

Working together for clean air

Puget Sound Clean Air Agency

Overview of NW near-road pollution impacts



Puget Sound Clean Air

Erik Saganic

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Traffic through major cities







Many Different Types of Pollutants

- Fine Particles
- Nitrogen Dioxide
- Ozone (Smog)
- Sulfur Dioxide
- Carbon Monoxide
- Lead
- Air Toxics (like benzene)

Has Federal Limits in the Clean Air Act



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The sources: trucks vs cars



- Diesel particulate
- Nitrogen dioxide
- Air toxics
- PAHs



- Nitrogen dioxide
- Air toxics
- Tire, brake wear
- Oil in badly tuned cars

Are all fine particles the same?

• No



 Diesel particles are a smaller percentage of the total, but more toxic

• No federal standard specifically for diesel exhaust







- Expectant mothers
- Children
- People living with heart or lung disease
- Undiagnosed older adults

Many Health Effects





- Reduced lung function
- Heart attacks
- Strokes
- Premature death
- Cancer

Health Effects in Children





- Pre-term birth
- Low birth weights
- Early pneumonia and bronchitis
- Possibly fetal/infant mortality
- Reduced lung function
- Asthma attacks

Recent studies showing associations in children, but not well studied







- Diabetes
- Obesity
- Autism
- Reaction time



No "one size fits all" answers

Too many issues to count comparing studies

• Examples:

- Health response lags (1 day, 1 week, 1 month)
- Defining length of "long-term exposures"
- Different fleet ages or engine types (new trucks, European vs Canadian vs US trucks, etc)
- Multi-pollutant corrections

Weighted Road Density, Urban King County

Obvious confounders

Low-income and minorities generally closer to traffic volume





Weighted Road Density and Median Household Income by Census Tract Urban King County, 2010 Census



Figure 7. Weighted road density and percent residents of color by census tract, urban King County, 2010 census

Figure 5. Weighted road density and median household income by census tract, urban King County, 2010 census.



Magnitude of risks

• Example, asthma symptoms in children:

Study	NO ₂ Averaging Time	NO ₂ Lag	Subgroup							
Symptom Composite Schildcrout et al. (2006)	24-h avg	0				•				
Just et al. (2002)	24-h avg	0				_		•		-
Segala et al. (1998)	24-h avg	0 3	Mild asthma Moderate asthma			+	•	•		-
Mortimer et al. (2002)	4-h avg	1-6 avg				-		•		
Spira-Cohen et al. (2011)	6-h avg	0				-	-			
O'Connoretal. (2008)	24-h avg	1-19 avg				\vdash	•			
<u>Wheeze</u> Mann et al. (2010)	24-h avg	2				-	•			
Gentet al. (2003)	NR	0				•	-			
Patel et al. (2010)	24-h avg	0				+	•			
Jalaludin et al. (2004)	15-h avg	0				+	_			
Barraza-Villarreal et al. (2008)	1-h max	0				•	÷			
Escamilla-Nunez et al. (2008)	1-h max	1				•				
Asthma Medication Use Schildcrout et al. (2006)	24-h avg	0				•				
Romieu etal. (2006)	1-h max	1-6 avg	GSTM1 null GSTM1 positive			•	F			
Jalaludin et al. (2004)	15-h avg	0				+				
Segala et al. (1998)	24-h avg	0 3	Mild asthma Moderate asthma			+	••			
				0.0	0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0
	Odds ratio per 20, 25, or 30 ppb increase in NO ₂ (95% Cl) ^a									

Note: Studies are presented in order of decreasing study strength (e.g., exposure assessment method, potential confounding considered). Red=recent studies, Black=previous studies. Study details and quantitative results are reported in Table 4-18.

^aEffect estimates are standardized to a 20-ppb increase for 24-h avg or 15-h avg NO₂, 25 ppb for 4-h avg, 6-h avg or 8-h max NO₂, and 30 ppb for 1-h max NO₂.

Figure 4-3 Associations of ambient NO₂ concentrations with respiratory symptoms and asthma medication use in children with asthma.

Source: Draft 2013 EPA NO₂ Integrated Assessment 2/11/2015 Slide 18



Respiratory emergency visits



Note: Black = U.S. and Canadian studies from the 2008 ISA for Oxides of Nitrogen, Red = recent studies. Circles = all-year, Diamonds = summer/warm, and Squares = winter/cold. a = time-series analysis results; and b = case-crossover analysis results.

