



*The Intersection of Environment, Housing, and Health*  
Part 3: Climate Change and Considerations for Health  
Care

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Kevin Leacock, Public Health Project Coordinator

November 20, 2019



**NATIONAL  
NURSE-LED CARE  
CONSORTIUM**  
a PHMC affiliate

# National Nurse-Led Care Consortium

The **National Nurse-Led Care Consortium (NNCC)** is a membership organization that supports nurse-led care and nurses at the front lines of care.

NNCC provides expertise to support comprehensive, community-based primary care.

- Policy research and advocacy
- Technical assistance and support
- Direct, nurse-led healthcare services



# Question & Answer

During the presentation, you may ask questions. Click **Q&A** and type your questions into the open field.

The Moderator will either send a typed response or answer your questions live at the end of the presentations.

**Reminder:** After the webinar, NNCC will host Office Hours with today's presenter! Stick around to join the conversation!

# Quick Poll Questions

1. To better understand our attendees, please indicate your interest in this webinar is as a \_\_\_\_
  - Clinician
  - Administrator/Manager
  - Community advocate
  - Policy maker
  - Student
  - Other
  
2. Describe your workplace setting.
  - Hospital/Health system
  - Health center
  - Non-profit organization
  - For-profit organization
  - Government agency
  - Institutes of Higher Education
  - Other



# Quick Poll Questions

1. What climate change impact are you most interested in hearing about today?
  - Extreme Heat
  - Wildfires
  - Hurricanes
  - Flooding
  - Air Quality Issues
  - Drought



# Climate Change and Considerations for Health Care

November 20, 2019

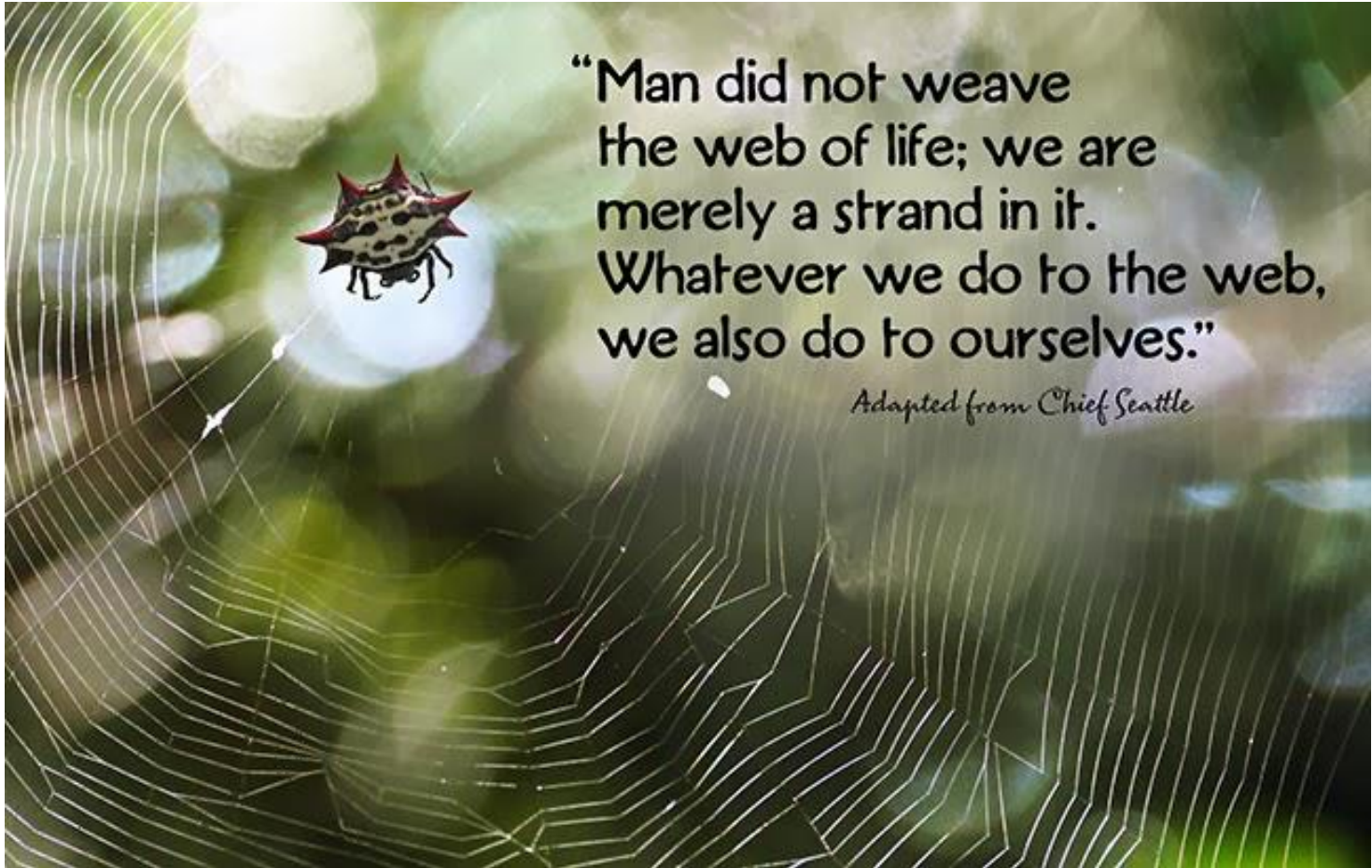
Laura Anderko PhD RN

[la266@georgetown.edu](mailto:la266@georgetown.edu)

Professor & Scanlon Endowed Chair, Values Based Health Care  
Director, Mid-Atlantic Center for Children's Health and the Environment  
White House Champion of Change: Climate Change and Public Health



*GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY*



“Man did not weave  
the web of life; we are  
merely a strand in it.  
Whatever we do to the web,  
we also do to ourselves.”

*Adapted from Chief Seattle*



**“Warming of  
the climate  
system is  
unequivocal.”**

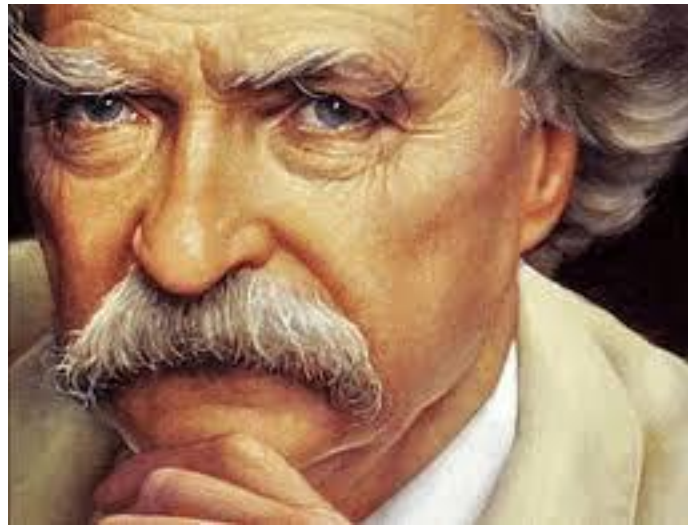
*-Intergovernmental  
Panel on Climate Change,  
2007*



# What is Climate Change?



***Climate is what we expect,  
weather is what we get***

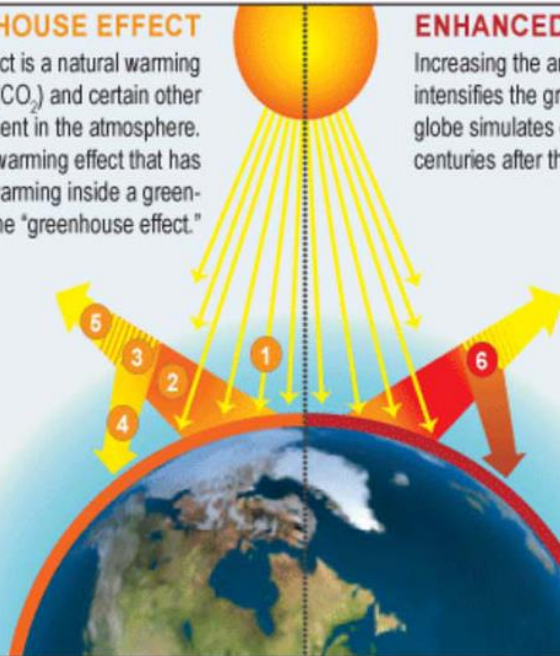


## NATURAL GREENHOUSE EFFECT

The greenhouse effect is a natural warming process. Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and certain other gases are always present in the atmosphere. These gases create a warming effect that has some similarity to the warming inside a greenhouse, hence the name "greenhouse effect."

