

NPCC 2013 Climate Projections

Chronic Hazards		Baseline (1971-2000)	2020s		2050s	
			Middle Range (25th - 75th percentile)	High End (90th percentile)	Middle Range (25th - 75th percentile)	High End (90th percentile)
Average Temperature		54 °F	+2.0 to 3.0 °F	+3.0 °F	+4.0 to 5.5 °F	6.5 °F
Precipitation		50.1 in.	+0 to 10%	+10%	+5 to 10%	+15%
Sea Level Rise¹		0	+4 to 8 in.	+11 in.	+11 to 24 in.	+31 in.

Extreme Events		Baseline (1971-2000)	2020s		2050s	
			Middle Range (25th - 75th percentile)	High End (90th percentile)	Middle Range (25th - 75th percentile)	High End (90th percentile)
Heat Waves and Cold Events	Number of days per year at or above 90°F	18	26 to 31	33	39 to 52	57
	Number of heat waves per year	2	3 to 4	4	5 to 7	7
	Average duration (days)	4	5	5	5 to 6	6
	Number of days per year at or below 32°F	72	52 to 58	60	42 to 48	52
Intense Precipitation	Days per year with rainfall exceeding 2 inches	3	3 to 4	5	4	5
Coastal Floods at the Battery¹	Future annual frequency of today's 100-year flood	1.0%	1.2% to 1.5%	1.7%	1.7% to 3.2%	5.0%
	Flood heights from a 100-year flood (feet above NAVD88)	15.0	15.3 to 15.7	15.8	15.9 to 17.0	17.6

Source: NPCC; for more details, see *Climate Risk Information 2013*.

¹ Baseline period for sea level rise projections is 2000-2004.

Like all projections, the NPCC climate projections have uncertainty embedded within them. Sources of uncertainty include data and modeling constraints, the random nature of some parts of the climate system, and limited understanding of some physical processes. The NPCC characterizes levels of uncertainty using state-of-the-art climate models, multiple scenarios of future greenhouse gas concentrations, and recent peer-reviewed literature. Even so, the projections are not true probabilities, and the potential for error should be acknowledged.