

# Heat, health, & power outages in NYC

- In NYC, ~370 deaths from chronic conditions caused by heat every year
- Primary risk – hot, un-air-conditioned homes
- Impacts can be exacerbated by hot weather power outages

More information: NYC heat mortality report:  
<https://nyccas.cityofnewyork.us/nyccas2022/report/1>

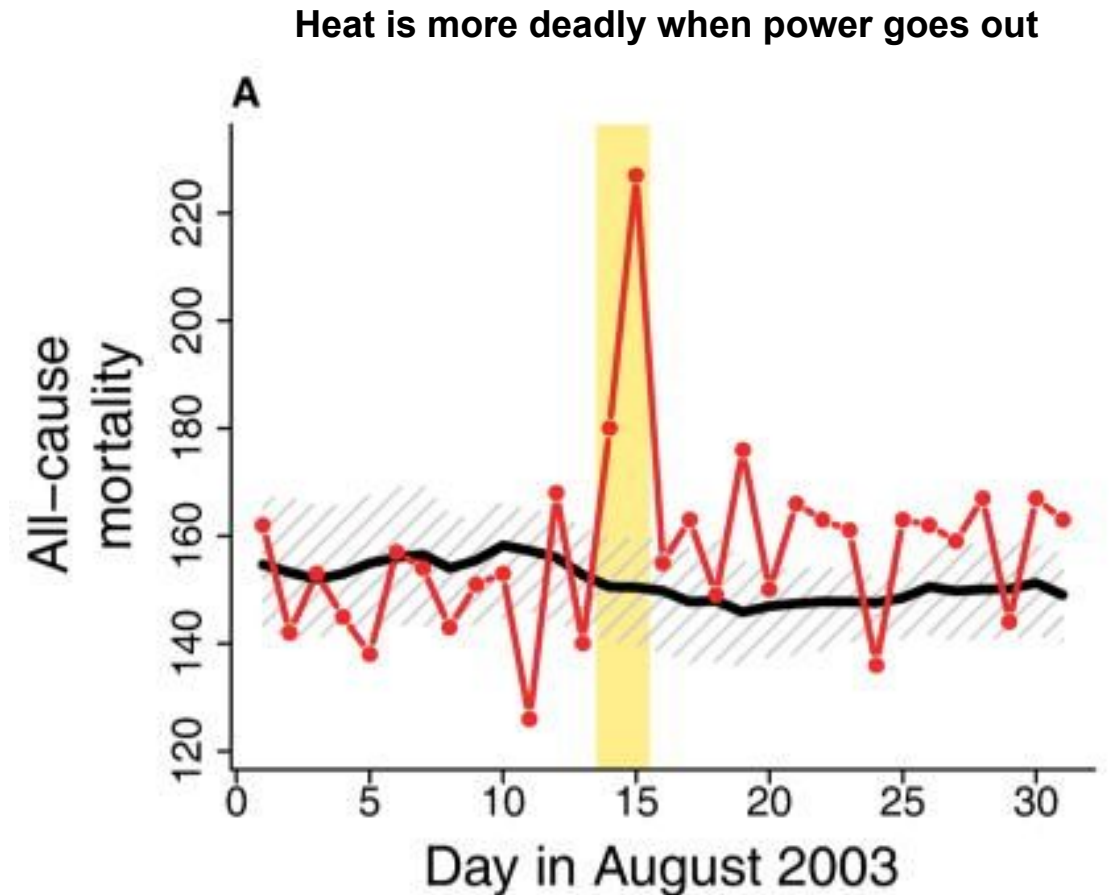
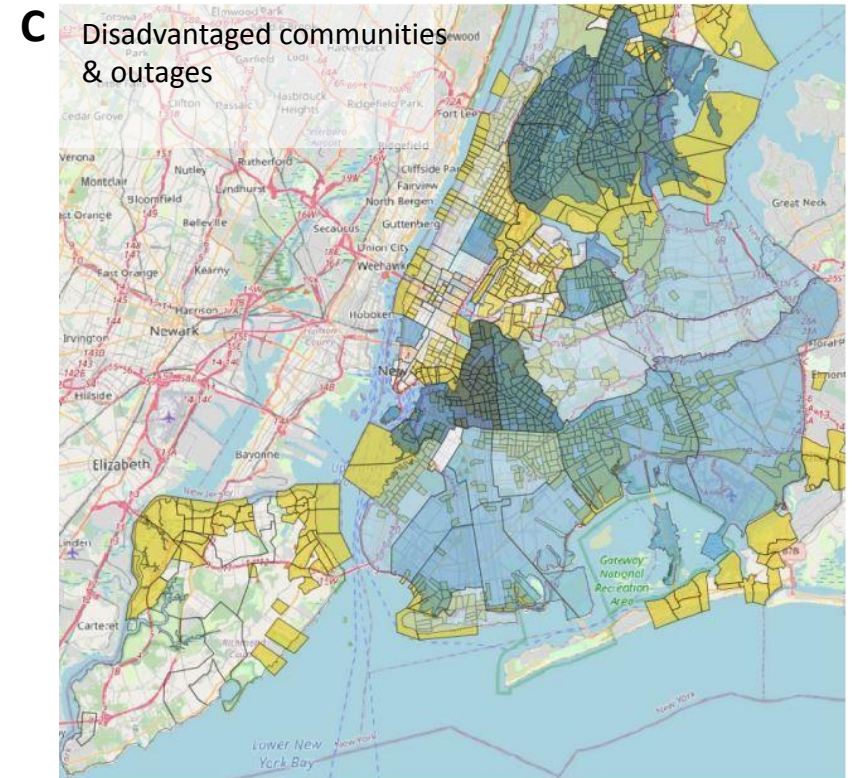
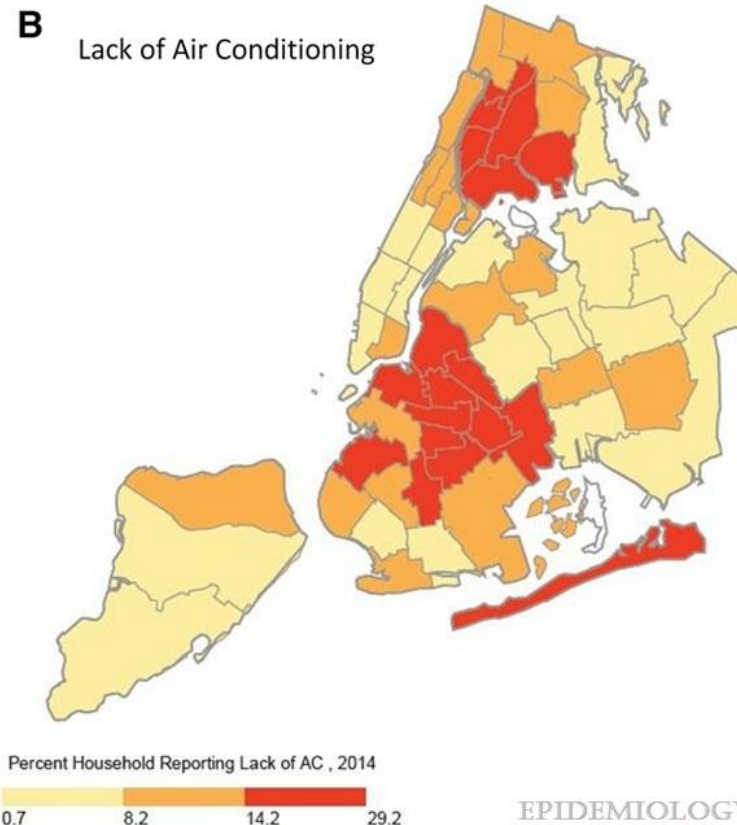
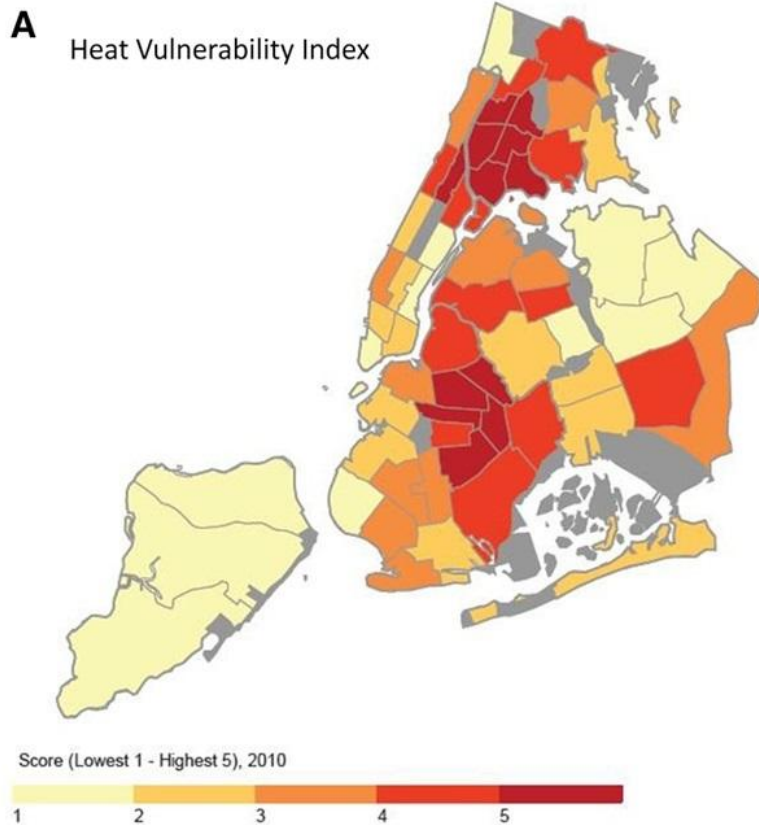


