



*A Sea Grant-led effort is identifying the research needed to address climate-induced human migration in the Northeast, Great Lakes, and Mid-Atlantic regions of the U.S.*

## Assessing Climate-Driven Migration in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic U.S.

Climate change impacts coastal communities through flooding, storm surge, extreme weather, and sea level rise. These hazards may drive the relocation of communities away from the coasts. Conversely, researchers have identified some areas of the United States as climate migrant havens due to the unique attributes of their communities. Despite increased reference to the link between climate change and human mobility (displacement, migration, planned relocation), there is a dearth of knowledge on how shifts in population patterns intersect with underlying socioeconomic, cultural, political, and environmental processes. Resources often enable or constrain the ability of communities to relocate. Programs to empower communities to make decisions on relocation are lacking.



*New York Sea Grant is part of a multi-Sea Grant project that will provide a science-based infrastructure for studying climate-driven population shifts. Photo: Rebecca Grella*

New York Sea Grant (NYSG) and other Sea Grant programs received funding from the National Science Foundation to develop a Research Coordination Network. The project named *People on the Move in a Changing Climate* (PEMOCC) will provide the scientific infrastructure that is required to conduct place-based, use-inspired collaborative research on climate-induced human mobility, and regionally-tailored educational and engagement strategies.

In September 2021, NYSG facilitated and co-hosted, with New Jersey Sea Grant, a virtual PEMOCC workshop with 60 participants from Maine to Virginia. The goals were to feature the current state of knowledge on climate-induced human mobility, provide local/regional case studies, and address the unique needs of underserved and underrepresented coastal communities. Workshop outcomes included data and research gap analyses, a framework for conducting use-inspired research, education and engagement needs for building community resilience and climate adaptation, a network of interdisciplinary and diverse researchers engaged in the study of climate-induced human mobility, and a NYSG-created Linked In page for the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions (to join, email [keb264@cornell.edu](mailto:keb264@cornell.edu)).

*A virtual workshop hosted by New York Sea Grant and partners engaged researchers, practitioners, agencies and NGOs in a discussion about the challenges of climate-induced human migration in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions.*

*Learn more at <https://www.pemocc.org>.*

### Project Partners:

- Funding: National Science Foundation
- New Jersey Sea Grant
- Georgia Sea Grant

**NYSG Focus Area for this project: Resilient New York Communities and Economies.**

New York Sea Grant is a joint program of Cornell University, the State University of New York, and NOAA.

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