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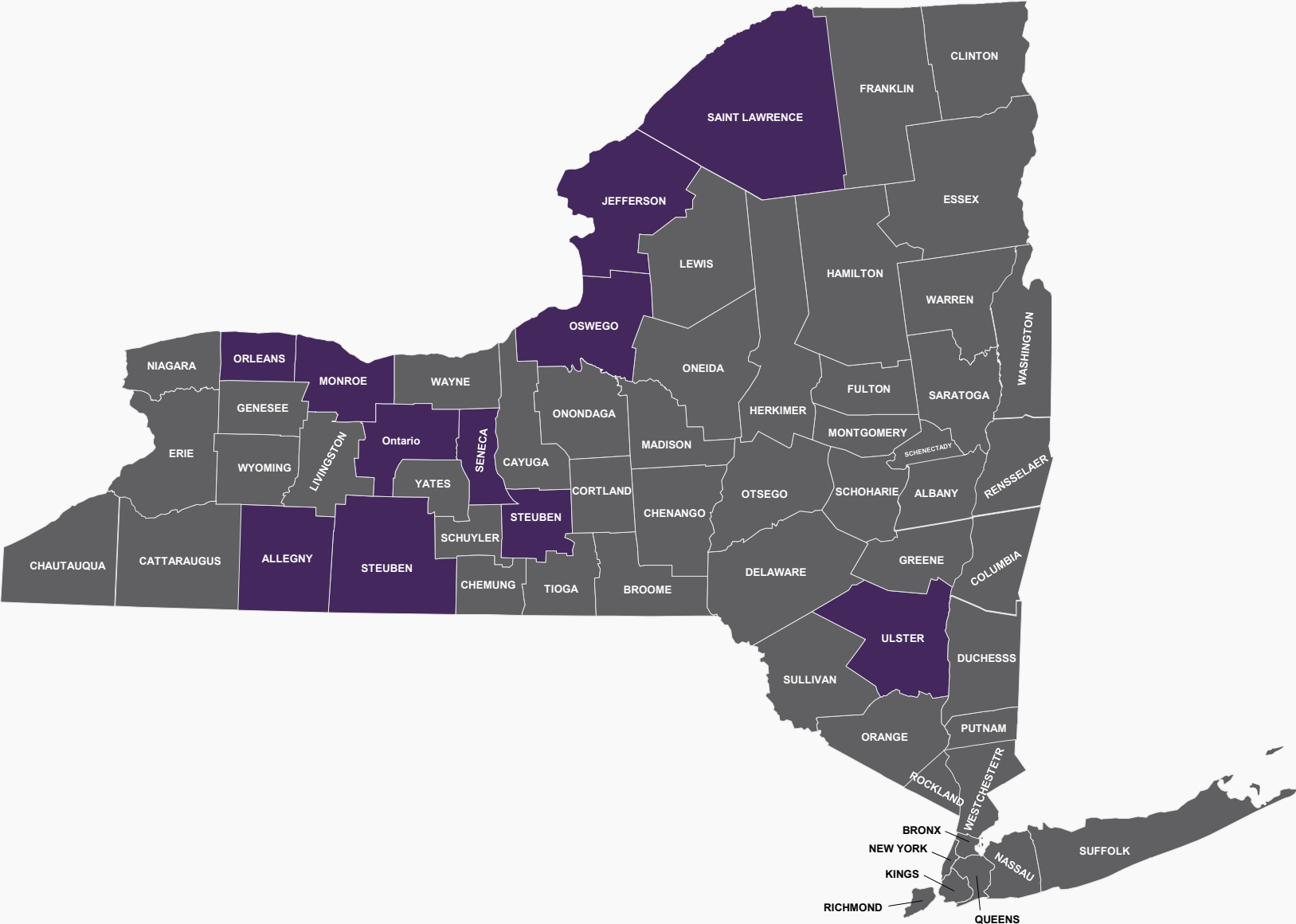
# **Climate Adaptation Mini-Grants 2025 Evaluation**

