**Health Effects of NOx:**

Nitrogen oxides (NOx) are poisonous gases derived from nitrogen and oxygen combustion under high pressure and temperatures.

NOx is composed of nitric oxide (NO), and a smaller percentage of more poisonous nitrogen dioxide (NO2). Fossil-fuel burning is by far the main man-made source: cars, trucks, tractors and boats or industrial processes like power generation and cement-making.

**What does it do to humans?**

NOx has direct and indirect effects on human health.

It can causes [breathing problems](https://phys.org/tags/breathing+problems/), headaches, chronically reduced lung function, eye irritation, loss of appetite and corroded teeth. Indirectly, it can affect humans by damaging the ecosystems they rely on in water and on land—harming animals and plants. Also emitted in diesel fumes are solid particles which can penetrate deep into the lungs and cause cancer, chronic breathing problems and premature death in people with heart or lung disease.