

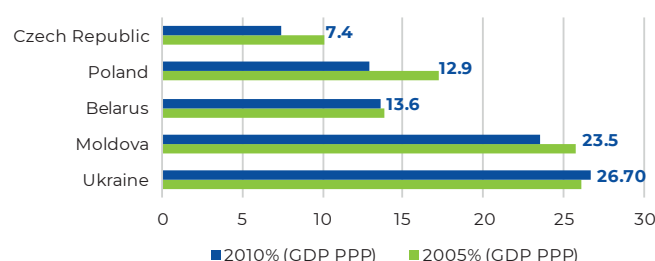
## In a nutshell: Environmental quality of life in Ukraine in 2021

**Ukraine lacks data on the state (quality) of atmospheric air and its impact on public health, as well as reliable national data on public access to water supply and sanitation.** Therefore, it needs to rely on international estimations, in particular by WHO.

**Emissions of all pollutants have decreased over the last ten years, but their levels remain high.** Compared to 1990, emissions of sulphur dioxide decreased by 4.5 times, nitrogen oxide by 2 times, and ammonia and carbon monoxide by 1.5 times, while dust emissions decreased by 50% compared to 2010. The reduction of sulphur dioxide emissions is primarily due to two factors: coal consumption dropped in 1990-2019 by more than three times and fuel oil almost completely disappeared from the fuel balance. In general, pollutant emissions are high, which affects air quality.

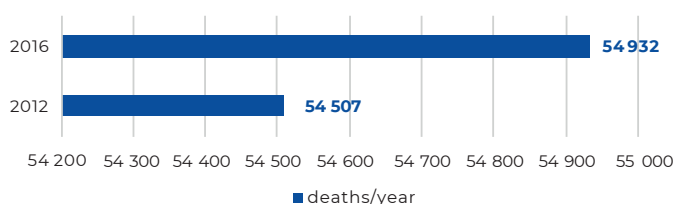
**Mortality caused by air pollution remains high. Ukraine also ranks high among European countries and neighbouring countries in terms of mortality caused by indoor air pollution.** The high rates are due to the large proportion of the population living in urban areas, the concentration of industrial zones and inadequate access to health care. The annual death rate from air pollution is 64 people per 100 000 population (54 932 deaths annually). Mortality caused by indoor air pollution in Ukraine is comparable to other countries of Eastern Europe: 7.95 per 100 000 people (approximately 3 300 people per year).

### Cost of premature deaths from outdoor air pollution in Ukraine



Source: WHO/OECD (2015).

### Mortality from ambient air pollution in Ukraine



Source: WHO.

**The negative economic consequences of premature deaths from air pollution are unacceptably high for Ukraine.** The total economic value of premature deaths from air pollution in Ukraine reaches USD 94 billion per year. This represents 27% of gross domestic product (purchasing power parity), a trend that continues unabated. The high mortality rate is due in large part to air pollution. In addition, environmental diseases have caused economic losses.

**The share of households equipped with sewerage has been growing steadily in Ukraine over the last ten years, especially in rural areas.** In rural areas, access to sewerage doubled from 29.8% to 64.2% in 2010-20. There is a significant difference between small and large cities. Access to centralised water supply and sewerage remains low, especially in rural areas. In all, 19 059 villages remain without centralised water supply. Mortality from diarrhoea caused by poor water, sanitation or hygiene is the highest in Ukraine among all neighbouring countries, with 116 deaths annually.

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## Background

Monitoring and assessment of progress towards a green economy is important for improving government policies and their implementation. The green growth indicators help track progress in greening economic growth, inform decisions, demonstrate accountability, raise public awareness and compare data between countries.

In 2022, the third monitoring report was released using the OECD-based green growth indicators to provide a snapshot of Ukraine's progress in greening the economy. This nutshell zooms into the natural asset base of Ukraine to inform policy makers about progress but also to underline actions needed to accelerate green transformation.



## Acknowledgements

This nutshell and the underlying report were prepared by the expert team from Resource and Analysis Center "Society and Environment" within the "European Union for Environment" (EU4Environment) Programme funded by the European Union and implemented by the OECD, UNECE, UNEP, UNIDO and the World Bank.

## About EU4Environment

The "European Union for Environment" (EU4Environment) Programme helps partner countries preserve their natural capital and increase people's environmental well-being by supporting environment-related action, demonstrating and unlocking opportunities for greener growth, and setting mechanisms to better manage environmental risks and impacts. Read more here about [EU4Environment](#).

## Disclaimers

Data presented in this nutshell come from the report "Towards Green Transformation of Ukraine: State of Play in 2021". All sources are available and properly acknowledged in the report.

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This nutshell was produced with the financial assistance of the European Union.

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