



HIDDEN HAZARDS: The Impacts of Climate Change on Incarcerated People in California State Prisons

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Produced by Master of Public Policy Graduate Students from the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs on behalf of the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights

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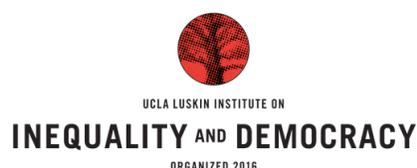
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01

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

California is at the forefront of climate change. In the last ten years, the Golden State has experienced large-scale wildfires, surging temperatures, and devastating flooding, among other climate hazards, that have caused harm to human health and the natural environment.¹ This series of climate hazards has made it evident that the effects of climate change will continue to intensify, have the greatest impact on already vulnerable populations, and, most critically, the California carceral system is not prepared to respond to climate hazards in or near prisons.²

On behalf of our client, the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, our research project sought to understand what policy alternatives can reduce the impact of climate hazards on those incarcerated in California state prisons.

Through a mixed methods approach, using interviews with experts, a survey of people incarcerated in California state prisons, and a spatial analysis, we concluded that incarcerated people face unique challenges during climate hazards and thus must be included in any measure of vulnerability to ensure their safety and well-being.

Our key findings are outlined below:

- Incarcerated people are distinctly vulnerable to climate hazards because they are entirely reliant upon CDCR for preparedness, response, and recovery.³
- CDCR prisons are highly susceptible to climate hazards because they are located in or near remote areas, have an aging infrastructure and population, and are overcrowded. As of January 2023, CDCR operated 34 prison facilities at 108.5% of its design capacity.⁴
- CDCR provides the legislature and the public minimal information on its emergency preparedness. Furthermore, CDCR’s Department Operations Manual (DOM) describes evacuations in a limited way and details the agency’s procedures for fires and earthquakes so narrowly that it leaves many questions on how CDCR will keep people safe.⁵ The DOM also does not mention flooding, wildfires, or extreme temperatures, suggesting no emergency planning for these hazards has occurred.
- Lastly, other state carceral systems have failed to keep incarcerated people safe during a climate hazard. Our findings suggest California’s carceral emergency management system is set up to do the same.

Given these findings, we developed the following set of recommendations to reduce the impact of climate hazards on people incarcerated in California state prisons:

1. Reduce the size of the incarcerated population by 50,000 with a focus on people 50 years or older and those who are most vulnerable.

2. Create and implement rapid release policies during times of emergency.

3. Close prisons most vulnerable to climate hazards.

4. Update the State of California emergency plan to recognize the vulnerability of incarcerated people

5. Create minimum standards for emergency plans and require CDCR to develop a bi-annual report defining the protocol and resources on-hand to carry out these plans.

6. Require CDCR to produce an annual report on the number of climate hazards experienced at CDCR prison facilities.

7. Reallocate funding from CDCR’s existing budget to expand heating, air conditioning, ventilation, shade structures, and backup generators.

8. Expand emergency preparedness training for staff and incarcerated people.



02

INTRODUCTION



"We feel hopeless and understand [that] if anything happens, we are out of luck. We witness[ed] it during the Covid-19, when [Correctional Officers] just lock themself in the office and keep us locked down. We've seen how chaos would work in here, and [it's] not in our best interest."

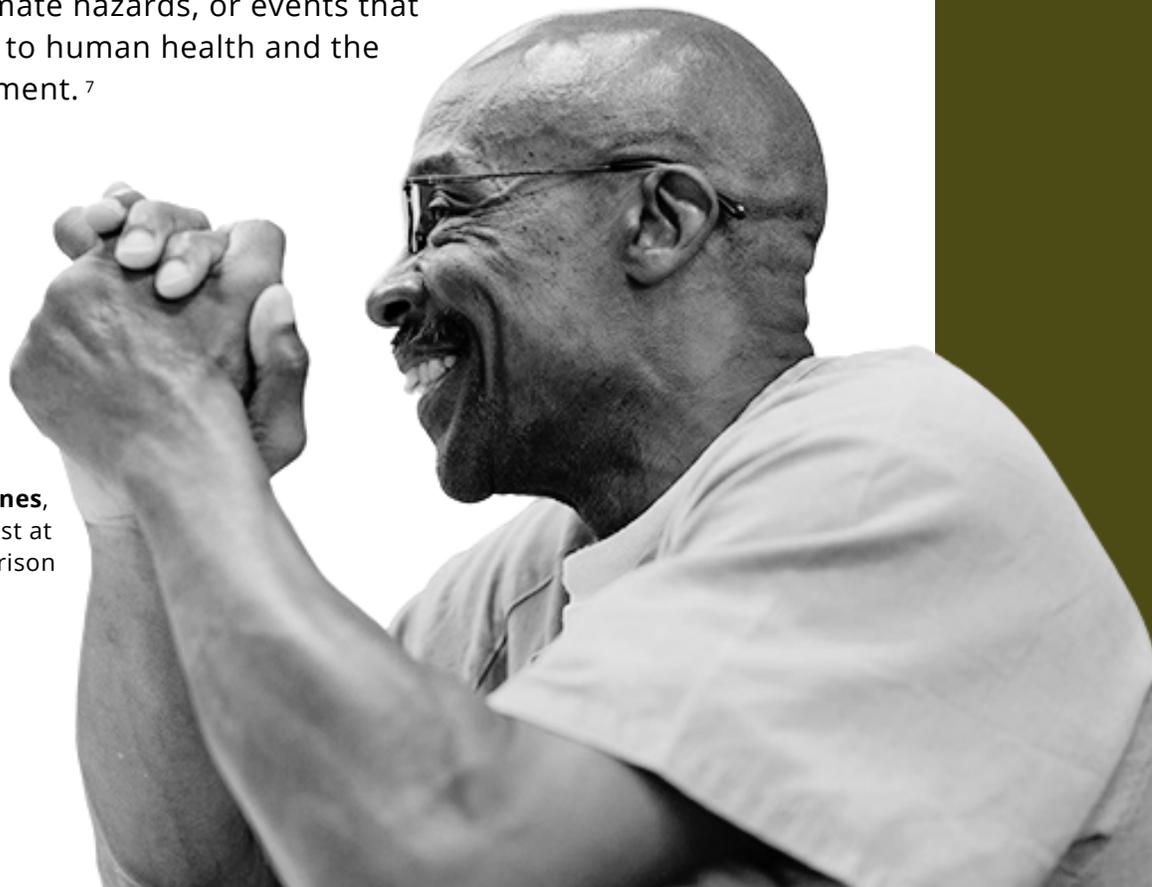
*- Survey Respondent
from Ironwood State Prison*

Juan Moreno Haines is an incarcerated journalist at San Quentin State Prison and one of nearly 100,000 people incarcerated in the State of California. He recently wrote in an op-ed, “Climate change isn’t arriving, it’s already happening. Those warnings have sounded for years. But for the 2.3 million of us in [U.S.] prisons and jails, the impacts are more severe as we face overcrowded and architecturally flawed housing units that jeopardize our health and well-being.”⁶

Much of the discourse on climate change and the resulting climate hazards focuses on impacts on those in the free world; very little research has been done, however, on how we can keep those who are incarcerated, some of the most vulnerable people to the effects of climate change, safe. Our report seeks to uplift the voices and experiences of people incarcerated by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and provide policy solutions that ensure their health and wellness is at the core of any response to climate hazards in California state prisons.

As Juan Moreno Haines wrote, climate change is already here. Over the last decade, the Golden State has experienced a number of climate hazards, or events that can cause harm to human health and the natural environment.⁷

Juan Moreno Haines,
Incarcerated Journalist at
San Quentin State Prison



Some of these climate hazards are outlined below.

- Eight of the ten warmest years on record occurred between 2012 and 2022.⁸
- In August 2020, the LNU Lightning Complex Fire hit Northern California, burning 192,000 acres, killing 6 people, and destroying 1,491 buildings. At the time of containment, the fire was the fourth-largest wildfire in California's history.⁹
- During the 2020 wildfire season, smoke plumes were seen in every county in California for at least 46 days.¹⁰
- The 2022 10-day summer heat wave was the longest and worst heat wave ever recorded in the state's history.¹¹ During this heat wave, temperatures surged to 125 degrees fahrenheit in Death Valley while temperatures in cities with historically mild climates, such as San Francisco, surpassed 100 degrees.¹²
- In January 2023, Governor Gavin Newsom declared a State of Emergency after a series of heavy rain storms led to intense flooding, causing large-scale power outages and forcing many California residents to evacuate their homes.¹³
- In March 2023, floods in the prison and farming town of Corcoran put the community underwater. Incarcerated people in two state prison facilities were on the verge of needing to be evacuated.¹⁴



This series of climate hazards have made several policy issues more evident. First, as climate change intensifies, California will experience more frequent extreme weather and climate hazards, including extreme heat and cold, wildfires, and floods.¹⁵ Second, climate hazards will have the greatest impact on already vulnerable populations, including people with underlying health conditions and minimal financial resources.¹⁶ Lastly, state and local agencies are significantly unprepared to respond to climate hazards in and near prisons.

We can no longer view these hazards as one-off incidents but part of a larger story of climate change. It is time for the California state government to put a plan in place to keep some of our most vulnerable community members safe during climate hazards.

Our report seeks to:

1. Understand the risks that incarcerated people in California state prisons face as climate change related hazards such as wildfires, floods, and extreme temperatures, accelerate.
2. Put forth policy solutions that protect taxpayer interests, keep incarcerated people safe, and ensure our government institutions are held accountable.

OUR RESEARCH QUESTION

What policy alternatives can reduce the impact of climate hazards on those incarcerated in California state prisons?

03

ASSESSING VULNERABILITY & RISK



"CDCR is notorious for being reactive, not proactive. Covid 19 was/is a prime example."

- Survey Respondent from
California Medical Facility (CMF)

CALIFORNIA STATE PRISON POPULATION PROFILE

Number of Incarcerated People
(as of early 2023): **92,606**¹⁸

Cost of One Year of Incarceration
to the State: **\$106,000**¹⁹

VULNERABILITY TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Percent of Incarcerated People
Over 55: **16%**²⁰

Elderly Parole Program Release
Rate: **19%**²¹

Percentage of People in State
Prisons receiving Mental Health
Treatment: **29%**²²

OUR CLIENT

Our client, the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, is an Oakland-based advocacy organization with a statewide reach that focuses on shifting resources away from prisons and punishment towards opportunities that make communities safer, healthier, and stronger.¹⁷ This shift means reducing the number of people entering the criminal-legal system through preventative approaches, parole and sentencing reform, and reducing the use of incarceration as the primary response to harm.

Our client believes the cost savings from reduced incarceration should be reinvested into education, healthcare, housing, employment, and other strategies that build strong communities.



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***BROWN V. PLATA* DECISION: OVERCROWDING & PRISON CONDITIONS**

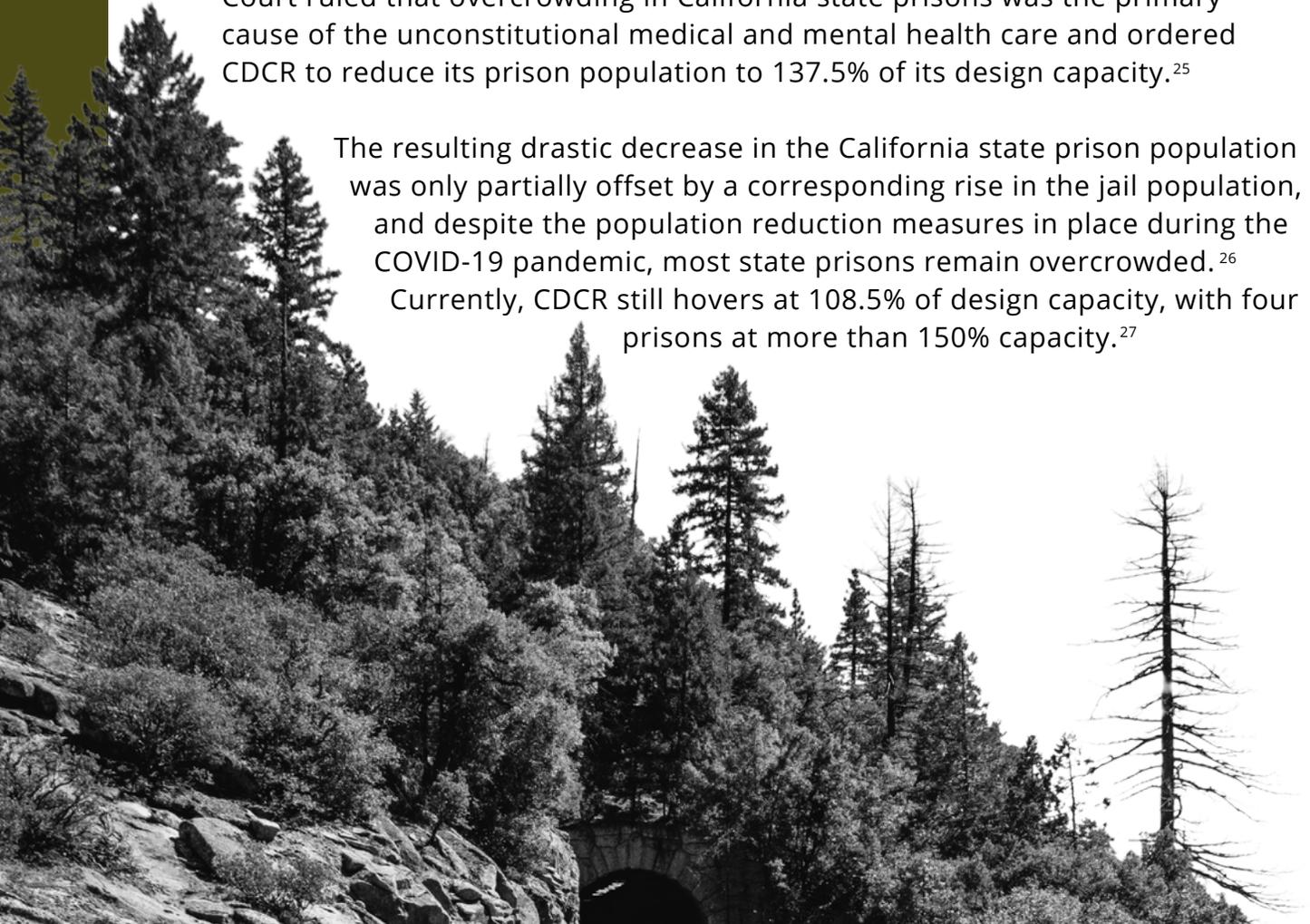
In the *Plata v. Newsom* case filed in 2001, CDCR was found to provide substandard medical care to people in its custody in violation of their constitutional rights. This systemic failure was largely due to massive overcrowding. California had the largest prison population in the United States for decades, a vestige from the tough on crime and three-strikes law era. In 2006, the prison population peaked with more than 165,000 people incarcerated for a system designed to house only 85,000.²³

Inadequate access to healthcare within CDCR also led to an average of 64 preventable deaths every year. As a result, U.S. District Court Judge Thelton Henderson, in the *Plata* case, placed CDCR under a receivership in 2006 and moved its healthcare system to a new entity, the California Correctional Health Care Services (CCHCS).²⁴

That remedy proved insufficient to address the serious deficiencies in medical care. A few years later, a three judge panel ordered the agency to reduce its population by 44,000, but this decision was put on hold as the case went to the Supreme Court. In 2011, in a decision known as *Brown v. Plata*, the Supreme Court ruled that overcrowding in California state prisons was the primary cause of the unconstitutional medical and mental health care and ordered CDCR to reduce its prison population to 137.5% of its design capacity.²⁵

The resulting drastic decrease in the California state prison population was only partially offset by a corresponding rise in the jail population, and despite the population reduction measures in place during the COVID-19 pandemic, most state prisons remain overcrowded.²⁶

Currently, CDCR still hovers at 108.5% of design capacity, with four prisons at more than 150% capacity.²⁷



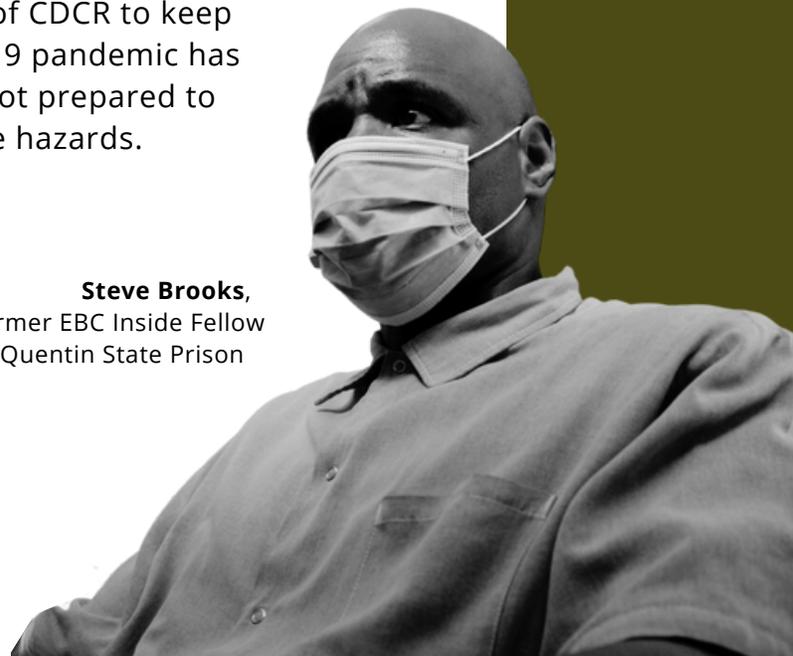
COVID-19: A CASE STUDY ON CDCR'S DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

CDCR's initial response to COVID-19 was slow, followed by a series of missteps. Most notably, in June 2020, CDCR transferred 121 COVID-19 infected individuals to San Quentin State Prison (SQSP). This transfer led to the notorious San Quentin Outbreak, where 75% of the prison population became infected. The massive outbreak quickly became the largest COVID-19 outbreak in any U.S. prison.²⁸ Not only were people inside the prison affected but also the surrounding communities, as half of the beds in local hospitals were filled with patients from SQSP.²⁹

Shortly after, hundreds of incarcerated people in SQSP filed habeas corpus petitions seeking release and other remedies. Judges responded to these requests by approving transfers rather than releases, ultimately putting incarcerated people at further risk of infection. In November 2021, a Marin Court Superior Judge ruled that CDCR had inflicted cruel and unusual punishment on people incarcerated in SQSP for failing to keep them safe.³⁰ Unfortunately, this was too little too late. The ruling did not mandate releases or other remedies, and came months after releases were made available to the general incarcerated population.

As of April 2023, CDCR has reported 260 COVID-19 deaths.³¹ Some speculate that prisons across the country underreported COVID-19 deaths as some people were either released before passing away and or their death was attributed to other causes.³² Former Ella Baker Center Inside Fellow, Steve Brooks, who is currently incarcerated in SQSP, suspects that the deaths from Long COVID-19 are not counted among COVID-related deaths.³³ The inability of CDCR to keep incarcerated people safe during the COVID-19 pandemic has brought about concerns that the agency is not prepared to respond to any emergency, including climate hazards.

Steve Brooks,
Former EBC Inside Fellow
at San Quentin State Prison



CLIMATE HAZARDS & CLIMATE RISK

For the purpose of this report, we adopted the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) definitions of climate hazard and climate risk, seen in Table 1 below.

TABLE 1. IPCC's definitions of climate hazard and climate risk.

TERM	DEFINITION
Climate Hazard	"The potential occurrence of a natural or human-induced physical event or trend that may cause loss of life, injury, or other health impacts, as well as damage and loss to property, infrastructure, livelihoods, service provision, ecosystems and environmental resources." ³⁴
Climate Risk	"The potential for adverse consequences for human or ecological systems...risks can arise from potential impacts of climate change as well as human responses to climate change. Relevant adverse consequences include those on lives, livelihoods, health and well-being, economic, social and cultural assets and investments, infrastructure, services (including ecosystem services), ecosystems and species." ³⁵

Climate risks result from the interaction between climate hazards and the unique vulnerability of the community, human system, or ecological system. Climate hazards *become* climate risks because of their potential for harm, opening up the opportunity for policies that mitigate risk. Throughout our report, we refer to climate hazards with the intent of highlighting the risks that emerge when climate hazards interact with CDCR's inadequate policies and inaction.

The specific climate hazards we focus on are extreme heat, extreme cold, flooding, and wildfires. Each climate hazard is described in detail in Table 2.

TABLE 2. Defining extreme heat, extreme cold, flooding, and wildfires.

TERM	DEFINITION
Extreme Heat	A heat wave, which is “a period of abnormally hot weather, often defined with reference to a relative temperature threshold, lasting from two days to months.” ³⁶
Extreme Cold	We defined extreme cold using the cold days and cold nights definition. Cold days occur when maximum temperature, or nights where “minimum temperature, falls below the 10th percentile, where the respective temperature distributions are generally defined with respect to the 1961-1990 reference period.” ³⁷
Flooding	“The overflowing of the normal confines of a stream or other water body, or the accumulation of water over areas that are not normally submerged. Floods can be caused by unusually heavy rain, for example, during storms and cyclones. Floods include river (fluvial) floods, flash floods, urban floods, rain (pluvial) floods, sewer floods, coastal floods, and glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs).” ³⁸
Wildfire	“An unplanned fire that burns in a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or prairie. Wildfires are often caused by human activity or a natural phenomenon such as lightning, and they can happen at any time or anywhere.” ³⁹

CLIMATE CHANGE & VULNERABILITY

CDCR has a responsibility to keep people inside safe. Incarcerated people, however, are more often treated as ‘security threats’ rather than a vulnerable population during a climate hazard.⁴⁰ Carlee Purdum, a scholar on the relationship between climate hazards and prisons, writes, “the perception of prisoners as dangerous and innately violent is directly related to the narrative of one of the most common myths of disaster behavior, that disasters cause a breakdown of social order and will be followed not by altruistic behavior, but instead by widespread violence and crime.”⁴¹ Thus, incarcerated people are constructed as a hazard themselves instead of a population uniquely vulnerable to climate hazards, pandemics, and other disasters.

In a 2018 report, the California Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR) provided a definition of vulnerable communities in the context of climate change that implicitly excluded incarcerated people.⁴² This definition can be found in the box below. As we will discuss in the next section, incarcerated individuals face unique challenges during climate hazards and therefore must be included in any measure of vulnerability to ensure their safety and well-being.

OPR’s definition of climate vulnerability, 2018.

“Climate vulnerability describes the degree to which natural, built, and human systems are at risk of exposure to climate change impacts. Vulnerable communities experience heightened risk and increased sensitivity to climate change and have less capacity and fewer resources to cope with, adapt to, or recover from climate impacts. These disproportionate effects are caused by physical (built and environmental), social, political, and/ or economic factor(s), which are exacerbated by climate impacts. These factors include, but are not limited to, race, class, sexual orientation and identification, national origin, and income inequality.”⁴³

THE CURRENT CLIMATE: **CALLING FOR CARCERAL CHANGE**



"Here at San Quentin, there is no perceived sense of urgency or need to create and more importantly, share that plan with the incarcerated population. There has been multiple times when the power and generator have failed during heat waves and I have suffered asthma attacks and passed out to sleep. These power outages [occur] at night when [we] are locked in our cells. At Donovan in San Diego, the heat regularly reaches 90-100 degrees from April til November, and there is no plan to even hand out ice. Custody claims it is Medical's problem and Medical claims it's Custody's problem."

*- Survey Respondent from
San Quentin State Prison (SQSP)*

04



The intensity of climate hazards over the last decade highlights the vulnerability of several population groups—especially low-income, rural, and Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC).⁴⁴ These groups are more likely to live in or near climate-vulnerable regions and lack the resources to migrate to a less vulnerable area as a prevention measure or in times of emergency.⁴⁵

Recent climate hazards have highlighted the vulnerability of incarcerated people. Many incarcerated people are at the forefront of the climate crisis in prison—fighting wildfires, locked in cells during wildfires and extreme heat, and facing the worst of heat waves without adequate access to cooling. In Table 3 below, we describe the vulnerability of incarcerated people to climate hazards. Unlike other vulnerable communities, incarcerated people are completely reliant upon a system to mitigate the effects of climate hazards, such as accessing face masks, air conditioning, or ice. Additionally, incarcerated people, unlike other communities, do not have the means to evacuate freely.⁴⁶

TABLE 3. Vulnerability of incarcerated people.

RISK FACTORS	DETAILS
Age and Health	Increased age and existing medical conditions make individuals even more susceptible to extreme temperature-related illnesses. Sixteen percent of the incarcerated population in California is over the age of 55 and the state has one of the lowest Elderly Parole Program release rates at 19% of eligible individuals. ⁴⁷
Psychotropic Medications and Other Medications	Many incarcerated people are on psychotropic medications or have health conditions that make them more vulnerable to the adverse health effects of extreme temperatures. ⁴⁸ For example, psychotropic medications and other prescription medications can affect a person’s ability to regulate body temperature. ⁴⁹
Geographic distribution and age of CDCR prisons	Some state prisons were built in the late 19th to mid-20th century, including San Quentin State Prison, which was built in 1852. ⁵⁰ Many prisons are also located in remote areas that lack critical nearby infrastructure such as hospitals. ⁵¹
Overcrowding	As of early 2023, the system was operating 34 prison facilities and housing 92,606 individuals, which exceeds the 85,330 it was designed to hold. ⁵² Overcrowding stresses prison infrastructure and, in doing so, exacerbates extreme heat conditions by preventing proper ventilation and temperature regulation. ⁵³ It also increases the danger of a natural hazard ⁵⁴ and worsens the risk of transmitting COVID-19 and other infectious diseases. ⁵⁵

State prisons are also left out of key measures addressing environmental injustices, making incarcerated people even more vulnerable. For example, Governor Brown signed Senate Bill 535 (De Leon) and Assembly Bill 1550 (Gomez) into law, which required at least 25% of state cap-and-trade revenue to go to projects directly benefiting disadvantaged communities.⁵⁶ But, most prisons are excluded from measures of environmental injustice.⁵⁷ Incarcerated people are also excluded from CalEnviroScreen, a state tool that utilizes census data, air pollution levels, and other measures, to designate disadvantaged communities. This exclusion is likely the result of incomplete or unreliable data coming out of prisons. So do not be fooled: California prisons are not oases of high environmental quality, as the CalEnviroScreen tool may suggest. If every census tract surrounding a state prison is designated as a disadvantaged or environmental justice community, the people inside these prisons more than likely face the same pollution burdens, and are similarly (if not more) disadvantaged. For example, Kern Valley State Prison, North Kern Valley State Prison and Wasco State Prison are all surrounded by high CalEnviroScreen-score census tracts. Maps of this phenomenon can be found in Appendix A.

Drawing on CalEnviroScreen data from areas surrounding prisons in California paints a bleak picture of environmental injustice for incarcerated populations. These findings should send a strong message to lawmakers that climate change resilience and adaptation will not be successful without the explicit inclusion of prison infrastructure and the health and safety of people who are confined within prison walls. As such, CDCR must be required to comply with climate change planning, and the agency should be charged with creating its own safety plan for addressing climate hazards.

California has passed other laws to address the climate crisis. For example, in 2015, former Governor Jerry Brown made climate change a priority through Executive Order (EO) B-30-15, which directs state agencies to integrate climate change into all planning and investment.⁵⁸ He also signed into statute Assembly Bill 2800 (Quirk), which expands on EO B-30-15 by requiring local governments to include climate adaptation and resiliency into all general plans.⁵⁹ Senate Bill 1035 (Jackson) was also signed into law, requiring state agencies to account for climate change when planning new infrastructure.⁶⁰

In response to Executive Order (EO) B-30-15, CDCR drafted a Climate Adaptation Plan, which outlines how it will improve existing infrastructure to mitigate climate change. To achieve this plan, the state has steadily been allotting more funding to renovate aging infrastructure. For example, in the 2021-2022 budget, Governor Newsom allotted \$100 million in one-time general funds to infrastructure improvements.⁶¹ Although renovating aging infrastructure addresses climate risk, CDCR needs to address other risks like the health conditions of incarcerated people to achieve climate resilience.⁶²

Through preliminary research, we also found little information on the steps CDCR is taking to ensure the safety of incarcerated people during a climate hazard. For example, CDCR's Department Operations Manual (DOM) describes evacuations in a limited way and details the agency's procedures for fires and earthquakes so narrowly that it leaves many questions on how CDCR ensures incarcerated people's safety during an emergency.⁶³ The DOM also does not mention flooding, wildfires, or extreme temperatures, suggesting that there is no concrete emergency plan for these hazards. There is also little information available on the type of emergency management training that workers receive. Additionally, incarcerated people are not explicitly mentioned in the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) State Emergency Plan (SEP), a manual that outlines the roles and responsibilities of state agencies before, during, and after an emergency. It is unclear what CDCR is doing to ensure the safety of incarcerated people during a climate hazard.

Though the state is a national leader in climate policy, we have seen that many of these policies tend to exclude incarcerated people. Incarcerated people are highly vulnerable to climate hazards yet are not considered a disadvantaged community per CalEnviroScreen, which excludes them from receiving funding as an environmental justice community. Despite the fact that CDCR is required per the Eighth Amendment to prevent the "cruel or unusual punishment" of incarcerated people, we are unclear on what the agency is doing to promote the health and safety of this population during a climate hazard. Additionally, court interpretations of the Eighth Amendment have mandated that prisons promote the health and safety of incarcerated people.⁶⁴ Given the dearth of policies that ensure the safety of incarcerated individuals, our report examines CDCR's current emergency response plans and provides recommendations on how to improve planning to promote the health and safety of incarcerated people.



Photograph by Ron Levine



05

DETAILING **OUR** **INVESTIGATION**



"In 30-plus-years of incarceration, besides blackouts, I've endured earthquakes, heat waves, and flooding. I've made it through winters in which an extra blanket was the only thing that separated me from icy-cold air gushing into my small cramped cell. The world now recognizes that these weather extremes are the result of climate change. But, the effects of climate change on the millions [of] Americans behind bars often go unrecognized."

*- Juan Moreno Haines,
Incarcerated Journalist at
San Quentin State Prison (SQSP)⁶⁵*

Given the lack of research on climate hazard preparedness of incarcerated populations, we incorporated the following research methods to understand how climate hazards interact with California state prisons:

1. **Literature review** on climate change vulnerability, effects of climate change, relevant laws and regulations, case studies from other states, and emergency preparedness for prisons.
2. **Interviews** with 22 key actors on their understanding of preparedness and response to climate hazards in the State of California, both generally and within correctional facilities. Some of the key actors included currently and formerly incarcerated people, staff from related state agencies, and staff from environmental justice and criminal justice non-governmental agencies. Appendix B lists our interview participants and their respective fields and the codebook used to identify themes and data.
3. **Surveys** sent to 2,233 currently incarcerated people on EBC's mailing list, using both randomized selection and snowball sampling, to gather first-hand experiences and perceptions on emergency preparedness within each CDCR prison. We received a total of 563 surveys, a 25% response rate. Appendix C provides an overview of our methodology, including our codebook used to identify themes and data from our free response questions. Appendix D includes a copy of the survey that was sent. Appendix E includes a summary of the surveys received including results by question.
4. **Spatial analysis** to evaluate each CDCR prison's risk for extreme temperatures, wildfires, and flooding. Appendix F includes additional maps with the flood analysis of each facility.

ENGAGEMENT WITH CDCR

Given our project's focus on CDCR, our goal was to interview its administration and staff to understand how the agency plans for climate hazards. Despite our outreach efforts, as detailed below, we were unable to formally interview any CDCR staff. Figure 1 on the next page details a timeline of our engagement with CDCR.

RESEARCH REQUEST

In early January 2023, we reached out to the agency's Public Information Officer (PIO), who directed us to complete a research application through the agency's Research Oversight Committee Administration Team (ROCAT). The PIO refused to speak with us about our research until we submitted the application. On January 30, 2023, we submitted a research application and included the following documents:

1. List of interview questions
2. Names of research group members
3. Letter of support from a faculty member
4. Letter from the UCLA Internal Review Board approving our project
5. Details of our methods for interviewing CDCR employees

While we waited for our research application to be reviewed, we reached out to other CDCR staff, including the Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Assistant Secretary and Special Advisor–Office of Public and Employee Communications, Emergency Management Policy and Technical Advisor, and CDCR Secretary, the agency's highest-ranking official, and received minimal response. We eventually connected with CDCR's Acting Chief of Legislative Affairs. This staff member connected us with a Captain and Lieutenant from the agency's Office of Correctional Safety, who both initially agreed to meet with us. Unfortunately, a business day before our scheduled meeting, we received a cancellation email and were directed to follow up with ROCAT.

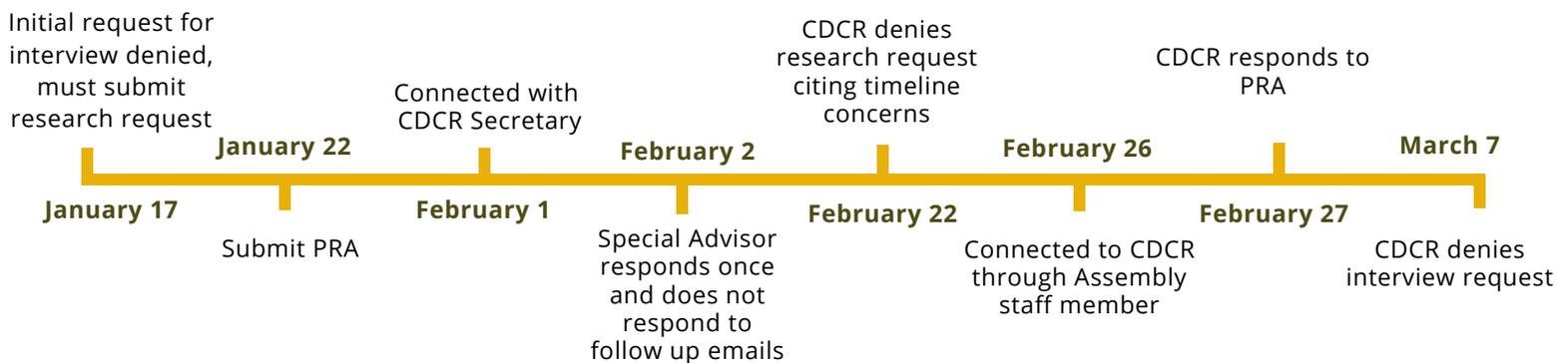
On February 22, 2023, we were asked to revise and resubmit our research application. The denial cited that our application had insufficient information about our plan to connect with CDCR staff, and was too short of a research timeline. Given our research timeline, we decided not to resubmit our application, which ultimately prohibited us from formally speaking to any CDCR staff.



PUBLIC RECORDS ACT REQUEST

We also submitted a California Public Records Act (PRA) request on January 22, 2023. Appendix G lists all the documents and information requested and details our communication with CDCR on the PRA request. Pursuant to CPRA, CDCR was obligated to respond to our request on February 3, 2023. On February 28, 2023, after several extensions and follow-ups, CDCR responded to our request and failed to provide most of the requested documents and information citing safety and security concerns. Our team was only provided with the 2019 Heat Plan and Updates and 2021 Water Conservation and Management Plan. A timeline of our PRA request and engagement with CDCR is shown in Figure 1 below.

FIGURE 1. Engagement with CDCR and Public Records Request Timeline.





