

How does CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, and SF<sub>6</sub> emissions relate to particulate matter?

*CO<sub>2</sub>*

*Related Links:*

CO<sub>2</sub> Emission Sources

<https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/carbon-dioxide-emissions>

- Relations
  - Emission sources that release CO<sub>2</sub> often overlap with PM release (e.g. burning fossil fuels)
  - Increased CO<sub>2</sub> can worsen PM related issues (e.g. hotter drier conditions causing wildfires increasing PM emission)
  - GHG that's not directly harmful to human health at typical atmospheric levels
  - Byproduct of complete combustion, PM is from incomplete combustion/dust/chemical reactions in air

## CH<sub>4</sub>

### *Related Links:*

Methane Emission Sources

<https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/methane-emissions>

- Relations
  - *Shared sources of release*
    - Fossil fuel burning (can release both CH<sub>4</sub> and PM)
    - Wildfires, agricultural burning
    - Waste management (landfills and manure release CH<sub>4</sub>, and if burned, PM)
  - *Atmospheric Chemistry*
    - CH<sub>4</sub> more specifically in the troposphere leads to formation of Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>)
      - Tropospheric ozone forms when nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including methane, react in the presence of sunlight.
    - O<sub>3</sub> formation/CH<sub>4</sub> chemistry/NO<sub>x</sub> further promote the formation of PM

### *TLDR*

- Cutting back on CH<sub>4</sub> emissions will decrease ozone formation, indirectly decreasing PM formation

*N<sub>2</sub>O*

*Related Links:*

N<sub>2</sub>O Emission Sources

<https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/nitrous-oxide-emissions>

Ammonia Volatilization

<https://extension.missouri.edu/publications/wq257>

- Relations
  - Shared sources of emissions
    - Fertilizers release N<sub>2</sub>O into soil
    - nitrogen-based emissions from agriculture can also produce ammonia gas (NH<sub>3</sub>), which reacts with acids (like sulfuric and nitric acid) to form secondary particulate matter (e.g., ammonium sulfate, ammonium nitrate) and produce PM

## *SF<sub>6</sub>*

### *Related Links*

<https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/fluorinated-gas-emissions>

- Relations
  - Limited sources of SF<sub>6</sub> emissions
    - Refrigerants, Fire retardants, insulating gas in electrical equipment
  - Atmospheric Chemistry
    - Close to none as SF<sub>6</sub> is an inert gas
  - Indirect climate warming from SF<sub>6</sub> emissions could result in indirect PM increase, not nearly as much as CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O