



Interagency Council on Climate Resilience Listening Session

November 20th, 2024

New Jersey League of Municipalities 2024 Annual Conference

Interagency Council
on Climate Resilience



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



NJ TRANSIT
The Way To Go.



NJ EDA



EXECUTIVE ORDER 89



Establishes resilience positions, offices, and councils

- Chief Resilience Officer
- Interagency Council on Climate Resilience
- Climate and Flood Resilience Program (now the Office of Climate Resilience)

Requires those entities to lead the development of foundational reports

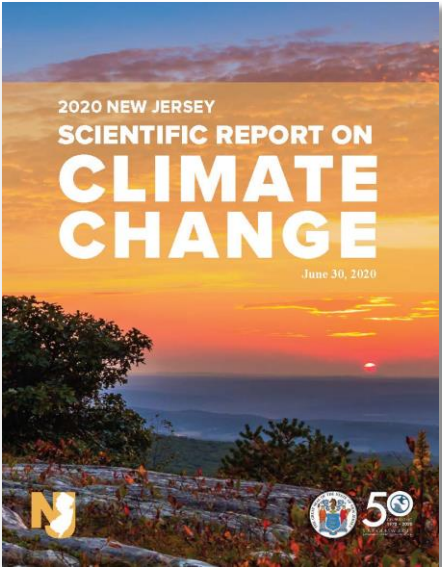
- Scientific Report on Climate Change
- Climate Change Resilience Strategy

SCIENTIFIC REPORT

on Climate Change

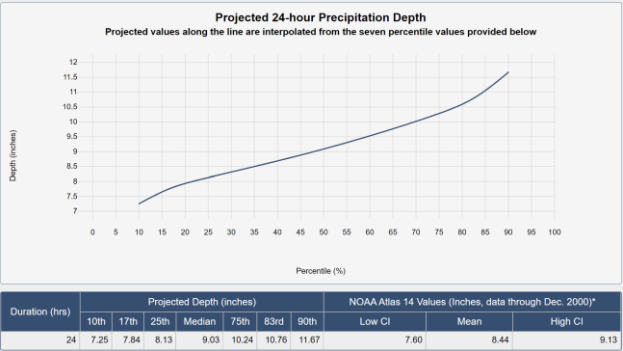
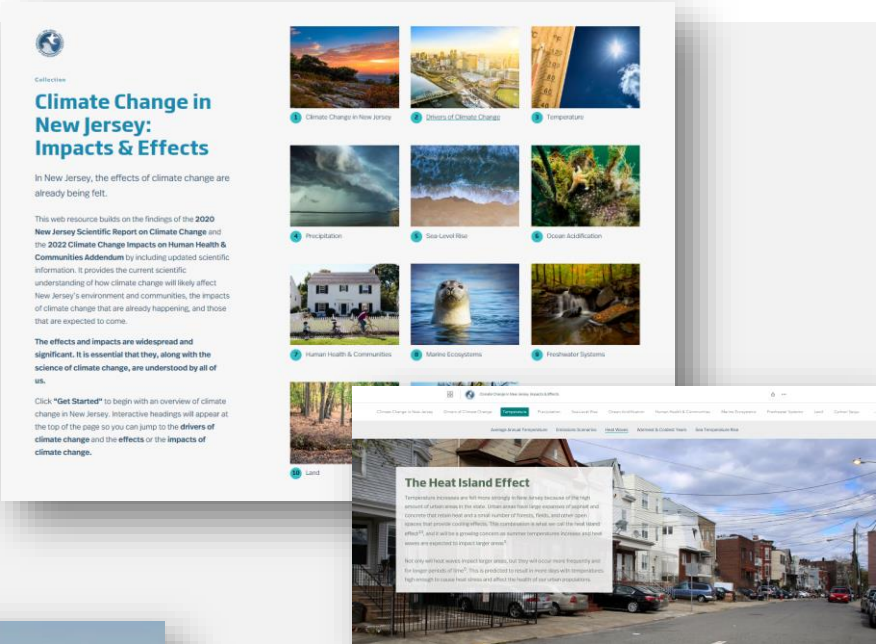
Overview

- Comprehensive effort to synthesize the latest and most reliable scientific information on the current and predicted future impacts of climate change.
- The report is one component of the State’s comprehensive strategy to both reduce emissions of climate pollutants that fuel global warming, and proactively plan and prepare for the climate impacts that New Jersey cannot avoid.