Figure 4-9 Percent increase in respiratory-related ED visits for a 20-ppb increase in 24-h avg or 30-ppb increase in 1-h max NO₂ concentrations from U.S. and Canadian studies evaluated in the 2008 ISA for Oxides of Nitrogen and recent studies in all-year and seasonal analyses. Source: Draft 2013 EPA NO₂

Integrated Assessment 2/11/2015 Slide 19



How close is too close?

• "Depends", but ranges from 200 to 500 meters depending on studied health outcome and pollutant



Karner et al 2010



Distance from edge (m)

FIGURE 2. Local regression of background normalized concentrations on distance. The horizontal line indicates background concentration. A loess smoother (alpha =0.75, degree =1) is fitted to each pollutant which is placed into one of three groups. The regression sample size, n, is given in parentheses after each pollutant.



Karner et al 2010



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Our pilot study last fall



Fall 2014





pscleanair.org Puget Sound Clean Air Agency

Pollution vs Distance to major traffic





New map coming soon! Washington Tracking Network (DOH)

Populations Near Heavy Traffic Roadways - Census Tract



Child Care Centers A TK-12 Public Schools





Measure 1

Populations Near Heavy Traffic Roadways - Census Tract





Populations









Press attention to schools near roads

- http://www.invw.org/article/exhaust-diesel-fumes-foul-1379
- <u>http://www.invw.org/project/exhausted-at-school</u>
- http://www.invw.org/article/king-5-investigators-cali-1400
- http://www.invw.org/article/officials-in-olympia-dc-d-1392



Future Trends



Gallons of Truck Diesel Burned in WA



Data from Office of Highway Policy Information, FHWA Last updated: Oct 25, 2013



Gallons of gas attributed to highway use



Data from Office of Highway Policy Information, FHWA Last updated: Oct 25, 2013



WA Vehicle Miles Traveled



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Puget Sound vehicle miles flat

Figure 1. Daily VMT by County





Diesel – cancer risk

• UW DEEDS (2013)

• PSCAA/UW (2010)

Figure B: Potential Cancer Risks with Diesel and Wood Smoke



Diesel and wood smoke particulate matter results are based on recent estimates from other studies.^{2, 3}

August 1-NP Predictions





Reducing Diesel Exhaust

Northwest Ports Clean Air Strategy

Diesel Solutions

- ABC fuel program
- ScRAPS
- Retrofits



New technology improvements





New technology improvements

Diesel PM_{2.5} Emission Trends





Latest HEI publication

Newest diesel trucks show no lung cancer in mice

Health Effects Institute

101 Federal Street Suite 500 Boston MA 02110-1817 USA +1-617-488-2300 FAX+1-617-488-2335 www.healtheffects.org

FOR RELEASE TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2015 For More Information: Dan Greenbaum@healtheffects.org; +1 617 488 2331

STUDY OF LIFETIME ANIMAL EXPOSURE TO NEW TECHNOLOGY DIESEL ENGINE EXHAUST FINDS NO LUNG CANCER

(Boston, January 27. 2015) The first study to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of lifetime exposure to new technology diesel exhaust (NTDE) has found no evidence of carcinogenic lung tumors. The Advanced Collaborative Emissions Study (ACES), issued today by the Health Effects Institute (HEI)¹ also confirmed that the concentrations of particulate matter and toxic air pollutants emitted from NTDE are more than 90% lower than emissions from traditional older diesel engines (TDE).





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UFPs are also not well understood

Number of publications containing "ultrafine particles" by year (via Google Scholar Searches)





More to learn

"Relatively few studies have directly compared UFPs with other particle size fractions. These factors constrain our ability to draw definitive conclusions about the specific consequences of exposure to UFPs."



HEI Review Panel on Ultrafine Particles

Exposure – where do people breathe?

- Studies show time in vehicle is large part
- Generally less exposure from time spent outdoors







How to reduce exposure

Mitigation



Fig. 3. Velocity vectors for a) Case A (level), b) Case B (elevated), c) Case C (depressed with straight edges), and d) Case E (depressed with angled edges). Origin is found in the center of the roadway at ground level, with the roadway extending from x/H = -3 to +3. J.T. Steffens et al. / Atmospheric Environment 94 (2014) 74–85





How to reduce air pollution risk



- Limit time spent near idling cars and trucks
- Review air quality forecasts before strenuous activities
- Continue to exercise outdoors, especially around midday
- Limit strenuous activities when air pollution is high
- Recycle the air in your car when on busy roads
- Continue to open windows in your home freely
- Consider purchasing a portable HEPA filtration unit for your home and replace your filters every three months



Questions?

Erik Saganic

eriks@pscleanair.org, 206-689-4003



Portland