06

WHAT WE LEARNED FROM **OUR INVESTIGATION**



"I really don't see CDCR being ready for climate emergencies. It's hard for them to answer a call for a cell fight."

*- Survey Respondent from
Richard J. Donovan Correctional Facility*

FINDING 1: There is concern that CDCR will adopt the same reactive measures when responding to climate hazards as they did during COVID-19.

In our research, we came across several indicators that suggest CDCR has no adequate emergency plan in place for incarcerated people.

- There is no mention in the State's Emergency Plan on how the state and CDCR will adequately respond to a climate emergency at a CDCR prison.
- There is no public information available on CDCR's emergency plans. CDCR also failed to provide our team with its emergency plans in our PRA request.
- Seventy-seven percent of people we interviewed were unfamiliar with CDCR's emergency plans. The other 23% percent of interviewees, including former correctional officers, did mention, however, that they knew an emergency plan existed but they had never seen it.
- We also found a contradiction in CDCR's emergency planning. A formerly incarcerated firefighter at Central California Women's Facility (CCWF), Amika Mota, shared that CCWF had a mutual aid agreement with Madera County, which meant that women stationed at CCWF's firehouse also responded to emergencies in the surrounding community. CCWF, however, had no clear emergency plan in place to keep incarcerated firefighters and the rest of its incarcerated population safe during a climate hazard.⁶⁶



Photograph by Noah Berger

The lack of information and contradictions on CDCR's emergency planning has brought about the following concerns among our interviewees and survey respondents:

1. CDCR's response to a climate hazard will be as reactive and tragic as it was during COVID-19.
2. CDCR will defer to its usual response of locking down the prison or 'sheltering in place,' which can lead to injury and death for incarcerated people.

As mentioned, CDCR's response to the COVID-19 pandemic highlights what could happen when no emergency plan is in place. Tom McMahon, Marin County Deputy Public Defender and member of the Stop the San Quentin Outbreak Coalition, shared a horrifying story on CDCR's response to COVID-19 that validates these concerns:

“

There are horror stories of the prison guards standing back in a full face shield mask, gloves, boots standing back and then forcing prisoners who did not have the same kind of equipment to move sick people from one part of the prison to the other as part of their prison job, they are forcing them into contact without adequate [protection].”⁶⁷



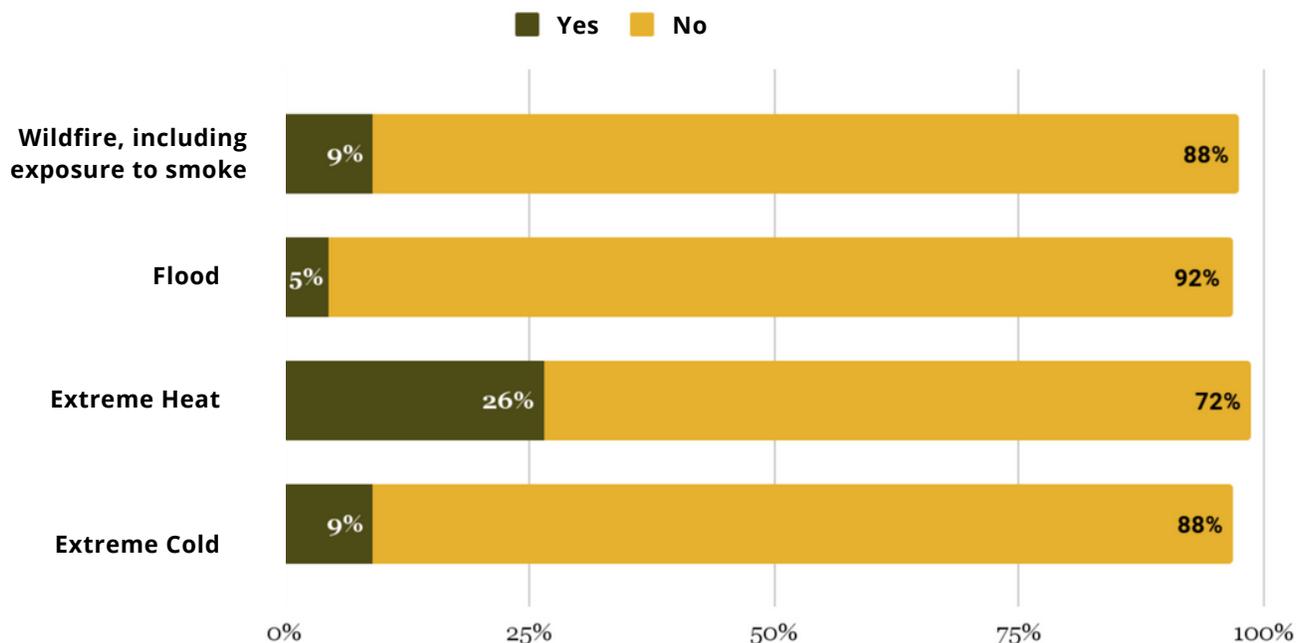
FINDING 2: CDCR takes insufficient steps to prevent, mitigate, and prepare for an emergency, especially for the most vulnerable people incarcerated.

Section 3303.4, titled “Disorders and Emergencies,” of the DOM, notes that both staff and incarcerated people “shall be familiar with fire evacuation routes, exits, and procedures,” and evacuation drills must be “performed quarterly on each watch.”⁶⁸ Our survey findings suggest, however, that CDCR is not adhering to these protocols. Over 80% of respondents said they have never participated in an evacuation drill, and only 11.7% reported participating in an evacuation drill once a year. A respondent from Central California Women’s Facility (CCWF) noted they have participated in only three fire drills over a span of 20 years.

Respondents were also unfamiliar with the procedures they should follow in the event of a climate hazard, as seen in Figure 2 below. This is concerning because, as noted by Catherine Harrison, Deputy Director at the University of Minnesota's Health Emergency Response Office, “you can have a plan, but really, what you have to have is the ability to practice that plan, and to become familiar with it [...] because [...] it's literally not what happens every day.”⁶⁹

FIGURE 2. Familiarity with current emergency response procedures for climate hazards.

Q1. Do you know of a plan that describes procedures you should follow when these climate emergencies occur?



CDCR's failure to properly inform incarcerated people on emergency preparedness protocols for climate hazards leaves incarcerated people at greater risk of physical and mental harm during these hazards. Figure 3 below demonstrates that a majority of currently incarcerated people do not feel prepared for any of the four climate hazards we focused on. See Appendix E for a detailed breakdown of these results.

FIGURE 3. Feelings of preparedness among survey respondents.

Q11. To what extent do you feel prepared for the following situations....?

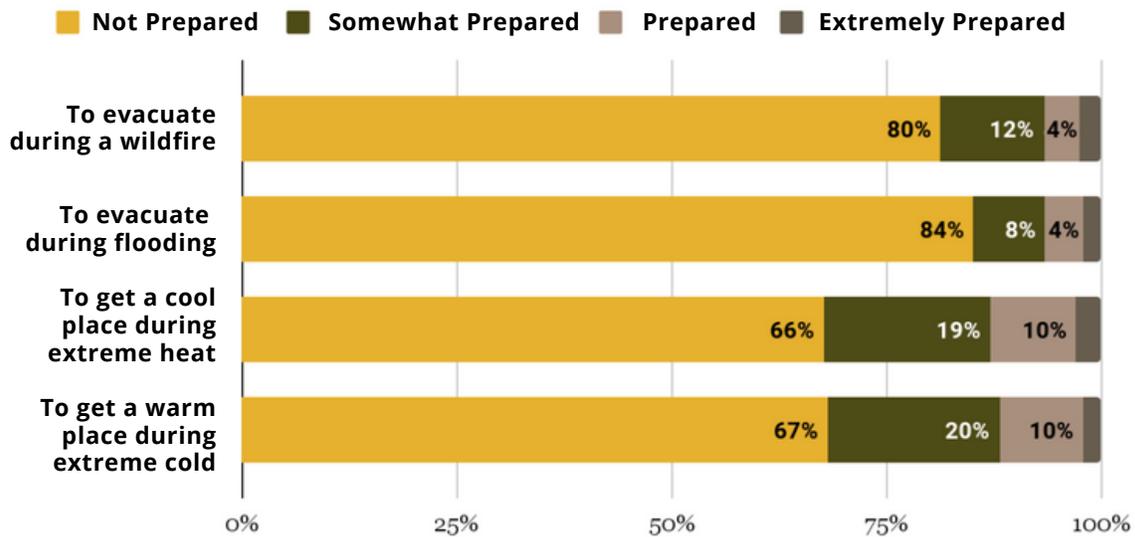


Table 4 highlights some of our key survey findings with regards to extreme heat, extreme cold, and wildfires.

TABLE 4.

How prison conditions are subpar for mitigating effects of climate hazards.

87% of respondents noted the recreation yard they use most frequently has no shade covering.	60% said they have never had access to air-conditioned rooms during extremely hot days.	47% said they have never had increased access to showers on extremely hot days.	63% of respondents noted their shower use had been limited, justified by claims of conserving water.
82% of those who experienced wildfires near the prison, affirmed they had irritated lungs, eyes, or throats from wildfire smoke.	Only 26.1% of those who experienced a wildfire near their prison noted they were ever given an N-95 respirator mask by prison staff.	54% said they do not have access to heated facilities during cold weather.	66% of those who experienced extreme cold noted prolonged numbness in hands or feet, due to cold.

The experiences of incarcerated people suggest current prison conditions and CDCR's response to emergencies do not prioritize the health and safety of incarcerated people. A survey respondent who recently experienced flooding at Pelican Bay State Prison (PBSP) shared the following statement with us:



Floods of septic/excrement [are] coming in our cells for hours overnight during cold winter months. That has occurred 7 times within these 3 months, from February 2023 backwards. Instead of providing [us with] weather leather boots for winter/rain, we got cloth shoes and got soaking wet. [There's] no protection [for] human health!"

Respondents also made specific recommendations to not only improve their material conditions of incarceration but also allow them to better withstand the effects of climate hazards. Table 5 provides a summary of these recommendations.

These recommendations informed the development of our policy options.



TABLE 5. Summary of survey respondents' recommendations.

CODE	TOTAL COUNT
CDCR Policy Change, including recommendation specific to:	270
Preparedness of incarcerated individuals, including education & training	78
Increased CDCR accountability	77
CDCR's emergency plans	67
Staff training	32
Other recommendations	16
Infrastructure Change, including recommendations specific to the installment or improvement of:	190
Air conditioning (AC)	59
Heating system	31
Ventilation	28
Shade covering	28
Other recommendations - CDCR Infrastructure	23
Other recommendations - cooling methods	13
Emergency power systems	8
Mitigating Hazard Effects, including recommendations that ask for increased access to:	149
Ice	42
Blankets/thermals/warm clothing	30
Fans	27
Water and electrolytes	25
Showers	10
Masks for smoke	8
Personal heaters	2
State and Public Accountability	41
Strategies that increase legislative or agency and public oversight & transparency	41
Divest/Reinvest	41
Decrease the prison population	36
Re-entry support for those released from prison	5

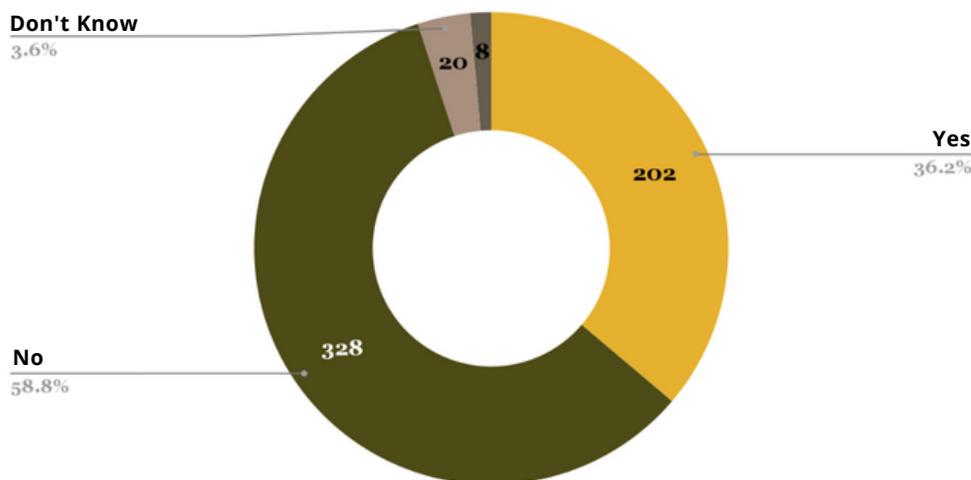
CASE STUDY: CDCR fails to keep incarcerated people on heat-risk medications and with disabilities safe during emergencies.

As a result of litigation after several people died at California Medical Facility (CMF) during a heatwave, CDCR now takes preventative measures to keep people on psychotropics or other “heat-risk medications” safe from extreme heat.⁷⁰ For example, this population is not housed in prisons located in heat-prone areas, especially desert areas.⁷¹ CDCR also has a *Heat Illness Prevention Plan* outlining how this population will be cared for during an extreme heat event. Despite these measures, our findings suggest CDCR has failed to keep this population safe during extreme heat events. Thirty-six percent of our survey respondents said they were currently taking heat-risk medications, as seen in Figure 4 below. Only 29.2% of those taking these medications affirmed they knew of an emergency plan to follow in the event of extreme heat while 19.8% affirmed receiving some training on safety protocols to follow during extreme heat. Additionally, our results show that a significant number of incarcerated people who take heat-risk medications receive insufficient accommodations to ensure their safety on extremely hot days. For example, only 35.92% of those respondents could say they *always*, or *almost always* had increased access to showers, and 41.55% noted they *always*, or *almost always* had increased access to drinking water on extremely hot days.

FIGURE 4.

Percent of survey respondents taking medications that make them susceptible to extreme heat.

Q8. Are you currently taking any prescription medication(s) that can make you susceptible to extreme temperatures?



CDCR is also obligated to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).⁷² Our findings suggest that CDCR has failed to accommodate people with disabilities during an emergency, including during COVID-19 and past climate hazards. Sara Norman, Deputy Director at Prison Law Office, highlighted how CDCR failed to provide accommodations for people with physical and mental disabilities during COVID:

“

People would be moved to a space that was ostensibly safer for them from a COVID perspective, but they were a paraplegic, who uses a wheelchair and had no accessible toilets. So they had people lift them on and off toilets. These kinds of things are just absolutely unacceptable and a result of very poor pre-planning and very poor emergency planning. And prisons that are too big and too many people [are] locked up. Mental health care wasn't provided anywhere near the degree it should be and medical care was shoddy.”⁷³



Photograph by Ron Levine

Our findings also suggest that existing emergency protocols do not include clear provisions on evacuating people with disabilities. Alex Binsfeld, Legal Director at the Transgender Gender-Variant & Intersex Justice Project (TGIJP)—a community-based organization advocating for transgender, gender-variant, and intersex people, in carceral facilities—recounted TGIJP’s advocacy efforts during the 2020 LNU Complex Fires after CDCR refused to follow an order to evacuate Solano State Prison (SOL) and California Medical Facility (CMF).



We were trying to get [CDCR] to get people out and not just leave people to burn alive. At that point, we had heard from the [prison] that their plan was to walk people away from the wildfire, which you can't outrun a wildfire. And this is a medical facility, folks with disabilities are housed there. How are you expecting people who are using a wheelchair to outrun a wildfire? So we were trying to get them to get folks on buses and get them out of there. And the urgency kept increasing.”⁷⁴

Despite advocacy efforts by TGIJP and other community-based groups, both prisons were not evacuated. Fortunately, no lives were lost.

CDCR’s inadequate response to the LNU Complex Fires and COVID-19, and its failure to comply with the Heat Illness Prevention Plan, suggests the agency is putting its most vulnerable people at risk of bodily harm or death.

FINDING 3: Eighteen California state prisons are particularly vulnerable to extreme heat, but are also impacted by wildfires, cold, and floods.

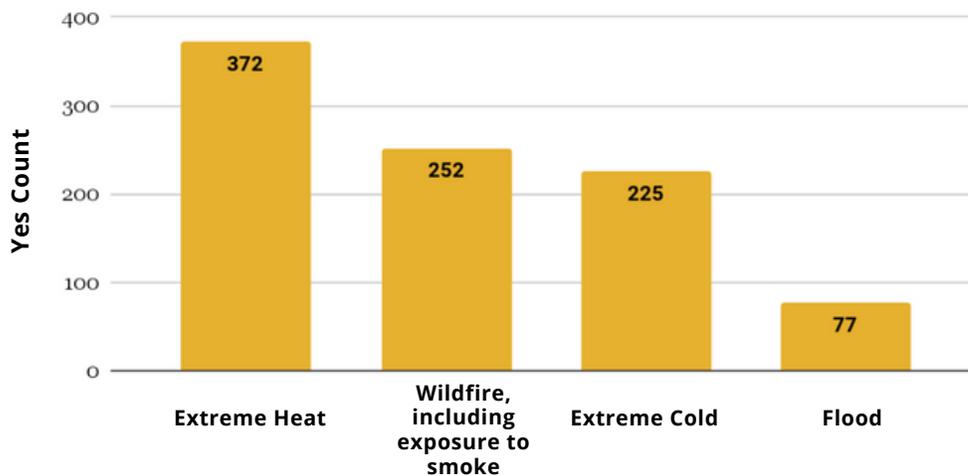
Extreme heat was the climate hazard most commonly cited by our interviewees and most frequently experienced by currently incarcerated people, as seen on Figure 5. Noire Wilson, who is currently incarcerated at San Quentin State Prison (SQSP), recounted an experience he had with extreme heat in Summer 2020:



When I originally got here, it was the beginning of COVID. So, it was locked down. And the problem with [being] locked down inside of a cell that's extremely hot is that [...] you literally can barely go to sleep because literally, the wall is sweating; it's so hot [...] you definitely feel your body going through something. You're constantly on a high heat feeling. You know, it was really hard to be able to get outside, of course, because it's so hot outside, and they wouldn't allow us to go outside. But it really didn't matter if you're outside or inside because even inside, it was like we were inside of an oven, just cooking. Just constantly cooking.”⁷⁵

FIGURE 5. Survey respondents' experience with climate hazards.

Q4. Have you experienced the following climate emergencies?



Noire’s experience with extreme heat is not surprising given the infrastructural vulnerabilities of prisons. We identified infrastructure factors that make prisons vulnerable to the effects of climate hazard, which include aging infrastructure, remote location, and lack of emergency response infrastructure in nearby communities. The location of prisons in rural, isolated areas of the state means these prisons often lack nearby resources such as hospitals, human capital, and emergency preparedness infrastructure compared to urban and more populated areas. The infrastructural vulnerability of prisons is concerning given that climate hazards commonly occur and are predicted to increasingly occur where prisons are located.

We used information from the Cal-Adapt Database and the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Flood Hazard Management Layer to conduct a spatial analysis on ArcGIS. Cal-Adapt is a repository of databases on climate projections that is run by UC Berkeley’s Geospatial Innovation Facility with “funding and advisory oversight by the California Energy Commission and the California Strategic Growth Council.”⁷⁶ In this analysis, we identified 18 prisons throughout California, found in Table 6, that are the most vulnerable to climate hazards. See Figures 6, 7 & 8 for additional at-risk prisons.

TABLE 6.

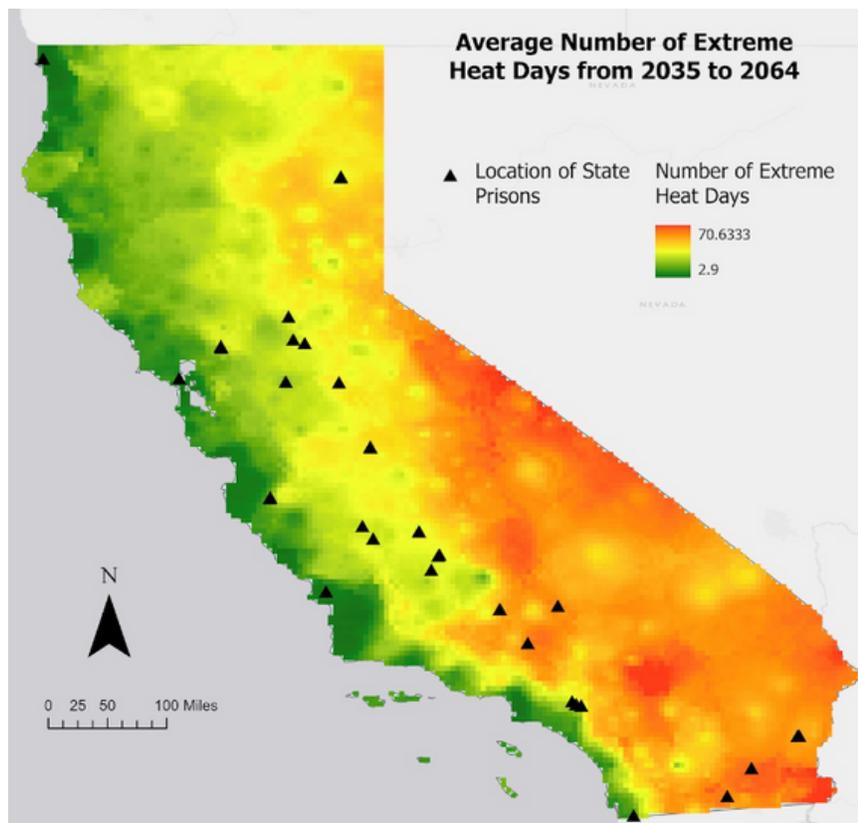
List of California state prisons most vulnerable to flooding, fire and extreme temperatures, 2023.

EXTREME HEAT	WILDFIRES	FLOODS
California Correctional Institution (AD 32, SD 12)	California Correctional Center (AD 1, SD 1)	California State Prison, Corcoran (AD 33, SD 16)
California City Correctional Facility (AD 34, SD 12)	California Correctional Institution (AD 32, SD 12)	Kern Valley State Prison (AD 35, SD 16)
California State Prison, Centinela (AD 36, SD 18)	California Institution for Men (AD 53, SD 22)	San Quentin State Prison (AD 12, SD 2)
California State Prison, Los Angeles County (AD 34, SD 21)	California Institution for Women (AD 59, SD 22)	Substance Abuse Treatment Facility and State Prison, Corcoran (AD 33, SD 16)
Calipatria State Prison (AD 36, SD 18)	California Rehabilitation Center (AD 63, SD 31)	Valley State Prison (AD 27, SD 14)
Chuckawalla Valley State Prison (AD 36, SD 18)	High Desert State Prison (AD 1, SD 1)	<p style="text-align: center;">KEY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AD = Assembly District</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SD = Senate District</p>
Ironwood State Prison (AD 36, SD 18)		
Richard J. Donovan Correctional Facility (AD 75, SD 18)		

EXTREME HEAT

California's diverse climate makes it particularly vulnerable to multiple types of climate hazards.⁷⁷ CDCR prisons experience different climates and therefore, are affected differently by extreme weather conditions. Using data from CalAdapt, we found that prisons in the southeast portion of the state will see more extreme heat days on average from 2035 to 2064 than other portions of the state, assuming a Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) of 4.5. RCP signifies the wattage of greenhouse gas emissions per square meter. An RCP of 4.5 assumes we will continue emitting greenhouse gas emissions at our current rate. We defined extreme heat days as those where temperatures are above 103 degrees Fahrenheit, recognizing that people who are the most susceptible to illness and death in extreme heat may begin to experience symptoms at much lower temperatures.⁷⁸ The values used for greenhouse gas emissions are also conservative. Figure 6 below demonstrates which prisons will face the greatest number of extreme heat days in the next 12 to 41 years.

FIGURE 6. Predicted average number of extreme days above 103.8 degrees from 2035 to 2064, assuming a RCP of 4.5.⁷⁹



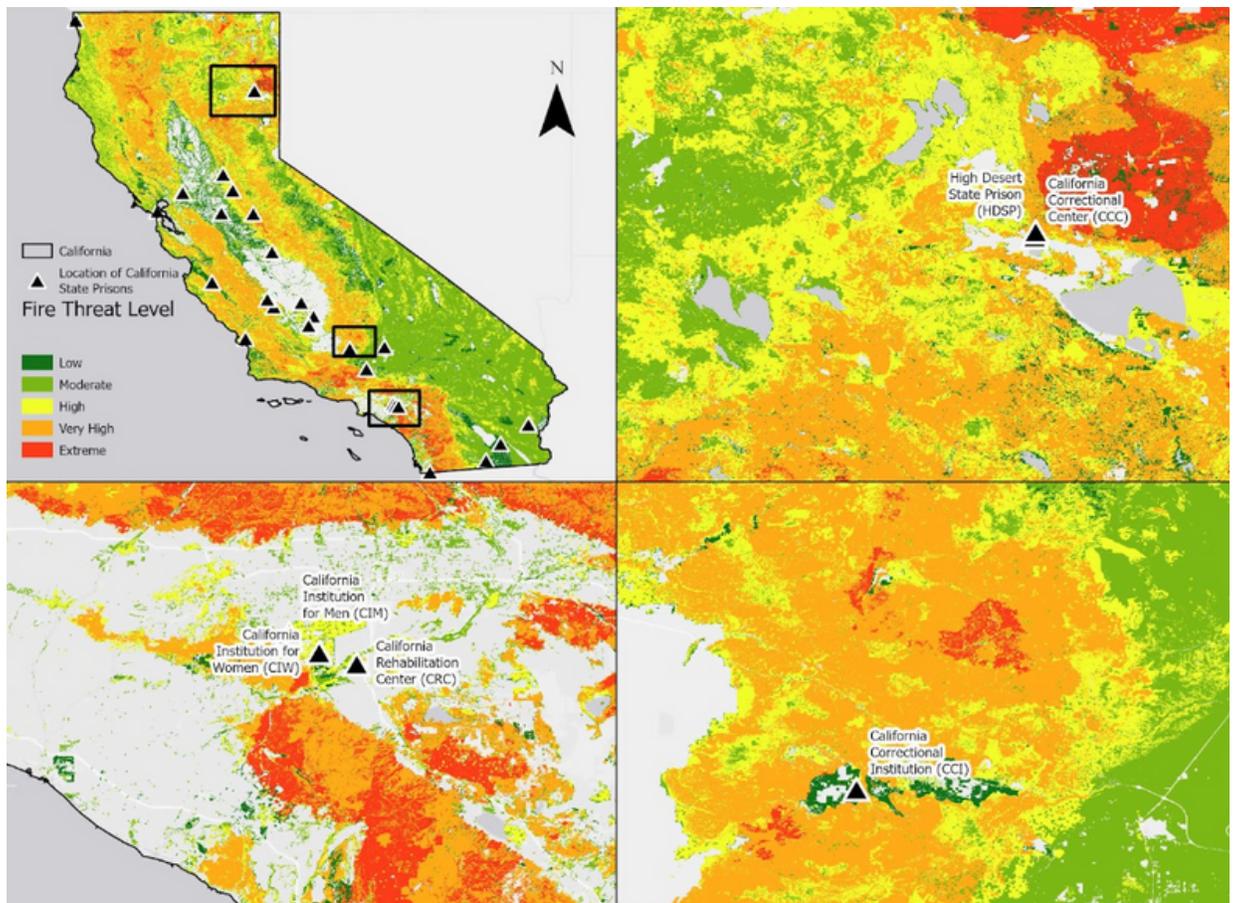
WILDFIRES

Climate change is expected to continue increasing the intensity and frequency of wildfires.⁸²

Our analysis revealed that 24 California state prisons sit within five miles of fire hazard zones and eight of these prisons are particularly close to wildfire threat zones.⁸³

Incarcerated people are often at the frontlines fighting these wildfires while being paid cents on the dollar compared to non-incarcerated firefighters. We recognize that the labor of incarcerated firefighters is outside the immediate scope of our report, but, given recommendations that came up in our interviews, we included a section on these recommendations in Appendix J. Figure 8 below shows the wildfire threat levels, rated from low to extreme, across California prisons. The prisons at highest risk are shown in the inset maps and are also listed in Table 6.

FIGURE 8. Wildfire threat levels and California State Prisons, 2018.⁸⁴



FLOODING

FEMA Flood Hazard Maps divide flood risk into zones. The most common flood risk zone is Zone A, which is “areas with a 1% annual chance of flooding and a 26% chance of flooding over the life of a 30-year mortgage.”⁸⁵ In Figures 9 and 10 below, moderate flood risk areas are designated with light orange or blue shading. Details on the shading schema of the flood maps are in Table 7. Areas without any shading are low or no risk flood zones. Areas designated as Zone D with yellow shading do not have enough data to determine flood risk. This points to a shortcoming of the FEMA data; thus, more information is needed on some prison facilities to more accurately determine their flood risk. Flood risk maps for every prison are in Appendix F. There are two prisons that are particularly at risk for flood: The Substance Abuse Treatment Facility (SATF) in Corcoran and San Quentin State Prison (SQSP). San Quentin is particularly vulnerable to floods because of increased rain and coastal erosion from sea level rise. Flood maps for both prisons are depicted in Figure 9 and Figure 10.

As mentioned, recent studies indicate that as climate change worsens, there will be more extreme weather events. Therefore, some models show an increase in the number of extreme weather events that could result in increased precipitation and, as a result, increased flooding.⁸⁶ So while our current analysis only identifies five prisons at risk of flooding, this number may increase over time.

FIGURE 9. Flood risk at Substance Abuse Treatment Facility and State Prison, Corcoran, 2023.⁸⁷



TABLE 7. Legend of flood maps.

	Zone A Flood Zone meaning a 1% chance of flood annually
	Zone X Flood Zone, meaning at .2% chance of flood annually
No shading	Area of minimal flooding

FIGURE 10. Flood risk at San Quentin State Prison, 2023.⁸⁸

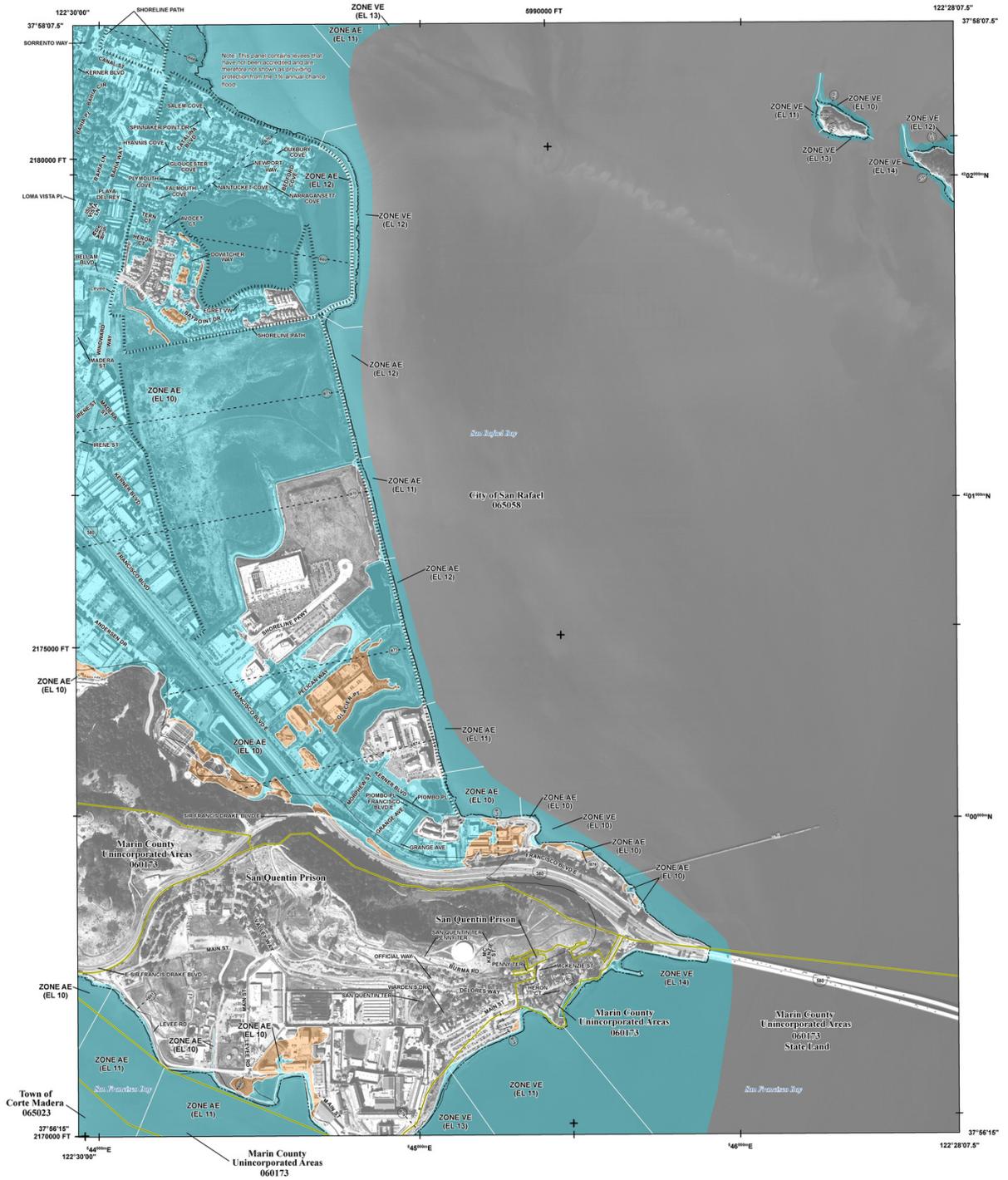


TABLE 7. Legend of flood maps.

	Zone A Flood Zone meaning a 1% chance of flood annually
	Zone X Flood Zone , meaning at .2% chance of flood annually
No shading	Area of minimal flooding

FINDING 4: Decarceration was viewed as an effective strategy to mitigate effects of climate hazards on incarcerated people.

A prevalent theme in our interviews was the need to close prisons and reduce the prison population size to address emergency response issues related to overcrowding. As mentioned, CDCR is currently operating at 108.5% of its design capacity.

Overcrowding complicates emergency response procedures, such as evacuation, and intensifies the effects of climate hazards, as it did in COVID-19.⁸⁹ Alex Binsfeld from TGIJP, proposed decarceration as a way to facilitate evacuation, saying:



And so what we're proposing is that the best way to address [vulnerability] is to drastically reduce the amount of folks that are incarcerated. Because if we have facilities that are not all at 100% capacity, then we can transfer folks and move people easier. And make sure that safety concerns are able to be taken into account and not have folks packed in so tight.”⁹⁰

There are certain populations that are especially vulnerable to these effects, including those over the age of 50 years old; with mental illness; with physical disabilities; and with compromised immune systems. Our interviewees noted, and research supports, that releasing these individuals would not pose a significant risk to public safety and could reduce their risk significantly.⁹¹

According to Sara Norman, Deputy Director at Prison Law Office, closing prisons without reducing the prison population still may not address the issue of overcrowding.



07

CRITERIA: HOW WE WILL EVALUATE THE POLICY OPTIONS



"So far as I know in the case of any natural disaster, the prison staff will close my room door and leave. If things would be otherwise, I would like to know. I would like to be told what to do if there is a wildfire, a flood, or extreme heat or cold. These things are important because it would show that the administration cares for my safety. Otherwise, I would think that I don't matter as a human being."