Released June 30, 2020

Sept. 2023: Climate Change in New Jersey StoryMap



Nov. 2021: Updated Atlas 14 data; Extreme Event Precipitation Projections & Projection Tool

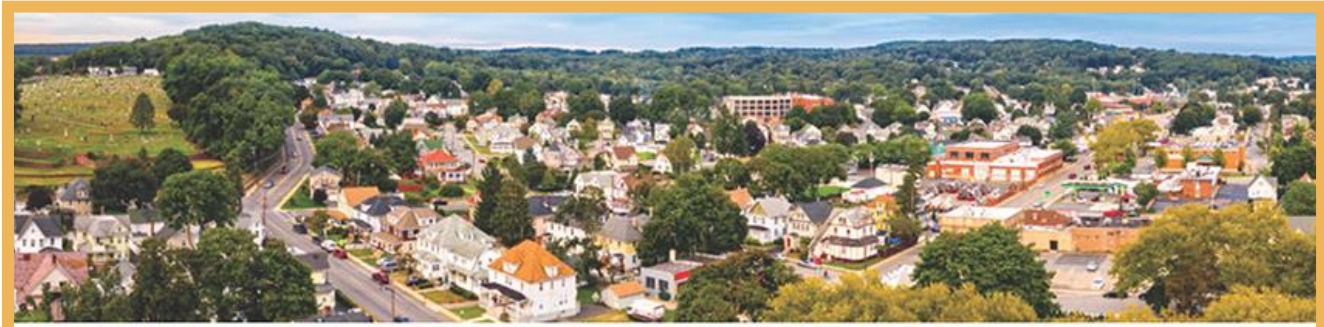


Sept. 2022: Climate Change Impacts on Human Health & Communities Addendum

CLIMATE RESILIENCE

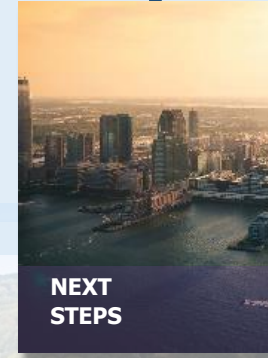
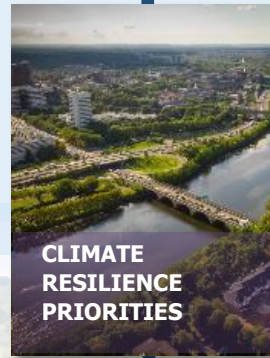
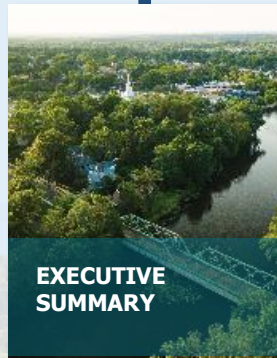
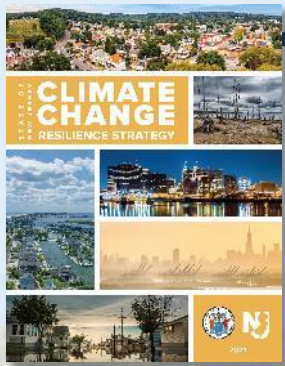
defined

The ability of social and ecological systems to absorb and adapt to shocks and stresses resulting from a changing climate, while becoming better positioned to respond in the future.

