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## Air quality had gotten better in parts of the U.S. – but wildfire smoke is reversing those improvements, researchers say

BY CAITLIN O'KANE DECEMBER 6, 2023 / 11:58 AM EST / CBS NEWS

f t



### More from CBS News

8-year-old boy killed by air rifle pellet, Arizona sheriff says



2. **Yahoo News:** [Wildfire smoke threatens to undo improvements on air pollution, study finds](#)

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## Wildfire smoke threatens to undo improvements on air pollution, study finds

Nicole Karlis December 5, 2023 · 2 min read

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California Wildfire Jon Putman/SOPA Images/LightRocket via Getty Images

3. The Hill: [Wildfires have offset 20 years of air quality gains in US West: study](#)



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## Wildfires have offset 20 years of air quality gains in US West: study

BY SHARON UDASIN - 12/04/23 6:40 PM ET



INTERNATIONAL

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The frequency and ferocity of wildfires across the U.S. West have negated the improvements in air quality achieved over the past two decades, a new study has found.



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#### 4. U.S. News: [Wildfires Are Undoing Gains Made Against Air Pollution](#)

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# Wildfires Are Undoing Gains Made Against Air Pollution

By [HealthDay](#) | Dec. 5, 2023, at 8:37 a.m.



By Dennis Thompson HealthDay Reporter

TUESDAY, Dec. 5, 2023 (HealthDay News) -- Unhealthy air from wildfires is causing hundreds of additional deaths in the western United States every year, a new study claims.

Wildfires have undercut progress made in cleaning America's air, and between 2000 and 2020 caused an increase of 670 premature deaths each year in the West, researchers report Dec. 4 in *The Lancet Planetary Health* journal.



(HEALTHDAY)

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## 5. MSN News: [Wildfires have offset 20 years of air quality gains in US West: study](#)

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Story by Sharon Udasin • 2w

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6. Phys.org: [Research shows that wildfires have erased two decades' worth of air quality gains in western United States](#)

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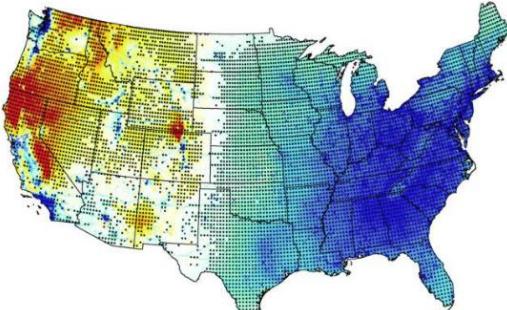
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(i) DECEMBER 4, 2023  Editors' notes

## Research shows that wildfires have erased two decades' worth of air quality gains in western United States

by University of Iowa

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7. EurekAlert! (AAAS): [Wildfires have erased two decades' worth of air quality gains in western United States](#)

**EurekAlert!** | AAAS

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# Wildfires have erased two decades' worth of air quality gains in western United States

Study finds fire-prone areas and downwind regions have seen an increase of premature deaths

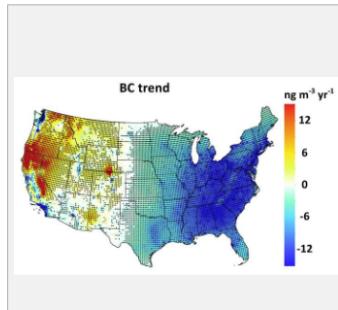
Peer-Reviewed Publication

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

You need only to remember last summer's wildfires in the United States and Canada, which fouled the air from coast to coast, to know the effects these blazes can have on the environment and human health.

A new study has tabulated the toll from two decades of wildfires on air quality and human health in the continental U.S. The authors report that from 2000 to 2020, the air has worsened in the western U.S., mainly due to the increase in frequency and

**BC trend**  $\text{ng m}^{-3} \text{ yr}^{-1}$



Media Contact

Richard Lewis  
University of Iowa  
[richard-c-lewis@uiowa.edu](mailto:richard-c-lewis@uiowa.edu)  
Cell: 401-662-6336

More on this News Release

Wildfires have erased two decades' worth of air quality gains in western United States  
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JOURNAL  
*The Lancet Planetary Health*

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KEYWORDS

WILDFIRES

8. Axios.com: [Study: Western U.S. wildfires undo 2 decades of air quality progress](#)



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Dec 4, 2023 - Energy & Environment

# Study: Western U.S. wildfires undo 2 decades of air quality progress



Sareen Habeshian, Rebecca Falconer



## 9. HealthDay: Wildfires Are Undoing Gains Made Against Air Pollution

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# Wildfires Are Undoing Gains Made Against Air Pollution





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## 10. Ground News: [Wildfires have offset 20 years of air quality gains in US West: study](#)

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[Wildfires have offset 20 years of air quality gains in US West: study](#)

Summary by Ground News

The frequency and ferocity of [wildfires](#) across the U.S. West have negated the improvements in air quality achieved over the past two decades, a new study has found.

