

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. Fine particulate matter (PM10) — less than 10 micrometers in diameter— can be carried deep into the lungs where it can cause inflammation and a worsening of the condition of people with heart and lung diseases.

Related concepts

- [CO2 emissions](#)
- [Greenhouse gas \(GHG\)](#)

Statistical data

- [Air pollution statistics - emission inventories](#)