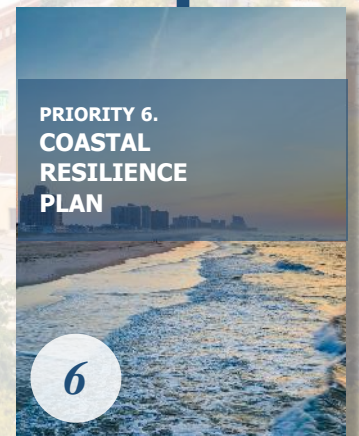
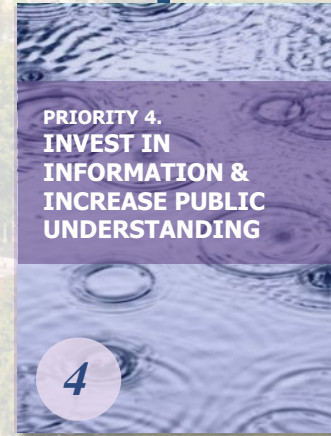
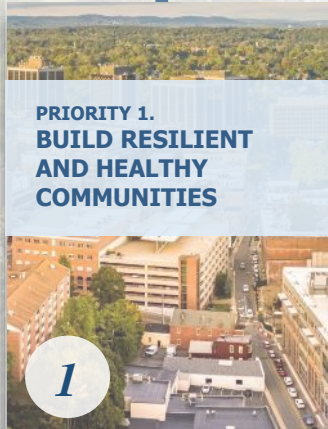


STATE OF NEW JERSEY CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE STRATEGY





CLIMATE RESILIENCE PRIORITIES



**Build
Resilient
and Healthy
Communities**



**Strengthen
the Resilience
of New Jersey's
Ecosystems**



**Promote
Coordinated
Governance**



**Invest in
Information &
Increase Public
Understanding**



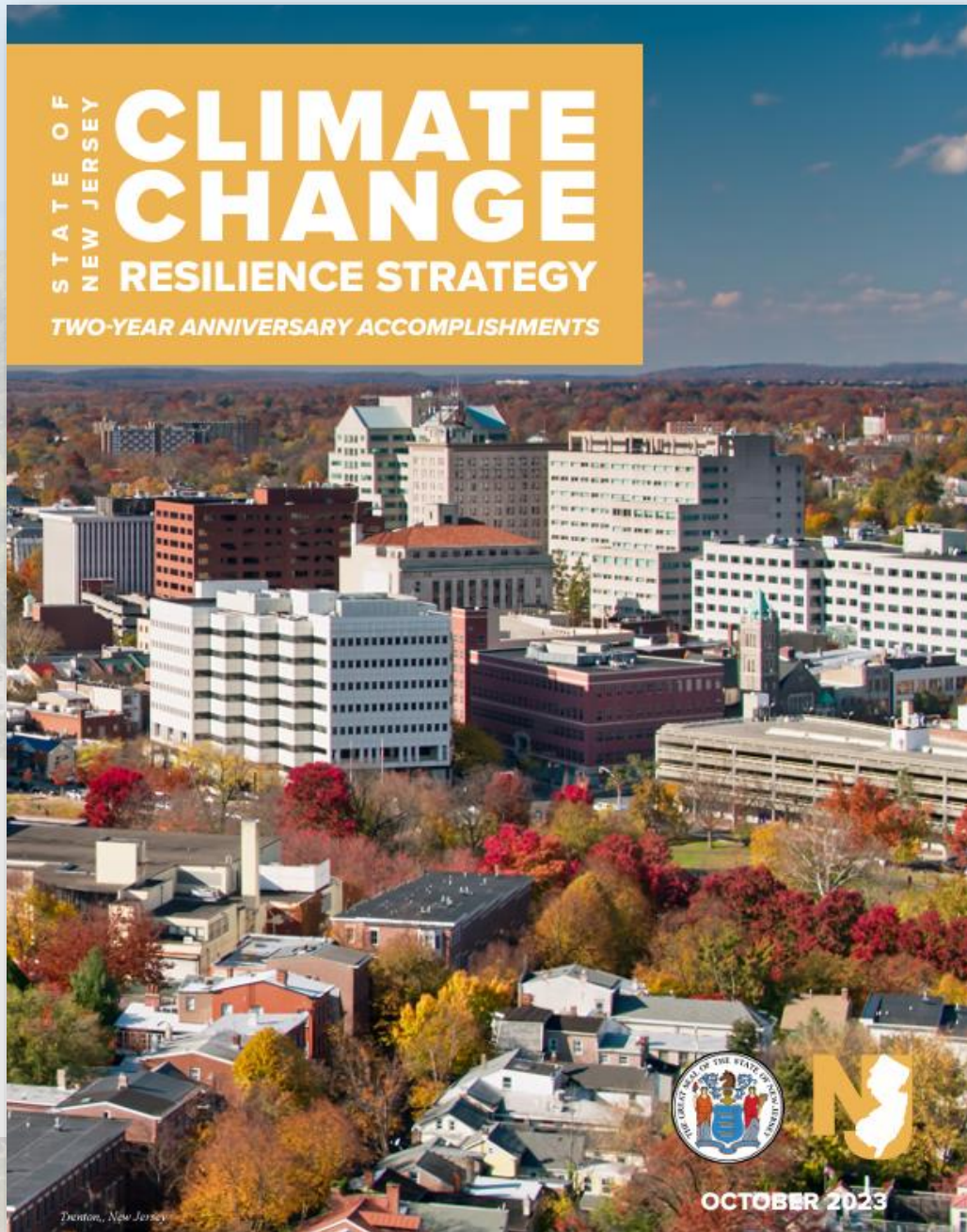
**Promote
Climate-Informed
Investments &
Innovative Financing**