*- Survey Respondent from
Pelican Bay State Prison (PBSP)*

Prioritizing the values of the Ella Baker Center, we identified four evaluation criteria to determine which policy options to specifically recommend to our client. In this section, we present our criteria, and in the following section, we outline and evaluate each policy option using the four criteria.

Our criteria allowed us to evaluate whether the policy option effectively addresses the policy question motivating this project: **What policy alternatives can reduce the impact of climate hazards on those incarcerated in California state prisons?**

Our four criteria are:

1. Health and Wellness of Incarcerated People
2. Divest and Reinvest
3. Transparency and Accountability
4. Political Feasibility

We assessed our policy options by determining whether a policy completely fulfilled, partially fulfilled, or did not fulfill each criterion. Though we evaluated the policy option's alignment with each criterion, the criteria we decided to prioritize most in our recommendations were 1) health and wellness of incarcerated people and 2) political feasibility. Given the deprioritization of health and wellness of the incarcerated population by CDCR, the health and wellness criterion is a top priority in our analysis.

Similarly, political feasibility is essential to a policy option's viability. If an option is not politically feasible, it will not be enacted and, consequently, will not reduce the impact of climate hazards on those incarcerated in California state prisons. We still considered options that were not politically feasible within a few years, understanding that these options may become viable in the future.

CRITERION 1: Health & Wellness of Incarcerated People

Incarcerated people are more likely to have a chronic health condition, such as diabetes, heart disease, blood pressure, and serious mental health disorders, such as anxiety and depression, than the general population.⁹² Climate hazards can exacerbate these health conditions. According to the California Department of Public Health, extreme heat can lead to heat-related illness and death and cardiovascular failure; wildfires and smoke can lead to injuries, fatalities, and cardiovascular and respiratory diseases; and severe weather and floods can lead to injuries and fatalities, as well as indoor fungi and mold to form.⁹³ Additionally, climate hazards negatively impact mental health conditions, including stress, anxiety, and depression.⁹⁴

To address the vulnerability of incarcerated people, our first criterion is *Health and Wellness of Incarcerated People*. This is defined as 1) reducing exposure to the effects of climate hazards on incarcerated people and 2) promoting the physical and/or mental well-being of an incarcerated person in the event of a climate hazard. The indicators we used to assess physical and mental well-being are defined in Table 8 below.

TABLE 8. Indicators of physical and mental well-being.

INDICATOR	DEFINITION
Injury and Death	Whether a policy option can reduce injury and death during a climate hazard
Perceptions of Safety	Whether a policy option can promote realistic perceptions of safety among incarcerated people during a climate hazard
Access to Knowledge and Resources that Mitigate the Effects of Climate Hazards	Whether a policy option improved 1) incarcerated people's understanding of emergency preparedness and response strategies, or 2) access to these climate hazards-mitigating resources
Living Conditions	Whether a policy improved the conditions of incarcerated individuals' confinement. Living conditions could be improved through infrastructure upgrades, hazard mitigation strategies, and organizational changes within CDCR

CRITERION 2: Divest & Reinvest

Prisons are physically and psychologically harmful to the people held inside them: they are vulnerable to flooding and fires and tend to remain hot, cold, or wet enough to cause their inhabitants harm.⁹⁵ As we have established, California prisons are also overcrowded, located in areas susceptible to climate hazards, and pose serious health risks to their inhabitants.

To directly address the harms of incarceration, our second criterion is *Divest and Reinvest*. This approach is commonly promoted by environmental justice advocates seeking disinvestment from the fossil fuel industry and investments into communities harmed by environmental injustices. The Movement for Black Lives, a national coalition advancing the political and cultural interests of the Black community, also uses this framework to call for divestment from criminalization and other systems that harm Black people and for redirection of those funds to enhance community support.⁹⁶

Divestment reduces investments in the state carceral system. Reinvestment increases investments in people being released from incarceration and communities facing environmental injustices, which often are the same ones experiencing the greatest impacts of the prison system. Upon release, people who are incarcerated need access to resources, including legal remedies and employment, for successful re-entry into society. Investing in re-entry services in communities to which people are returning reduces harm both to formerly incarcerated individuals and the larger communities. To reduce carceral harm through divestment and reinvestment, we analyzed policies using the framework described in Table 9.

TABLE 9. Framework to evaluate divest and reinest criterion.

CRITERIA PORTION	WAYS CRITERIA IS FULFILLED Policy option must meet at least 1 from each portion
Divest	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Option closes prisons susceptible to climate hazards, directly taking people out of harm's way 2. Option provides decarceration strategies to reduce the current prison population, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. General decarceration strategies b. Rapid-release strategies that can be activated in times of a climate hazard 3. Option reduces CDCR's budget
Reinvest	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Option increases investments in people being released from incarceration for successful re-entry 2. Option increases investments in communities that are overrepresented within the California prison population 3. Option increases investments in communities that face environmental harms

CRITERION 4: Political Feasibility

Lastly, we assessed a policy option based on its short-term and long-term political feasibility. We defined short-term as 1 to 2 years, and long-term as 3 to 5 years. To determine political feasibility, we considered potential support for the policy option from the following actors, including:

- **Members of the California State Legislature**, who can introduce and endorse a bill.
- **The Governor**, who has the power to veto or sign a bill and issue an Executive Order.
- **CDCR**, who can counsel the Governor on whether to veto or sign a bill that will impact the agency.
- **Other state departments** that are implicated in the specific policy option.

To assess potential support from each actor, we analyzed several indicators, such as the agency's budget, public statements, reports, and whether these political leaders have introduced or endorsed a similar policy in the past.





08

SUMMARY OF POLICY OPTION **EVALUTATION**

Table 10 provides a summary of our evaluations for each policy option using the four criteria outlined above. We defined whether a policy completely fulfilled (“yes”), partially fulfilled (“partially”), or did not fulfill (“no”) each criterion.

TABLE 10. Summary of evaluation of policy options.

POLICY OVERVIEW	HEALTH & WELLNESS OF INCARCERATED PEOPLE	DIVEST & REINVEST	TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY	POLITICAL FEASIBILITY
<p>Guiding Questions</p>	<p>Does this policy increase the health and wellness of incarcerated people in California compared to the status quo?</p> <p><u>Yes</u>, if the policy increases health and wellness</p> <p><u>Partially</u>, if health and wellness is only minimally improved</p> <p><u>No</u>, if the policy has no effect on health and wellness</p>	<p>Does this policy divest from California’s carceral system? Does this policy reinvest in incarcerated people, communities where incarcerated people will return to, or communities that face environmental harms?</p> <p><u>Yes</u>, if both apply</p> <p><u>Partially</u>, if only one applies</p> <p><u>No</u>, if neither apply</p>	<p>Does this policy improve transparency and accountability over CDCR compared to the status quo?</p> <p><u>Yes</u>, if the policy establishes oversight of CDCR</p> <p><u>Partially</u>, if the policy minimally establishes oversight of CDCR</p> <p><u>No</u>, if the policy does not affect oversight of CDCR</p>	<p>Is this policy politically feasible?</p> <p><u>Yes</u>, if feasible within 1-2 years</p> <p><u>Partially</u>, if feasible within 3-5 years</p> <p><u>No</u>, if feasible within 6+ years</p>

CATEGORY 1 - STRATEGIES TO REDUCE THE PRISON POPULATION TO DIRECTLY DECREASE RISK

1	Reduce the size of the incarcerated population by 50,000 with a focus on people 50 years or older and those who are most vulnerable.	YES	YES	YES	PARTIALLY
2	Require CDCR to create rapid release policies to use during times of emergency.	YES	PARTIALLY	YES	YES
3	Close prisons most vulnerable to climate hazards.	YES	PARTIALLY	YES	YES

TABLE 10. Summary of evaluation of policy options, ctd.

POLICY OVERVIEW		HEALTH & WELLNESS OF INCARCERATED PEOPLE	DIVEST & REINVEST	TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY	POLITICAL FEASIBILITY
CATEGORY 2 - STATE LEGISLATION TO STRENGTHEN OVERSIGHT OF CDCR					
4	Update the State of California Emergency Plan to recognize the vulnerability of incarcerated people.	YES	NO	YES	PARTIALLY
5	Create minimum standards for emergency plans and require CDCR to develop a bi-annual report defining the protocol and resources on-hand to carry out these plans.	YES	NO	YES	YES
6	Require CDCR to produce an annual report on the number of climate hazards experienced at CDCR prison facilities.	YES	NO	YES	YES
CATEGORY 3 - APPROACHES FOR ADDRESSING CLIMATE ADAPTATION					
7	Reallocate funding to expand heating, air conditioning, ventilation, shade structures, and backup generators.	YES	NO	YES	YES
8	Expand emergency preparedness training for staff and incarcerated people.	YES	NO	YES	YES

OUR POLICY OPTIONS AND **EVALUATION**

— “ —————

"CDCR should have an emergency plan, known by the inmates, where to report in case of emergency. And should be obligated to assist all inmates instead of locking us in our cells when an emergency strikes."

- *Survey Respondent from
Correctional Training Facility (CTF)*



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Using information gathered from our comprehensive literature review; conversations with the Ella Baker Center; in-depth interviews with key stakeholders; a spatial analysis; and survey responses from currently incarcerated people, **we derived a set of policy options that fall into the following categories:**

1. Strategies to reduce the prison population to directly decrease risk
2. State legislation that strengthens oversight of CDCR
3. Approaches for addressing climate adaptation

Our policy problem is at the intersection of multiple areas of policy and is relatively unexplored in practice, research, and literature. Additionally, there are institutional and political challenges to adopting what are likely to be the most effective interventions. For one, we recognize legislators weigh public opinion heavily in their decision-making. In the past, the public stigma surrounding incarcerated people has led legislators to support policies that focus on punishment rather than rehabilitation.⁹⁹

Political opinion has shifted and a growing number of California voters support rehabilitative measures over incarceration.¹⁰⁰ Yet, the transition of public opinion in support of criminal justice reform may not be enough to overcome the entrenched stigma against incarcerated people. Additionally, the bureaucracy of criminal justice policy-making and enforcement that spans local, state, and federal levels complicates the administrative feasibility and political will needed for elected officials to be responsive to their constituencies' changing opinion.¹⁰¹ In the following section, we will introduce and assess each policy option using our evaluation criteria.



A summary of the policy options is listed below in Table 11.

TABLE 11. Summary of policy options.

CATEGORY	POLICY OPTION
<p>Strategies to reduce the prison population to directly decrease risk</p>	<p>Reduce the size of the incarcerated population by 50,000 with a focus on people 50 years or older, those who are most vulnerable, and those who are low risk.</p>
	<p>Create and implement rapid release policies during times of emergency.</p>
	<p>Close prisons most vulnerable to climate hazards.</p>
<p>State legislation that strengthens oversight of CDCR</p>	<p>Update the State of California emergency plan to recognize the vulnerability of incarcerated people.</p>
	<p>Create minimum standards for emergency plans and require CDCR to develop a bi-annual report defining the protocol and resources on-hand to carry out these plans.</p>
	<p>Require CDCR to produce an annual report on the number of climate hazards experienced at CDCR prison facilities.</p>
<p>Approaches for addressing climate adaptation</p>	<p>Reallocate funding to expand heating, air conditioning, ventilation, shade structures, and backup generators.</p>
	<p>Expand emergency preparedness training for staff and incarcerated people.</p>

CATEGORY 1 - Strategies to reduce the prison population to directly decrease risk.

OPTION 1: Reduce the size of the incarcerated population by 50,000 with a focus on people 50 years or older and those who are most vulnerable.

This option would reduce the size of our state prison population. Two specific populations that CDCR can target for release are 1) people aged 50 and older and 2) people who are most vulnerable to extreme temperatures, outlined in Table 12 below. As part of this option, CDCR would be required to make the decarceration strategy publicly available.

Table 12. Incarcerated people most vulnerable to extreme temperatures.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People who are aged 50 and older	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People with mental illness
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People on psychotropic and heart medications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People with asthma
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People with physical health problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People who are pregnant
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People with physical and developmental disabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People who are unable to engaged in prolonged physical activity

People who are most vulnerable to extreme temperatures are at most risk during evacuations. Our research also indicated that overcrowding can complicate evacuation. Therefore, this option is important given that it not only can prevent problems that arise during climate hazards but also reduces security problems, lowers population densities, minimizes pressure on correctional budgets, and makes it possible to retire prisons at higher risk to climate hazards.¹⁰²

Reducing the size of these populations also benefits CDCR, as it can reduce operational costs and avoid potential lawsuits from climate-related harm. Releasing people aged 50 and older, especially those with cognitive impairment or mental illness, however, could have implications on community resources and public health. To ensure the needs of this population are met upon release, California will also need to reallocate the funding previously used to incarcerate these people to funding for re-entry support.

Calculating a 50,000 person reduction in the state prison population.

We found that 18 prisons face risks associated with wildfires, extreme heat and flooding. The combined population of those prisons is approximately 46,000 incarcerated people. There are also a significant amount of currently incarcerated people who are eligible for resentencing or early release based on recently passed criminal justice reform. Examples of this recent legislation include SB 483 (Allen, 2021), which repealed one-year and three-year sentence enhancements and AB 3234 (Ting, 2020), which improved the elderly parole program.

[Evaluation of Option 1 will follow the description of Option 2]



OPTION 2: Require CDCR to create rapid release policies to use during times of emergency.

This policy option would require CDCR to create a rapid release policy to implement during a climate hazard as a means to quickly get incarcerated people out of harm's way. The policy would have to be made publicly available and focus on the most vulnerable populations. This policy draws from the CDCR COVID-19 pandemic release criteria, which provides a proof of concept for utilizing emergency release. Incarcerated people had to meet the following criteria to be eligible for early release:

- Have 180 days or less on their sentence
- Not be serving time for a violent crime as defined by the law
- Have no current or prior sentences that require them to register as a sex offender
- Assessed as having a lower risk for violence¹⁰³

The Climate Hazard rapid-release plan criteria should focus on age and medical vulnerability, not conviction history or length of sentence. Similar to Option 1, this option critically addresses the vulnerability of those incarcerated in overcrowded state prisons.

While the legislature plays an important role in reducing the prison population, there are other stakeholders CDCR could work alongside with to design and implement rapid release. These stakeholders are defined in Table 13 below.

Table 13. Stakeholders with the authority to create and implement rapid release policies.

STAKEHOLDERS	AUTHORITY
<p>Health Officers</p>	<p>California law provides Health Officers the ability to make decisions that could protect lives. Health and Safety Code § 101040 reads as follows: "The Health Officer may take any preventive measure that may be necessary to protect and preserve the public from any public health hazard during any 'state of war emergency,' 'state of emergency,' or 'local emergency,' as defined by Section 8558 of the Government Code, within his or her jurisdiction."¹⁰⁴ This strategy was used during the COVID-19 pandemic for the general public and could be explored to determine how this authority could be used to carry out a rapid release in the event of a climate emergency.</p>
<p>CDCR Secretary</p>	<p>Under Proposition 57, the CDCR Secretary has the authority to create and implement credit-earning schemes to reduce the prison population.¹⁰⁵ The Secretary could explore how to create a revised credit earning process that could be triggered in times of an emergency.</p>
<p>Governor</p>	<p>The Governor has the authority using their power established in the California Constitution to grant clemency in the form of reprieves, pardons, and commutations.¹⁰⁶ Further exploration of their powers under the constitution to release incarcerated people should also be explored.</p>

Evaluation of Options 1 & 2

	HEALTH & WELLNESS OF INCARCERATED PEOPLE	DIVEST & REINVEST	TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY	POLITICAL FEASIBILITY
OPTION 1	YES	YES	YES	PARTIALLY
OPTION 2	YES	PARTIALLY	YES	YES

Health and Wellness of Incarcerated People

Many people we interviewed, including advocates and currently and previously incarcerated, provided recommendations for rapid and gradual release policies. Alex Binsfeld from TGJJP shared that the best way to keep incarcerated people safe during a climate hazard was to decarcerate as it reduces overcrowding and directly puts currently incarcerated people out of harm's way.¹⁰⁷ The COVID-19 pandemic also showed us that locking people up is paramount to killing them. Sara Norman of the Prison Law Office said:



You have these huge prisons that are far too crowded. I want to be clear, they are overcrowded. And that's not okay. But also people just shouldn't be there anyway. So it's not like, oh, if they just reduced the population by 10%, everything's fine. No, there were so many people who shouldn't be there under ordinary circumstances, and certainly not during the pandemic. So, California locks up far too many people. The pandemic made it abundantly clear that by locking up far too many people we are killing them and abandoning them to terrible, terrible outcomes.”¹⁰⁸

Therefore, both policy options can increase the health and wellness of currently incarcerated people as it reduces direct exposure to climate hazards and other harmful prison conditions.

Divest and Reinvest

Both gradual and rapid reductions in the prison population, with priority given to those who are over 50 years old, take psychotropic medication, are disabled, or lead sedentary lifestyles, is a clear divestment in the prison system as it will decrease the prison population. As mentioned, many of the populations we outline for priority release require additional care upon release that may put additional burdens on their home communities. Thus, option one meets the Divest and Reinvest criteria as savings would have to be used for re-entry support and option two conditionally meets this criteria if cost savings are accompanied by increased community investment.

Transparency and Accountability

Both policy options increase transparency and accountability as they require CDCR to make both their decarceration strategy and rapid release policy public. By making both of these documents public, CDCR can be held accountable if they fail to gradually reduce their prison population or implement rapid release measures during a climate hazard.

Political Feasibility of Option One

Option one can be achieved in 3 to 5 years as there is a general momentum towards decarceration and an opportunity for further decarceration under the current administration, which will remain in place until 2027.

When taking office, Governor Newsom announced his intent to close two prisons, which was followed by a December 2022 statement announcing the closure of two additional prisons and six yards at other prison locations.¹⁰⁹ Given these prison closures and the fact that less people are entering prison, the state recently predicted that its prison population will decrease by 9,390 people by 2027.¹¹⁰ Furthermore, in 2021, CDCR modified its policy on good conduct credits. This change opened up the door for approximately 76,000 incarcerated people to earn time off their sentence for good behavior.¹¹¹

Opposition to decarceration will most likely come from stakeholders and interest groups that have raised concerns on how decarceration can increase crime and recidivism rates. Some stakeholders include Republican lawmakers and victims' rights' organizations.¹¹² Despite these concerns, there are several indicators that suggest our option will receive more support than opposition. People over the age of 50 have a low recidivism rate. Additionally, releasing this population can decrease CDCR's operational costs since this population tends to have higher healthcare costs.¹¹³ Therefore, it may be more cost effective to release this population and reinvest these savings in re-entry programs.

Political Feasibility of Option Two

Option two can be achieved in 1 to 2 years. Similar to option one, option two has political momentum. This option is politically feasible as rapid release was already implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic when the Governor granted CDCR emergency authority.¹¹⁴ Additionally, California experienced an overall decline in crime in 2020, despite these COVID-19 rapid release policies.¹¹⁵ This addresses concerns from the opposition that decarceration can lead to increased crime.

OPTION 3: Close prisons most vulnerable to climate hazards.

Option three would require ‘vulnerability to climate hazards’ to be added to California Penal Code § 2067, which is the current policy used by CDCR to determine which prisons to close.¹¹⁶ Our spatial analysis determined that eighteen prisons are vulnerable to one or more climate hazards. Wildfire maps completed by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire) show that more than two-thirds of California prisons are located within five miles of fire hazard severity zones.¹¹⁷ This paints a more dire situation than CDCR acknowledged in its Climate Change Adaptation Plan. In this plan, CDCR recommends taking advantage of state funding to retrofit prisons instead of recognizing that prison closure may be the best way to protect incarcerated people from climate hazards.¹¹⁸

This policy option was inspired by recommendations from a recent report by Californians United for a Responsible Budget (CURB), and also aligns with Governor Newsom’s intent to close more prisons.¹¹⁹

Evaluation of Option 3

HEALTH & WELLNESS OF INCARCERATED PEOPLE	DIVEST & REINVEST	TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY	POLITICAL FEASIBILITY
YES	PARTIALLY	YES	YES

Health and Wellness of Incarcerated People

The prisons we identified in Table 7 have significant risk to extreme heat, wildfires, and flooding, and, therefore, pose significant health risks to incarcerated people. For the multitude of reasons we list in this report, exposure to climate hazards poses a significant risk for incarcerated people.

Prison closures alone, however, do not guarantee safety for those who remain incarcerated. In our research, we found that prison closures typically result in transfers rather than releases. To further promote health and wellness, this policy must be accompanied both by a reduction in prison population and a harm reduction strategy for transfers. Transfers can be harmful as people can be moved further away from home or rehoused in areas that are unsafe for their gender identity, as has been the case for transgender and gender variant incarcerated people.¹²⁰

Divest and Reinvest

Option three divests from prisons by calling for the closure of prisons susceptible to climate hazards. The option does not fit our definition of reinvestment, so it only partially fits with the divest and reinvest criterion.

Transparency and Accountability

This option fulfills this criterion because it will be enacted into statute. Adding climate hazard vulnerability as a criteria to consider in Penal Code § 2067 also creates a mechanism to ensure the legal enforceability of these measures, which increases the transparency and accountability of CDCR.

Political Feasibility

This option is feasible in the short-term. Because this policy may lead to even more prison closures, it will most likely face opposition from the California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA), the prison guard union; victims' rights groups; law enforcement; and other stakeholders. Despite this opposition, Governor Newsom recently decided to announce the closure of two additional prisons, which may signal his support for option three.



CATEGORY 2 - State Legislation that Strengthens Oversight of the Procedures & Operations of Prisons.

OPTION 4: Update the State of California Emergency plan to recognize the vulnerability of incarcerated people.

Incarcerated people are not explicitly mentioned in CalOES' State Emergency Plan (SEP). Incarcerated people are both entirely dependent on the state to respond in the event of an emergency and unable to take protective actions that the general population can take before, during, and after a climate hazard. Therefore, the SEP should be modified to recognize the vulnerability of this population.¹²¹

Our option would require CalOES to:

- Define incarcerated people as individuals with “access and functional needs”¹²²
- Define how CDCR facilities will be inspected by an outside agency after a climate hazard occurs and require that agency to produce an annual report

Table 14 includes the current list of people with “access and functional needs” in the SEP. State agencies are required to incorporate the needs of these individuals in their emergency planning. While we recognize that incarcerated people can fall into several of these categories—including individuals with physical, intellectual, developmental and mental health-related disabilities, chronic conditions, and living in institutional settings—we believe that creating a separate category that includes them will lead to more intentional planning, dedicated funding for this population, and a more effective response from the state.

Table 14. Individuals with access and functional needs defined in California's State Emergency Plan, 2017.

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Physical, intellectual, developmental and mental health-related disabilities | • Older adults |
| • Blind/visually impaired | • Infants and children |
| • Deaf/hearing impaired | • Living in institutional settings |
| • Mobility impairments | • Poor or homeless |
| • Injuries | • Limited English proficiency or are non-English speakers |
| • Chronic conditions | • Transportation disadvantaged |

The second part of this option would require an outside agency to conduct a damage assessment of CDCR prisons after a climate hazard occurs and produce an annual report. Currently, the SEP outlines how the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) inspects hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and intermediate care facilities “for structural, critical non-structural, and fire/life safety issues.”¹²³ If a facility is found to be too unsafe to occupy, OSHPD works closely with the damaged facility to “ensure the safety of occupants and the return of health facilities to service.”¹²⁴ Detailing how these same inspection services will be provided to prisons would ensure CDCR takes the appropriate recovery steps to keep incarcerated people safe.

Evaluation of Option 4

HEALTH & WELLNESS OF INCARCERATED PEOPLE	DIVEST & REINVEST	TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY	POLITICAL FEASIBILITY
YES	NO	YES	PARTIALLY

Health and Wellness of Incarcerated People

Defining people in prison as “vulnerable” fulfills the health and wellness criterion because it can promote the physical and mental well-being of incarcerated people. Since SEP is a public document, it resolves concerns among incarcerated people and experts that there is no coordinated plan in place to keep incarcerated people safe during a climate hazard.

Moreover, requiring an outside agency to inspect a damaged prison can improve the living conditions of incarcerated people. An outside agency may conduct a less biased inspection and demand changes to damaged facilities. Lastly, this option can increase access to resources to mitigate the effects of climate hazards. The SEP mentions that “individuals with access or functional needs may require resources or assets [...] that are [...] difficult to procure without planning.”¹²⁵ Therefore, including incarcerated people in this population will ensure that proper planning occurs to make such resources available.

Divest and Reinvest

Option four does not fulfill the divest and reinvest criteria. Defining incarcerated people as “vulnerable” does not directly decrease the size and scope of our current prison system, nor does it directly increase investment in disadvantaged communities or for people who will be being released from incarceration.

Transparency and Accountability

This option fulfills the transparency and accountability criterion because it increases oversight of CDCR and public accountability. As mentioned, SEP is a public document that describes the roles and responsibilities of state government agencies during emergencies, including all climate hazards of interest.¹²⁶ By defining incarcerated people as vulnerable, CDCR will have to outline how it will keep this population safe during a climate hazard. If such an event occurs and CDCR fails to fulfill the roles and responsibilities outlined in the SEP, then it can be held liable by the public and political actors.

Political Feasibility

Lastly, this option fulfills the political feasibility criterion in the long-term. We believe this option will be supported by the legislature and governor. Twelve states currently define or describe incarcerated people as vulnerable populations, including the conservative states of Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Nebraska, and Wyoming.¹²⁷ Arkansas' Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (ARCEMP) describes those incarcerated as people "that require special care or consideration by virtue of their dependency on others for appropriate protection."¹²⁸ As a result, the ARCEMP includes language on how the state's carceral system will partner with the state's public health department to ensure incarcerated people receive medical services during an emergency.¹²⁹ Additionally, the ARCEMP also instructs the state's carceral system's Chief Deputy Director to maintain and update internal emergency plans.¹³⁰ None of this clear language exists in the SEP. Therefore, given that California has made clear and consistent progress to identify communities and populations most vulnerable to climate change, we believe option four will be supported by both the legislative and executive branch.

Though it may have support, the policy will not be implemented until the long-term because the SEP is currently updated every 5 years.¹³¹ An updated SEP is supposed to be released later this year in October 2023, which gives our client little time to advocate for this policy option.

OPTION 5: Create minimum standards for emergency plans and require CDCR to develop a bi-annual report defining the protocol and resources on-hand to carry out these plans.

Option five requires CalOES to create a baseline level of emergency preparedness for all CDCR facilities. CalOES, the state's designated office responsible for "mitigating the effects of disasters," would also evaluate and enforce CDCR's emergency response and preparedness planning to ensure the plans are responsive to the vulnerabilities of incarcerated people to climate hazards.¹³²

These agency-specific plans must outline minimum standards in risk assessment and management, communication planning, training, testing, resource allocation, and ADA compliance, among other possible considerations. CDCR's plans must also list any specific resources (i.e., physical, human, and financial) on hand to respond to climate hazards and evacuations, and outline each prison's planned engagement with their surrounding community, including any mutual aid agreements in place with local agencies. An emergency event that calls for the prison's use of local resources, however, adds stress to the local communities' resources. To address this, setting minimum standards should also incorporate the roles, responsibilities, and resources dedicated to nearby communities where these prison facilities are located during a climate hazard. These minimum standards must also be responsive to the respective needs of each prison according to factors such as location, demographics, and infrastructure. Plans will likely look differently across prisons.

CDCR would also be obligated to complete and submit a bi-annual report detailing the protocols and resources on hand to respond to climate hazards. CDCR may likely claim that having too much information available to the public would create a security threat to the facility, especially for incarcerated people. To address CDCR's concern, the report will be submitted to and reviewed by the legislature. The legislature would then be required to publish their findings publicly. If they determine that existing plans are not sufficient, CDCR would be required to submit a corrective action plan with a corresponding timeline outlining the steps it will take to improve these plans.

Our findings suggest this option is important given that CDCR’s requirements and process for emergency response and preparedness have been relatively inaccessible and minimally understood by the state legislature, several key state agencies, and, most importantly, its incarcerated population. Additionally, our research also pointed to gaps in CDCR’s provision of its current emergency response and preparedness plans, suggesting a need for quality control and improvement to ensure the protection of incarcerated people during a climate hazard event.

Evaluation of Option 5

HEALTH & WELLNESS OF INCARCERATED PEOPLE	DIVEST & REINVEST	TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY	POLITICAL FEASIBILITY
YES	NO	YES	YES

Health and Wellness of Incarcerated People

Since CDCR’s current emergency management planning appears to be minimal and insufficient, we can expect that the creation of minimum standards will increase protective factors for incarcerated people’s health and wellness in the event of a climate hazard. This option would ensure the necessary resources and protocols are on hand to decrease injury and mortality rates. Setting minimum standards on items such as training and communication systems would also improve perceptions of safety because incarcerated people will be better informed on the actions that should be taken to keep them safe in the event of a climate hazard.

Divest and Reinvest

This option does not divest from California’s carceral system or invest in disadvantaged communities or people who will be being released from incarceration.

Transparency and Accountability

Creating minimum standards for CDCR's emergency preparedness and response to climate hazards fulfills the transparency and accountability criterion because the process laid out increases the legislative and public oversight of CDCR. This option also creates an accountability enforcement mechanism by CalOES. By evaluating CDCR's plans, CalOES can identify deficiencies and require CDCR to quickly address these issues.

Requiring the legislature to publish its findings publicly forms a new level of accountability. For example, CDCR can be held accountable if they fail to provide incarcerated people the resources it explicitly stated were available during a climate hazard. Holding state carceral systems accountable for their climate hazard response is crucial, given their failure to protect incarcerated people in the past. In 2005, Louisiana's contingency plan mandated prisons to stockpile enough food and bottled water to last ninety-six hours but did not designate how the food and water would be distributed. As a result, people incarcerated during Hurricane Katrina went for several days without either food or water. Several advocacy organizations, including the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), used this to call for greater accountability of Louisiana's carceral system.¹³³

Political Feasibility

Option five could be achieved within 1 to 2 years. Past climate hazards have demonstrated how unprepared state and local agencies are to care for incarcerated people during and after a climate hazard. As a result, legislation following climate hazard events has been introduced to improve preparedness, such as Republican Assembly Member Marie Waldron's Assembly Bill 693 (AB 693), which would require CalOES to update the SEP every 3 years instead.¹³⁴ The introduction of this legislation speaks to the urgency and willingness of the legislature to work on the issue.

According to CDCR's Operations Manual, CDCR already submits a similar biannual report to the California Highway Patrol (CHP) every two years that accounts for updates to their emergency preparedness and response plans.¹³⁵ Because this process already exists, option five would not be overly burdensome for CDCR to coordinate with CalOES.

OPTION 6: Require CDCR to produce an annual report on the number of climate hazards experienced at CDCR prison facilities.

Option six borrows and expands on federal legislation (S.2592) introduced by U.S. Senator Duckworth, which seeks to enhance understanding of how climate hazards affect prisons. This option would require CDCR to submit an annual report to the legislature and CalOES outlining the extent of damage and loss of life related to climate hazards experienced at every CDCR prison.¹³⁶ More specifically, this report would require CDCR to explain in detail how climate hazards affected daily operations at every prison, obstacles encountered in meeting constitutional and court-ordered obligations, and steps taken to address these obstacles.

The report would address the data gaps outlined in Table 15 below. All of these provisions were taken directly from S. 2592.

Table 15. Provisions to include in Policy Option 6.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Provide] data on injury and loss of life of [incarcerated people] and staff; • [Describe] access to health and medical care, food, special dietary needs, drinkable water, personal protective equipment, and personal hygiene products; • [Provide] guidance used to adjudicate early release or home confinement requests, data on early release or home confinement approvals, denials, and justification for denials; explanation as to whether using home confinement or early release was considered; • [Describe] access to cost-free and uninterrupted visitation with legal counsel and visitors with justifications for [prison] decisions that resulted in suspended or altered visitations; | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Describe the] access to appropriate accommodations for [people in prison] with disabilities; • [Describe] access to educational and work programs; • [Provide the number of] grievances submitted by [incarcerated people]; • [Provide an] assessment of the cost of the damage to the [prison] and estimates for repairs; • [Discuss] the impact on staffing, equipment, and financial resources; and • Other factors relating to the ability of [CDCR] and any existing contract prison to uphold the health, safety, and civil rights of the correctional population. |
|---|--|

Evaluation of Option 6

HEALTH & WELLNESS OF INCARCERATED PEOPLE	DIVEST & REINVEST	TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY	POLITICAL FEASIBILITY
YES	NO	YES	YES

Health and Wellness of Incarcerated People

Having CDCR produce this annual report meets all four indicators of health and wellness and, in particular, increases perceptions of safety and creates greater access to knowledge and resources that mitigate the effects of climate hazards. Our survey results suggest that climate hazards, particularly extreme heat and wildfires, are a regular occurrence at CDCR facilities yet little information on these occurrences are known by the public. Information on these instances can help relieve fears of incarcerated people and their family members and can increase perceptions of safety among incarcerated people by ensuring information will be shared outside of CDCR.

Divest and Reinvest

Option six does not fulfill the divest and reinvest criterion because it does not provide any direct mechanisms for release or identify any investments in disadvantaged communities or for people who will be being released from incarceration.

Transparency and Accountability

Creating an annual reporting requirement addresses this criterion by ensuring data is available on an ongoing basis, thus increasing regular oversight of CDCR. Requiring data from state agencies is frequently a first step in identifying the scale and magnitude of a problem.

CDCR has the staffing and capacity to complete this requirement. The agency already has an Emergency Services Coordinator in the Emergency Planning and Management Unit that is responsible for “data tracking and reporting mechanisms to ensure continuous program improvement.”¹³⁷ CDCR also has the technology in place to track and visualize sophisticated data. The agency has a “Population COVID-19 Tracking” data dashboard on its website and has an organizational unit dedicated entirely to producing various types of research.¹³⁸

Political Feasibility

Option six is feasible in the short-term. The Governor and legislature have increasingly supported measures to better understand the impacts of climate change on California. In 2015, AB 1482 (Gordon) mandated California to adopt a statewide climate adaptation strategy to coordinate the state’s climate adaptation efforts, and to describe how these efforts help achieve the state’s climate resilience priorities.¹³⁹ Two of the state’s priorities are to “strengthen protections for climate vulnerable communities” and “bolster public health and safety to protect against increasing climate risks.”¹⁴⁰ This strategy was recently updated in 2022 and calls for the use of “best available data to identify the communities most vulnerable to climate change in California.”¹⁴¹ Since our policy option aligns with the state’s climate priorities and CDCR has the staffing and technological ability available to complete the reporting, it will most likely be supported by the Governor and legislature.

CATEGORY 3 - Approaches for Addressing Climate Adaptation

OPTION 7: Reallocate funding to expand heating, air conditioning, ventilation, shade structures, and backup generators.

Option seven would require CDCR to address its infrastructure vulnerability by reallocating funding from its existing budget to improve heating, air conditioning, ventilation, shade structures, and backup generators. Infrastructure changes were commonly recommended by our survey respondents and interviewees, and can mitigate the health effects of climate hazards on currently incarcerated people.

To ensure that the funding used for infrastructure changes comes from either existing infrastructure funding or funding from prison closures, this option also requires CDCR to produce the following information:

- CDCR must publicly release its prison closure plan before investing in infrastructure improvements. This will ensure CDCR does not fund and complete large-scale infrastructure projects at prisons that will be closed by 2025.¹⁴² This prison closure plan must also include projected savings from prison closures so savings can be reallocated towards infrastructure improvements in existing prisons.
- CDCR must also create an infrastructure prioritization plan. The plan would identify projects with the most significant impacts on the health and wellness of incarcerated people during a climate hazard. Like the prison closure plan, the infrastructure plan would have to be public to maintain oversight.

