Pakistan

Air pollution is the 6th leading risk factor for mortality in Pakistan, accounting for more than 9% of deaths (128,000) 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.

**Percentage of deaths by cause attributed to air pollution in Pakistan.**

- 47 percent of COPD deaths
- 22 percent of diabetes deaths
- 22 percent of ischemic heart disease deaths
- 32 percent of lung cancer deaths
- 14 percent of stroke deaths

**Key Facts**

- Air pollution is the 6th leading risk factor in Pakistan in 2017. Individually, outdoor air pollution and household air pollution are ranked as the 11th and 14th leading risk factors.
- Almost 100% of the population lives in areas with PM$_{2.5}$ concentrations above the WHO’s least-stringent air quality target of 35 µg/m$^3$.
- There were nearly 64,000 deaths due to exposure to ambient PM$_{2.5}$, and 59,100 deaths due to exposure to HAP.
- Exposure to outdoor PM$_{2.5}$ accounted for a loss of 1 year and 7 months in life expectancy, and exposure to HAP accounted for a loss of 1 year and 4 months.

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

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128,000 deaths due to air pollution in 2017

2 years and 8 months’ loss in life expectancy at birth due to air pollution exposure

58 µg/m$^3$ population-weighted average PM$_{2.5}$ concentration

52% of the population uses solid fuels

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