**Coastal
Resilience
Plan**

<https://www.nj.gov/dep/climatechange/resilience-strategy.html>





Climate Change/Resilience for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Projects (NJ Department of Environmental Protection/NJ Infrastructure-Bank)
The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has allocated \$20 million of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds in State Fiscal Year 2023 for New Jersey Water Bank projects that address climate change/resilience in drinking water infrastructure. These projects include the rehabilitation of essential desalination plants, or the relocation of critical infrastructure due to the potential for flooding. Providing low-cost financing for drinking water projects that address climate change/resilience is key to strengthening New Jersey's environmental infrastructure. For State Fiscal Year 2024, the New Jersey Water Bank will provide additional priority points when ranking projects that implement climate resilience measures, if the resilience components represent a significant amount of the overall project activities.

Resilience Water Infrastructure Guidance (NJ Department of Environmental Protection)
In keeping with the state's commitment to resilience in New Jersey, the Water Bank has developed Building Resilient Water Infrastructure Climate Change Resilience Guidance. This guidance serves as a robust framework to help applicants develop and justify selection of climate resilient projects for the State Revolving Fund program. It also provides users with the best available, New Jersey-specific climate science; details use of climate impact projections, with a focus on those anticipated to be the most disruptive to New Jersey's water infrastructure; and enables users to prepare the Resilience Assessment required by the Water Bank. For drinking water projects that meet the criteria, 150 additional priority points will be awarded. Similarly, for clean water projects that meet the criteria, 100 additional priority points will be awarded. The New Jersey Water Bank Priority System sets forth ranking methodology for and prioritizes projects that are eligible for financial assistance through the Water Bank. As such, additional priority points will enhance the availability for projects implementing climate resilience to receive low-cost financing through the New Jersey Water Bank program. The Water Bank has a resilience project application pipeline totaling more than \$625 million in estimated costs.

Stormwater & Flood Resilience Grants Programs (NJ Department of Environmental Protection)

DEP has developed various grants to ensure communities have the support they need to implement storm risk reduction projects, including:

- **Stormwater Assistance Grant Program** – \$7 million in grants awarded for projects across the state to plan and modernize local stormwater management practices and infrastructure in the face of worsening climate change.
- **A total of \$19 million in grants** is available to assist municipalities with the transition to new municipal permit system requirements designed to better protect New Jersey's watersheds from pollutants.
- **The Stormwater Utility Feasibility Study Technical Assistance Program** – A total of \$2 million has been allocated to assist and facilitate the exploration of critical stormwater management initiatives for all entities eligible for stormwater utility (SWU), such as municipal governments, county governments, county or municipal utility authorities, or county improvement authorities.
- **More than \$1 million in grants** to 7 local government agencies in the Hudson-Raritan Estuary for storm reduction and water quality enhancement projects.

