Finland & Pollution
Health and Economic Impacts

The Lancet Commission on pollution and health provides data related to the health and economic costs of pollution for 190 countries. It also gives specifics on the inequity of pollution’s impact, and provides an overview of solutions implemented or possible to reduce the burden of pollution.

The Commission’s lead authors have prepared this brief summary of pollution’s impact specifically in Finland.

Pollution in the air, water, and soil was responsible for 4.4% of all deaths in Finland.

Health Impact
In 2015, the report indicates that 2,400 people in Finland died from pollution-related disease. That is 40 times more than deaths from HIV, TB and malaria combined.

Economic Impact
The economic costs of pollution in Finland are calculated in two ways:

The costs of lost productivity from pollution-related diseases are estimated to be between .029% and .032% of gross domestic product (GDP).

When a willingness-to-pay method is used to estimate the amount that people would be willing to pay to avoid premature death due to pollution-related disease, the total value is estimated to be US $8 billion, which is approximately 3.2% of Finland’s economic output.

Average % of Deaths from Pollution
High-Income Countries 7.3%
Upper-Middle-Income Countries 10.3%
Lower-Middle-Income Countries 14.7%
Low-Income Countries 19.2%

Causes and Risks of Deaths – Finland

Burden of Disease Data - Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME); Economic Data - Lancet Commission on Pollution and Health