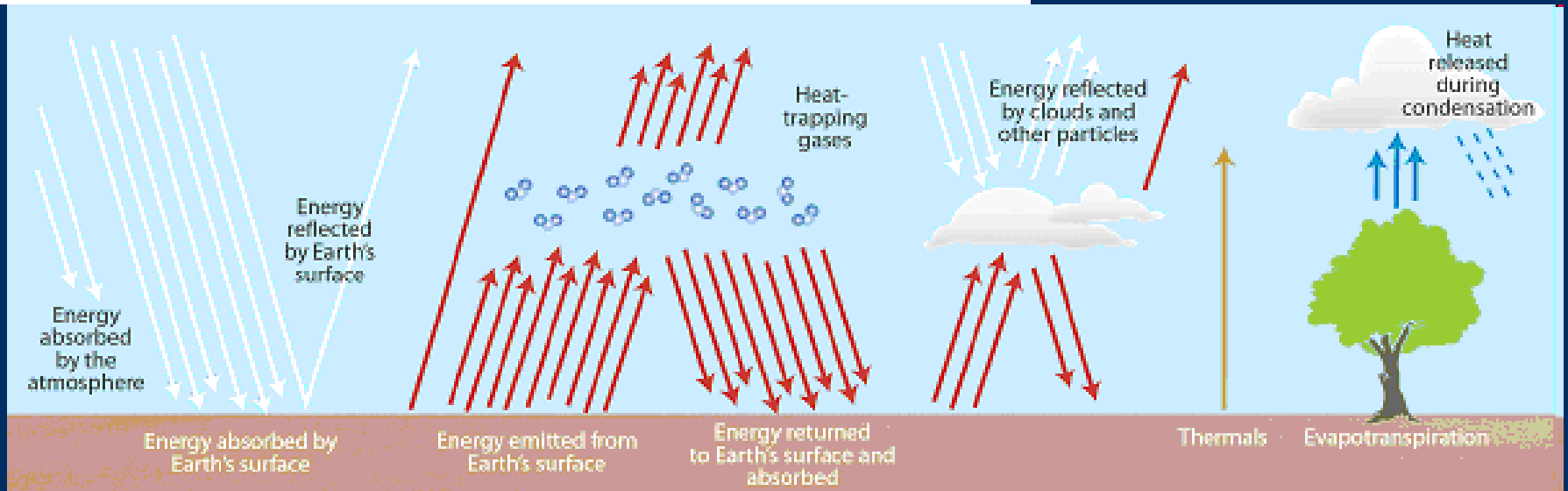
## ENHANCED GREENHOUSE EFFECT

Increasing the amount of greenhouse gases intensifies the greenhouse effect. This side of the globe simulates conditions today, roughly two centuries after the Industrial Revolution began.

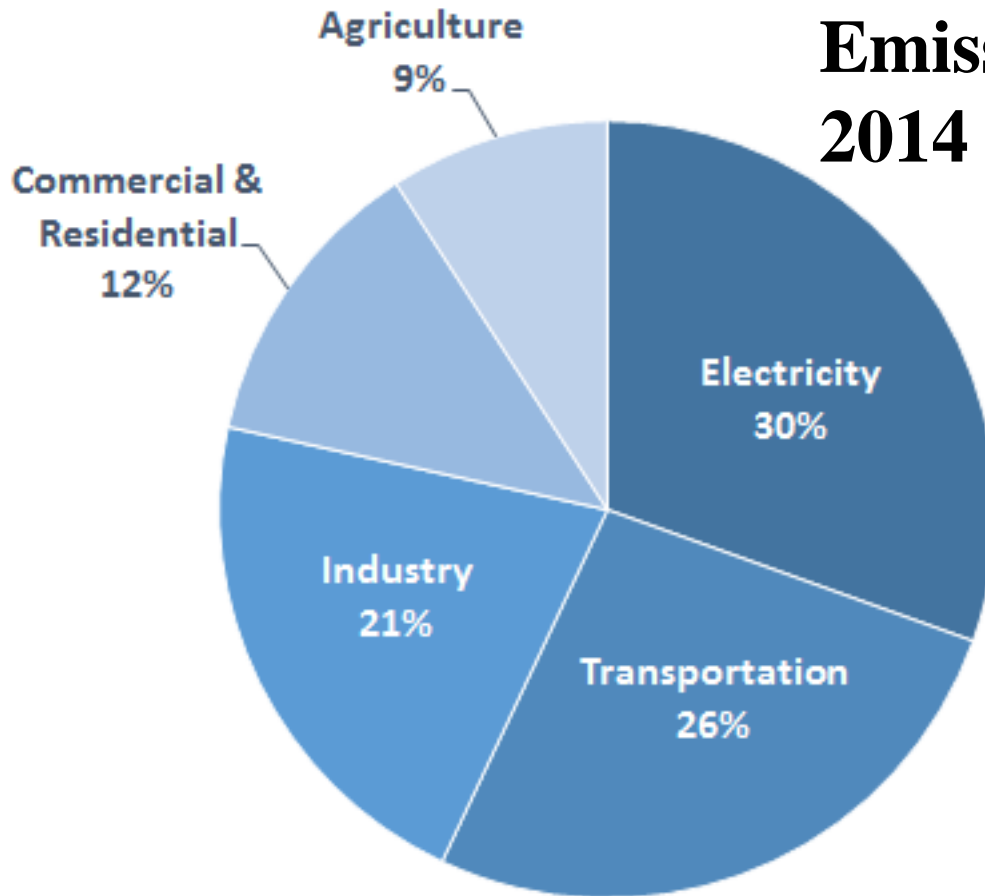


© The National Academy of Sciences

# GREENHOUSE EFFECT



# Total U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Economic Sector in 2014



Total Emissions in 2014 = 6,870 Million Metric Tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent  
[Land Use, Land-Use Change, and Forestry in the United States is a net sink and offsets approximately 11% of these greenhouse gas emissions.](#)

All emission estimates from the Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2014

