

Four Key Points from Session 4: Climate Change and Health



ENVIRONMENTAL
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1 Climate change can produce a broad range of health impacts

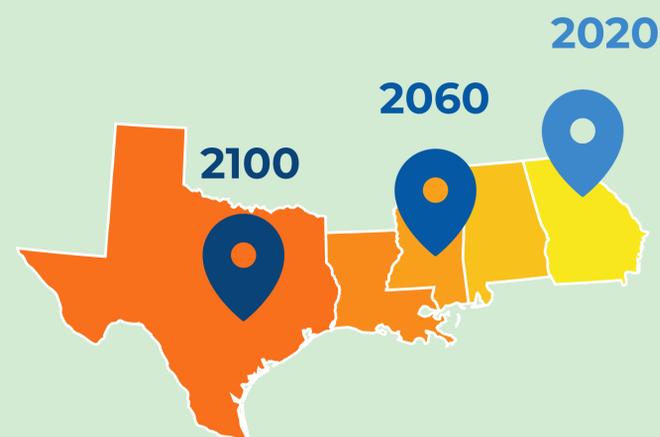
In Atlanta, we are focusing on health impacts due to **higher temperatures**, **greater levels of air pollution**, and **higher amounts of rainfall**

2 How does extreme heat impact the health of Atlanta residents?

In the short term, extreme heat can cause **dehydration**, **heat exhaustion**, and **heatstroke**

Over several days, extreme heat affects the **functioning of the internal organs** and puts strain on the **cardiovascular system**

In the long term, heat increases air pollution



By 2100, average summer high temperatures are projected to rise by **+6.5° F**. Atlanta will feel like College Station, Texas

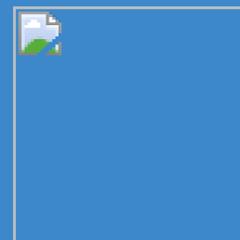
3 How does air pollution impact the health of Atlanta residents?

Global warming increases ground-level ozone

Changing weather patterns increase air pollution by triggering events like dust storms and forest fires

Increased air pollution impacts health by worsening **respiratory, cardiovascular diseases**, and **diabetes**; accelerating **lung cancers**; and creating dangers for **pregnant women**

ATL already alerts its residents about ozone levels and their health effects between April 1 and October 31 of each year at: bit.ly/434zxoT



4 How does increased rainfall impact the health of Atlanta residents?

Flooding is already a major concern in the Proctor and Intrenchment Creek Watersheds

Flooding **promotes injuries**, **limits access** to healthcare, exposes us to **pollutants**, increases the presence of disease-causing **mosquitoes**, encourages **mold growth**, and disturbs our **mental health**

