

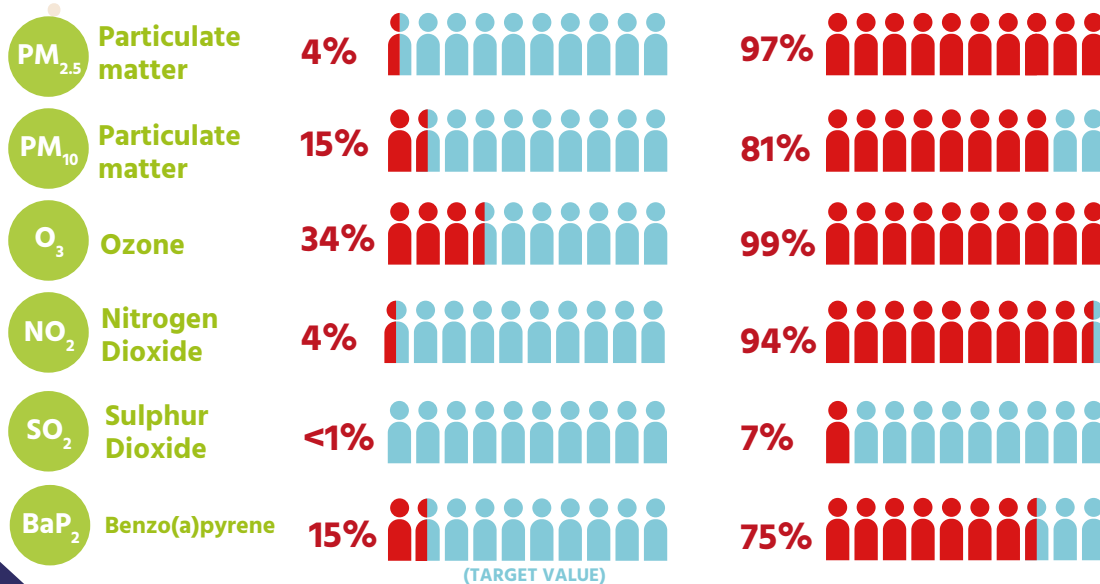
WHY CLEAN AIR STANDARDS HAVE TO BE HEALTH-BASED

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 fully aligned with World Health Organization's evidence-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.

Share of city residents living with concentrations above EU standards or WHO recommendations

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



97% OF THE URBAN POPULATION IN THE EU LIVES IN AREAS WITH POOR AIR QUALITY

(Judged against WHO recommendations.)