**Coverage Details**

Total News Sources	2
Leaning Left	0
Leaning Right	0
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## 11. University of Maryland: [Western Wildfires Reversed Decades of Gains From Air Pollution-Fighting Measures](#)

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# Study: Western Wildfires Reversed Decades of Gains From Air Pollution-Fighting Measures

Researchers' Analysis Found Health Risks, Nearly 1,000 Premature Deaths Over Two Decades

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By Cazzy Medley / Dec 06, 2023

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12. University of Iowa: [Wildfires have erased two decades' worth of air quality gains in western US](#)

A large, dense plume of smoke and ash from a wildfire dominates the upper half of the image. The smoke is thick and billowing, with varying shades of grey, white, and orange. Below the smoke, a dark, hilly landscape is visible, suggesting a forested area. In the bottom right corner, there are some green trees and bushes. The overall scene conveys a sense of a major wildfire event.

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## Wildfires have erased two decades' worth of air quality gains in western US

### 13. The Tucson Sentinel: [2 decades of air quality gains in western U.S. wiped out by wildfires](#)

The screenshot shows the homepage of [TucsonSentinel.com](#). At the top, there's a banner for the "PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE ELECTION IS MARCH 19, 2024" with a "CLICK FOR ACCURATE ELECTION INFO" button. Below the banner, the website's logo "TUCSONSENTINEL.COM" is displayed, along with the tagline "Noticias auténticamente locales". A navigation bar includes links for FRONT PAGE, BREAKING, LOCAL, BORDER, OPINION, ARTS & ENT, SPORTS, NATION/WORLD, and EN ESPAÑOL. A search bar is also present. The main article headline is "2 decades of air quality gains in western U.S. wiped out by wildfires", with a subtext: "Study: Black carbon rates have been increasing by an average of 55%, leading to around 670 additional premature deaths annually". The article was posted on Dec 5, 2023, at 9:09 am by Hillel Aron from Courthouse News. To the right of the article is a sidebar with an advertisement for "ROCCO'S Little CHICAGO PIZZERIA" featuring a pizza and the text "The BEST PIZZA IN YOUR Neighborhood! 2707 E. Broadway | 321-1860". Below the advertisement is a "HELP STOP DRUG USE BEFORE IT STARTS" campaign with a "LEARN MORE" button and a "LEARN HOW TO TALK TO YOUR KIDS NOW!" section featuring a photo of a family.

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## 2 decades of air quality gains in western U.S. wiped out by wildfires

Study: Black carbon rates have been increasing by an average of 55%, leading to around 670 additional premature deaths annually

Posted Dec 5, 2023, 9:09 am

Hillel Aron  
Courthouse News



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#### 14. Press-news.org: [Wildfires have erased two decades' worth of air quality gains in western United States](#)

## Press-News.org

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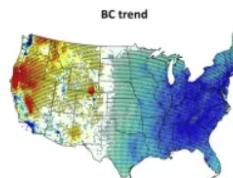
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### Wildfires have erased two decades' worth of air quality gains in western United States

*Study finds fire-prone areas and downwind regions have seen an increase of premature deaths*



BC trend 2023-12-05 (Press-News.org)

You need only to remember last summer's wildfires in the United States and Canada, which fouled the air from coast to coast, to know the effects these blazes can have on the environment and human health.

Start Now

A new study has tabulated the toll from two decades of wildfires on air quality and human health in the continental U.S. The authors report that from 2000 to 2020, the air has worsened in the western U.S., mainly due to the increase in frequency and ferocity of wildfires causing an increase of 670 premature deaths per year in the region during that time period. Overall, the study's authors report fires have undercut successful federal efforts to improve air quality primarily through reductions in automobile emissions.

## 15. Earth.com: Twenty years of air quality improvement erased by wildfires

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12-04-2023

# Twenty years of air quality improvement erased by wildfires

By [Eric Ralls](#)  
Earth.com staff writer

The devastating wildfires in the United States and Canada have left a significant impact on air quality and public health. Recent studies highlight the alarming effects of these fires, particularly in the context of efforts to combat air pollution.

## Toll of wildfires on air and health

A comprehensive study spanning two decades (2000-2020) has revealed a concerning increase in air pollution in the western U.S., primarily due to the growing intensity and frequency of [wildfires](#). This trend has resulted in an estimated 670 additional premature deaths annually in the region.

The researchers emphasize that these wildfires have negated the progress made through federal air quality improvement initiatives, largely driven by reductions in automobile emissions. [Jun Wang](#), the lead corresponding author and a professor at the [University of Iowa](#), expressed deep concern about the situation.

"Our air is supposed to be getting cleaner, mainly due to EPA regulations on emissions. However, the fires have limited or erased these air-quality gains," he stated.

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## 16. KJZZ: Study: Wildfires likely overwhelming air quality gains in West

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### Study: Wildfires likely overwhelming air quality gains in West

By Nicholas Gerbis  
Published: Monday, December 4, 2023 - 4:50pm  
Updated: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 - 7:32am

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A podcast about literature hosted by KJZZ's Tom Maxedon.

