Air pollution is the 4th leading risk factor for mortality in Nigeria, accounting for more than 7% of deaths (114,100) in 2017 alone. Air pollution exposures, including exposure to outdoor particulate matter (PM$_{2.5}$) and household air pollution (HAP), have been linked to increased hospitalizations, disability, and early death from respiratory diseases, heart disease, stroke, lung cancer, and diabetes. Exposure to ambient ozone is linked to COPD.

**Key Facts**

- Air pollution is the 4th leading risk factor in Nigeria in 2017, after only malnutrition, unsafe water, and unsafe sex. Individually, household air pollution and outdoor air pollution are ranked as the 9th and 12th leading risk factors.
- The entire Nigerian population lives in areas with PM$_{2.5}$ concentrations above the WHO Air Quality Guideline of 10 µg/m$^3$. Less than 15% of the population lives in areas where PM$_{2.5}$ concentrations meet the least-stringent WHO air quality target of 35 µg/m$^3$.
- There were 49,100 deaths due to exposure to outdoor PM$_{2.5}$ and 64,200 deaths due to exposure to HAP.
- Exposure to outdoor PM$_{2.5}$ accounted for a loss of 1 year and 3 months in life expectancy, and exposure to HAP accounted for 1 year and 2 months.

**Leading risk factors for death and disability in Nigeria in 2017.**

Graph showing the distribution of deaths attributed to various risk factors, with PM$_{2.5}$, HAP, and ambient ozone as categories.