

Pollution Death Statistics Americas

Pollution is one of the largest causes of death in the developing world.

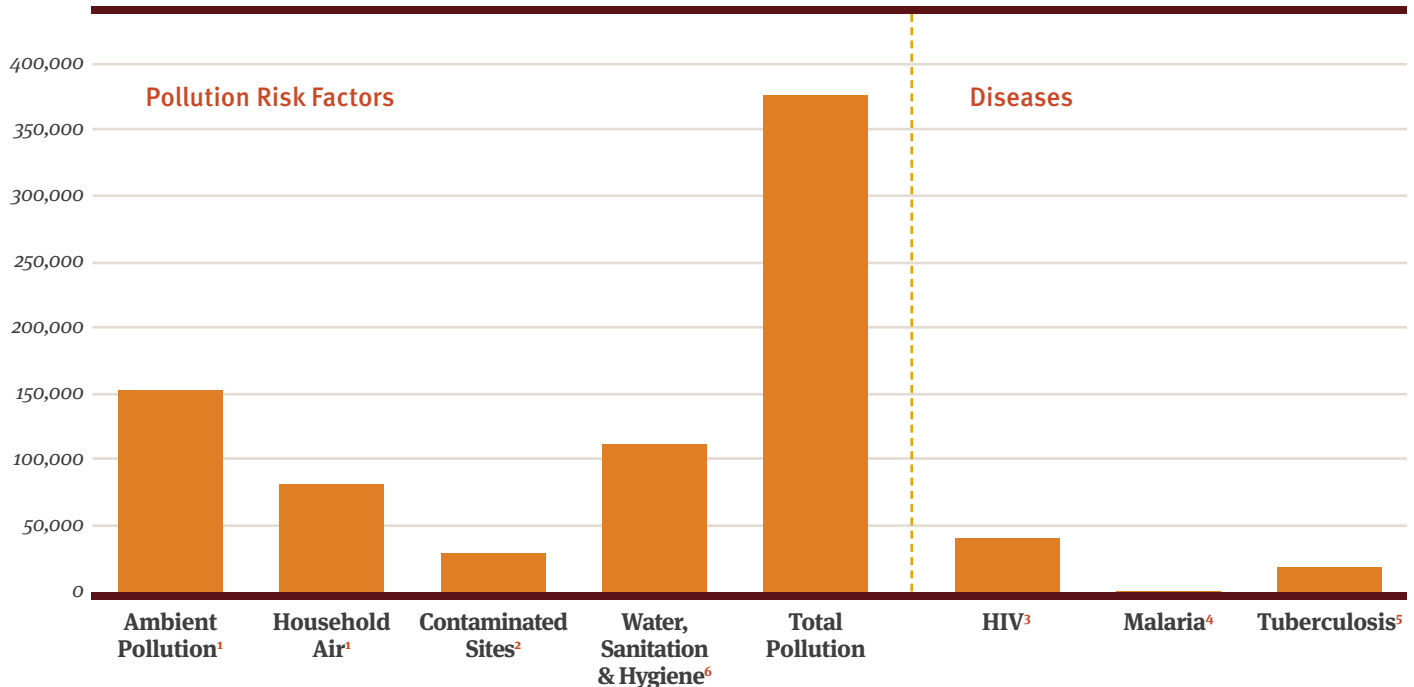
Pollution risk factors & diseases	Deaths-2012
Ambient Pollution ¹	152,000
Household Air ¹	81,300
Contaminated Sites ²	29,804
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene ⁶	112,700
Total Pollution	375,804
HIV ³	42,800
Malaria ⁴	800
Tuberculosis ⁵	19,000

IN THE AMERICAS, DEATHS FROM POLLUTION far exceed those caused by certain diseases. Pollution kills six times more people than HIV, TB and malaria combined. In addition, it should be noted that pollution is a risk factor in cancers and other diseases like stroke, infections, heart disease as well as developmental and neurological disabilities. It also has negative implications for economic growth.

Worldwide, exposures to polluted soil, water and air (both indoor and outdoor) resulted in 8.4 million deaths in 2012. Deaths from HIV amounted to 1.5 million, and malaria and TB each less than 1 million.

In other words, pollution, either directly or as a contributor to disease, kills three times more people than HIV, malaria and TB combined, and causes more deaths than cancer globally.

Causes of Deaths – Americas



¹ Air pollutions estimates for 2012 http://www.who.int/phe/health_topics/outdoorair/databases/en/

² Contaminated sites data extrapolated from GAHP database.

³ HIV deaths per country 2012. Available at <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.623>

⁴ Malaria deaths per region. Available at <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main.14117?lang=en>

⁵ Number of deaths due to tuberculosis, excluding HIV. 2012. Available at <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main.57016?lang=en>

⁶ DALYs and deaths attributable to selected environmental risk factors, by WHO Member State, 2004. http://www.who.int/quantifying_ehimpacts/national/countryprofile/intro/en/