**Kristen McKenna**  
**Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology**

**11/13/2025 | CLIMATE MINI-GRANT 2025 PROJECTS**

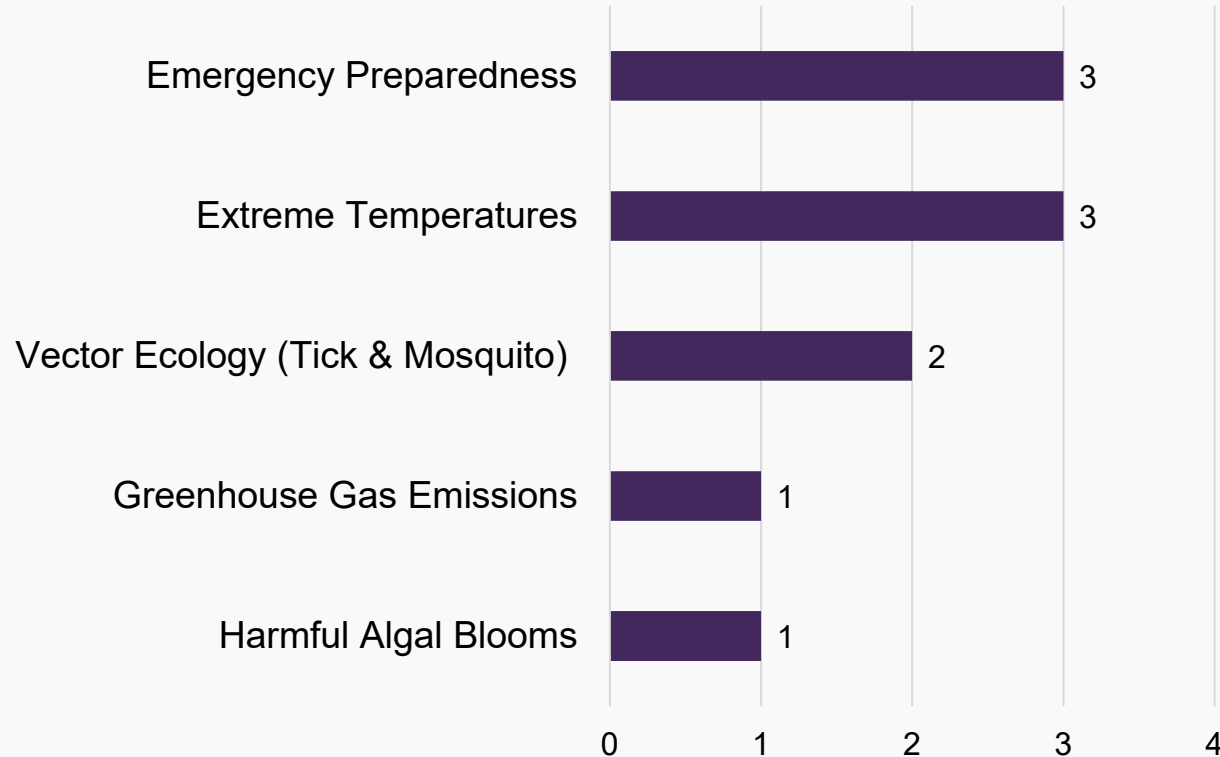
# GRANTEE BACKGROUND

| County              | Population |
|---------------------|------------|
| Seneca County       | 33,814     |
| Orleans County      | 40,343     |
| Allegany County     | 46,456     |
| Steuben County      | 93,584     |
| St. Lawrence County | 108,505    |
| Ontario County      | 112,458    |
| Jefferson County    | 116,721    |
| Oswego County       | 117,525    |
| Ulster County       | 181,851    |
| Monroe County       | 759,443    |



# CLIMATE AND HEALTH

## Climate Hazards



## Health Impacts or Climate Impacts Addressed

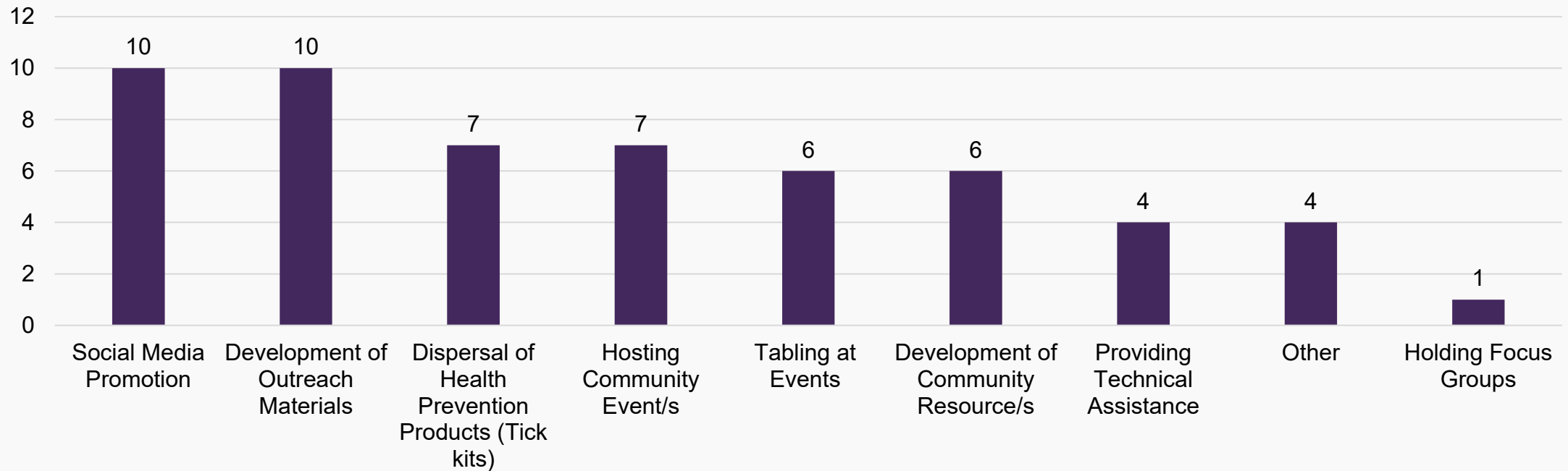
- Vector-borne Disease
- Extreme Weather-Related Impacts
- Climate-Related Health Outcomes
- Green House Gas Emissions