# Carbon Dioxide



## **Where does it come from?**

Burning fossil fuels to produce electricity and heat buildings

Burning gasoline and other fossil fuels to run vehicles

Cutting down and burning trees or other vegetation

Some industrial and manufacturing processes, like producing cement

## **How long does it stay in the atmosphere?**

50 to thousands of years

# Methane

## Where does it come from?

Livestock. As they digest food and when manure decays

Landfills. Trash breaks down and releases methane

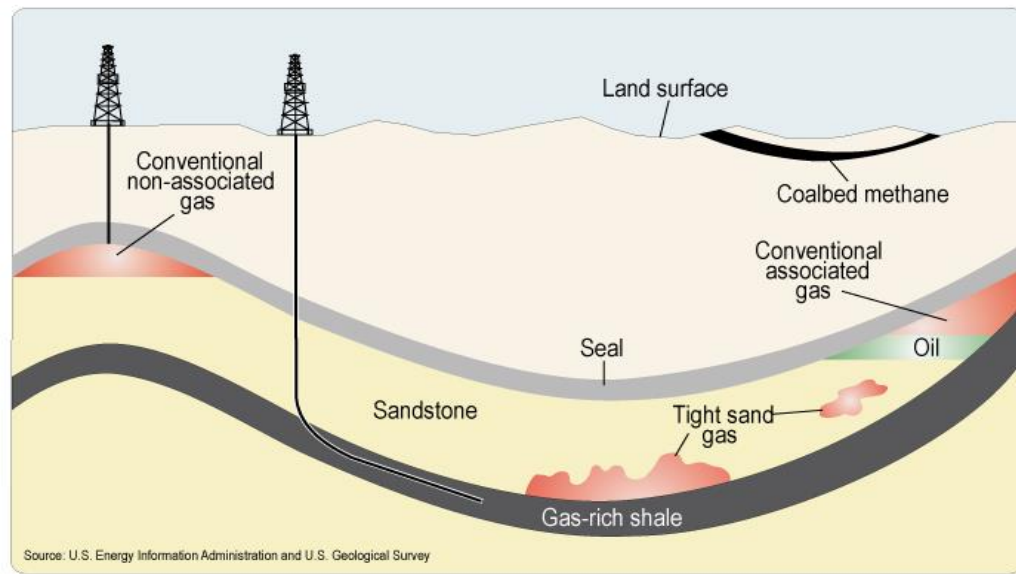
Producing and transporting natural gas.

Cutting down and burning trees or other vegetation

Mining coal. Can be released during mining

## How long does it stay in the atmosphere?

12 years (over 20X more heat trapped than the same amount of carbon dioxide)





# Nitrous Oxide

## **Where does it come from?**

Farming practices that add nitrogen to the soil (fertilizer)

Burning fossil fuels to run vehicles

Some industrial and manufacturing processes

## **How long does it stay in the atmosphere?**

114 years; 298X more heat trapped than the same amount of carbon dioxide



INCREASING MAGNITUDES  
OF WARMING INCREASE  
THE LIKELIHOOD OF

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**SEVERE AND  
PERVASIVE IMPACTS**



## Climate Connections



# Selected Significant Climate Anomalies and Events February 2017

## GLOBAL AVERAGE TEMPERATURE

February 2017 average global land and ocean temperature was the second highest for February since records began in 1880.

## ARCTIC SEA ICE EXTENT

February 2017 sea ice extent was 7.6 percent below the 1981–2010 average—the smallest February sea ice extent since satellite records began in 1979.

## ALASKA

Alaska had an above-average temperature at +0.94°C (+1.7°F). This was the smallest temperature departure since 2013.

## EUROPE

Although warmer-than-average conditions dominated across Europe, February 2017 had the smallest temperature departure from average since 2013. Spain had its eighth warmest February and the U.K. had its ninth warmest.

## CANADA

Above-average temperatures were observed throughout much of Canada, with a small area in the West experiencing near- to below-average conditions.

## CONTIGUOUS UNITED STATES

Warmer- to much-warmer-than-average conditions engulfed much of the contiguous U.S. during February 2017, resulting in the second warmest February on record, behind 1954.

## NORTH AMERICA

This was the warmest February since 2000 and the fourth warmest since continental records began in 1910.

## ASIA

A large portion of the Asian continent experienced warmer-than-average conditions with some regions experiencing temperature departures from average 3.0°C (5.4°F) or greater. Overall it was the eighth warmest February on record.

## AFRICA

February 2017 was the tenth warmest February since 1910.

## SOUTH AMERICA

As a whole, South America had its third warmest February since 1910, behind 2010 and 2016.

## AUSTRALIA

Warmer-than-average conditions were present across much of eastern Australia, with the west experiencing cooler-than-average conditions. Regionally, New South Wales and Queensland had their fifth highest February in the 108-year record.

## ISLAND OF FIJI

Above to much above average conditions were present across the Island of Fiji. Twelve of the 23 stations received twice their normal monthly rainfall.

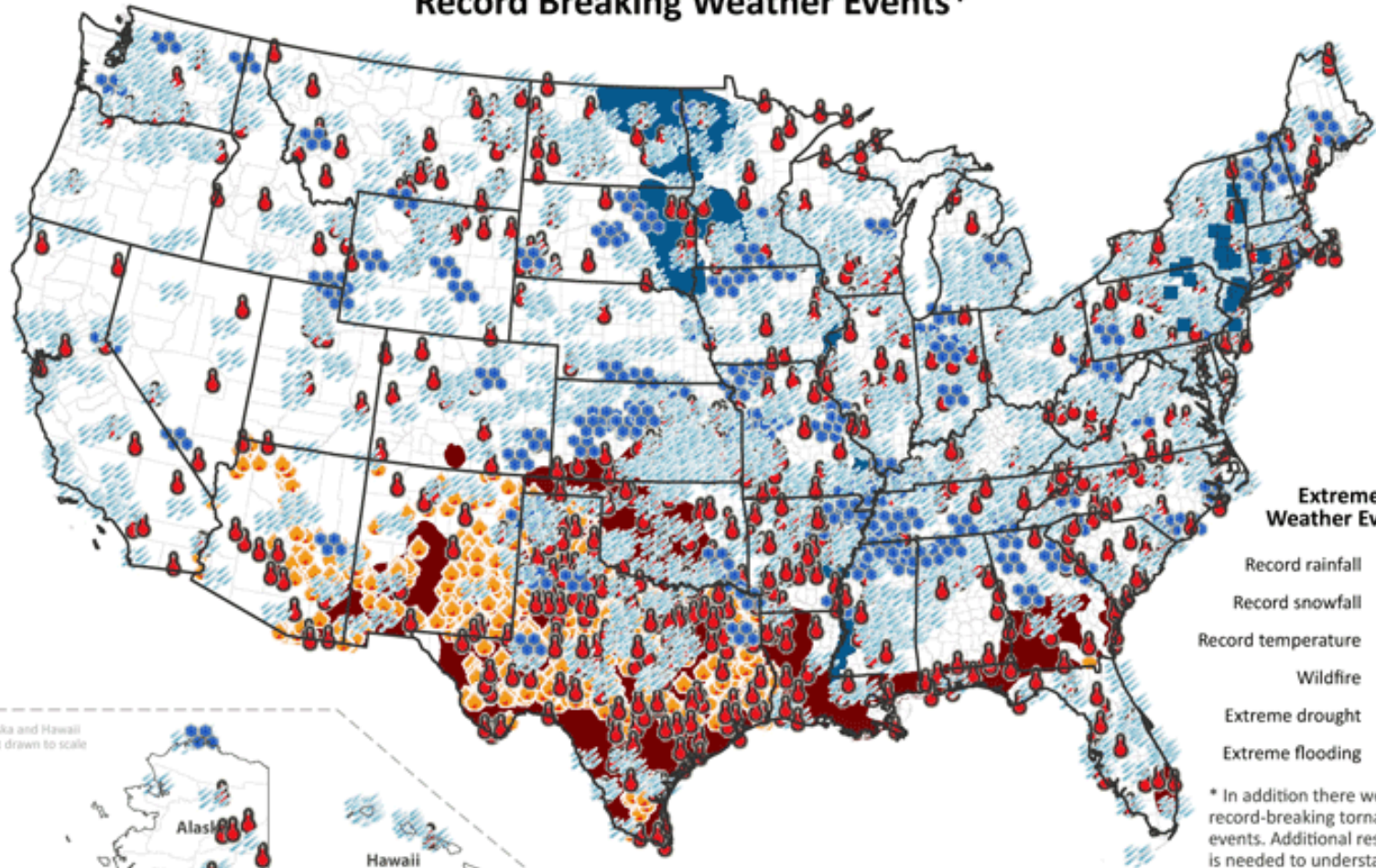
## ANTARCTIC SEA ICE EXTENT

February 2017 sea ice extent was 24.4 percent below the 1981–2010 average—the smallest February sea ice extent on record.

