LANCET COUNTDOWN: TRACKING PROGRESS ON HEALTH AND CLIMATE CHANGE
In collaboration with Wellcome

A decade tracking progress on health and climate change

GRENADA

LANCET COUNTDOWN ON HEALTH AND CLIMATE CHANGE
DATA SHEET 2026

Health and Climate Change in Grenada

The Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change tracks the connections between health and climate change. In its tenth iteration, the 2026 Global Report shows that the health impacts of climate change have escalated, and frequently accelerated, in the decade since the Paris Agreement came into force. The 2025 Lancet Countdown report on small island developing states (SIDS) further examines the climate-related health risks facing island populations and opportunities to strengthen resilience.

This document draws on findings from the **2026 Lancet Countdown Global Report (indicators represented in bold)** and the 2025 Lancet Countdown SIDS Report to present key insights for Grenada.

Increasing heat exposure is limiting safe physical activity, disrupting sleep and reducing labour capacity in Grenada, with consequences for health and livelihoods.

Insufficient consumption of healthy foods is associated with preventable mortality in Grenada, while warming coastal waters pose additional risks to marine food security and livelihoods.

Hurricane Beryl caused extensive damage in Grenada in 2024, threatening livelihoods and essential services. Wildfire smoke also contributes to premature mortality, although estimated mortality rates have declined slightly.

Grenada has increased references to health in its national climate commitments, while locally led research contributes evidence on the health impacts of climate change.

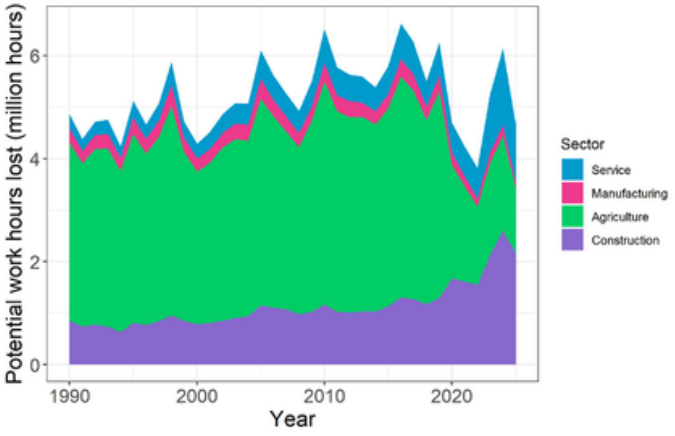
Heat and Health

Exposure to high temperatures increases the risk of heat-related illness and mortality. Vulnerable groups, including older adults, young children, pregnant women, and those with pre-existing conditions, face the greatest risks. Heat can also disrupt sleep, limit safe physical activity and reduce people's capacity to work.

People in Grenada were on average exposed to 41 heatwave days in 2025, all of which were directly attributed to climate change. **(Indicator 1.1.1)**

People in Grenada were exposed to over 3,500 hours per year in which heat posed a moderate or higher risk of heat stress during moderate outdoor physical activity (e.g., brisk walking) between 2016 and 2025, over 280 hours (9%) more than the annual average in the 1990s. **(Indicator 1.1.2)**

Annual potential work hours lost, disaggregated by economic sector. Grenada, 1990-2025.



People in Grenada lost an estimated 80 hours of sleep annually due to high night-time temperatures between 2021 and 2025, over 2 hours more per year than in 1986–2005. **(Indicator 1.1.4)**

Heat exposure caused an average annual loss of 5.3 million potential labour hours in Grenada between 2016 and 2025, approximately 11% higher than the annual average in the 1990s. Agriculture accounted for 49% of these losses, followed by construction at 31%. **(Indicator 1.1.3)**

Heat-related labour capacity reduction in Grenada caused an estimated potential earnings loss of almost US$30 million in 2025. Construction accounted for approximately 54% of these losses. **(Indicator 4.1.3)**

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Food Security, Coastal Ecosystems, and Health

Access to nutritious diets is essential for protecting health, while coastal ecosystems support food security and livelihoods in small island developing states. Rising coastal sea surface temperatures can affect marine ecosystems and fish stocks, creating additional risks for communities that depend on fisheries and other coastal resources.

In 2023, an estimated 78 deaths in Grenada were associated with insufficient consumption of healthy plant-based foods, including fruits, vegetables, legumes, whole grains, nuts and seeds. A further 56 deaths were associated with excessive consumption of dairy, red meat and processed meat. Improving access to affordable, diverse and nutritious diets can help reduce preventable diet-related mortality. **(Indicator 3.3.2)**

Coastal sea surface temperatures around Grenada were 0.9°C higher between 2023 and 2025 than in 1981–2010. Warming coastal waters can affect marine ecosystems and fish stocks, with implications for food security and livelihoods. As tourism and the fisheries sectors are major economic drivers in Grenada, compounding high SST with ocean acidification has caused coral reef degradation, accelerating coastal erosion. **(Indicator 1.4.1)**

Extreme Weather Events

Hurricanes and other extreme weather events can cause injuries and deaths, damage essential infrastructure and disrupt access to healthcare, safe water and livelihoods. In Grenada, Hurricane Beryl caused extensive damage in 2024. Wildfire smoke presents an additional air-pollution-related health risk, although estimated associated mortality rates have declined slightly.

In 2024, Grenada experienced severe drought and Hurricane Beryl, which caused loss of life, extensive infrastructure damage and major economic losses. Huricane Beryl resulted in direct economic cost and physical damages at US$220 million, equivalent to approximately 16.5% of national GDP. (Indicator 2.3.1; SIDS Report)

Wildfire smoke was associated with an annual average of approximately 11 deaths in Grenada between 2021 and 2025, broadly unchanged from 2003–2012. Over the same periods, the mortality rate declined slightly from 14.5 to 13.6 deaths per 100,000 people due to population increase. **(Indicator 1.2.1)**

Health in Climate Policy and Research

Integrating health into national climate commitments can strengthen recognition of the health consequences of climate change. In Grenada, health has received increasing attention in national climate policy, while scientific research provides evidence to inform responses to climate-related health risks.

Grenada referred to the relationship between climate change and health in its 2025 UN General Debate statement, its first such reference since 2022.
Health-related references increased from one in Grenada's first Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in 2015 to seven in its second NDC in 2020, indicating greater attention to health in national climate commitments. **(Indicator 5.4)**

Ten scientific papers on climate change and health were identified with lead authors based in Grenada between 2020 and 2025, of which nine examined the health impacts of climate change. **(Indicator 5.3)**

Romanello M, Walawender M, Israelsson J et al. The 2026 report of the Lancet Countdown on health and climate change: A decade of escalating health harms and a decisive moment for all. The Lancet 2026; published online October 2026. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(26)01779-4
Gordon-Strachan, Georgiana M., et al. (2026) "The 2025 small island developing states report of the Lancet Countdown on health and climate change: building resilience in the face of rising heat." The Lancet Global Health.