

6

WAYS
CLIMATE
CHANGE
HARMS
HEALTH
IN CALIFORNIA

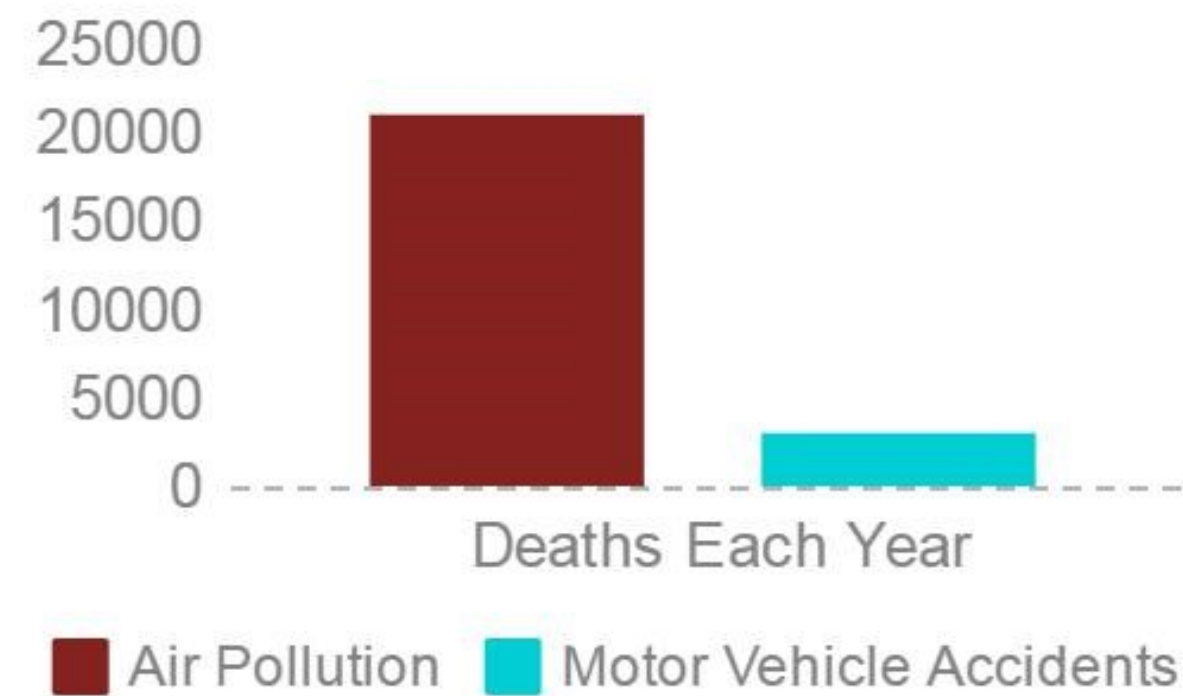
Climate change is already impacting our health.
Take action today for a healthier world tomorrow.

POOR AIR QUALITY

Air pollution makes chronic conditions like diabetes harder to manage and contributes to higher rates of asthma, valley fever, heart attacks, lung cancer, stroke and death.



California suffers 21,000 early deaths each year due to air pollution—7 times the number of fatalities from motor vehicle crashes.



8 out of 10 Californians—that's 32 million people—live in counties with unhealthy air pollution levels.

Climate Change Inequity

5 of the top 10 most polluted cities in the U.S. are located in California's Central Valley—cities with more people of color and low-income families.