Please Note: Material provided in this map was compiled from NOAA's State of the Climate Reports. For more information please visit: <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc>



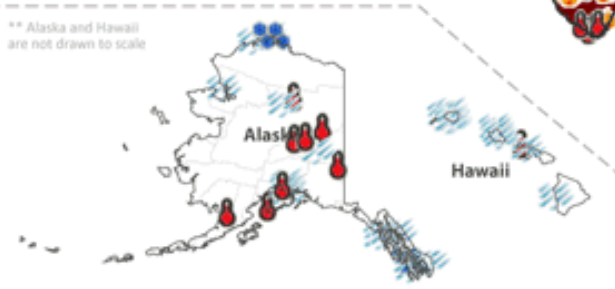
# Extreme Weather in the US (2011): Record Breaking Weather Events\*



### Extreme Weather Event

- Record rainfall
- Record snowfall
- Record temperature
- Wildfire
- Extreme drought
- Extreme flooding

\* In addition there were 7 record-breaking tornado events. Additional research is needed to understand the impact of climate change on tornado events.

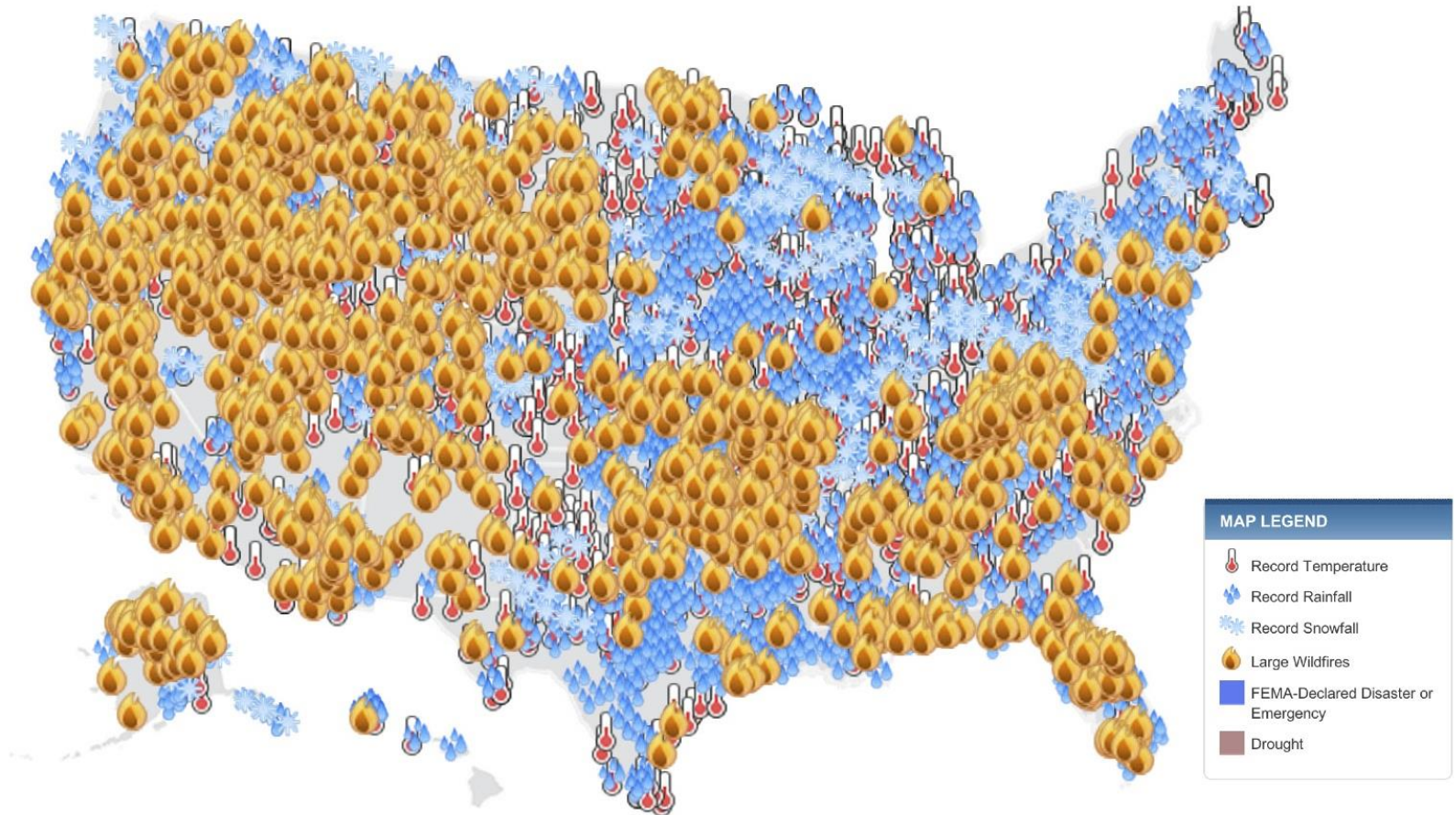


Information on data sources and map methods available at:  
<http://www.nrdc.org/health/climate/extreme-weather.asp>



# Extreme Weather Map

2012: Thousands of Weather Records Broken in the U.S., Costs Climbing





# Climate Change and Health

# Polling Question

- What health issues are associated with climate change?
  - Asthma
  - Depression
  - Vector-borne disease
  - All of the above

