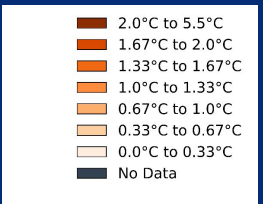




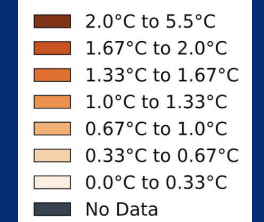
Climate Risk, Pollution, and Childhood Inequalities in Low- and Middle-income Countries

Latin America and the Caribbean and South Asia Background Papers

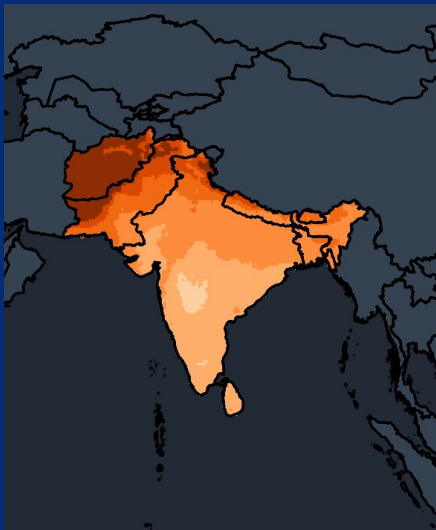
Emily Roberts COL '26 and Nayab Khurshaidi COL '25



Average monthly temperature anomalies in Latin America, 2022. Resolution: 0.25° x 0.25°



Average monthly temperature anomalies in South Asia, 2022. Resolution: 0.25° x 0.25°



Abstract

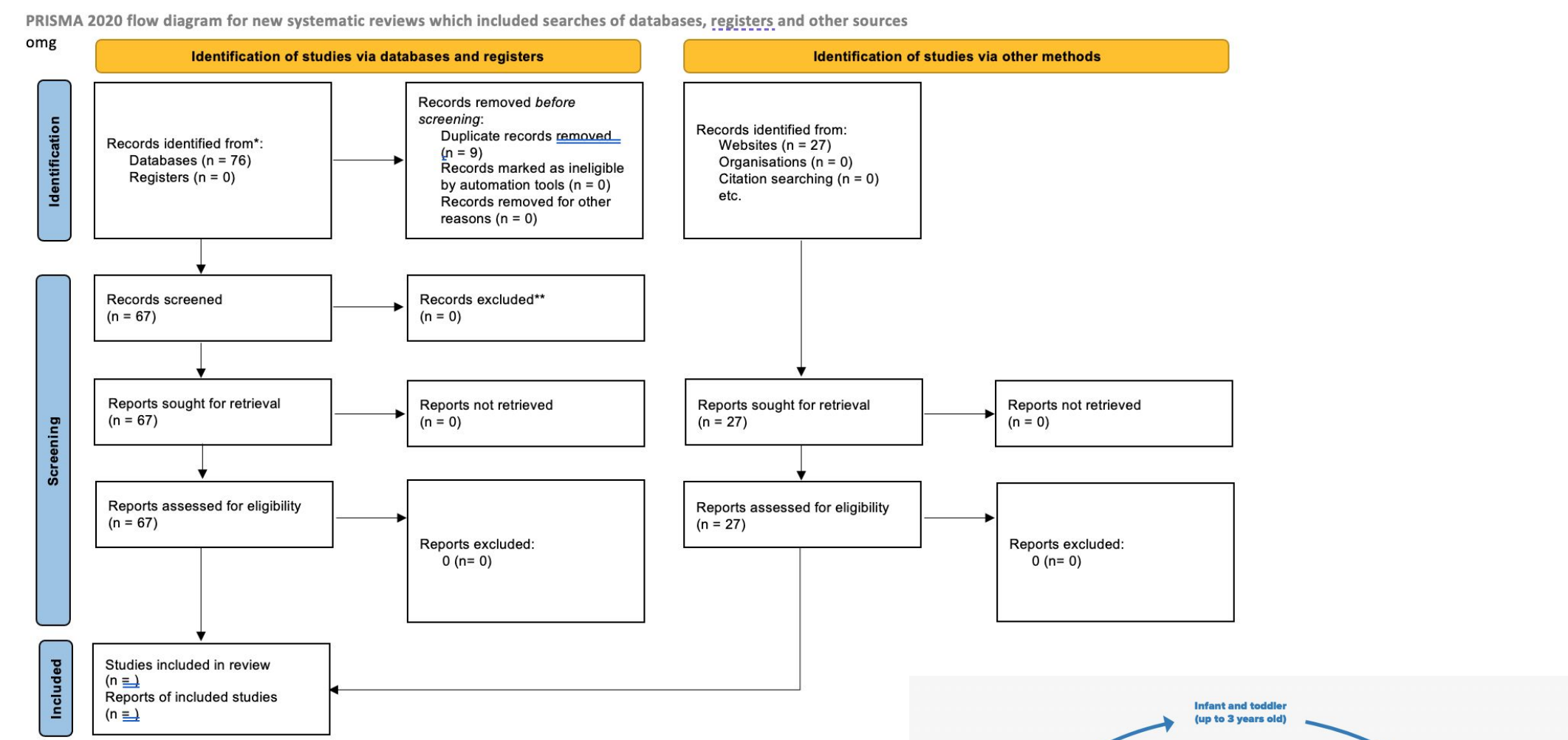
This research is a part of a larger project that aims to link population, environmental and climate hazard data and consider possible differences across groups defined by household, community and country socioeconomic status, demographic group, gender, and health. Focusing on low- and middle-income countries, the project advances and disseminates scientific knowledge about how global childhood inequalities condition both the risks of experiencing climate hazards and extreme air pollution and the implications, once exposed. In addition, the project is producing policy-relevant background papers that highlight the climatic- and pollution-related issues facing children in particular countries and regions. This poster shows emerging findings from two reports that focus on how international agencies are conceptualizing climate risk and childhood in Latin America and South Asia, respectively.

