

WHAT are the impacts of heatwaves?



HEALTH

- Dehydration, heat exhaustion and stroke, death
- Exacerbated pre-existing health conditions
- Strained health systems



INFRASTRUCTURE

- Strain on energy and water systems
- Melting or buckling road pavement, tarmacs and rail lines



CITY ECONOMY AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES

- Loss of productivity for outdoor workers and in areas without cooling
- Loss of revenue in sectors such as construction and transportation

WHY are cities particularly vulnerable to heatwaves?



- **Urban Heat Island Effect:** prevalence of surfaces that retain heat and release it slowly
- Buildings block wind
- Vehicles and buildings generate excess heat
- Lack of vegetation to cool parts of the city
- High population densities
- Presence of informal settlements without access to cooling and municipal services
- Higher concentrations of air pollution increase heat's negative health impact

WHO is most vulnerable to heatwaves?



- Older adults
- Very young children
- Pregnant and lactating women
- People with pre-existing medical conditions
- Outdoor laborers
- People living alone or who are socially isolated
- People living in informal settlements and the homeless

IMPACTS of heatwaves on cities globally

