

Climate & Health Equitable Transition to a Carbon-Free Future

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Climate Change is a Health Emergency

MN Declaration on Climate Change & Health Signers



**Health Professionals
for a Healthy Climate**



**American
Lung Association.**
Minnesota



Alliance of Nurses for
Healthy Environments



Health Students for a
HEALTHY CLIMATE



MINNESOTA
Psychological Association



MINORN
MINNESOTA ORGANIZATION
OF REGISTERED NURSES



**Minnesota
Public
Health
Association**



MINNESOTA ACADEMY OF
FAMILY PHYSICIANS



TWIN CITIES
MEDICAL SOCIETY



MINNESOTA DOCTORS
FOR HEALTH EQUITY



Minnesota Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



Health impacts of climate change

- Fossil fuel pollution responsible for ~ 8.7 million premature deaths/year.
- Extreme heat, severe storms and flooding, wildfires, drought, vector-borne diseases, and air pollution are increasingly impacting the physical and mental health of Minnesotans.
- Underlying socioeconomic conditions, health disparities and disproportionate exposure to pollution place BIPOC and low-income communities at highest risk from climate change, with fewer resources to adapt to and recover from climate events.



Extreme heat

More very hot days, higher humidity, longer & hotter heat waves

14.5 million Americans exposed to heat waves annually (2000-2016)

Causes dehydration, heat exhaustion and risk of death from heat stroke

People in cities, low-income and rural communities, elders, children, and outdoor workers at highest risk

High risk for preterm birth, with higher risk for black mothers



Air pollution

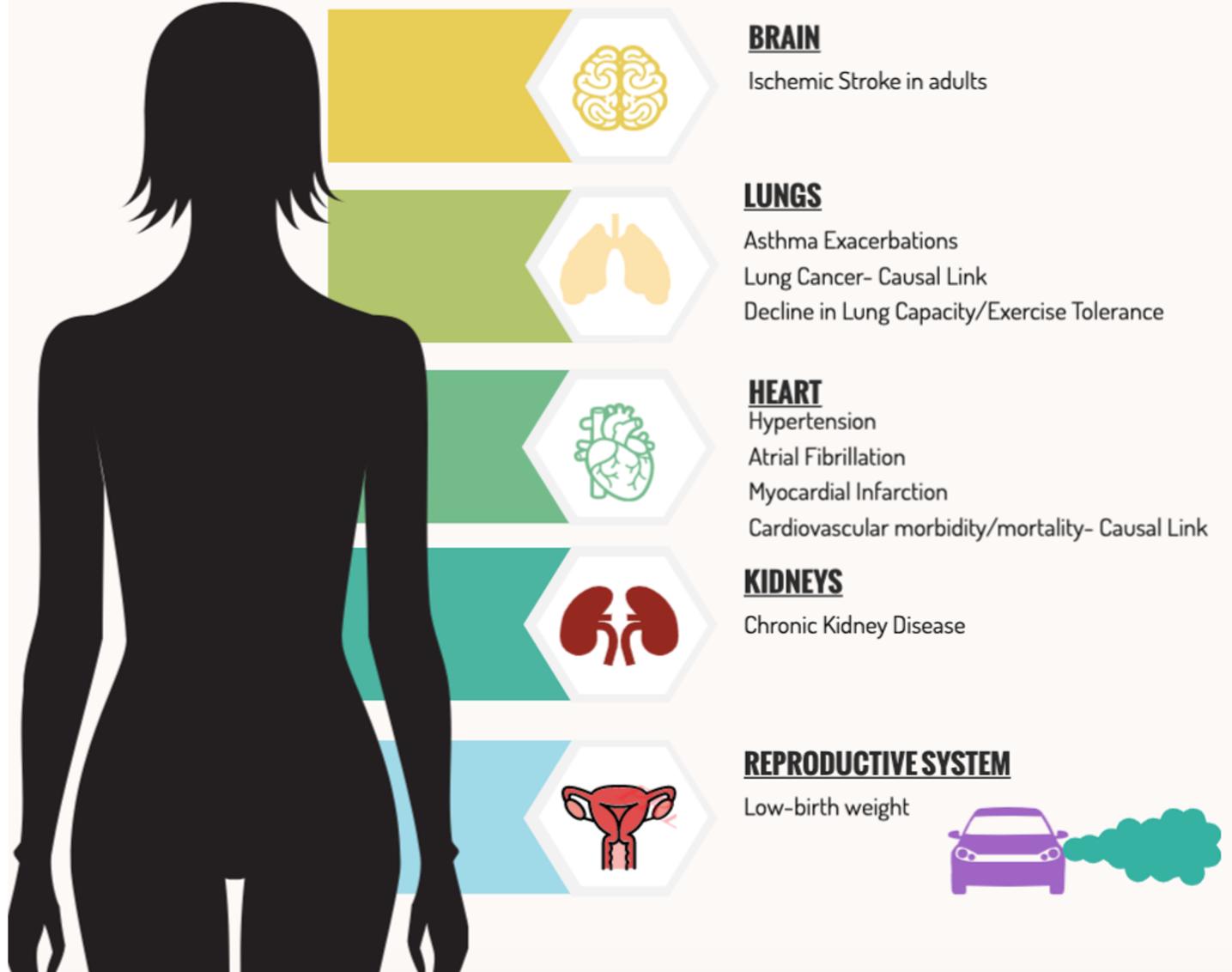
PM 2.5 alone linked to 350,000 premature deaths annually in the US.

