Egypt

Air pollution was the 4th leading risk factor for premature death in Egypt in 2019, accounting for nearly 16% of all deaths (more than 91,500). Considered separately, ambient particulate matter PM$_{2.5}$) ranked as the 4th leading risk factor. Ozone and household air pollution were not in the top 20 risk factors.

*Key Statistics at a Glance*

| More than 91,500 deaths due to air pollution in 2019. | 68 µg/m$^3$ population-weighted annual average PM$_{2.5}$ concentration.* | 52 ppb average seasonal population-weighted ozone. |
| 15% of infant deaths attributable to air pollution. | More than 90,000 deaths attributable to exposure to outdoor PM$_{2.5}$. | More than 1,600 deaths attributable to exposure to ozone. |

*Key Exposure Facts*

100% of Egypt's population lives in areas where PM$_{2.5}$ levels are above the WHO guideline for healthy air (10 µg/m$^3$).**

- Between 2010 and 2019, exposures to PM$_{2.5}$, ozone, and household air pollution declined.
- Among the 19 countries in the North Africa and Middle East region, Egypt ranks 2nd in PM$_{2.5}$ exposure.

*How Have Pollutant Exposures Changed Between 2010 and 2019?*

| 2010 79 µg/m$^3$ PM$_{2.5}$ | 2010 54 ppb Ozone | 2010 0.3% of population relying on solid fuels |
| 2019 68 µg/m$^3$ | 2019 52 ppb | 2019 0.01% of population relying on solid fuels |

*Please note that PM$_{2.5}$ concentrations reported here are estimated using a combination of satellite data, ground air quality monitoring data, and chemical transport models. These estimates can be more uncertain in regions where ground monitoring data are limited or not available. In Egypt, the best estimate of the annual average exposure is 68 µg/m$^3$, but it may range from 48 µg/m$^3$ to 93 µg/m$^3$.

**WHO provides an Air Quality Guideline of 10 µg/m$^3$ for PM$_{2.5}$ to minimize health risks to populations, as well as three interim targets (35 µg/m$^3$, 25 µg/m$^3$, and 15 µg/m$^3$) as incremental steps toward the progressive reduction of air pollution.
Air Pollution Accounts for a Substantial Percentage of Global Deaths from Specific Causes.

Air pollution exposures, including exposure to outdoor \( \text{PM}_{2.5} \) and HAP, have been linked to increased hospitalizations, disability, and early death from respiratory diseases, heart disease, stroke, lung cancer, and diabetes, as well as communicable diseases like pneumonia. Exposure to ozone is linked to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and in children, especially those under the age of 5, increases susceptibility to lower respiratory tract infections. Exposure to \( \text{PM}_{2.5} \) also puts mothers at risk of delivering babies too early and smaller than normal, and such babies are more susceptible to dying from a range of diseases.

Percentage of Deaths (by Cause) Attributed to Air Pollution in Egypt in 2019

- **43 percent** of COPD deaths
- **24 percent** of diabetes deaths
- **31 percent** of ischemic heart disease deaths
- **29 percent** of lung cancer deaths
- **35 percent** of stroke deaths
- **29 percent** of lower respiratory infection deaths
- **15 percent** of neonatal deaths

Key Health Facts

- Air pollution is the 4th leading risk factor for premature death in Egypt. Leading causes of death in Egypt include ischemic heart disease, stroke, hepatitis C, hypertensive heart disease, and lower respiratory infection, while leading risk factors include high blood pressure, high BMI, high blood sugar, and dietary risks.
- There are 160 deaths per 100,000 people attributable to air pollution in Egypt compared with 86 deaths globally, adjusted for differences in age.
- 9% of total air-pollution-attributable deaths in Egypt are in children under 5, and 15% are in people over 70.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For the full report and additional data, please visit [www.stateofglobalair.org](http://www.stateofglobalair.org).

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

For open-access, real-time air quality data, visit [OpenAQ](https://openaq.org).

The State of Global Air website is a collaboration between the Health Effects Institute and the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, with expert input from the University of British Columbia.