WHO WE ARE

We study how climate impacts public health in Wisconsin. We use what we learn to create strategies, tools, and trainings to help communities prepare for health outcomes related to climate. We use the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Building Resilience Against Climate Effects (BRACE) framework to guide our strategies for taking action.

WHAT WE DO

Expand and enhance partnerships

Provide training and technical assistance

Develop strategies and tools to address health factors linked to climate effects

A LOOK AT SOME OF OUR PROJECTS

Vulnerability Maps and Future Illness

We studied demographic, health, and environmental data to create a measure that finds areas of the state more likely to be impacted on very hot days. This measure is called a heat vulnerability index, and we use it to target messaging and extra resources to areas that need it most on these hot days. After the success of the heat vulnerability index, we are creating a flood vulnerability index that works the same way.

We also studied how certain illnesses and death might increase due to more days with extreme heat or more floods.

Community Tools

We made a Community Engagement Toolkit to help communities see how climate impacts health at the local level. Toolkit users follow a framework to bring together partners, prioritize health outcomes, brainstorm strategies to address those outcomes, and create a plan to put their strategies into action.

We also created extreme weather toolkits to help local public health and emergency management professionals respond to extreme weather events, such as extreme cold, flooding, tornadoes, and many others.

Strategies for Taking Action

We researched strategies to minimize health problems related to climate. Using these strategies and collaborating with other partners, we made an action plan—called the Wisconsin Climate and Health Adaptation Plan—which guides our work.

LEARN MORE AT HTTP://DHS.WISCONSIN.GOV/CLIMATE