The CDC climate change and public health framework was established in 2006, due to a recognition by many scientists that there was a need to prepare for the inevitability of climate change, and the impact it would likely have on the health of US residents and the world population in general.

CDC formally established its Climate Change Program in FY 2009. CDC’s Climate Change Program leads efforts to prevent and adapt to the anticipated health impacts associated with climate change.

The program seeks to identify populations most vulnerable to these impacts, anticipate future trends, assures that systems are in place to detect and respond to emerging health threats, and takes steps to assure that these health risks can be managed now and in the future.

Ten State Health Departments and Their Health Impacts:

**Cat 1: Assessment and Planning to Develop Climate Change Programs**

- **Arizona Department of Health Services**
  Health effects due to extreme heat

- **Massachusetts Department of Health**
  Water, food, and vector borne diseases, heat stress, hazardous weather events, respiratory diseases

- **New York State Department of Health**
  Extreme weather, waterborne, food-borne, and vector disease

- **North Carolina Department of Public Health**
  Temperature related morbidity and mortality; extreme weather; air pollution; water, food, and vector borne diseases

- **San Francisco Department of Public Health**
  Heat stress morbidity and mortality associated with air quality impacts

**Cat 2: Building Capacity to Implement Climate Change Programs and Adaptations**

- **Michigan Department of Community Health**
  Heat related disease, respiratory disease

- **Minnesota Department of Health**
  Extreme heat events, vector borne disease

- **New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene**
  Heat-related morbidity and mortality, respiratory illness, water-borne and vector-borne disease

- **Oregon Department of Health**
  Water and food borne diseases, extreme weather, ecosystems

- **State of Maine Department of Health and Human Services**
  Heat related outcomes, vector-borne disease
Priority Actions
1. Track data on environmental conditions, disease risks, and disease occurrence related to climate change
2. Communicate the health-related aspects of climate change, including risks and ways to reduce them, to the public, decision makers, and healthcare providers
3. Develop and implement preparedness and response plans for health threats such as heat waves, severe weather events, and infectious diseases
4. Expand capacity for modeling and forecasting health effects that may be climate-related
5. Promote workforce development by helping to ensure the training of a new generation of competent, experienced public health staff to respond to the health effects of climate change

Projects /Activities
- Developing the ‘Climate Ready States and Cities Initiative’ to support and lead initiatives to build capacity in state and city health departments to address the public health consequences of climate change
- Funding 8 states and 2 city health departments to undertake climate change and health related assessment, planning, adaptations and capacity building
- Funding of a Climate Module within the Environmental Public Health Tracking Network (EPHT)
- Creation of adaptation guidance for state and local health departments
- Preventing and Treating Heat Related Illness: an e-learning course
- Extreme Heat Media Toolkit

For more information about the CDC Climate Change Program and its activities visit: www.cdc.gov/climatechange