ADDRESSING ISSUES AND

## 17. Airqualitynews: [Wildfires wipe out 20 years of air quality improvements in western USA](#)

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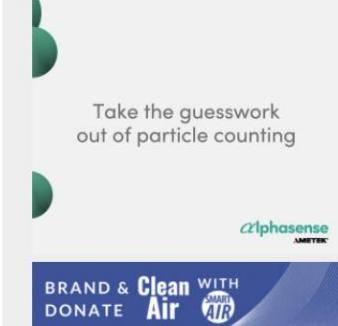
Paul Day  
December 5th 2023

# Wildfires wipe out 20 years of air quality improvements in western USA

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While this year's wildfires in Canada and the USA had an impact around the world, wildfires – albeit on a smaller scale – have been having a local impact for years and a new study has examined their long term effects for the first time.

The researchers from the University of Iowa calculated black carbon concentrations from satellite data and 500 ground-based monitoring stations



## 18. Mirage News: [Wildfires Undo 20 Years of Air Quality Progress in West US](#)

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Christina Viganó, et al. 2018 *Molecular Biology of the Cell* Section: Results  
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## Wildfires Undo 20 Years of Air Quality Progress in West US

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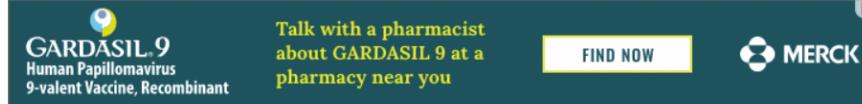
You need only to remember last summer's wildfires in the United States and Canada, which fouled the air from coast to coast, to know the effects these blazes can have on the environment and human health.

A new study has tabulated the toll from two decades of wildfires on air quality and human health in the continental U.S. The authors report that from 2000 to 2020, the air has worsened in the western U.S., mainly due to the increase in frequency and ferocity of wildfires causing an increase of

## 19. United Press International: Wildfires choke out air-quality gains, lead to hundreds of additional deaths

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The banner features the Gardasil 9 logo with a blue and yellow circular emblem. The text reads: "Talk with a pharmacist about GARDASIL 9 at a pharmacy near you". Below this is a yellow "FIND NOW" button and the Merck logo.

HEALTH NEWS DEC. 5, 2023 / 10:37 AM

## Wildfires choke out air-quality gains, lead to hundreds of additional deaths

By Dennis Thompson, HealthDay News



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20. Missoula Current: [TWO DECADES OF AIR QUALITY GAINS IN THE WESTERN US WIPE OUT BY WILDFIRES](#)

The image shows the homepage of the Missoula Current website. At the top, there's a banner for a lottery titled "A Second Chance To Win Holiday Cash" with a "Enter today" button and a "PLAY Responsibly" message. Below the banner, the website's logo "missoula current." is displayed in red and black. A navigation bar includes links for HOME, NEWS, APP, OBITUARIES, ADVERTISE, and CONTRIBUTE, along with a CONNECT button and social media icons for search, X (Twitter), f (Facebook), and Instagram. The main feature is a large, dark photograph of a landscape with pine trees and a bright orange sun or moon rising behind them, partially obscured by smoke or haze. Overlaid on this image is the headline "TWO DECADES OF AIR QUALITY GAINS IN THE WESTERN US WIPE OUT BY WILDFIRES" in white capital letters. Below the headline is a small circular profile picture and the text "Courthouse News | Published: December 5, 2023". To the right of the main image, there's a smaller inset photo showing a protest with people holding signs in front of a large building, with the caption "VIEWPOINT: WHILE STATE NAPS, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS LEAD CLIMATE FIGHT". Further down the page, there's another inset photo of wrapped Christmas gifts with the Hallmark and Walgreens logos.

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TWO DECADES OF AIR QUALITY GAINS IN THE WESTERN US WIPE OUT BY WILDFIRES

Courthouse News | Published: December 5, 2023

(Martin Kidston/Missoula Current file)

VIEWPOINT: WHILE STATE NAPS, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS LEAD CLIMATE FIGHT

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21. Salon: [Wildfire smoke threatens to undo improvements on air pollution, study finds](#)

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## Wildfire smoke threatens to undo improvements on air pollution, study finds