Figure: Anderson GB, Bell ML. Lights out: impact of the August 2003 power outage on mortality in New York, NY. *Epidemiology*. 2012 Mar;23(2):189-93.

# Heat impacts health inequitably via inability to pay for AC & energy, power outages



EPIDEMIOLOGY

A) HVI includes percent non-Latinx Black, percent public assistance, surface temperature, and tree cover, based on Madrigano et al. 2015. B) Lack of air conditioning from 2014 New York City Housing and Vacancy Survey. Source: Ito, Lane, Olson, 2018. C) Disadvantaged communities identified by the Climate Justice Working Group (yellow) overlaid with Con Edison networks with the most outage incidents or most customers affected by outages (blue) from 2017 to 2021. Source: NYC Policy Panel Testimony to NYS PSC for Case 22-E-0064 & Case 22-G-0065, May 2022.

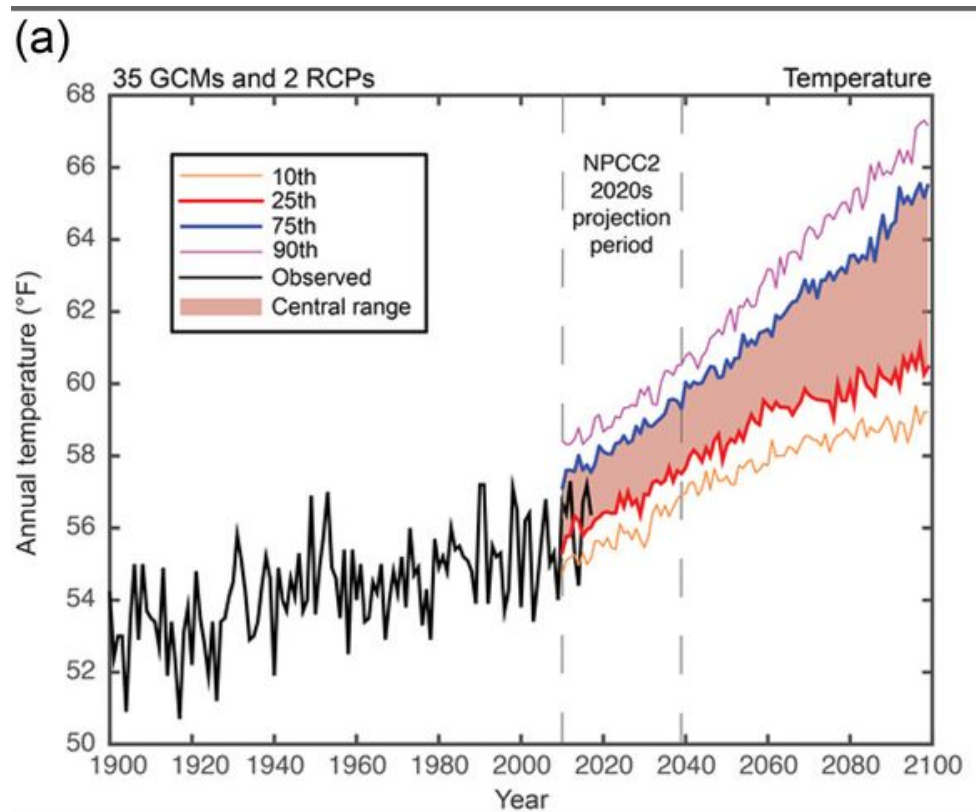