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Sustainable Building Designs (NJ Department of Military and Veteran Affairs)

The NJ Department of Military and Veteran Affairs (DMAVA) Construction & Facilities Management Office (CFMO) follows U.S. Department of Defense directives for sustainable growth by designing its newest buildings to meet LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) silver certification level. The designs for new buildings, such as the Vineland Vehicle Maintenance Shop, will have increased building envelope insulation, greater HVAC efficiencies, reduced energy and water consuming equipment, solar panels and green stormwater infrastructure. Recent efforts to be more sustainable include replacing fuel oil with less polluting natural gas used to run building heating boilers, starting at the Port Murray armory. In the upcoming building modernization projects at the Woodstown and Atlantic City armories, geothermal heating and cooling systems, and solar panels with battery back-up are being evaluated and included in designs, where practicable. These efforts also follow the state's electrification initiative by reducing fossil-fuel usage and increasing building resiliency during emergencies.

NJ Establishes Flood Disclosure Law (multi-agency)

In July, Gov. Phil Murphy signed bill S3110-A4783, which requires sellers of property and landlords to make certain notifications regarding flooding. Under the law, sellers of real property and landlords must disclose knowledge of a property's history of flooding, flood risk and location in a flood zone or area. Additionally, the law requires landlords to notify tenants of the availability of insurance for renters through the National Flood Insurance program.

"The NJ State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2021 serves as an instrumental tool for local jurisdictions and counties, equipping them with vital information on potential climate risks, mitigation techniques, and strategies for addressing repetitive losses."



Integrate Public Health Planning and Activities

For the first time, the New Jersey Department of Health has incorporated climate health improvement efforts with multiple partners and the *Healthy New Jersey* (H) initiative, in 2020, resilient cutting issues designed to improve the health of all has been, and continues to, intended to improve climate health risks of air and waterborne disease.

Port Authority Climate I
The Port Authority Climate I Authority of New York & New Jersey (PAT) asset-scale, multi-stressor development corresponding to prioritize cost-beneficial & CRA will enable identified corresponding mitigation integration of priority risk Authority capital plan. T completion in 2024.

3 PRIORITY 3: PROMOTE COORDINATED GOVERNANCE

Extreme Heat RAP (NJ Interagency Council)

The New Jersey Interagency Council is working to draft the Extreme Heat Resilience Action Plan. This plan will outline a range of policy changes, programs and regulatory actions, both new and existing, aimed at addressing this climate impact. It is expected to be released in the spring of 2024. The actions outlined in these Resilience Action Plans will exemplify the practical realization of New Jersey state agencies' and departments' commitment to fulfilling the vision outlined in the overarching Resilience Strategy.

NJ Resilience Accelerator (multi-agency)

Led by FEMA and NJ state partners (DOH, DEP, OEM, DCA), this technical assistance program helped 10 NJ municipalities identify and communicate their resilience goals, develop strategies and critical projects, find pathways for funding and integrate resilience into daily operations.

"The New Jersey Interagency Council is working collaboratively to craft the Extreme Heat Resilience Action Plan."

4 PRIORITY 4: INVEST IN INFORMATION AND INCREASE PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING

Science & Data Accessibility (NJ Department of Environmental Protection)

To create the Climate Change Resilience Strategy, the Council relied on the best-available science published in the 2020 New Jersey Scientific Report on Climate Change. Since then, DEP has worked closely with the Department of Health to produce a comprehensive report on the impacts of climate change on human health and communities by adding a human health addendum (2022). The Scientific Report and Human Health Addendum also have been translated into a user-friendly *Climate Change in New Jersey* web resource that can be easily revised as new science and data become available. DEP's climate communications extend into the real world, too. In September 2023, DEP launched *Climate Change Learning Stations* in several state parks, allowing visitors to envision how climate change is causing the shoreline to shift through a compilation of citizen-submitted photos.

Climate Risk Disclosure Survey (NJ Department of Banking and Insurance)

The New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance recently began collecting climate risk disclosure information from the largest national insurance companies under state regulation. Data gathered through its survey is expected to provide insight on the importance a carrier places on its financial stability and business model, related to impacts of climate change. The information will enable the department to better evaluate potential risks and losses, as well as identify factors that could increase or reduce risks. That, in turn, will inform the department's ability to protect New Jersey policyholders and strengthen the industry.