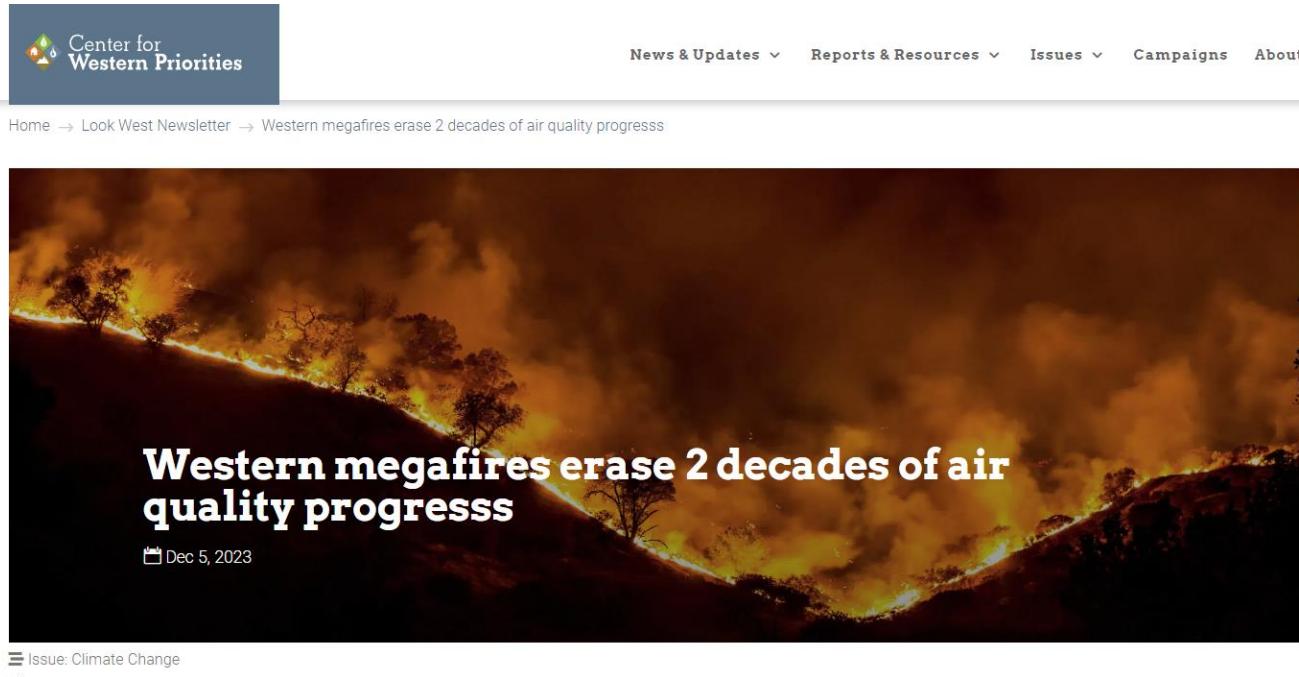
EPA regulations were supposed to improve air quality, but fires have limited or erased these gains, experts say

By **NICOLE KARLIS**  
Senior Writer

PUBLISHED DECEMBER 5, 2023 11:00AM (EST)



## 22. Western Priorities: [Western megafires erase 2 decades of air quality progress](#)



### Western megafires erase 2 decades of air quality progress

Dec 5, 2023

Issue: Climate Change

Subject: Wildfire

**A new study finds that megafires in the Western U.S. are causing premature deaths and have undermined improvements in air quality from reduced vehicle emissions.** The study, published in *The Lancet Planetary Health*, found that air quality worsened in the West from 2000 to 2020, with concentrations of black carbon rising 55 percent. The authors estimate that fires have caused an additional 670 premature deaths each year.

Each day, the Center for Western Priorities compiles the best of Western public lands and energy development news. Take a look at our recent newsletters, and sign up here.

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## 23. BNN Breaking: [Wildfires: An Emerging Threat to Air Quality Improvements in the U.S.](#)

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# Wildfires: An Emerging Threat to Air Quality Improvements in the U.S.

By: [Bijay Laxmi](#) Published: December 5, 2023 at 11:09 pm EST | Updated: Dec 5, 2023 at 12:59 am EST



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## 24. Courthouse News: Two decades of air quality gains in the western US wiped out by wildfires

# Two decades of air quality gains in the western US wiped out by wildfires

*A new study finds that black carbon rates have been increasing by an average of 55%, leading to around 670 additional premature deaths annually.*

HILLEL ARON / December 4, 2023



## 25. CityLife: [Study Reveals Wildfires in Western US and Canada Worsen Air Quality and Cause Premature Deaths](#)

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# Study Reveals Wildfires in Western US and Canada Worsen Air Quality and Cause Premature Deaths

## 26. EcoWatch: Wildfires Have Erased Two Decades' Worth of Air Quality Gains in U.S., Study Finds

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# Wildfires Have Erased Two Decades' Worth of Air Quality Gains in U.S., Study Finds

 By: [Cristen Hemingway Jaynes](#) | Published: December 5, 2023 |  Edited by [Chris McDermott](#)



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## 27. Slashdot: Western US Wildfires Undo Two Decades of Air Quality Progress

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**Western US Wildfires Undo Two Decades of Air Quality Progress** (axios.com)

Posted by BeauHD on Tuesday December 05, 2023 @10:30PM from the reversing-the-progress dept.

An anonymous reader quotes a report from Axios:

Increasingly intensive and frequent wildfires in the western U.S. are deteriorating air quality and causing more premature deaths, a new study found. Fires have damaged federal efforts from the Environmental Protection Agency to improve air quality mainly through reductions in automobile emissions, per the study published Monday in *The Lancet Planetary Health*. From 2000 to 2020, air quality has worsened in the western U.S. due to wildfires. Black carbon concentrations have risen 55% on an annual basis, mostly due to the wildfires, researchers found. The fires have also caused an increase of 670 premature deaths per year in the region in the two-decade span. Meanwhile, the eastern U.S. had no major declines in air quality during the same time period.

