

IOWA

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS



Extreme heat, drought, and inland flooding have already impacted Iowa, and pose growing challenges to many aspects of life. Human health, crop yields, and ecosystems will be increasingly compromised.

ALREADY OBSERVED CHANGES

ANTICIPATED FUTURE CHANGES

RISKS TO SOCIETY



Winter temperatures in Iowa have warmed **over 4 °F** on average since the 1970s.

Summers in the Ohio Valley have warmed by as much as **2 °F** over the same time period.

By midcentury, Iowa may experience **8 times as many dangerous heat days** per year.

Summers in Des Moines are projected to be **11 °F hotter** by the end of the century.

The number of **heat wave days** in Iowa are projected to increase by **50 days per year** by 2050.

Mosquito season in Davenport, IA is currently almost a month longer than in the 1980s.

Iowa has almost **70,000 people** especially vulnerable to extreme heat.



Iowa's severity of widespread summer drought is currently below average compared to other states.

By 2050, the severity of **widespread summer drought** in Iowa is projected to increase by 70%.

Rapid increases in air and water temperature and increasing drought risk will likely accelerate the rate of **species declines and extinctions** in the Midwest.



Heavy downpour events in Iowa have **increased by 28%** on average since 1950.

Heavy downpour events in Des Moines have **increased by 86%** on average since 1950.

By 2050, Iowa's **inland flooding threat** is projected to increase by about 20%.

A 100-year flood in the Cedar River Basin is projected to be **4 times as likely** by the end of the century.

More than **150,000 people** in Iowa are currently living in **flood-prone areas**.

For sources of information, please visit: www.edf.org/climateimpactsources
*Anticipated future changes are for scenarios without climate action



EXPECTED DAMAGES

IN IOWA BY 2100
WITHOUT CLIMATE ACTION

- 25 counties, home to about 1.5 million people, will experience a 35-45% decrease in crop yields.
- 40 counties, home to about 1.7 million people, will experience about a 10% increase in energy expenditures.