



LINKING CLIMATE HAZARDS AND HEALTH OUTCOMES WORKSHEET

Introduction

A simple approach to brainstorming and documentation can be to use a table that links hazards, observed direct outcomes, potential direct outcomes, as well as observed indirect outcomes, and potential indirect outcomes. Below is an example of three climate hazards affecting a hypothetical community.

Locally Relevant Climate Hazard	Observed Health Outcomes	Potential Health Outcomes
Extreme precipitation and flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased injuries • Exposure to hazardous materials • Post traumatic stress • Anxiety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased mortality rates
Extreme heat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heat-related illness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental illness exacerbations • Increased violence • Increased mortality • Cardiovascular disease, diabetes, mental health, asthma • Risk of injuries
Wildfire smoke	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respiratory distress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respiratory illness, adverse reproductive outcomes • Anxiety and depression, declines in psychosocial well-being • Increased mortality



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Worksheet

In the column “Observed Health Outcomes” practitioners can list direct and indirect outcomes that have been detected through empirical evidence (such as surveillance or survey data or even anecdotally). For this exercise, it is not necessary to establish causation or attribution. In the column titled “Potential Health Outcomes” practitioners can list potential direct and indirect health outcomes that scientific literature or national reports suggest may occur. Complete this for your own jurisdiction or community.

Locally Relevant Climate Hazard	Observed Health Outcomes	Potential Health Outcomes