Results

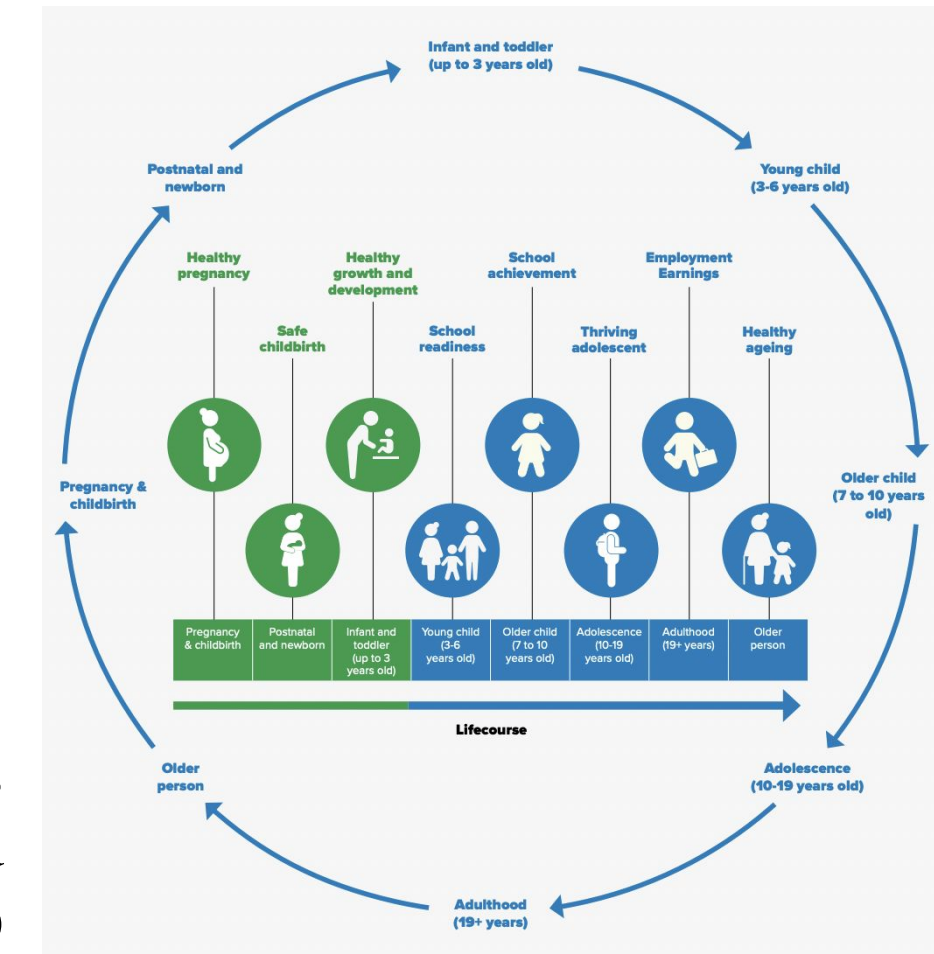
- Research how international agencies report on the intersection between climate change and children's health/welfare.
- Understand how exposure to hazardous climate conditions can impact children in Latin America and the Caribbean as well as South Asia.
- Research what is currently lacking coverage in the literature from international organizations in both regions.

Methods

- Identify the databases and publication repositories from relevant international organizations
- Use the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) method to conduct a systematic search to capture all relevant publications with the search terms “ ‘region (i.e. South Asia or Latin America) + Children + ‘Climate Change’ ”
- Categorize by key policy areas
- Categorize into stages designated by the Nurturing Care Framework for Early Childhood Development



Prisma Flow Chart



Nurturing Care Framework, for Early Childhood development, WHO

Objectives

Latin America and the Caribbean

International organization publications and policies governing environmental health and climate change in Latin America and the Caribbean tend to focus on **air pollution, education and forced migration**. The literature emphasizes the disastrous consequences of unregulated carbon emissions, resulting in unsafe living conditions for children living in Latin America. These consequences include reduced access to education, adverse health effects, and displacement of children. Legislation is working to mitigate climate change and thus improve conditions regarding the health, safety and education of children in Latin America and the Caribbean.

South Asia

The majority of International organization publications regarding climate change and children in South Asia appear to be predominantly focused on the policy areas of **education, healthcare, and climate migration**. The majority of the literature focuses on the effects of climate change on the **quality and accessibility** of education for children. A key indicator is often the rising temperatures, which disrupt the quality of education in schools.

Other trends include analysis by gender, especially with regards to female child trafficking and economic outcomes. Other common trends are the rise in health hazards, as well as the increased burden on cities due to climate induced migration.

Conclusion

Although research is ongoing, trends appear to be emerging regarding the main focus of these organizations regarding childhood development. In both Latin America and South Asia, education is discussed in a significant among publications. However, the two regions differ in the prevalence of child trafficking. Many publications address this issue for South Asia, but there are not as many for Latin America.

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