



WILDFIRE & AIR QUALITY

Wildfires can devastate communities, leaving not only destruction in their path but also dangerous impacts on the air we breathe. They release fine particles and toxic pollutants that can harm our health.

Examples:¹

- Carbon Monoxide
- Asbestos or Lead from burning buildings
- Ozone
- Particulate Matter (PM)

Smoke Exposure Symptoms¹

SHORT-TERM

- Burning eyes
- Runny nose
- Coughing
- Fatigue
- Rapid heartbeat

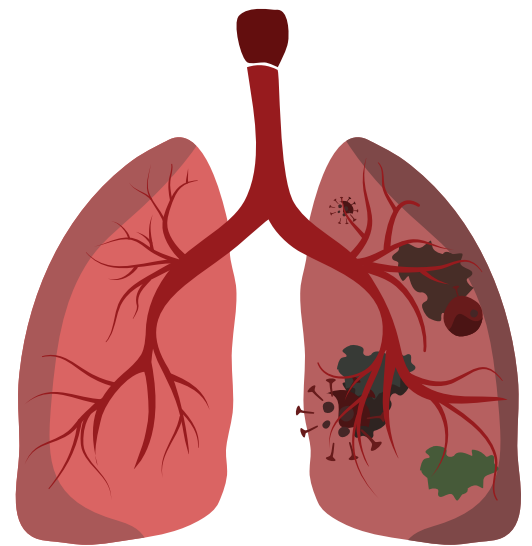
LONG-TERM

- Worsening of Asthma
- Reduced lung function
- Chronic bronchitis
- Heart failure

Use the Air Quality Index (AQI)

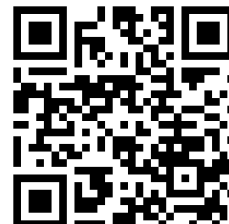
to see how healthy or unhealthy local air quality is

Particulate Matter (PM) is a main concern for air quality since it can infiltrate lungs and cause respiratory issues



Sources:

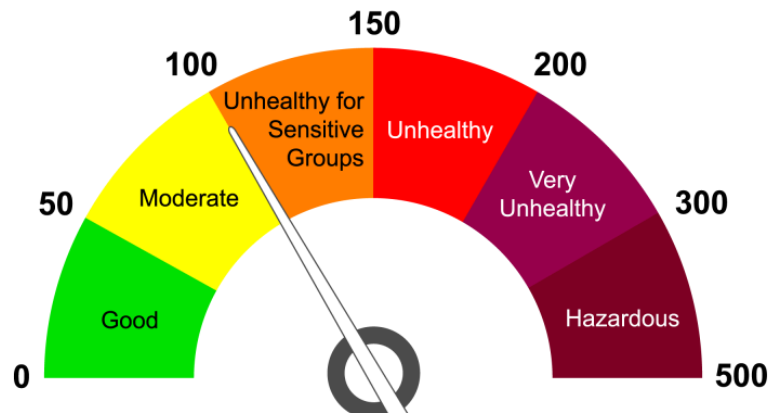
1. "Wildfire Smoke", LA County
2. "Fires and Your Health", AirNow
3. "Air Quality Guide for Particle Pollution." US EPA. (2023)



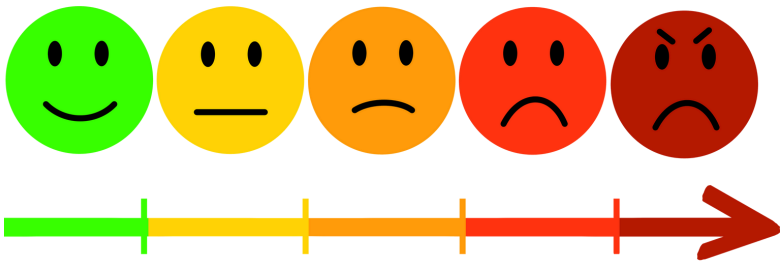
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to learn more about Clean Air SGV and other APIFM programs!

HOW TO READ AIR QUALITY INDEX (AQI)



The AQI roughly tracks air pollution to represent health risks from common pollutants. However, it doesn't measure all hazards from wildfires, such as toxic chemicals, heavy metals, or substances from burning buildings. Still, AQI is useful to gauge how healthy or unhealthy the air around you may be. ¹

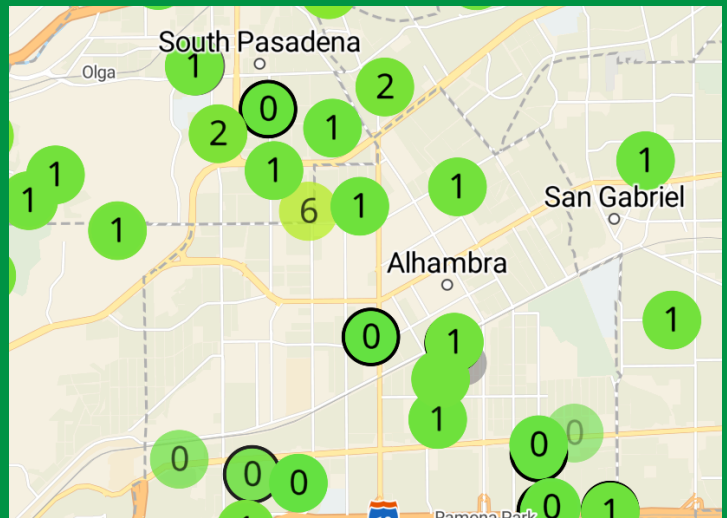


The higher the AQI, the greater the air pollution & health risks

 **Use PurpleAir Maps to monitor your AQI at map.purpleair.com**

PurpleAir sensors provide real-time, local air quality data, giving insight into pollution trends in specific neighborhoods.

Local sensors help offer insights in areas that may not be covered by regional EPA sensors



- By default, the map shows aggregated AQI data; switch to "Raw PM2.5 ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)" in the settings to view direct, unadjusted sensor readings
- The raw data gives more targeted details of the air quality index near that sensor³



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