assessment: Hospitals/healthcare systems
- Community Health Improvement Plan: Local health departments; county-based
- Local Health Assessment & Action Plan: Sustainable Jersey
 - NEW: First Step in obtaining Gold Star in Health Certification; municipality-based
- Hazard Vulnerability Analysis: Emergency Management Agencies; multiple levels (State/county/local)
- Health Impact Assessment



Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) Standards for Community Health Assessments and Community Health Improvement Plans

- Comprehensive, broad-based data from a variety of sources
 - Quantitative (primary and secondary)
 - Qualitative
- Documentation of the existence and extent of health disparities
- Participation by a wide-range of community partners representing various sectors of the community

Challenges



- Content of these plans is determined by availability and choice of data
- Given that:
 - How to incorporate health equity?
 - How to incorporate climate concerns?
- **Particularly – How do we incorporate the impacts of climate change on health equity?**

Climate Factors Impact on Health & Well-Being

- Heat & Heatwaves
- Storms
- Drought
- Flooding/Sea-Level Rise
- Air Pollution
- Vector Borne Diseases / Zoonoses (One Health)
- Wildfires
- Safe Drinking Water
- Food Security
- Safe Shelter
- Mental Health
- Access to Healthcare and Social Support & Infrastructures



Data Sources for Planning

- Quantitative Data
 - Mortality/Morbidity
 - NJ State Health Assessment Data (SHAD)
 - Hospital Patient Data
 - Health-Related Behaviors – BRFSS
- Qualitative Data
 - Community Surveys
 - Patient Surveys
 - Key Informant Interviews



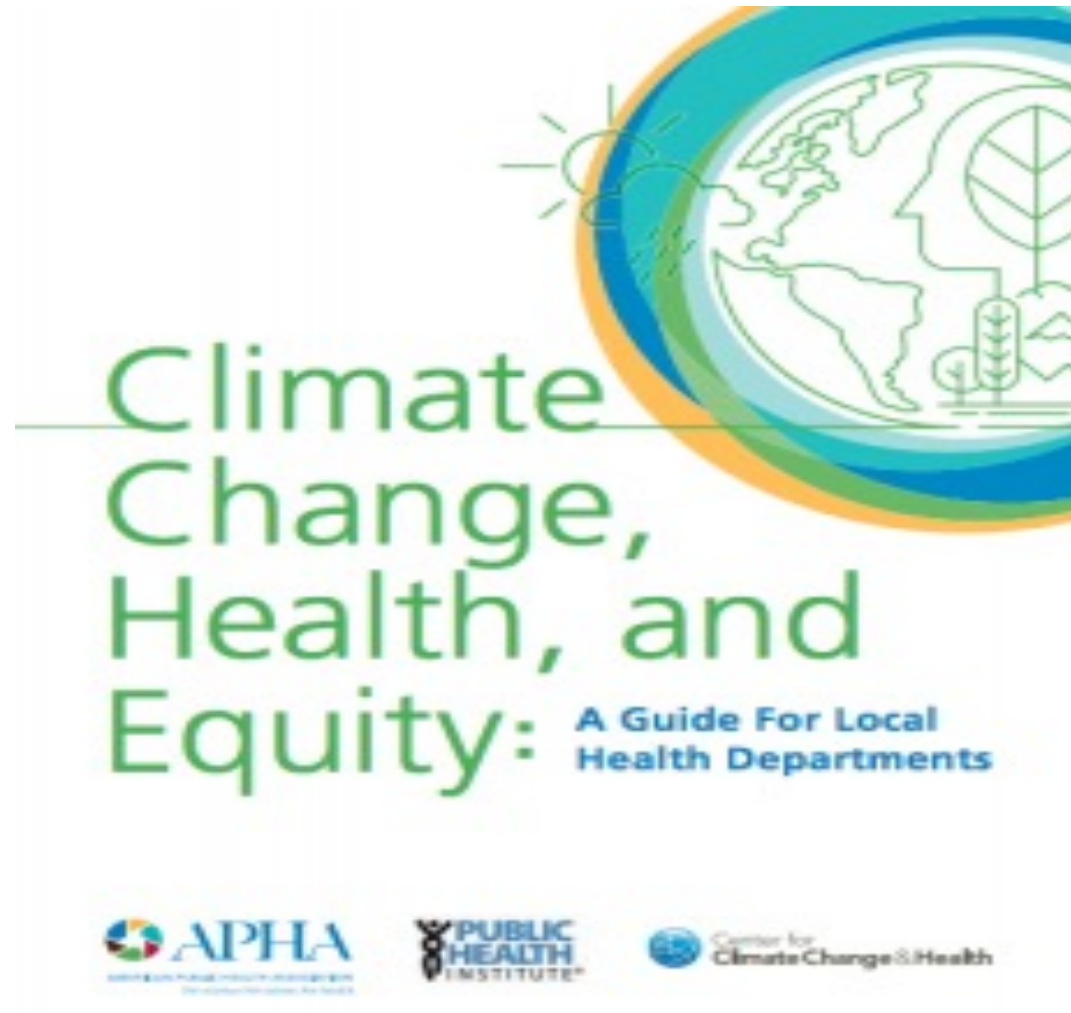
Availability of Data: Sufficient Or Not?