Our air is supposed to be cleaner and cleaner due mostly to EPA regulations on emissions, but the fires have limited or erased these air-quality gains," said Jun Wang, the study's lead corresponding author and chair of the University of Iowa's Department of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering, in a statement. "[All] the efforts for the past 20 years by the EPA to make our air cleaner basically have been lost in fire-prone areas and downwind regions," Wang added. "We are losing ground."

[Daniel Swain, a climate scientist at UCLA] said the findings were consistent with other studies that contribute to the same overall picture that after the air quality regulations' great success, "the extremes of those air pollution episodes are actually now increasing again" due to wildfires. "On average, the air quality is still better, but the problem is, it's during these episodes of just-near apocalyptic conditions where we're really losing a lot of ground and that really is because the size and the intensity of wildfires has increased greatly," he said. Given climate change is a wildfire driver, keeping global heating to the lowest level possible will help. "But we're still going to see more warming no matter what moving forward, and so

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## Wildfires Are Undoing Gains Made Against Air Pollution

Posted on December 5, 2023 by Lady Clever | [Leave a reply](#)

Unhealthy air from wildfires is causing hundreds of additional deaths in the western United States every year, a new study claims.

Wildfires have undercut progress made in cleaning America's air, and between 2000 and 2020 caused an increase of 670 premature deaths each year in the West, researchers report Dec. 4 in *The Lancet Planetary Health* journal.

"Our air is supposed to be cleaner and cleaner, due mostly to EPA regulations on emissions, but the fires have limited or erased these air-quality gains," said lead researcher Jun Wang, chair of chemical and biochemical engineering at the University of Iowa.

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### Wildfires have erased two decades' worth of air quality gains in western United States

Study finds fire-prone areas and downwind regions have seen an increase of premature deaths

Date: December 4, 2023

Source: University of Iowa

Summary: A new study concludes that wildfires originating in the western United States and Canada have erased air quality gains over the past two decades and caused an increase of premature deaths in fire-prone areas and downwind regions, primarily in the western U.S.

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## Study: Wildfire smoke is reversing years of US air quality progress

“We are seeing influence in states that basically have none of their own wildfires.”

A photograph showing a person from behind, wearing a bright yellow t-shirt and dark pants. They are standing in a field, looking towards a large, billowing plume of smoke and ash rising from a forest fire. The smoke is thick and covers a significant portion of the sky, appearing white and greyish-yellow. In the background, there are several tall evergreen trees. The overall scene conveys a sense of environmental impact and concern.

31. MedicalXpress: [Western wildfires reversed decades of gains from air pollution-fighting measures](#)

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⌚ DECEMBER 6, 2023 ✓ Editors' notes

**Western wildfires reversed decades of gains from air pollution-fighting measures: Study**

by Cazzy Medley, University of Maryland



Credit: Deep Rajwar from Pexels

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# Western US Wildfires Undo Two Decades of Air Quality Progress

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*"We are losing ground."*

### 33. [Sciencemag: Wildfires have erased two decades' worth of air quality gains in western United States](#)

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# Wildfires have erased two decades' worth of air quality gains in western United States

December 5, 2023 in Medicine & Health 0

You need only to remember last summer's wildfires in the United States and Canada, which fouled the air from coast to coast, to know the effects these blazes can have on the environment and human health.

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TUESDAY, Dec. 5, 2023 (HealthDay News) -- Unhealthy air from wildfires is causing hundreds of additional deaths in the western United States every year, a new study claims.

Wildfires have undercut progress made in cleaning America's air, and between 2000 and 2020 caused an increase of 670 premature deaths each year in the West, researchers report Dec. 4 in *The Lancet Planetary Health* journal.

"Our air is supposed to be cleaner and cleaner, due mostly to EPA regulations on emissions, but the fires have limited or erased these air-quality gains," said lead researcher Jun Wang, chair of chemical and biochemical engineering at the University of Iowa.

"In other words, all the efforts for the past 20 years by the EPA to make our air cleaner basically have been lost in fire-prone areas and downwind regions," Wang added in a university news release. "We are losing ground."



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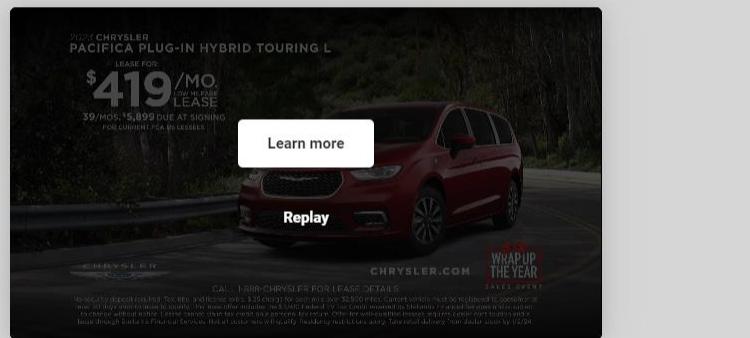
### Western United States' Air Quality Gains Of Two Decades Erased By Wildfires



By [Andrew Shawn](#) — On Dec 6, 2023



0



You only need to recall last summer's wildfires in the United States and Canada to understand the impact these blazes can have on the environment and human health.

