Global Average Temperatures have been increasing.
Water Stress in the U.S.

Water Supply Stress Index

- 0.0: Low
- 0.1–0.2
- 0.3–0.4
- 0.5–0.6
- 0.7–0.8
- 0.9–1.0
- 1.1–6.4: High
Impact of Climate Change on Human Health

Injuries, fatalities, mental health impacts
- Heat-related illness and death, cardiovascular failure

Asthma, cardiovascular disease
- Malaria, dengue, encephalitis, hantavirus, Rift Valley fever, Lyme disease, chikungunya, West Nile virus

Severe Weather
- Air pollution
- Changes in Vector Ecology

Extreme Heat
- Respiratory allergies, asthma
- Increasing Allergens

Environmental Degradation
- Malnutrition, diarrheal disease
- Cholera, cryptosporidiosis, campylobacter, leptospirosis, harmful algal blooms

Water and Food Supply Impacts
- Water Quality Impacts

Rising CO2 Levels
- Forced migration, civil conflict, mental health impacts

Rising Sea Levels
- More Extreme Weather

Rising Temperatures
98% of local health departments in Oregon have indicated only minimal ability to identify and prevent environmental health hazards.
1. INVOLVE
2. PARTNER
3. ASSESS
4. PLAN
5. PREPARE
6. COMMUNICATE
7. LEAD
Nitrates

May Cause Pancreatic Cancer
Daily intake of processed meats, which are high in nitrates, seems to increase the risk for pancreatic cancer

Linked to Alzheimer's & Diabetes
Research shows that nitrates may affect brain health and insulin reactions

May Harm Your Baby
Too many nitrates or nitrites can cause a condition known as methemoglobinemia or “blue baby syndrome”
Arsenic

Nervous System
- Impaired intellectual function
- Impaired motor function
- Neuropathy

Cardiovascular System
- Coronary heart disease
- Hypertension
- Heart attack

Renal System
- Kidney cancer
- Bladder cancer

Endocrine System
- Diabetes
- Impaired glucose tolerance in pregnant women

Respiratory System
- Pulmonary tuberculosis
- Bronchiectasis
- Lung cancer
- Liver cancer

Skin
- Skin lesions
- Skin cancer

Developmental Process
- Increased cancer risk as adults
- Increased infant mortality
- Neurological impairment
- Reduced birth weight
Climate Impacts on Human Health

Heat-related Illness
- Increasing temperatures and heat wave days result in elevated body temperatures. This can lead to heat stroke, heat syncope, heat exhaustion, heat cramps and heat rash.
- Vulnerable groups:
  - Pregnant women
  - Older adults
  - Children
  - Low-income persons
  - Socially isolated individuals
  - Outdoor workers
  - Urban residents
  - Communities of color

Mental health
- Displacement, illness and injury because of environmental changes can lead to anxiety, depression, suicidal ideation and disruption of social networks. Exposure to pollution has been linked to developmental delays in children.
- Vulnerable groups:
  - Coastal communities
  - American Indians
  - Farm workers
  - Urban residents

Allergens
- Increasing pollen counts and pollen potency result from rising temperatures and carbon dioxide levels. Increasing mold growth following storms and flooding also causes higher rates of allergic rhinitis and asthma attacks.
- Vulnerable groups:
  - People with preexisting conditions
  - Children

Respiratory disease and illness
- Air pollution and smoke from wildfires can exacerbate preexisting conditions and cause new respiratory diseases and illness.
- Vulnerable groups:
  - People with preexisting conditions
  - Children
  - Older adults

Vector-borne disease
- Stagnant water bodies caused by heat or drought provide a habitat for pests, such as mosquitoes and ticks. Higher temperatures also change the life cycle of certain pests that transmit diseases, such as West Nile virus and malaria.

Gastrointestinal disease
- Winter storms, flooding and harmful algal blooms can contaminate drinking water with viruses, parasites and bacteria that cause GI illness.
- Vulnerable groups:
  - Young children
  - Elderly people
  - People with compromised immune systems
healthoregon.org/climate

Emily York, MPH | Program Lead
Emily.A.York@state.or.us