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Northern New Jersey



DEP's Climate Change Web Resource

The Scientific Report and Human Health Addendum have recently translated into a user-friendly *Climate Change in New Jersey* web resource.

October 2023

Highlights over 40 actions State agencies have taken over the last two years to adapt and respond to climate change.

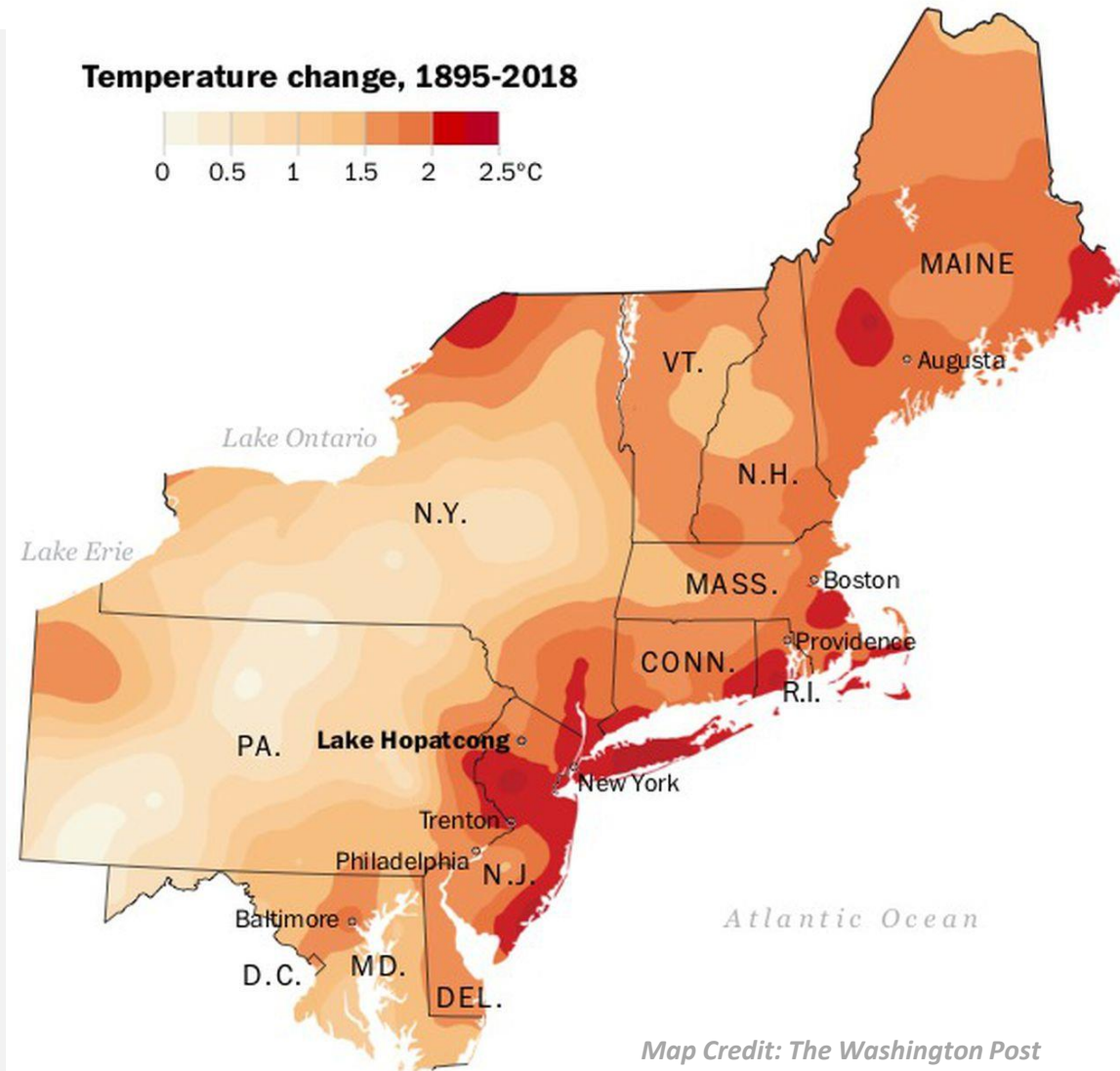
EXTREME HEAT



- New Jersey is the 6th fastest warming state in the country.
- Summer temperatures in NJ in 2022 were the third hottest on record since 1895.
- High temperatures are associated with immediate and long-term health concerns, diminished air quality, and increased pressures on our food and water supply.