Evaluation of Option 7

HEALTH & WELLNESS OF INCARCERATED PEOPLE	DIVEST & REINVEST	TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY	POLITICAL FEASIBILITY
YES	NO	YES	YES

Health and Wellness of Incarcerated People

Extreme heat, extreme cold, wildfire smoke inhalation, and power outages, have negatively impacted the health and wellness of incarcerated people. This policy option fulfills the criterion for health and wellness by reducing risk of injury and death of incarcerated people during a climate hazard, improving conditions of incarceration, and promoting the mental well-being of incarcerated people in the event of a climate hazard by increasing their perception of safety. Table 16 below highlights the mental and physical health effects faced by currently incarcerated people under these four climate-related conditions.

Table 16. Health effects under climate-related conditions.

EXTREME HEAT

Extreme heat increases mortality in prisons, particularly for people over the age of 65: a recent study tied a 10°F increase in temperature to a 5.2% increase in total mortality and a 6.7% increase in heart disease mortality.¹⁴³ CDCR's states that it typically relies on ineffective evaporative cooling units and only a small portion of each prison has refrigerated cooling.¹⁴⁴ Over 66% of our survey respondents reported experiencing an extreme heat event, with 44% of these respondents indicating they feared for their life due to extreme heat. Forty-percent of survey respondents reported experiencing heat cramps, 61% reported heat exhaustion, and 26% reported heat stroke. Notably, 87% of respondents reported having no access to shade cover in the yard they used most frequently. **Air conditioning and shade cover could reduce mortality and injury as well as alleviate the psychological and physical symptoms associated with extreme heat.**

WILDFIRE SMOKE INHALATION

Improved ventilation systems would mitigate the psychological and negative health effects from proximity to wildfires. In the U.S., California has the most detention facilities at the highest risk levels for wildfire.¹⁴⁵ Approximately 45% of survey respondents have experienced a wildfire while at their current prison and 33% of them reported fearing for their life due to the event. Over half of incarcerated individuals have reported that wildfire smoke has irritated their lungs, eyes and throat or caused them difficulty breathing, while 31% report that their existing respiratory conditions were exacerbated by the smoke. CDCR does not make it a policy to give N-95 masks for smoke, and windows are often sealed shut and air flow is restricted within facilities.¹⁴⁶

EXTREME COLD

Over 40% of survey respondents indicated that they experienced an extreme cold event, and over half reported lack of access to heated facilities during extreme cold weather. Extreme cold can create conditions that are as deadly as the heat, especially when facilities go without power, which is a commonly reported phenomena.¹⁴⁷ **Reallocating funds towards heating infrastructure in prisons vulnerable to extreme cold would benefit the health and wellness of those inside.**

POWER OUTAGES

Over 86% of survey respondents reported a power outage or generator failure since they arrived at their current prison. Steve Brooks, a former EBC Fellow, reported an hours-long blackout at San Quentin State Prison, saying it "felt like we were suffocating" in the stagnant heat.¹⁴⁸ Necessary medical devices like CPAP machines fail during power outages. **Having power and working generators is essential to improving living conditions and preventing injury or loss of life.**

Divest and Reinvest

Although the policy does not call for new investments in CDCR, it neither divests from CDCR nor reinvests in the community. The policy stipulates that CDCR funds be reallocated toward specific infrastructure improvements. Investing in these large-scale infrastructure changes carries risk as it could increase the size and scope of the prison system or lead CDCR to request an increase in their budget.¹⁴⁹ For this reason, the policy requires that no new funding goes towards these improvements.

Transparency and Accountability

The policy increases transparency and accountability by requiring CDCR to publicize their prison closure and prison infrastructure plans. As a result, the policy increases transparency and holds CDCR accountable to the public, advocacy organizations, and legislators who could review it.

Political Feasibility

Option seven is feasible in the short-term. CDCR has already created a prison closure plan using the criteria specified in Penal Code § 2067, as discussed in Option 3. This plan, however, is not publicly available. The governor ultimately decides which prisons to close, and Governor Newsom's actions have favored prison closure. Since the plan already exists, we assess it is politically feasible in the short-term for CDCR to make the plan available to the public.

Climate hazards have a clear effect on the health and wellness of the incarcerated population, and infrastructure changes would directly mitigate risk. The costs of these projects, however, are monumental. For example, the project costs at Ironwood State Prison for updating the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system is \$178,234,000.¹⁵⁰ Key members of the legislature have opposed increasing the budget for CDCR, including the Senate and Assembly Budget Chairs.¹⁵¹ Over the last few years, the CDCR Infrastructure Expenditures budget has been declining, having been reduced from \$610,009,000 in 2022-2023 to \$134,249,000 proposed for 2023-2024.¹⁵² Considering the legislature's opposition to increasing CDCR funding, this policy calls for a *reallocation* of funding based on the savings and priorities identified in the prison closure and infrastructure prioritization plans. Therefore, this option is likely to be supported by the legislature and can be implemented within 1 to 2 years since CDCR already proposes capital outlay projects to the legislature annually during the budget process.

OPTION 8: Expand emergency preparedness training for staff and incarcerated people.

Option eight would require CalOES to collaborate with the Commission on Correctional Peace Officer Standards and Training (CPOST) and the Correctional Health Care Services (CHCS) Staff Development Unit (SDU) to evaluate and expand current standards on emergency preparedness training for wildfires, extreme temperatures, and floods. CalOES, CPOST, and SDU will evaluate existing standards and develop updated standards that better prepare staff and incarcerated people to respond to a climate hazard. This option was derived from our survey and interview findings. We found that CDCR is unable to meet its current standards on emergency response and there is a lack of comprehensive emergency training for staff and incarcerated people for emergencies. In fact, 78 incarcerated survey respondents specifically requested increased education and training.

Evaluation of Option 8

HEALTH & WELLNESS OF INCARCERATED PEOPLE	DIVEST & REINVEST	TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY	POLITICAL FEASIBILITY
YES	NO	YES	YES

Health and Wellness

Although incarceration itself restricts people's ability to respond freely, a lack of information and training protocols further prevents incarcerated people from ensuring their safety in the event of a climate hazard, increasing risk of injury and death. A lack of staff preparedness also hinders staffs' ability to properly facilitate safety protocols and administer care during and after a climate hazard. Training provides CDCR staff with clear protocols and responsibilities to ensure lifesaving measures are taken. Including incarcerated people in training protocols along with staff may improve perceptions of safety and trust among incarcerated people and prison staff during these hazards. Regardless, option eight will only lead to these lifesaving benefits if robust quality oversight of CDCR and its responsibilities is in place.

Divest and Reinvest

This option does not divest from California's carceral system and may instead require the state to allocate more financial resources to CDCR to ensure its emergency preparedness training is inclusive of incarcerated people.

Transparency and Accountability

Option eight fulfills the transparency and accountability criterion because CalOES, CPOST, and SDU's evaluation of CDCR's current training standards will most likely uncover gaps and require a corrective action plan.

Incorporating incarcerated people in emergency preparedness training can also provide more tools for incarcerated people to hold CDCR and its staff accountable to their roles and responsibilities including accommodations to yard time, increased access to water, and facilitation of emergency drills, for example.

Political Feasibility

Recent climate hazard events and the COVID-19 crisis illuminated CDCR staff's incompetency to respond to emergencies. While CDCR's website and the DOM mention that CDCR staff receive training in emergency response, our findings suggest there is a lack of quality control and an over-reliance on simply locking people in a cell. Our survey also indicated that incarcerated people are typically not included in basic fire and evacuation drills.

In response to several calls for accountability after its mismanagement of the COVID-19 crisis, CDCR shared it was making efforts to expand training for staff, including partnering with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Staff can take four online training modules to prepare for future emergencies through NIMS.¹⁵³ CDCR's efforts to expand emergency training and the introduction of bills like AB 693 (Waldron) suggest an urgency within the state to improve emergency preparedness.

The agency also has the administrative capacity to take on this task. Recent and pending prison closures will likely relieve onboarding and hiring resources that can be reallocated towards this robust emergency training program.¹⁵⁴ Therefore, despite the administrative burden, this option can be implemented in the short-term.

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OUR RECOMMENDATIONS



"The only recommendations I have is, prisoners/inmates are human beings as well. Treat and take care of [them] as you would want to be treated in the process of climate emergencies. Deliver that message to CDCR."

*- Survey Respondent from
California State Prison, Los Angeles County*



After careful analysis and recognizing the urgency to respond, we recommend all of our policy options. These recommendations can be used as stand-alone policies or combined. Yet, to have the most significant impact, all of the recommended policies should be pursued. We understand that the creation of plans takes time, but there is an incredible urgency to address the impacts of climate change. Thus, while our recommendations seem bold, many just require that a plan be created to begin to address the harms of climate hazards on incarcerated people. A majority of our recommendations require either the action of the legislature or CDCR.

Our evaluation acknowledges that some options are more feasible in the short-term while others are more feasible in the long-term; therefore, in Table 17, we present the recommended policies within their predicted timeline. We identified the following options as the highest-ranking short-term policies:

- **Option 3.** Closing prisons most vulnerable to climate hazards
- **Option 2.** Creating and implementing rapid release plans

We identified the following option as the highest ranking long-term policy:

- **Option 1.** Reducing the size of the incarcerated population by 50%

Table 17. List of recommended short-term and long-term policies, displayed in ranked order.

SHORT-TERM POLICIES. Timeframe: 1 to 2 years.

Option 3. Close prisons most vulnerable to climate hazards.

Option 2. Create and implement rapid release policies during times of emergency.

Option 6. Require CDCR to produce an annual report on the number of climate hazards experienced at CDCR prison facilities.

Option 5. Create minimum standards for emergency plans and require CDCR to develop a bi-annual report defining the protocol and resources on-hand to carry out these plans.

Option 7. Reallocate funding to expand heating, air conditioning, ventilation, shade structures, and backup generators.

Option 8. Expand emergency preparedness training for staff and incarcerated people

LONG-TERM POLICIES. Timeframe: 3 to 5 years.

Option 1. Reducing the size of the incarcerated population by 50,000 with a focus on people 50 years or older and those who are most vulnerable.

Option 4. Update the State of California emergency plan to recognize the vulnerability of incarcerated people.

THE CURRENT POLITICAL CONTEXT

California has been on a gradual trend toward decarceration since 2010. The state has substantially reduced its prison population over the last decade, including through court orders, legislation, executive action, and ballot initiatives.

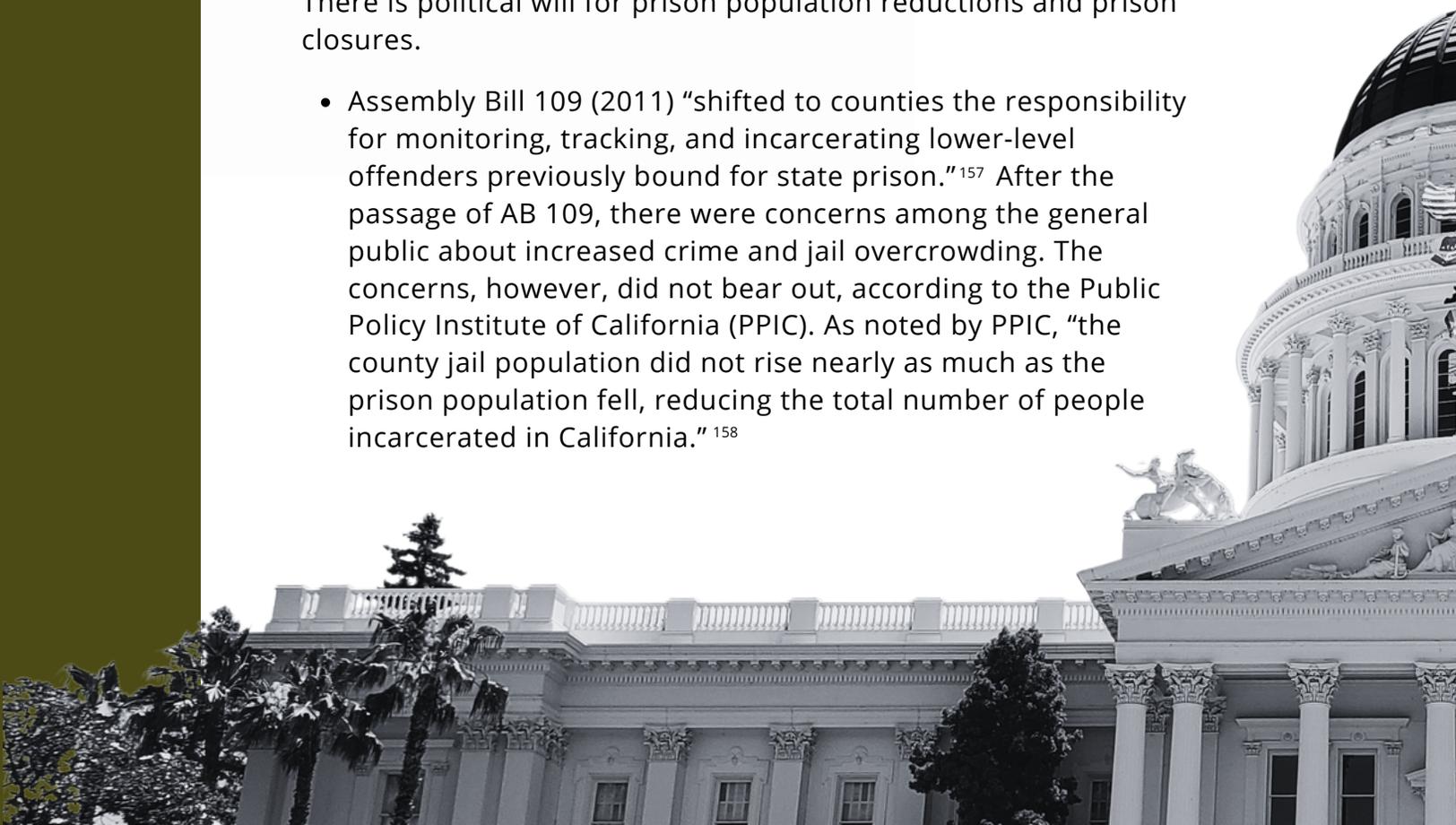
COURTS

- In the 2011 *Brown v. Plata* case, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled California prisons were seriously overcrowded, which prevented incarcerated people in California from having access to “lifesaving medical and psychiatric care”.¹⁵⁵ The court ordered a reduction in the prison population to a maximum of 137.5% of design capacity, resulting in a significant reduction in the prison population.
- The *Plata* case is ongoing and a federal receiver was appointed to oversee the medical care and mental health care of incarcerated people.¹⁵⁶

SUPPORT IN THE LEGISLATURE

There is political will for prison population reductions and prison closures.

- Assembly Bill 109 (2011) “shifted to counties the responsibility for monitoring, tracking, and incarcerating lower-level offenders previously bound for state prison.”¹⁵⁷ After the passage of AB 109, there were concerns among the general public about increased crime and jail overcrowding. The concerns, however, did not bear out, according to the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC). As noted by PPIC, “the county jail population did not rise nearly as much as the prison population fell, reducing the total number of people incarcerated in California.”¹⁵⁸



SUPPORT FROM GOVERNOR NEWSOM

Governor Newsom is committed to closing adult prisons. When taking office, he announced he would close at least one prison; a move not made by a California governor since 2003.¹⁵⁹ In September 2021, Deuel Vocational Institution (DVI) closed its doors. He has now identified three other prisons for closure, including the following:

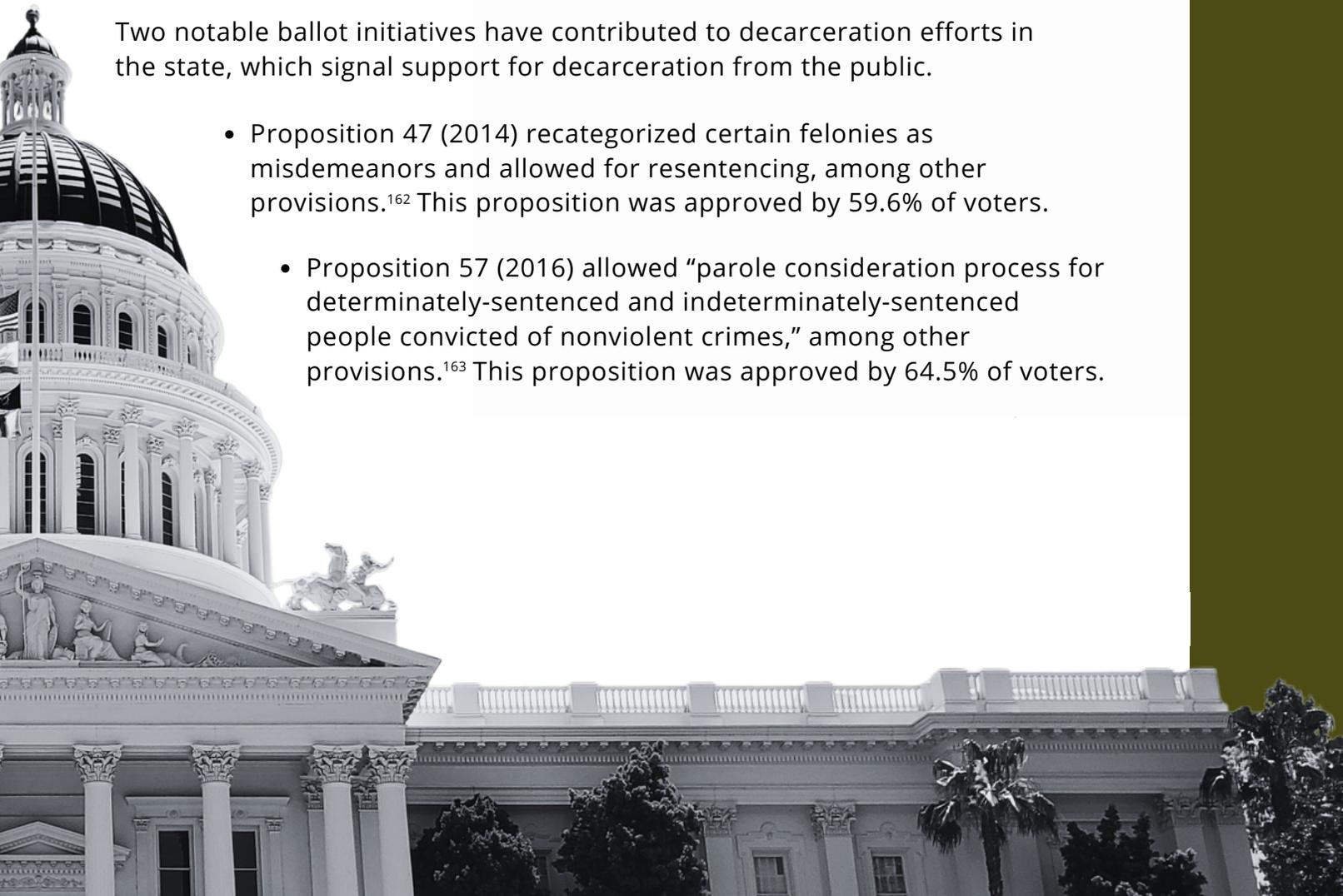
- In June 2023, California Correctional Center will close.
- In March 2024, CDCR will end its contract with California City Correctional Center, a private facility operated by CDCR.
- In March 2025, Chuckawalla Valley State Prison is slated to close.

Governor Newsom is not only interested in closing adult prisons but also youth prisons. In 2020, he announced the closure of the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), the state's youth carceral system.¹⁶⁰ Senate Bill 823 (2020) transferred youth confinement from the state to local jurisdictions, similar to AB 109. All remaining DJJ facilities will close on June 30, 2023.¹⁶¹

BALLOT INITIATIVES WITH PUBLIC SUPPORT

Two notable ballot initiatives have contributed to decarceration efforts in the state, which signal support for decarceration from the public.

- Proposition 47 (2014) recategorized certain felonies as misdemeanors and allowed for resentencing, among other provisions.¹⁶² This proposition was approved by 59.6% of voters.
- Proposition 57 (2016) allowed "parole consideration process for determinately-sentenced and indeterminately-sentenced people convicted of nonviolent crimes," among other provisions.¹⁶³ This proposition was approved by 64.5% of voters.



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CONCLUSION

California is a leader in addressing climate change in the United States and has an urgent responsibility to consider the impacts of climate change on incarcerated people throughout the state.

As temperatures rise, cold fronts move in, wildfires spread, and flooding increases, we must come together to consider how we can keep our most vulnerable communities safe from harm. With the general trend towards decarceration in our state, we have shown it is already possible to close prisons, reduce our prison population, and reinvest in the communities most harmed by climate change.

This research is only the beginning of increasing our understanding of how climate hazards affect incarcerated people, how to bridge the chasm between written CDCR policy and its implementation, and how to confront the harmful carceral system.



We suggest further research be conducted on the following topics:

1. The particular impacts of extreme temperatures on individual prisons as it relates to the issues of infrastructure, access to heating and cooling facilities, and the geography of each prison location play a significant role in how people experience extreme temperatures.
2. Analysis of the CDCR budget to understand how much money is saved when CDCR releases individuals and closes prisons and how these savings can be reinvested into environmental justice communities, over-policed communities, and re-entry programs.
3. Strategies that would hold CDCR accountable to its written policy and ensure implementation across facilities.
4. Policies to improve communication between incarcerated people and their loved ones on the outside in times of emergency.
5. Strategies to integrate the justice system-impacted communities into the policy making and accountability process.
6. Including incarcerated people and prison facilities in measures of environmental justice such as CalEnviroScreen.
7. The impact of additional climate hazards such as drought on incarcerated people.

We hope our report follows the ethos of Ella Jo Baker and the Ella Baker Center in grasping issues by the root to understand how communities of color, low-income communities and people impacted by incarceration can come together to transform our criminal justice system. In a speech in Atlanta, Ella J. Baker said it best:



In order for us as poor and oppressed people to become a part of a society that is meaningful, the system under which we now exist has to be radically changed. This means that we are going to have to learn to think in radical terms. I use the term radical in its original meaning—getting down to and understanding the root cause. It means facing a system that does not lend itself to your needs and devising means by which you change that system.”¹⁶⁴



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APPENDIX

APPENDIX A.

California State Prisons as seen on CalEnviroScreen.

APPENDIX B.

Interviewee List.

APPENDIX C.

Survey Methodology.

APPENDIX D.

Survey of Incarcerated People.

APPENDIX E.

Survey Results.

APPENDIX F.

Additional Maps and Data Used for Spatial Analysis.

APPENDIX G.

List of Documents Requested in the PRA.

APPENDIX H.

Documents Received from PRA.

Appendix I.

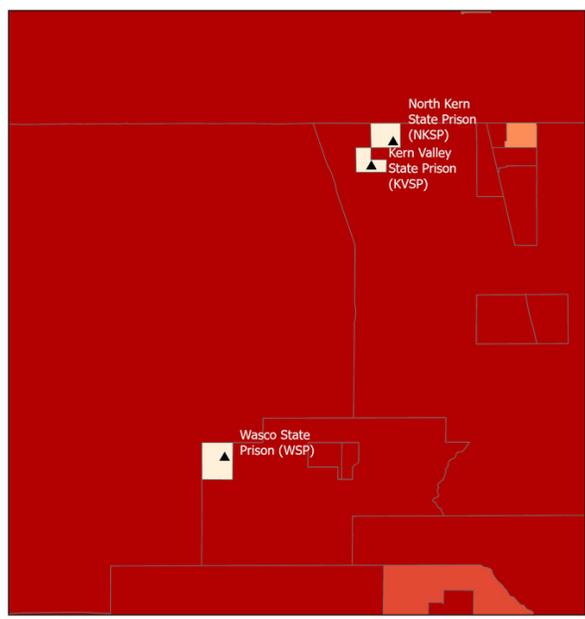
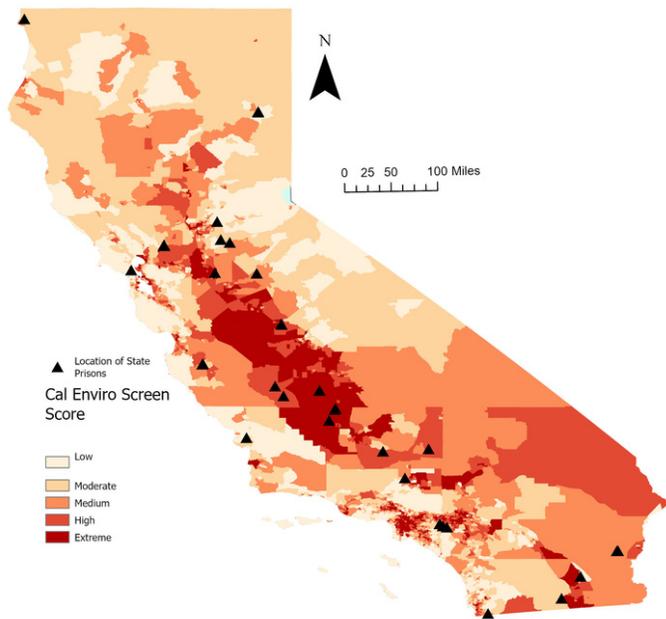
Communication with CDCR.

APPENDIX J.

Incarcerated Labor and Wildfires.

APPENDIX A. California State Prisons as seen on CalEnviroScreen.

- This map divides the CalEnviroScreen into quintiles with the darker red areas showing a higher score meaning more burdened by climate change, pollution, poverty and other indicators.¹⁶⁵
- These examples of tracts containing state prisons are surrounded by at-risk communities facing high pollution burdens. Thus CalEnviroScreen is not a sufficient indicator for climate risk in California state prisons and we must look to other methods.
- Environmental Justice communities are those “disproportionately burdened by multiple sources of pollution and social vulnerabilities.”¹⁶⁶



APPENDIX B. Interviewee List.

TABLE 1. Interviewees alphabetical by last name.

Individual Name	Title and Organization (if applicable)
Anonymous - One	
Anonymous - Two	
Anonymous - Three	
Anonymous - Four	
Steven Brooks	Incarcerated Inside Fellow with EBC, Editor at San Quentin news
Jesse Blue	Currently Incarcerated firefighter with Cal Fire at Trinity River
Alleen Brown	Independent Investigative Reporter
Craig Gilmore	Organizer
Juan Haines	Incarcerated journalist in San Quentin State Prison; Senior Editor at San Quentin news, contributor to Solitary Watch, Inside Organizer with EBC
Rick Harcrow	Former Correctional Officer, New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision
Catherine Harrison, RN, MPH	Deputy Director, Health Emergency Response Office, University of Minnesota
Mike Jimenez	Former Correctional Officer and Former Union President, California Correctional Peace Officers Association
De'jon Joy	Formerly Incarcerated Person and Former Firefighter
Tom McMahon	Deputy Public Defender, Marin County Public Defender
Amika Mota	Executive Director, Sister Warriors Freedom Coalition and Formerly Incarcerated Firefighter at Central California Women's Facility (CCWF)
Sara Norman	Deputy Director, Prison Law Office
Caitlin O'Neil	Principal Fiscal and Policy Analyst, California Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO)
Amber Akemi Piatt, MPH	Health Not Punishment Director, Human Impact Partners
Noire Wilson	Current incarcerated firefighter at San Quentin State Prison Firehouse
John Winters	Former incarcerated firefighter with Cal Fire
Beth Waitkus	Founder and Former Executive Director, Insight Garden Program
Alex Binsfeld	Legal Director, Transgender, Gender Variant, Intersex Justice Project (TGJJP)
eli b.	Communications Director, Transgender, Gender Variant, Intersex Justice Project (TGJJP)

APPENDIX B. Interviewee List, *ctd.*

TABLE 2. Interview Codebook.

Parent Code	Child Code	Grandchild Code	Definition
Emergency Plans			Responses related to CDCR emergency response plans.
	Familiarity		Answers "Are you familiar with a plan by CDCR for climate disaster response?"
	Details		Answers "What does the plan include?" Speculations by interviews on what the plan may include or look like.
	Dissemination		Answers "How is the plan made available to all responsible parties (e.g., CDCR staff, county leaders, legislative staff, and the general public)? "
Community Engagement/ Involvement			Responses related to CDCR's relationship with local communities.
	Strategies		Strategies CDCR currently uses to engage with the local community, especially during climate emergencies.
Emergency Preparedness			Steps CDCR takes to make sure all within facilities are "safe before, during and after an emergency or natural disaster. Includes prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.
	Prevention, Mitigation, and Preparedness		Steps CDCR takes to prepare for an emergency (e.g., posting evacuation plans in recreational areas, not housing those taking heat-sensitive medication in certain facilities)
		Worker	Steps CDCR staff takes to make sure they are prepared for an emergency (e.g., training)
		Incarcerated	Steps incarcerated people take to prepare for an emergency. Can also include prevention and mitigation efforts (e.g., saving water).
	Response		CDCR's response during a disaster (e.g., locking people down)
		Worker	CDCR worker's response during a disaster (i.e., evacuating prison)
		Incarcerated	The incarcerated person's response during a disaster.
	Recovery		Steps CDCR takes after a disaster.
		Worker	Steps CDCR staff take after a disaster.
		Incarcerated	Steps incarcerated people take after a disaster.

APPENDIX B. Interviewee List, *ctd.*

TABLE 2. Interview Codebook, *ctd.*

Parent Code	Child Code	Grandchild Code	Definition
Disaster Risk/Vulnerability			Answers "What factors make California state prisons susceptible to the following climate disasters: extreme heat, cold, wildfires, and floods (e.g., infrastructure)?"
	Extreme Heat		Factors mentioned that are specific to extreme heat.
	Extreme Cold		Factors mentioned that are specific to extreme cold.
	Wildfires		Factors mentioned that are specific to wildfires.
	Floods		Factors mentioned that are specific to floods.
	Other		Factors mentioned that are specific to other climate disasters, including drought, earthquakes, and coastal erosion.
Disaster Type			Captures whether a disaster was mentioned.
	Extreme Heat		Mention of an extreme heat disaster occurring within or near a CDCR prison.
	Extreme Cold		Mention of an extreme cold disaster occurring within or near a CDCR prison.
	Wildfire and Smoke		Mention of a wildfire and smoke occurring within or near a CDCR prison.
	Flooding		Mention of a flooding disaster occurring within or near a CDCR prison.
	Earthquake		Mention of an earthquake within or near a CDCR prison.
	Other		Mention of other natural or climate disasters occurring within or near a CDCR prison (e.g., coastal erosion)

APPENDIX B. Interviewee List, *ctd.*

TABLE 2. Interview Codebook, *ctd.*

Parent Code	Child Code	Grandchild Code	Definition
Effects of Disaster			This code will capture effects of disaster not captured below and not specific to a disaster type.
	Extreme Heat		
		Individual	Effects of extreme heat on an individual (i.e., worker, incarcerated person)
		Built Environment	Effects of extreme heat on the built environment (i.e., infrastructure, power outage)
	Extreme Cold		
		Individual	Effects of extreme cold on an individual (i.e., worker, incarcerated person)
		Built Environment	Effects of extreme cold on the built environment (i.e., infrastructure, power outage)
	Wildfires and Smoke		
		Individual	Effects of wildfires on an individual (i.e., worker, incarcerated person, power outage)
		Built Environment	Effects of wildfires on the built environment (i.e., infrastructure)
	Floods		
		Individual	Effects of floods on an individual (i.e., worker, incarcerated person, power outage)
		Built Environment	Effects of floods on the built environment (i.e., infrastructure)
Specific Laws and Regulations			Specific laws and regulations that can keep incarcerated people safe now, and any policies that we should look more into.
	Plata v. California		Mention of Plata court case, which has to do with overcrowding and sets the maximum population capacity at 137.5%.

APPENDIX B. Interviewee List, *ctd.*

TABLE 2. Interview Codebook, *ctd.*

Parent Code	Child Code	Grandchild Code	Definition
Recommendations			Recommendations to reduce the harm of climate disasters on the incarcerated population.
	Decarceration Strategies		Strategies that deal with decarceration (e.g., elderly parole, compassionate release, medical release, rapid release, etc.)
	Abolitionist Lens		Strategies that will decrease the size and scope of the current prison system and related to divest and reinvest.
	Re-entry and Community Investments		Investment before and after incarceration.
	Health and Wellness of Incarcerated Population		Strategies that reduce exposure to the negative effects of climate hazards, particularly extreme temperatures, floods and wildfires (e.g., assigning a covid-risk score or a heat-risk score)
	Climate Resilience		Strategies that include both infrastructure improvements and organizational changes within CDCR (e.g., hazard mitigation that includes brush clearing, retrofitting, organizational changes such as an MOU with local community, improving current plans, training for staff and incarcerated)
		Emergency Plans	Answers "If you have not seen a plan, what would you hope the plan included? Or, what would you like to see included?"
	State and Public Accountability		Strategies that increase legislative and/or agency and public oversight and transparency.
	Other		Other recommendations that cannot be grouped in the above categories.

APPENDIX B. Interviewee List, *ctd.*

TABLE 2. Interview Codebook, *ctd.*

Parent Code	Child Code	Grandchild Code	Definition
COVID-19			Describes impact of COVID-19 on those incarcerated within CDCR facilities.
	Effects		Effects of COVID-19 on people who were or are incarcerated.
	Responses		Responses to the COVID-19 crisis at CDCR facilities.
		CDCR's Response	Answers "How did CDCR respond to COVID-19?" "How is it the same or different approach to the identified climate disaster threats and responses?"
		Other States Response	Answers "What aspects of Texas and New York's carceral system's response to COVID-19 align with the identified climate disaster threats and responses? Can any of these responses be applied to climate disasters?"
		Public Health Response	How public health departments responded to the COVID-19 crisis inside CDCR facilities.
		Community Response	How the community responded to the COVID-19 crisis inside CDCR facilities.
Abolition			Answers "How do you define abolition? Also includes other responses on abolitionist theory.
Disaster Declarations/ Emergency Declarations			Answers "When a climate emergency occurs, who has the authority at the state and local levels to declare it? When an emergency is declared, what resources and rights kick in related to the incarcerated at CDCR? How can this process be improved?"
Prison Labor			Examples of CDCR relying on prison labor to respond to climate disasters.
Case Studies From Other States			Examples of how other states have responded to climate disasters.
To Review/Unclear			Unclear response or requires further review.
Good Quote			A quote we can use in the report

APPENDIX C. Survey Methodology.

2,233 surveys were sent to incarcerated individuals in California state prisons who were on the Ella Baker Center's mailing list in mid-January of 2023. EBC routinely holds mail correspondence events with trained volunteers to respond to incarcerated people from all California state prisons. All correspondents requesting legal support, and resource linkages, among other requests for support are automatically added to their mailing list. Family members of incarcerated people also connect them to EBC by providing their names to be added to the mailing list. EBC does not collect personal information besides mailing addresses; as such, we are unable to determine its representativeness of the incarcerated population in California state prisons.