Latino children are

40%

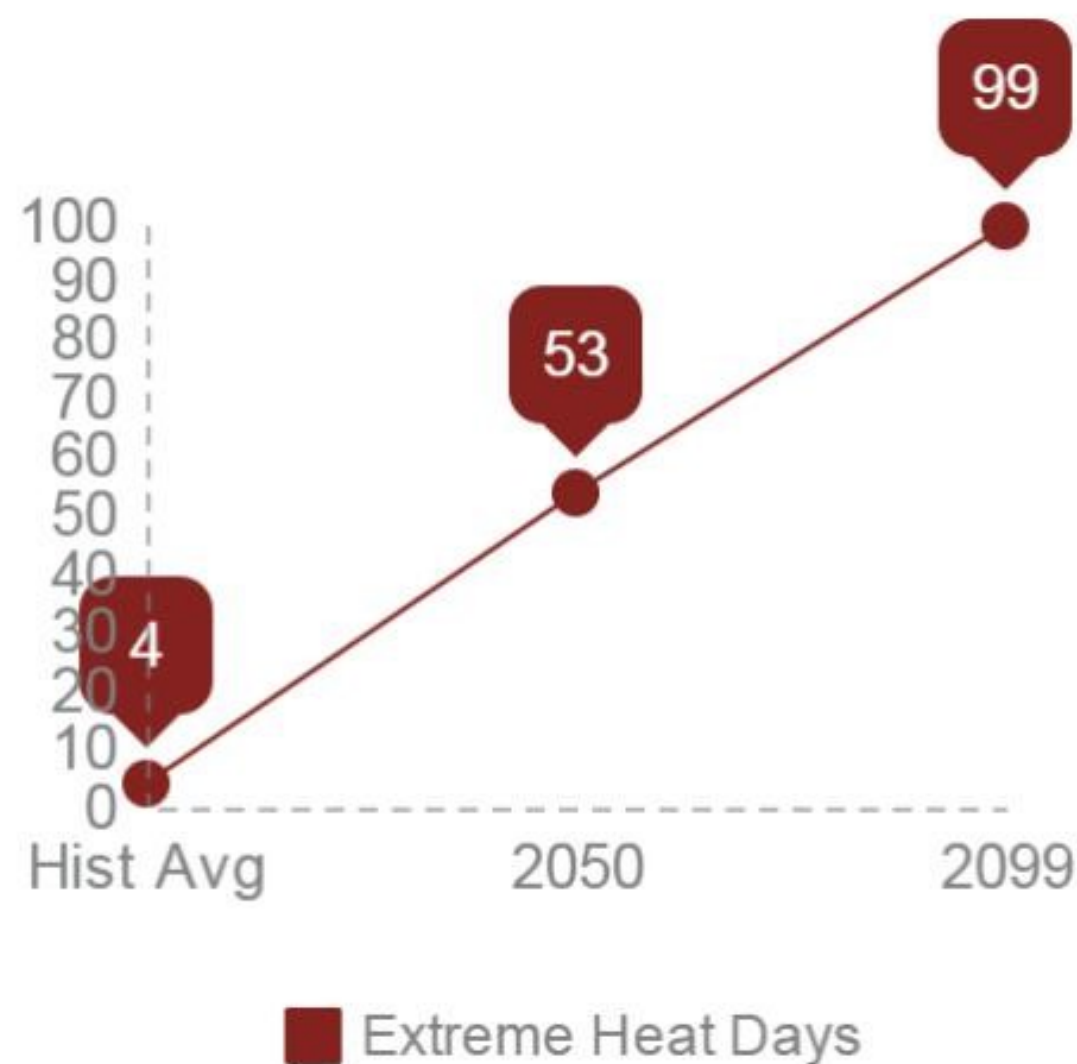
more likely to die from asthma than white children

HEAT-RELATED ILLNESS & DEATH

Extreme heat—the leading weather-related cause of death in the US—causes heat cramps, severe heat exhaustion and deadly heat stroke.



California will average up to 53 extreme heat days/year by 2050 and up to 99 days/year by 2099. The historical average is 4 per year.



655



16,000+



California's 2006 heat waves caused 655 deaths and over 16,000 ER visits.

Climate Change Inequity

Low-income people and communities of color in urban neighborhoods are particularly vulnerable to heat waves: they are often segregated, surrounded by heat-trapping surfaces like concrete and asphalt, and less likely to have air-conditioning.

African Americans in Los Angeles are nearly

2X

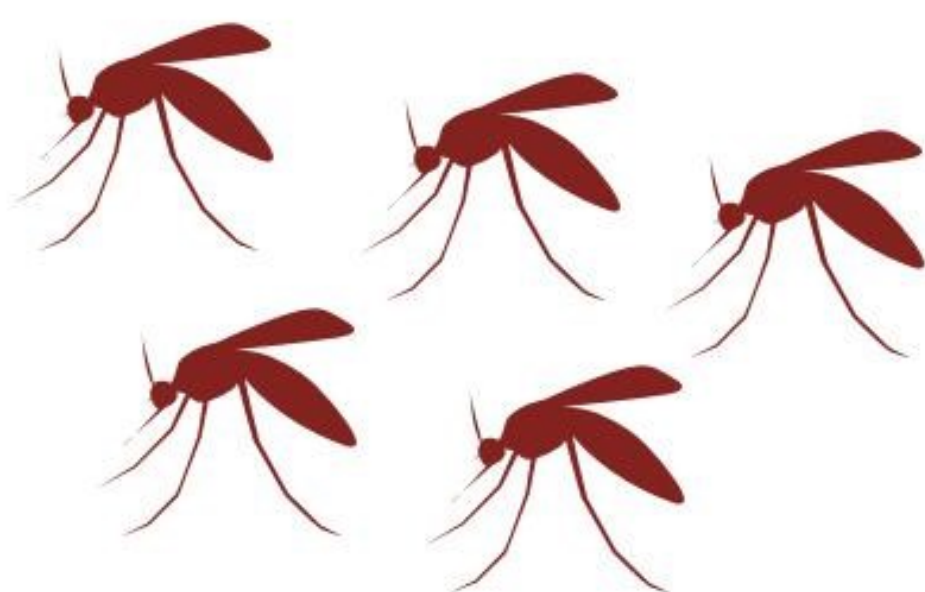
as likely to die from a heat wave as other city residents

VECTOR-BORNE DISEASES

Exposure to infectious diseases that cause illness and death will increase as mosquitoes, ticks and other vectors spread to new environments—and as humans are forced to move to different places.