Projects addressed emergency preparedness and extreme heat the most.

# STRATEGIES

Projects included developing workshops, building coalitions, and hosting community events.

## Number of Activities Utilized for Implementation



### Other:

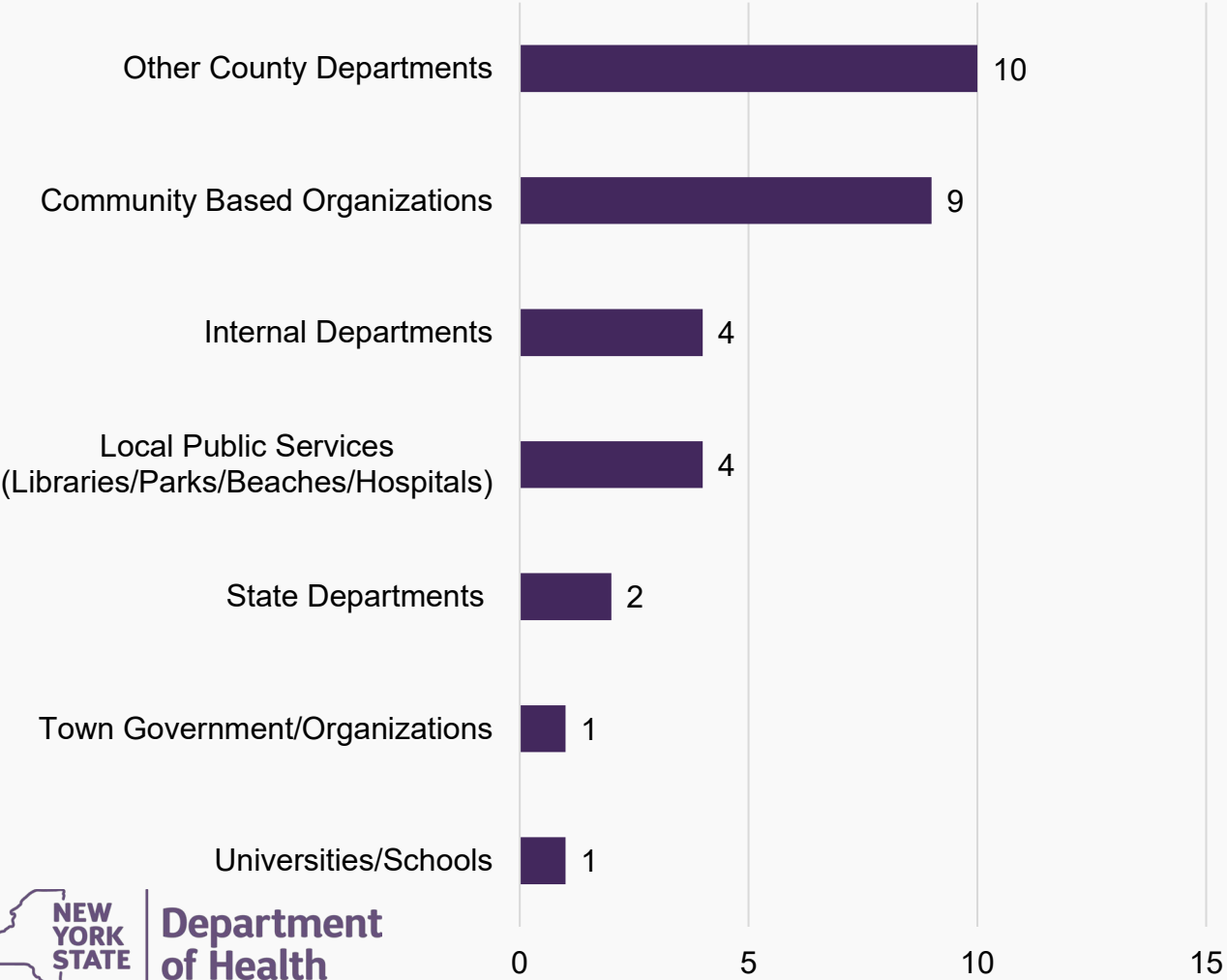
- Partnerships with Stakeholders to reach established groups of at-risk populations with Targeted Education Presentations, Partnerships with stakeholders to install Tick Warning signs at local trailheads and parks
- Providing HAB education through outreach programs, workshops, or public presentations
- Soliciting quantitative and qualitative feedback on climate resource center use and how to potentially improve related outreach
- Stakeholder survey



