

# Heat Impacts: Vulnerable Populations



## PREGNANT

Extreme heat events have been associated with adverse birth outcomes such as low birth weight, preterm birth, infant mortality, and congenital cataracts.



## NEWBORNS

Newborns are extra sensitive to heat because their ability to regulate body temperature is limited.



## CHILDREN

Young children and infants are particularly vulnerable to heat, as their bodies are less able to adapt to heat than adults. Those under four are especially vulnerable.



## ELDERLY

Older adults, especially those who have preexisting diseases, take certain medications, live alone or have limited mobility are at higher risk for heat illness.



## CHRONIC ILLNESS

People with chronic medical conditions are more likely to have a serious health problem during a heat wave.

Source:

*The Impacts of Climate Change on Human Health in the United States, A Scientific Assessment (U.S. Global Changes Research Program)*

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