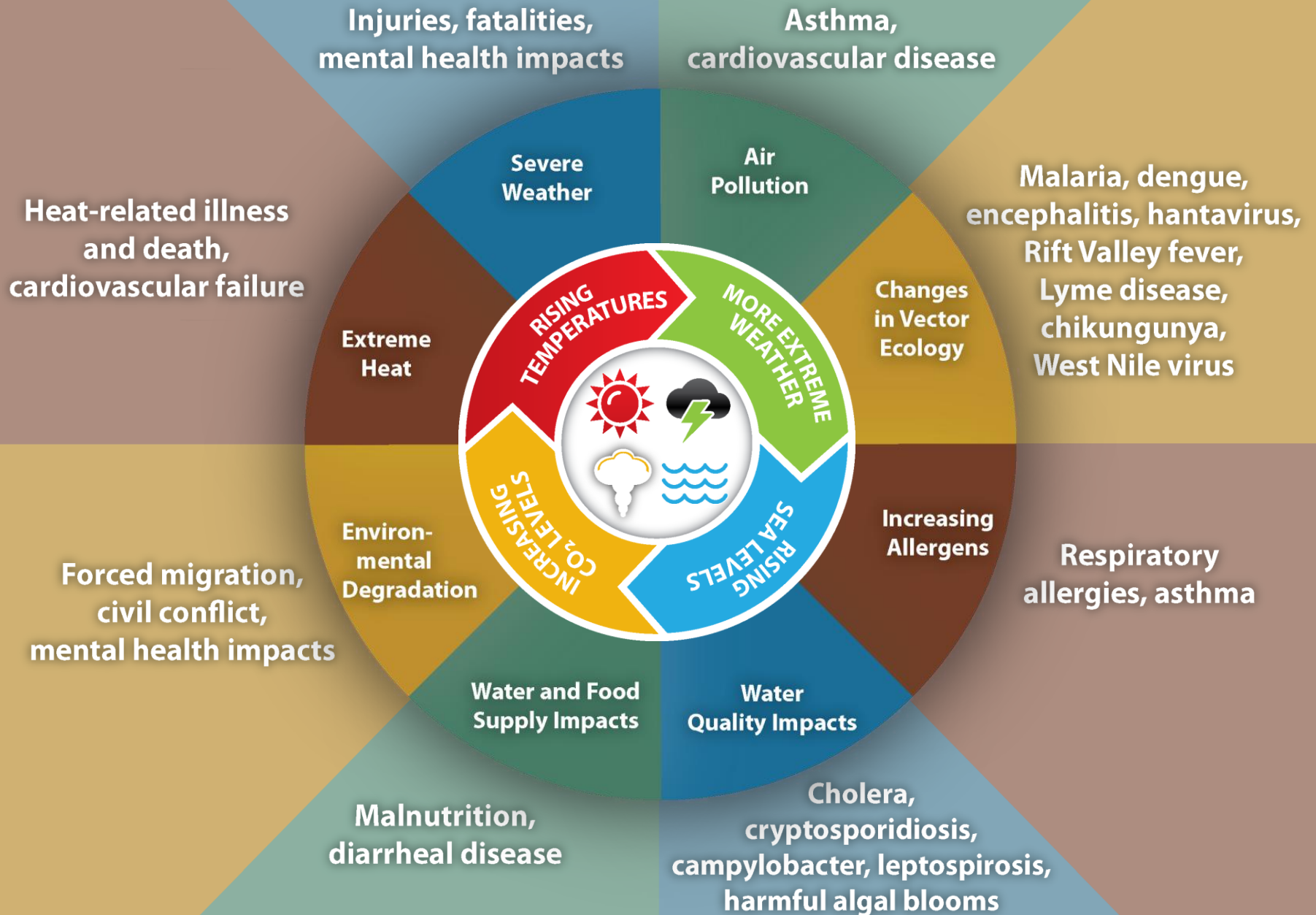
# Human Health and Climate Change

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change predicts that extreme events will result in a variety of health events between now and 2100



Image: UN.org

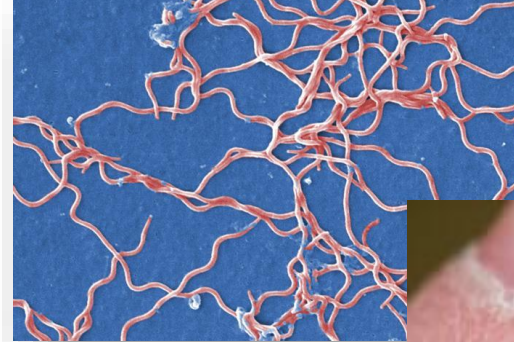
# Impact of Climate Change on Human Health







# Air Quality Impacts



# Vector-Borne Diseases

**FAIRBANKS**  
**Daily News-Miner**  
*The voice of Interior Alaska since 1903*  
 Fairbanks, Alaska THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2007

## The buzz about town

Yellowjackets making an early appearance in the Interior

By TIM MOWRY

If you have already seen one here in the Interior, you can bet you'll see more.

They're here now. A flock of about 20 or 30, before or after sunset, is just what you'd expect to see in the Interior.

"It is a good idea to wear insect repellent that early for stings and scratches," said Steve Chastain, integrated pest management instructor for the University of Alaska Fairbanks Cooperative Extension Service.

The calls started late last week and have continued at a higher volume this week.

"The last time or three people tell me they can hear them buzzing in the woods again," Chastain said. "A single person has asked if it's going to be a bad or bad season."

Last year was a particular bad year for yellowjackets in Fairbanks. Two individuals from divergent locations, wasp stings, and yellowjackets, many of the "stinging" or "stinging" of Alaska.

Several medical events were recorded as noted incidents because the risk of getting stung was so high. Insects for stings were seen near the town's main street near the wall on the shelf.

The last news is that the yellowjackets seem to have arrived earlier this year and if the dry, warm weather of late persists, things will only get worse.

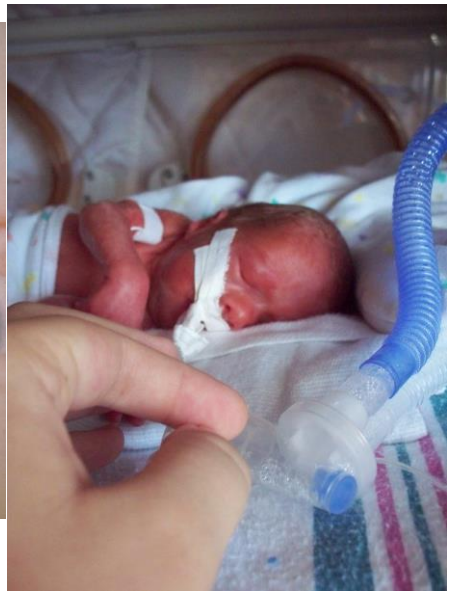
"This year might be as bad as last year," Chastain said.

See M40PL, Page B2



See M40PL, Page B2

PEW — Last year was a particularly bad year for yellowjackets in Fairbanks. They seemed to have arrived earlier this year and if the dry, warm weather persists, things may get worse.



# Temperature-Related Death and Illness



# Water-Related Illness



Downtown Franklin, VA inundated by flood waters. (photo credit: FEMA)