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# STAKEHOLDERS/PARTNERS

Partners Identified



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## Partnership Examples:

### County Departments

- Office for the Aging, Healthy Neighborhoods, Office of Emergency Management



Identified by  
multiple  
LHDs

### Town Government/Organization

- Town/City Government, Local Parks/Beaches

### Community Based Organizations

- Cornell Cooperative Extension, Girl/Boy Scouts, YMCAs, Local Rotaries

### Businesses

- Restaurants, Veterinary Offices, Local Media

### Other: Universities

# CHALLENGES



Environment/Weather



Supply Delays



Approval



Lack of Time



Messaging



Reaching and Engaging



Sustainability



Diverse Partner  
Engagement/Coordination



Staffing/Funding  
Concerns



Limited Participation



Challenges  
identified the most.

# HEALTH EQUITY

## Populations Addressed

Older Adults  
Outdoor Workers  
Children  
Low-Income  
Limited English  
Physically Disabled  
Chronic Health Conditions

- Allegany County provided education about preventing tick-bites to at-risk populations, including outdoor workers, children, and older adults.
- Jefferson County targeting neighborhoods with higher Social Vulnerability Index to provide education and resources, including emergency preparedness kits.
- Ontario County distributed multi-lingual signage at all public access points to public beaches in English, Spanish, and Mandarin on the dangers of HABs.



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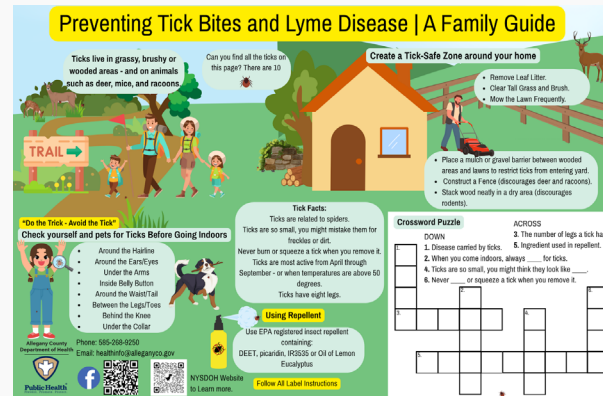
# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## 23 New Resources Developed

- 68 educational resources were utilized
- Most resources came from the CDC or NYSDOH

## Types of Materials

- Flyers
- Newsletters
- Brochures
- Social Media
- Websites
- Surveys
- Workshop Materials



### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS BEGINS AT HOME

Planning ahead for an emergency will give you peace of mind and keep your friends and family safe. State and local officials are working together to prepare for a range of possible emergencies, from severe weather, to a flu pandemic, or acts of terrorism. Here are some simple steps you can take to prepare for when an emergency takes place:

