WHY CLEAN AIR STANDARDS HAVE TO BE HEALTH-BASED

EU air quality standards have proven to be a key instrument in reducing air pollution. But to protect people's health and reduce health costs, they must be tightened according to the World Health Organization's health-based recommendations.

Air pollution is the top environmental threat to people's health, in the short and long-term. Some groups are more vulnerable to its impacts: children, pregnant women, the elderly, people who are already ill, or live in poverty.

PN

Impacts the developing brain and central nervous system

Bal

Linked to increased behavioral problems (ADHD) and weakening of immune system

PM

Cause cardiovascular disease, stroke, possibly dementia, obesity.

SO, PM O,

Cause Lung Cancer, Chronic obstructive Pulmonary Disease

10,

Causes Asthma and reduced lung function

SO,

Causes Headaches and Anxiety

BaP NO, O, PM

Cause irritation of throat and breathing problems

PM

Increases the risk of pre-term birth, reduced birth weight, and pre-eclampsia of the pregnant woman

Share of city residents living with concentrations above EU standards or WHO recommendations (for 2018-19)

Other pollutants of concern for health include mercury and ultrafine particles.













EU LIMITS





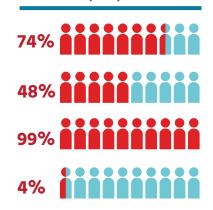








WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION GUIDELINES (2005)







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OF THE EU'S POPULATION LIVE IN URBAN AREAS WITH POOR AIR QUALITY

(Judged on WHO recommendations.)



HEAL gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the European Union (EU) and the European Climate Foundation for the production of this publication. The responsibility for the content lies with the authors and the views expressed in thi publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the EU institutions and funders. The Executive Agency for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (EASME) and the funder are not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained in this publication. HEAL EU transparency register number: 00723343929-91