# Extreme Events



# Food Safety, Nutrition, and Distribution



# Mental Health and Well-Being

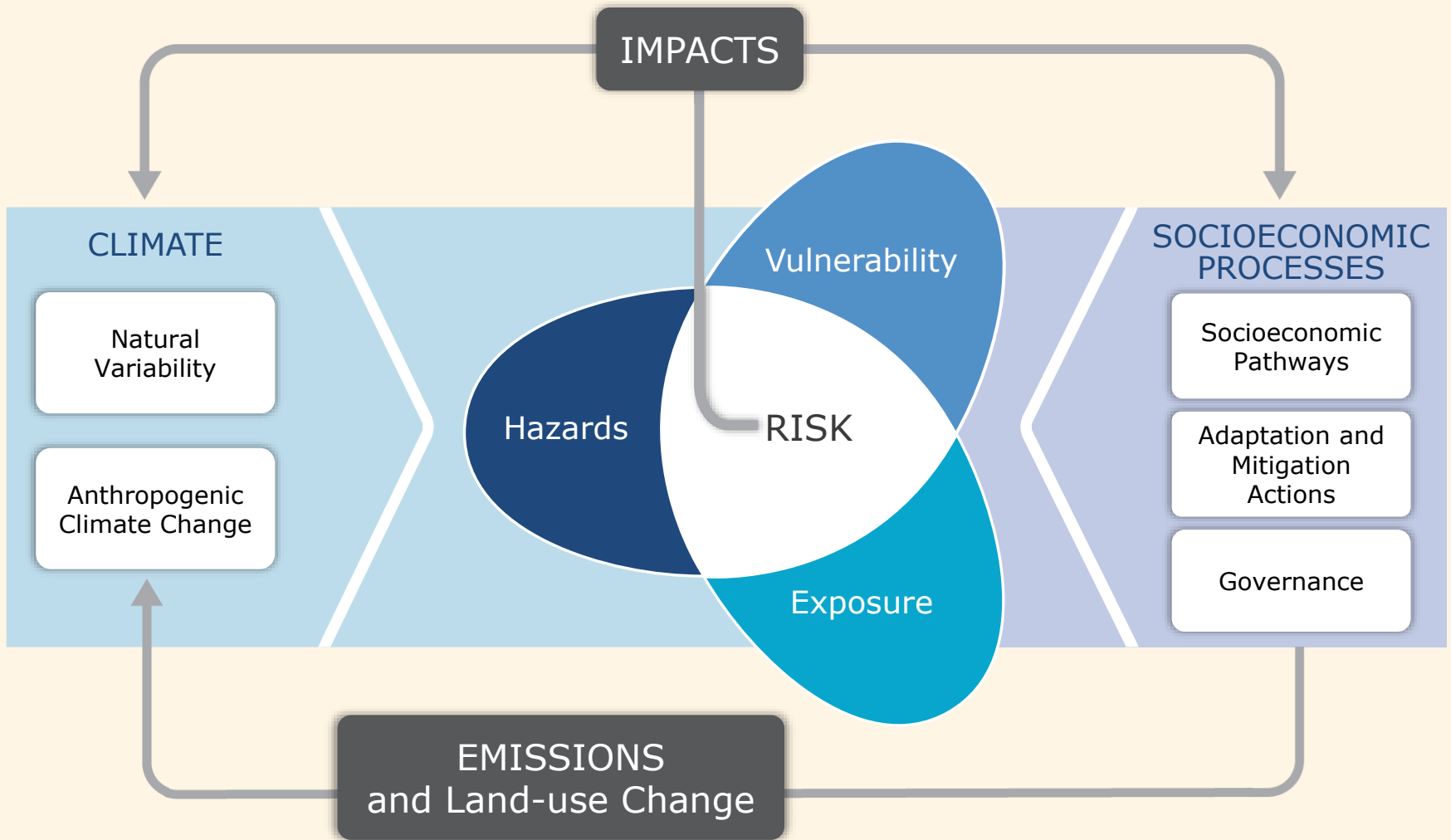




# Populations of Concern







# Lancet Commission on Health & Climate '15

## Findings:

By moving toward low-carbon health systems, health care can become more climate resilient/prepared, mitigate its own climate footprint, and provide leadership in society

# 2025 Environmental Stewardship Goals for Kaiser Permanente



## Climate Action

Become “carbon net positive” by buying enough clean energy and carbon offsets to remove more greenhouse gases from the atmosphere than we emit.

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## Sustainable Food

Buy all of our food locally or from farms and producers that use sustainable practices, including using antibiotics responsibly.

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## Waste Reduction

Recycle, reuse or compost 100% of our non-hazardous waste.

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## Water Conservation

Reduce the amount of water we use by 25% per square foot of buildings.

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## Safer Products

Increase our purchase of products and materials that meet environmental standards to 50%.

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## Managing Sustainability

Meet international standards for environmental management at all of our hospitals.

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## Collaboration

Pursue new collaborations to reduce environmental risks to foodsheds, watersheds and air basins supplying our communities.

# Polling Question

Which goal would you select as a priority for your institution/agency to combat climate change? (Select One)

- Clean/Renewable Energy
- Sustainable food-less meat
- Waste reduction
- Water conservation
- Safer products
- Managing sustainability
- Collaboration



# STRATEGIES

# Two Approaches



## Mitigation

Reduce Greenhouse Gases

## Adaptation

Build Resilience, Plan and Prepare



# MITIGATION





# Mitigation

## **In our Communities**

- Walk, bus and bike
- Help build fossil free transportation options
- Help support local , healthy agriculture
- Eat less meat
- Plant trees

## **In Education**

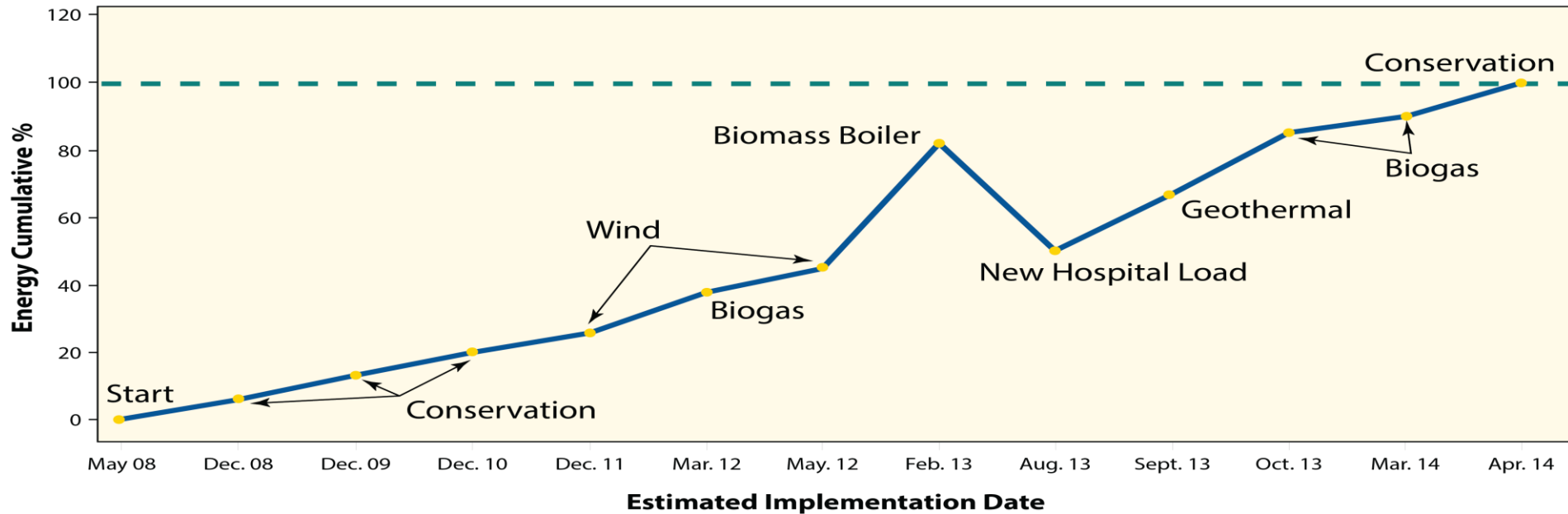
- Draw connections for patients, families, communities
- Educate other health professionals and students

## **Impacting Policy**

- Communicate with elected officials at all levels
- Get involved with city/community planning
- Advocate for climate solutions (Clean Power Plan)

# Gundersen Health System: first energy independent system in America

## Gundersen's Road to Energy Independence Percent Fossil Fuel Energy Use Offset





# ADAPTATION

# Adaptation: Build Resilience and Prepare

## **At the Places we Practice**

- Disaster preparedness
- Plan for health risks
- Incorporate resilience in building design

## **In our Communities**

- Help address disaster preparedness
- Identify at risk populations to ensure safety
- Build supportive networks
- Support sustainable businesses, programs, and organizations

## **Impacting Policy**

- Influence urban planning, city growth plans
- Communicate with elected officials regularly
- Get involved with health professional organizations



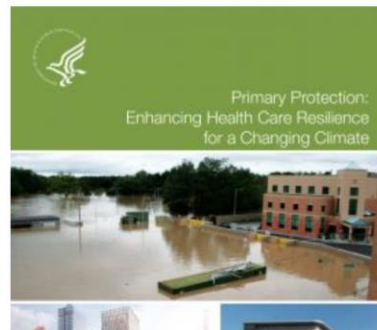
## Building Health Care Sector Resilience

The Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Health Care Facilities Toolkit found on these pages provides an overview guide and a suite of online tools and resources highlighting emerging best practices for developing sustainable and climate-resilient health care facilities.

[Topics](#) > [Health](#) > [Building Health Care Sector Resilience](#) >

Health care organizations play a key role in community resilience. Climate change, by increasing the intensity and frequency of some extreme weather events, is creating complex hazards that challenge accepted baseline assumptions for infrastructure capabilities, redundancies, and disaster preparedness and response—and this means a need for new building design thresholds.

Essential health services must remain available to communities and individuals during and immediately



### Browse Topics

- > Built Environment
- > Coasts
- > Ecosystems
- > Energy
- > Food
- ✓ Health
  - + Extreme Heat—NIHHIS

<https://toolkit.climate.gov/topics/human-health/building-climate-resilience-health-sector>



## STEPS TO RESILIENCE

*Neighborhoods, businesses, and other communities can use this framework to discover and document their local climate hazards, then develop workable solutions to lower their risk. Click any step to learn more.*

STEP 1: EXPLORE CLIMATE THREATS ›

STEP 2: ASSESS VULNERABILITY & RISKS ›

STEP 3: INVESTIGATE OPTIONS ›

STEP 4: PRIORITIZE ACTIONS ›

STEP 5: TAKE ACTION ›



Working with local planning departments and other experts can help health care organizations plan coordinated responses to various threats.

