



Healthy Air

Fact Sheet



State of the Air 2024

Nearly 4 in 10 people are impacted by unhealthy air in the United States. In Nevada, it's worse.

95 percent of Nevadans live in a community impacted by unhealthy air. Tailpipe emissions and extreme heat drive up ozone pollution, while prolonged drought conditions and other impacts from climate change, such as historic Western wildfires, contribute to particle pollution.

Las Vegas and Reno rank among the top 25 most polluted cities in the United States for ozone, short-term and annual particle pollution levels. In the American Lung Association's [State of the Air](#) report, Nevada's two most-populous counties – Clark and Washoe – each earned failing grades for ozone and particle pollution.

LAS VEGAS

11th

in most unhealthy
ozone days.

23rd

in unhealthy particle
pollution days.

20th

in year-round particle
pollution levels.

RENO

19th

in most unhealthy
ozone days.

6th

in unhealthy particle
pollution days.

18th

in year-round particle
pollution levels.

95% of Nevadans – 3 million people – live in the five counties that received at least one failing grade for ozone days, particle days and/or annual particles.

Poor air quality contributes to a wide range of negative health impacts, including childhood asthma attacks, impaired lung function and development, lung cancer, heart attacks and strokes and premature deaths.

Zeroing in on Healthy Air

Moving away from combustion to zero-emission technologies is critical to clean air, health equity and a healthy climate. The American Lung Association's [Zeroing in on Healthy Air](#) report finds that a widespread shift to zero-emission transportation and clean energy would yield major health benefits between 2020 and 2050.

The widespread transition to zero-emission cars, buses, trucks and clean energy would yield billions in avoided health costs and climate change impacts in Nevada.

NEVADA

Health Impacts Avoided (2020-2050)

- Premature Deaths: 675
- Asthma Attacks: 14,800
- Lost Work Days: 78,900

• Public Health Benefit: \$7.5 Billion

Taking Action = Clean, Healthy Air for All

State policies must ensure a rapid shift to zero-emission transportation and non-combustion energy so that all communities can breathe cleaner, healthier air. To achieve this, Nevada should move quickly to:

- Accelerate the deployment of zero-emission vehicle infrastructure and non-combustion renewable energy resources.
- Maximize federal funding to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through transportation electrification initiatives and expanded mobility options.
- Prioritize clean up programs in communities most impacted by air pollution. Including incentives to clean up older vehicles or to transition to electric, and improve/increase healthier modes of public transit.

American Lung Association Poll

An overwhelming majority of American voters – across all major demographic groups – support stronger limits on emissions from heavy-duty vehicles (trailers, buses delivery vans) and light-duty vehicles (passenger cars and trucks).*



76% of voters said that the new limits would have a positive impact on the quality of the air we breathe.



72% of voters nationwide support EPA setting stricter limits on carbon emissions from heavy-duty vehicles.



60% of voters support the EPA setting stricter limits on emissions from light-duty vehicles like cars or trucks.



Lake Mead, Nevada

“Emissions from the transportation sector pollutes our air and causes respiratory and developmental harm in children and adults, including increased asthma attacks, lung cancer, pre-term birth and early death. Nevada agencies are taking proactive measures to reduce pollution through climate action planning, investments in renewable energy programs, and expanded zero-emission infrastructure to improve air quality and safeguard our health.”

Melissa Ramos
Senior Manager, Clean Air Advocacy
American Lung Association in Nevada