

Climate and Health Resources: NEW JERSEY



Climate change poses risks to human health. [Already in the United States](#), 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.

New Jersey has warmed by about 3°F in the last century. This and other climate impacts, like more intense rainfall, mean increasing risks to health. Examples of risks and actions for New Jersey residents include:

- **Hurricanes and storms like nor'easters may become more intense** as the climate continues to warm. Storms may injure or kill people living in coastal flood zones. [Learn how you can take action to protect against floods](#), such as:
 - **Prepare:** Ask someone out-of-state to act as a “family contact” in case your family is separated.
 - **Respond:** Avoid driving or walking in or near flood waters, even after the flood or during cleanup.

- **Higher temperatures and other weather changes will increase levels of ozone pollution** (a component of smog), increasing health risks like asthma-related hospital visits. [Learn how you can take action to protect against poor air quality](#), such as:
 - **Prepare:** Check news or [airnow.gov](#) for local air quality reports.
 - **Respond:** Reduce outdoor activity when pollution levels are high.

- **Longer warm seasons mean that ticks carrying Lyme disease will emerge earlier in the season and move into new areas.** [Learn how you can take action to protect against ticks](#), such as:
 - **Respond:** Check for and remove ticks promptly after coming indoors. Remember that pets may bring ticks into the house.
 - **Respond:** Wear protective clothing (such as high boots and long sleeves and pants), and consider using insect repellent.

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 <https://health2016.globalchange.gov>, as well as the National Climate Assessment at <http://nca2014.globalchange.gov/>

RESOURCES FOR NEW JERSEY RESIDENTS

Resource Topic	Information	Source
Climate Change Impacts	Learn More: What Climate Change Means for New Jersey	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
	Learn More: National Climate Assessment: Northeast	U.S. Global Change Research Program. 2014.
	Explore Actions: Meeting New Jersey's 2020 Greenhouse Gas Limit: New Jersey's Global Warming Response Act Recommendations Report, 2009	State of New Jersey
	Find Resources: EPA Region 2	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Public Health Information	Find Resources: New Jersey Department of Health	State of New Jersey
	Find Resources: New Jersey Office of Emergency Management	State of New Jersey