Asthma Health through Air Quality Data: Mobilizing Citizen Scientists for Local Change

Summer 2024







Agenda & Goals

- Introductions and JustAir Overview
 - o Welcome
 - o AQ 101 & Asthma Rates
 - Environmental Justice
- Data Driven Public Health
 - Public Tools MyJustAir and EPA EJScreen
 - Community Partnerships
 - Mobile Air Quality Monitoring
- Types of Change
 - Workshop activity example
 - $\circ~$ Change case studies



When it comes to air pollution, not all communities are created equal.



People of color are nearly four times more likely than white people to live in a community with unhealthy air.

Air pollution can vary greatly across communities.



Levels of pollution can be as much as eight times higher at one end of a city block than another.



What is AQI?

Air Quality Index (AQI) is the Environmental Protection Agency's air quality ranking system from 0 - 500. The higher the AQI, the worse the air.

Air Quality Index Level	Amount
Good	0 - 50 AQI
Moderate	51 - 100 AQI
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	101 - 150 AQI
Unhealthy for Everyone	151 - 200 AQI
Very Unhealthy	211 - 300 AQI
Hazardous	301 + AQI

Primary Pollutants

Particulate Matter

PM is tiny solid particles in the air. PM 2.5 means the particles are 2.5 micrometers or smaller (0.00025 cm). PM comes from vehicle exhaust, industrial emissions, construction, and natural sources like wildfires.

Ozone

Ozone is a gas pollutant resulting from chemical reactions between sunlight and pollutants from vehicles, industrial processes, and other sources, leading to the formation of groundlevel ozone, a key component of smog.

Nitrogen Dioxide NO2

Nitrogen Dioxide is a gas that comes from the combustion of fossil fuels, **most commonly from vehicles**, **power generation**, **manufacturing, and natural sources like wildfires** Age-Adjusted Hospitalization Rate per 10,000 Residents by Zip Code for Michigan and Detroit, 2018-2020



Environmental Justice

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The just treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of income, race, color, national origin, Tribal affiliation, or disability, in decision-making and other activities that affect human health and the environment so that people:

- are fully protected from disproportionate and adverse human health and environmental effects (including risks) and hazards, including those related to climate change, the cumulative impacts of environmental and other burdens, and the legacy of racism or other structural or systemic barriers; and
- have equitable access to a healthy, sustainable, and resilient environment in which to live, play, work, learn, grow, worship, and engage in cultural and subsistence practices.

Data Driven Public Health

MyJustAir

Follow Monitors Near Where You Live, Work and Play



Receive text Alerts When Air Quality is Poor



Make More Informed Health and Safety Decisions



Access the data you need to create the future you deserve



Sign up at JustAir.app



Planning



Deployment



Management



The JustAir Platform



Public & administrator dashboards Manage all monitor types across a network Built-in data **quality** assurance and quality checks Opt in **text alerts** and community messaging Air quality reports Data analysis **Data sharing**

Public Tools - EPA EJScreen

St. Clair Shores

Exposure and Health Risk Quintiles

First Quintile (lower exposure)

Fifth Quintile (highest

Detroit City Boundary

County Boundary

Detroit Metropolitan Airport

Second Quintile

Third Quintile Fourth Quintile

exposure)

— Main Roads



Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy

Strong Partnerships































Mobile AQ Monitor + Asthma Journal

Equipment





AQ Inhaler Platform



Taking Action: how do we use this data to create change?

Types of Change for Clean Air

Behavioral doing what you can to stay safe

checking air quality regularly or staying inside when air quality is poor **Environmental**

improving the environment for AQ

creating or preserving green spaces to reduce pollution to our lungs Structural

long-term, policy changes for safety

updating zoning to keep heavy trucking or industry pollution away from residences



Example - Air Quality Action Planning



With your table, reflect on your

- Vision for air quality in your community
- Collaborators you could see getting involved
- Challenges & Solutions
 - Public art?
 - Green spaces?
 - o Air filters?
 - o Technology?
 - Community engagement?
 - Education?

Policy and Public Art

ᢙ ➤ MassDEP

OFFERED BY Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

PRESS RELEASE

Massachusetts Becomes First State to Require Analysis of Cumulative Impacts for Air Quality Permits near Environmental Justice Populations

The Department of Environmental Protection will require key air permit applicants to assess 33 environmental, health, and socioeconomic indicators



The New York Times

A Crowning Achievement in a Neighborhood's Fight Against Air Pollution

The artist Jordan Weber's queenly sculpture in a Detroit park does double duty as an air quality monitor.

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Technology and Wayfinding

Asthma & Air Quality Research

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Infrastructure and Mobility

The Electric School Bus Series: How North Carolina's Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians is Planning for Seven Generations of Sustainability







Next Steps (WIP)

1. Reporting 2. Source Identification **Context Analysis** • **Network Disparity Flags** • **Predictive Modeling** 02 **Concentration Time** Source Analysis Analysis **Cumulative Pollutant** The unhealthy NO2 measurements near the school can be attributed to a combination of factors, including traffic, industrial emissions, and meteorologica Detection onditions Carpooling or publ Maximum Daily PM 2.5 AQI PM 2.5 averaged PM 10 averaged 18.91 µg/m³ NO2 averaged 10.23 ppb and only exceeded Vetwork Insight Zoning plans for schools and 50 ppb once (4/22/24) O3 averaged 44.33 ppb and only exceed 70 ppb twice (2/8/224 and 5/1/24) Today's Best Monitor A sclav/s Worst Monitor AC Bad News PM 2.5 remained good all day only 16 day 01 Worst Air Quality Days 03 4/28/24 9:45 am: 4/12/24 9:00 pm: Today's Network Air Quality Index 2/22/24 7:02 pm: 3/14/24 8:40 pm: 46.38 µc 4/27/24 5:04 am: 3. Intervention Source Mitigation 26 AQI Daily Hourly Average AQI Trends by N Analysis Intervention Deployment and Execution Intervention Results



Thank you! Clean air power is in our hands



Email us at info@justair.co