# Anchors in Resilient Communities (ARC)

Multi-sector community-based partnership  
initiated by Emerald Cities Collaborative,  
Health Care Without Harm, and Democracy  
Collaborative

Launched 2015



[EmeraldCities.org](http://EmeraldCities.org)



## State and Local Adaptation Plans

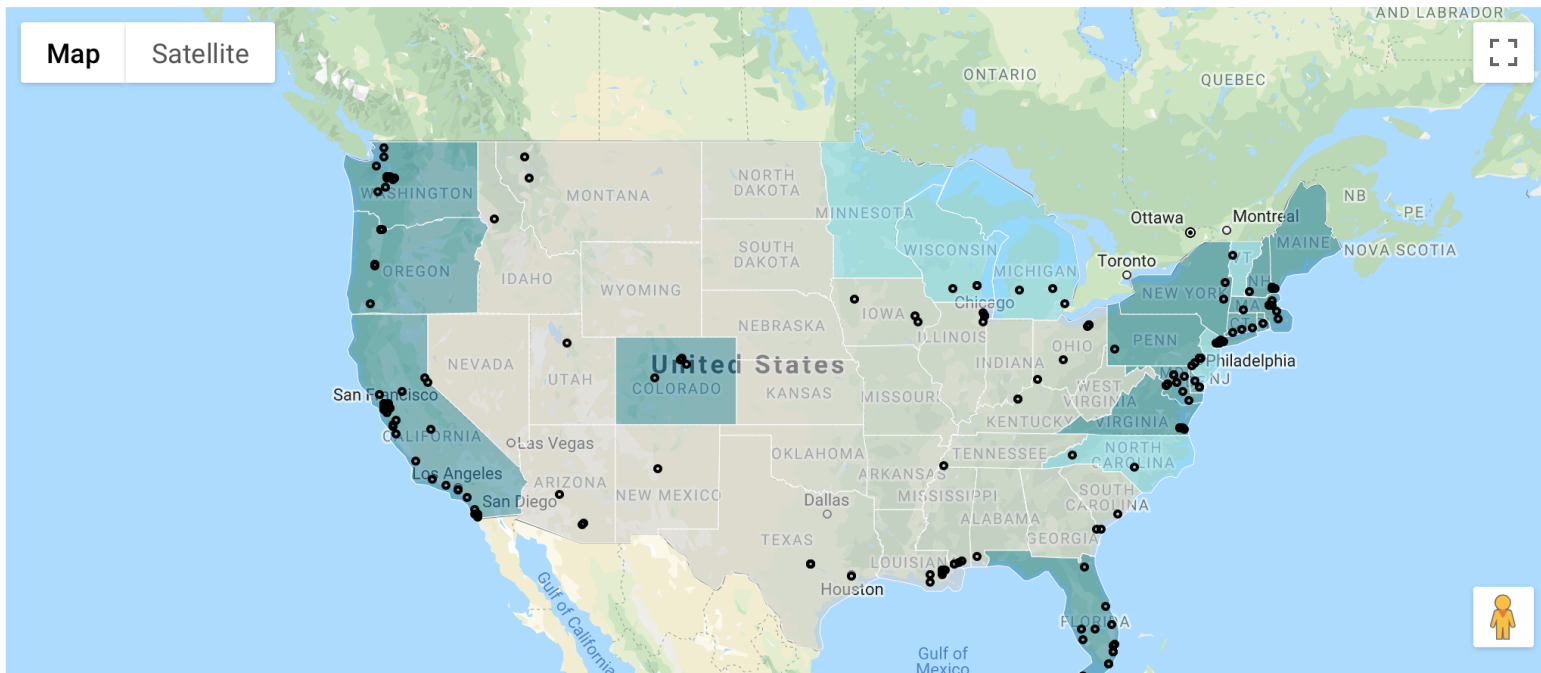
States and communities around the country have begun to prepare for the climate changes that are already underway. This planning process typically results in a document called an adaptation plan.

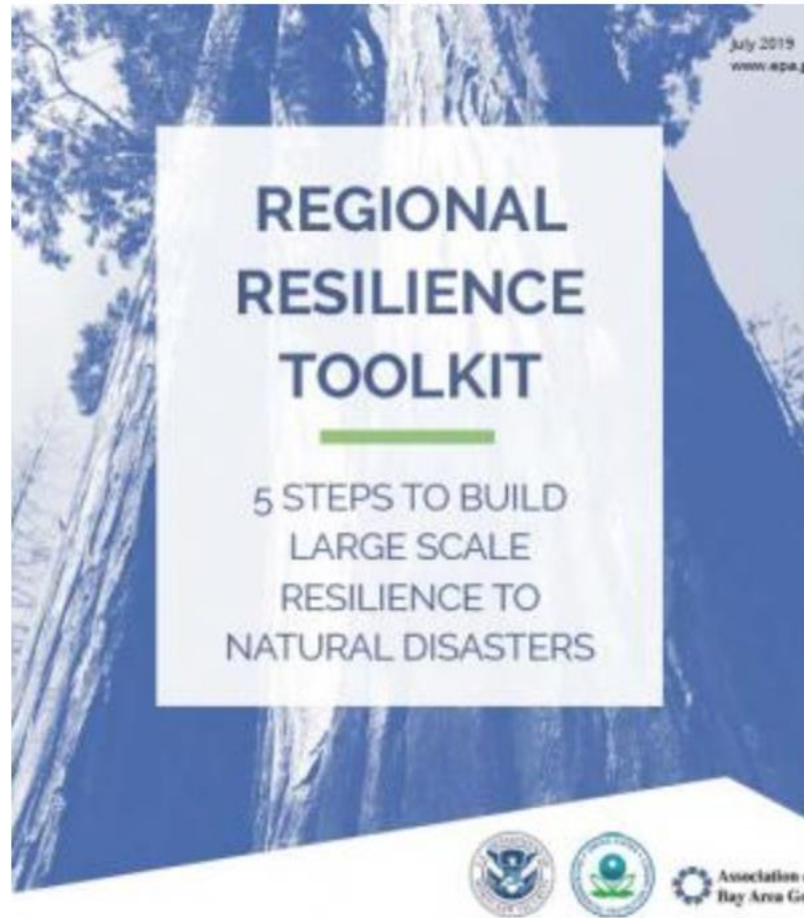
Below is a map that highlights the status of state adaptation efforts. Click on a state to view a summary of its progress to date and to access its full profile page. State profile pages include a detailed breakdown of each state's adaptation work and links to local adaptation plans and resources. Please move the map to view Alaska and Hawaii.