A recent study has quantified the effects of wildfires over the past two decades on air quality and human health in the contiguous U.S. According to the authors, air quality has deteriorated in the western U.S. from 2000 to 2020, primarily due to the increased frequency and severity of wildfires, resulting in an annual increase of 670 premature deaths in the region. The study's authors note that fires have undermined successful federal initiatives to improve air quality, particularly through reductions in vehicle emissions.

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# The Rising Number of Wildfires in the U.S. Is Worsening Air Quality and Affecting Human Health: New Study Reveals



By [Medriva](#) • 3 min read • Published Dec 6, 2023 at 12:59 pm EST | Updated Dec 6, 2023 at 12:59 pm EST

Wildfires have been a longstanding issue in the Western United States, but new research suggests that their impact is far more significant than previously believed. A study led by researchers from the University of Maryland, recently published in *The Lancet Planetary Health*, highlights the alarming relationship between wildfires, air pollution, and public health. The findings indicate that the surge in widespread wildfires in the U.S. is leading to changes in air quality, particularly in the Western U.S., and impacting human health due to the heightened toxicity of black carbon emissions.

## Understanding the Impact of Wildfires on Air Quality

The study takes a deep dive into the effects of wildfires by using deep learning and aerosol measurements to assess changes in mortality burden attributed to fine particle pollution, especially black carbon, from 2000 to 2020. Despite national efforts to reduce human-caused emissions and legislation such as the U.S. Clean Air Act, the researchers found that the increasing wildfires have significantly undermined the reductions in fine particulate matter (PM) achieved by the Clean Air Act.

Although PM and black carbon concentrations decreased nationally, the decline in fine particles and premature deaths reversed in the western U.S. since 2010. This change has resulted in an estimated 670 excess deaths annually, emphasizing the critical need for effective policies to reduce fire risk, mitigate climate warming, and manage wildfires to improve air quality and public health.



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Health - December 6, 2023

## Western wildfires reversed decades of gains from air pollution-fighting measures: Study

### WESTERN WILDFIRES REVERSE DECADES OF AIR POLLUTION-FIGHTING MEASURES: STUDY



A recent study has revealed that the devastating wildfires in the western regions of the United States have reversed decades of progress made in combating air pollution. The study, conducted by a team of researchers, highlights the alarming impact of these wildfires on air quality and the environment.

Over the past few years, the western states have experienced an increase in the frequency and intensity of wildfires, largely due to climate change and other factors. These wildfires not only pose a direct threat to human lives and property but also have far-reaching consequences on air quality.

The study found that the smoke and pollutants released during these wildfires have significantly contributed to the deterioration of air quality in the affected regions. The fine particulate matter (PM2.5) and other harmful pollutants released during the fires have been linked to various respiratory and cardiovascular health issues.

Furthermore, the researchers discovered that the progress made in reducing air pollution through various measures, such as stricter emission standards and cleaner energy sources, has been negated by the impact of these wildfires. The study estimates that the air pollution levels caused by the wildfires have reversed the

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### 38. BJC Healthcare: Wildfires Are Undoing Gains Made Against Air Pollution

The screenshot shows the homepage of BJC HealthCare Alton Memorial Hospital. At the top left is the logo 'BJC HealthCare' with 'Alton Memorial Hospital' underneath. To the right are links for 'MyChart', a search bar with 'SEARCH...', and buttons for 'GO', 'For Providers', 'Get Directions', and 'Contact Us'. Below the header is a navigation bar with tabs: 'FIND A DOCTOR' (highlighted in green), 'MEDICAL SERVICES', 'PATIENTS & VISITORS', 'CLASSES & EVENTS', 'GIVING', and 'VIRTUAL CARE'. Underneath the navigation bar is a breadcrumb trail: 'Home > Health Library > View Content'. To the left is a sidebar with 'HEALTH ENCYCLOPEDIA'. In the center is a search bar with the placeholder 'Search for...' and a magnifying glass icon. The main content area features a news article titled 'Wildfires Are Undoing Gains Made Against Air Pollution'.

#### Wildfires Are Undoing Gains Made Against Air Pollution

TUESDAY, Dec. 5, 2023 (HealthDay News) -- Unhealthy air from wildfires is causing hundreds of additional deaths in the western United States every year, a new study claims.

Wildfires have undercut progress made in cleaning America's air, and between 2000 and 2020 caused an increase of 670 premature deaths each year in the West, researchers report Dec. 4 in *The Lancet Planetary Health* journal.

