## Climate and Health Resources: **NEVADA**



Climate change poses risks to human health. <u>Already in the United States</u>, we are seeing rising temperatures, increased frequency and intensity of some types of extreme weather, sea level rise, and other changes in weather and climate patterns. We are all vulnerable to the health impacts associated with climate change. However, these climate and health risks vary across the country.

Nevada has warmed about 2°F in the last century. This and other climate impacts, like decreased flow in the Colorado River, mean increasing risks to health. Examples of risks and actions for Nevada residents include:

- Higher temperatures will increase heat-related illnesses, hospital visits, and deaths. In Las Vegas and other large cities, urban heat island effect will make heat events worse. <u>Learn how</u> you can take action to protect against heat waves, such as:
  - o **Respond**: Drink plenty of water.
  - o Respond: Watch for signs of dehydration and overheating, especially in children.
- Large wildfires are occurring more often, and wildfire seasons are lasting longer. This increases
  health risks such as those related to smoke inhalation and evacuations. <u>Learn how you can take</u>
  action to protect against wildfires, such as:
  - Prepare: Keep your air-conditioning filter clean, and close the unit's fresh air intake.
  - Respond: Check local news and reports for information on air quality, visibility, and evacuation orders.
- The Southwest is likely to face more frequent and intense droughts. Droughts limit the
  availability and quality of drinking water. <u>Learn how you can take action to protect against</u>
  droughts, such as:
  - o **Prepare:** Reduce water use. For example, use low-flow faucets.
  - Prepare: Be aware that droughts may reduce the quality of drinking water from private wells.

Learn more in the USGCRP Climate and Health Assessment.

The examples of risks and actions provided in this document are not a comprehensive list. They provide users with illustrative impacts and resources for further information. Examples were selected based on relevance to the state or region and representation of a diversity of health threats. Selection does not imply ranking of severity of impacts nor prioritization of actions. The examples of impacts are based on "The Impacts of Climate Change on Human Health in the United States: A Scientific Assessment," available at <a href="https://health2016.globalchange.gov">https://health2016.globalchange.gov</a>, as well as the National Climate Assessment at <a href="https://nca2014.globalchange.gov/">https://nca2014.globalchange.gov/</a>

|                              | RESOURCES FOR NEVADA RESIDENTS  |   |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Resource Topic               | Information   | Source  |
| Climate Change<br>Impacts    | Learn More: What Climate Change Means for Nevada                            | U.S. Environmental<br>Protection Agency       |
|                              | Learn More: National Climate Assessment: Southwest                          | U.S. Global Change<br>Research Program. 2014. |
|                              | Find Resources: EPA Region 9 (Pacific Southwest)                            | U.S. Environmental<br>Protection Agency       |
| Public Health<br>Information | Find Resources: Nevada Department of Health and Human Services              | State of Nevada                               |
|                              | Find Resources: Nevada Division of Emergency Management - Homeland Security | State of Nevada                               |