Our randomization was done by assigning a random number to each person using the RAND function on Excel to select the first 50 in ascending order. We sent an additional 50 surveys, to randomly selected recipients, to some facilities identified by CDCR as most impacted by climate change in their sustainability report. These facilities are:

- Central California Women's Facility (CCWF)
- California Institution for Women (CIW)
- California Medical Facility (CMF)
- California State Prison Solano (SOL)
- Calipatria State Prison (CAL)

An additional 133 surveys were sent using a snowball sampling method. These surveys were sent to facilities where EBC's Inside Policy Fellows were able to distribute them. Inside Policy Fellows are currently incarcerated people part of EBC's Inside/Outside fellowship program. These facilities are:

- Central California Women's Facility (CCWF)
- San Quentin State Prison (SQSP)
- Pelican Bay State Prison (PBSP)
- Chuckawalla Valley State Prison (CVSP)
- California Substance Abuse Treatment Facility (SATF-Corcoran)
- California Institution for Women (CIW)

APPENDIX C. Survey Methodology, *ctd.*

In designing the survey, we conducted background research and pretests. We worked with substantive methodological experts who provided ideas and feedback on the content of the survey. This included staff of the Ella Baker Center, mixed-methods faculty researchers at UCLA, and San Quentin’s civic engagement group of currently incarcerated individuals. Inside Policy Fellows also facilitated pretests and review for the final survey. Each survey was sent with a cover letter explaining our research and a pre-stamped envelope to use to return the survey.

Completed surveys were mailed to EBC and then scanned for manual data entry and quantitative analysis using Qualtrics. Data from the free response questions were drawn out using a coding schema across particular themes. See Table 1 & 2 for the codebook for these questions. Unlike the coding process for interviews, we trained volunteers who helped with the data entry of surveys to carry out the coding of the qualitative data gathered from the survey. Our training included a walk-through on the purpose of coding, coding themes, and their definitions, as well as the process to assign codes through excel. These coding assignments were then added to Dedoose for further theme analysis.

TABLE 1. Codebook for Survey Long Answer Question 17, Climate Hazard Experiences.

Parent Code	Child Code	Grandchild Code	Definition
Emergency Preparedness			Captures steps taken to prepare for an emergency that were not captured below (under respondent or CDCR).
	Respondent		Steps the respondent took to prepare for a climate hazard that were not captured below (ex: having knowledge of an emergency plan)
		Training	Respondent talks about receiving training related to emergency preparedness.
	CDCR		Steps CDCR takes to prepare for or mitigate effects of a climate hazard. (ex: brush clearing)

APPENDIX C. Survey Methodology, *ctd.*

TABLE 1. Codebook for Survey Long Answer Question 17, Climate Hazard Experiences, *ctd.*

Parent Code	Child Code	Grandchild Code	Definition
Vulnerability			Factors that can worsen the effects of climate hazards that were not captured below (under respondent or infrastructural).
	Respondent		This code will capture individual vulnerability factors that can worsen the effects of climate hazards. This can include underlying health conditions such as high blood pressure, asthma, and the use of medications for mental health.
	Infrastructural		This code will capture infrastructure factors that can worsen the effects of climate hazards. This includes the lack of air conditioners, ice machines, cooling stations, ventilation, and backup generators. This can also include old or damaged infrastructure, such as broken windows and swamp coolers, heat that doesn't work, and contaminated wells.
	CDCR Policy		This code will capture vulnerability to climate hazards due to a CDCR policy or staff action. This can include not being allowed to have extra fans due to CDCR policy or being told by staff to turn off fans.
Prison Greening			Examples of CDCR using sustainable practices to reduce water and energy consumption e.g., cutting shower times to 3 minutes, and limiting the number of showers per week.
Lack of Staff Concern			Respondent mentions a lack of staff concern for currently incarcerated people's well-being. ex: "they don't treat us like we're human"
Emergency Response			Steps taken during a climate hazard to reduce harm that were not captured below.
	Respondent		This captures what the respondent did to respond and reduce harm to themselves during a climate hazard. Ex: sleeping with multiple layers on to stay warm, covering windows to prevent the cold from coming in, etc.
	Organizational		This captures what CDCR and prison staff did in response to a climate hazard. This can include no response from CDCR or staff and/or staff running out during a climate hazard.
		Lock Down	Respondent mentions CDCR locked them in their cell in response to a climate hazard.

APPENDIX C. Survey Methodology, *ctd.*

TABLE 1. Codebook for Survey Long Answer Question 17, Climate Hazard Experiences, *ctd.*

Parent Code	Child Code	Grandchild Code	Definition
Effects of Climate Hazards			This code will capture effects of climate hazard not captured below under extreme heat/cold wildfires or floods (ex: tsunamis, earthquake)
	Extreme Heat		Effects of extreme heat not specific to an incarcerated person or infrastructure.
		Respondent	Effects of extreme heat on an incarcerated person and their health or psychological well-being. This can include fainting, exhaustion, or fear.
		Infrastructural	Effects of extreme heat on physical infrastructure. For example, power outages.
	Extreme Cold		Effects of extreme cold not specific to an incarcerated person or infrastructure.
		Respondent	Effects of extreme cold on an incarcerated person and their health or psychological well-being. This can include feeling cold, hypothermia, frostbite, or fear.
		Infrastructural	Effects of extreme cold on physical infrastructure. This can also include power outages, and waste water system being unable to generate warm water (no warm showers)
	Wildfire and Smoke		Effects of wildfires and smoke not specific to an incarcerated person or infrastructure.
		Respondent	Effects of wildfires or smoke on an incarcerated person and their health or psychological well-being. This can include breathing problems due to underlying asthma condition or other chronic respiratory issues, and related fear/concern.
		Infrastructural	Effects of wildfires on physical infrastructure. This can also include power outages.
	Floods		Effects of floods not specific to an incarcerated person or infrastructure.
		Respondent	Effects of floods on an incarcerated person and their health or psychological well-being.
		Infrastructural	Effects of floods on physical infrastructure. This can include mold formation.

APPENDIX C. Survey Methodology, *ctd.*

TABLE 1. Codebook for Survey Long Answer Question 17, Climate Hazard Experiences, *ctd.*

Parent Code	Child Code	Grandchild Code	Definition
Water			This code captures experiences related to drinking water, such as bad water quality or polluted drinking water.
Prison Labor			These are anything related to prison labor and climate hazards experience. This can either be examples of CDCR relying on prison labor to respond to climate disasters or experiences of working in bad conditions during a climate hazard (ex: kitchen was hot)
Recommendations			Responses that list any recommendations.
COVID-19			Describes impact of COVID-19 on those incarcerated within CDCR facilities or response of facility.
To Review/Unclear			Unclear response or requires further review.
Good Quote			This is not a code- this is for quotes that exceptionally stand out to you as something that could be impactful to the reader of our report. Please copy them to the column labeled "Exceptional Quotes" on Column E.

APPENDIX C. Survey Methodology, *ctd.*

TABLE 2. Codebook for Survey Long Answer Question 18, Recommendation.

Parent Code	Child Code	Grandchild Code	Definition
Divest			Recommendations that mention divestment from prison. This includes taking any funds away from CDCR.
Decarceration			Recommendations that lead to decarceration. Examples are early release for good behavior, policy changes to facilitate elderly release, changes to parole, etc.
Re-entry			Recommendations that improve re-entry support for those released.
Community Investment			Recommendations for increased funding and resources for communities that are over-incarcerated. Funding can be for housing, disaster preparedness, environmental justice, economic development etc.
CDCR Policy Change			Recommendations on changes to current CDCR policy that cannot be captured by the child and grandchild codes below. Use this one if one of the more specific ones below doesn't apply.
	Staff Training		Recommendations on changes to CDCR policy specifically on staff training. Examples are providing staff training on specific climate hazards, mandating staff training more than once a year, etc.
	CDCR Accountability		Recommendations on changes that would lead to more CDCR accountability. Examples include regulating staff behavior, enforcing current policy, incorporating the input of incarcerated people on emergency preparedness, requiring health data on incarcerated people to be collected on a yearly basis, etc.
	Emergency Plans		Recommendations on changes to CDCR's current emergency and evacuation plans.
	Preparedness of Incarcerated Individuals		Recommendations on policy changes not captured below that would allow incarcerated people to be more prepared for a climate disaster.
		Education and Training	Recommendations on education and training of currently incarcerated people. Examples include training and education for incarcerated people on emergency management training and education of incarcerated people, awareness of evacuation plans, education on how to recognize a climate hazard, etc.
		Emergency Kits	Recommendations on availability of emergency kits for incarcerated people.

APPENDIX C. Survey Methodology, *ctd.*

TABLE 2. Codebook for Survey Long Answer Question 18, Recommendation, *ctd.*

Parent Code	Child Code	Grandchild Code	Definition
Infrastructure Changes			Recommendations on changes to improve CDCR infrastructure that cannot be captured by the child and grandchild codes below. This can include recommendations to repair small leaks, asbestos, boiler and water system, etc. Use this one if one of the more specific ones below doesn't apply.
	Ventilation		Recommendations for changes specifically to CDCR's ventilation system.
	Air Conditioning (AC)		Recommendations on installing or improving AC systems. This can also include recommendations to install or repair the current AC system.
	Other Cooling		Recommendations on other cooling system installment or improvement. For example, a swamp cooler or portable cooling units. (Does not include fans)
	Heat System		Recommendations on installing or improving existing heating systems. This does not include personal heaters, which is captured in the code below.
	Shade		Recommendations on installing or improving current shade covering in the yard. This can include planting trees or shade structures.
	Emergency Power		Recommendations on anything related to improving emergency power ex: having working backup generator, grid system suggestions
Mitigating Hazard Effects			Recommendations to mitigate effects of a climate hazard on the individual. This code will capture recommendations not captured by the child codes below. Use this one if one of the more specific ones below doesn't apply.
	Ice		Recommendations that ask for increased access to ice.
	Blankets/Thermals/Warm Clothing		Recommendations that ask for increased access to blankets, thermals, warm clothing, etc.
	Showers		Recommendations that ask for increased access to showers.
	Fans		Recommendations that ask for increased access to fans.
	Water and electrolytes		Recommendations that ask for increased access to water or electrolytes.
	Masks for Smoke		Recommendations that ask for increased access to masks for smoke inhalation.
	Personal Heaters		Recommendations that ask for increased access to heaters inside the cell.

APPENDIX C. Survey Methodology, *ctd.*

TABLE 2. Codebook for Survey Long Answer Question 18, Recommendation, *ctd.*

Parent Code	Child Code	Grandchild Code	Definition
State and Public Accountability			Recommendations for strategies that increase legislative and/or agency and public oversight and transparency. An example is setting up a task force to oversee some of these issues.
Other			This category includes all other recommendations not captured above.
To Review /Unclear			This category is for recommendations you'd like us to review because you are unclear.
Exceptional Quotes - not a code, please excerpt the quote			This is not a code- this is for quotes that exceptionally stand out to you as something that could be impactful to the reader of our report. Please copy them to the column labeled "Exceptional Quotes" on Column E.

APPENDIX D. Survey of Incarcerated People.

Climate Survey Request

January 13, 2023

We are a team of five graduate students in Public Policy at UCLA who are partnering with the Ella Baker Center, an advocacy nonprofit in California, to conduct an assessment of which California prisons are the most vulnerable to climate emergencies and what policies are already in place to respond to wildfires, floods, and extreme temperatures. We are asking you to participate in a survey about your experience within the California state prison you are currently in.

Trigger warning: This survey contains questions regarding life-threatening events that may be triggering for some.

California is at the forefront of the impacts of climate change. Environmental phenomena such as rising sea levels, flooding, drought, and wildfires are having an increased effect on the state as climate change increases its prevalence and impact. People incarcerated in California prisons are uniquely vulnerable to the impacts of climate emergencies such as wildfires, floods, extreme heat, and extreme cold. We defined each below:

Definitions	Wildfires are unplanned fires that burn in natural areas like forests or grassland.
	Floods occur when too much water enters an area due to rain, sea-level rise, or other natural causes.
	Extreme heat is when temperatures are above 90 degrees Fahrenheit for two or more days.
	Extreme cold occurs during extended periods of near-freezing temperatures.

This survey is being sent to incarcerated individuals across California state prisons. We want to understand your concerns and recommendations regarding wildfires, floods, extreme heat, and extreme cold. We have included an envelope and postage to return the completed survey to us. Please do not staple the survey.

Mail your completed survey back by February 15 to this address:

Ella Baker Center for Human Rights
Attn: Climate Survey
1419 34th Ave, #202
Oakland, CA 94601

Thank you for your time,

Maura O'Neill, Aishah Abdala López, Guadalupe, Eric Henderson & Abhilasha Bhola

APPENDIX D. Survey of Incarcerated People, *ctd.*

Directions: All questions should be answered in reference to your experience at your current prison facility. There is room at the end to address experiences at other prisons.

1. Name of the prison facility you are currently in: _____
2. How many months have you been in this facility: _____

Please circle either *yes* or *no* to answer the following questions.

1. Do you know of a plan that describes procedures you should follow when these climate emergencies occur?
 - a. Wildfire, including exposure to smoke YES NO
 - b. Flood YES NO
 - c. Extreme heat YES NO
 - d. Extreme cold YES NO

2.

<i>Check either yes or no to answer the following questions.</i>	YES	NO
Have you ever been trained on safety protocol for wildfires?		
Have you ever been trained on safety protocol for floods?		
Have you ever been trained on safety protocol for extreme heat?		
Have you ever been trained on safety protocol for extreme cold?		
Do you know your evacuation route in the event of an emergency?		

3.

<i>Only check one of the boxes to answer the following questions.</i>	No, never	Yes, once a year	Yes, twice a year	Yes, 3 times a year	Yes, 4 or more times a year
Have you ever participated in a fire drill?					
Have you ever participated in an evacuation drill?					

APPENDIX D. Survey of Incarcerated People, *ctd.*

Circle either yes or no to answer the following questions.

4. Have you experienced the following climate emergencies?

- a. Wildfire, including exposure to wildfire smoke YES NO
- b. Flood YES NO
- c. Extreme heat YES NO
- d. Extreme cold YES NO

5. Have you been evacuated from your cell or building due to any of the following climate emergencies?

- a. Wildfire, including exposure to wildfire smoke YES NO
- b. Flood YES NO
- c. Extreme heat YES NO
- d. Extreme cold YES NO

6. Have you ever feared for your life due to any of the following climate conditions?

- a. Wildfire, including exposure to wildfire smoke YES NO
- b. Flood YES NO
- c. Extreme heat YES NO
- d. Extreme cold YES NO

7. Have you experienced any of the following health issues due to wildfires (including exposure to smoke), floods, extreme heat, or extreme cold?

<i>Check either yes, no, or don't know to answer the following questions.</i>	Yes	No	Don't Know
Heat cramps (painful, involuntary muscle spasms occurring due to heat)			
Heat exhaustion (symptoms may include dizziness, nausea, headaches, fast and weak pulse, fast and shallow breathing)			
Heat stroke (symptoms may include a body temperature above 104 F, hot and dry skin, rapid heart rate and breathing, nausea)			
Irritated lungs, eyes, or throat from wildfire smoke			
Wheezing, coughing, difficulty breathing from wildfire smoke			
Worsening of existing respiratory condition (ex: asthma)			
Prolonged numbness in hands, feet, etc. due to cold			
Other health issues that required medical attention If yes, please specify: _____			

APPENDIX D. Survey of Incarcerated People, *ctd.*

8.

<i>Check either yes, no, or don't know to answer the following questions.</i>	Yes	No	Don't Know
Are you currently taking any prescription medication that can make you susceptible to extreme temperatures (ex: antidepressants, high-blood pressure or heart medication)?			
Have you ever had limited access to showers?			
Have CDCR's efforts to conserve water limited your shower use?			

9. To what extent do you agree with the following statements:

<i>Check <u>one</u> of the options for the following questions.</i>	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
In the event of a climate emergency, prison staff will keep me physically safe. (wildfire, flood, heat, cold).					
In the event of a climate emergency, prison staff will lock me in my cell and leave the facility for their own safety.					
Prison staff would intervene if my safety was threatened by a climate emergency.					

10. To what extent do you worry about your physical safety when the following occur:

<i>Check <u>one</u> of the options for the following questions.</i>	Not worried	Somewhat worried	Worried	Extremely worried
In the case of a wildfire near the prison.				
In the case of a flood within or near the prison.				
In the case of extreme heat at the prison.				
In the case of extreme cold at the prison.				

APPENDIX D. Survey of Incarcerated People, *ctd.*

11. To what extent do you do you feel prepared for the following situations:

<i>Check <u>one</u> of the options for the following questions.</i>	Not prepared	Somewhat prepared	Prepared	Extremely prepared
To evacuate during a wildfire.				
To evacuate during flooding.				
To get to a cool place during extreme heat.				
To get to a warm place during extreme cold.				

12. The following questions refer to conditions within the prison:

<i>Check either yes, no, or don't know to answer the following questions.</i>	Yes	No	Don't Know
Does the prison yard you use most have shade cover?			
<i>Check either yes, no, or don't know to answer the following questions.</i>	Yes	No	Don't Know
Have prison staff ever given you additional blankets for the cold?			
In cold weather, do you have access to heated facilities?			
Has the prison ever lost electricity or had a generator failure in your time there?			
Have prison staff ever given you a N-95 respirator mask if there was wildfire smoke in the area?			
Are you able to keep masks, like N-95 respirators, inside your cell?			
Are you able to store other emergency supplies in your cell (ex: water, N-95 masks, extra blankets)			

APPENDIX D. Survey of Incarcerated People, *ctd.*

13. On days when it was extremely hot in the prison, how often would you say the following occurred?

<i>Check <u>one</u> of the options for the following questions.</i>	Never	Sometimes	Always, or almost always	Don't Know
You had access to a prison-provided fan.				
You used a fan that you bought (from commissary or elsewhere).				
Prison staff gave you water or electrolytes.				
You had access to portable cooling units.				
You had access to air-conditioned rooms.				
Prison staff allowed you to get ice.				
You had increased access to showers.				
You had increased access to water.				
You used water from your cell sink or toilet to cool down.				
You received accommodations in cell or yard time.				

14. Below, you can include anything else like to share about how climate emergencies in prison have affected you. If you have had wildfire, flood, or extreme temperature experience at another prison you would like to mention, you can write about them here. Please include the name of the prison.
15. Do you have any recommendations for CDCR, Ella Baker Center, or the general public on how to address the impact that these climate emergencies have on you?

Mail your completed survey back by February 15 to this address:

Ella Baker Center for Human Rights
 Attn: Climate Survey
 1419 34th Ave, #202
 Oakland, CA 94601

APPENDIX E. Survey Results.

Table 1. Sampling and Response Summary by Facility.

Facility Name	Random Selection	Snowball Method	Total Sent	Response Count	% response from prison	% response from total	Avg Months	Min Months	Max Months	Total respondents ≤ 6 months
Avenal State Prison (ASP)	50	0	50	17	34%	1%	41	4	96	1
California City Correctional Facility (CAC)	50	0	50	3	6%	0%	15	8	24	0
California Correctional Center (CCC)	50	0	50	1	2%	0%	36	36	36	0
California Correctional Institution (CCI)	50	0	50	5	10%	0%	21	3	50	2
California Health Care Facility (CHCF)	50	0	50	14	28%	1%	26	6	120	3
California Institution for Men (CIM)	50	0	50	16	32%	1%	23	4	61	1
California Institution for Women (CIW)	100	30	130	29	22%	1%	162	3	600	1
California Medical Facility (CMF)	100	0	100	26	26%	1%	55	0.5	132	4
California Men's Colony (CMC)	50	0	50	26	52%	1%	49	2	132	2
California Rehabilitation Center (CRC)	50	0	50	17	34%	1%	32	5	60	2
California State Prison, Centinela (CEN)	100	0	100	9	9%	0%	55	1	120	1

APPENDIX E. Survey Results, *ctd.*

Table 1. Sampling and Response Summary by Facility, *ctd.*

Facility Name	Random Selection	Snowball Method	Total Sent	Response Count	% response from prison	% response from total	Avg Months	Min Months	Max Months	Total respondents ≤ 6 months
California State Prison, Corcoran (COR)	50	0	50	22	44%	1%	21	0.5	76	5
California State Prison, Los Angeles County (LAC)	50	0	50	14	28%	1%	73	2	240	1
California State Prison, Sacramento (SAC)	50	0	50	8	16%	0%	22	3	48	2
California State Prison, Solano (SOL)	100	0	100	10	10%	0%	84	9	240	0
California Substance Abuse Treatment Facility and State Prison, Corcoran (SATF)	50	11	61	26	43%	1%	42	2	132	2
Calipatria State Prison (CAL)	50	0	50	18	36%	1%	68	1	192	2
Central California Women's Facility (CCWF)	100	20	120	38	32%	2%	156	12	440	0
Chuckawalla Valley State Prison (CVSP)	50	20	70	47	67%	2%	34	2	108	4
Correctional Training Facility (CTF)	50	0	50	29	58%	1%	65	1	205	4

APPENDIX E. Survey Results, *ctd.*

Table 1. Sampling and Response Summary by Facility, *ctd.*

Facility Name	Random Selection	Snowball Method	Total Sent	Response Count	% response from prison	% response from total	Avg Months	Min Months	Max Months	Total respondents ≤ 6 months
Deuel Vocational Institution (DVI)	50	0	50	0	0%	0%	-	-	-	0
Folsom State Prison (FSP)	50	0	50	26	52%	1%	42	1	145	3
High Desert State Prison (HDSP)	50	0	50	26	52%	1%	57	2	144	5
Ironwood State Prison (ISP)	50	0	50	5	10%	0%	69	44	120	0
Kern Valley State Prison (KVSP)	50	0	50	2	4%	0%	96	96	96	0
Male Community Reentry Program (MCRP)	50	0	50	0	0%	0%	-	-	-	0
Mule Creek State Prison (MCSP)	50	0	50	16	32%	1%	47	3	166	1
Miramonte Conservation Camp	50	0	50	0	0%	0%	-	-	-	0
North Kern State Prison (NKSP)	50	0	50	1	2%	0%	7	7	7	0
Pelican Bay State Prison (PBSP)	50	10	60	18	30%	1%	73	3	264	1

APPENDIX E. Survey Results, *ctd.*

Table 1. Sampling and Response Summary by Facility, *ctd.*

Facility Name	Random Selection	Snowball Method	Total Sent	Response Count	% response from prison	% response from total	Avg Months	Min Months	Max Months	Total respondents ≤ 6 months
Pleasant Valley State Prison (PVSP)	50	0	50	9	18%	0%	35	5	96	1
Richard J. Donovan Correctional Facility (RJD)	50	0	50	13	26%	1%	56	2	138	1
Salinas Valley State Prison (SVSP)	50	0	50	8	16%	0%	29	7	96	0
San Quentin State Prison (SQSP)	50	42	92	36	39%	2%	105	8	481	0
Sierra Conservation Center (SCC)	50	0	50	1	2%	0%	24	24	24	0
Valley State Prison (VSP)	50	0	50	14	28%	1%	49	7	110	0
Wasco State Prison (WSP)	50	0	50	7	14%	0%	18	3	63	1
No Response				6			-	-	-	0
Total			2233	563	25%		64	0.5	600	50

APPENDIX E. Survey Results, *ctd.*

FIGURE 1. Question 1, Knowledge of Plan.

Q1. Do you know of a plan that describes procedures you should follow when these climate emergencies occur?

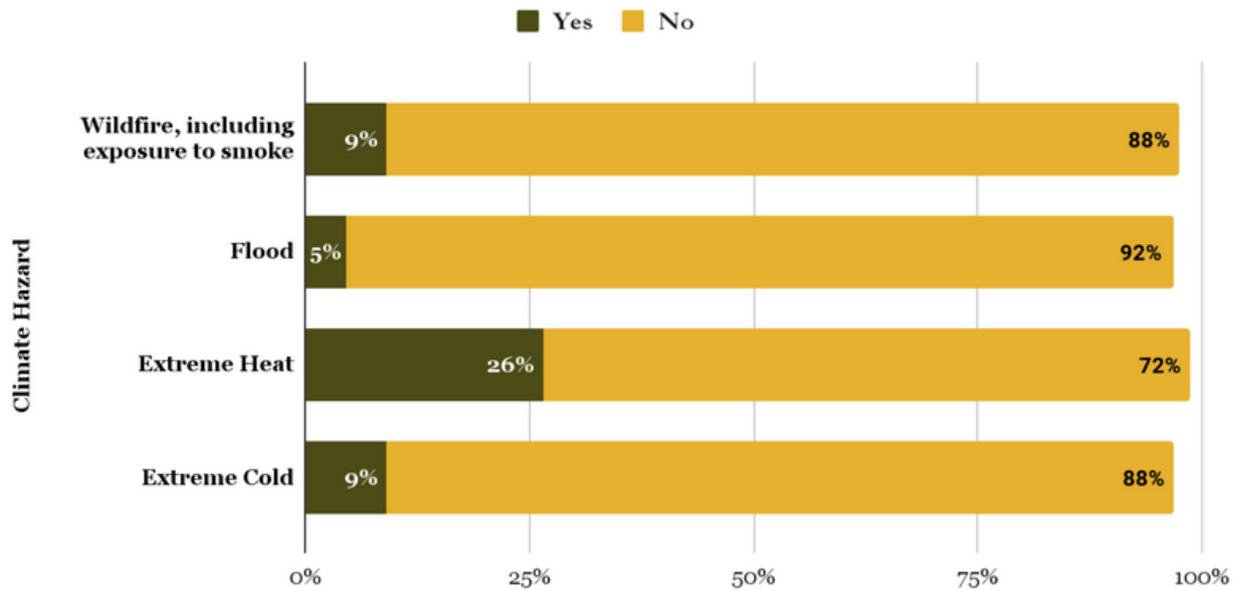
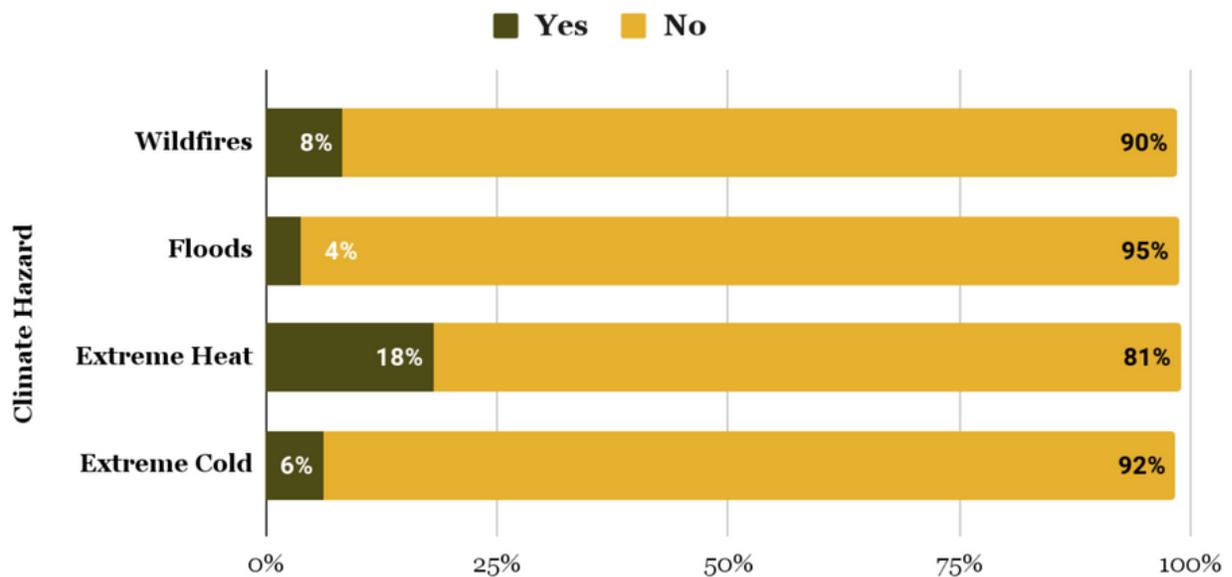


FIGURE 2. Question 2, Training on Safety Protocols, All Climate Hazards.

Q2. Have you ever been trained on safety protocol for the following?



APPENDIX E. Survey Results, *ctd.*

FIGURE 3. Question 2, Training on Safety Protocols, Extreme Heat, Among Those Taking Medication and Have Experienced Extreme Heat.

Q2. Have you ever been trained on safety protocol for the following?

Among those who are taking medication and have experienced extreme heat:

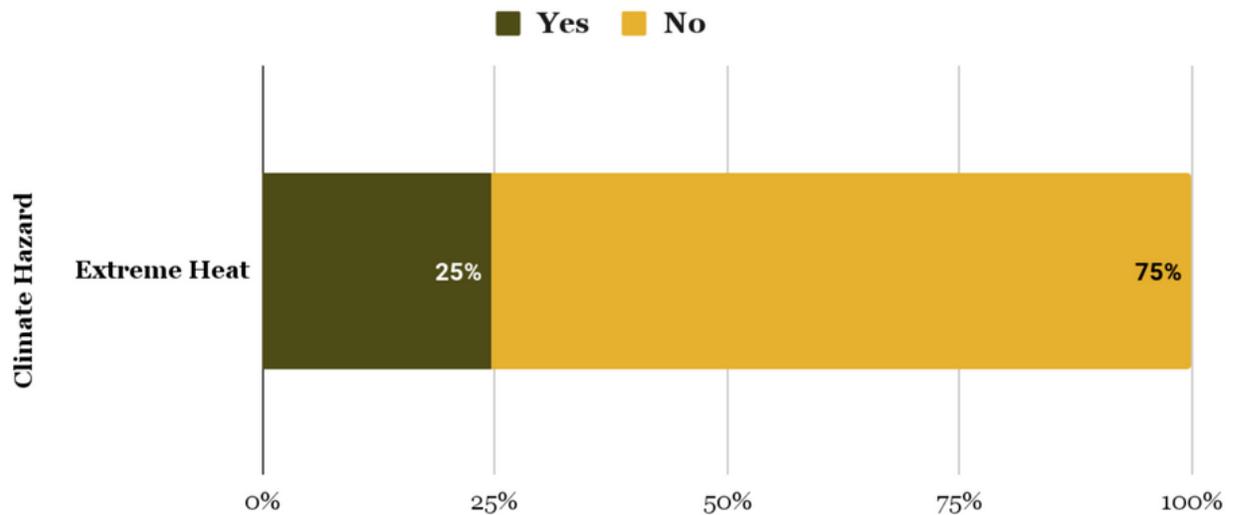
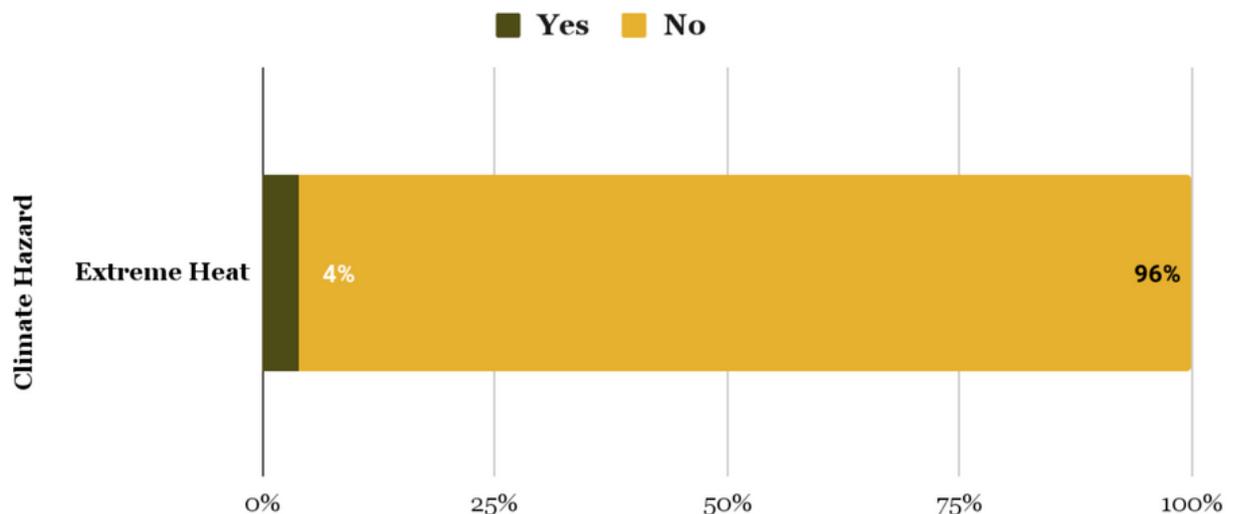


FIGURE 4. Question 2, Training on Safety Protocols, Extreme Heat, Among Those Who Are Taking Medication and Have Not Experienced Extreme Heat.

Q2. Have you ever been trained on safety protocol for the following?

Among those who are taking medication and have not experienced extreme



APPENDIX E. Survey Results, *ctd.*

FIGURE 5. Question 2, Knowledge of Evacuation Route.

Q2. Do you know your evacuation route in the event of an emergency?

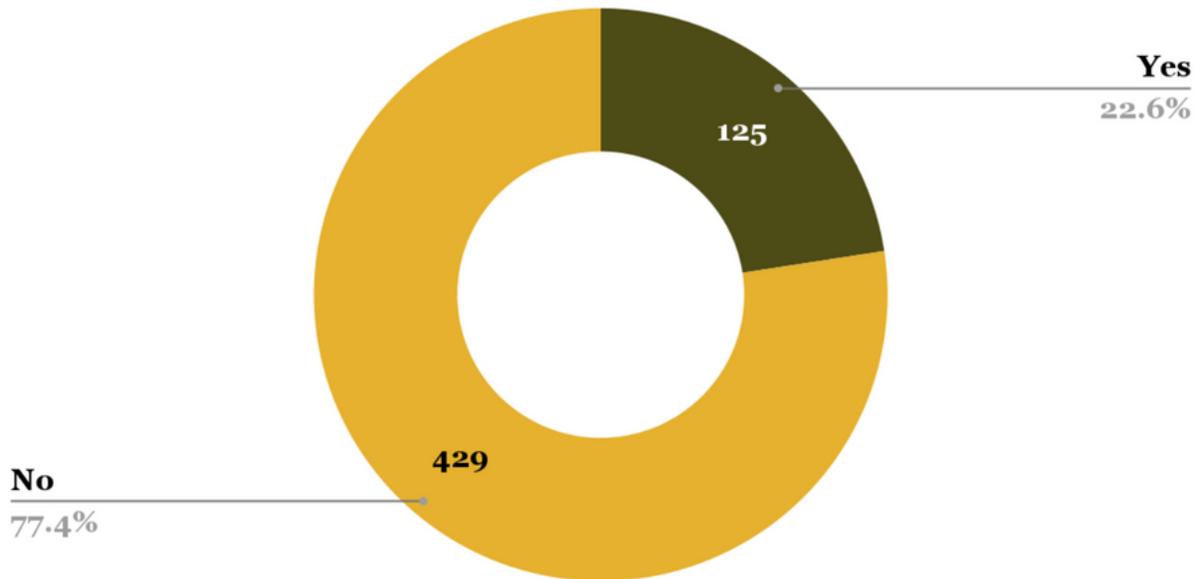
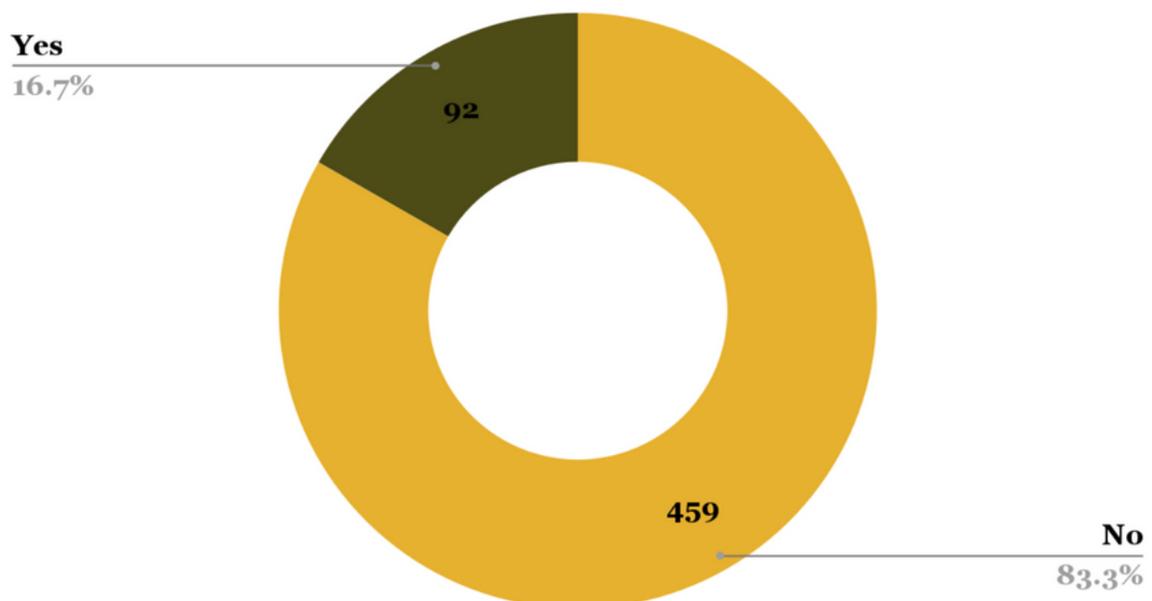


FIGURE 6. Question 3, Participation in Fire and Evacuation Drills.