"Our air is supposed to be cleaner and cleaner, due mostly to EPA regulations on emissions, but the fires have limited or erased these air-quality gains," said lead researcher [Jun Wang](#), chair of chemical and biochemical engineering at the University of Iowa.

"In other words, all the efforts for the past 20 years by the EPA to make our air cleaner basically have been lost in fire-prone areas and downwind regions," Wang added in a university news release. "We are losing ground."

For this study, researchers calculated the concentration of airborne black carbon, a fine-particle air pollutant linked to respiratory and heart disease, across the continental United States.

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## US Wildfires Undo Air Quality Progress Of Last 20 Years

unbranded - Newseworthy Dec 6, 2023 Updated Dec 6, 2023 



A new study reveals that the increasingly intense and frequent wildfires in the western US have contributed to a deterioration in air quality. The study, published in The Lancet Planetary Health, highlights that air quality in the western US worsened from 2000 to 2020 due to wildfires. Black carbon concentrations rose by 55% annually during this period, primarily attributed to wildfires. The impact of these fires increased from 670 premature deaths per year in the region, it also undid two decades of progress in air quality. The study underscores the challenge posed by wildfires to federal efforts aimed at improving air quality. The findings also emphasize the need for strategies to address the growing risk of wildfires, intensified by climate change. "We are worried that climate change will undermine and potentially reverse the progress that public health has made in this and other areas and are concerned to be seeing this happening now, as we can expect the climate to warm considerably more in the next several decades", said Professor Jeremy Hess, University of Washington.

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Rising wildfire smoke nullifies decades of air quality gains.

By Alexandra Jacobo - December 7, 2023

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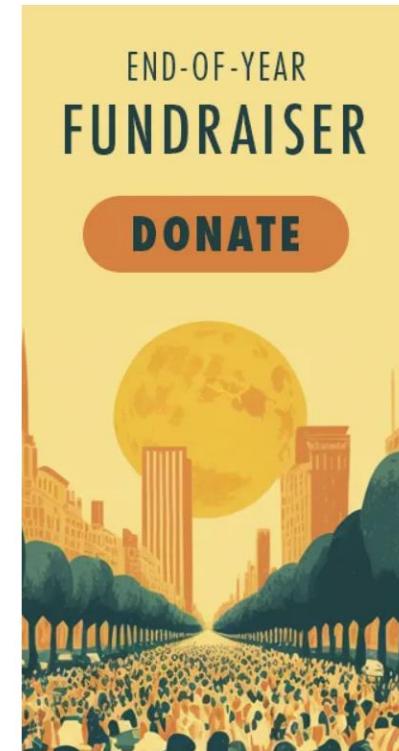
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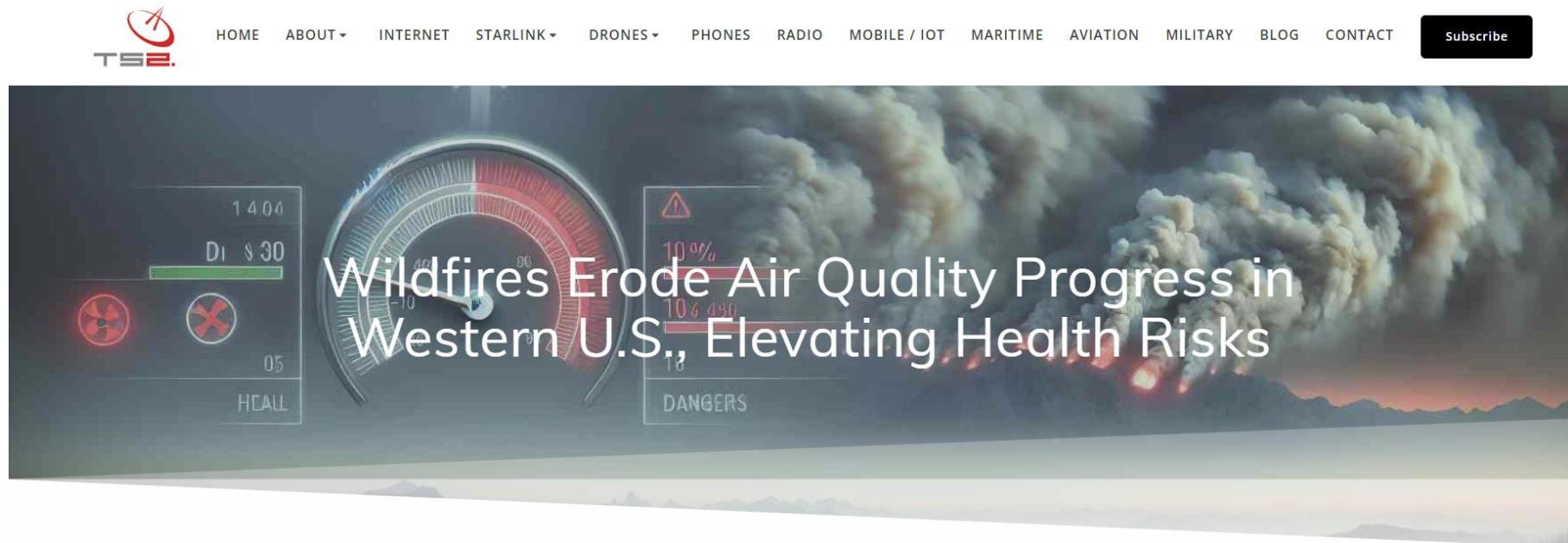
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Earth Sciences Environment - December 4, 2023

