

MOSQUITOES

Although tiny creatures, mosquitoes play a large role in our world, mainly through the spread of diseases. What were they created to do? I often wonder. But the effects of climate change can lead to many problems associated with these small beings.

There has been a threefold increase in reported cases of illnesses transmitted to humans by mosquitoes, lice, ticks and the like — between 2004 and 2016 in the United States. Making matters worse, nine new pathogens emerged for the first time in the U.S. during this same period. As warmer climate has move north, mosquitoes have moved with it. In southern regions where temperatures rise, they may no longer survive or be as potent.

Some points (see [topic](#)):

- Hotter temperatures make mosquitoes hungrier
- Warm air incubates the virus faster
- Mosquito territory expands as the climate warms