Q3. Have you ever participated in an evacuation drill?



APPENDIX E. Survey Results, *ctd.*

FIGURE 7. Question 3, Participation in Fire and Evacuation Drills.

Q3. Have you ever participated in an evacuation drill?

Among respondents who said yes:

Yes, 4 or more

10.9%

Yes, 3 times a year

3.3%

Yes, twice a year

14.1%

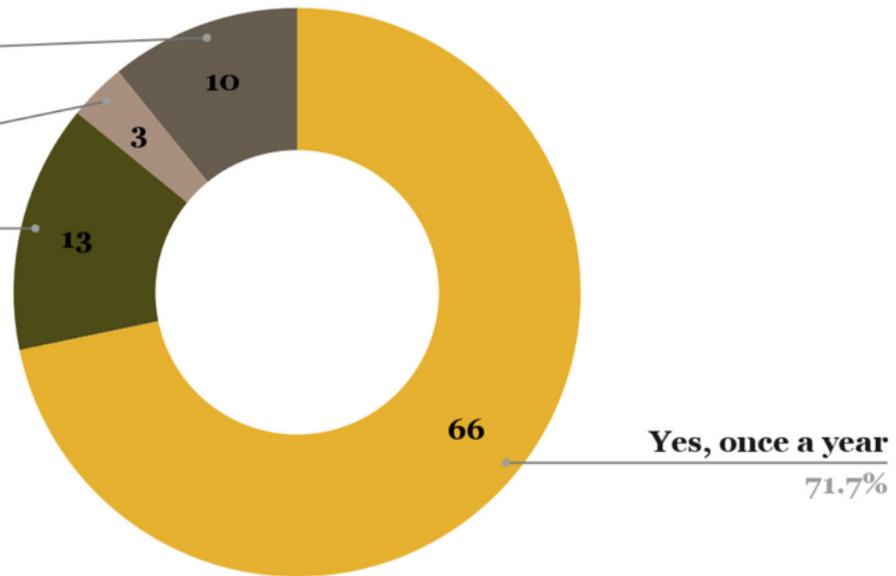
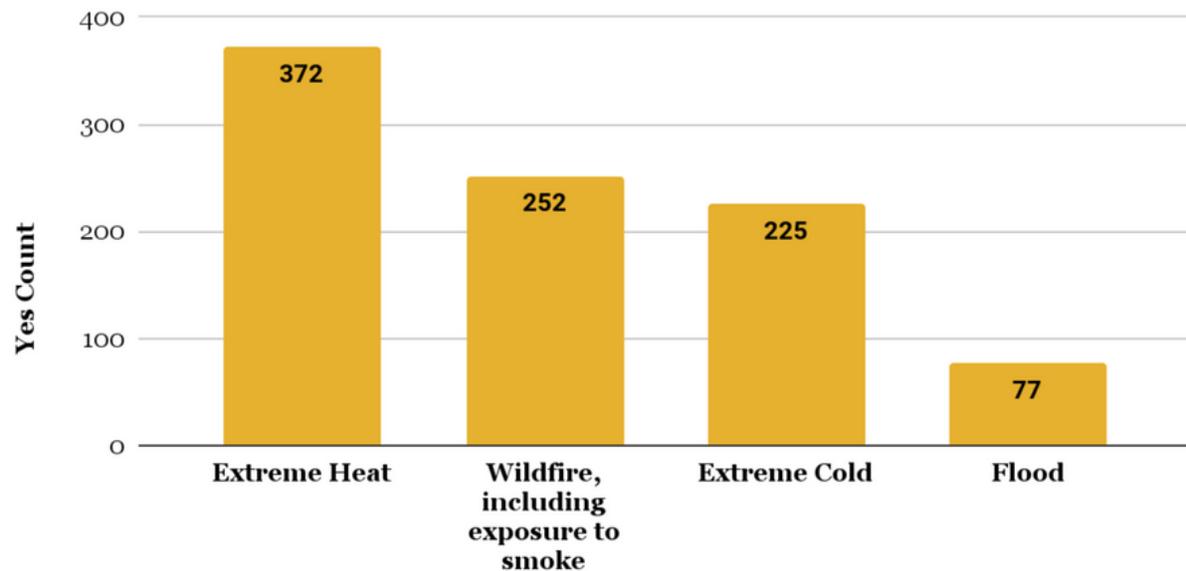


FIGURE 8. Question 4, Experiences of Climate Hazards.

Q4. Have you experienced the following climate emergencies?



APPENDIX E. Survey Results, *ctd.*

FIGURE 9. Question 5, Experiences of Evacuation.

Q5. Have you been evacuated from your cell or building due to any of the following climate emergencies?

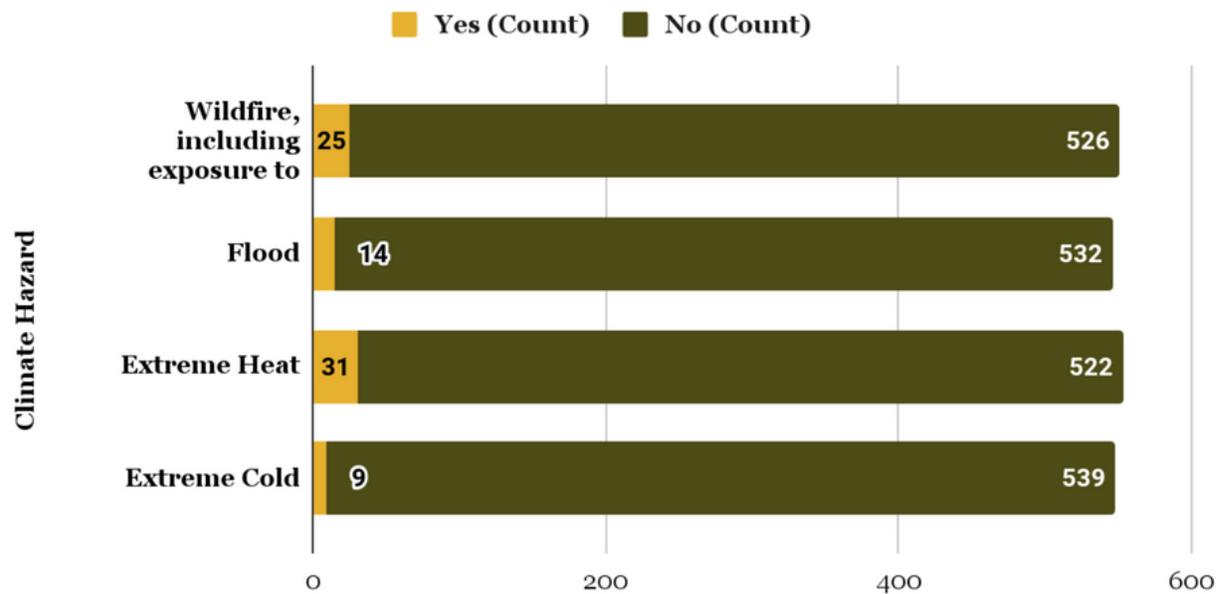
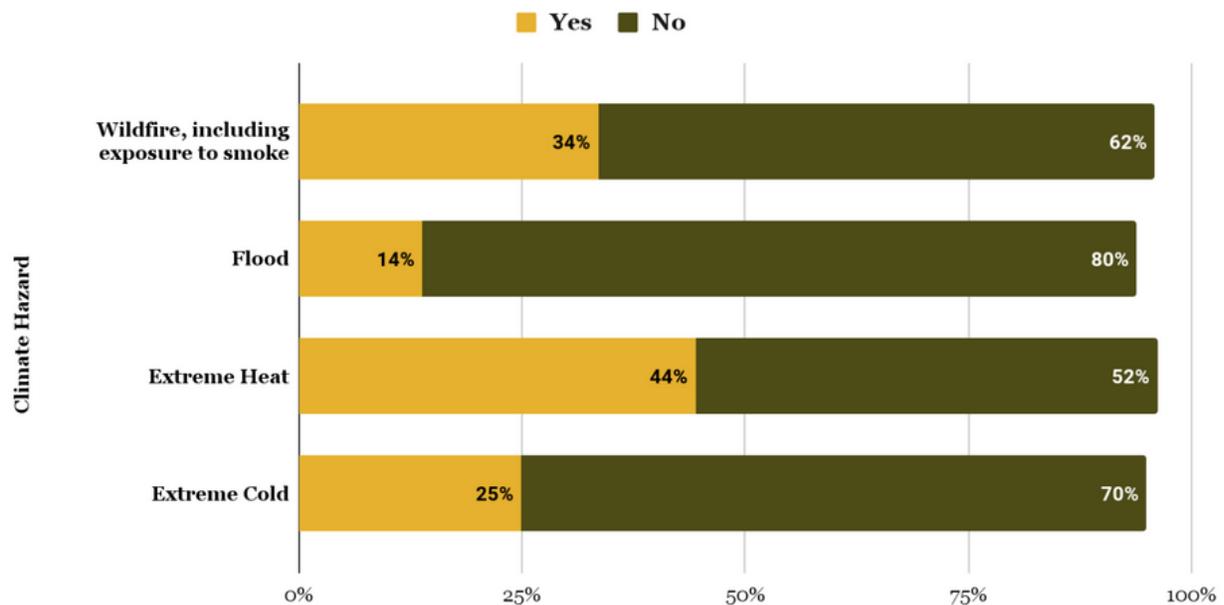


FIGURE 10. Question 6, Fear For Life.

Q6. Have you ever feared for your life due to any of the following climate conditions?



APPENDIX E. Survey Results, *ctd.*

FIGURE 11. Question 7, Experiences of Health Issues.

Q7. Have you experienced any of the following health issues due to wildfires (including exposure to smoke), floods, extreme heat, or extreme cold?

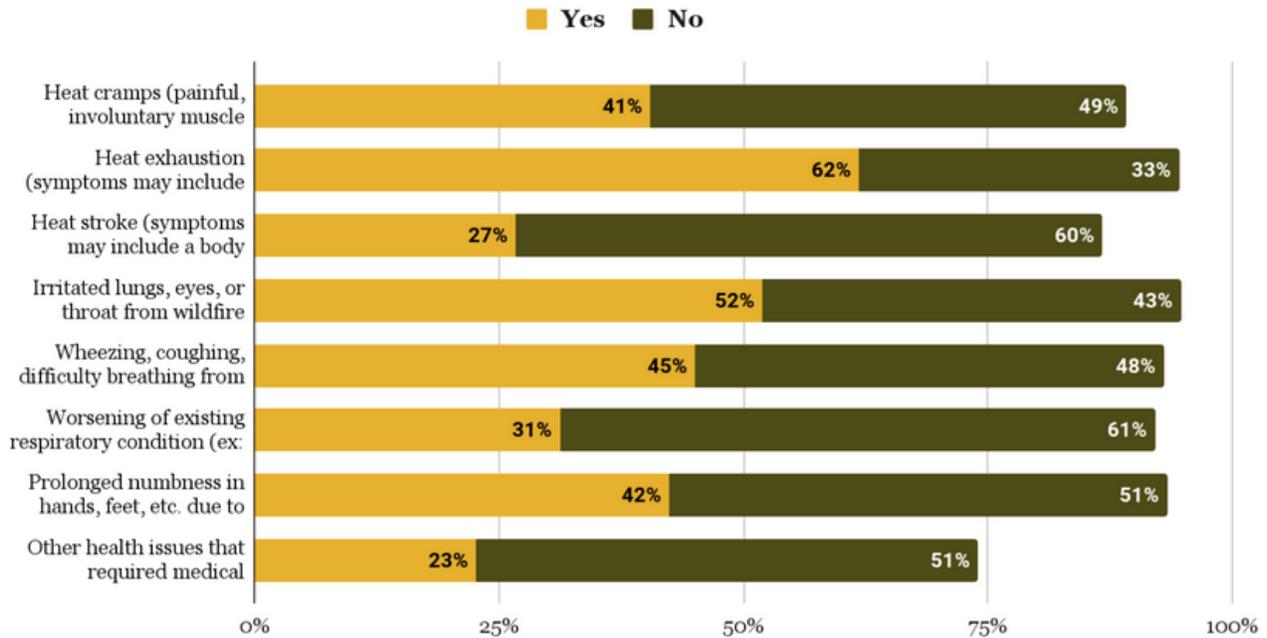
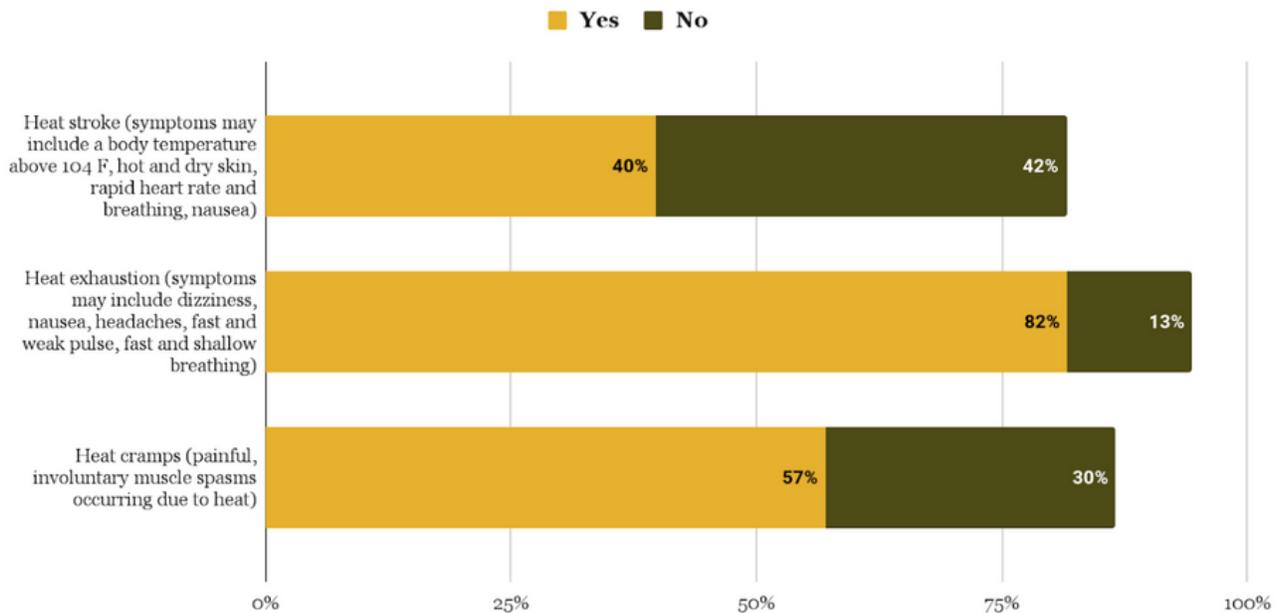


FIGURE 12. Question 7, Experiences of Health Issues.

Q7. Have you experienced any of the following health issues due to wildfires (including exposure to smoke), floods, extreme heat, or extreme cold?

Among those who are taking medication making them susceptible to Heat-Related Illness and have experienced extreme heat:



APPENDIX E. Survey Results, *ctd.*

FIGURE 13. Question 7, Health Issues Among Survey Respondents.

Q7. Have you experienced any of the following health issues due to wildfires (including exposure to smoke), floods, extreme heat, or extreme cold?

Among those who have experienced wildfires, including exposure to smoke:

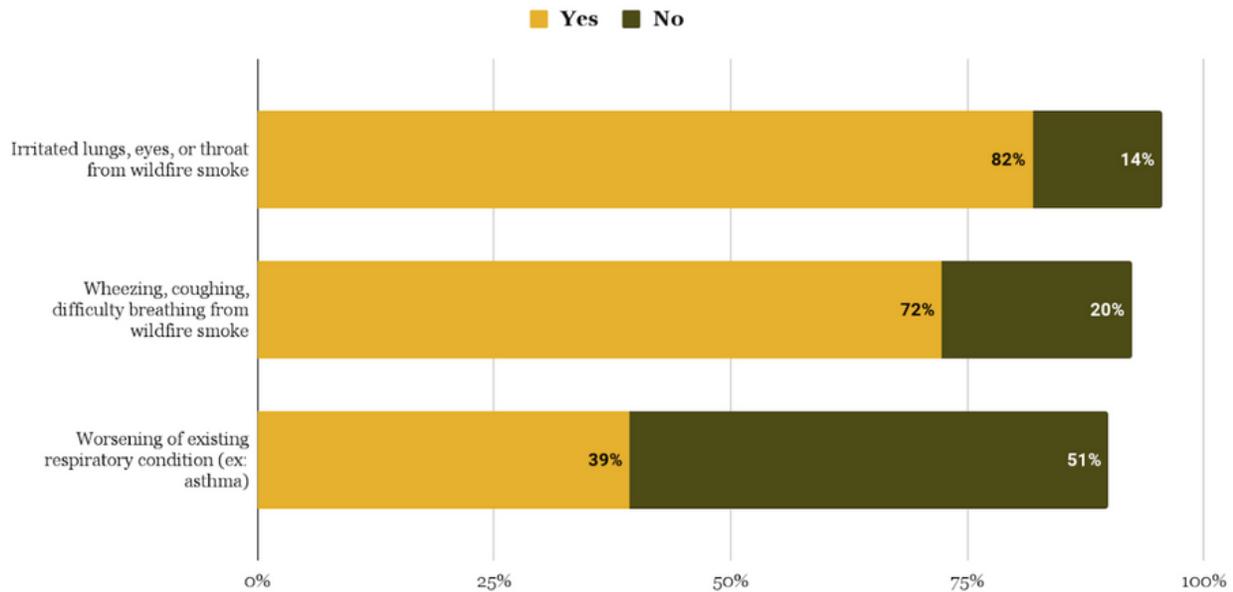
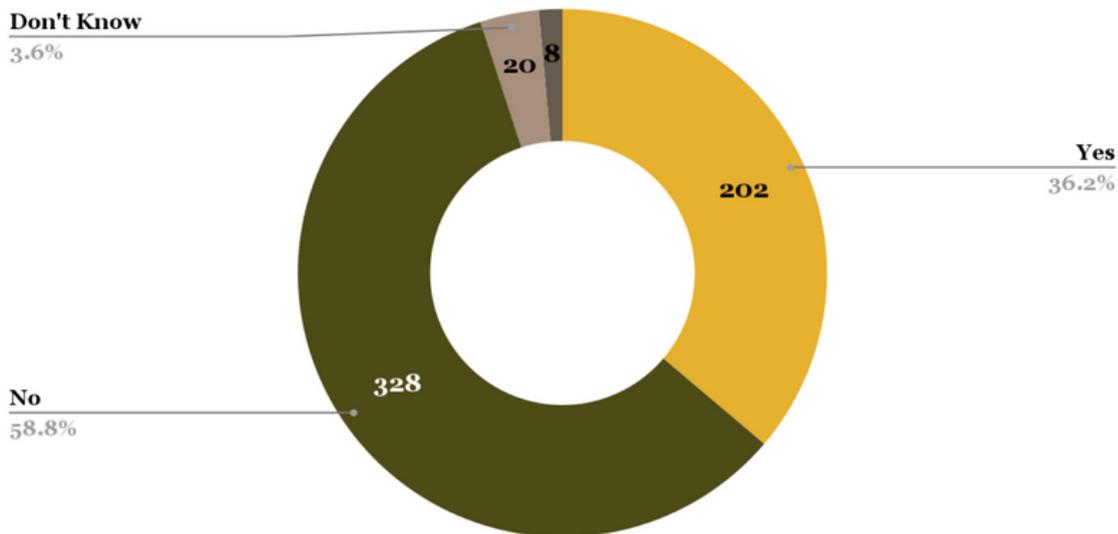


FIGURE 14. Question 8, Medication Use.

Q8. Are you currently taking any prescription medication that can make you susceptible to extreme temperatures (ex: antidepressants, high-blood pressure or heart medication)?



APPENDIX E. Survey Results, *ctd.*

FIGURE 15. Question 8, Experiences with Limited Shower Access.

Q8. Have you ever had limited access to showers?

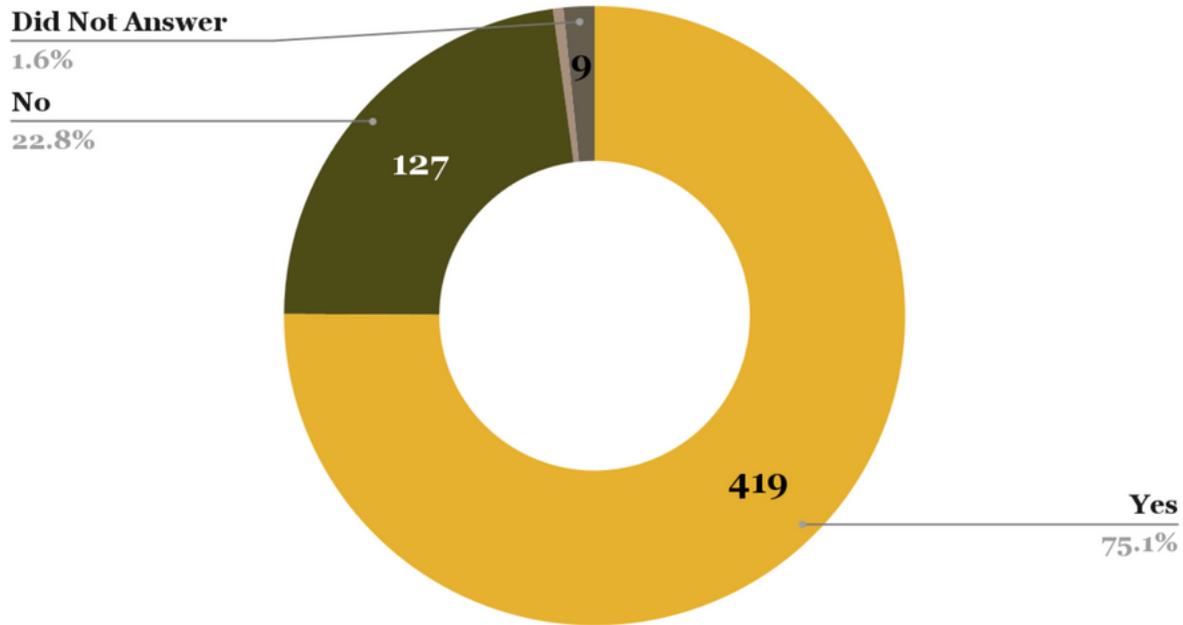
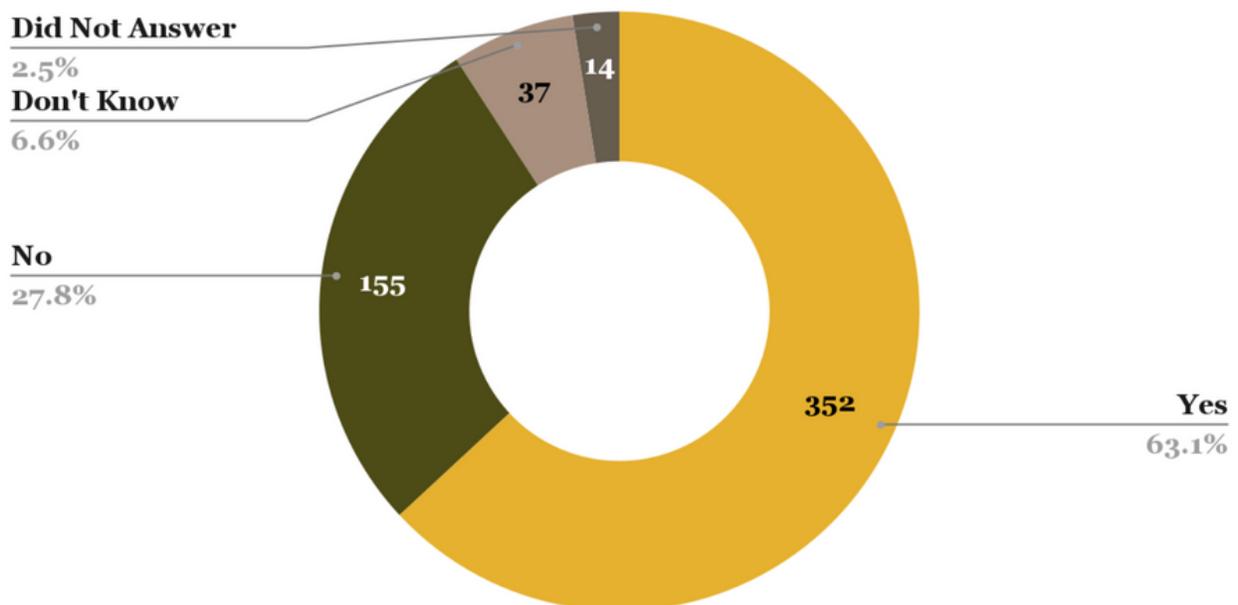


FIGURE 16. Question 8, Experiences of Limited Shower Access Due to Water Conservation Claims.

Q8. Have CDCR's efforts to conserve water limited your shower use?



APPENDIX E. Survey Results, *ctd.*

FIGURE 17. Question 9, Perceptions of Safety.

Q9. To what extent do you agree with the following statements:
In the event of a climate emergency, prison staff will keep me physically safe. (wildfire, flood,

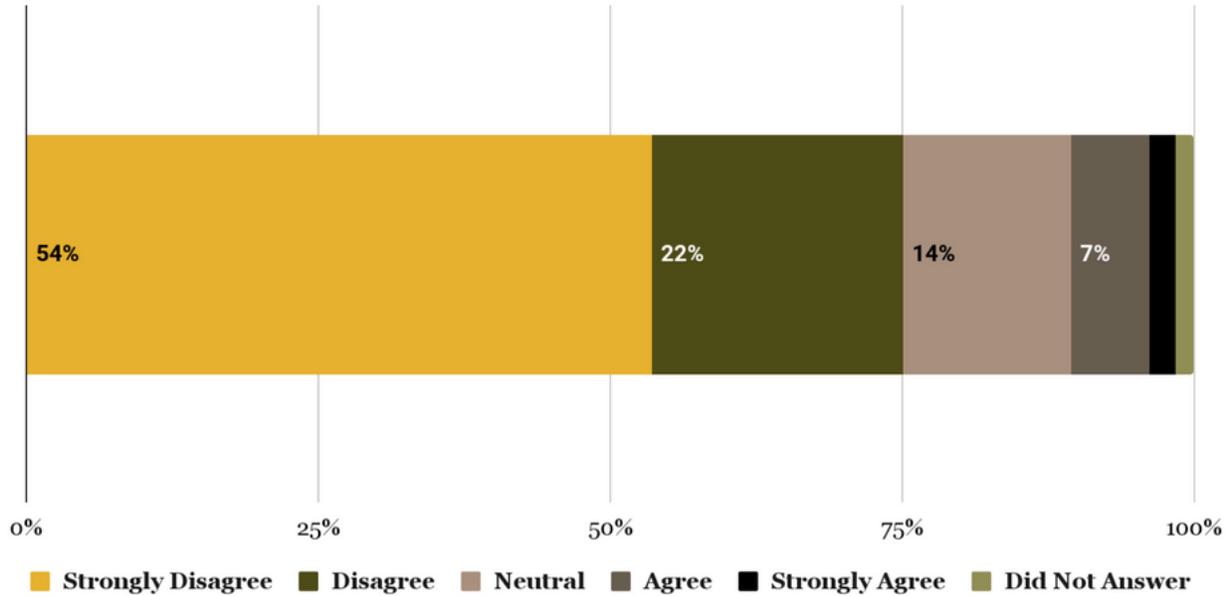
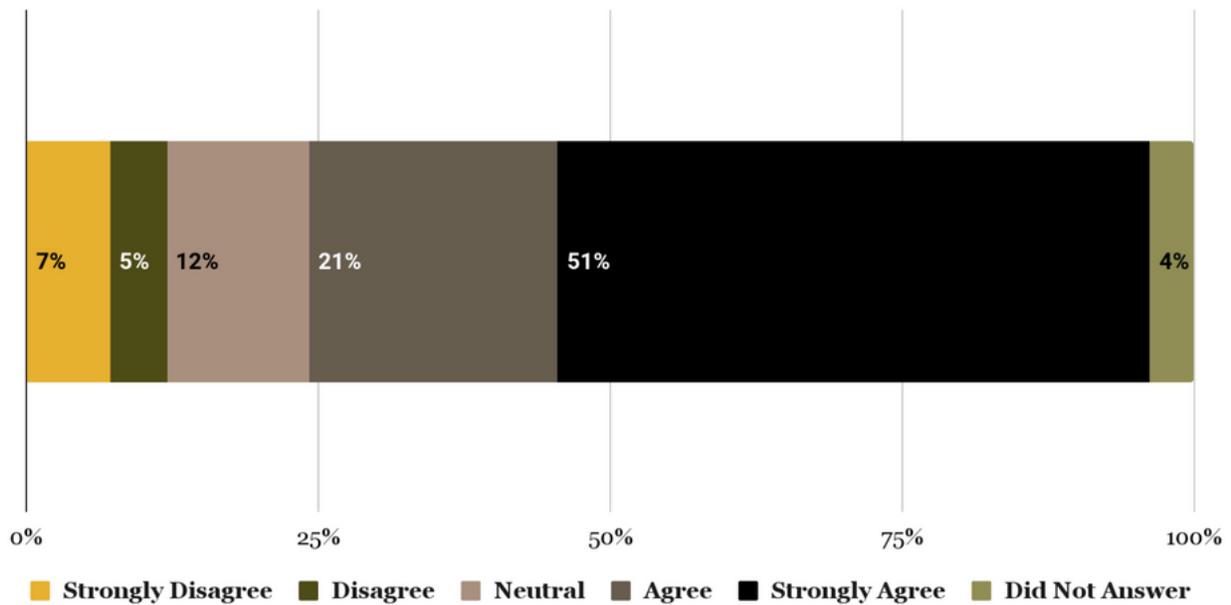


FIGURE 18. Question 9, Perceptions of Safety.

Q9. To what extent do you agree with the following statements:
In the event of a climate emergency, prison staff will lock me in my cell and leave the facility for their own safety.



APPENDIX E. Survey Results, *ctd.*

FIGURE 19. Question 9, Perceptions of Safety.

Q9. To what extent do you agree with the following statements:

Prison staff would intervene if my safety was threatened by a climate emergency.

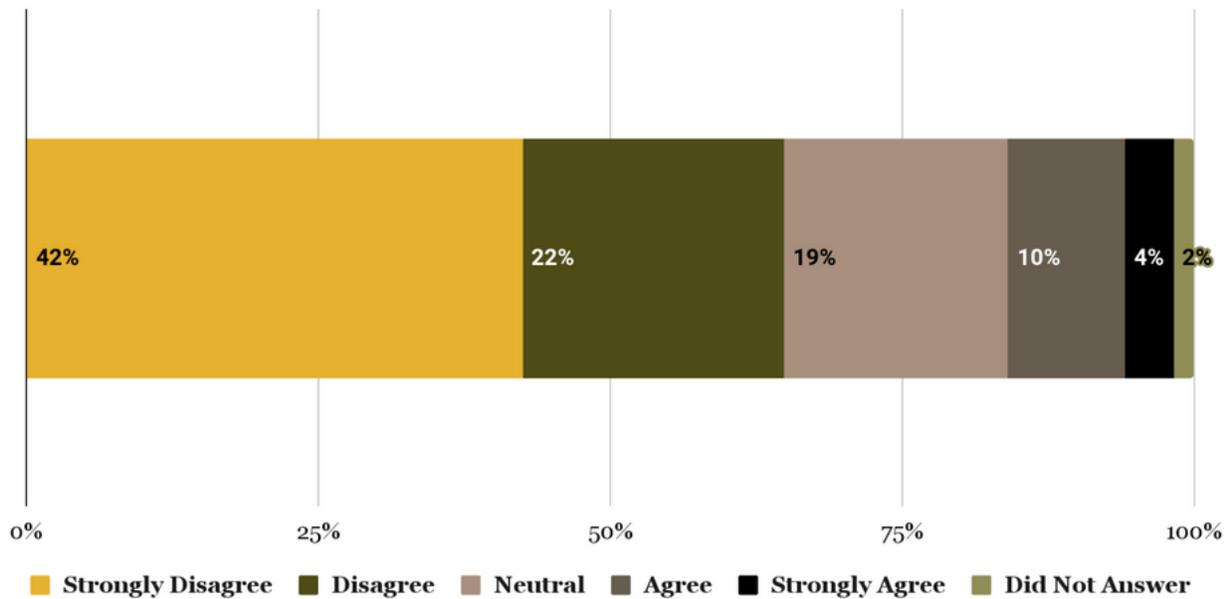
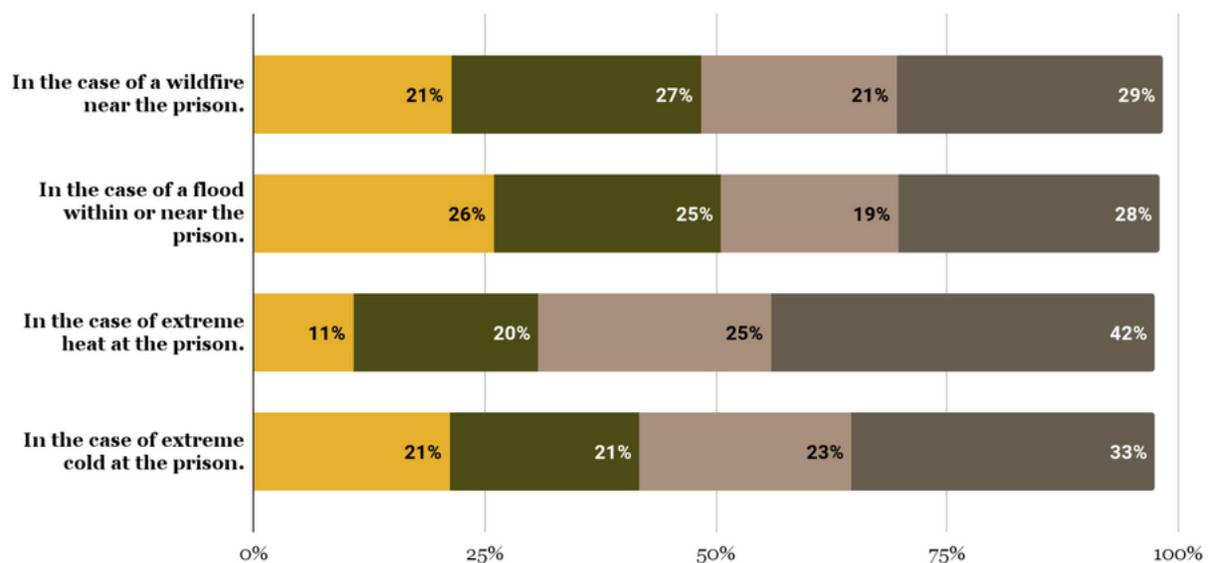


FIGURE 20. Question 10, Perceptions of Safety.

