

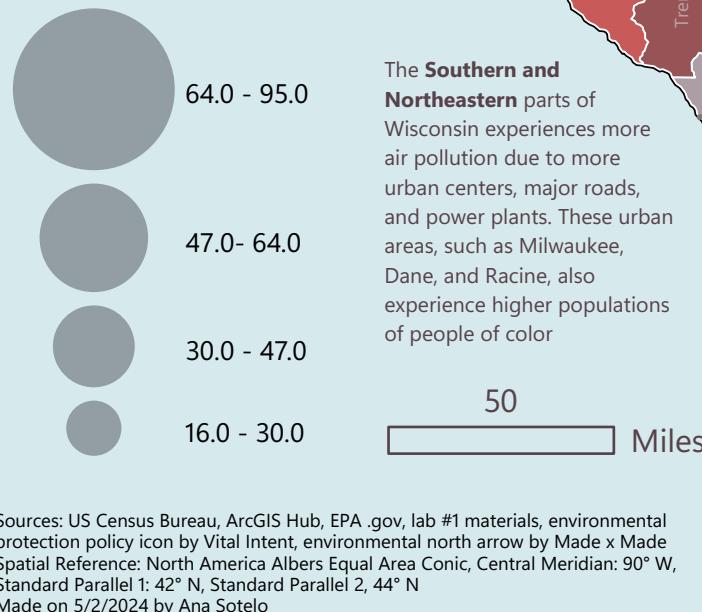
Unequal Breathing

Mapping Environmental Injustice in Wisconsin's Communities of Color

Environmental Justice Seeks to address the unequal environmental burdens borne by marginalized communities, particularly regarding exposure to pollutants. This map illustrates the correlation between PM2.5 levels and the population of color in Wisconsin's counties, visualizing how air quality issues disproportionately impact these communities.

The majority of PM2.5 pollution is generated by emissions from **power plants and vehicle traffic** on major roadways, both of which release fine particulate matter.

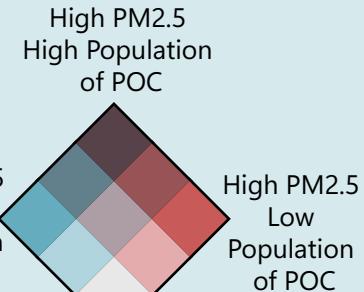
Top Most Pollutant Power Plants in Wisconsin and their Levels of Annual PM2.5 (Tons)



Sources: US Census Bureau, ArcGIS Hub, EPA .gov, lab #1 materials, environmental protection policy icon by Vital Intent, environmental north arrow by Made x Made
Spatial Reference: North America Albers Equal Area Conic, Central Meridian: 90° W, Standard Parallel 1: 42° N, Standard Parallel 2, 44° N
Made on 5/2/2024 by Ana Sotelo

Sawyer is the only county that is categorized as Low PM2.5 and High Population of POC according to the legend.

Percentage of POC
PM2.5 Levels (Tons)



The **Northern** part of Wisconsin experiences the lowest levels of particle pollution along with low percentages of POC, this is mainly due to its **rural** environment

Low PM2.5
High Population of POC

High PM2.5
Low Population of POC

Low PM2.5
Low Population of POC

Menominee County has the highest percentage of POC with Native Americans making up 85%. Their commitments to water and land conservation helps fight against pollution and environmental degradation

The top 6 counties with the highest percentage of POC and their PM2.5 average

1. Menominee - 88%, 6.7 tons
 2. Milwaukee - 48% , 8.7 tons
 3. Racine - 28%, 9.1 tons
 4. Kenosha - 24.1%, 7.4 tons
 5. Sawyer - 23%, 5.9 tons
 6. Dane - 22.4%, 8.8 tons
- Average:** 38.9%, 7.8 tons

The top 6 counties with the lowest percentage of POC and their PM2.5 Average

67. Pepin - 5.7%, 7.6 tons
 68. Florence - 5.4%, 5.4 tons
 69. Lincoln - 5.3%, 6.8 tons
 70. Taylor - 5.2%, 6.4 tons
 71. Iron - 5.0%, 5.4 tons
 72. Buffalo - 5.0%, 7.9 tons
- Average:** 5.3%, 6.6 tons