

STATE OF GLOBAL AIR /2019

Nearly 5 million deaths globally due to air pollution in 2017

Loss of 1 year and 8 months due to air pollution

46 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ average population-weighted $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentration

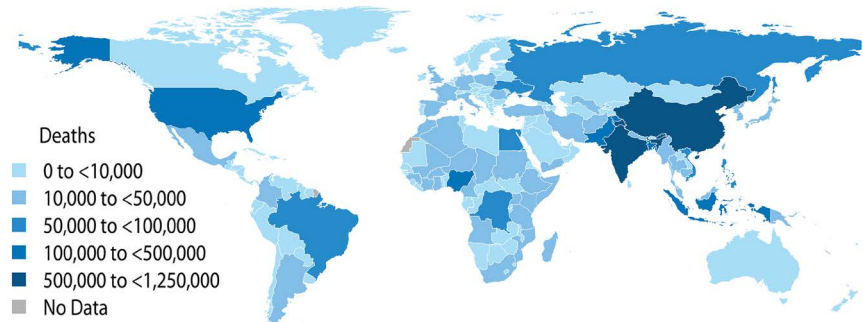
WHO Air Quality Guideline for $\text{PM}_{2.5}$: 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

More than 90 percent of the world's population lives in areas where fine particle levels exceed WHO Guideline for healthy air.

Key Facts

- Air pollution is the fifth leading risk factor for mortality worldwide. Each year, more people die from air pollution-related diseases than from road traffic injuries or malaria.
- In 2017, air pollution is estimated to have contributed to close to 5 million deaths globally — nearly 1 in every 10 deaths.

Number of Deaths Attributable to Air Pollution in 2017.

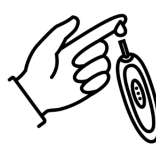


- Air pollution exposures, including exposure to outdoor fine particulate matter ($\text{PM}_{2.5}$), household air pollution (HAP), and ozone, have been linked with increased hospitalizations, disability, and early death from respiratory diseases, heart disease, stroke, lung cancer, and diabetes. Most (82%) deaths are from chronic non-communicable diseases.
- In 2017, exposure to $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ was the third leading risk factor for deaths and years of healthy life lost due to type 2 diabetes, after high blood sugar and high body mass index.

Percentage of global deaths from each cause attributed to air pollution in 2017.



41 percent
of COPD deaths



20 percent
of diabetes deaths



16 percent
of ischemic heart disease deaths



19 percent
of lung cancer deaths



11 percent
of stroke deaths



For more details, please visit
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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



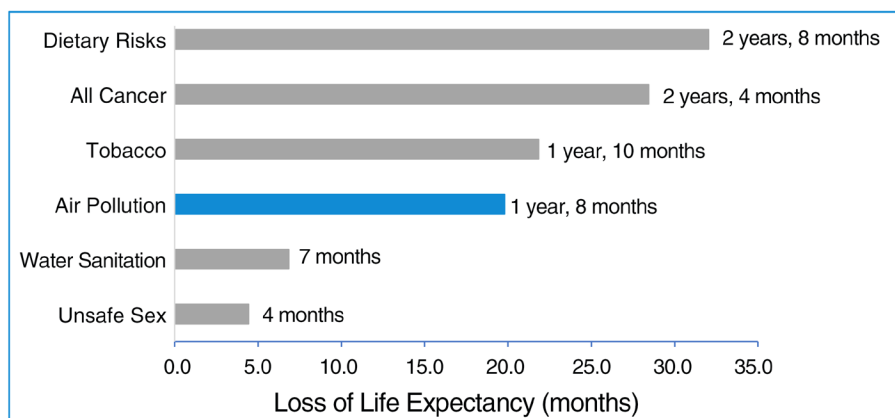
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Life Expectancy

• Air pollution collectively reduced life expectancy by 1 year and 8 months on average worldwide, a global impact rivaling that of smoking. This means a child born today will die 20 months sooner, on average, than would be expected in the absence of air pollution.

Contribution of major risk factors to loss of life expectancy.



Nearly 3 million deaths globally due to ambient air pollution in 2017

1.6 million deaths globally due to household air pollution in 2017

47 percent of global population uses solid fuels

Ambient PM_{2.5}

- In 2017, the highest annual average exposures to PM_{2.5} (population-weighted concentrations) were in South Asia, led by Nepal (100 µg/m³), India (91 µg/m³), Bangladesh (61 µg/m³), and Pakistan (58 µg/m³).
- The region with the second-highest average PM_{2.5} exposure was western sub-Saharan Africa with 59 µg/m³.
- In East Asia, China continues to experience the highest population exposures to PM_{2.5} (53 µg/m³). However, PM_{2.5} levels have declined by nearly 20% since the implementation of stringent air pollution controls in 2013.

Household Air Pollution

- Nearly half of the world's population — a total of 3.6 billion people — were exposed to household air pollution in 2017.
- Globally, the proportion of people cooking with solid fuels has declined from about 64% in 2005 to 47% in 2017. However, disparities persist, and less-developed countries continue to suffer the highest exposures to household air pollution.

Ozone

- Ozone contributed to approximately 472,000 deaths globally from COPD in 2017.



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