Q10. To what extent do you worry about your physical safety when the following occur:

Not Worried Somewhat Worried Worried Extremely Worried



APPENDIX E. Survey Results, *ctd.*

FIGURE 21. Question 11, Perceptions of Preparedness.

Q11. To what extent do you do you feel prepared for the following situations:

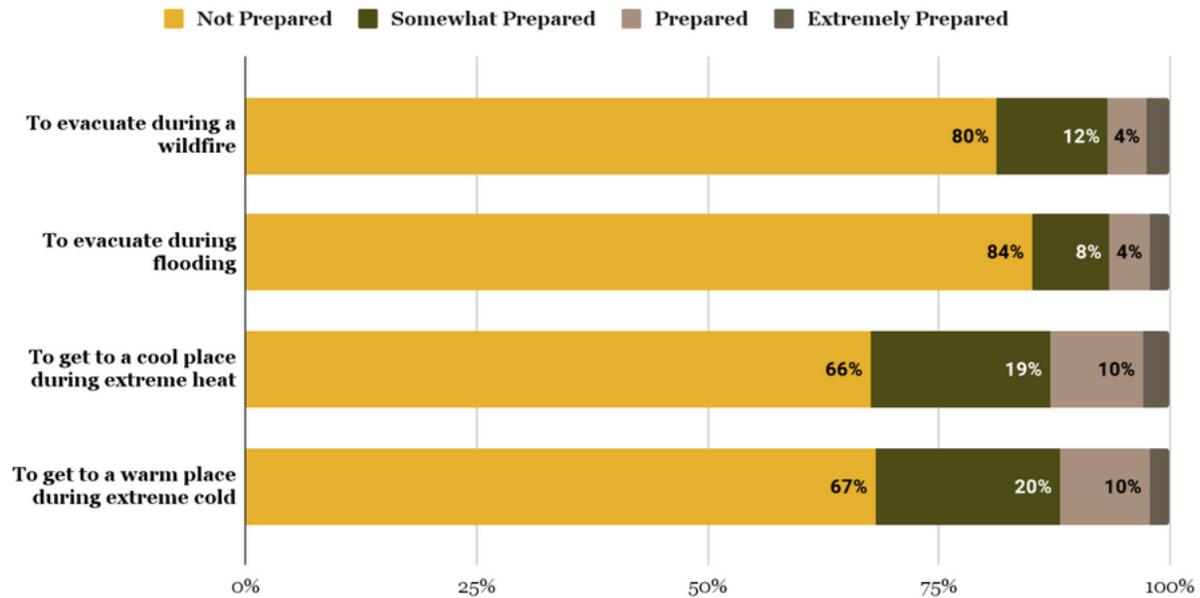
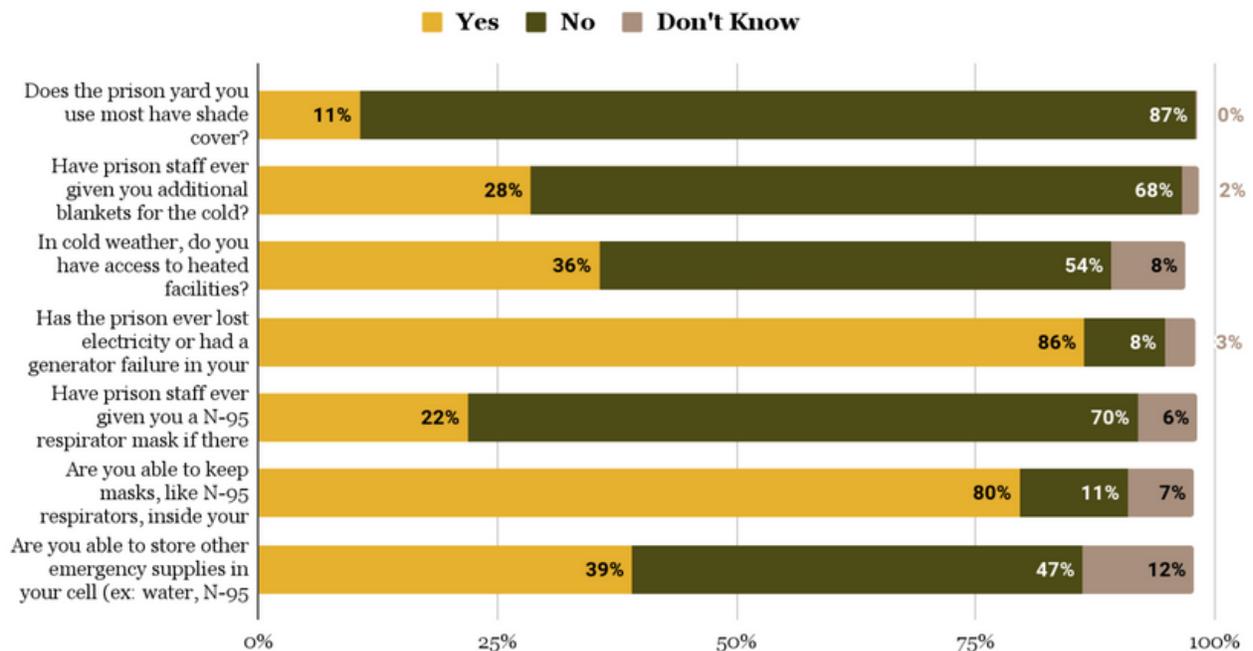


FIGURE 22. Question 12, Prison Conditions.

Q12. The following questions refer to conditions within the prison:



APPENDIX E. Survey Results, *ctd.*

FIGURE 23. Question 13, Prison Conditions on Extremely Hot Days.

Q13. On days when it was extremely hot in the prison, how often would you say the following occurred?

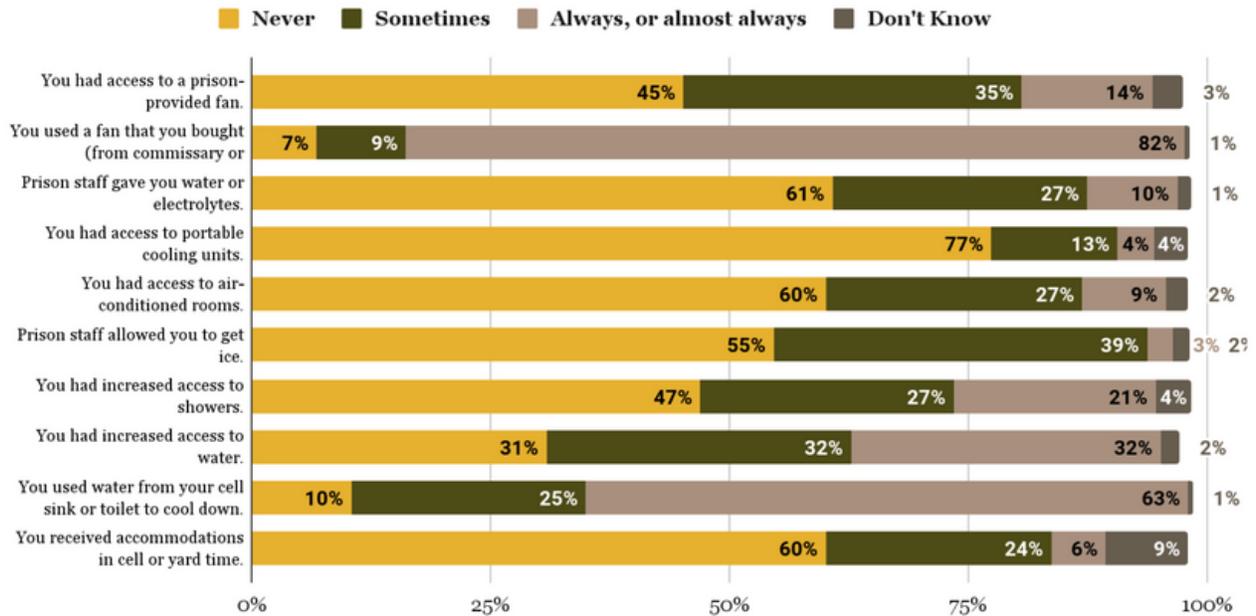
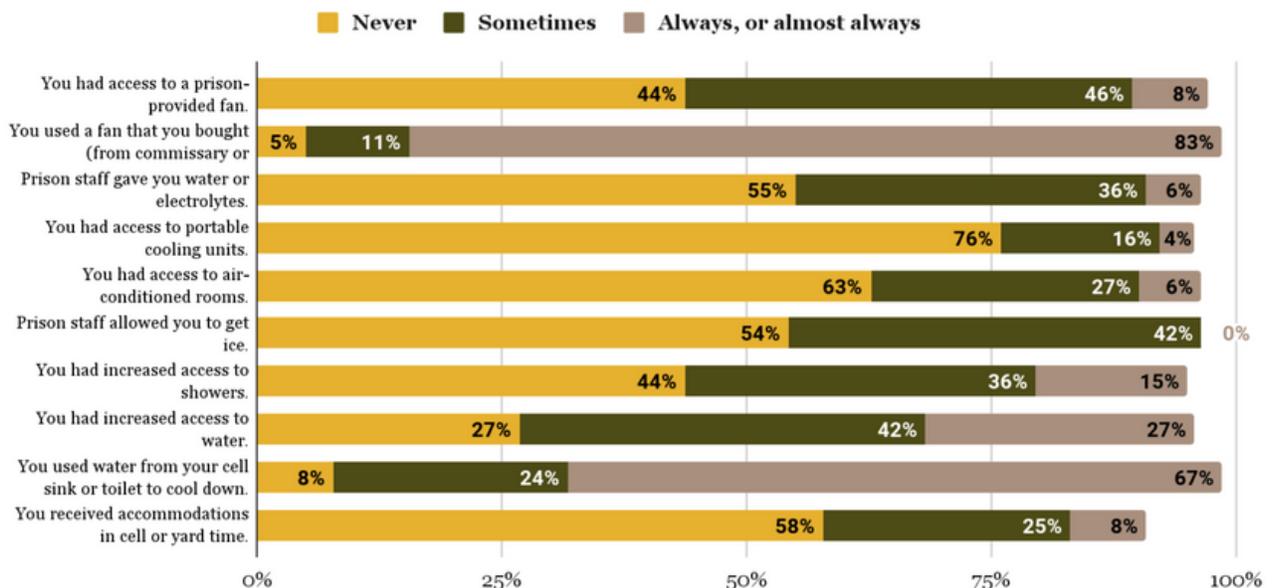


FIGURE 24. Question 13, Prison Conditions on Extremely Hot Days.

Q13. On days when it was extremely hot in the prison, how often would you say the following occurred?

Among those who are on medication and have experienced extreme heat:



APPENDIX F. Additional Maps and Data Used for Spatial Analysis.

FIGURE 1. Flood Risk of Valley State Prison.

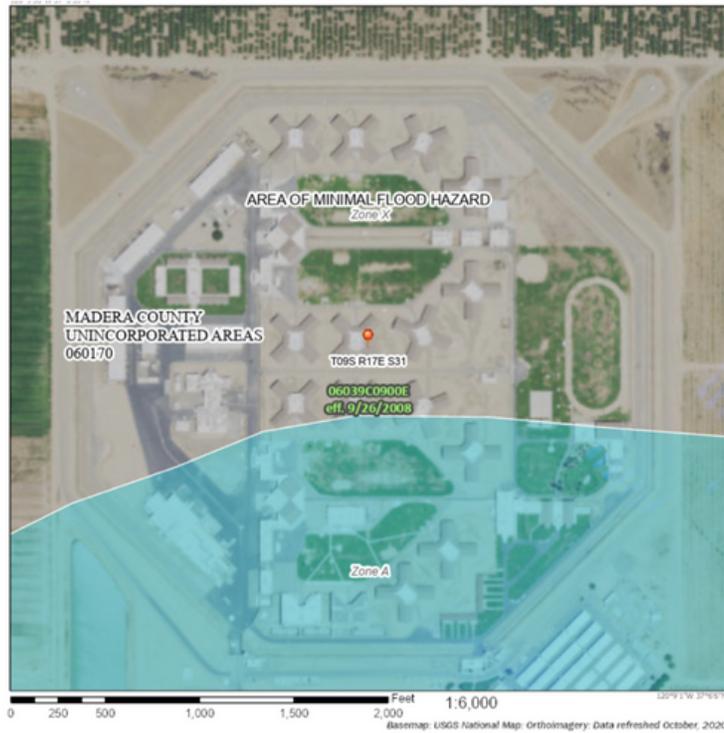


FIGURE 2. Flood Risk Substance Abuse Treatment Facility and State Prison, Corcoran.



APPENDIX F. Additional Maps and Data Used for Spatial Analysis, *ctd.*

FIGURE 3. Flood Risk of Valley State Prison.

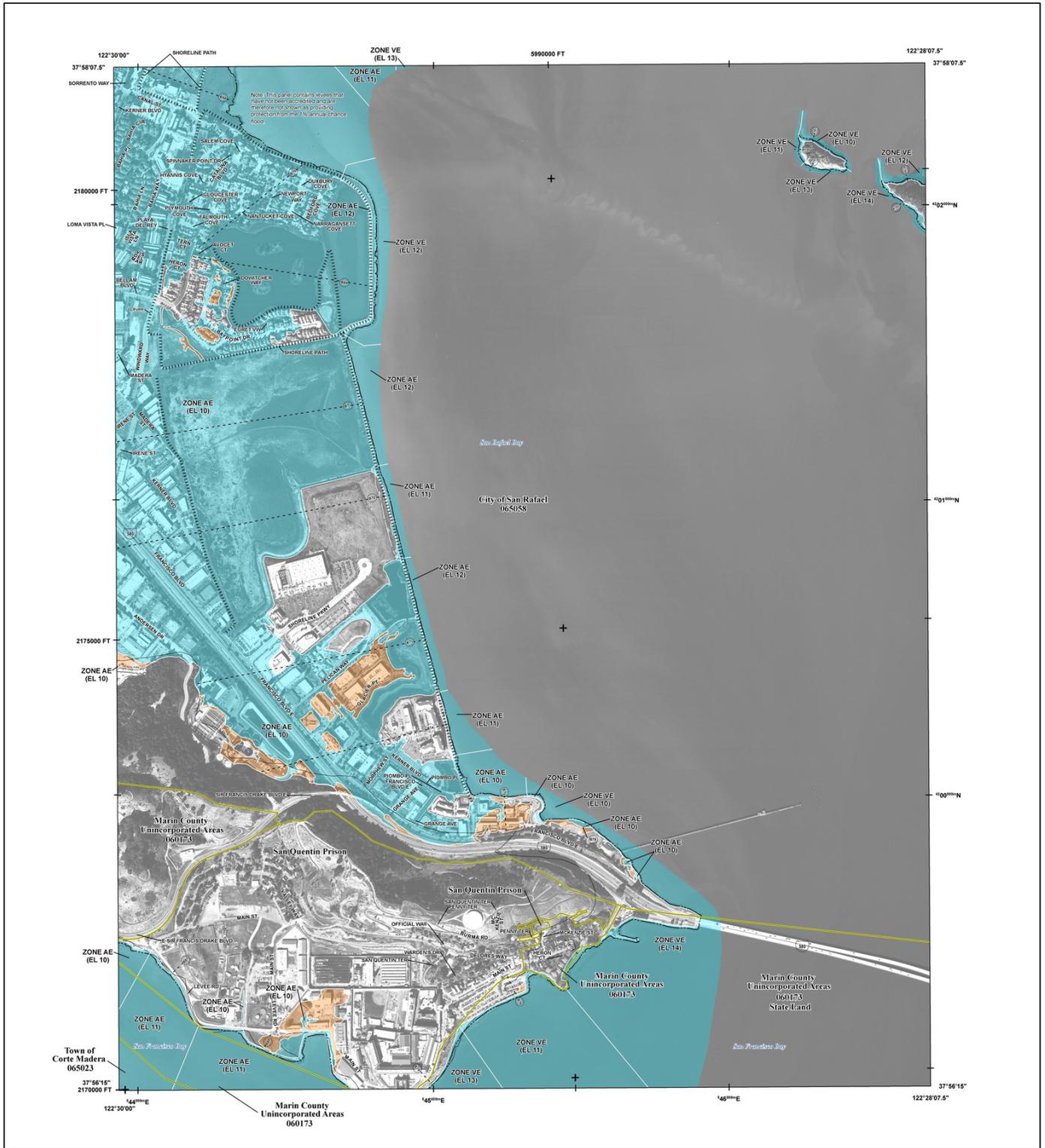


FIGURE 4. California State Prison Corcoran.



APPENDIX F. Additional Maps and Data Used for Spatial Analysis, ctd.

FIGURE 5. Flood Risk at San Quentin State Prison.



APPENDIX G. List of Documents Requested in the PRA.

We submitted a request for the following documents through the online portal with CDCR:

- Deaths in custody
- Emergency Preparedness Plans
- Continuity of Operations/Continuity of Government (COOP/COG) Plan
- All-Hazards Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) to include the Pandemic Influenza Plan
- Public Safety Power Shut-Off (PSPS) response
- Prison Population Demographics and Health Data
- Reports from prisons that have been affected by fires, floods, and extreme temperatures
- Draft of CDCR Climate Action Plan and Environmental Impact Report
- CDCR Training on climate-related emergency response
- All data used to generate the lists in CDCR's Sustainability Roadmap of top facilities 1) Most Affected by Changing Temperature (Degrees Fahrenheit); 2) Facilities that Will Experience the Largest Increase in Extreme Heat Events; 3) Facilities that will be Most Impacted by Projected Changes in Wildfire; 4) Facilities that will be Most Impacted by Projected Changes in Heating Degree Days; 5) Facilities that will be Most Impacted by Projected Changes in Cooling Degree Days
- Full Heat Contingency Plans
- Environmental Impact Reports (EIR) of most affected facilities as listed by CDCR's Sustainability Roadmap
- 2030 Climate Action Plan (2030 CAP)
- Drought Action Plan

Our Public Records Act request was partially denied using the following code sections related to issues of security.

- Government Code section 7923.600(a)
- Government Code section 7929.200
- Code of Federal Regulations title 45, sections 160.103, 164.502(a), 164.508(a)(1)
- Government Code section 7927.705
- Government Code section 7927.500
- Government Code section 7922.000

APPENDIX H. Documents Received from PRA.

Figure 1. 2019 Health Plan and Updates.



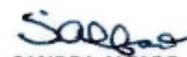
MEMORANDUM

Date: 5/1/2019

To: Chief Executive Officers
Wardens
Chief Medical Executives
Chiefs of Mental Health
Chief and Senior Psychiatrists
Chief Nurse Executives
Pharmacists in Charge
Litigation Coordinators

From:

 123
KATHERINE TEBROCK, ESQ.
Deputy Director
Statewide Mental Health Program


SANDRA ALFARO
Deputy Director (A)
Facility Support, Division of Adult
Institutions


JANE ROBINSON
Deputy Director, Nursing Services
Statewide Chief Nurse Executive
California Correctional Health Care
Services


RENEE KANAN, M.D.,
Deputy Director, Medical Services
California Correctional Health Care
Services

Subject: 2019 HEAT PLAN AND UPDATES

This memorandum is to remind institutions of the annual statewide Heat Plan (HP) implementation, highlight the major requirements of the HP, and provide important updates.

The Department must develop, implement, and maintain a HP to prevent serious threats of life and health to inmate-patients taking medications that can impair the body's ability to regulate temperature during periods of high heat.

APPENDIX H. Documents Received from PRA, *ctd.*

Figure 1. 2019 Health Plan and Updates, *ctd.*

MEMORANDUM

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As in previous years, all institutions shall review, revise, and activate institutional policies and procedures, train staff, distribute log forms, and maintain a tracking system to compile, file, and forward summary HP documentation to headquarters.

Seasonal Implementation

The HP is in effect from May 1 through October 31 of each year, and additionally whenever temperatures warrant.

Heat Alert Medications List

The Department must maintain and distribute a list of Heat Alert Medications annually for the purposes of the HP, pursuant to California Correctional Health Care Services (CCHCS) Inmate Medical Services Policy and Procedures (IMSP&P), Volume 3, Quality Management, Chapter 7.9, Patient Safety Program Policy: Heat Alert Medications and Chapter 7.10, Patient Safety Program Procedure: Heat Alert Medications. Heat Alert Medications have the potential to impair thermoregulation, which is the body's ability to regulate temperature. All inmate-patients prescribed any of the medications found on the current *Heat Alert Medications List* (Attachment A) are at greater risk for heat related illness.

Identification of Heat-Risk Inmate-Patients

The HP shall only apply to inmate-patients who are taking Heat Alert Medications. These inmate-patients are referred to as heat-risk inmate-patients for the purposes of the HP.

Institutional staff must generate and distribute daily a list of all inmate-patients currently prescribed any of the designated Heat Alert Medications. The list shall be generated using the Quality Management Heat Medications – Custody Report list that allows access to the Heat Medication Patient Registry. The Heat Medication Patient Registry can be found at: <http://cphcspfdccdw01/Reports/Pages/Report.aspx?ItemPath=/QM/Tools/HeatMedications>.

In order to ensure continuity and 7 day per week coverage for production of the list, please ensure this list is printed from your Health Care Access unit Monday through Friday and from your Triage Treatment Area on weekends and holidays prior to 0600 hours and provided to the Watch Commander to ensure distribution to appropriate areas.

The Contract Beds Unit (CBU) and the relevant supervised facilities are exempt from the specific requirement to use the Heat Medication Patient Registry.

Heat Stress Symptoms

Upon being prescribed a Heat Alert Medication, the primary care physician or prescribing provider must inform each inmate-patient, including those who are not enrolled in the Mental

APPENDIX H. Documents Received from PRA, *ctd.*

Figure 1. 2019 Health Plan and Updates, *ctd.*

MEMORANDUM

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Health Services Delivery System (MHSDS), of the heat stress symptoms as a result of taking the medication, as well as any recommended precautions, using Effective Communication. This encounter shall be documented in the inmate-patient's health care record.

Prompt medical attention must be provided whenever staff observe or an inmate-patient reports heat stress symptoms.

When a heat-risk inmate-patient is observed with, or complains of one or more of the following heat stress symptoms, staff shall immediately refer the inmate-patient to health care staff for evaluation and/or treatment:

- Flushed or dry feeling.
- Red, flushed or mottled (discolored spots or blotches) skin, or skin that is turning bluish.
- Cramping of muscles.
- Mental confusion, sleepiness, non-coordination, or convulsive behavior.
- Fainting, dizziness, lightheadedness, giddiness, or severe headaches.
- Nausea or vomiting

All heat related encounters must be documented in the health care record.

Heat-Risk Passes

Due to improvements in providing real time information via CERNER it is no longer necessary to print heat-risk passes. For movement purposes the daily list of inmates on heat meds will be utilized.

Monitoring Temperatures

The Warden or designee must ensure an accurate thermometer is located in a central, heat neutral location to monitor outside ambient air temperatures. Outside air temperatures must be recorded every hour, seven days per week, from May 1 through October 31 of each year.

The Warden or designee must also ensure inside air temperatures are measured in all non-air conditioned living areas housing heat-risk inmate-patients and areas that are air conditioned but could exceed 90 degrees (i.e., kitchen areas). Temperatures must be taken at the highest non-air-conditioned location where heat-risk inmate-patients are housed. Inside air temperatures must be recorded every three hours, seven days per week from May 1 through October 31. Any interruption in the functioning of an air-conditioned area shall require immediate temperature monitoring.

APPENDIX H. Documents Received from PRA, *ctd.*

Figure 1. 2019 Health Plan and Updates, *ctd.*

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Stage I Heat Alert

A Stage I Heat Alert occurs when the outside temperature rises to 90 degrees or more. The Warden or designee must activate and announce the Stage I Heat Plan institution-wide and heat-risk inmate-patients must be called for "Return to Housing." Heat-risk inmate-patients are not required to return to their housing units when outside temperatures rise to 90 degrees, if cooling measures, such as misters, are initiated or they are working or otherwise present in air conditioned environments that remain below 90 degrees. All other heat-risk inmate-patients must be called back to their housing units. All heat-risk inmate-patients are restricted to a maximum of 30 minutes outside to perform officially sanctioned activities, such as returning to housing units and receiving medications. This time is not to be used for leisure activities.

A Stage I Heat Alert shall be deactivated when the temperature has fallen below 90 degrees for one hour.

Stage II Heat Alert

A Stage II Heat Alert occurs when the temperature inside any area occupied by heat-risk inmate-patients rises to 90 degrees or more. The Warden or designee must activate the Stage II Heat Plan in the affected area. Staff must initiate cooling and hydration measures, which may include cool water for drinking, mist, and showers. Staff must also increase observation of heat-risk inmate-patients for signs of heat-related illness, and report any symptoms to health care staff.

A Stage II Heat Alert shall be deactivated when the temperature has fallen below 90 degrees for one hour.

Stage III Heat Alert

A Stage III Heat Alert occurs when the temperature inside any area occupied by heat-risk inmate-patients rises to 95 degrees or more. The Warden or designee must activate the Stage III Heat Plan in the affected area. The Physician on Call (POC) shall be notified after normal business hours. The Chief Executive Officer will decide whether the POC may remain on call or shall be physically present at the institution.

Nursing or other medically trained personnel must perform medical rounds to observe each heat-risk inmate-patient at least once every two hours during the period the inside temperature remains at 95 degrees or above, and record the inmate patient's condition. If any inmate-patient shows signs or symptoms of heat related illness, they must be provided cooling measures or be sent to the Triage and Treatment Area.

A Stage III Heat Alert shall be deactivated when the temperature has fallen below 95 degrees for one hour.

APPENDIX H. Documents Received from PRA, *ctd.*

Figure 1. 2019 Health Plan and Updates, *ctd.*

MEMORANDUM

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Tracking and Reporting

Institutions must submit a CDCR Form 7711-1, *Heat Plan Monthly Summary Report* (Attachment B), to headquarters each month, signed by the Warden and Chief Executive Officer.

Additionally, the following documents are to be gathered at the institution monthly, from May 1 through October 31 of each year, filed for review in an easily accessible manner with the institution's HP Coordinator, and retained consistent with departmental records retention policies and procedures. Copies shall also be included with the monthly submission of the CDCR MH-7711-1.

1. CDCR Form 2030, *Outside Temperature Record* (Attachment C)
2. CDCR Form 2031, *Inside Temperature Record* (Attachment D)
3. CDCR Form MH-7711-2, *Heat Incident Log* (Attachment E)
4. CDCR Form MH-7711-3, *Medical Rounds Log (Stage III)* (Attachment F)
5. Weekly List of Heat-Risk Inmate-Patients

Electronic versions of these forms can also be found on the Mental Health Quality Management (QM) Portal at <http://intranet/Pro/dhcs/mentalhealth/Pages/New-QMforms.aspx>.

Per IMSP&P Volume 3, Chapter 7, Section 2, Health Care Incident Reporting Policy, "All health care incidents shall be reported for the purpose of identification and review of adverse/sentinel events that impact patients or staff." Therefore, in addition to following established local operating procedures for completing CDCR MH 7711-2 for each heat related illness, institutional healthcare staff must also report each heat related illness using the Health Care Incident Reporting (HCIR) system at <http://patientsafety/>. The HCIR has been updated to include a checkbox indicating that the incident is a "Heat Medication Related Illness." Please note that all heat related illnesses should be reported via both the CDCR MH-7711-2 and the HCIR, whether they are due to a heat alert medication or not.

The CBU and the relevant supervised facilities are exempt from the specific requirement to use the Heat Medication Patient Registry and Health Care Incident Reporting System. The contracted facilities overseen by CBU do not have access to the shared CDCR and CCHCS electronic network in order to access these resources. All contracted facilities must show that in the event of a heat alert or heat incident, their existing procedures fulfill the purpose of the Heat Plan without requiring external access to these electronic resources. CBU and all contracted facilities must continue to comply with all relevant CDCR and CCHCS policies and provide updated local operating procedures annually as required.

Institution HP Coordinators must submit a CDCR MH-7711-1, containing the previous month's heat related activities to the Statewide Mental Health Program headquarters by the fifth working

APPENDIX H. Documents Received from PRA, *ctd.*

Figure 1. 2019 Health Plan and Updates, *ctd.*

MEMORANDUM

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day of the following month. The form shall be reviewed and signed by the Warden and Chief Executive Officer, and include the following information in chronological order:

- **Temperature Logs:** A notation that the Inside and Outside Temperature Records have been collected and are on file and available with the institution's Heat Plan Coordinator.
- **Stage II Heat Alert Log:** Date, hour, and location by housing unit, where inside temperatures of 90 degrees and above have been recorded, and documentation if hydration and access to cooling measures such as ice and/or showers were provided to any at-risk inmate-patients. Please indicate "none" if an inside temperature of 90 degrees was not reached in any housing unit.

The first CDCR MH-7711-1 for May 2019 is due by June 7, 2019. The form shall be submitted to the, Statewide Heat Plan Coordinator, via email: CDCR.MHProgramHeatPlan@CDCR.ca.gov.

Local Operating Procedure

Institutions are required to identify and include in their updated HP Local Operating Procedure (LOP), the classification(s) of staff members (such as nursing or other medically trained personnel) who must be assigned to perform the Stage III rounds/monitoring.

Submit the revised 2019 HP LOP, with any changes identified, to the following email address: CDCR.MHProgramHeatPlan@cdcr.ca.gov by May 10, 2019.

Reasonable Accommodations

In an effort to ensure heat-risk inmate-patients are afforded equal access to programs, services, and activities during extreme weather conditions, institutions must devise and include any reasonable accommodations when revising their LOP. The following are some examples institutions could provide to heat-risk inmate-patients as possible forms of reasonable accommodations:

- Modified yard times (scheduled during cooler periods of the day)
- Night yard or morning yard
- Additional dayroom/Inner wing program opportunities
- Recreation gymnasium programs during summer/warmer months

Institution LOPs must include what specific reasonable accommodations will be provided in each facility for inmate-patients who are on the heat alert list and are recalled from outdoor activities.

All reasonable accommodations provided to inmate-patients during heat alert activation must be documented in the institution's Daily Activity Report.

APPENDIX H. Documents Received from PRA, *ctd.*

Figure 1. 2019 Health Plan and Updates, *ctd.*

MEMORANDUM

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Traditional Sweat Lodge

Conditions in the Traditional Sweat Lodge (high temperature and high humidity) pose very serious risks for heat-related illness which prohibits inmate-patients prescribed Heat Alert Medications from participating. When prescribing Heat Alert Medications to those inmate-patients who wish to participate in Sweat Lodge Ceremonies, it is essential the informed consent process include discussion of the benefits of taking the proposed Heat Alert Medication versus the risks inherent in participating in a ceremony that involves excessive heat and humidity, as well as the inmate-patient's right to refuse such medication when a Penal Code 2602 order is not in effect.

The prescriber shall explain that discontinuing use of a Heat Alert Medication for a period of time before a Sweat Lodge Ceremony may not provide sufficient time to safely reduce the risk of heat-related illness. When available and deemed clinically appropriate, alternative medications which do not cause increased heat risk should be considered and discussed with inmate-patients. All such discussions shall be documented in the electronic health record.

Inmate-patients may also be encouraged to consult with their Native American Spiritual Leaders to consider alternatives to the Sweat Lodge Ceremony that do not involve excessive heat or humidity. Each institution's Warden and CEO, and/or designees, shall identify staff responsible for meeting with the institution's Native American Spiritual Leader on an annual basis to discuss alternatives to the Sweat Lodge Ceremony which satisfy the spiritual needs of inmate-patients prescribed Heat Alert Medication.

Training

Annual training on your institution's HP, including what to do when heat stress symptoms are identified and/or reported, must be provided to custodial and clinical staff by the In-Service Training Office.

If you have any questions, please contact Jocelyn Sanders, Statewide Heat Plan Coordinator, Policy Support, Statewide Mental Health Program, CCHCS, via email: CDCRMHProgramHeatPlan@CDCR.ca.gov.

Attachments

cc: Associate Directors, Division of Adult Institutions
Mental Health Regional Administrators
Regional Health Care Executives

APPENDIX H. Documents Received from PRA, *ctd.*

Figure 1. 2019 Health Plan and Updates, *ctd.*

Heat risk medications

Which medications are considered "Heat Risk Medications" because of their potential to impair thermoregulation?

Antipsychotics

Aripiprazole (ABILIFY)
Asenapine (SAPHRIS)
Brexiprazole (REXULTI)
Cariprazine (VRAYLAR)
Chlorpromazine (THORAZINE)
Clozapine (CLOZARIL)
Fluphenazine (PROLIXIN)
Haloperidol (HALDOL)
Iloperidone (FANAPT)
Loxapine (LOXITANE)
Lurasidone (LATUDA)
Mesoridazine (SERENTIL)
Molindone (MOBAN)
Olanzapine (ZYPREXA)
Paliperidone (INVEGA)
Perphenazine (TRILAFON)
Pimozide (ORAP)
Prochlorperazine (COMPAZINE)
Quetiapine (SEROQUEL)
Risperidone (RISPERDAL)
Thioridazine (MELLARIL)
Thiothixene (NAVANE)
Trifluoperazine (STELAZINE)
Ziprasidone (GEODON)

Mood Stabilizers & Anticonvulsants

Benzotropine (COGENTIN)
Biperiden (AKINETON)

Antidepressants

Amitriptyline (ELAVIL)
Amoxapine (ASENDIN)
Clomipramine (ANAFRANIL)
Desipramine (NORPRAMIN)
Doxepin (SINEQUAN)
Imipramine (TOFRANIL)
Maprotiline (LUDIOMIL)
Nortriptyline (PAMELOR)
Phenelzine (NARDIL)
Protriptyline (VIVACTIL)
Tranylcypromine (PARNATE)
Trazodone (DESYREL)
Trimipramine (SURMONTIL)

Stomach, Intestinal, Bladder

Diphenoxylate/Atropine (LOMOTIL)
Glycopyrrolate (ROBINUL)
Propantheline (PROBANTHINE)
Scopolamine (SCOPACE)

Mood Stabilizers & Anticonvulsants

Lithium (ESKALITH, LITHOBID)
Topiramate (TOPAMAX)
Zonisamide (ZONERGAN)

Miscellaneous Agents

Promethazine (PHENERGAN)

APPENDIX H. Documents Received from PRA, *ctd.*

Figure 1. 2019 Health Plan and Updates, *ctd.*

Monthly Summary Report

Institution: _____

Memorandum

Date: _____

To: Statewide Heat Plan Coordinator

Subject: Heat Plan Activity - _____

The following is a summary of the heat related activity for the month of _____
at _____ (Institution)

1. Were outside temperatures 90 degrees or above (Stage I Alerts)? _____
Number of days Stage I Alert initiated: _____
2. Were cooling and/or hydration measures instituted in housing units reaching 90 degrees or more (Stage II Alert)? _____
Number of days Stage II Alert initiated: _____
3. Were medical rounds performed in housing units reaching 95 degrees or more (Stage III Alert)? _____
Number of days Stage III Alert initiated: _____
4. Weekly list of heat risk patients archived?: _____

5. Number of patients with heat related illness. _____ List these patients on the Heat Incident Log and include the patients name, CDCR #, list of heat risk medications, Mental Health Services Delivery System designation, description of the symptoms diagnosis at the time of the heat related illness, a brief summary of the medical treatment rendered, where the incident occurred, and the ultimate disposition of the patient. The Heat Incident log shall be submitted each month with the Monthly Summary Report if heat related illnesses have occurred.