More than half of the state is likely to see increases in West Nile virus, as warmer environments lead mosquitoes to bite and breed more.



Climate change increases the chances that Zika and other diseases previously unseen in the state will spread.

Climate Change Inequity

Outdoor workers are at a higher risk for contracting Lyme disease, West Nile virus and other mosquito-spread diseases.

Annually reported cases of Lyme Disease have increased

33-FOLD

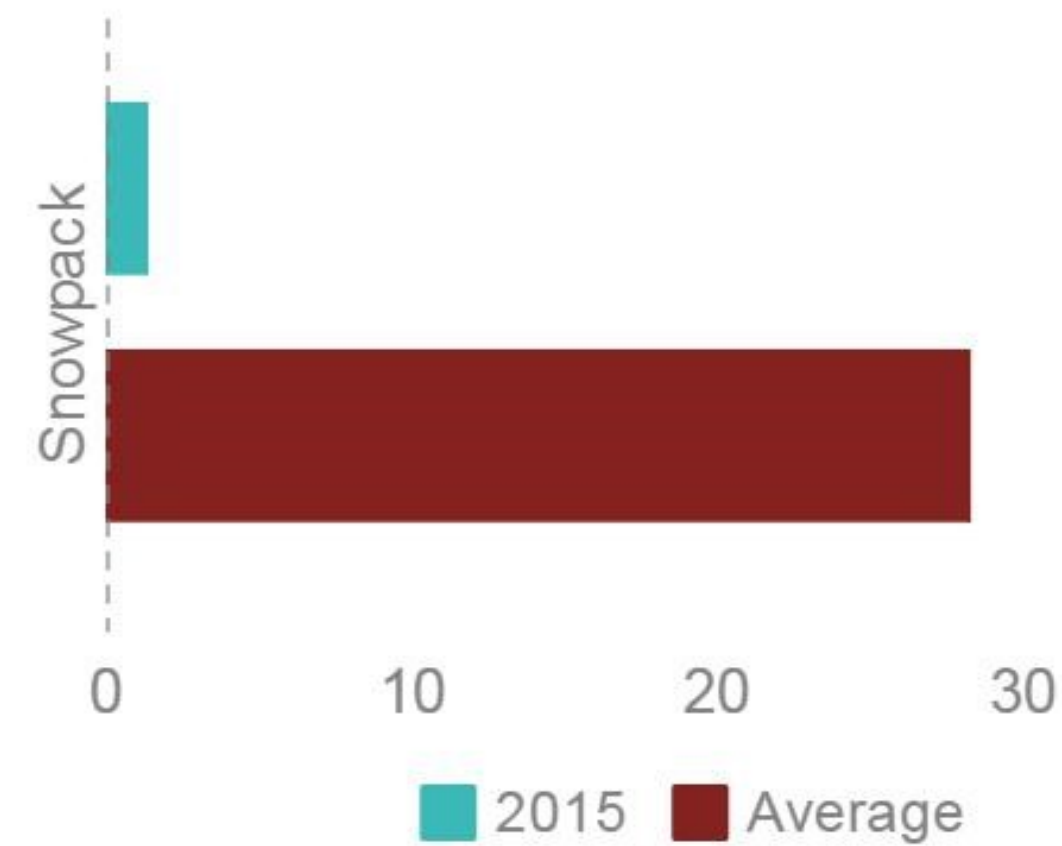
since national surveillance began in 1982.

WATER SHORTAGES

People and crops need more water to sustain health, hygiene and access to fresh food—yet climate change contributes to shrinking water supplies.



In 2015, the Sierra snowpack—which provides 30% of California's freshwater—measured at just 5% of its average water content.



80%

Given current greenhouse gas emissions, the chances of a 35-year+ "megadrought" striking the Southwest by 2100 are above 80 percent.

Climate Change Inequity

Thousands of Californians—mostly in rural, small, disadvantaged communities—already face acute water scarcity, contaminated groundwater or complete water loss.



1000's

of Californians with complete water loss, acute scarcity or contamination

SEA-LEVEL RISE & NATURAL DISASTERS

Sea-level rise and natural disasters like wildfires, storm surges and landslides destroy homes, create more air pollution, displace people and cause injuries and death.



By 2100, wildfires could burn up to 74% more area across the state. In northern California, they could burn 200% more land.

