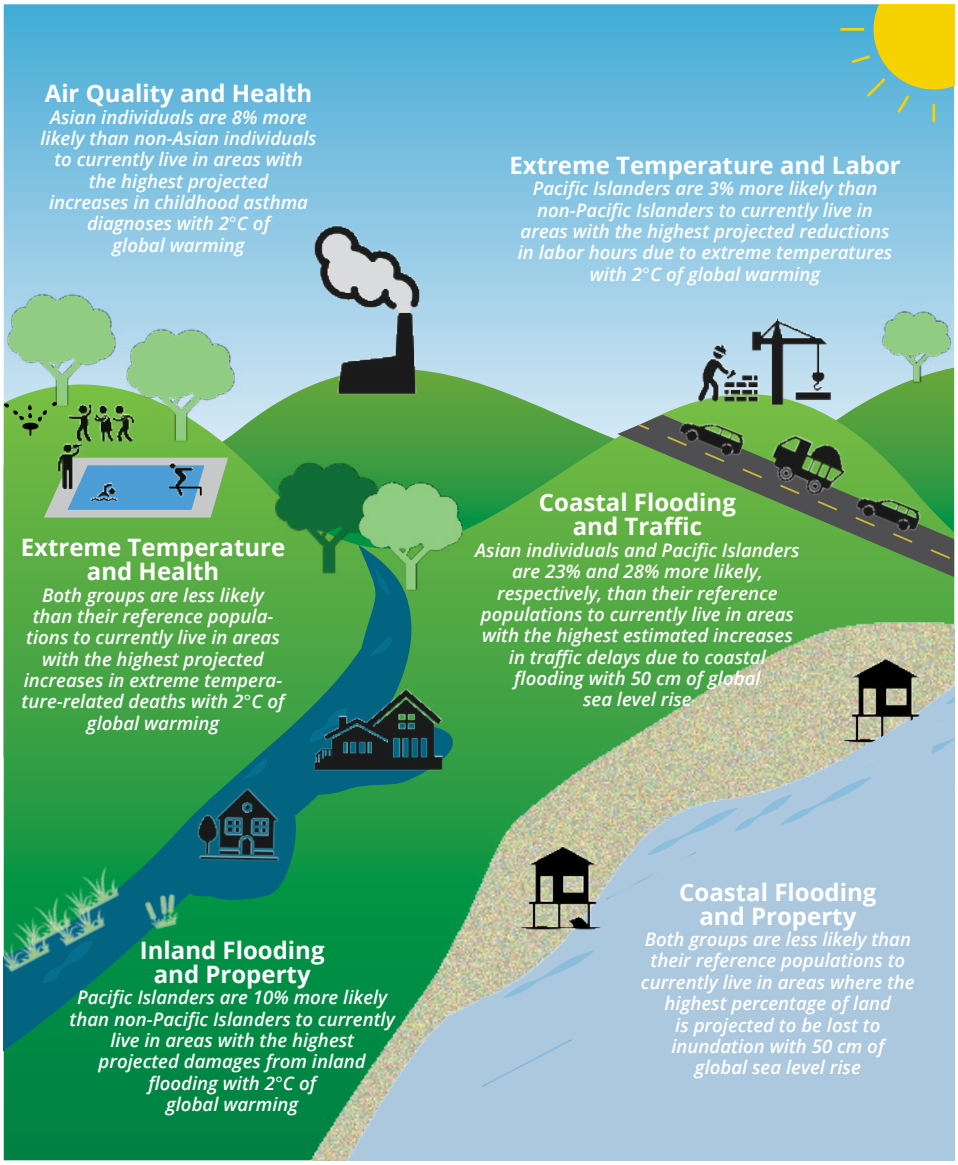
Findings on Disproportionate Risks of Climate Change to Asian Individuals and Pacific Islanders

This is a one-page summary of findings from EPA's report Climate Change and Social Vulnerability in the United States: A Focus on Six Impacts related to disproportionate risks of climate change to Asian individuals and Pacific Islanders. The report estimates the disproportionate risks to socially vulnerable populations (defined based on age, income, education, race, and ethnicity) associated with six impact categories shown in the figure.

Risks are calculated for each socially vulnerable group relative to its "reference population" (all individuals outside of each group) for scenarios with 2°C of global warming of 50 cm of sea level rise. The estimated risks are based on current demographic distributions in the contiguous United States.

The report finds that Asian individuals are more likely than their reference population to currently live in areas with the highest projected increases in childhood asthma diagnoses from climate-driven changes in $PM_{2.5}$. Pacific Islanders are found to be more likely than their reference population to currently live in areas with the highest projected labor hour losses for weather-exposed workers due to extreme temperatures and the highest damages from inland flooding. Both Asian individuals and Pacific Islanders are found to be more likely than their reference populations to currently live in areas with the highest projected increases in traffic delays associated with high-tide flooding.



This report estimates risks to Asian individuals and Pacific Islanders living in the contiguous United States. Results are based on current demographic distributions and projected changes in climate hazards.

For more information, please refer to the report and accompanying appendices.