



State of the Air 2022

More than 4 in 10 Americans breathe unhealthy air. In Nevada, it's worse. 94% 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 each rank among the most polluted cities in the United States for ozone and particulate pollution. In the American Lung Association's [State of the Air](#) report, Nevada's three most-populous counties – Clark, Washoe and Lyon – each earned an “F” grade.

People of color are 61 percent more likely to live in a county with unhealthy air than white people, and 3.6 times more likely to live in a county that fails all three air-quality grades. In Nevada, over 1.5 million people of color live in communities impacted by unhealthy air.

LAS VEGAS

11th 
in most unhealthy
ozone days.

31st 
in unhealthy particle
pollution days.

RENO

21st 
in most unhealthy
ozone days.

12th 
in unhealthy particle
pollution days.

94% of Nevadans - 3 million people - live in the 5 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.
- Adopt the Advanced Clean Truck (ACT) standard to ensure health and equity benefits of increasing sales of zero-emission trucks over the coming decade.
- Adopt the Advanced Clean Cars II (ACCII) to deliver the health benefits of 100 percent zero-emission passenger vehicle sales by 2035.

American Lung Association Poll

An overwhelming majority of American voters – across all major demographic groups – support the federal government advancing policies to encourage a nationwide transition to electric vehicles.*

 **74%** support stronger standards on tailpipe emissions from passenger cars and trucks, with emissions declining over time.

 **72%** support significant investments in zero-emission vehicles as part of our efforts to rebuild the economy.

 **70%** agree the federal government should implement policies supporting a transition to zero-emission vehicles.



Lake Mead, Nevada

“Diesel exhaust threatens the health of all Nevadans, especially for hundreds of thousands of children and adults with underlying lung health issues including asthma, COPD, and lung cancer. Nevada has taken the important step of adopting zero-emission standards for passenger vehicles and now we need to take the next step to clean up the next generation of cars and trucks so all Nevadans can breathe healthier air.”

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