Increases with high heat, wildfires

Exacerbates asthma and allergies



IMPACTS OF AIR POLLUTION ON HUMAN HEALTH

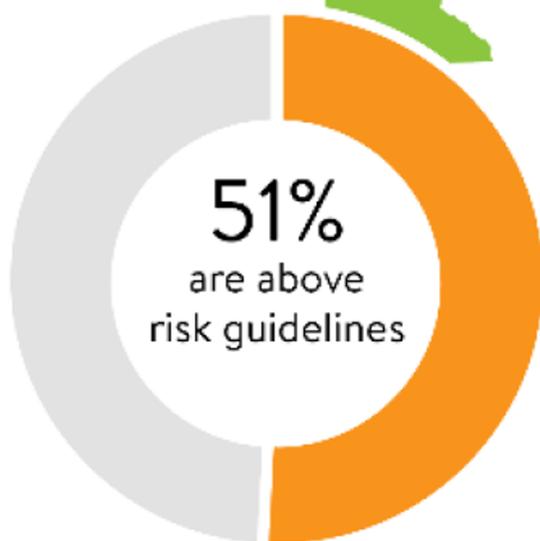


- American Heart Assn: PM 2.5 increases cardiovascular morbidity and mortality
- IARC: diesel exhaust is linked to lung cancer risk
- Leading contributor to stroke
- In 2013 contributed to estimated 2,000-4,000 deaths, 500 hospital stays, 800 ER visits in Minnesota

Air quality risk

These communities are more likely to be near higher levels of air pollution.

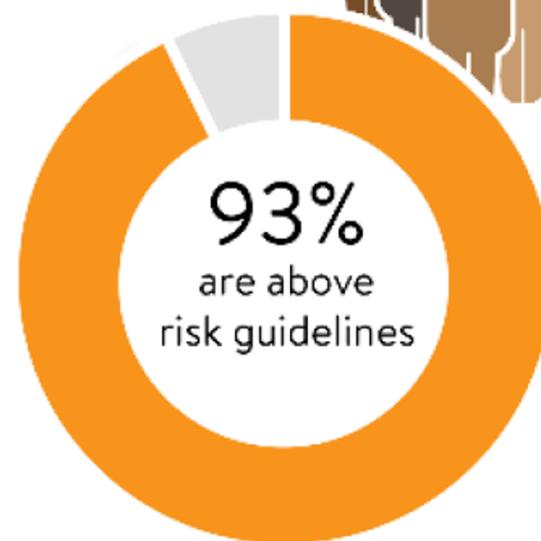
Statewide
average



Low-income
communities



Communities
of color and
Indigenous
communities



Health benefits of switching out gas appliances

- Gas stoves emit NO_x, CO, PM which increase risk for asthma, heart attacks, COPD, stroke and developmental delay
- BIPOC and low-income communities bear a larger burden of gas stove pollution
- Electric appliances are 3-5 times more efficient than gas, reduce energy costs and improve indoor air quality
- In CA replacing gas with electric appliances would prevent 350 premature deaths a year & yield \$3.5 billion in health benefits from cleaner air



Health co-benefits of GHG reductions



- Fossil fuel emissions are the primary cause of over 6.5 million air pollution deaths/year
- Reducing GHG emissions prevents premature deaths and lowers incidence of heart disease, asthma, COPD and reduces subsequent ER visits/hospitalizations for these issues.

• Climate action investment matters – Inflation Reduction Act

- Invests \$369 billion in climate action
- Projected GHG reductions 40% below 2005 levels by 2030
- By 2030 would prevent:
 - 3,600 premature deaths
 - 100,000 asthma attacks
 - 400,000 lost workdays
- Invests \$60 billion in EJ initiatives



Climate Justice Policy Solutions

- Transportation: active transit and public transit, EV incentives and infrastructure, electric school and MTC buses
- Energy efficiency: weatherization and pre-weatherization, access to solar and transition from gas
- Reduce pollution burden
- Invest in resilient infrastructure, tree planting and local food systems
- Help communities access IRA EJ grant funding for community planning