Health Impacts of and Responses to Climate Change

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Pathways by Which Climate Change May Affect Human Health



Health Impacts Depend on Multiple Factors

- Geographic factors:
 - Baseline climate
 - Abundance of natural resources (i.e. soil, fresh water supplies)
 - Elevation
- Biological sensitivity:
 - Developmental stage
 - Pre-existing medical conditions and/or acquired factors (i.e. immunity)
 - Genetic factors
- Socioeconomic factors:
 - May increase likelihood of exposure to harmful agents/high risk residences
 - Associated with underlying diseases that mediate risk
 - Affect ability to adapt or respond

Direction and Magnitude of Climate Change Health Impacts



IPCC 2007



McGheehin

Extreme Weather







Projected Ozone-Related Deaths, NY Metro Area, 2050s vs 1990s



Baseline Daily Mortality Rate per 100,000



Percent Increase in O₃-related Deaths

Kinney et al. 2006

Distribution of Lyme Disease, 1991-2000 and 2020



[•] [^] [^] ¹³⁹ ⁹ ^{1,19} ⁹ ^{1,19} ¹⁰² ²⁶⁶ ²⁶¹ ²³³ ³⁴⁶⁹⁴ ⁸⁹⁵ ¹⁰⁷ ¹⁰² ¹⁷³⁶ ¹⁷³⁹ ^{2,145}
Tick abundance at model equilibrium

Ogden et al. Int. J. Parasitol. 2005, 2006

Temperature and Enteric Disease



RR of *Salmonella* increased by 1.2% per degree above - 10°C

RR of Campylobacter increased by 2.2% (4.5% in Newfoundland) per degree above - 10°C

RR of E. coli increased by 6.0% per degree above - 10°C

Fleury et al. 2006

EDF/George Mason/NACCHO Survey of Public Health Directors

Department Has Expertise to Assess Health Risks?



Climate Change Impacts in 2030 under 750 ppm CO₂ Scenario (thousands of cases)

	Diarrheal Diseases	Malnutrition	Malaria
Total	4,513,981	46,352	408,227
Climate change impacts	131,980	4,673	21,787
% Increase	3	10	5

Thank-you

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