

**STATE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INDICATORS COLLABORATIVE (SEHIC)
CLIMATE CHANGE INDICATORS**

Indicator: CC6: Policy Indicators

Measure(s): CC6.5: Development of a Climate Change Action Plan

MEASURE: Development of a State Climate Change Action Plan

Last updated:	April 24, 2010
Measurement units:	Yes
Geographic scale:	Statewide
Time scale:	Periodic. At the time of creation of this How-To guide the information was current as of August 2009 for states and March 18, 2010 for cities.
Significance/background:	A climate change action plan forms the framework for policies and programs aimed at mitigation and adaptation. Early action plans often focused exclusively on mitigation interventions such as increasing energy efficiency and renewable energy sources. However, recent action plans, particularly at the state level, have started to incorporate public health as both a research and a policy item.
Rationale:	Whether or not a state/locality has created a climate change advisory action plan is a strong indicator of whether or not that jurisdiction has identified public policy priorities for climate change mitigation and adaptation.
Limitations:	This indicator does not include the next level of detail: namely, is public health included and is it a priority?
Data resources:	EPA: http://www.epa.gov/statelocalclimate/
Data limitations:	The data is provided in a text list. It does not compare attributes of the topics tasked of advisory boards, complicating comparisons across states.
Related SEHIC measures:	CC 1.1: Greenhouse Gas Emissions CC 1.2: Air Mass Stagnation Events CC 1.3: Ozone due to Climate Change CC 1.4: Maximum and Minimum Temperatures/Heat Index CC 1.5: Increase in Heat Alerts/Warnings CC 1.6: Pollen Counts CC 1.7: Frequency, Severity, Distribution, and Duration of Wildfires CC 1.8: Droughts CC 1.9: Harmful Algal Blooms CC 2.1: Excess Mortality due to Extreme Heat CC 2.2: Excess Morbidity due to Extreme Heat CC 2.3: Number of Injuries/Mortality from Extreme Weather Events CC 2.4: Human Cases of Infectious Disease/Positive Test Results in Sentinels and Reservoirs

	CC 2.5: Respiratory/Allergic Disease and Mortality Related to Increased Air Pollution and Pollens CC 3.1: Population Vulnerability or General Social Vulnerability CC 3.2: Heat Vulnerability CC 3.3: Flood Vulnerability CC 3.4: Sea Level Rise Vulnerability CC 4.1: Total Energy Consumption per Capita CC 4.2: Renewable Energy Generation per Capita CC 4.3: Vehicle Miles Traveled per Capita CC 5.1: Development of State Adaptation Plan CC 5.2: Access to Cooling Centers CC 5.3: Number of Heat Alerts, Heat Health Watch/Warning Systems CC 5.4: Number of Municipal Heat Island Mitigation Projects and Plans CC 5.5: Number of Health Surveillance Systems Related to Climate Change CC 6.1. Number, Percent, and Percent of Population of Local Governments Participating in ICLEI CC 6.2 Number, Percent, and Percent of Population Living in Cities Participating in the U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement CC 6.3: Creation of a State Climate Change Advisory Board CC 6.4 Completion of a Greenhouse Gas Inventory
Recommendations:	Visit the website for the climate change action plans in your state and note whether or not public health priorities are included. If they are included, have the been implemented?

HOW-TO GUIDE: Development of a Climate Change Action Plan

State Climate Change Action Plans

1. Go to the U.S. EPA State and Local Climate and Energy Program website:
<http://www.epa.gov/statelocalclimate/>
2. Select “State & Regional Climate Policy Tracking” in the “State” category.
3. Select “Climate Change Action Plan” under the “State Planning and Incentive Structures” subtitle.
4. On the map on this website, on the map titled Climate Change Action Plan, if your state is shaded green then it has completed a climate change action plan. At the time of creation of this How-To guide the information was current as of August 2009.

Local Climate Change Action Plans

1. Go to the U.S. EPA State and Local Climate and Energy Program website:
<http://www.epa.gov/statelocalclimate/>
2. Select “Local.”
3. Select “Developing an Action Plan” from “Local Government Activities.”
4. Click on the map to link to a webpage with a listing of the states where local climate change action plans have been implemented.
5. Click on the two-letter abbreviation for your state to view the number of completed action plans, a synopsis of each plan, and links to those plans’ websites, if applicable.