Select a State

Select State

Go



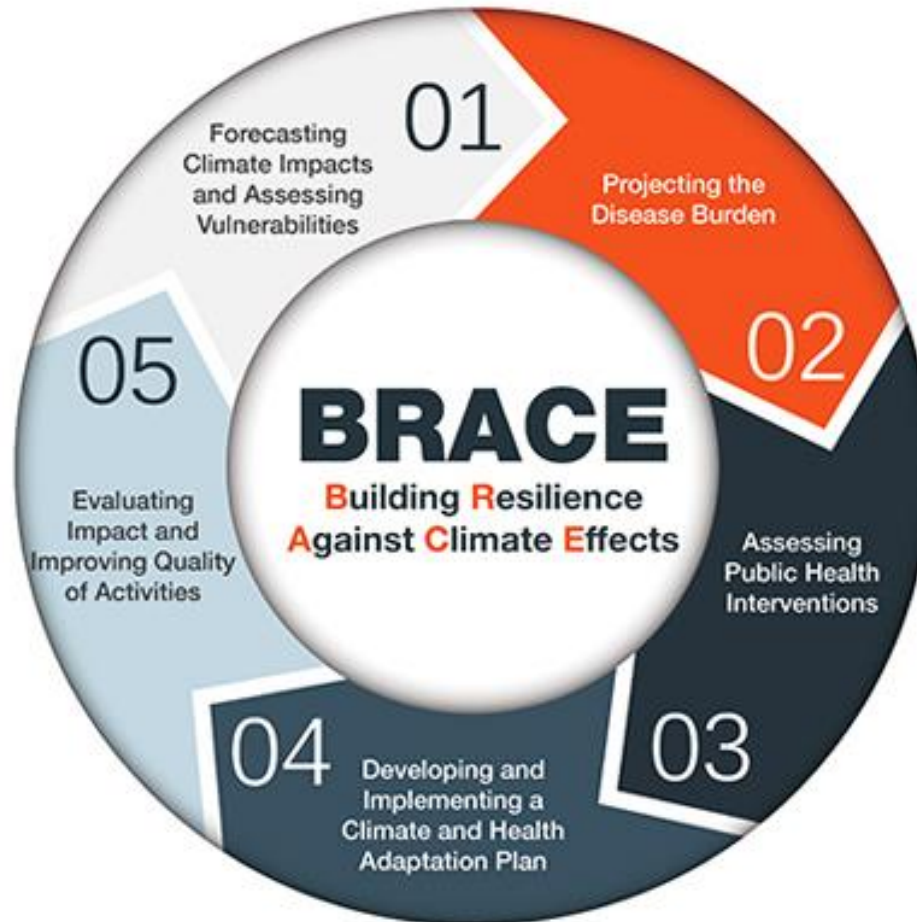


[https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2019-07/documents/regional\\_resilience\\_toolkit.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2019-07/documents/regional_resilience_toolkit.pdf)

# Steps to Resiliency

- **Engage** - focuses on identifying and building trust among key stakeholders and partners, developing an engagement and outreach plan and milestones
- **Assess** - provides guidance and tools for conducting a risk and vulnerability assessment.
- **Act** - use assessment findings to develop strategies for addressing hazards, to prioritize the most impactful strategies with stakeholder input, and to develop short- and long-term implementation plans.
- **Fund** - focuses on developing funding and financing strategies, and making the business case for resilience projects.
- **Measure** - provides guidance on when, how, and why to use metrics to self-evaluate progress towards resilience goals.

# Climate Ready: CDC





# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

CLIMATE CHANGE  
**INDICATORS**  
IN THE UNITED STATES **2016**  
FOURTH EDITION



EXECUTIVE  
SUMMARY

THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON  
**HUMAN HEALTH**  
IN THE UNITED STATES  
A Scientific Assessment

U.S. Global Change Research Program

# Noharm.org



## Leading the global movement for environmentally responsible healthcare

*Welcome to Health Care Without Harm! Please join us as we work to transform the health sector worldwide, promoting environmental health and justice.*

A banner for the 2020 Health Care Climate Challenge. The background is a photograph of a large solar panel array on a flat roof of a modern building. The banner is divided into three main sections: a blue section on the left with white text, a central white box with a green and blue logo, and a green section on the right with white text.

**Protect Public Health from Climate Change**  
Take the 2020 Health Care Climate Challenge!  
» Find Out More

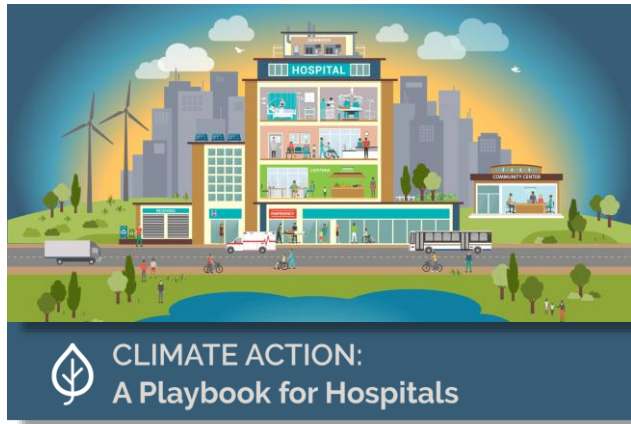
**2020 HEALTHCARE Climate Challenge**

**GET STARTED**  
**Choose Your Region »**

- América Latina**  
Español | Português
- Asia**
- Europe**
- US & Canada**
- Global**



HEALTH  
CARE  
**CLIMATE  
COUNCIL**







# Climate-Smart Healthcare

Low-Carbon and Resilience  
Strategies for the Health Sector

INVESTING IN CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH SERIES



*A network of experts in reproductive and children's environmental health*

*Looking for something specific? Search our [Resource Catalog](#)*



PEHSU.net





...other Region 9 sites

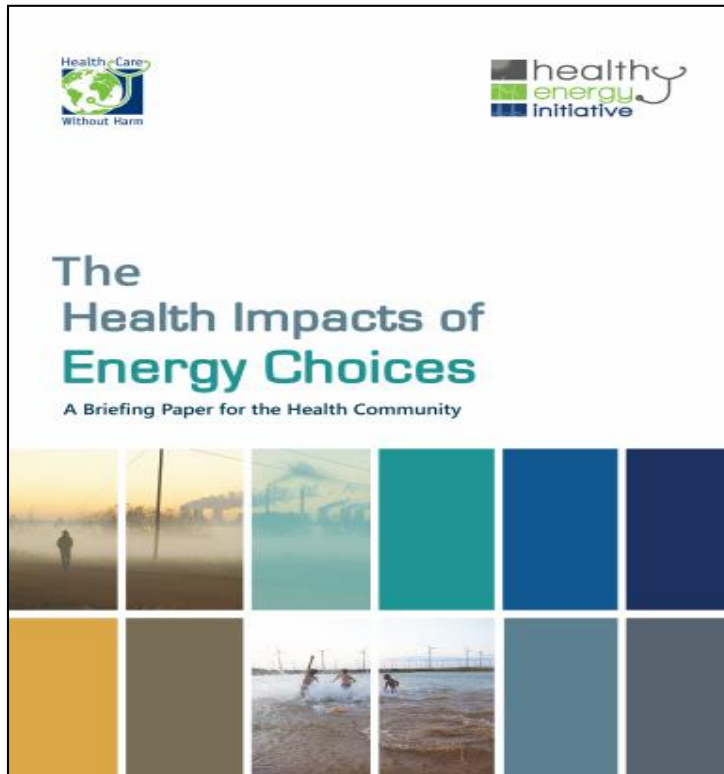
- ▶ Guam
- ▶ American Samoa
- ▶ Trust Territories

...other Region 2 sites

- ▶ Puerto Rico
- ▶ Virgin Islands

- ▶ Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

# Incorporating Health into Energy Policy



# Tackling Climate Change Could be the Greatest Global Health Opportunity in the 21st Century - The Lancet 2015



# Ultimate Goal: Do No Harm





# Thank You!

Laura Anderko PhD RN

[la266@georgetown.edu](mailto:la266@georgetown.edu)



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Questions





To receive credit...

We will send an email with a link from Clinical Directors Network within 1-2 days after the webinar.

You must complete to receive credit and the certificate will arrive within 1 week of completing the survey.



# National Nurse-Led Care Consortium

*Last webinar for the Learning Collaborative Series:*

Part 4: Exploring Neighborhood Factors that Impact Health

- [Wednesday, December 4, 2019 @ 2:00 pm ET](#)



Thank you!

## NNCC Contact Information

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Kevin Leacock, Public Health Project Coordinator

[kleacock@phmc.org](mailto:kleacock@phmc.org)

# Starting Now: Office Hours with Dr. Laura Anderko

