Glossary:Particulate matter - environment

Statistics Explained

Particulate matter describes tiny pieces of solid or liquid matter in the atmosphere. The main sources in urban areas are diesel-engined road vehicles, industrial, public, commercial and residential combustion.

Particulate matters are categorised based on size:

- PM10: Particles with a diameter of 10 micrometers (μm) or less, which can enter the respiratory system and cause health issues.
- PM2.5: Fine particles with a diameter of 2.5 micrometers (μ m) or less, which can penetrate deep into the lungs and bloodstream, posing significant health risks. The PM2.5 fraction is part of the PM10 fraction.

Related concepts

- C02 emissions
- Greenhouse gas (GHG)

Statistical data

- · Air pollution statistics air emissions accounts
- · Greenhouse gas emission accounts