- ✓ **Family Communication Plan**  
Determine how your family will contact each other and a location to meet.
- ✓ **Food & Water**  
Have at least a 3-day supply of food and water for each person in your home. Consider individual diet needs and any pets in the home.
  - ☐ Bottled water (1 gallon per person for several days, for drinking & sanitation)
  - ☐ \*Keep in a cool, dry place
  - ☐ Ready-to-eat canned meats, fruits, and vegetables
  - ☐ Manual can opener
  - ☐ Dried fruit, nuts, crackers, cereal bars
  - ☐ Juice boxes, canned milk
  - ☐ High-energy foods
  - ☐ Comfort/stress foods
  - ☐ Baby food & formula
  - ☐ Pet food
- ✓ **First Aid & Tools**  
Have a first aid kit with health products and prescription medicine.
  - First Aid Kit**
    - ☐ Bandages, gauze, rubbing alcohol
    - ☐ Medical gloves, tape, and scissors
    - ☐ Pain reliever
    - Basic Hygiene Supplies**
      - ☐ Disinfecting wipes, hand sanitizer
      - ☐ Garbage bags
      - ☐ Soap, toilet paper, toothpaste, feminine products
  - Tools & Important Items**
    - ☐ Flashlight
    - ☐ Battery-powered or hand crank radio
    - ☐ Extra batteries
    - ☐ Whistle (to signal for help)
    - ☐ Cell phone with chargers
    - ☐ Wrench or pliers (to turn off utilities)
    - ☐ Fire extinguisher
    - ☐ Important documents (copies of insurance policies, identification, & bank accounts) saved electronically or in a waterproof bag
- ✓ **Evacuation Kit**  
Have supplies ready in your car or in a backpack in case you must leave home or in case you get stranded in your car. Pack lightly and include basic supplies for 24–48 hours.
  - ☐ Warm clothing, sturdy shoes, & blankets
  - ☐ Bottled water, cereal bars
  - ☐ First aid supplies
  - ☐ Prescription medicine, eyeglasses
- ✓ **Review**  
Every 6 months review your plans and supplies with everyone in your home. Replace expired food, water, and medicine. Update your communication plan if needed.



Visit [www.ready.ny.gov](http://www.ready.ny.gov) for more information.

## Welcome to a Cooling Center:

Learn how to help yourself and others avoid heat-related illness



Find New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) locally recognized Cooling Centers here:



[www.health.ny.gov/environmental/weather/cooling/](http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/weather/cooling/)

This list is likely to be updated during times of high heat



## OSWEGO COUNTY: KNOW YOUR RISK

| Air Quality Index  | Conditions                     | Description of Air Quality                                                                                                                |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Green: 0 to 50     | Good                           | It's a great day to be outside.                                                                                                           |
| Yellow: 51 to 100  | Moderate                       | Air quality is acceptable. However, there may be risk for some people, particularly those who are unusually sensitive to air pollution.   |
| Orange: 101 to 150 | Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups | Members of sensitive groups may experience health effects. The general public is less likely to be affected.                              |
| Red: 151 to 200    | Unhealthy for Everyone         | Some members of the general public may experience health effects; members of sensitive groups may experience more serious health effects. |
| Purple: 201 to 300 | Very Unhealthy                 | Health alert: The risk of health effects is increased for everyone.                                                                       |
| Maroon: 301 to 500 | Hazardous                      | Health warning of emergency conditions: everyone is more likely to be affected.                                                           |

LEARN MORE AT [WWW.HEALTH.NY.GOV](http://WWW.HEALTH.NY.GOV)

