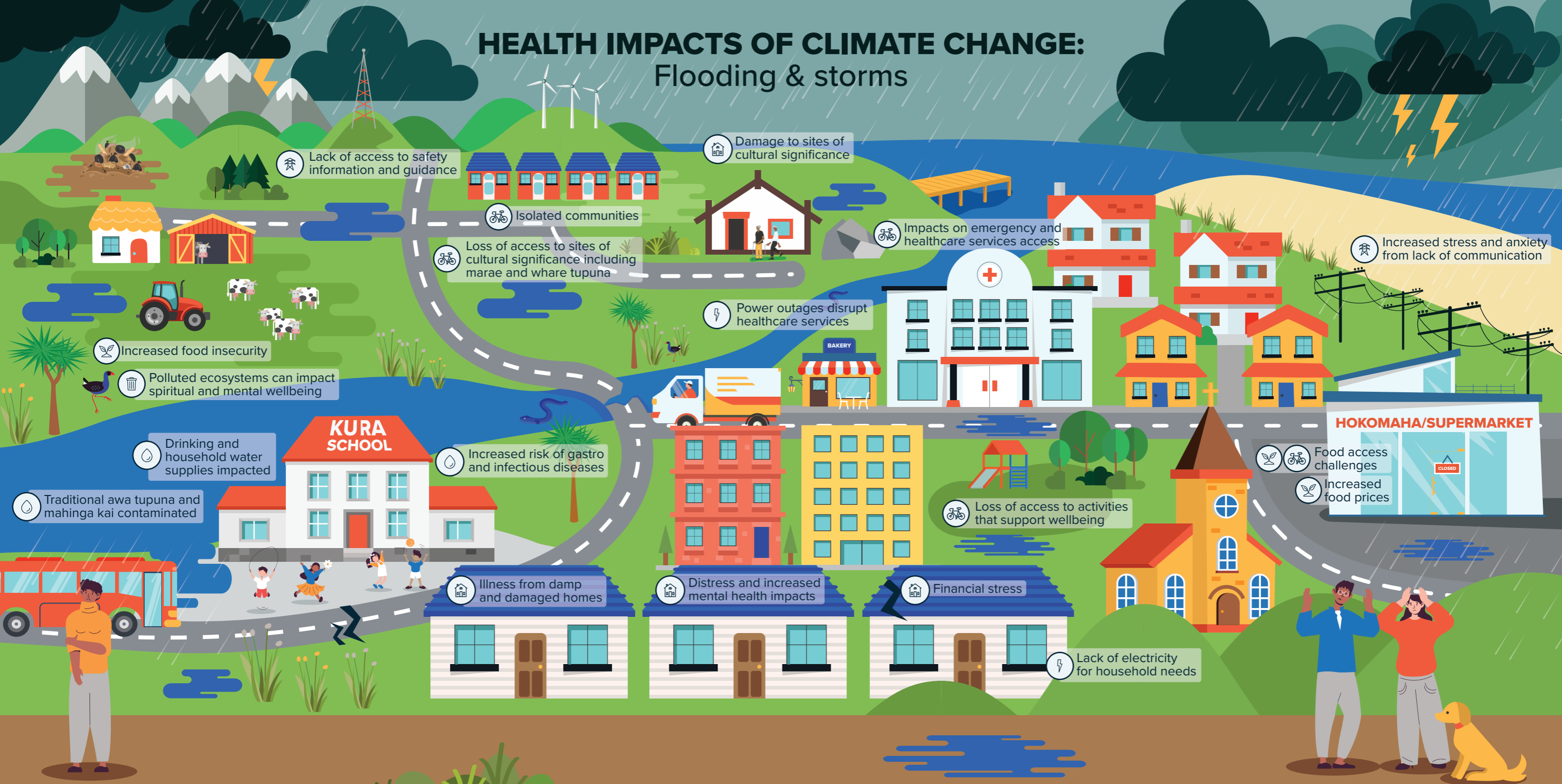


HEALTH IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE: Flooding & storms



Lack of access to safety information and guidance

Damage to sites of cultural significance

Isolated communities

Impacts on emergency and healthcare services access

Increased stress and anxiety from lack of communication

Loss of access to sites of cultural significance including marae and whare tupuna

Power outages disrupt healthcare services

Increased food insecurity

Polluted ecosystems can impact spiritual and mental wellbeing

Drinking and household water supplies impacted

Increased risk of gastro and infectious diseases

Traditional awa tupuna and mahinga kai contaminated

Food access challenges
Increased food prices

Loss of access to activities that support wellbeing

Illness from damp and damaged homes

Distress and increased mental health impacts

Financial stress

Lack of electricity for household needs

HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES

Flooding can result in damage and loss of housing. This can cause a range of mental health and financial impacts, especially if whānau and pets lack suitable and affordable alternative accommodation. Damp housing can also cause or compound illness. Sites of cultural significance can also be impacted by flooding.

TRANSPORT

Flood damage to roads and bridges can cause road closures that isolate communities, restricting access to healthcare and emergency services, facilities, food supply and sites of significance such as marae.

WATER

Contaminated water caused by runoff of pollutants and sewerage overflows can cause a lack of clean drinking and household water supplies, increasing the risk of illness. Mahinga kai, awa tupuna, and recreational waters can also be impacted.

ENERGY

Energy infrastructure can be damaged, interrupting electricity supply to households, healthcare facilities, and other essential services. Many needs reliant on electricity can be impacted. Damaged power lines can cause electrical injuries.

COMMUNICATIONS

Flooding and storms can damage communication infrastructure, impacting households' ability to access critical safety information and guidance, which can increase stress and anxiety for communities.

LOCAL FOOD SYSTEMS

Loss of crops and livestock can impact food security and local food production. Some foods may become unavailable, and some food prices may increase. The financial security of farmers and agricultural workers can also be impacted.

LANDFILLS AND POLLUTIONS

Landfills and areas of pollution are at risk of being exposed, causing waste and pollution to contaminate nearby areas, ecosystems and waterways.

Flood damage to property may also cause an increase in waste sent to landfills.

DIRECT IMPACTS

Flooding can increase the risk of injury, infections, and drowning. The experience of flooding can also increase stress and cause shock. Storms can also increase the particles and pollen in the air, causing a greater risk of asthma and respiratory conditions during a storm.