**Of the ten hottest summers in NJ since 1895, all ten have occurred since 1999.
Nine have occurred since 2005.**

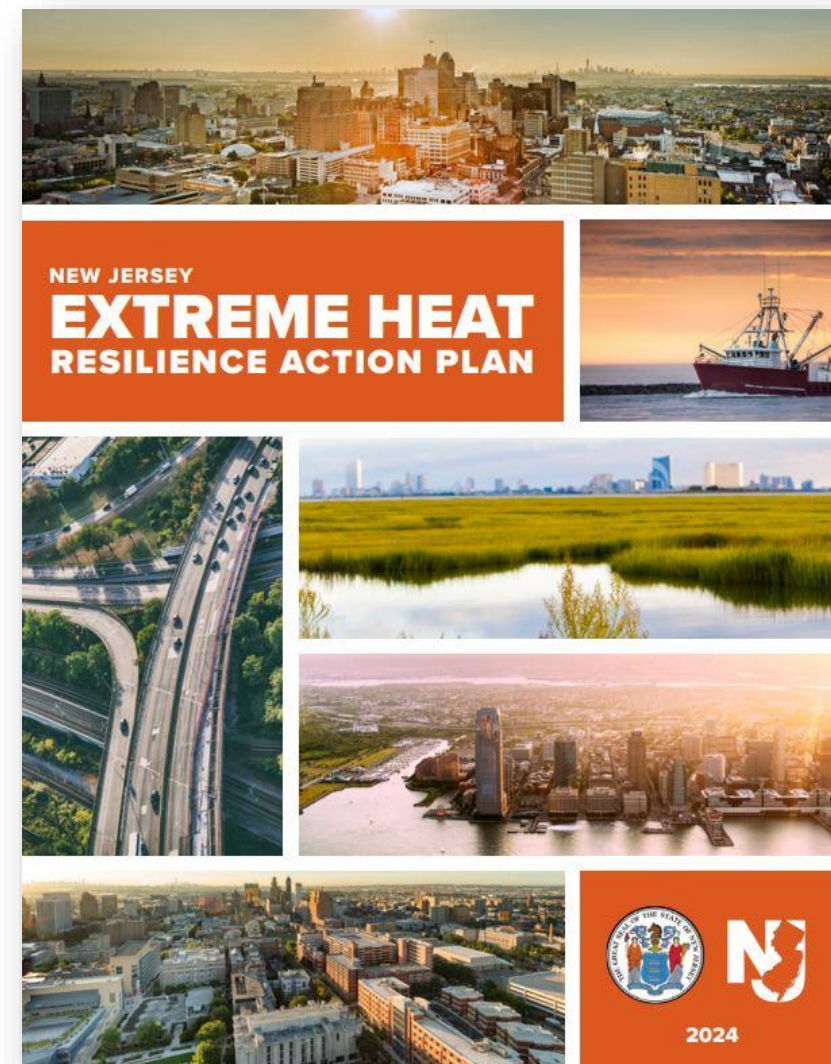


CLIMATE RESILIENCE STRATEGY IN ACTION



The Interagency Council on Climate Resilience has been working to address extreme heat in several ways:

- **Extreme Heat Resilience Action Plan** (2024)
 - Interim report of actions underway (2023)
- Expansion of **Heat Hub NJ** and other heat communications
 - heathub.nj.gov
- Extreme heat webinar series
 - Previous topics:
 - **Has it always been this Hot in NJ?**
 - **What does a hotter NJ mean for our health?**
 - Recordings available on Heat Hub NJ



SOME RECENT ACTIVITIES

IAC Workgroups...

...are tasked with the development and production of priority IAC deliverables

- **Executing IAC Outreach & Engagement Strategy**
- **Extreme Heat Coordinated Communications**
- **Vulnerability Assessments**

Ongoing Education & Outreach...

