

Health Equity & Staying Safe in Extreme Heat

Background

Californians face many health risks from extreme heat resulting from climate change. More information is needed to examine how public health is impacted by different local heat adaptation strategies. This is especially important in communities that are more susceptible to climate impacts. Kern County has been identified as one of these areas since it faces elevated climate risks and higher social vulnerability.



Main Question:

How can community-centered heat adaptation strategies reduce health risks and disparities?

Key Research Plans

Researchers will collaborate with community partners to examine how community-selected heat adaptation strategies impact the health of residents most at risk. Those at risk include low-income households, racial/ethnic

minorities, older adults, and outdoor workers. They will examine how these actions reduce heat-related health disparities and highlight the health benefits and economic impact of community-driven actions.

Expected Impacts

Results will provide information on how state efforts can reduce heat-related health risks at the community level. This data can inform state climate programs, particularly for heat adaptation strategies that aim to protect the most at-risk communities.

More Information

This project is led by Sandie Ha from the University of California, Merced, in partnership with Standford University. Contract <u>24RD003</u>. Visit our <u>website</u> or contact us by <u>e-mail</u>.

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