## COOLING TOWEL DIRECTIONS



## EXTREME HEAT SAFETY





# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

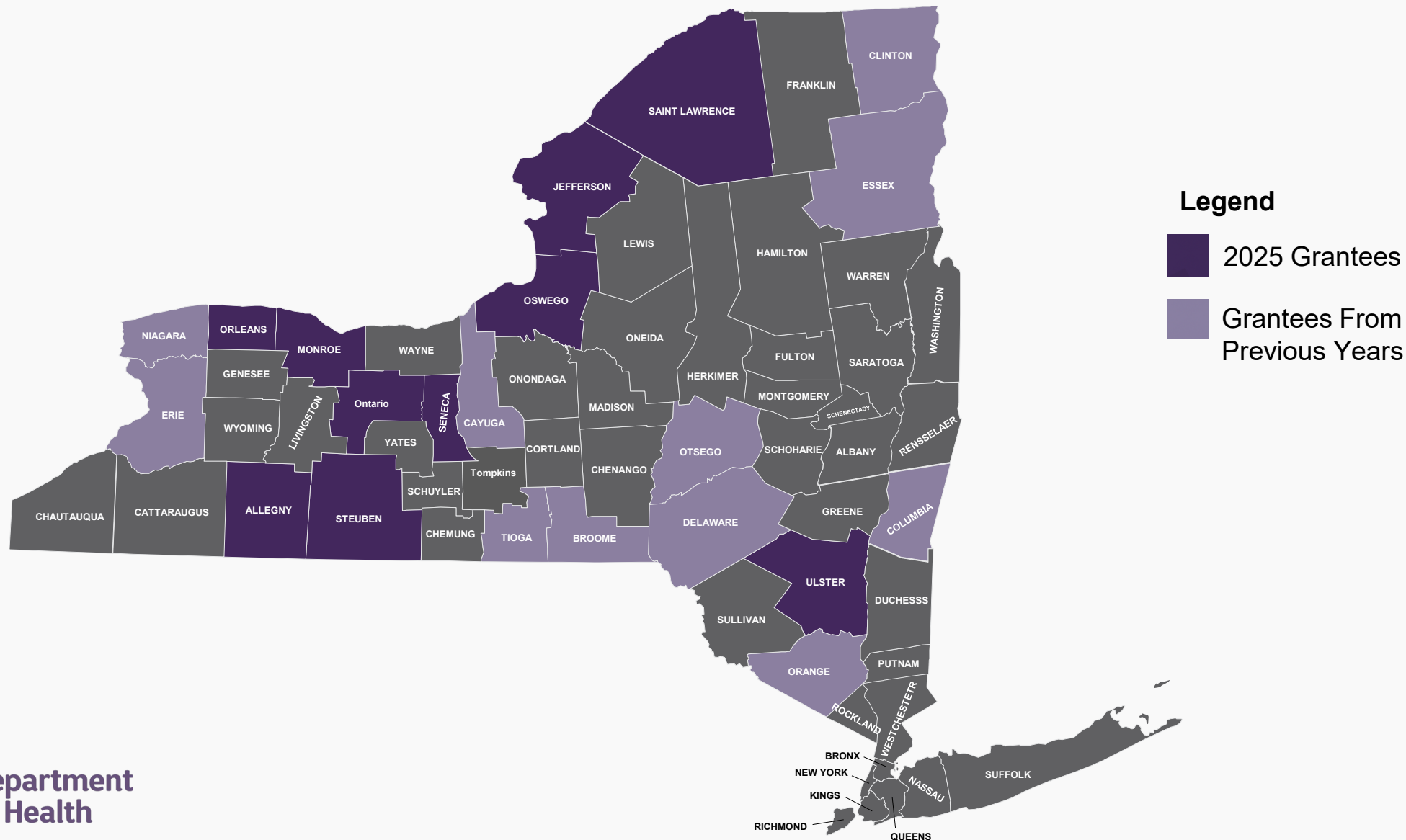
## 27 Objectives Achieved

- Orleans County assembled and distributed educational materials and cooling center resources to community centers who serve as climate resource centers.
- Oswego County held a workshop on risk communications for municipal leaders and stakeholders that work with vulnerable populations.
- Monroe County installed mosquito-bite prevention signs in the County's ~150 parks.
- Ontario County increased the frequency of community-submitted lake monitoring reports by 15%.
- St. Lawrence County gained five new extreme weather and health partners for ongoing collaboration.

# LESSONS LEARNED

- Relying on a single communication method limits impact.
- Integration of new partners can be slow and gradual process.
- (Regarding workshops) Build in more space for informal dialogue, peer learning, and relationship-building across sectors.
- Improve our emergency preparedness communication so that it is targeted and includes specific messaging needs.
- There is greater value in good partnerships that initially anticipated.
- More staff and time needed than anticipated to implement project.
- It is more effective to offer smaller-scale educational sessions targeted to specific groups hosted at times and in places that best fit the needs of those specific groups.

