

[Browse Objectives \(/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives\)](/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives)

Environmental Health

[Overview and Objectives \(/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/environmental-health\)](/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/environmental-health)

[Evidence-Based Resources \(/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/environmental-health/evidence-based-resources\)](/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/environmental-health/evidence-based-resources)

Goal: Promote healthier environments to improve health.



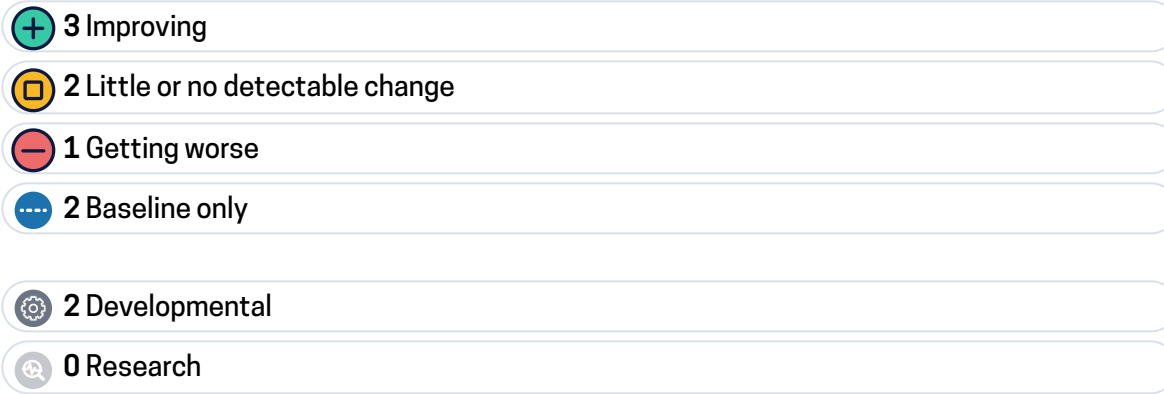
More than 12 million people around the world die every year because they live or work in unhealthy environments.¹ Healthy People 2030 focuses on reducing people's exposure to harmful pollutants in air, water, soil, food, and materials in homes and workplaces.

Environmental pollutants can cause health problems like respiratory diseases, heart disease, and some types of cancer.² People with low incomes are more likely to live in polluted areas and have unsafe drinking water. And children and pregnant women are at higher risk of health problems related to pollution.^{3,4}

Tracking environmental pollutants is key to figuring out where and how people are exposed. Laws and policies to reduce different types of pollution can also help prevent many serious health problems and deaths.

Objective Status

 2 Target met or exceeded



[Learn more about objective types \(/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/about-objectives\)](/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/about-objectives).

Related Objectives

The following is a sample of objectives related to this topic. Some objectives may include population data.

Environmental Health — General

[Reduce exposure to bisphenol A — EH-10](/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/environmental-health/reduce-exposure-bisphenol-eh-10)
(/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/environmental-health/reduce-exposure-bisphenol-eh-10)

 Baseline only

[Reduce exposure to perchlorate — EH-11](/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/environmental-health/reduce-exposure-perchlorate-eh-11)
(/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/environmental-health/reduce-exposure-perchlorate-eh-11)

 Baseline only


[Reduce diseases and deaths related to heat — EH-D02](/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/environmental-health/reduce-diseases-and-deaths-related-heat-eh-d02)
(/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/environmental-health/reduce-diseases-and-deaths-related-heat-eh-d02)

 Developmental

[Reduce exposure to lead — EH-08](/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/environmental-health/reduce-exposure-lead-eh-08)
(/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/environmental-health/reduce-exposure-lead-eh-08)

 Improving


Reduce exposure to mercury in children — EH-09
 (/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/environmental-health/reduce-exposure-mercury-children-eh-09)

 Improving

Reduce exposure to arsenic — EH-07
 (/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/environmental-health/reduce-exposure-arsenic-eh-07)

 Getting worse

Increase the proportion of people whose water supply meets Safe Drinking Water Act regulations — EH-03
 (/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/environmental-health/increase-proportion-people-whose-water-supply-meets-safe-drinking-water-act-regulations-eh-03)

 Target met or exceeded

Neighborhood and Built Environment

Reduce the amount of toxic pollutants released into the environment — EH-06
 (/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/environmental-health/reduce-amount-toxic-pollutants-released-environment-eh-06)


 Target met or exceeded

Reduce health and environmental risks from hazardous sites — EH-05
 (/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/environmental-health/reduce-health-and-environmental-risks-hazardous-sites-eh-05)

 Improving

Reduce the number of days people are exposed to unhealthy air — EH-01
 (/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/environmental-health/reduce-number-days-people-are-exposed-unhealthy-air-eh-01)

 **LHI**

 Little or no detectable change

Increase the proportion of schools with policies and practices that promote health and safety — EH-D01
 (/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/neighborhood-and-built-

 Developmental

[environment/increase-proportion-schools-policies-and-practices-promote-health-and-safety-eh-d01\)](#)

Transportation

[Increase trips to work made by mass transit — EH-02 \(/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/transportation/increase-trips-work-made-mass-transit-eh-02\)](#)



Little or no detectable change




Other topics you may be interested in


[Health Policy \(/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/health-policy\)](#)

[Neighborhood and Built Environment \(/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/neighborhood-and-built-environment\)](#)

[Transportation \(/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/transportation\)](#)

References

1. Prüss-Ustün, A., Wolf, J., Corvalán, C., Bos, R., & Neira, M. (2016). Preventing Disease Through Healthy Environments: A Global Assessment of the Burden of Disease from Environmental Risks. Retrieved from https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/204585/9789241565196_eng.pdf;jsessionid=09B50968F412E8B2DFD3E8FFDA7C200E?sequence=1 
(https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/204585/9789241565196_eng.pdf;jsessionid=09B50968F412E8B2DFD3E8FFDA7C200E?sequence=1). [PDF - 5 MB]
2. Brusseau, M.L., Ramirez-Andreotta, I.L., & Maximillain, J. (2019). Environmental Impacts on Human Health and Well-Being. *Environmental and Pollution Science*, 3, 477-499. <https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-814719-1.00026-4> 
(<https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-814719-1.00026-4>).
3. Landrigan, P.J., et al. (2017). Pollution: Think of the Children. *The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health*, 1(4), 249. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642\(17\)30133-5](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642(17)30133-5) 
([https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642\(17\)30133-5](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642(17)30133-5)).

4. van den Hooven, E.H. et al. (2011). Air Pollution, Blood Pressure, and the Risk of Hypertensive Complications During Pregnancy. *Hypertension*, 57, 406-412. <https://doi.org/10.1161/HYPERTENSIONAHA.110.164087> 
(<https://doi.org/10.1161/HYPERTENSIONAHA.110.164087>)

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