

# Environmental Health:

Bridging the gap between people and their environment

# Air Pollution

## Morehouse School Of Medicine Prevention Research Center: Community Health Needs & Assets Assessment Survey

- Conducted a survey in the Atlanta Community to gain the opinions of the neighborhood residents about the health concerns in their community.
- **79 Residents** were interested in Environmental Health education. **22% of the Residents** had concerns on Air Quality and Pollution in their community.
- Here are a few of their responses:

"Environmental health - I know that air quality and illegal dumping are issues in my community, but I do not know much about the impacts or how I can prevent them."

"Air Quality is a mitigating factor in our community that many are not even remotely aware of"

"Living in a formerly industrial city near highways and railroad tracks as well as abandoned factories there are a lot of polluted areas and areas with air quality issues that can affect long term health."



## WHAT IS AIR POLLUTION?

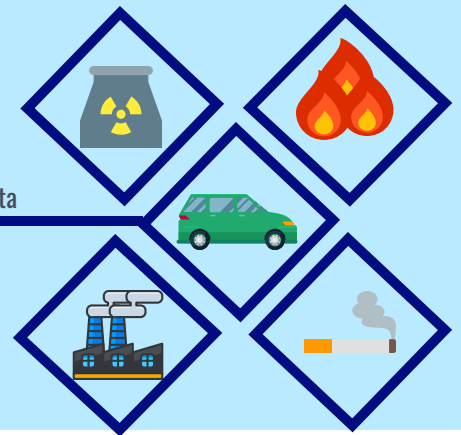
Air Pollution is caused by toxic chemicals such as gases, dust particles, fumes and odors that are released in the air and are dangerous to human health and the environment.

## WHAT CAUSES AIR POLLUTION?

Air Pollution can be caused by:

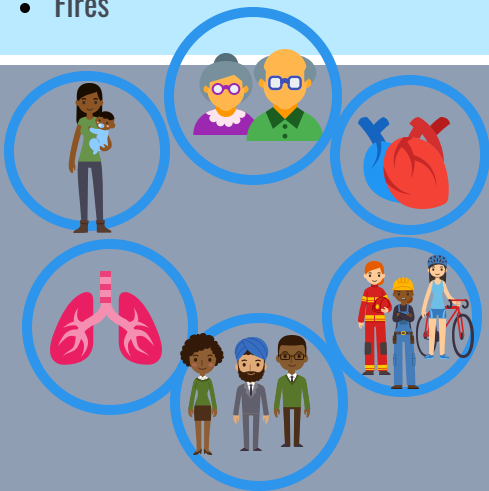
- Vehicles
- Industrial Factories
- Chemicals
- Tobacco Products
- Fires

Transportation is the largest source of Air Pollution in Atlanta



## WHO'S AT RISK?

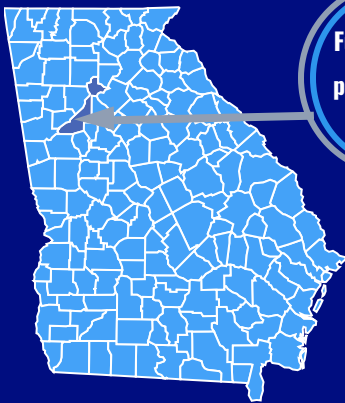
- Elders
- Adults
- Babies
- Individuals with heart disease, lung disease, and asthma
- People who work and exercise outside



# Environmental Health:

Bridging the gap between people and their environment

# Air Pollution



Fulton County ranks most polluted in the metro area



## ATLANTA'S AIR QUALITY

The American Lung Association's 2018 "State of the Air" report found Atlanta ranked as the 23rd most polluted city for Ozone Pollution in the nation.

## AIR POLLUTION EFFECTS ON HUMAN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Air Pollution can cause:

- Asthma
- Lung Disease
- Cardiovascular Disease
- Increase Respiratory Issues
- Premature Pregnancy
- Premature Death



7,694

Individuals were admitted into the Emergency Room due to Asthma in Fulton County in 2017.

1,005

Were children between the age 1-4 years old.

Air Pollution can affect the environment by:

- Preventing Crops From Growing
- Affect Pets & Animals
- Cause Climate Change And Global Warming

## How Can You Reduce Air Pollution in Your Neighborhood?

- Carpool, combine trips, ride the bus, or bike/walk
- Use energy efficient light bulbs and appliances
- Choose environmentally friendly cleaners

## CITATIONS

1. American Lung Association. (n.d.). How healthy is the air you breathe? Retrieved from <https://www.lung.org/our-initiatives/healthy-air/sota/city-rankings/states/georgia/fulton.html>
2. Environmental Protection Agency. (2018, August 15). Managing Air Quality - Human Health, Environmental and Economic Assessments. Retrieved November 12, 2018, from <https://www.epa.gov/air-quality-management-process/managing-air-quality-human-health-environmental-and-economic>
3. Georgia Conservancy. (n.d.). Air Quality Policy. Retrieved November 12, 2018, from <https://www.georgiaconservancy.org/policies/air/>
4. National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. (2018, October 12). Air Pollution. Retrieved from <https://www.niehs.nih.gov/health/topics/agents/air-pollution/index.cfm>
5. OASIS. (n.d.). OASIS Mapping Tool - Emergency Room (ER) Visit Statistics. Retrieved November 12, 2018, from <https://oasis.state.ga.us/gis/TrendableMaps/agsERTrend.aspx>