



Scan for “State of the Air” 2026



More than 4 in 10 (44%) of people living in the United States are impacted by unhealthy levels of air pollution. Nearly half of the nation’s kids are growing up with polluted air.

In Arizona, it’s far worse: more than 8 in 10 Arizonans (86%) live in counties impacted by air pollution. Pollution from transportation, industrial processes, power plants and other sources continues to put health at risk. Climate change is making the job of cleaning our air more difficult as record heat and catastrophic fires add to our pollution challenges.

The American Lung Association’s “[State of the Air](#)” 2026 report ranks the Phoenix-Mesa among the most polluted cities in the United States.

Phoenix



most polluted US city by unhealthy ozone days



most polluted US city by annual particle levels



most polluted US city by unhealthy particle days

Air pollution contributes to a wide range of health harms and emergencies, including childhood asthma attacks, impaired lung function and development, lung cancer, heart attacks, strokes and even premature death. Too many children grow up in communities with air pollution putting their health and a healthy future at risk. Learn about what we can do to clean up the air at Lung.org/sota