Weekly list of Heat-Risk Patients is generated automatically. A hard copy is distributed to the Facility Lieutenants, Classifications and Parole Representative, Food Manager, Outpatient Housing Unit and Mental Health Department. An e-mail copy is distributed to the Litigation Coordinator, Associate Warden, Facility Captains, Prison Industry Authority, Education Staff and Medical Staff.

Inside and Outside Temperature Logs, Medical Rounds Logs, Heat Incident Logs and Weekly lists of Heat-Risk Patients have been collected and are on file and easily accessible in the office of the institution's Heat Plan Coordinator.

Warden Name

Chief Executive Officer Name

Warden Signature

Chief Executive Officer Signature

APPENDIX H. Documents Received from PRA, *ctd.*

Figure 1. 2019 Health Plan and Updates, *ctd.*

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
OUTSIDE TEMPERATURE RECORD
 CDCR 2030 (04/18)

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION

INSTITUTION: _____

From May 1st through October 31st, the warden shall designate staff to be responsible to monitor and log the OUTSIDE ambient air temperature.

Using an accurate thermometer located in a central, heat neutral location, the outside air temperature is to be taken every hour, seven (7) days a week.

Thermometer Location: _____

Immediately notify the Watch Commander at extension _____ when the air temperature reaches 90 degrees.

Date	Time	Temp.	Printed Name
	0100		
	0200		
	0300		
	0400		
	0500		
	0600		
	0700		
	0800		
	0900		
	1000		
	1100		
	1200		
	1300		
	1400		
	1500		
	1600		
	1700		
	1800		
	1900		
	2000		
	2100		
	2200		
	2300		
	2400		

Date	Time	Temp.	Printed Name
	0100		
	0200		
	0300		
	0400		
	0500		
	0600		
	0700		
	0800		
	0900		
	1000		
	1100		
	1200		
	1300		
	1400		
	1500		
	1600		
	1700		
	1800		
	1900		
	2000		
	2100		
	2200		
	2300		
	2400		

DISTRIBUTION: Original: Institution ADA Coordinator

APPENDIX H. Documents Received from PRA, *ctd.*

Figure 1. 2019 Health Plan and Updates, *ctd.*

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION

INSIDE TEMPERATURE RECORD CDCR 2031 (04/18)

From May 1st through October 31st, the warden shall designate staff to be responsible to monitor and log the INSIDE ambient air temperature in all non-air-conditioned housing units where an inmate on the heat risk list may be housed. (Note: Air-conditioned housing units will also be monitored when the air conditioner is malfunctioning).

Using an accurate thermometer on the highest location in the housing unit (e.g., top tier) where an inmate on the heat risk list is housed. The inside air temperature is to be taken every three (3) hours, seven (7) days a week.

Institution: _____ Housing Unit: _____ Temp. Reading Location: _____
(e.g., 1st tier, 2nd tier, 3rd tier, etc.)

Immediately notify the Watch Commander at extension _____ when the inside air temperature reaches 90 degrees and again at 95 degrees.

Monday

Date	Time	Temp.	Name (Print)
	0300		
	0600		
	0900		
	1200		
	1500		
	1800		
	2100		
	2400		

Tuesday

Date	Time	Temp.	Name (Print)
	0300		
	0600		
	0900		
	1200		
	1500		
	1800		
	2100		
	2400		

Wednesday

Date	Time	Temp.	Name (Print)
	0300		
	0600		
	0900		
	1200		
	1500		
	1800		
	2100		
	2400		

Thursday

Date	Time	Temp.	Name (Print)
	0300		
	0600		
	0900		
	1200		
	1500		
	1800		
	2100		
	2400		

Friday

Date	Time	Temp.	Name (Print)
	0300		
	0600		
	0900		
	1200		
	1500		
	1800		
	2100		
	2400		

Saturday

Date	Time	Temp.	Name (Print)
	0300		
	0600		
	0900		
	1200		
	1500		
	1800		
	2100		
	2400		

Sunday

Date	Time	Temp.	Name (Print)
	0300		
	0600		
	0900		
	1200		
	1500		
	1800		
	2100		
	2400		

Notes

APPENDIX H. Documents Received from PRA, *ctd.*

Figure 1. 2019 Health Plan and Updates, *ctd.*

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
HEAT INCIDENT LOG
 CDCR MH-7711-2 (02/17)

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION
 Page 1 of 4

Heat Incident Log		
Institution: _____	Date: _____	Number of Heat Incidents: _____
1. Patient Name: _____	CDCR#: _____	Housing: _____
MHSDS Designation: _____	Level of Care: _____	Date of Heat Incident: _____
Location of Incident: _____	Change in Level of Care: _____	
List of Heat Risk Medications: _____		
Chief Medical Complaint: _____		
Diagnosis of Heat Related Illness (specify): _____		
Treatment Rendered: _____		
Medication Changes Made: _____		
Ultimate Disposition of Patient: _____		
Clinician's Name and Title: _____		
2. Patient Name: _____	CDCR#: _____	Housing: _____
MHSDS Designation: _____	Level of Care: _____	Date of Heat Incident: _____
Location of Incident: _____	Change in Level of Care: _____	
List of Heat Risk Medications: _____		
Chief Medical Complaint: _____		
Diagnosis of Heat Related Illness (specify): _____		
Treatment Rendered: _____		
Medication Changes Made: _____		
Ultimate Disposition of Patient: _____		
Clinician's Name and Title: _____		
3. Patient Name: _____	CDCR#: _____	Housing: _____
MHSDS Designation: _____	Level of Care: _____	Date of Heat Incident: _____
Location of Incident: _____	Change in Level of Care: _____	
List of Heat Risk Medications: _____		
Chief Medical Complaint: _____		
Diagnosis of Heat Related Illness (specify): _____		
Treatment Rendered: _____		
Medication Changes Made: _____		
Ultimate Disposition of Patient: _____		
Clinician's Name and Title: _____		
<p>Heat Incident Log CDCR MH-7711-2 (02/17)</p> <p>Confidential Patient Information</p>		

Unauthorized collection, creation, use, disclosure, modification, or destruction of personally identifiable information and/or protected health information may subject individuals to civil liability under applicable federal and state laws.

DISTRIBUTION: Litigation Coordinator, Heat Plan Coordinator

APPENDIX H. Documents Received from PRA, *ctd.*

Figure 1. 2019 Health Plan and Updates, *ctd.*

Heat Incident Log (continued)	
4. Patient Name: _____	CDCR#: _____ Housing: _____
MHSDS Designation: _____	Level of Care: _____ Date of Heat Incident: _____
Location of Incident: _____	Change in Level of Care: _____
List of Heat Risk Medications: _____	
Chief Medical Complaint: _____	
Diagnosis of Heat Related Illness (specify): _____	
Treatment Rendered: _____	
Medication Changes Made: _____	
Ultimate Disposition of Patient: _____	
Clinician's Name and Title: _____	
5. Patient Name: _____	CDCR#: _____ Housing: _____
MHSDS Designation: _____	Level of Care: _____ Date of Heat Incident: _____
Location of Incident: _____	Change in Level of Care: _____
List of Heat Risk Medications: _____	
Chief Medical Complaint: _____	
Diagnosis of Heat Related Illness (specify): _____	
Treatment Rendered: _____	
Medication Changes Made: _____	
Ultimate Disposition of Patient: _____	
Clinician's Name and Title: _____	
6. Patient Name: _____	CDCR#: _____ Housing: _____
MHSDS Designation: _____	Level of Care: _____ Date of Heat Incident: _____
Location of Incident: _____	Change in Level of Care: _____
List of Heat Risk Medications: _____	
Chief Medical Complaint: _____	
Diagnosis of Heat Related Illness (specify): _____	
Treatment Rendered: _____	
Medication Changes Made: _____	
Ultimate Disposition of Patient: _____	
Clinician's Name and Title: _____	
Heat Incident Log CDCR MH-7711-2 (02/17) Confidential Patient Information	

APPENDIX H. Documents Received from PRA, *ctd.*

Figure 1. 2019 Health Plan and Updates, *ctd.*

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
HEAT INCIDENT LOG
 CDCR MH-7711-2 (02/17)

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION
 Page 3 of 4

Heat Incident Log (continued)	
7. Patient Name: _____	CDCR#: _____ Housing: _____
MHSDS Designation: _____	Level of Care: _____ Date of Heat Incident: _____
Location of Incident: _____	Change in Level of Care: _____
List of Heat Risk Medications: _____	
Chief Medical Complaint: _____	
Diagnosis of Heat Related Illness (specify): _____	
Treatment Rendered: _____	
Medication Changes Made: _____	
Ultimate Disposition of Patient: _____	
Clinician's Name and Title: _____	
8. Patient Name: _____	CDCR#: _____ Housing: _____
MHSDS Designation: _____	Level of Care: _____ Date of Heat Incident: _____
Location of Incident: _____	Change in Level of Care: _____
List of Heat Risk Medications: _____	
Chief Medical Complaint: _____	
Diagnosis of Heat Related Illness (specify): _____	
Treatment Rendered: _____	
Medication Changes Made: _____	
Ultimate Disposition of Patient: _____	
Clinician's Name and Title: _____	
9. Patient Name: _____	CDCR#: _____ Housing: _____
MHSDS Designation: _____	Level of Care: _____ Date of Heat Incident: _____
Location of Incident: _____	Change in Level of Care: _____
List of Heat Risk Medications: _____	
Chief Medical Complaint: _____	
Diagnosis of Heat Related Illness (specify): _____	
Treatment Rendered: _____	
Medication Changes Made: _____	
Ultimate Disposition of Patient: _____	
Clinician's Name and Title: _____	
<p>Heat Incident Log CDCR MH-7711-2 (02/17)</p> <p>Confidential Patient Information</p>	

Unauthorized collection, creation, use, disclosure, modification, or destruction of personally identifiable information and/or protected health information may subject individuals to civil liability under applicable federal and state laws.

DISTRIBUTION: Litigation Coordinator, Heat Plan Coordinator

APPENDIX H. Documents Received from PRA, *ctd.*

Figure 1. 2019 Health Plan and Updates, *ctd.*

Heat Incident Log (continued)		
10. Patient Name:	CDCR#:	Housing:
MHSDS Designation:	Level of Care:	Date of Heat Incident:
Location of Incident:	Change in Level of Care:	
List of Heat Risk Medications:		
Chief Medical Complaint:		
Diagnosis of Heat Related Illness (specify):		
Treatment Rendered:		
Medication Changes Made:		
Ultimate Disposition of Patient:		
Clinician's Name and Title:		
11. Patient Name:	CDCR#:	Housing:
MHSDS Designation:	Level of Care:	Date of Heat Incident:
Location of Incident:	Change in Level of Care:	
List of Heat Risk Medications:		
Chief Medical Complaint:		
Diagnosis of Heat Related Illness (specify):		
Treatment Rendered:		
Medication Changes Made:		
Ultimate Disposition of Patient:		
Clinician's Name and Title:		
12. Patient Name:	CDCR#:	Housing:
MHSDS Designation:	Level of Care:	Date of Heat Incident:
Location of Incident:	Change in Level of Care:	
List of Heat Risk Medications:		
Chief Medical Complaint:		
Diagnosis of Heat Related Illness (specify):		
Treatment Rendered:		
Medication Changes Made:		
Ultimate Disposition of Patient:		
Clinician's Name and Title:		

Heat Incident Log
CDCR MH-7711-2 (02/17)
Confidential Patient Information

APPENDIX H. Documents Received from PRA, *ctd.*

Figure 1. 2019 Health Plan and Updates, *ctd.*

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

MEDICAL ROUNDS LOG (STAGE III)

CDCR MH-7711-3 (02/17)

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION

Page 1 of 1

Medical Rounds Log (Stage III)	
Institution: _____	
Date: _____	Time: _____ Housing Unit: _____
Name /Title of Health Care Staff Performing Rounds: _____	Heat Related Illnesses Identified: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Heat incidents identified on rounds (include patient name, CDCR number, MHSDS designation, list of heat risk medications, and brief summary of medical treatment):	
1.	<input type="text"/>
2.	<input type="text"/>
3.	<input type="text"/>
4.	<input type="text"/>
Date: _____ Time: _____ Housing Unit: _____	
Name /Title of Health Care Staff Performing Rounds: _____	Heat Related Illnesses Identified: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Heat incidents identified on rounds (include patient name, CDCR number, MHSDS designation, list of heat risk medications, and brief summary of medical treatment):	
1.	<input type="text"/>
2.	<input type="text"/>
3.	<input type="text"/>
4.	<input type="text"/>
Medical Rounds Log (Stage III) CDCR MH-7711-3 (02/17) Confidential Patient Information	

Unauthorized collection, creation, use, disclosure, modification, or destruction of personally identifiable information and/or protected health information may subject individuals to civil liability under applicable federal and state laws.
DISTRIBUTION: Litigation Coordinator, Heat Plan Coordinator

APPENDIX H. Documents Received from PRA, *ctd.*

Figure 2. CDCR Water Conservation and Management Plan.



(INSERT INSTITUTION) WATER CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

Updated 2021

<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete the Best Management Practices Checklist on an annual basis and submit to the Energy and Sustainability Section by June 30 of each year.	ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES
<input type="checkbox"/>	Designate a Water Conservation Manager.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Establish a Water Conservation Team lead by the Water Conservation Manager to update the Water Conservation Plan and monitor compliance with the Plan.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Institution Water Conservation Manager shall contact their local water provider if they receive water from an outside source to incorporate any location specific requirements into their Water Conservation Plan as required.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ensure all water meters are operational and properly calibrated. All non-functioning meters shall be repaired and/or replaced promptly to ensure continuous and accurate ongoing reporting of consumption data to the Energy and Sustainability Section.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Initiate conversations with local authorities, citizen's advisory councils, etc., as appropriate to communicate water conservation efforts. Post water conservation signage in areas where water is used.	CDCR STATEWIDE WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prohibit irrigation of lawns and ornamental turf using potable water. This prohibition does not extend to mature trees, which should be watered as necessary to prevent die-off. Irrigation of landscape utilizing reused or reclaimed water may remain in use but should follow appropriate watering schedules as described in the Best Management Practices Checklist (i.e. early morning, late evening hours).	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Limit watering of the recreation yards utilizing Best Management Practices Checklist (i.e. early morning, late evening hours).	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prohibit all new, non-essential landscaping projects that would require irrigation. Non-essential landscaping is landscaping that is not a critical component of the mission of the facility.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	All decorative water features such as fountains, waterfalls, ponds, etc., shall comply with the Best Management Practices Checklist.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Institutional staff shall continuously monitor its water system to identify all water leaks and take appropriate steps to accomplish timely repairs.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Identify all faucets, showerheads, toilets, and urinals that do not meet Federal and State flow requirements (faucets 1.5 gallons per minute (gpm) or less, showerheads 2.5 gpm or less, toilets 1.6 gpm or less, urinals 1 gallon per flush or less). Report your findings to the Energy and Sustainability Section to explore replacement opportunities.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Verify any installed flush restricting valves (i.e. Flushometers) are operating as originally designed and repair or adjust as necessary.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inmate/ward shower durations shall comply with Best Management Practices Checklist.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Confirm institutional garbage disposal and food waste procedures comply with existing "food plate scraping" policy.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ensure the use of all water hoses in the kitchen areas complies with the Best Management Practices Checklist.	SITE-BASED MEASURES DURING PROCLAIMED DROUGHT (STATEWIDE OR BY COUNTY)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prohibit using water to clean sidewalks and other hardscape areas of the institution.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cease "Staff and State Vehicle Washing" programs.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inmate/ward workers assigned to culinary, construction/maintenance duties, and/or programs requiring showering shall be allowed to shower once daily not to exceed 5 minutes. All other inmates/wards will be permitted showers three times a week not to exceed 5 minutes.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	All on-site laundry machines that are used for personal hygiene laundry shall be operated in the most water efficient manner as possible (i.e. full loads, short cycles, etc.). Institutions shall identify non-efficient devices and report to the Energy and Sustainability Section for potential replacement funding opportunities.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cease all garbage disposal usage.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Shutdown and cease all inmate/ward showers that are not conducted inside each housing unit (i.e. yard showers, etc.). Not applicable to decontamination showers.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other water reduction measures necessary based on local water conservation requirements (write in your measures):	

APPENDIX I. Communication with CDCR.

Figure 1. E-mail Communication from CDCR.

On 1/22/2023 10:19:10 PM, Abhilasha Bhola wrote:

Request Created on Public Portal

—

On 1/22/2023 10:19:14 PM, CDCR Public Records wrote:

RE: PUBLIC RECORDS ACT REQUEST of 1/22/2023, Reference # I008854-012223

Dear student Abhilasha Bhola,

Thank you for your interest in public records of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). Your request has been received and is being processed in accordance with the California Public Records Act, Government Code section 6250 et seq. Your request was received on January 22, 2023 and given the reference number I008854-012223 for tracking purposes. Records Requested: *Date: Month, Day, Year* Re: Request for (Arrest/Booking) Data Dear *Agency Name/Unit Name*:

Pursuant to the California Public Records Act ("CPRA")[1] and the California Constitution[2] I am requesting the information listed below, in electronic format. I pledge under penalty of perjury that the data will not be used for commercial purposes. I swear under penalty of perjury that this request is being made for scholarly purposes. I am willing to pay any reasonable fees required to fulfill this request. Please send the following information in an electronic format (if the records are kept in a database, they should preferably be exported to an excel or csv file):

1. Continuity of Operations/Continuity of Government (COOP/COG) Plan for all CDCR state prisons
2. All-Hazards Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) to include the Pandemic Influenza Plan for all CDCR state prisons
3. Public Safety Power Shut-Off (PSPS) response for all CDCR state prisons
4. Draft of CDCR Climate Action Plan and Environmental Impact Report
5. Any reports, resources or documents pertaining to CDCR Training on climate related emergency response
6. All data used to generate the lists (or full information for every CDCR facility) of Most Affected by Changing Temperature (Degrees Fahrenheit), Facilities that Will Experience the Largest Increase in Extreme Heat Events, Facilities that will be Most Impacted by Projected Changes in Wildfire, Facilities that will be Most Impacted by Projected Changes in Heating Degree Days, Facilities that will be Most Impacted by Projected Changes in Cooling Degree Days in the CDCR SUSTAINABILITY ROADMAP 2020-2021 - Chapter One: Climate Change adaptation
7. Full Heat Contingency Plans
8. Environmental Impact Reports (EIR) of Most Affected Facilities as listed by CDCR sustainability roadmap
9. Drought Action Plan
10. Drafts of the 2030 Climate Action Plan (2030 CAP)
11. Health Data on all deaths and causes of death in CDCR facilities from 2000 to present

APPENDIX I. Communication with CDCR, *ctd.*

Figure 1. E-mail Communication from CDCR, *ctd*

If available, please provide a definition list for the information provided in response to this PRA. Likewise, we prefer this file in electronic format as well. Please send your response to this PRA request to abhilashab@g.ucla.edu.

If you believe this request is overly broad, Government Code § 6253.1(a) requires that you (1) provide assistance in identifying responsive records and information; (2) describe the information technology and physical location in which the records exist; and (3) provide suggestions to overcome any practical basis that you assert as a reason to delay or deny access to the records or information sought.

If you have any questions regarding the scope of this request, anticipate that the cost of production will exceed \$50, or believe that the time needed to copy the records will delay their release, please contact: abhilashab@g.ucla.edu to discuss arrangements for the production of these documents. Otherwise, please send all documents as soon as possible and on a rolling basis if necessary. Pursuant to Government Code § 6253(c), you are required to respond to this request within ten days. Your response must provide all requested records or a schedule as to when these records will become available. Additionally, if you contend that any record requested is exempt from disclosure, either in whole or in part, your response must set forth the legal authority on which you rely to withhold such responsive information. Please note that Government § 6253(d) prohibits the use of this ten-day period, or any provisions of the CPRA or any other law, "to delay access for purposes of inspecting public records."

Thank you in advance for your compliance with this request. Pursuant to the CPRA, your response is due by: February 3, 2023

All my best,

Abhilasha Bhola
Masters of Public Policy '23
UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs
abhilashab@g.ucla.edu

[1] Gov't Code §§ 6250 et seq.

[2] Cal. Const., art. I, § 3(b)(2).

Your request will be forwarded to the relevant CDCR department(s) to locate the information you seek and to determine the volume and any costs that may be associated with satisfying your request. You will be contacted about the availability and/or provided with copies of the records in question. PLEASE NOTE: The California Public Records Act does not require a governmental body to create new information, to do legal research, or to answer questions.

You can monitor the progress of your request at the link below and you'll receive an email when your request has been completed.

CA Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

[To monitor the progress or update this request please log into the CDCR PUBLIC RECORDS PORTAL](#)

APPENDIX I. Communication with CDCR, *ctd.*

Figure 1. E-mail Communication from CDCR, *ctd*

—

On 2/2/2023 10:19:42 AM, CDCR Public Records wrote:

RE: PUBLIC RECORDS ACT REQUEST January 22, 2023, Reference # I008854-012223

Dear student Abhilasha Bhola,

This letter is in response to your Public Records Act request dated January 22, 2023 in which you requested the following records: "*Date: Month, Day, Year* Re: Request for (Arrest/Booking) Data Dear *Agency Name/Unit Name*:

Pursuant to the California Public Records Act ("CPRA")[1] and the California Constitution[2] I am requesting the information listed below, in electronic format. I pledge under penalty of perjury that the data will not be used for commercial purposes. I swear under penalty of perjury that this request is being made for scholarly purposes. I am willing to pay any reasonable fees required to fulfill this request. Please send the following information in an electronic format (if the records are kept in a database, they should preferably be exported to an excel or csv file):

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5. Any reports, resources or documents pertaining to CDCR Training on climate related emergency response
6. All data used to generate the lists (or full information for every CDCR facility) of Most Affected by Changing Temperature (Degrees Fahrenheit), Facilities that Will Experience the Largest Increase in Extreme Heat Events, Facilities that will be Most Impacted by Projected Changes in Wildfire, Facilities that will be Most Impacted by Projected Changes in Heating Degree Days, Facilities that will be Most Impacted by Projected Changes in Cooling Degree Days in the CDCR SUSTAINABILITY ROADMAP 2020-2021 - Chapter One: Climate Change adaptation
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8. Environmental Impact Reports (EIR) of Most Affected Facilities as listed by CDCR sustainability roadmap
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10. Drafts of the 2030 Climate Action Plan (2030 CAP)
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If available, please provide a definition list for the information provided in response to this PRA. Likewise, we prefer this file in electronic format as well. Please send your response to this PRA request to abhilashab@g.ucla.edu

If you believe this request is overly broad, Government Code § 6253.1(a) requires that you (1) provide assistance in identifying responsive records and information; (2) describe the information technology

APPENDIX I. Communication with CDCR, *ctd.*

Figure 1. E-mail Communication from CDCR, *ctd*

and physical location in which the records exist; and (3) provide suggestions to overcome any practical basis that you assert as a reason to delay or deny access to the records or information sought. If you have any questions regarding the scope of this request, anticipate that the cost of production will exceed \$50, or believe that the time needed to copy the records will delay their release, please contact: abhilashab@g.ucla.edu to discuss arrangements for the production of these documents. Otherwise, please send all documents as soon as possible and on a rolling basis if necessary.

Pursuant to Government Code § 6253(c), you are required to respond to this request within ten days. Your response must provide all requested records or a schedule as to when these records will become available. Additionally, if you contend that any record requested is exempt from disclosure, either in whole or in part, your response must set forth the legal authority on which you rely to withhold such responsive information.⁵ Please note that Government § 6253(d) prohibits the use of this ten-day period, or any provisions of the CPRA or any other law, "to delay access for purposes of inspecting public records."

Thank you in advance for your compliance with this request. Pursuant to the CPRA, your response is due by: February 3, 2023

All my best,

Abhilasha Bhola
Masters of Public Policy '23
UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs
abhilashab@g.ucla.edu

[1] Gov't Code §§ 6250 et seq.

[2] Cal. Const., art. I, § 3(b)(2)."

Your request is under review and a 14-day extension of time is necessary under Government Code Section 7922.535 to determine whether your request seeks copies of disclosable public records in CDCR's possession. The extension of time is necessary due to:

The need to search for and collect the requested records from field facilities or other establishments that are separate from the office processing the request.

We expect to provide you with a determination on or before 2/16/2023.

If you have any questions or need additional information, you can manage your request through the

CDCR PUBLIC RECORDS PORTAL.

Sincerely,

CDCR PRAU Request Team
CA Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

APPENDIX I. Communication with CDCR, *ctd.*

Figure 1. E-mail Communication from CDCR, *ctd*

—

On 2/16/2023 9:04:00 AM, CDCR Public Records wrote:

RE: PUBLIC RECORDS ACT REQUEST January 22, 2023, Reference # I008854-012223

Dear student Abhilasha Bhola,

This letter is in response to your Public Records Act request dated January 22, 2023 in which you requested the following records: “*Date: Month, Day, Year* Re: Request for (Arrest/Booking) Data

Dear *Agency Name/Unit Name*:

Pursuant to the California Public Records Act (“CPRA”)[1] and the California Constitution[2] I am requesting the information listed below, in electronic format. I pledge under penalty of perjury that the data will not be used for commercial purposes. I swear under penalty of perjury that this request is being made for scholarly purposes. I am willing to pay any reasonable fees required to fulfill this request. Please send the following information in an electronic format (if the records are kept in a database, they should preferably be exported to an excel or csv file):

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If available, please provide a definition list for the information provided in response to this PRA. Likewise, we prefer this file in electronic format as well. Please send your response to this PRA request to abhilashab@g.ucla.edu

If you believe this request is overly broad, Government Code § 6253.1(a) requires that you (1) provide

APPENDIX I. Communication with CDCR, *ctd.*

Figure 1. E-mail Communication from CDCR, *ctd*

assistance in identifying responsive records and information; (2) describe the information technology and physical location in which the records exist; and (3) provide suggestions to overcome any practical basis that you assert as a reason to delay or deny access to the records or information sought.

If you have any questions regarding the scope of this request, anticipate that the cost of production will exceed \$50, or believe that the time needed to copy the records will delay their release, please contact: abhilashab@g.ucla.edu to discuss arrangements for the production of these documents. Otherwise, please send all documents as soon as possible and on a rolling basis if necessary. Pursuant to Government Code § 6253(c), you are required to respond to this request within ten days. Your response must provide all requested records or a schedule as to when these records will become available. Additionally, if you contend that any record requested is exempt from disclosure, either in whole or in part, your response must set forth the legal authority on which you rely to withhold such responsive information.⁵ Please note that Government § 6253(d) prohibits the use of this ten-day period, or any provisions of the CPRA or any other law, "to delay access for purposes of inspecting public records."

Thank you in advance for your compliance with this request. Pursuant to the CPRA, your response is due by: February 3, 2023

All my best,

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abhilashab@g.ucla.edu

[1] Gov't Code §§ 6250 et seq.

[2] Cal. Const., art. I, § 3(b)(2)."

CA Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation has identified public records responsive to your request and will produce non-exempt records responsive to your request upon final review. We expect to provide you these on or before 2/24/2023.

Please note that CDCR is still reviewing documents that may be responsive to your request, and it is possible that additional documents and/or exemptions will be identified during the final review and compilation of these records.

If you have any questions or need additional information, you can manage your request through the CDCR PUBLIC RECORDS PORTAL.

Sincerely,

CDCR PRAU Request Team
CA Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

APPENDIX I. Communication with CDCR, *ctd.*

Figure 1. E-mail Communication from CDCR, *ctd*

—

On 2/27/2023 8:20:30 PM, Abhilasha Bhola wrote:

Hello,

I was told that I would receive some records starting February 24th but have not seen any records yet. Do you know the timeframe in which I will receive records responsive to my request?

Abhilasha

—

On 2/28/2023 3:39:14 PM, CDCR Public Records wrote:

RE: PUBLIC RECORDS ACT REQUEST January 22, 2023, Reference # I008854-012223

Dear student Abhilasha Bhola,

This letter is in response to your Public Records Act request dated January 22, 2023 in which you requested the following records: *"*Date: Month, Day, Year* Re: Request for (Arrest/Booking) Data*

Dear **Agency Name/Unit Name**:

Pursuant to the California Public Records Act ("CPRA")[1] and the California Constitution[2] I am requesting the information listed below, in electronic format. I pledge under penalty of perjury that the data will not be used for commercial purposes. I swear under penalty of perjury that this request is being made for scholarly purposes. I am willing to pay any reasonable fees required to fulfill this request. Please send the following information in an electronic format (if the records are kept in a database, they should preferably be exported to an excel or csv file):

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APPENDIX I. Communication with CDCR, *ctd.*

Figure 1. E-mail Communication from CDCR, *ctd*

7. Full Heat Contingency Plans
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9. Drought Action Plan
10. Drafts of the 2030 Climate Action Plan (2030 CAP)
11. Health Data on all deaths and causes of death in CDCR facilities from 2000 to present

If available, please provide a definition list for the information provided in response to this PRA. Likewise, we prefer this file in electronic format as well. Please send your response to this PRA request to abhilashab@g.ucla.edu

If you believe this request is overly broad, Government Code § 6253.1(a) requires that you (1) provide assistance in identifying responsive records and information; (2) describe the information technology and physical location in which the records exist; and (3) provide suggestions to overcome any practical basis that you assert as a reason to

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Sincerely,

CDCR PRAU Request Team
CA Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

—

On 2/28/2023 3:48:13 PM, CDCR Public Records wrote:

RE: PUBLIC RECORDS ACT REQUEST January 22, 2023, Reference # I008854-012223

Dear student Abhilasha Bhola,

This letter is in response to your Public Records Act request dated January 22, 2023 in which you requested the following records: "*Date: Month, Day, Year* Re: Request for (Arrest/Booking) Data Dear *Agency Name/Unit Name*:

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1. Continuity of Operations/Continuity of Government (COOP/COG) Plan for all CDCR state prisons

APPENDIX I. Communication with CDCR, *ctd.*

Figure 1. E-mail Communication from CDCR, *ctd*

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If available, please provide a definition list for the information provided in response to this PRA. Likewise, we prefer this file in electronic format as well. Please send your response to this PRA request to abhilashab@g.ucla.edu

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Please note that Government § 6253(d) prohibits the use of this ten-day period, or any provisions of the CPRA or any other law, "to delay access for purposes of inspecting public records."

Thank you in advance for your compliance with this request. Pursuant to the CPRA, your response is due by: February 3, 2023

APPENDIX I. Communication with CDCR, *ctd.*

Figure 1. E-mail Communication from CDCR, *ctd*

All my best,

Abhilasha Bhola
Masters of Public Policy '23
UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs
abhilashab@g.ucla.edu

[1] Gov't Code §§ 6250 et seq.

[2] Cal. Const., art. I, § 3(b)(2)."

Additional information accidentally omitted from previous letter.

All data used to generate the lists (or full information for every CDCR facility) of Most Affected by Changing Temperature (Degrees Fahrenheit), Facilities that Will Experience the Largest Increase in Extreme Heat Events, Facilities that will be Most Impacted by Projected Changes in Wildfire, Facilities that will be Most Impacted by Projected Changes in Heating Degree Days, Facilities that will be Most Impacted by Projected Changes in Cooling Degree Days in the CDCR SUSTAINABILITY ROADMAP 2020-2021 - Chapter One: Climate Change adaptation.

Environmental Impact Reports (EIR) of Most Affected Facilities as listed by CDCR sustainability roadmap

CDCR is required to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) and CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations Section 15000 et seq.) to determine if a project has a significant effect on the environment and identify the appropriate level of environmental analysis and associated mitigation when necessary. During initial facility construction, as Lead Agency, CDCR identified potential environmental effects and appropriate level of mitigation. For the Most Affected Facilities listed by CDCR Sustainability Roadmap, CDCR has the initial CEQA documents when these facilities were first constructed; however, there are no impacts that take climate change into account per Executive Order B-30-15, dated April 29, 2015, since there was no requirement to address Climate Change.

If you have any questions or need additional information, you can manage your request through the CDCR PUBLIC RECORDS PORTAL.

Sincerely,

CDCR PRAU Request Team

CA Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

APPENDIX J. Incarcerated Labor and Wildfires .

California's Reliance on Incarcerated Labor

In our research, we spoke to two wildland firefighters and three firefighters from prison firehouses, who primarily act as first responders. In this piece, we aim to uplift the underlying issues and recommendations we heard from these interviewees and urge further research and action on the more specific topic of incarceration and firefighting labor.

This is not a comprehensive list of policy suggestions on the issue. These recommendations are taken from the interviews we conducted with people who were close to this issue. We urge further conversations, research and legislative interest in this issue.

The recommendations are as follows:

- Decarcerate prison facilities. The less crowded, the less dangerous in times of emergency. We address this in more depth in our full policy report, but this recommendation came up again and again in our interviews.
- Grant access to other programming in fire camps. This includes additional firefighting training, education courses, and rehabilitative courses. These courses are not provided at fire camps and firefighters lose the opportunity to learn and obtain time earned credits.
- Create opportunities for incarcerated firefighters to obtain first aid, medical, and paramedic certifications. This will increase ability to respond and save lives on the job, as well as open up opportunities upon release.
- Ensure that a clear explanation of the risks associated with becoming incarcerated firefighters is given before people agree to the position.
- Increase wages for all incarcerated workers and pass ACA 3 to ban involuntary servitude. ACA 3 was recently reintroduced into the legislature this January. ACA 3, or the California Abolition Act, aimed to remove a clause from California's Constitution that allows the practice of involuntary servitude in order to punish crime.
- Prepare facilities more for climate hazards. Offer training specifically to incarcerated individuals to help prepare them for any climate emergencies.

We as inhabitants of the state are implicated in California's reliance on incarcerated labor. It is up to us to recognize the work of those who are incarcerated, to recognize it is involuntary and unjust, and to realize what more can be done. I want to end by thanking all those who have risked their lives and limbs while working as firefighters. And I would like to particularly thank those we spoke to on this topic: Jesse Blue, John Winters, Amika Mota, De'jon Joy, and Noire Wilson.

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