## Research shows that wildfires have erased two decades' worth of air quality gains in western United States

### RESEARCH SHOWS WILDFIRES HAVE ERASED TWO DECADES' WORTH OF AIR QUALITY GAINS IN WESTERN UNITED STATES



Recent research has revealed alarming findings regarding the impact of wildfires on air quality in the western United States. The study shows that the progress made over the past two decades in improving air quality has been significantly reversed due to the increasing frequency and intensity of wildfires.

Wildfires have always been a natural occurrence, but climate change and human activities have contributed to their escalation. The combination of prolonged droughts, rising temperatures, and the accumulation of dry vegetation has created ideal conditions for wildfires to spread rapidly and become more destructive.

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By David Morgan — On Dec 5, 2023

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A new study highlights the need to come up with plans to deal with the growing danger of wildfires, made worse by climate change.



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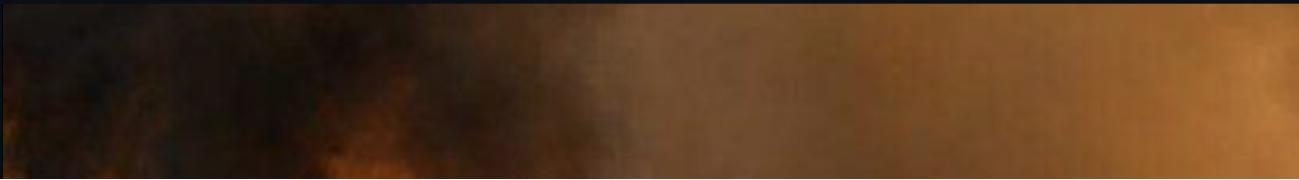
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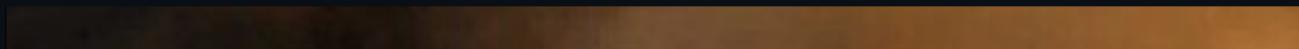
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66. The Times of Northwest Indiana: [US Wildfires Undo Air Quality Progress Of Last 20 Years](#)

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67. Columbus Telegram: [US Wildfires Undo Air Quality Progress Of Last 20 Years](#)



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68. List23: [The Western United States' air quality had been on good footing for 20 years until wildfires caused it to falter](#)

**list<sup>23</sup>** ENTERTAINMENT TECH SCIENCE

# The Western United States' air quality had been on good footing for 20 years until wildfires caused it to falter

BY WILLIAM ADAMS THU, 07 DEC 2023 AT 09:23:03 | SCIENCE

... [western U.S. air quality has been on good footing for 20 years until wildfires caused it to falter](#)

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The western U.S. has been plagued by wildfires for more than two decades, leading to elevated health risks and negligible attempts to reduce pollution, with an additional 670 premature deaths a year, according to a conservative estimate.

Early deaths have increased in areas with a high fire risk and a tendency to go downwind, as per a study.

**BREAKING NEWS**

 The ending and recap of Spy x Family Season 2, which will be discussed at length

 The second season's episode 11, A Rash Decision, presents the events of Girlfriend, Girlfriend

 At The Murders of Bart and Krista Halderson, where is Chandler Halderson at present?

 The Energy Density of Hybrid Supercapacitor Electrodes can be increased

 Are Santiba and Talsey still engaged in Romance after they commit love to each other?

 Expect Maboroshi to be included in the list of upcoming

69. Richmond Times-Dispatch: [US Wildfires Undo Air Quality Progress Of Last 20 Years](#)



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70. Fox 13 News: [Wildfires in US have reversed 2 decades of progress in air quality](#)

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## Wildfires in US have reversed 2 decades of progress in air quality

A new study highlights the need to come up with plans to deal with the growing danger of wildfires, made worse by climate change.



71. Scripps News: [Wildfires in US have reversed 2 decades of progress in air quality](#)



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[Climate Change](#)

## Wildfires in US have reversed 2 decades of progress in air quality

A new study highlights the need to come up with plans to deal with the growing danger of wildfires, made worse by climate change.



72. America Online: [Wildfires have offset 20 years of air quality gains in US West: study](#)

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## 74. Newsje: [\(해외환경뉴스\) 산불로 인해, 미국 서부 지역에서 20년 동안 개선된 대기 질이 사라졌다](#)

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▷ 이상현 객원기자 | ○ 승인 2023.12.12 00:12 | Ⓜ 댓글 0



| UNIVERSITY OF IOWA 해당 기간동안 이 지역에서는 산불로 인해 연간 670명의 조기 사망 증가

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