- For health equity: YES
- For climate change assessment: LIMITED
- For climate change impacts on health equity: ????



Resource: Center for Climate Change & Health

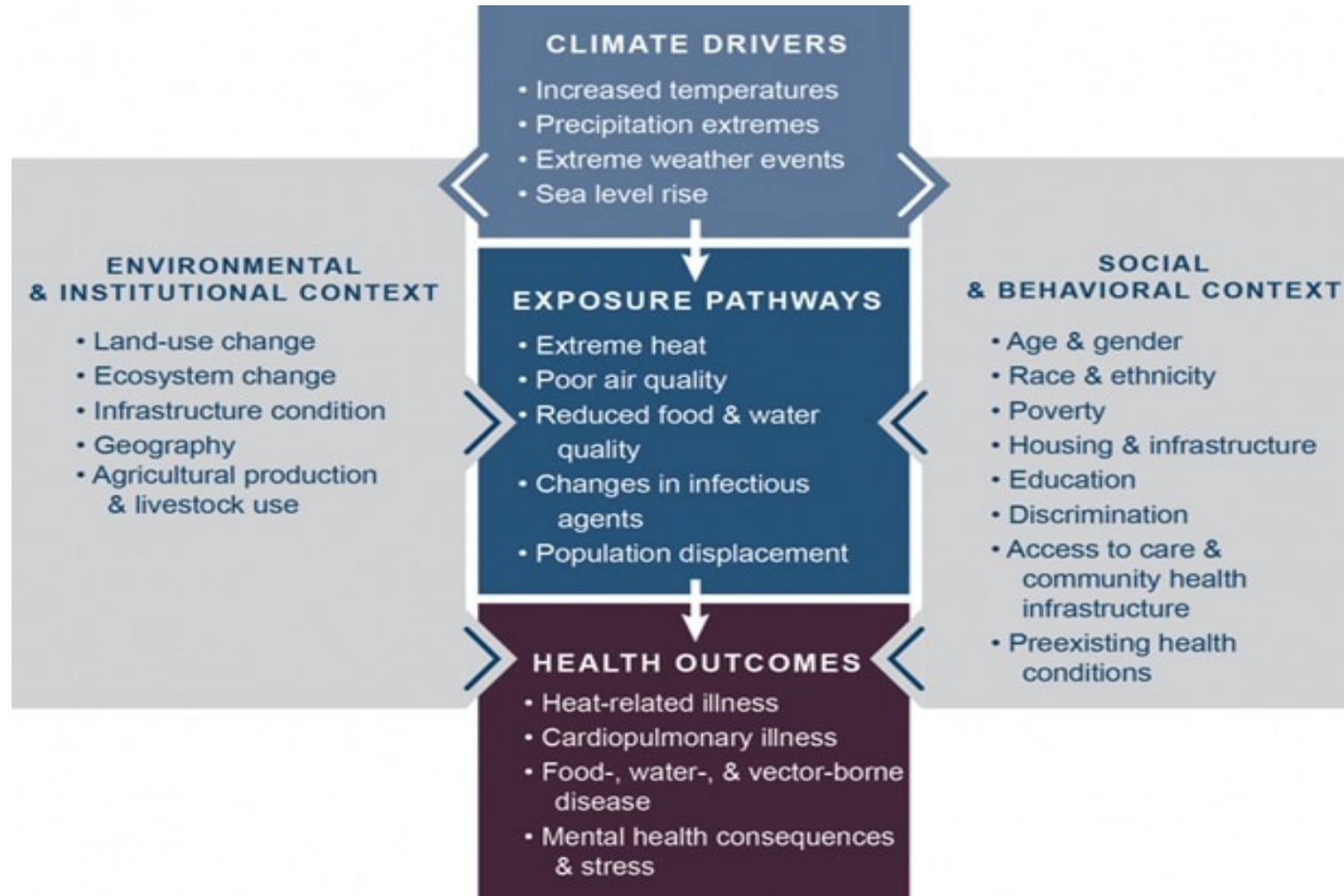
[Climate Change, Health, and Equity: A Guide for Local Health Departments - Center for Climate Change and Health \(climatehealthconnect.org\)](https://climatehealthconnect.org)



Examples from the Guide

- Denver - Addressing Heat Vulnerability
- Minneapolis – Supporting Community Resilience
- Portland, OR – Healthy Environments Data Indicator Project
- New Orleans – Building Community Networks
- Philadelphia – Climate Change & Health Advisory Group
- San Francisco – Climate and Health Adaption Framework
- Seattle – Climate Health Action Team

Resource: US Dept. of Health & Human Services
Office of Climate Change & Health Equity
[Climate Change and Health Equity | HHS.gov](https://www.hhs.gov/health-equity/climate-change-and-health-equity)



Resource: Georgetown Climate Center

- Equitable Adaption Legal and Policy Toolkit

[Equitable Adaptation Legal & Policy Toolkit » Public Health Planning Tools - Georgetown Climate Center](#)

- Models cited in the Toolkit:
 - Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative – Climate Change Guides
 - Oregon Health Authority – Climate Health Impact Assessments

Summary

- Better data on climate change impacts at the local level
- Community Engagement

Contact Information

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