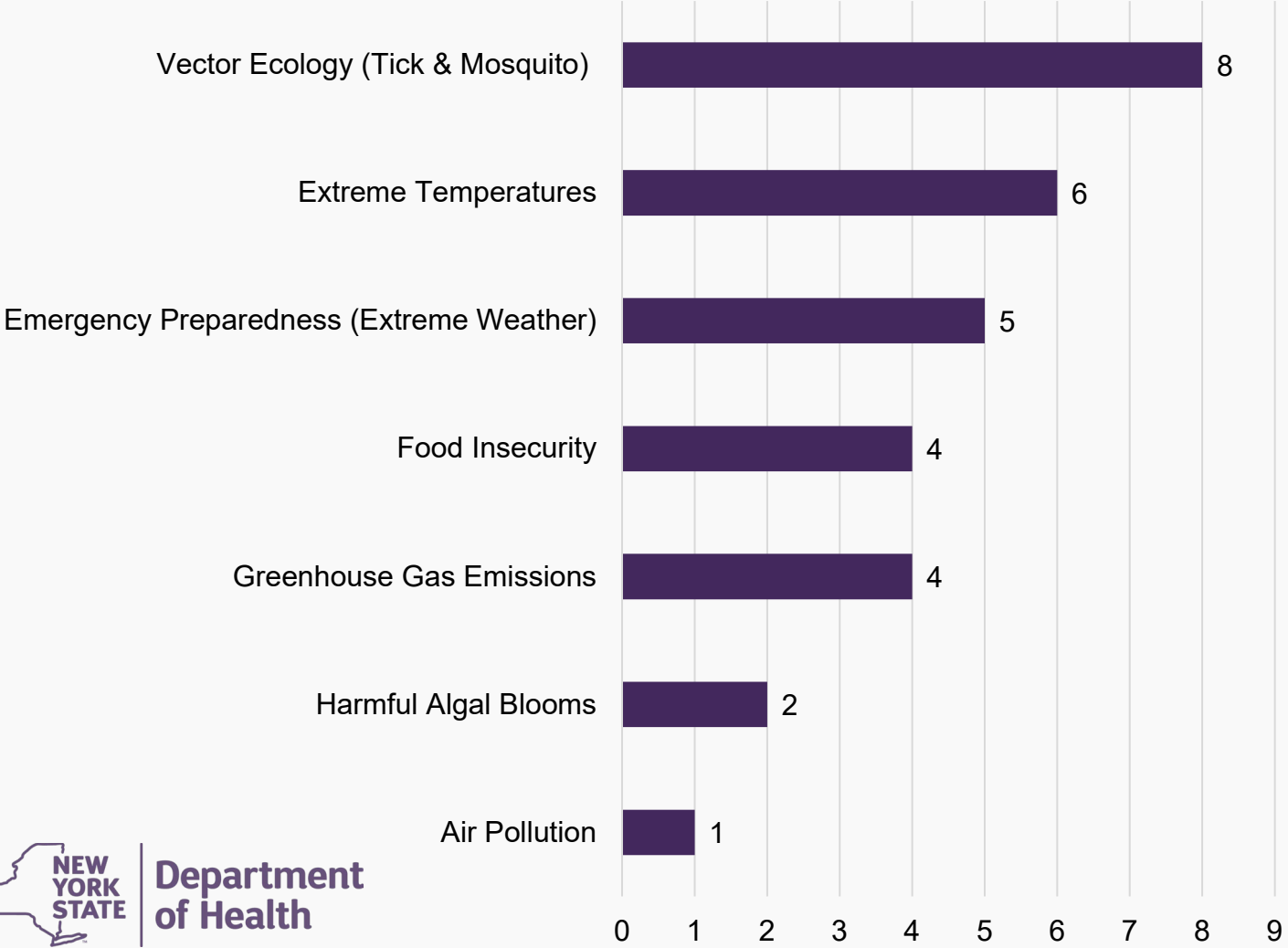
# CLIMATE ADAPTATION GRANTEES 2023-2025



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# CLIMATE ADAPTATION GRANTEES 2023-2025

## Climate Hazards



## Accomplishments

- 78 Objectives Completed
- 150 educational resources utilized to implement projects



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# DO THE TRICK – AVOID THE TICK

**Department:** Allegany County Department of Health

**Climate Hazard:** Vector-borne Disease

**Project:** Conduct various outreach activities to promote tick-bite prevention, including conducting workshops, installing tick warning signs, dispersing tick removal first aid kits, and providing tick-bite prevention resources to healthcare providers.

**Lessons Learned:** Good partnerships can multiply efforts.

**Successes:** Conducted a series of educational workshops focused on tick-bite prevention for at least 200 participants across all at risk groups. Installed 11 tick warning signs at high traffic trail and park locations.

# CLIMATE AND HEALTH: PREPARE JEFFERSON COUNTY

**Department:** Jefferson County Public Health Service

**Climate Hazard:** Multiple (extreme weather events, extreme heat, flooding, air quality (wildfire smoke), and vector-borne diseases)

**Project:** Educating people about the importance of preparedness and the association between a changing climate and human health through community presentations and social media.

**Lessons Learned:** Good partnerships can multiply efforts.

**Successes:** Conducted a series of educational workshops focused on tick-bite prevention for at least 200 participants across all at risk groups. Installed 11 tick warning signs at high traffic trail and park locations.

# 'BEAT THE BITE' CAMPAIGN

**Department:** Monroe County Department of Public Health

**Climate Hazard:** Vector-borne Disease

**Project:** Conduct various outreach activities to promote mosquito-bite prevention, including installing mosquito-bite prevention signs, attending tabling events, and posting on social media and website.

**Lessons Learned:** Relying on a single communication method limits impact. Permanent signage in parks raised awareness, but pairing it with tabling events, social media, and bilingual brochures created stronger engagement.

