

# Climate Risks Checklist



This checklist will help you identify climate-related health risks in your jurisdiction and convene partners with expertise and interest in working together to explore the health effects of climate change in your jurisdiction.

## Identify existing climate and health data for your region

- Skim the [Oregon Climate and Health Profile Report](#), which provides an overview of climate projections and health risks in Oregon.
- Explore these web-based tools to help you understand and describe local climate projections and risks. Local Public Health Authorities will likely not have the capacity to use all of these tools, we recommend focusing on the first two:
  - The [Climate Toolbox](#) – Here is a [step-by-step guide for understanding local climate projections](#) (including projected increases in extreme heat days, high fire danger days and flood risks) using the Climate Toolbox.
  - A [guide for using Climate Data in ESSENCE](#), Oregon’s Syndromic Surveillance System.
  - To locate your county in the [USGS Data Viewer](#), click on the “viewer”, then click on Oregon and select your county to generate a quick report on projected changes in temperature.
  - Visit the [Oregon Drought Monitor](#) to see current and past drought declarations in your county.
  - Use the [Wildfire Risk Explorer](#) to get a better understanding of wildfire risks.
  - Use NOAA’s [Coastal Flooding Impacts Viewer](#) to explore potential impacts due to sea level rise and storm surge.
- Identify which populations may be particularly vulnerable within your jurisdiction. This will be partly based on the climate impacts you have identified as your greatest risks. For example, if wildfire is a key concern in your community, vulnerable groups listed in the [Oregon Climate and Health Profile Report](#) include: people with existing illnesses like asthma, infants, children, older adults, private well users, and people living in rural areas or at the wildland/urban interface.

## Identify internal expertise and interest

- Identify staff in your department who are integral to this work and those who may be personally interested. These could include, but are not limited to, staff who work in:

- environmental health
- public health preparedness
- epidemiology
- communicable disease
- drinking water
- chronic disease prevention
- injury prevention

It also helps to connect with staff from other departments. Consider inviting staff or existing partners from the following types of departments:

- Planning or community development
- Emergency management
- Transportation
- Public works; water, sewer, environmental services

- Consider inviting internal partners to 2 consecutive meetings. Here are some example [Climate and Health Meeting Invitations and Meeting Agendas](#).
  - In the first meeting, consider using or adapting the [Oregon Climate and Health Profile Presentation](#) to get the conversation started. You can print out the [Executive Summary](#) and the [Infographic](#) for handouts.
  - In the second meeting, consider sharing a draft [Climate Risk Profile \(Word\)](#) that summarizes your assessment to date. Make sure to communicate that this is an internal draft and spend time in the meeting understanding where changes can be made or additional information may be needed. Eventually, you may choose to share this profile document with the public and seek input from community partners. At this meeting you can also communicate your next steps, which may draw from your [Project Workplan \(Word\)](#).