# Challenges

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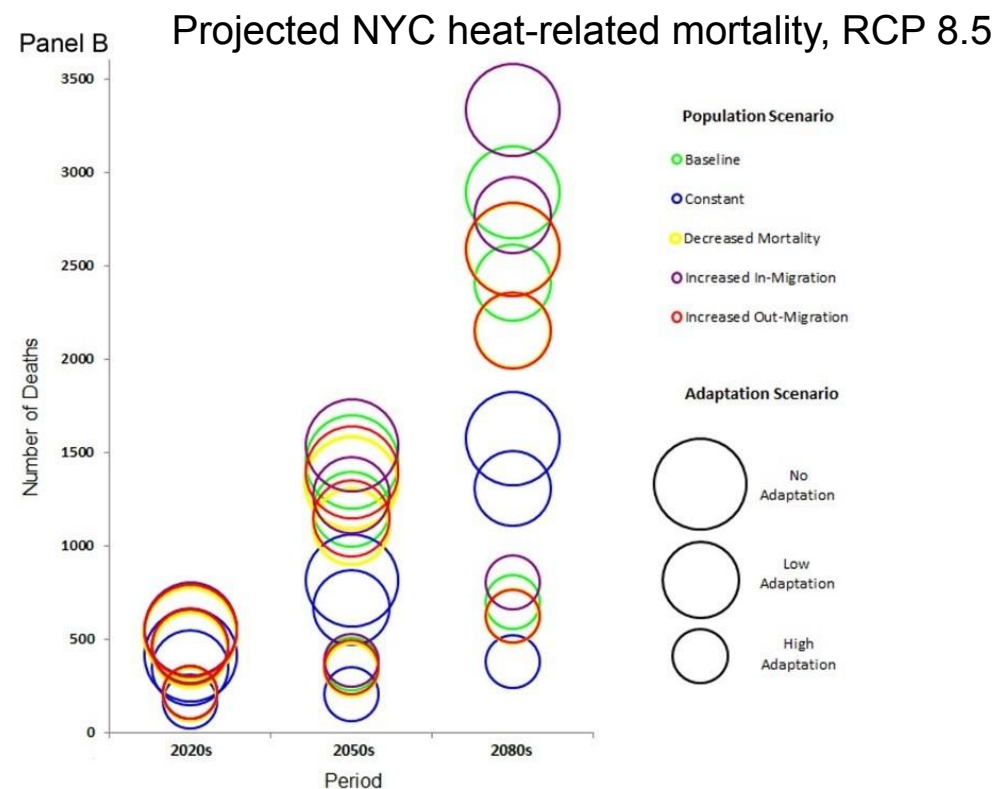
- Energy costs are unaffordable for many New Yorkers
  - Existing low-income assistance also does not reach all who need it
- Grid reliability in environmental justice communities
  - Lack of power outage data, information on resilience investments

# Benefits

- Adaptation to a warmer future, improved equity, avoided deaths



Source: New York City Panel on Climate Change report, 2019



Source: Petkova EP et al. Environ Health Perspect. 2017 Jan;125(1):47-55. doi: 10.1289/EHP166.

# Final statement

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Regarding Health, Energy and Equity for NYC, a critical action to collectively take in the 12 months is to find sustainable ways to reduce energy prices for low- and middle-income New Yorkers.