Climate Change Will Have a Variety of Health Effects

Climate Change Impact

Examples of Health Effects



More frequent and severe extreme heat events

Heat-related illness and death, including heat stroke, dehydration, cardiovascular failure, and kidney disease



Air pollution, including particulate matter, from wildfire smoke

Death and illnesses related to asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and pneumonia



More frequent and severe disasters, such as floods, wildfires

Injuries and fatalities from disasters, inability to operate certain medical equipment during Public Safety Power Shutoffs, and behavioral health impacts related to traumatic events



Less secure water and food supply due to more frequent drought and warming temperatures

Higher incidence of malnutrition and diarrheal disease



Reduced water quality due to runoff from extreme precipitation events and warming water temperatures

Increased prevalence of cholera and harmful algal blooms in rivers and lakes



Changes in the climate conditions that support different diseases

Higher incidence of vector-borne diseases, such as Lyme disease and West Nile virus