**Successes:** Installed mosquito-bite prevention signs in Monroe County's ~150 parks, focusing on entrances to maximize visibility for residents and tourists. Increased community engagement on Monroe County's social media and website.



# CLEAR WATERS: RAISING AWARENESS OF HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS IN ONTARIO COUNTY

**Department:** Ontario County Public Health

**Climate Hazard:** Harmful Algal Blooms

**Project:** Engage, educate, and raise awareness regarding Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) among community members, recreational staff, and healthcare professionals through HAB Alert Signs, social media, community events, and targeted outreach to healthcare providers.

**Lessons Learned:** Select outcome measures that are not dependent on the presence of a bloom.

**Successes:** Increased frequency of community-submitted lake monitoring reports by 15%; Increased knowledge among recreational staff to recognize and respond to HABs by 20%; and increased communication on HABs with healthcare providers by 75%



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**Department:** Orleans County Health Department

**Climate Hazard:** Extreme heat, hazardous air quality, and extreme cold

**Project:** Increase awareness and use of summer cooling centers, cleaner air centers, and winter daytime warming centers as well as to better promote public health education related to extreme heat, hazardous air quality, and extreme cold by distributing reception packages that include cooling and warming center resources and information.

**Lessons Learned:** Integration of new partners can be slow and gradual process; By having a visually recognizable “Cooling Center Reception Package”, other agencies gained interest in the general effort; Community partnerships can be built and strengthened through inclusion and collaboration on relevant projects

**Successes:** Distributed reception packages to 16 cooling facilities.

# THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON HEALTH AND HOW TO COMMUNICATE THAT RISK

**Department:** Oswego County Health Department

**Climate Hazard:** Extreme weather events

**Project:** Improve communications around extreme weather events and share tools with stakeholders to be better able to reach vulnerable populations with important weather alerts. This will be done through a community survey and hosting a workshop with stakeholders and municipal leaders.

**Lessons Learned:** The workshop created a forum to try to address other community weather related issues; The community survey gave valuable information on what residents were looking for in weather alerts

**Successes:** Over 200 residents completed the weather alerts community survey and conducted a workshop on risk communication with stakeholder and municipal leaders

# SENIOR SAFEGUARD PROGRAM

**Department:** Seneca County Health Department

**Climate Hazard:** Extreme weather events (extreme heat and flooding)

**Project:** Provide education and a pre-packed emergency preparedness “go bag” for residents. Encourage and assist participants in signing up for NY Alerts and Seneca County HyperReach.

**Lessons Learned:** Residents aged 65 and older lacked awareness on Seneca County Cooling and Warming centers. Most residents did not have a designated area in their homes to store items that were easily transportable if there was a need to evacuate.

**Successes:** Completed educational sessions with at least 120 individuals (representing at least 75 distinct households); 50% of all program participants will report an increased level of self-efficacy in surviving extreme precipitation or heat

## STRENGTH AND UNITY: ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY'S HEALTH AND RESILIENCE FORUM

**Department:** St. Lawrence County Public Health Department

**Climate Hazard:** Extreme weather events

**Project:** Host a county-wide extreme weather and health workshop that increases awareness and preparedness and engages public health professionals, local government officials, community-based organizations, healthcare providers, and residents.

**Lessons Learned:** Hosting an all-day event in the middle of the work week may not be the most accessible or effective way to reach community members. Post-event evaluation surveys revealed that participants are seeking more opportunities for meaningful conversation and networking.

**Successes:** Engaged five new extreme weather and health partners for ongoing collaboration.

# 2025 STEUBEN COUNTY CLIMATE ADAPTATION SURVEY

**Department:** Steuben County Public Health

**Climate Hazard:** Greenhouse gases; extreme weather events

**Project:** Conduct 4 tabling events for the community and implement a climate survey to obtain community awareness on climate change and input on the preferred local climate change focus

**Lessons Learned:** There is a need to improve our emergency preparedness communication around preparedness for climate change hazards. Survey participants felt funding should go to support community based action groups to address climate change adaptation.

**Successes:** Conducted 4 tabling events for the community. Distributed climate change educational materials.

**Department:** Ulster County Department of Health

**Climate Hazard:** Extreme heat; extreme weather events

**Project:** Distribute education and resources on climate and health at the Ulster County fair. Promote heat safety during extreme heat and cooling center locations through social media.

**Lessons Learned:** Supply issues caused challenges and took up more staff time than anticipated.

**Successes:** 1,200 participants at the Ulster County fair received information and resources about climate and health.