**74%
more**



1MIL



Up to 1 million California residents could be affected by flooding by 2100 due to rising sea levels.

Climate Change Inequity

Public housing residents, elderly people, non-English speakers and those without vehicle access or health insurance are especially vulnerable.

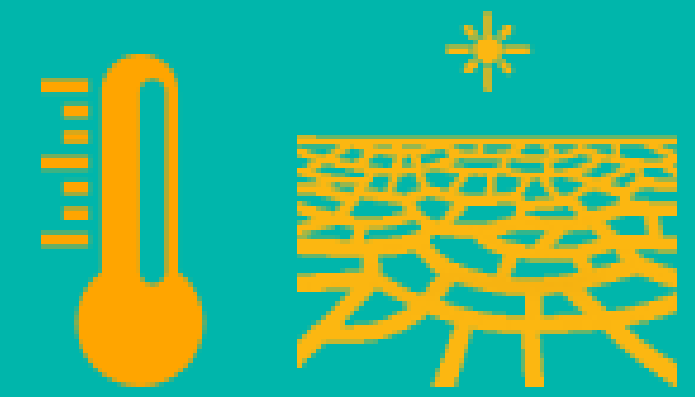
The San Francisco Bay Area includes over

200 MILES

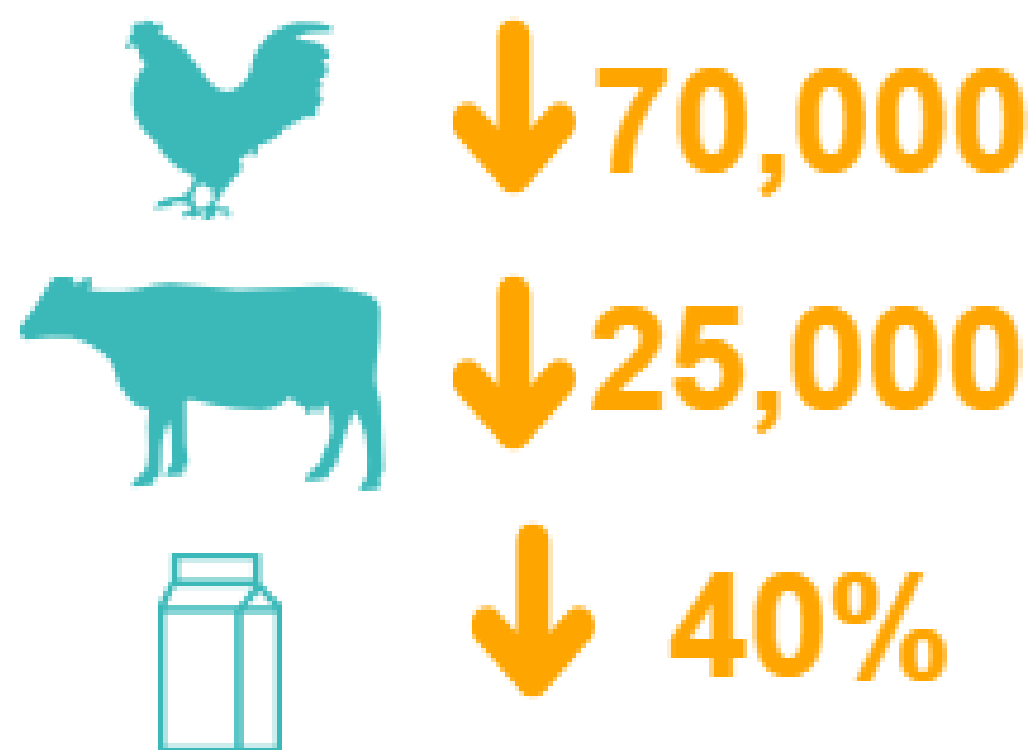
of coastline susceptible to storm surges and flooding

FOOD INSECURITY

Drought, heatwaves and other climate change impacts including pests, increased salinity of fresh water and displacement from natural disasters can change crop yields, increase prices and decrease access to healthy foods.



25,000 cattle and 70,000 fowl were killed by California's 2006 heatwave, and dairy production dropped by up to 40 percent.



In 2015, 500,000 acres of California farmland lay fallow due to drought, decreasing crop production and costing over 17,000 farmworkers their jobs.

Climate Change Inequity

73% of California's agricultural workers earn below 200% of the poverty line, making them more vulnerable to food insecurity. 2/3 of farm workers are Latino.

1 CENT increase in the cost per pound of produce could result in

\$145,000

in additional costs for the Alameda County Community Food Bank.

California needs strong action on climate change.

**TEXT climate TO 44144 TO
TAKE ACTION**



FOR FULL REFERENCES AND MORE INFORMATION VISIT

<http://bit.ly/CA-Climate-Health>



Center for
Climate Change & Health

climatehealthconnect.org