...efforts are comprised for various approaches for engaging the public and key stakeholders to prioritize needs and wants of New Jerseyans

- **Publications**
- **Social Media**
- **Heat Hub NJ**
- **Surveys**
- **Listening Sessions**
- **Member Agency Profiles**
- **Newsletter**



NJ INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON CLIMATE RESILIENCE: MEMBER AGENCY PROFILE
HIGHLANDS COUNCIL

The **Highlands Council** collaborates with municipalities and counties to implement the **Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act (2004)**. Covering about 1,300 square miles across 88 municipalities in Northern New Jersey, the Highlands region supplies drinking water to over 7 million residents. The Highlands Act established the Highlands Council and directed it to create a **regional master plan** designed to protect the region's natural, cultural, and agricultural resources while ensuring a sustainable economy.

Agency Resilience Program in Action

When the **Highlands Act** was passed, it wasn't seen as a climate change mitigation measure. However, over time, the role of the Highlands region in addressing climate challenges has become evident. The natural resources of the Highlands region are among the best assets the state has for addressing a changing climate. Ecosystem services range from ensuring a clean drinking water supply to flood and heat-related hazard mitigation provided by forests and wetlands to supporting agricultural production in the region. Environmental protection of the Highlands region is essential to the state's climate resilience.

More than 70% of New Jersey's residents get some or all of their drinking water from the New Jersey Highlands.

Brought to you by
NJ Interagency Council on Climate Resilience



Recognizing that effective stormwater management is critical to maintaining water quality, the Highlands Council allocated nearly \$1 million of its grant budget to help municipalities meet **new stormwater permit requirements** and continues to consider funding requests.

Since 2020, the Highlands Council has allocated over \$2.5 million in funding to **Lake and Watershed Restoration Planning** to enhance water quality and resilience to severe storms.

The Council is actively engaged with the farming community to help ensure long-term economic viability of the industry. The Council's **Sustainable Agriculture grant program** funds initiatives to promote sustainable farming practices in the Highlands.

The Highlands Council is developing **climate resilience guidance and a grant program** to help municipalities implement climate change.

NEW JERSEY EXTREME HEAT RESILIENCE ACTION PLAN

Find the Webinar Registration and Public Comment & Suggestions Form (due May 20th):
dep.nj.gov/climatechange/resilience/resilience-action-plans/

Learn more at our virtual webinars:
Monday April 29th | 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Tuesday May 7th | 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm



NJ's **Interagency Council** on Climate Resilience asks:

What does a hotter NJ mean for our health?



2024 Annual NJ League of Municipalities Conference

Wednesday, November 20th, 2024



"What's the IAC Working on These Days?" Plenary Panel & Listening Session

Nathaly Agosto Filión

*New Jersey Chief Climate Resilience Officer
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection*

Sarah Friend

*Environmental Specialist
New Jersey Highlands Council*

Pamela Garrett

*Director, Division of Environmental Resources
New Jersey Department of Transportation*

Donna Rendeiro

*Executive Director, Office of Planning Advocacy
New Jersey Department of State*



**What would you like to see state agencies
do more/less?**

**rt
silience**

**state
xt five
verall**

For more information, visit resiliencecouncil.nj.gov



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Listening Session "Corners"

Pamela Garrett

Bill McBride

Infrastructure (Priority 1)

Donna Rendeiro

Lisa Avichal

Justin Baker

Communities (Priority 1)

Sarah Friend

Christine Schell

Ecosystems (Priority 2)

Nathaly Agosto Filión

Shamay Phillips

Interagency Coordination &
Financing (Priorities 3 & 5)





REGULATORY UPDATES:

INLAND FLOOD PROTECTION RULE RESILIENT ENVIRONMENTS and LANDSCAPES

The IFPR and REAL modernize New Jersey's environmental land use rules to respond to climate change by considering risks such as sea-level rise, chronic flooding, and changes in precipitation patterns.

Using the best available data is critical to protecting New Jersey's assets, economy and, above all, our people from the catastrophic effects of worsening floods.

More information on IFPR: dep.nj.gov/inland-flood-protection-rule

More information on REAL: dep.nj.gov/njreal